

LIPS New Jersey Department of Law & Public Safety

1994 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORT

157088



Division of State Police
Uniform Crime Reporting Unit

157088

TWELFTH ANNUAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSE REPORT 1994

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Prepared by:

State of New Jersey
Department of Law & Public Safety
Division of State Police
Uniform Crime Reporting Unit

INTRODUCTION

The violence within the American domicile has been recognized for decades by elements of government and society with little done to correct the problem. Only recently has this phenomenon begun to receive the attention it deserves. In an effort to understand, identify and treat the incidents of abuse occurring within the home, the State of New Jersey, through its legislature, has provided the means to gain a meaningful insight into this issue.

In 1982, the Domestic Violence Act was instituted to protect battered victims and study the complex problems that spark such aggressive behavior. This legislation also provided the opportunity to identify the causes of violence in the home and put forth a more comprehensive effort to combat the crime of Domestic Violence.

Improvements since the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act are continuing; serious concern has been displayed within many municipal and county agencies whereby various committees and working groups have been formed to help battle this important problem. Revised investigation and reporting procedures by the police; improved processing of domestic complaints by the courts; mandatory in-service training for police and court personnel have all enabled the victim to come forward and implement the constitutional rights granted to all Americans.

The following pages of narrative and graphics in this chapter are the result of gathered data displaying the complexities of domestic violence found within the State of New Jersey. As stated in the following pages, reported domestic violence acts increased seven percent over 1993. It is through analysis of this data that, hopefully the keys to preventing future violence can be found.



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEBORAH T. PORITZ
ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Honorable Christine Todd Whitman
Governor of the State of New Jersey

Honorable Members of the Senate and
Assembly of the State of New Jersey

Dear Governor and Members of the Legislature:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:25-24, I herewith submit for your information and review the twelfth annual report on domestic violence in New Jersey. The annual report is based on Domestic Violence Offense Reports submitted to the New Jersey Uniform Crime Reporting System by every New Jersey law enforcement agency for the year 1994.

It would have been impossible to complete this report without the cooperation of New Jersey's criminal justice family. It is with appreciation to these dedicated public servants, and in the interest of the thousands of persons in this state who are victims of domestic disputes, that this twelfth Domestic Violence Report is submitted.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah T. Portiz".

Deborah T. Portiz
Attorney General of New Jersey



State of New Jersey

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Honorable Deborah T. Poritz
Attorney General
State of New Jersey
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Dear Attorney General Poritz:

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:25-24, the twelfth annual report on domestic violence in New Jersey is submitted. This report contains statistics related to the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act. All information is based on domestic violence offense reports submitted to the New Jersey Uniform Crime Reporting System by every New Jersey law enforcement agency for the year 1994. The report contains comparisons and analyses between 1993 and 1994 data.

This report has evolved through the cooperation of all New Jersey law enforcement agencies. It is being forwarded for your information and presentation to the Governor and members of the Legislature.

Respectfully,

Colonel Carl A. Williams
Superintendent

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Highlights of the 1994 domestic violence statistics are listed below:

- There were 70,991 domestic violence offenses reported by the police in 1994, a 7% increase compared to the 66,248 reported in 1993.
- Murders decreased 22% in 1994 (42) when compared to 1993 (54).
- Assaults accounted for 55% (39,047) of the reported offenses in 1994.
- The total arrests for 1994 (25,364) increased 5% over 1993 (24,115).
- Arrests were made in 36% (25,364) of the offenses reported for 1994.
- The most frequent day of domestic violence occurrences was Sunday (12,976).
- For the twelfth consecutive year, the most frequent hours of domestic violence incidents were between 8:00 p.m. and midnight, when 30% (21,506) of the offenses were reported.
- Children were involved or present during 49% of all domestic violence offenses occurring in 1994. Specifically, 8% (5,771) were involved and 41% (29,140) were present.
- Wives were the victims in 29% (20,745) and ex-wives were the victims in 3% (2,199) of the reported domestic violence offenses in 1994. Overall, females were victims in 82% (58,072) of all domestic violence offenses.
- The number of domestic violence complaints that had prior court orders issued against the offender increased from 15,631 in 1993 to 17,007 in 1994. This is an increase of 9%.
- Alcohol and/or drugs were involved in 39% (27,672) of the reported offenses occurring in 1994. Alcohol involvement alone accounted for 34% (23,794) of the total domestic violence offenses reported.
- Persons age 60 or over were victims in 3% (2,251) of all reported domestic violence offenses that occurred in 1994.
- Domestic Violence does not occur at a regular frequency, but when viewed as a ratio of its occurrence to a fixed time interval, one act of domestic violence would occur every seven (7) minutes and twenty-four (24) seconds.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS

