

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN DELAWARE 1994

**An Analysis of Victim to
Offender Relationships**

With Special Focus on Stalking



Statistical Analysis Center
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Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

An Analysis of Victim to Offender Relationships

With Special Focus on Stalking

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The points of view expressed in this document do not necessarily represent the official position of the U.S. Department of Justice.

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Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

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Domestic Violence in Delaware



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1994

Research Methods & Limitations

DATA SOURCES

All data came from Delaware's State Bureau of Identification.

In Delaware, there are no specific domestic violence statutes; however, when charges are made against individuals, a victim to offender relationship is reported whenever identifiable. We use the victim to offender data in order to determine what cases are domestic.

How is Total Crime Counted?

There are numerous ways to count crimes, several of which are used in this report.

- *Complaints*
The Crime in Delaware Report, another report by the Delaware Statistical Analysis Center, uses this method of counting. A complaint is an offense reported to police.
- *Arrests*
The number of arrests for a crime is normally a smaller number than complaints, as not all complaints result in an arrest.
- *Victims*
In this report, we include the number of victims as it is shown in the complaint reports by SBI (State Bureau of Identification). The the number of victims appears not to equal the number of complaints, due to the removal of unfounded complaints for the FBI report..

- *Offenders*
Offenders, as used in this report, refer to those perpetrators mentioned by victims. Individuals who are arrested are also referred to as offenders. This number is usually be lower than the number of complaints and the number of victims.
- *Victim to Offender Relationships*
This number is normally higher than the others because it takes into account relationships between sometimes multiple victims and multiple offenders. For example, if two individuals robbed three victims, both robbers need to have a relationship defined for each of the three victims. There would be a total of six relationships.

OTHER DATA LIMITATIONS

The cases of domestic violence are under-reported; the data in this report only includes those cases which have been reported to police.

In the documentation of complaints, the victim-to-offender relationship is sometimes not known or reported.

The information in this publication, therefore, is as accurate as current reporting procedures will allow, but is a conservative picture of domestic violence in Delaware.

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Domestic Violence in Delaware



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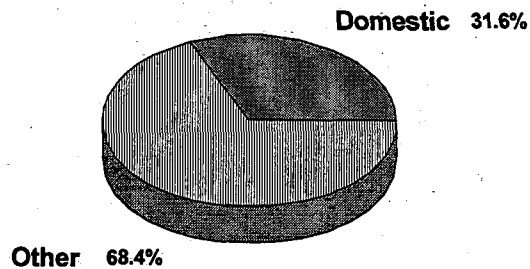
General Domestic Violence

General domestic violence is the sum of Delaware homicides, forcible rapes, other sexual assaults, aggravated assaults, and simple assaults. There were 26,571 victim to offender relationships for these crimes in 1994, 8,390 of which (31.6 percent) can be attributed to domestic violence.

The number of domestic violence cases has been increasing every year, up 2.4 since 1993, and up 30.9% since 1990.

Percent Domestic Violence

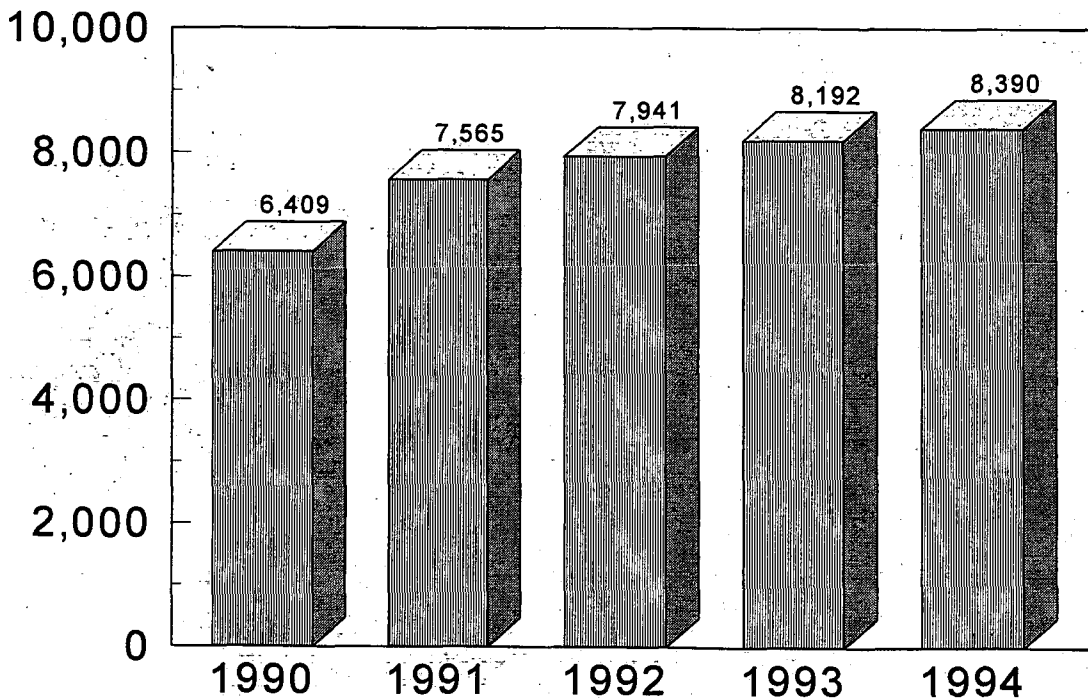
Sum of Selected Crime Types



1994 Data

Cases Attributed to Domestic Violence

General Domestic Violence: 1990 - 1994



General Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence in Delaware, 1994

- The following percentages represent the portion of each selected crime type identified as domestic in 1994:

- 26% of homicide arrests were domestic
- 32.2% of forcible rapes
- 11.4% of other sexual assaults
- 22.4% of aggravated assaults
- 34.3% of simple assaults

- The following percentages represent the most common types of domestic violence by number of victim to offender relationships:

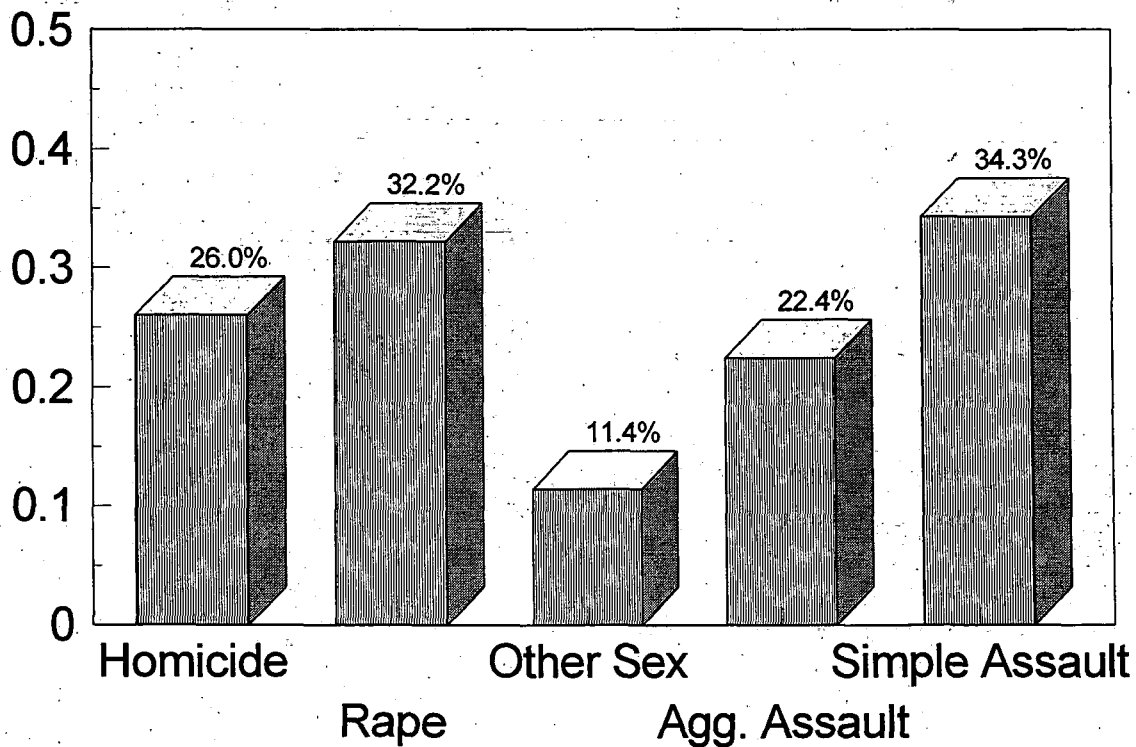
- 85.1% of domestic cases were for simple assaults
- 10.8% - aggravated assault
- 2.6% - forcible rape
- 1.4% - other sexual assaults
- 0.2% - homicide

- Simple assaults were the most common type of domestic violence both in terms of raw numbers and percentage attributable to domestic violence.

- Comparatively few other sexual assault cases are domestic. Only 11.4 percent can be attributed to domestic violence.

