

**CRIME &
DELINQUENCY
IN CALIFORNIA
1997**



**OTHER
DATA BASES**



other data bases

Citizens' Complaints Against Peace Officers

Section 13012 of the Penal Code states, "The annual report of the department provided for in Section 13010 shall contain statistics showing: . . . (d) The number of citizens complaints received by law enforcement agencies under Section 832.5. Such statistics shall indicate the total number of such complaints, the number alleging criminal conduct of either a felony or misdemeanor, and the number sustained in each category. The report shall not contain a reference to any individual agency but shall be by gross numbers only"

Section 832.5(a) of the Penal Code requires that "Each department or agency in this state which employs peace officers shall establish a procedure to investigate citizens' complaints against the personnel of such departments or agencies, and shall make a written description of the procedure available to the public."

Because of the nature of the requirements of Penal Code section 832.5, reporting definitions and procedures vary among individual reporting agencies. The data shown are accurate and complete to the extent that contributing agencies met their reporting obligations.

CITIZENS' COMPLAINTS
AGAINST PEACE OFFICERS, 1997

Type and level of complaint	Reported	Sustained
Total complaints		
Total	16,966	2,458
Non-criminal	15,702	2,240
Criminal	1,264	218
Level of criminal complaint		
Criminal	1,264	218
Felony	601	75
Misdemeanor	663	143

Source: Table 56.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-RELATED CALLS
FOR ASSISTANCE, 1997

Type of call and weapon	Number	Percent
Total calls		
Total	220,156	100.0
Cases without weapon	64,506	29.3
Cases involving weapon	155,650	70.7
Type of weapon		
Cases involving weapon	155,650	100.0
Firearm.....	2,073	1.3
Knife or cutting instrument ..	5,462	3.5
Other dangerous weapon ...	17,502	11.2
Personal weapon ¹	130,613	83.9

Source: Table 57.

Note: Percents may not add to 100.0 because of independent rounding.

¹ Hands, feet, etc.

Domestic Violence

Effective January 1, 1986, law enforcement agencies began reporting domestic violence-related calls for assistance and indicating which cases involved the use of a weapon in compliance with Penal Code section 13730(a). This information is reported monthly to the attorney general.

Section 13730(b) of the Penal Code also instructs the attorney general to report annually on the number of domestic violence-related calls received statewide, in each county, and by individual law enforcement agencies. Statewide data are reported here. County and agency-level data will be published in the *Criminal Justice Profile, 1997* publication series.

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]

Within this definition, abuse is further 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]

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