1993/1994

Type of Domestic Violence Offense		Number of Offenses	Percent Distribution	* Number of Arrests	* Percent of Offenses Involving an Arrest
Homicide	1993	54	-	35	65
	1994	42	-	30	71
	Percent Change	-22	-	-14	+9
Assault	1993	37,760	57	18,488	49
	1994	39,047	55	19,306	49
	Percent Change	+3	-	+4	-
Terroristic Threats	1993	3,999	6	1,219	30
	1994	4,414	6	1,255	28
	Percent Change	+10	-	+3	-7
Kidnapping	1993	15	-	5	33
	1994	33	-	9	27
	Percent Change	+120	-	(1)	-18
Criminal Restraint	1993	93	-	33	35
	1994	85	-	28	33
	Percent Change	-9	-	-15	-6
False Imprisonment	1993	21	-	10	48
	1994	18	-	4	22
	Percent Change	-14	-	(1)	-54
Sexual Assault	1993	122	-	53	43
	1994	118	-	50	42
	Percent Change	-3	-	-6	-2
Criminal Sexual Contact	1993	28	-	17	61
	1994	32	-	13	41
	Percent Change	+14	-	-24	-33
Lewdness	1993	11	-	5	45
	1994	14	-	4	29
	Percent Change	+27	-	(1)	-36
Criminal Mischief	1993	3,237	5	1,121	35
	1994	3,546	5	1,191	34
	Percent Change	+10	-	+6	-3
Burglary	1993	418	1	127	30
	1994	496	1	144	29
	Percent Change	+19	-	+13	-3
Criminal Trespass	1993	560	1	248	44
	1994	658	1	321	49
	Percent Change	+18	-	+29	+11
Harassment	1993	19,930	30	2,754	14
	1994	22,488	32	3,009	13
	Percent Change	+13	-	+9	-7
TOTAL	1993	66,248	100	24,115	36
	1994	70,991	100	25,364	36
	Percent Change	+7	-	+5	-

(1) Computing percent changes for these offenses was eliminated due to small volume.

* Incidents are reported soon after they occur; therefore, arrests made after that time are not included.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS 1990 through 1994

Type of Domestic Violence Offense	1990		1991		1992		1993		1994	
	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests
Homicide	57	47	61	48	60	48	54	35	42	30
Assault	32,268	13,726	34,319	15,237	30,292	15,227	37,760	18,488	39,047	19,306
Terroristic Threats*	-	-	-	-	3,026	954	3,999	1,219	4,414	1,255
Kidnapping	17	5	20	6	14	4	15	5	33	9
Criminal Restraint	96	34	120	54	82	31	93	33	85	28
False Imprisonment	26	7	32	11	28	10	21	10	18	4
Sexual Assault	84	28	82	33	92	41	122	53	118	50
Criminal Sexual Contact	23	9	19	11	25	10	28	17	32	13
Lewdness	12	3	8	1	6	1	11	5	14	4
Criminal Mischief	2,460	785	2,768	885	2,553	854	3,237	1,121	3,546	1,191
Burglary	291	86	382	101	293	72	418	127	496	144
Criminal Trespass*	-	-	-	-	478	225	560	248	658	321
Harassment	15,489	2,305	17,887	2,740	15,372	2,243	19,930	2,754	22,488	3,009
TOTAL	50,823	17,035	55,698	19,127	52,321	19,720	66,248	24,115	70,991	25,364