Percent of Cases Attributed to Domestic Violence

Total 1994 Reported Crimes



1994 Data



Domestic Violence in Delaware



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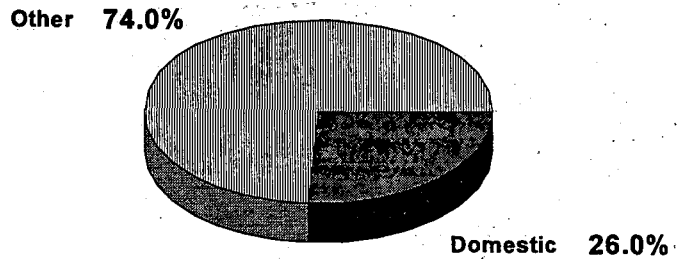
1994

Homicide

There were 30 homicides with 50 victim to offender relationships in Delaware in 1994.

Thirteen of the 50 victim to offender relationships, or 26 percent, can be identified as domestic violence. In 1993, there were only 6 domestic homicides; in 1994, there were 13.

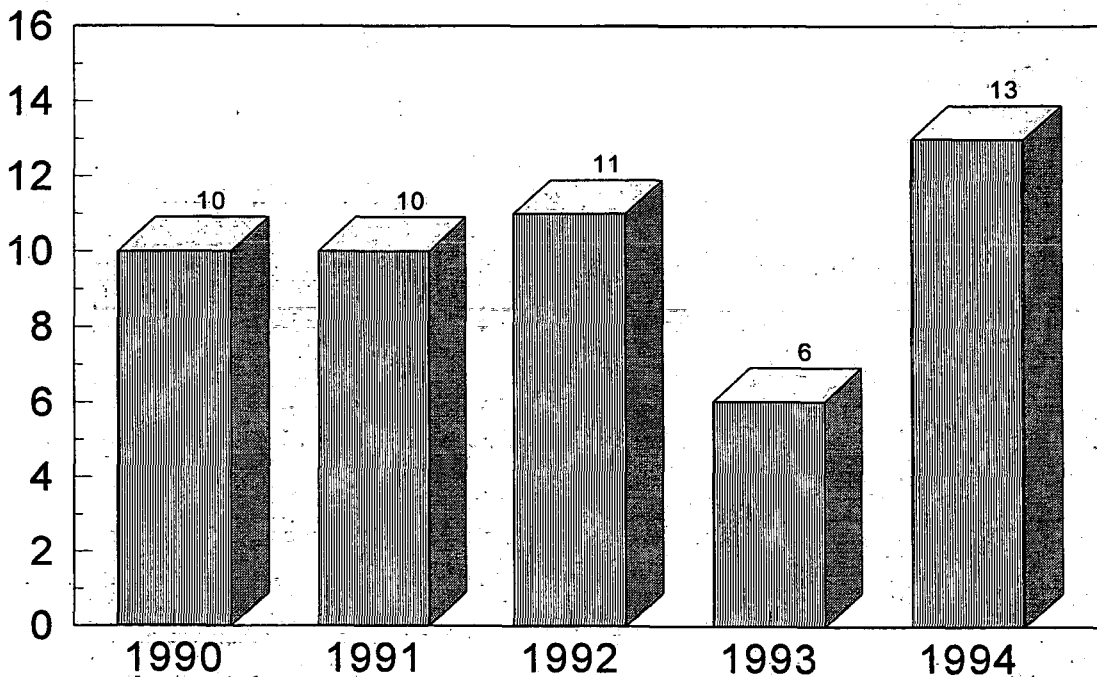
Homicide
Percent Domestic Violence



1994 Data

Cases Attributed to Domestic Violence

Homicide: 1990 - 1994



Homicide

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Victim to Offender Relationship

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1. Known to Offender	21	21	19	15	22
Partner	10	6	6	5	5
Spouse	3	2	5	3	1
Common-Law Spouse	0	0	0	0	0
Boy/Girlfriend	6	2	1	2	4
Homosexual Relation	0	1	0	0	0
Ex-Spouse	1	1	0	0	0
Relative	0	4	5	1	8
Child	0	1	1	1	5
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	0	0	0	0	0
Step-Child	0	0	0	0	0
Grandchild	0	0	0	0	0
Sibling	0	0	0	0	0
Step-Sibling	0	0	0	0	0
Parent	0	1	2	0	2
Step-Parent	0	1	1	0	0
Grandparent	0	1	0	0	0
In-Laws	0	0	0	0	1
Other Relative	0	0	1	0	0
Other Known	11	11	8	9	9
Acquaintance	6	9	5	6	6
Employee/Employer	0	0	0	1	0
Friend	1	0	1	1	1
Neighbor	0	1	1	0	0
Babysittee	0	1	0	0	0
Other Known	4	0	1	1	2
2. Stranger and Unknown	32	37	24	21	28
Stranger	8	7	5	4	5
Unknown	24	30	19	17	23
TOTALS	53	58	43	36	50
Percent Offender Known	39.6%	36.2%	44.2%	41.7%	44.0%
Percent Offender Unknown	60.4%	63.8%	55.8%	58.3%	56.0%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOTAL	10	10	11	6	13
Percent Domestic Violence	18.9%	17.2%	25.6%	16.7%	26.0%
Partner	18.9%	10.3%	14.0%	13.9%	10.0%
Relative	0.0%	6.9%	11.6%	2.8%	16.0%

Homicide

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

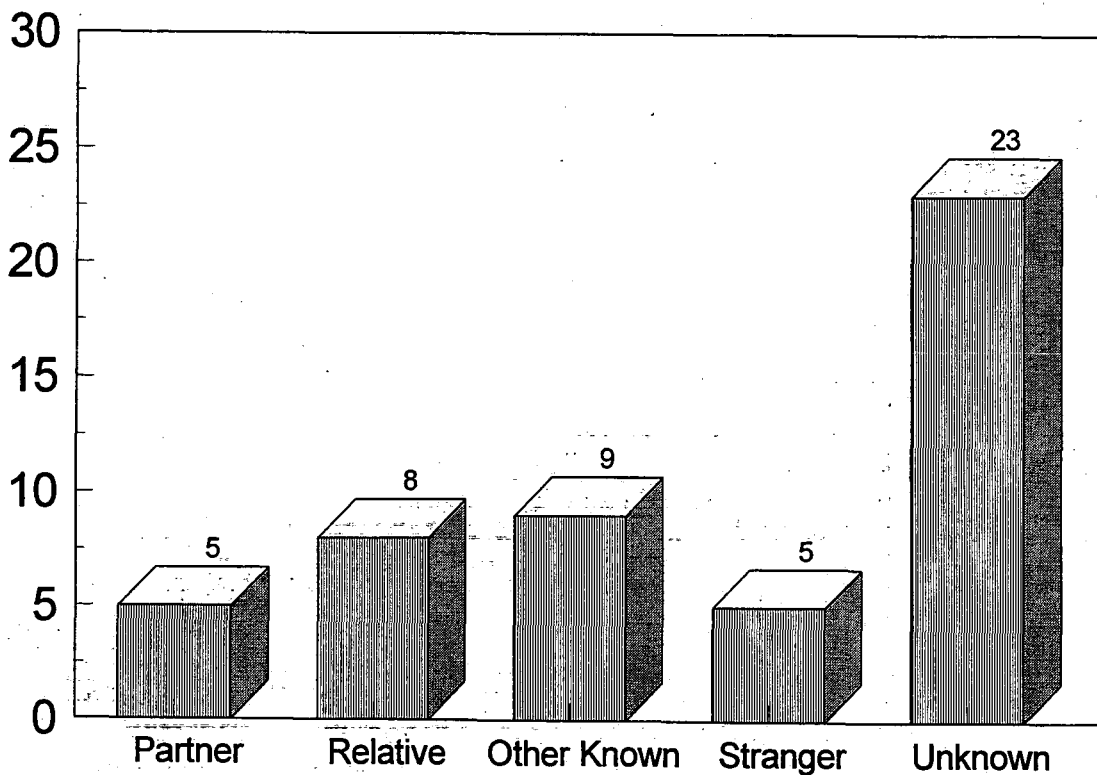
- Twenty-six percent of Delaware homicides (by victim to offender relationships) in 1994 can be attributed to domestic violence.
- Ten percent of homicides involved a spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend of the victim.
- About 16 percent of identified homicide offenders were otherwise related to the victim.

- Over half of all homicides in Delaware were perpetrated by unknown assailants or strangers.
- Another 18 percent of identified offenders knew the victims, but were unrelated.
- Domestic homicides increased in 1994 from recent previous years.

- The most common victim relationships were the following:
 - Children of the offenders made up 5 cases, or 38 percent of domestic violence homicides.
 - Boyfriends and girlfriends made up 4 cases, or 31 percent of the domestic violence homicides.

Homicide

Victim to Offender Relationship



Homicide

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

- While the age of homicide victims fluctuates more than the age factor in other domestic violence crimes, there is a correlation between age and victims. The young adult population is the most victimized age group.

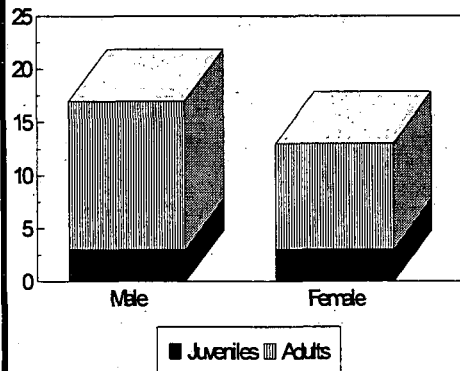
→ In the age span of 15 through 39 (24 years), there were 20 homicides.

