

Domestic Violence Related Calls for Service

Data Set Overview and History

The Department of Justice (DOJ) Criminal Justice Statistics Center (CJSC) collects information on Domestic Violence Related Calls for Service (DVRCS). The DVRCS data are collected from various Law Enforcement Entities (LEA) throughout the State on a monthly basis. The data set provides summary statistical data on the total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEAs, the number of cases involving weapons, and the type of weapon used during the reported incident.

Statutory Authority

The DOJ has the statutory authority to collect DVRCS data pursuant to Penal Code section 13730(a).

Data Characteristics and Known Limitations

1. Domestic violence is defined according to Penal Code section 13700(b) 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.
2. Abuse is defined according to Penal Code section 13700(a) 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.
3. 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.
4. Included in the data are any cases that resulted in a report being written by the responding LEA. Therefore, data include both cases where an arrest was made and those where circumstances did not warrant an arrest.
5. Domestic violence-related calls for assistance that involved the use, or threat of 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.
6. 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.

7. Significant Agency Notes:

- Reedley Community College and Fresno Community College merged in January 2010 and now report under State Center Community College.
- The Holtville Police Department did not report for January through December 2010.
- The Solano County Sheriff's Department did not report for May through December 2010.
- The Trinidad Police Department began contracting services with the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department in July 2010. The Trinidad Police Department's data for July through December 2010 are included in the Humboldt County Sheriff Department's reports.
- The San Carlos Police Department began contracting services with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Department in November 2010. The San Carlos Police Department's data for November and December 2010 are included in the San Mateo County Sheriff Department's reports.
- The McFarland Police Department began reporting data in January 2010.
- The Shasta County Marshal's Office began reporting data in January 2010.
- Data for the San Francisco County Sheriff's Department are reported by the San Francisco Police Department.

Data Elements and Values Defined

Cell Location	Data Element	Description/Definition	Value
A	YEAR	The Year the data was reported for.	A four digit number (YYYY)
B	COUNTY	County of reporting agency.	Alpha
C	AGENCY_NAME	Reporting agency name.	Alpha
D	MONTH	The Month the data was reported for.	A two digit number (MM)
E	TOTAL_CALLS	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the reporting period.	Numerical count
F	NO_WEAPONS	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the reporting period that did not involve the use of a weapon.	Numerical count
G	WEAPONS_INVOLVED	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the reporting period that involved the use of a weapon.	Numerical count
H	SUB_FIREARM	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the reporting period that involved the use of a weapon, specifically a firearm.	Numerical count
I	SUB_KNIFE	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the	Numerical count

		reporting period that involved the use of a weapon, specifically a knife or other cutting instrument.	
J	SUB_OTHER	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the reporting period that involved the use of a weapon, specifically any other weapon not specifically defined or identified elsewhere in this data set.	Numerical count
K	SUB_PERSONAL	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the reporting period that involved the use of a personal weapon, specifically hand, feet, fists, etc.	Numerical count
L	WEAPON_NOT_RPT	The total number of domestic violence related calls for service received by the LEA during the reporting period that involved the use of a weapon, but the weapon was not reported.	Numerical count