- Arrests for domestic violence offenses increased (5%), and reflected the highest number of arrests since the inception of the Domestic Violence Program.
- The violent crimes of homicide (42), aggravated assault (5,828) and sexual assault (118) accounted for eight (8) percent of reported domestic violence offenses (70,991).
- * Domestic Violence offenses of Terroristic Threats and Criminal Trespass were first reported during 1992.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES
BY TYPE OF WEAPON AND EXTENT OF INJURY
1993/1994**

Type of Weapon		Extent of Injury			Total
		Aggravated Serious	Non-Aggravated Minor	None	
Gun	1993	224	135	103	462
	1994	189	128	93	410
	Percent Change	-16	-5	-10	-11
Knife	1993	842	1,052	208	2,102
	1994	841	979	248	2,068
	Percent Change	*	-7	+19	-2
Other Dangerous	1993	610	1,494	168	2,272
	1994	663	1,496	187	2,346
	Percent Change	+9	*	+11	+3
Hands, Fists, Feet, etc.	1993	1,582	28,287	3,818	33,687
	1994	1,484	28,297	4,053	33,834
	Percent Change	-6	*	+6	*
None	1993	-	-	27,725	27,725
	1994	-	-	32,333	32,333
	Percent Change			+17	+17
TOTAL	1993	3,258	30,968	32,022	66,248
	1994	3,177	30,900	36,914	70,991
	Percent Change	-2	*	+15	+7

* Less than one-half of one percent

- Forty-eight percent (34,077) of all domestic violence complaints resulted in injury. This is less than one-half of one percent decrease when compared to the 34,226 that occurred in 1993.
- Of all the domestic violence offenses involving weapons (38,658), hands, fists, feet, etc. were used in 88% (33,834) of these offenses.
- Domestic violence offenses involving a gun decreased 11%, from 462 in 1993 to 410 in 1994.
- There were 3,177 serious injuries reported in 1994, a 2% decrease when compared to the 3,258 reported in 1993.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY COUNTY
1993/1994

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprisonment
Atlantic	1993	4	1,510	137	-	4	-
	1994	3	1,873	187	1	4	-
Bergen	1993	2	2,435	302	1	7	2
	1994	2	2,383	368	2	7	3
Burlington	1993	2	1,710	88	1	3	-
	1994	3	1,831	94	1	3	2
Camden	1993	6	3,419	185	1	6	1
	1994	4	3,686	254	4	7	-
Cape May	1993	-	753	57	-	5	-
	1994	-	664	60	-	6	1
Cumberland	1993	5	1,254	113	1	4	-
	1994	4	1,358	139	3	1	-
Essex	1993	12	4,948	788	3	10	2
	1994	7	5,251	783	4	7	-
Gloucester	1993	-	1,203	73	-	3	-
	1994	1	1,304	110	-	2	1
Hudson	1993	-	2,902	320	4	4	3
	1994	3	3,188	428	5	5	2
Hunterdon	1993	-	176	13	-	-	1
	1994	1	180	13	-	2	-
Mercer	1993	2	1,562	63	-	3	-
	1994	4	1,578	51	1	2	2

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY COUNTY
1993/1994

Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact	Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	County Total	Percent Change
3	-	-	152	13	21	1,320	3,164	+21
6	1	-	172	16	16	1,560	3,839	
4	1	2	129	9	74	1,691	4,659	+3
7	2	1	137	24	86	1,771	4,793	
6	1	-	135	12	26	951	2,935	+10
2	-	-	127	8	35	1,115	3,221	
11	1	1	316	49	39	2,168	6,203	+17
8	3	2	444	65	66	2,725	7,268	
3	-	-	81	7	22	819	1,747	-9
2	-	-	62	4	41	744	1,584	
4	3	1	141	29	17	407	1,979	+9
8	4	1	131	18	15	481	2,163	
29	5	-	272	74	31	769	6,943	+4
19	5	3	255	94	47	764	7,239	
1	-	-	103	6	17	526	1,932	+15
1	-	1	133	7	23	648	2,231	
3	2	-	160	31	14	1,154	4,597	+10
10	1	-	183	48	31	1,159	5,063	
-	-	-	12	-	3	132	337	+10
3	1	-	10	1	7	153	371	
11	1	1	187	13	49	726	2,618	+7
7	3	-	219	27	33	863	2,790	