→ In the age span of 40 through 64 (also 24 years), there were only 2 homicides.

- The 20 - 24 age group stands out with 8 homicide victims, more than twice that of any other age group.
- There were 6 juvenile victims ages 17 and under; 20 percent of homicides victims were juveniles.
- The elderly ages 65 and over make up 10 percent of victims (3 cases).

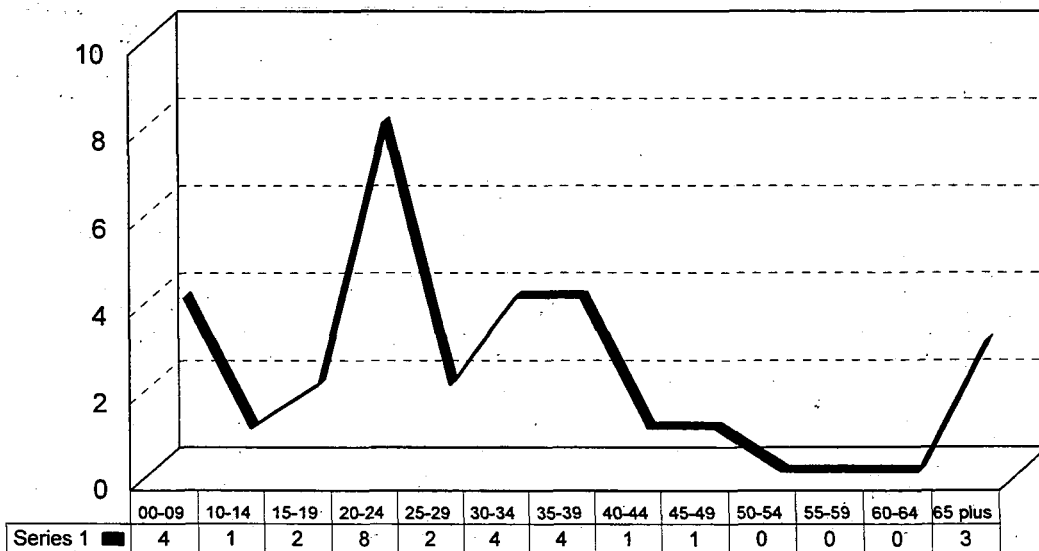
- Males were more likely to be victims (57 percent) than females (43 percent).
- For juvenile homicides, males and females were equally victimized.

Sex of Victims
Homicide: 1994



Age of Victims

Homicide: 1994



All victims. Not all are a result of domestic violence.



Domestic Violence in Delaware



Statistical Analysis Center

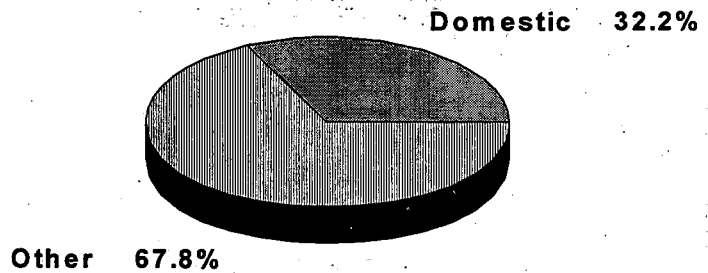
1994

Forcible Rape

In 1994, there were 540 complaints with 612 reported rape victims and 667 victim to offender relationships in Delaware. Of the 667 identified relationships, 215 or 32.2 percent can be classified as domestic.

Reported rapes linked to domestic violence have decreased 6 percent since 1992, and over 2.7 percent since 1993.

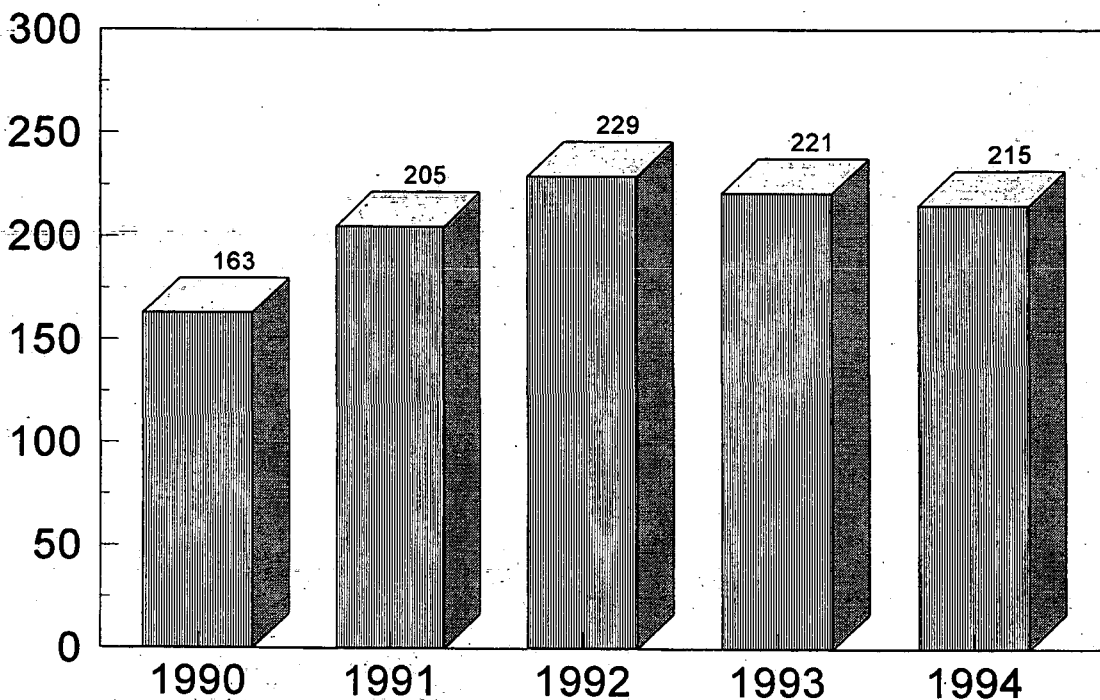
Forcible Rape
Percent Domestic Violence



1994 Data

Cases Attributed to Domestic Violence

Forcible Rape: 1990 - 1994



Forcible Rape

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Victim to Offender Relationship

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1. Known to Offender	377	502	513	574	551
Partner	46	62	65	84	63
Spouse	14	14	11	18	16
Common-Law Spouse	1	1	0	1	0
Boy/Girlfriend	30	47	52	64	43
Homosexual Relation	0	0	0	0	0
Ex-Spouse	1	0	2	1	4
Relative	117	143	164	150	152
Child	42	43	50	38	56
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	0	7	9	5	5
Step-Child	12	12	26	18	14
Grandchild	0	10	4	2	2
Sibling	8	19	15	19	8
Step-Sibling	2	5	6	11	7
Parent	3	5	1	0	0
Step-Parent	1	1	2	2	2
Grandparent	0	0	1	0	0
In-Laws	0	2	2	3	2
Other Relative	49	39	48	52	56
Other Known	214	297	284	340	336
Acquaintance	168	223	204	266	258
Employee/Employer	0	2	1	0	0
Friend	14	24	24	18	26
Neighbor	9	10	9	7	4
Babysittee	0	3	2	0	3
Other Known	23	35	44	49	45
2. Stranger and Unknown	208	201	215	153	116
Stranger	45	48	52	32	21
Unknown	163	153	163	121	95
TOTALS	585	703	728	727	667
Percent Offender Known	64.4%	71.4%	70.5%	79.0%	82.6%
Percent Offender Unknown	35.6%	28.6%	29.5%	21.0%	17.4%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOTAL	163	205	229	234	215
Percent Domestic Violence	27.9%	29.2%	31.5%	32.2%	32.2%
Partner	7.9%	8.8%	8.9%	11.6%	9.4%
Relative	20.0%	20.3%	22.5%	20.6%	22.8%

