

DATA CHARACTERISTICS AND KNOWN LIMITATIONS

Domestic Violence-Related Calls for Assistance

Domestic violence is defined as "...abuse committed against an adult or a fully emancipated minor who is a spouse, former spouse, cohabitant, former cohabitant, or person with whom the suspect has had a child or is having or has had a dating or engagement relationship." [13700(b) PC]

Abuse is defined as "...intentionally or recklessly causing or attempting to cause bodily injury, or placing another person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to himself or herself, or another." [13700(a) PC]

The definition of "domestic violence" is subject to varying interpretations by law enforcement agencies. As a result, different types of domestic violence relationships may be included in the database.

Included in the data are any cases that resulted in a report being written by the responding law enforcement agency. Therefore, data include both cases where an arrest was made and those where circumstances did not warrant an arrest.

Domestic violence-related calls for assistance that involved the use, or threat to use, of a firearm, knife or cutting instrument or other dangerous weapon are reported according to the type of weapon used regardless of the outcome or injury.

In 2002, law enforcement agencies were given clarification about reporting personal weapons. This clarification corresponds to a notable decrease in the number of personal weapons reported. The use of a personal weapon such as hands, fists, or feet was reported as a weapon only if the assault was considered an aggravated assault under Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) guidelines. An aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury, such as broken bones, internal injuries, or cuts requiring stitches.

AGENCY-SPECIFIC DATA CHARACTERISTICS AND LIMITATIONS

Calipatria Police Department (located in Imperial County) did not respond January 2011 through December 2014

Orange Cove Police Department (located in Fresno County) began reporting in January 2013.

Twin Cities Police Department and San Anselmo Police Department (Marin County) merged in January 2013 and now report as Central Marin Police Authority.

Atascadero Police Department (located in San Luis Obispo County) advises that the 2012 statistics for Aggravated Assaults are artificially inflated due to technical issues with the Records management System. The agency estimates that actual number of Aggravated Assaults to be half of what was reported. The issue was corrected prior to the close of the 2013 report year.

In March 2012, the Millbrae Police Department was disbanded and the City of Millbrae began contracting law enforcement responsibilities with the San Mateo county Sheriff's Department. Since that time, criminal statistics for Millbrae have been included in those of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department.

The Eastvale Police Department (located in Riverside County) began reporting in January 2011.

In June 2011, the Half Moon Bay Police Department was disbanded and the City of Half Moon Bay began contracting law enforcement responsibilities with the San Mateo county Sheriff's Department. Since that time, criminal statistics for Half Moon Bay have been included in those of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department.

The Jurupa Valley Police Department (located in Riverside County) began reporting in July 2011.

In November 2010, the San Carlos Police Department was disbanded and the City of San Carlos began contracting law enforcement responsibilities with the San Mateo county Sheriff's Department. Since that time, criminal statistics for San Carlos have been included in those of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department.

The Holtville Police Department (located in Imperial County) did not report for January through December 2010.

The McFarland Police Department (located in Kern County) began reporting data in January 2010.

Reedley Community College and Fresno Community College merged in January 2010 and now report under State Center Community College.

The Shasta County Marshal's Office began reporting data in January 2010.