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY COUNTY
1993/1994**

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprisonment
Middlesex	1993	5	2,724	376	-	6	1
	1994	-	2,698	418	4	11	-
Monmouth	1993	2	2,651	228	1	3	3
	1994	2	2,729	259	3	7	2
Morris	1993	1	1,153	134	-	6	1
	1994	4	1,159	139	-	5	2
Ocean	1993	4	2,055	310	2	6	1
	1994	1	1,981	327	2	6	1
Passaic	1993	1	2,221	339	-	7	1
	1994	-	2,154	322	1	3	-
Salem	1993	-	410	13	-	1	1
	1994	-	382	16	-	-	-
Somerset	1993	1	921	50	-	3	1
	1994	2	940	24	-	4	-
Sussex	1993	-	499	53	-	4	1
	1994	-	401	43	-	-	-
Union	1993	6	2,939	332	1	6	1
	1994	1	3,032	354	2	3	2
Warren	1993	1	315	25	-	2	1
	1994	-	275	25	-	-	-
TOTAL	1993	54	37,760	3,999	15	93	21
	1994	42	39,047	4,414	33	85	18

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY COUNTY
1993/1994**

Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact	Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	County Total	Percent Change
8	3	2	306	23	39	1,415	4,908	+3
11	3	2	305	34	27	1,537	5,050	
9	1	-	303	28	46	1,789	5,064	+10
4	1	1	345	38	56	2,114	5,561	
1	2	1	111	9	27	855	2,301	*
4	1	-	106	6	24	858	2,308	
8	-	1	171	30	29	1,376	3,993	+7
5	1	-	195	28	37	1,705	4,289	
5	1	2	142	27	19	821	3,586	-3
5	2	1	141	22	26	807	3,484	
2	-	-	30	1	11	260	729	-5
2	1	-	44	4	7	233	689	
3	1	-	165	7	25	886	2,063	+7
5	-	2	175	4	23	1,037	2,216	
2	1	-	55	5	8	455	1,083	-7
2	-	-	47	3	12	497	1,005	
9	4	-	231	43	39	1,228	4,839	+9
7	2	-	287	44	44	1,476	5,254	
-	1	-	35	2	4	182	568	+1
-	1	-	28	1	2	241	573	
122	28	11	3,237	418	560	19,930	66,248	+7
118	32	14	3,546	496	658	22,488	70,991	

* Less than one-half of one percent

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES
(By Type and Sex of Victim)
1994

Type of Offense		Relationship of Victim to Offender						Total	Total Number of Offenses
		Spouse	Ex-Spouse	Co-Parent	Relative	Friend	Ex-Friend		
Homicide	Male	4	-	-	6	7	-	17	42
	Female	9	2	6	-	7	1	25	
Assault	Male	2,201	173	776	1,724	2,036	268	7,178	39,047
	Female	10,904	738	6,497	2,812	9,191	1,727	31,869	
Terroristic Threats	Male	161	36	43	240	76	58	614	4,414
	Female	1,392	267	710	399	577	455	3,800	
Kidnapping	Male	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	33
	Female	7	3	15	-	1	6	32	
Criminal Restraint	Male	2	-	-	1	4	1	8	85
	Female	25	1	16	6	19	10	77	
False Imprisonment	Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
	Female	7	-	2	-	9	-	18	
Sexual Assault	Male	-	-	-	1	2	-	3	118
	Female	31	3	24	13	26	18	113	
Criminal Sexual Contact	Male	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	32
	Female	7	3	4	1	14	2	31	
Lewdness	Male	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	14
	Female	4	2	2	2	1	1	12	
Criminal Mischief	Male	225	39	106	178	194	92	834	3,546
	Female	795	84	508	434	635	256	2,712	
Burglary	Male	14	2	5	29	14	16	80	496
	Female	69	22	82	67	64	112	416	
Criminal Trespass	Male	17	11	13	36	26	21	124	658
	Female	155	48	89	83	68	91	534	
Harassment	Male	1,392	226	443	818	884	294	4,057	22,488
	Female	7,340	1,026	2,713	1,822	3,962	1,568	18,431	
Total	Male	4,018	487	1,386	3,033	3,244	751	12,919	-
	Female	20,745	2,199	10,668	5,639	14,574	4,247	58,072	
Grand Total		24,763	2,686	12,054	8,672	17,818	4,998	-	70,991

ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
(Alcohol or Drugs Involved) *
1994

Type of Domestic Violence Offense	Total Number of Offenses	Substance Involved			Total Alcohol or Drugs	Percent of Offenses Involving Alcohol or Drugs
		Only Alcohol	Only Drugs	Both Alcohol & Drugs		
Homicide	42	6	2	4	12	29
Assault	39,047	14,475	928	1,267	16,670	43
Terroristic Threats	4,414	1,047	212	192	1,451	33
Kidnapping	33	9	1	1	11	33
Criminal Restraint	85	23	6	3	32	38
False Imprisonment	18	5	1	2	8	44
Sexual Assault	118	33	6	6	45	38
Criminal Sexual Contact	32	5	-	1	6	19
Lewdness	14	4	1	-	5	36
Criminal Mischief	3,546	1,276	95	97	1,468	41
Burglary	496	80	56	17	153	31
Criminal Trespass	658	183	31	25	239	36
Harassment	22,488	6,648	465	459	7,572	34
Total	70,991	23,794	1,804	2,074	27,672	39

- Drugs or alcohol were involved in 29% (12) of the reported domestic violence offenses of homicides.
- Thirty-nine percent (27,672) of the reported acts of domestic violence (70,991) involved the use of drugs or alcohol.
- * Indicates alcohol or drug use by either victim or offender