Forcible Rape

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

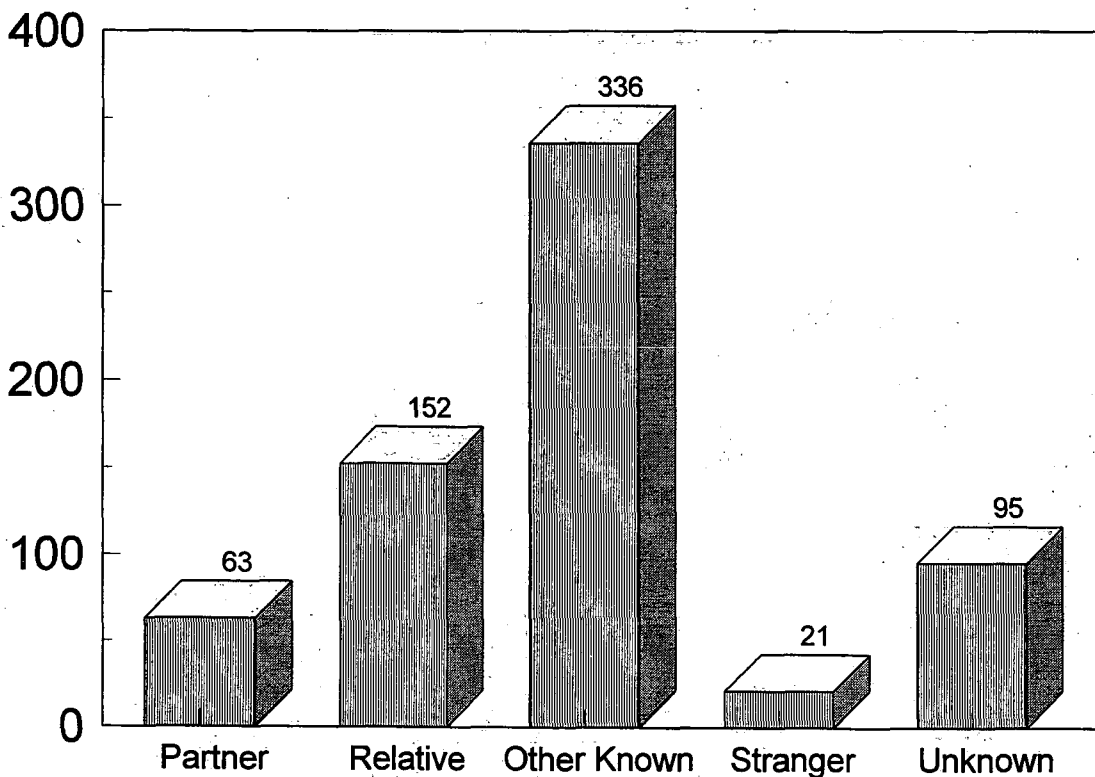
- Thirty-two percent of Delaware rapes in 1994 can be attributed to domestic violence.
- A spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend of the victim were identified for the crime in nearly 9.5 percent of the cases.
- About 22.8 percent of rape suspects were otherwise related to the victim.

- Another 50 percent of the time the victims knew the offender, but the offender was neither a relation nor a partner of the victim.
- Unknown assailants and strangers were identified in only 17.4 percent of cases.
- The number of domestic rapes have been decreasing since a high of 229 in 1992. There has been a 6 percent drop since 1992.

- The most common victim relationships were the following:
 - Children of the offenders and other relatives were the most victimized categories; 56 relationships were reported in each category (or 26 percent of domestic cases each).
 - Boyfriends and girlfriends made up 43 cases, or 20 percent of domestic violence rapes.

Forcible Rape

Victim to Offender Relationship



Forcible Rape

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

- Age and gender are both important variables when determining risk groups for victims of rape. Children and young adults are in a much greater risk category than are older people, although incidents are reported in nearly every age group.

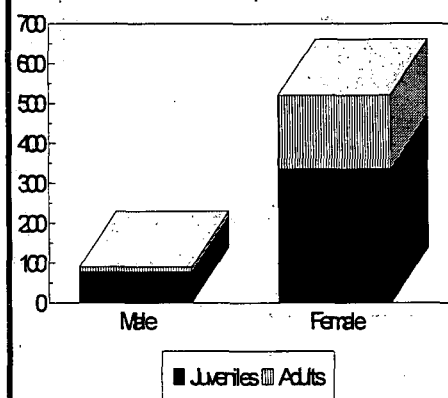
→ 10 to 14 year olds were the most victimized age group with 162 reported rapes.

→ There were a similar number of rapes (169) for all adults ages 21 and over.

- In 1994, 443 of the 612 rape victims were under the age of 20.
- Over 22 percent of rape victims were under the age of 10.
- There is also a significant correlation between gender and rape victims. 85 percent of victims are women; 55 percent are juvenile females.

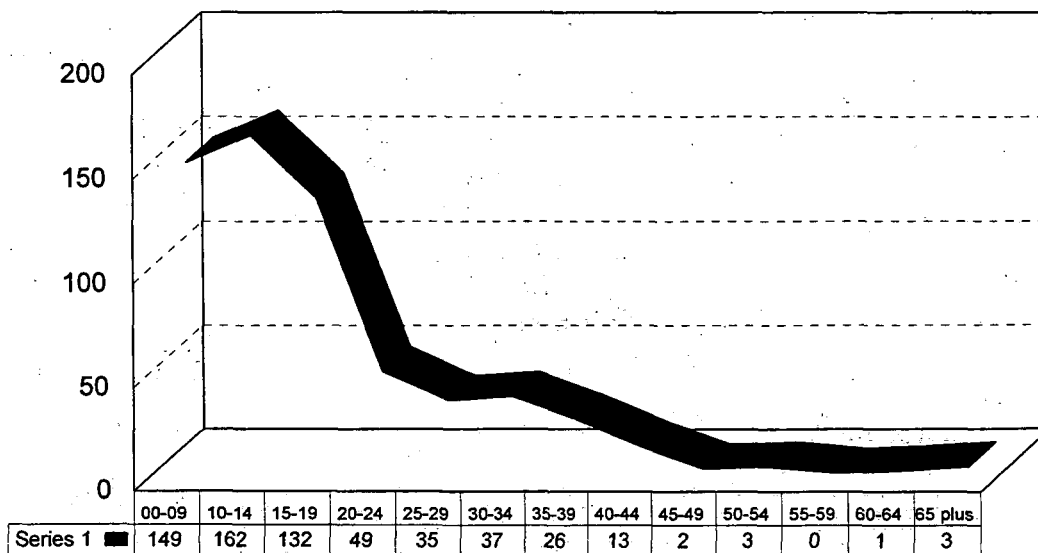
- Only about 2 percent of reported victims are adult men.
- About 19 percent of juvenile rape victims were male.

Sex of Victims
Forcible Rape: 1994



Age of Victims

Forcible Rape: 1994



All victims. Not all are a result of domestic violence.



Domestic Violence in Delaware



Statistical Analysis Center

1994

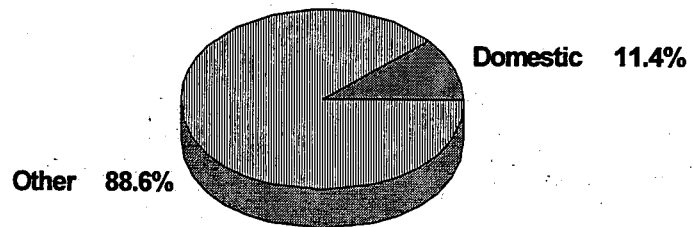
Other Sexual Assault

There were 1,007 victim to offender relationships for sexual assault cases other than rape in 1994. About 11.4 percent of those cases (115) can be attributed to domestic violence.

Other sexual assaults identified as domestic decreased about 21 to 22 percent from 1992 and 1993 respectively.

There are no victim demographics on age or gender available for this crime type.

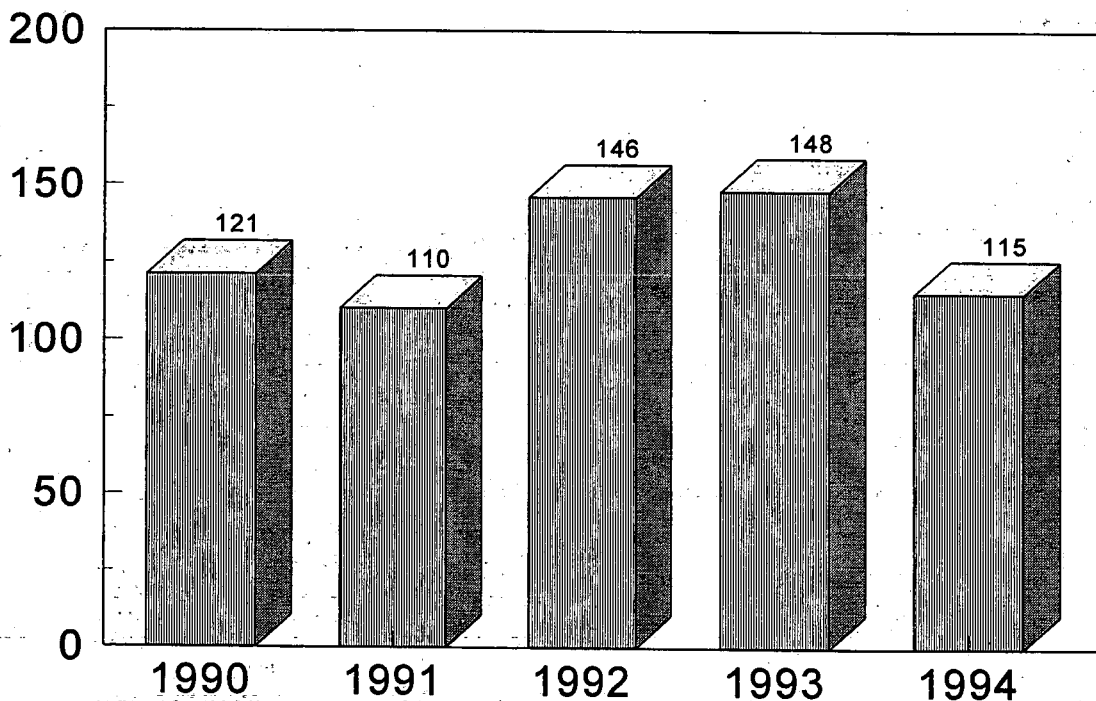
Other Sexual Assault
Percent Domestic Violence



1994 Data

Cases Attributed to Domestic Violence

Other Sexual Assault: 1990 - 1994



Other Sexual Assault

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Victim to Offender Relationship

