

## ASSAULTS ON LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The following information is based on a detailed monthly collection of data in the Uniform Crime Reporting system regarding the problem of assaults on municipal, county and state law enforcement officers.

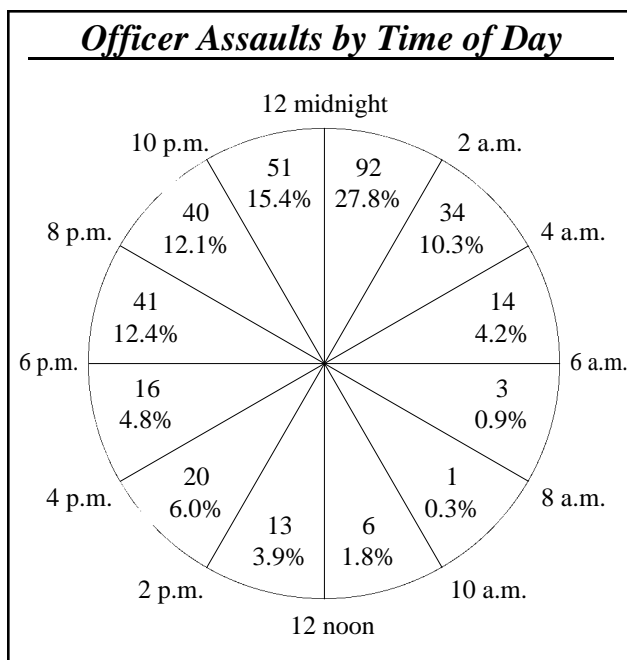
During 1996:

- There were 331 assaults on law enforcement officers, a 14.9% increase from the 1995 figure of 288.
- The ratio of assaults per 100 officers during 1996 was 16.2, compared to 14.1 assaults per 100 officers during 1995.
- The greatest number of officer assaults occurred while the officer was responding to disturbance calls — 138, or 41.7% of the total.
- Personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.) were used in 95.2% or 315 of the assaults.
- Of the 331 assaults, 14.2% (47) resulted in personal injury to the officer, while 85.8% (284) produced no injury.
- 17.5% of assaults were aimed at officers who were alone (58), 82.5% were directed at assisted officers (273).
- The most common time period of assaults was 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. (55.3%), with 27.8% occurring from 12 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- Law enforcement cleared 100.0% (331) of all assaults on officers.
- Of the 331 reported assaults on officers, 20 were on sheriff's deputies, 2 were on state police officers, and 309 were on municipal officers.

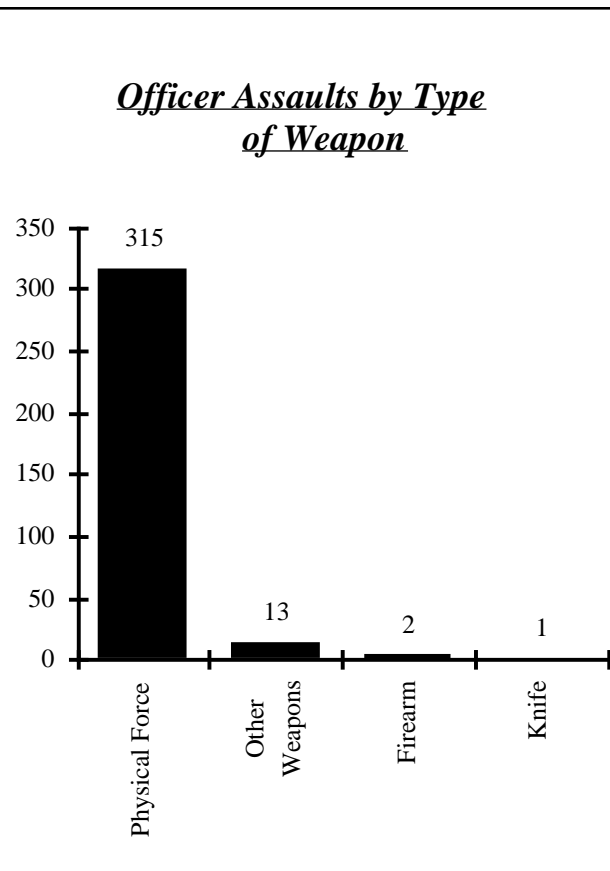
### Assaults on Officers by County

County	Assaults on Officers			1996 Rate Per 100 Officers
	1995	1996	% Change	
Androscoggin	17	12	-29.4%	7.3
Aroostook	5	9	+80.0%	11.1
Cumberland	130	151	+16.2%	33.4
Franklin	—	—	—	—
Hancock	1	5	+400.0%	10.0
Kennebec	23	58	+152.2%	43.6
Knox	21	12	-42.9%	22.2
Lincoln	4	4	—	10.8
Oxford	4	4	—	6.7
Penobscot	29	27	-6.9%	13.8
Piscataquis	2	1	-50.0%	5.0
Sagadahoc	9	3	-66.7%	6.1
Somerset	4	6	+50.0%	13.3
Waldo	—	1	—	3.8
Washington	7	7	—	16.7
York	32	31	-3.1%	11.8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>+14.9%</b>	<b>16.2</b>

### Officer Assaults by Time of Day



### Officer Assaults by Type of Weapon



**Officer Assaults by Circumstances — 1996**

Type of Activity	Total Assaults (A)	Type of Weapon				Type of Assignment						Police Assault Cleared (M)	
		Firearm (B)	Knife or Other Cutting Instrument (C)	Other Dangerous Weapon (D)	Hands, Fists, Feet, etc. (E)	Two-Officer Vehicle (F)	One-Officer Vehicle		Detective or Spec. Assign.		Other		
							Alone (G)	Assisted (H)	Alone (I)	Assisted (J)	Alone (K)		Assisted (L)
1. Responding to disturbance calls	138	—	—	6	132	14	14	105	—	2	—	3	138
2. Burglaries in progress or pursuing burglary suspects	11	—	—	—	11	—	1	9	1	—	—	—	11
3. Robberies in progress or pursuing robbery suspects	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
4. Attempting other arrests	42	—	—	1	41	4	5	30	—	—	—	3	42
5. Civil disorder (riot, mass disobedience)	10	—	—	1	9	—	—	5	—	4	—	1	10
6. Handling, transporting, custody of prisoners	31	—	—	1	30	—	6	9	—	—	1	15	31
7. Investigating suspicious persons or circumstances	24	—	1	—	23	—	2	15	1	2	1	3	24
8. Ambush — no warning	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
9. Mentally deranged	7	—	—	—	7	1	3	2	—	—	—	1	6
10. Traffic pursuits and stops	19	—	—	3	16	—	8	11	—	—	—	—	19
11. All other	46	—	—	1	45	2	10	25	—	3	3	3	47
<b>12. Totals (1–11)</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>331</b>
13. Number with personal injury	47	—	—	12	35								
14. Number without personal injury	284	2	1	0	281								
15. Time of assaults													
A.M.	92	34	14	3	1	6							
P.M.	13	20	16	41	40	51							
	12:01	2:00	4:00	6:00	8:00	10:00	12:00						