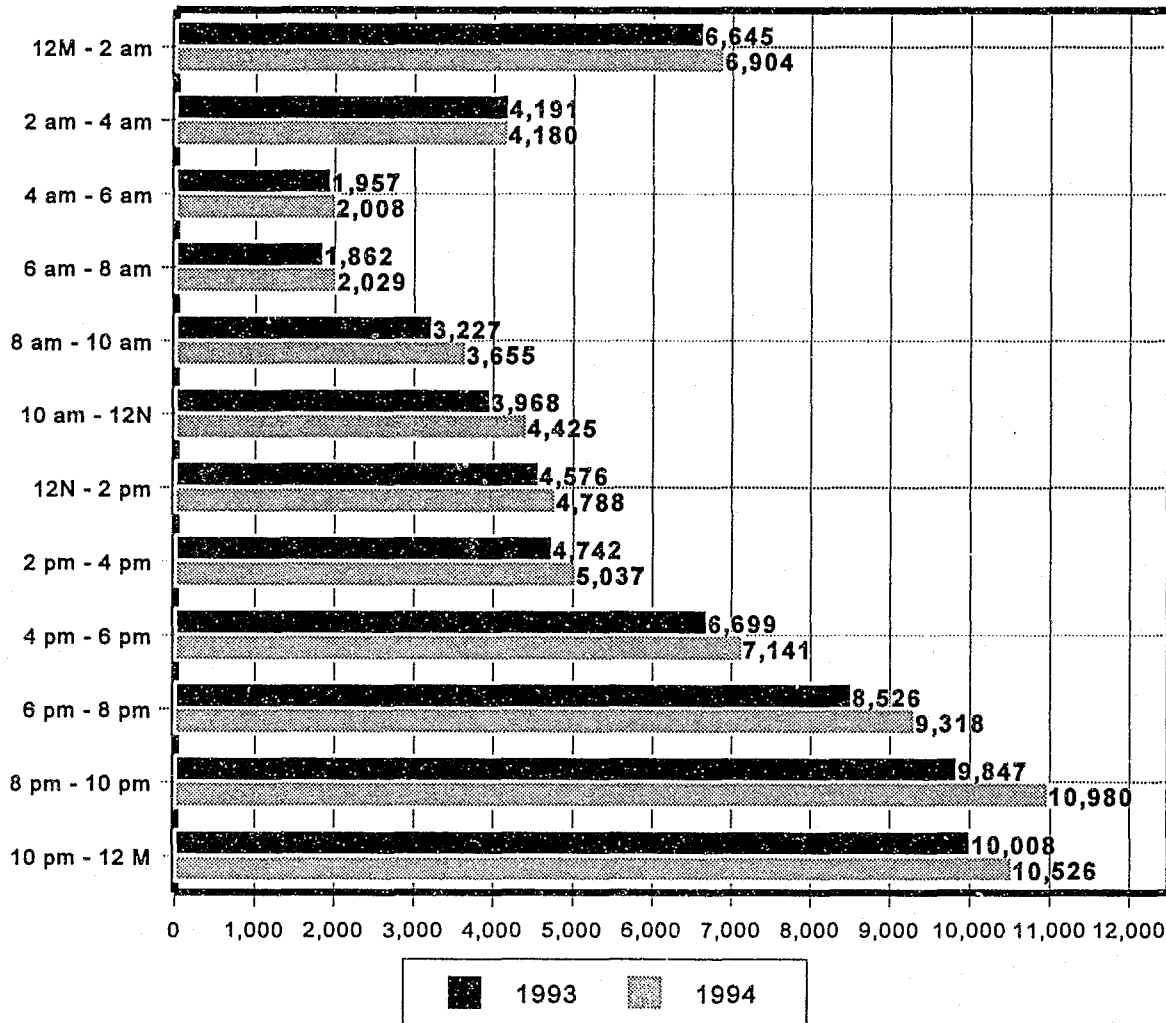
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES AGAINST ELDERLY VICTIMS
(60 Years of Age or Over)
1994

Type of Domestic Violence Offense	Total Number of Offenses	Relationship of Victim to Offender											
		Spouse		Ex-Spouse		Co-Parent		Relative		Friend		Ex-Friend	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Homicide	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Assault	888	95	164	6	13	10	26	176	297	51	41	8	1
Terroristic Threats	172	6	31	-	1	-	15	38	69	7	4	-	1
Kidnapping	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Criminal Restraint	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
False Imprisonment	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sexual Assault	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Criminal Sexual Contact	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lewdness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Criminal Mischief	157	9	8	1	1	2	9	32	83	4	3	4	1
Burglary	23	-	1	-	-	-	1	5	15	-	-	-	1
Criminal Trespass	48	1	1	-	-	2	4	11	26	2	-	-	1
Harassment	950	70	191	5	11	3	45	169	373	29	33	8	13
Total	2,251	182	400	12	26	17	101	434	867	93	81	20	18

- Assaults accounted for 39% (888) of all domestic violence offenses for victims 60 years of age or over.
- Females, 60 years of age or over, were the victims in 67% (1,493) of the 2,251 elderly abuse offenses.
- Persons age 60 or over were the victims in 3% (2,251) of all the reported domestic violence offenses during this period.