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1. Known to Offender	353	394	454	494	484
Partner	10	6	10	11	12
Spouse	1	2	2	3	2
Common-Law Spouse	0	0	0	0	0
Boy/Girlfriend	9	3	6	6	7
Homosexual Relation	0	0	0	0	0
Ex-Spouse	0	1	2	2	3
Relative	111	104	136	116	103
Child	35	43	28	30	32
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	1	7	14	5	6
Step-Child	13	15	18	19	13
Grandchild	0	3	5	8	7
Sibling	10	5	11	11	7
Step-Sibling	0	3	2	5	5
Parent	6	4	2	3	1
Step-Parent	1	0	1	1	1
Grandparent	0	1	2	2	1
In-Laws	1	0	2	3	1
Other Relative	44	23	51	29	29
Other Known	232	284	308	367	369
Acquaintance	137	188	206	273	277
Employee/Employer	3	2	6	6	3
Friend	14	10	23	10	4
Neighbor	15	28	25	26	23
Babysittee	0	3	4	5	0
Other Known	63	53	44	47	62
2. Stranger and Unknown	594	671	614	538	523
Stranger	145	172	172	173	168
Unknown	449	499	442	365	355
TOTALS	947	1065	1068	1032	1007
Percent Offender Known	37.3%	37.0%	42.5%	47.9%	48.1%
Percent Offender Unknown	62.7%	63.0%	57.5%	52.1%	51.9%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOTAL	121	110	146	127	115
Percent Domestic Violence	12.8%	10.3%	13.7%	12.3%	11.4%
Partner	1.1%	0.6%	0.9%	1.1%	1.2%
Relative	11.7%	9.8%	12.7%	11.2%	10.2%

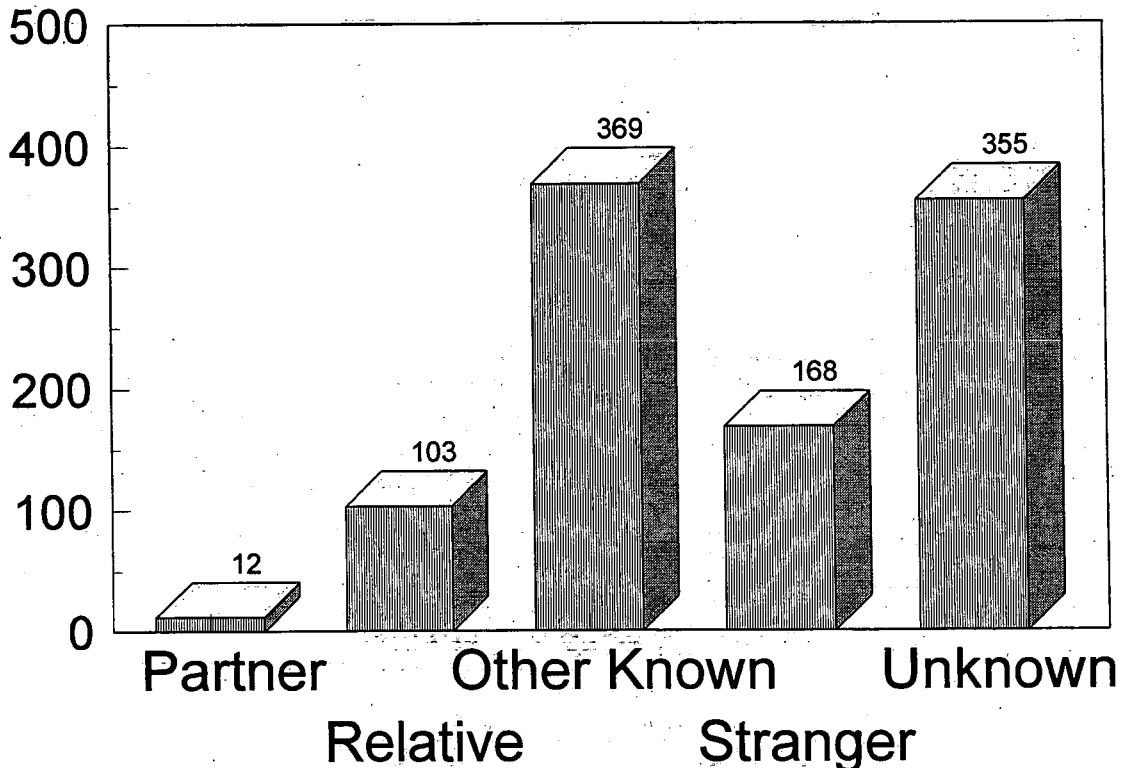
Other Sexual Assault

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

- About 11.4 percent of Delaware incidence of sexual assault other than rape can be attributed to domestic violence.
- Only 1.2 percent of victims identified a spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend as the offender in other sexual assaults.
- Relatives account for 10.2 percent of arrests.
- Fifty-two percent of all other sexual assaults were perpetrated by unknown assailants or strangers.
- The remainder, 36.6 percent, are offenders who know the victim in some capacity, but are not partners or relatives.
- Reported domestic sexual assaults (other than rape) decreased to 115 in 1994 from a high of 148 in 1993.
- The most common victim relationships were the following:
 - Children of the offenders were the victims in 32 charges, or 28 percent of domestic cases.
 - Other relative accounted for 29 charges, or 25 percent of domestic cases.
 - Step-children were next, with 13 arrests, or 11 percent of domestic cases.

Other Sexual Assaults

Victim to Offender Relationship



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Domestic Violence in Delaware



Statistical Analysis Center

1994

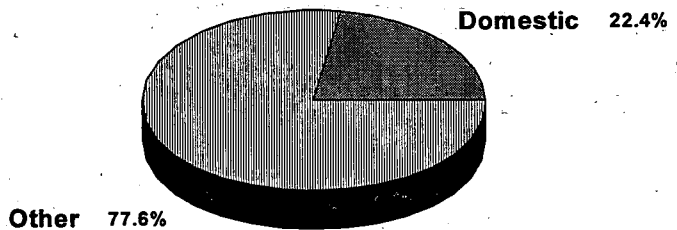
Aggravated Assault

There were 3,179 complaints and 3,152 known victims of aggravated assault in 1994, with 4,056 victim to offender relationships.

Of the 4,056 charges, 907 (or 22.4 percent) can be identified as domestic violence.

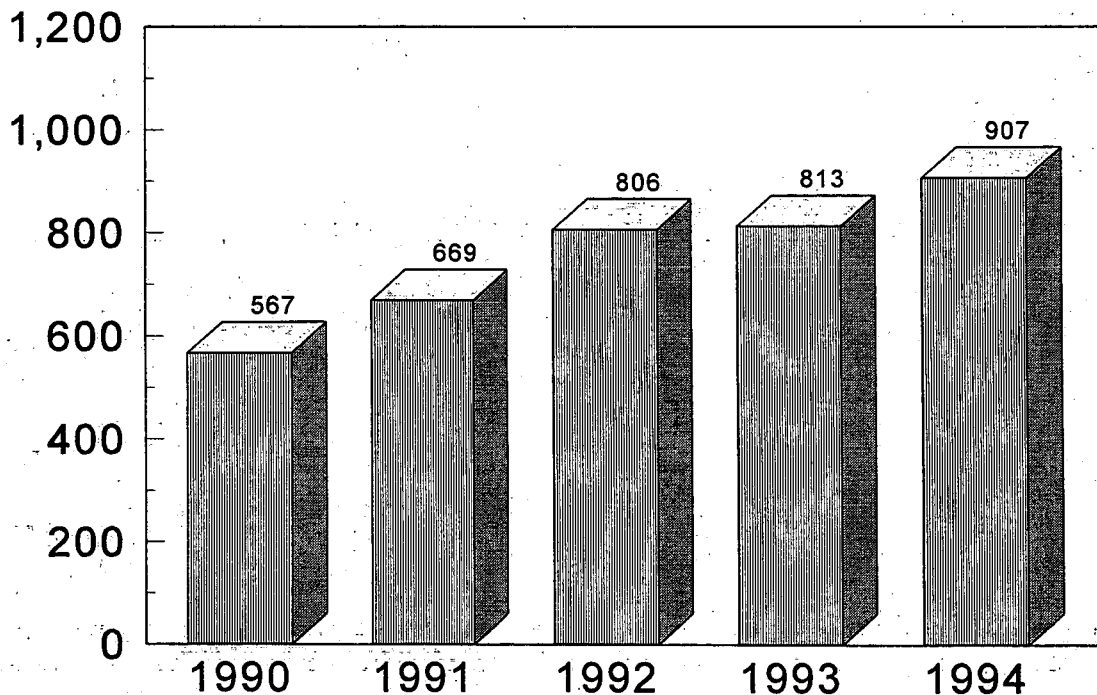
Domestic aggravated assaults have been increasing every year since 1990. 1994 figures are up 11.6 percent from 1993, and up 60 percent since 1990.