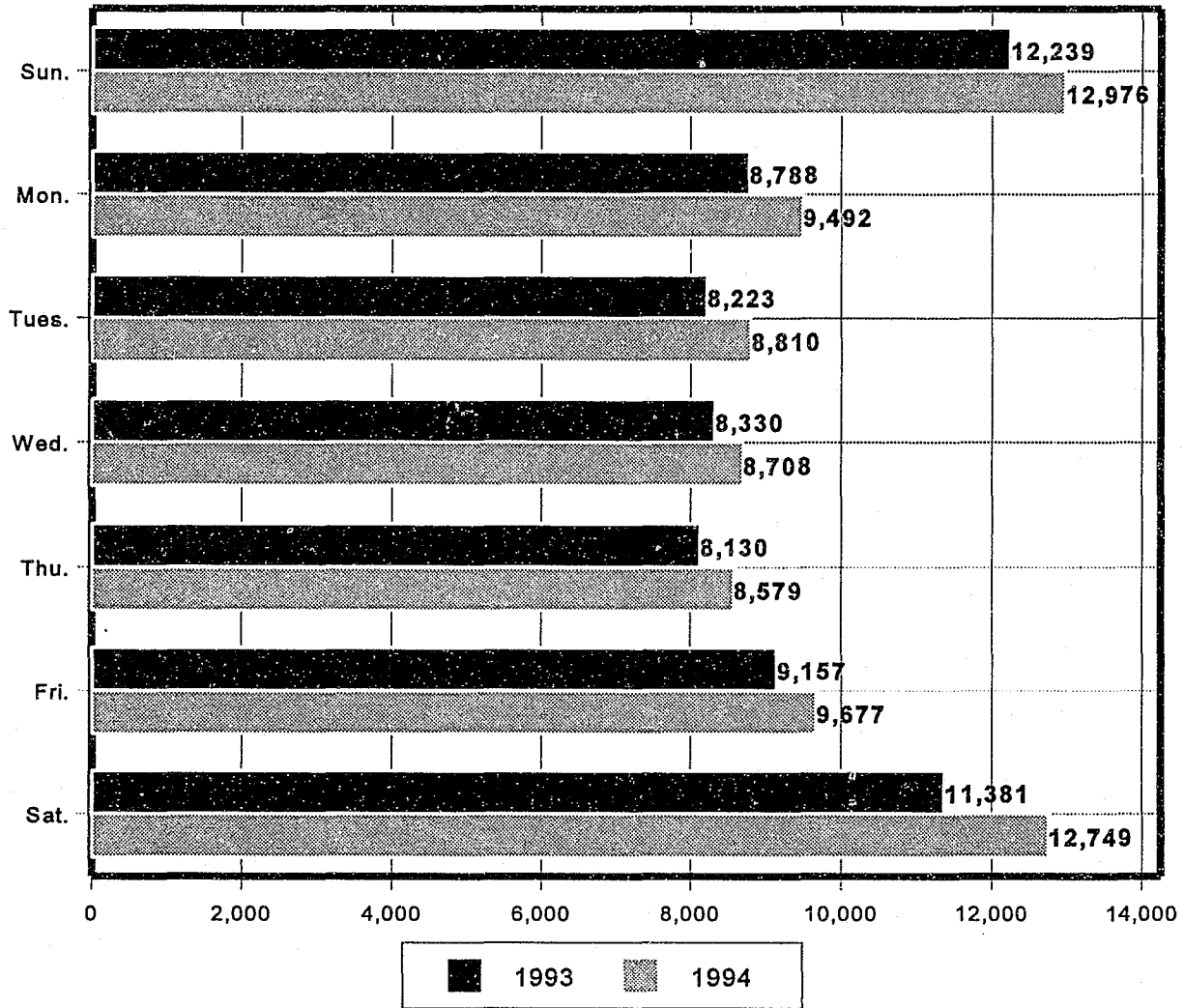
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TIME OF DAY