Aggravated Assault
Percent Domestic Violence in 1994



Cases Attributed to Domestic Violence

Aggravated Assault: 1990 - 1994



Aggravated Assault

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Victim to Offender Relationship

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1. Known to Offender	1463	1803	2071	2093	2169
Partner	399	445	522	559	575
Spouse	162	161	209	246	231
Common-Law Spouse	5	8	4	3	6
Boy/Girlfriend	218	257	289	289	319
Homosexual Relation	1	2	3	3	4
Ex-Spouse	13	17	17	18	15
Relative	168	224	284	256	332
Child	53	72	82	72	73
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	1	5	3	6	5
Step-Child	8	12	20	15	16
Grandchild	2	3	4	1	2
Sibling	31	52	64	57	79
Step-Sibling	1	3	3	0	3
Parent	26	28	46	29	68
Step-Parent	5	6	13	16	20
Grandparent	0	0	1	1	1
In-Laws	11	16	15	9	26
Other Relative	30	27	33	50	39
Other Known	896	1134	1265	1278	1262
Acquaintance	617	772	964	937	908
Employee/Employer	5	3	9	6	4
Friend	50	68	74	48	51
Neighbor	35	69	37	56	73
Babysittee	1	3	0	0	0
Other Known	188	219	181	231	226
2. Stranger and Unknown	1576	1920	1895	2007	1887
Stranger	478	740	693	791	823
Unknown	1098	1180	1202	1216	1064
TOTALS	3039	3723	3966	4100	4056
Percent Offender Known	48.1%	48.4%	52.2%	51.0%	53.5%
Percent Offender Unknown	51.9%	51.6%	47.8%	49.0%	46.5%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOTAL	567	669	806	815	907
Percent Domestic Violence	18.7%	18.0%	20.3%	19.9%	22.4%
Partner	13.1%	12.0%	13.2%	13.6%	14.2%
Relative	5.5%	6.0%	7.2%	6.2%	8.2%

Aggravated Assault

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

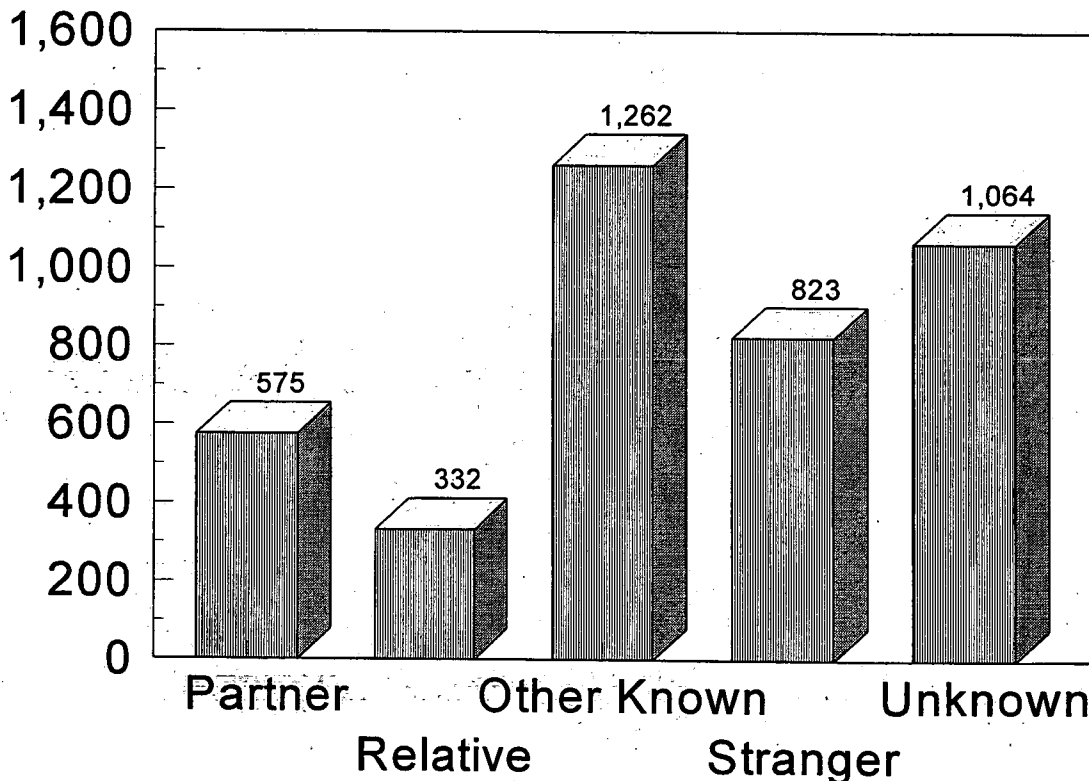
- Of the reported 4,056 victim to offender relationships, 22.4 percent can be attributed to domestic violence in 1994.
- Partners, including spouses and boyfriend/girlfriends, account for 14 percent of identified offenders.
- Relatives made up 8 percent of identified offenders in Delaware.

- 47 percent of assailants were either unknown, or were strangers.
- Another 31 percent of victims knew their attacker in some way other than the partner or relative categories.
- Domestic aggravated assaults have been on the rise for the last 5 years, up 60 percent from 1990.

- The most common victim relationships were the following:
 - Boyfriend/Girlfriend relationships were the most common, with 35 percent of the domestic aggravated assaults.
 - Spousal relationships made up 25 percent of the domestic cases.

Aggravated Assault

Victim to Offender Relationship



Aggravated Assault

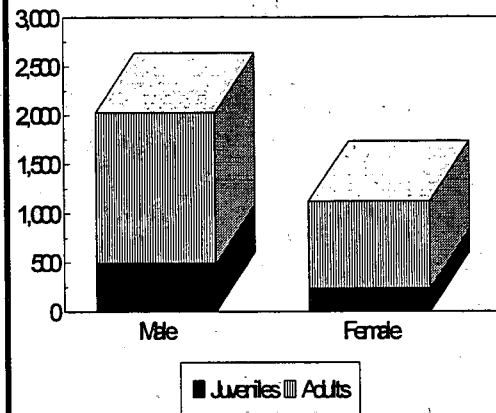
Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

- Age is a significant factor in aggravated assaults in Delaware. Older juveniles and young adults are the greatest at-risk group. For each age group after the 25-29 group, the number of victims decrease by 24 percent to 53 percent, until the over 65 category.
- In 1994, about 47 percent of the victims were in their late teens and 20's.
- Delawareans over the age of 45 accounted for under 7.5 percent of the 1994 aggravated assault victims.

- The majority (64 percent) of aggravated assault victims were males. 36 percent were female.
- Twenty-three percent of cases had a juvenile victim. Of the juvenile victims, 68 percent were male.
- The elderly were the victims in only 1.4 percent of aggravated assaults.

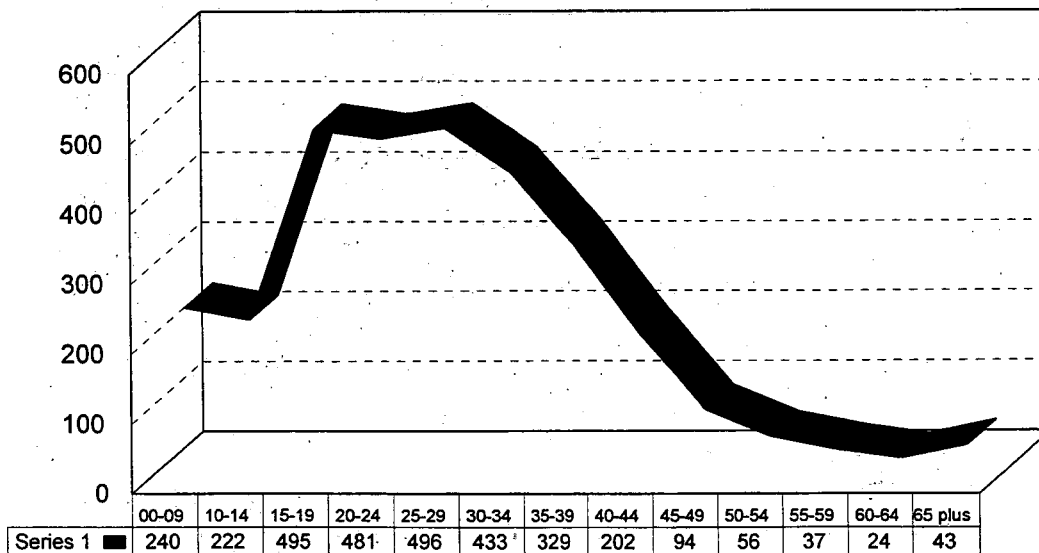
- Victims were adults-18 and over in 77 percent of the reported incidences. Adult women make up 37 percent of victims; adult men, 63 percent.

Sex of Victims
Aggravated Assault 1994



Age of Victims

Aggravated Assault: 1994



All victims. Not all are a result of domestic violence.



Domestic Violence in Delaware



Statistical Analysis Center

1994

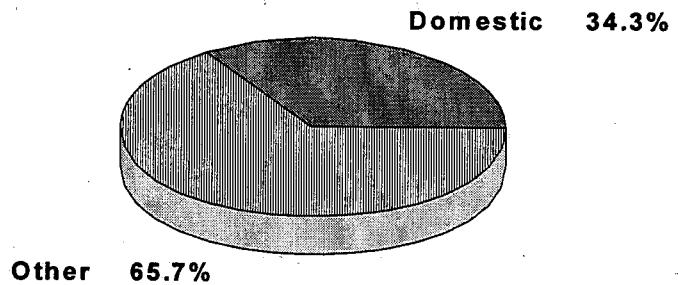
Simple Assault

There were 17,998 complaints of non-aggravated assaults with 20,791 victim to offender relationships in 1994; 7,140, or 34.3 percent, can be identified as domestic violence. Victim information is available for 17,635 individuals.

Domestic simple assault cases have been increasing over the last several years. There was a 19 percent increase since 1993, and a 29 percent increase since 1990.

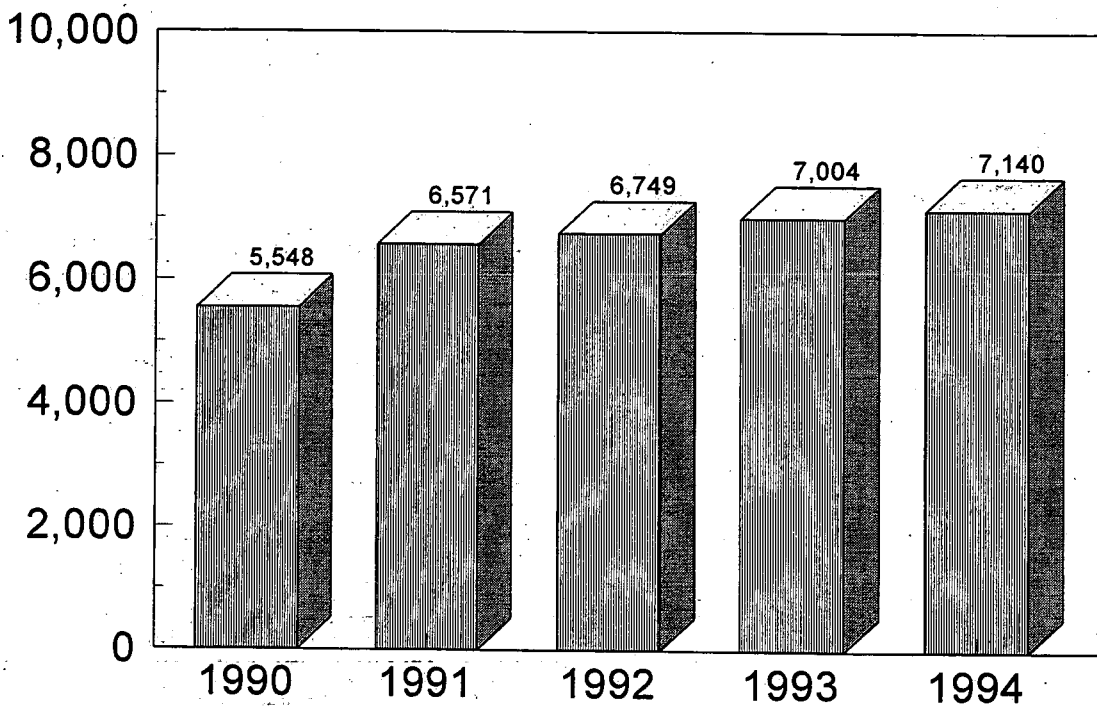
Simple Assault - 1994

Percent Domestic Violence



Cases Attributed to Domestic Violence

Simple Assaults: 1990 - 1994



Simple Assault

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Victim to Offender Relationship

	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
1. Known to Offender	10424	12623	12732	14321	14907
Partner	4437	5228	5284	5536	5460
Spouse	2042	2312	2333	2437	2087
Common-Law Spouse	32	50	34	23	27
Boy/Girlfriend	2168	2654	2648	2788	3077
Homosexual Relation	14	18	17	18	21
Ex-Spouse	181	194	252	270	248
Relative	1111	1343	1465	1424	1680
Child	168	230	253	258	313
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	6	30	20	21	28
Step-Child	35	61	56	76	61
Grandchild	2	5	6	15	15
Sibling	264	310	337	343	389
Step-Sibling	5	17	11	8	16
Parent	281	282	323	357	397
Step-Parent	42	98	124	82	139
Grandparent	1	15	12	10	27
In-Laws	119	114	143	104	100
Other Relative	188	181	180	150	195
Other Known	4876	6052	5983	7361	7767
Acquaintance	3322	4217	4211	5073	5382
Employee/Employer	35	53	48	71	53
Friend	183	246	285	236	259
Neighbor	272	400	309	271	250
Babysittee	1	7	2	6	9
Other Known	1063	1129	1128	1704	1814
2. Stranger and Unknown	6023	6413	6720	6113	5884
Stranger	1609	2145	2234	2326	2307
Unknown	4414	4268	4486	3787	3577
TOTALS	16447	19036	19452	20434	20791
Percent Offender Known	63.4%	66.3%	65.5%	70.1%	71.7%
Percent Offender Unknown	36.6%	33.7%	34.5%	29.9%	28.3%
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TOTAL	5548	6571	6749	6960	7140
Percent Domestic Violence	33.7%	34.5%	34.7%	34.1%	34.3%
Partner	27.0%	27.5%	27.2%	27.1%	26.3%
Relative	6.8%	7.1%	7.5%	7.0%	8.1%

Simple Assault

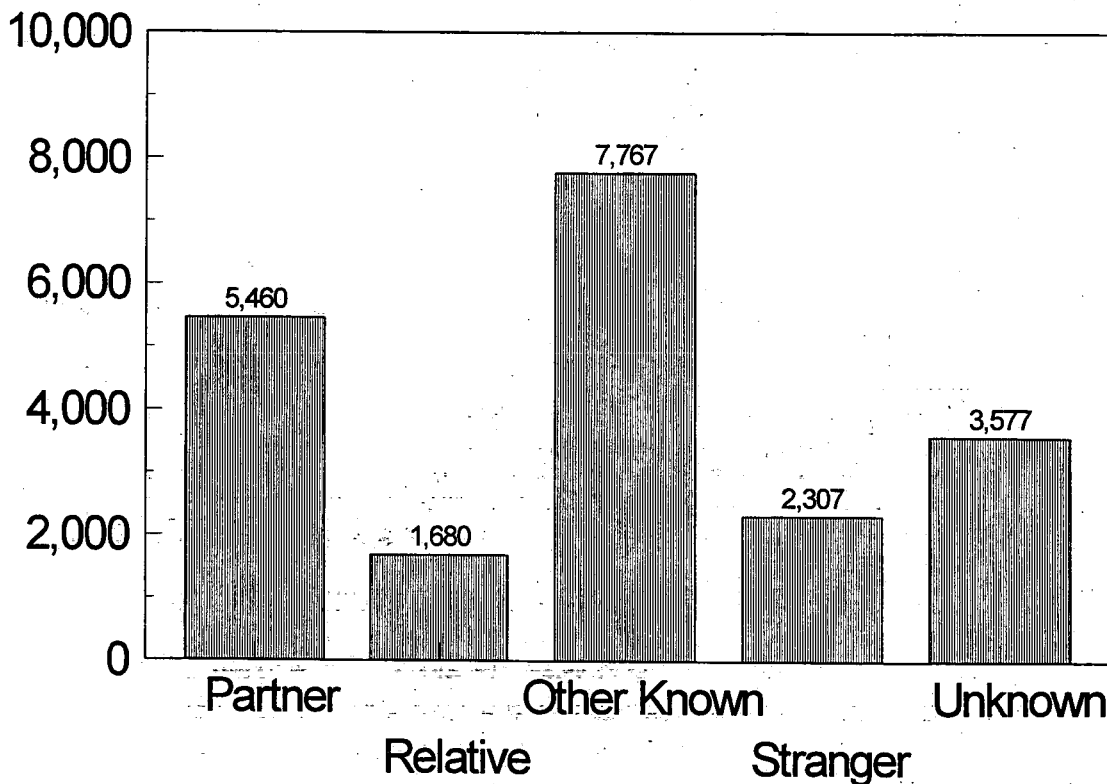
Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

- Thirty-four percent of Delaware simple assaults in 1994 can be attributed to domestic violence.
- Twenty-six percent of offenders in simple assaults were identified as the partner of the victim.
- Only 8 percent of offenders were related to the victim.

- Under 30 percent of all simple assaults in Delaware were perpetrated by unknown assailants or strangers.
- Thirty-seven percent of the offenders knew their victims, but were neither partners nor relatives.
- The number of simple assaults have been increasing annually.

- The most common victim relationships were the following:
 - Boyfriends and girlfriends made up 43 percent of all domestic simple assaults.
 - Spouses were next, with 29.4 percent.
 - Parents, Siblings, and Children were each victims about 5 percent of the time.

Simple Assault
Victim to Offender Relationship



Simple Assault

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

- As with most crimes, age is an important variable. Victims tend to be young adults, falling within the 20 - 34 age brackets. Juveniles are more likely to be victims than are the middle-aged and elderly put together.

→ For those between the ages of 20 and 34 (a span of 14 years), there were 7943 simple assaults reported.

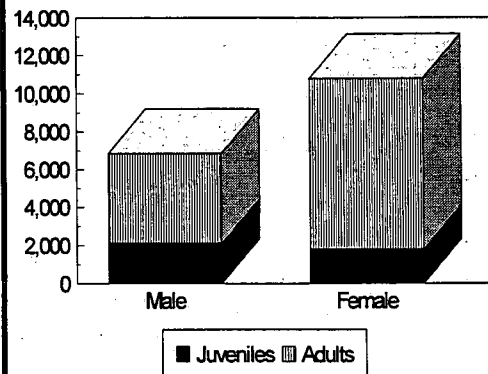
→ For those over 34 (a span over twice as long), there were 4,776 simple assaults.