1993/1994



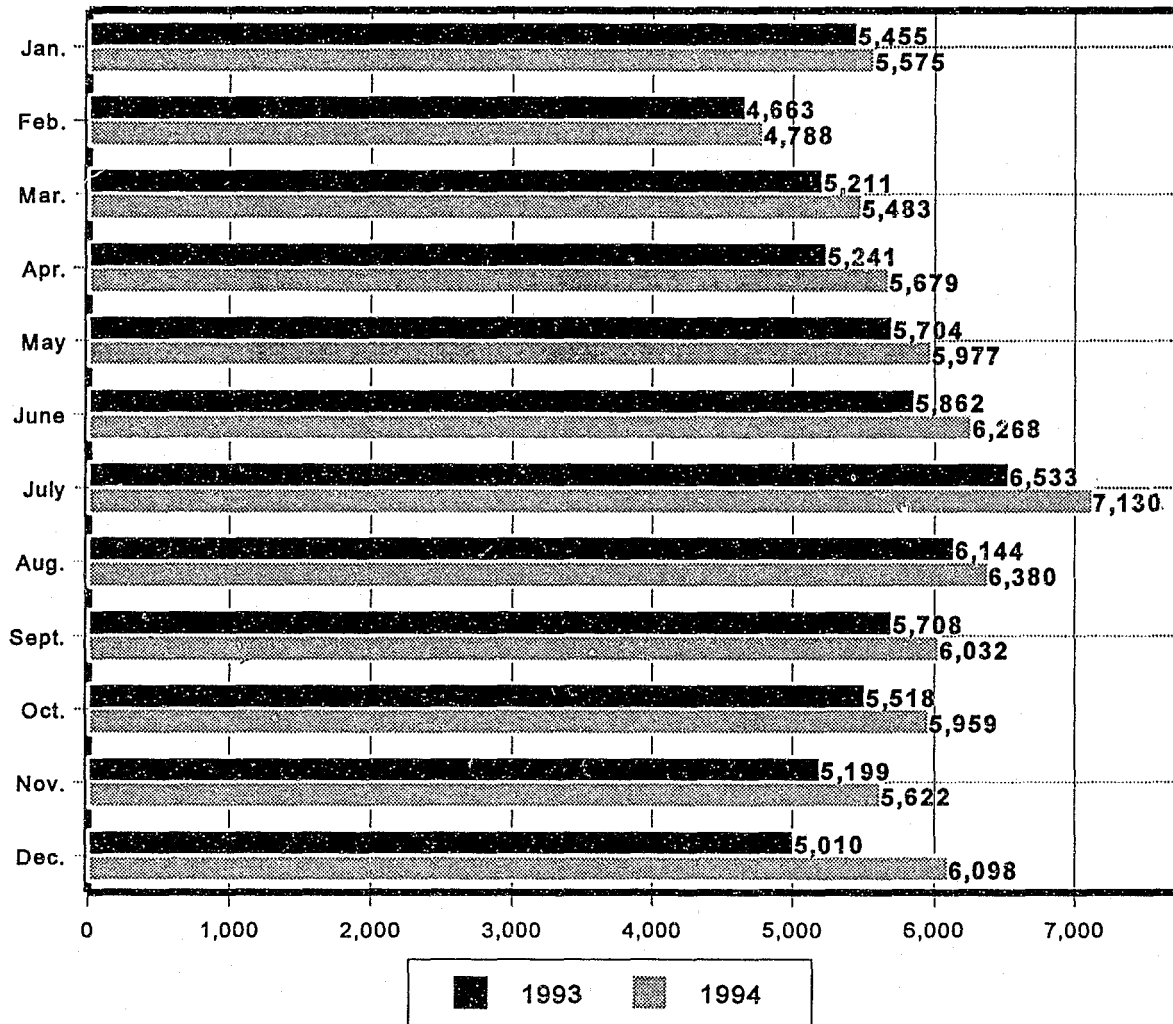
- During 1994 thirty percent (21,506) of the reported Domestic Violence offenses occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 12 Midnight.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY DAY OF WEEK 1993/1994



- The most frequent day of occurrence for Domestic Violence during 1994 was Sunday.
- During 1994, thirty-six percent (25,725) of the reported Domestic Violence offenses occurred during the weekend (SATURDAY and SUNDAY).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY MONTH OF YEAR 1993/1994



- In 1994, the highest number of Domestic Violence offenses occurred during the months of July and August.
- During 1994, the month with the lowest number of reported Domestic Violence offenses was February.