- The 20 - 24 age group reported the most simple assaults with 2,725 victims; the 60 - 64 age group reported the least, 159.
- Juveniles accounted for 22 percent of victims.
- Adult females were the most victimized, reporting 9,007 or 51 percent of the cases in 1994.

- Females were more likely to be victims (61 percent) than males (39 percent).
- For juveniles, males were more likely to be victims (54 percent) than females (46 percent).

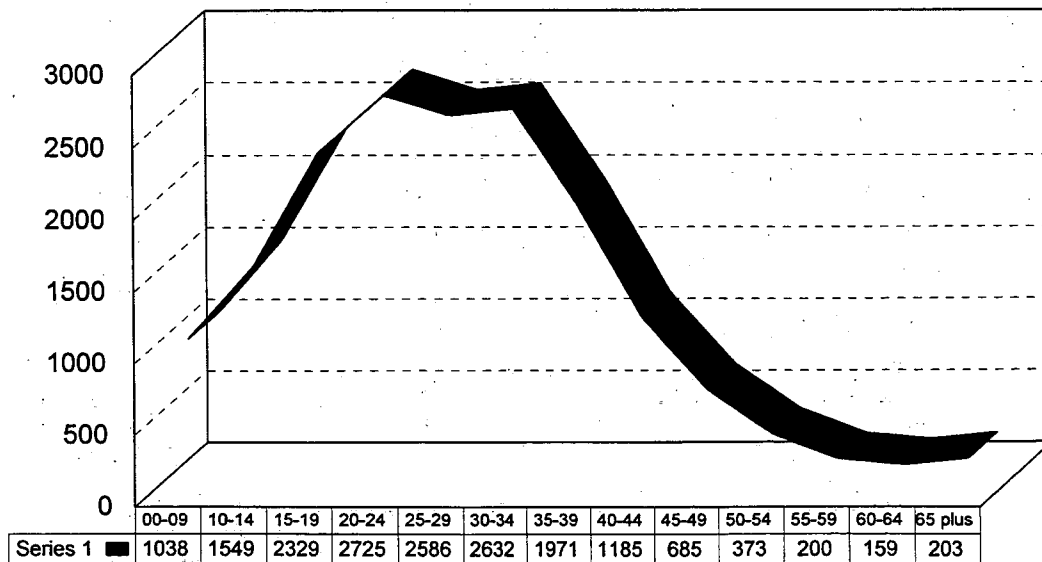
Sex of Victim

Other Assault: 1994



Age of Victims

Other Assault: 1994



All victims. Not all are a result of domestic violence.



Domestic Violence in Delaware



Statistical Analysis Center

1994

Stalking

What is Stalking?

Stalking is class F felony. The law, enacted on May 20, 1992, may be found in Delaware Code Title 11 §1312A. According to Delaware law, stalking occurs when a person:

[W]ilfully, maliciously and repeatedly follows or harasses another person or who repeatedly makes a credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or serious physical injury. . . .

(The law in whole is printed as an appendix in the back.)

According to SENTAC guidelines, stalking is a violent class F felony, which has a presumptive sentence of 9 months Level V (prison or jail time).

When a no contact order,

temporary restraining order or injunction has been previously issued, the law states that a person guilty of stalking "shall be imprisoned for a period of not less than 6 months and fined not more than \$1,000."

Furthermore, a second stalking charge (must be the same offender and the same victim) will bring an imprisonment sentence "for a period of not less than 1 year and fined not more than \$1,000."

Data Source

Data was taken from Delaware's Criminal Justice Information System files. The population includes all stalking arrests between May 20, 1992 and June 30, 1994. During that time period, a total of 242 individuals have been

charged stalking. Some of these individuals have multiple stalking arrests.

Why Study Stalking?

Stalking is a new felony, which assumes repeated and obsessive behaviors. People may be interested in learning about such questions as the following:

- Do Delaware stalkers fit the dangerous homicidal stereotype?
- Do stalkers change their behaviors with contact with the law?
- Who is the average stalker?
- Who is the average victim?
- How are stalkers sentenced in Delaware courts?

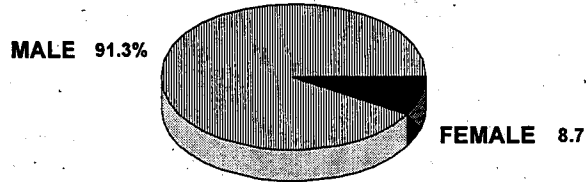
Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

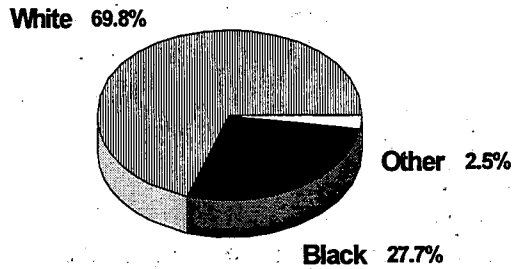
Offender Demographics

- Gender**
 91.3% Male
 8.7% Female
- Race**
 69.8% White
 27.7% Black
 2.5% Other
- Gender/Race Combined**
 62.8% White Male
 26.0% Black Male
 7.0% White Female
 2.5% Other Male
 1.7% Black Female
- Age**
 Average Age: 33
 Ranging from 17 to 68
- Note:** Under Race, the "Other" category consists of six individuals who are classified as Mexican or Puerto Rican. The "other" category is not a large enough number to use for any comparisons.

Offender Sex

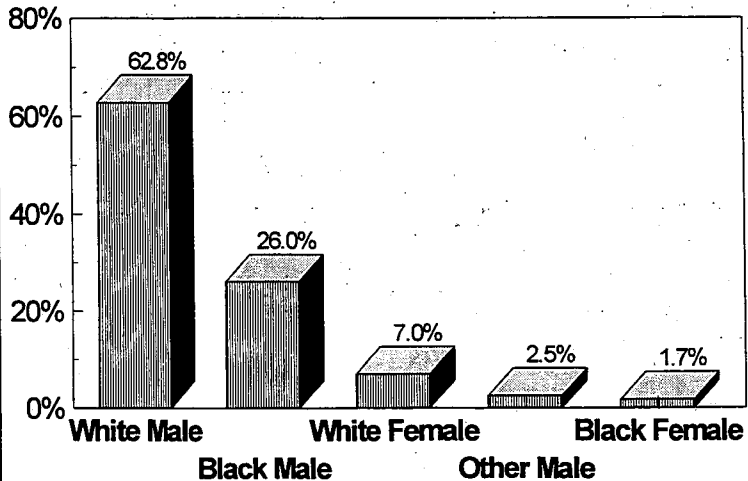


Offender Race



Sex and Race Demographics

Percentage of Persons Arrested for Stalking



Stalking

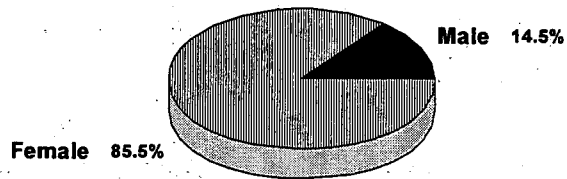
Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Victim Demographics

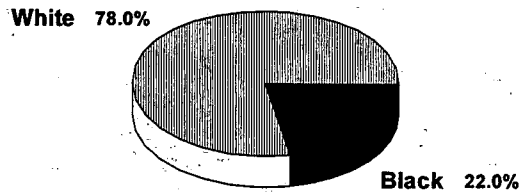
- **Gender**
14.5% Male
85.5% Female
- **Race**
78.0% White
22% Black
0% Other
- **Sex/Race Combined**
13.6% White Male
0.02% Black Male
64.5% White Female
0% Other Male
20.1% Black Female
- **Age**
Average Age: 31
Ranging from less than 1 to 78
- **Note:** The number of victims does not equal the number of offenders due to multiple victim cases.

Information on a few of the victims was not available.

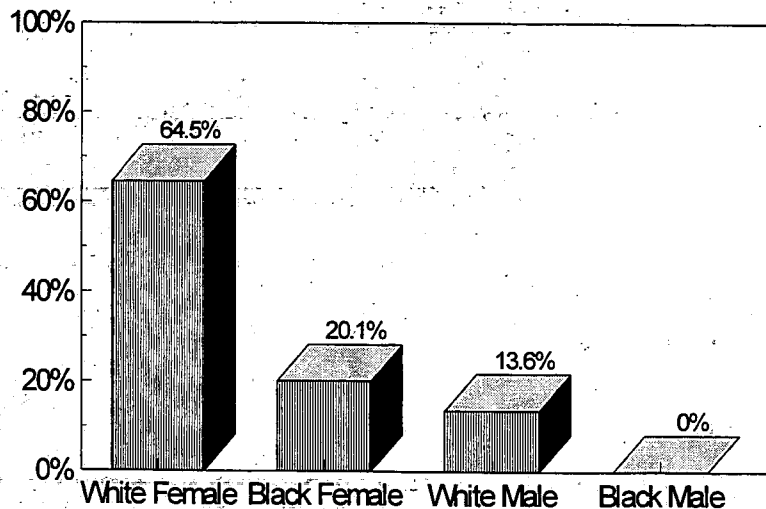
Victim Sex



Victim Race



Sex and Race Demographics
Percentage of Persons Victimized by Stalking



Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Who is Stalking Who?

The number of women victimized and the number of male offenders is directly proportional.

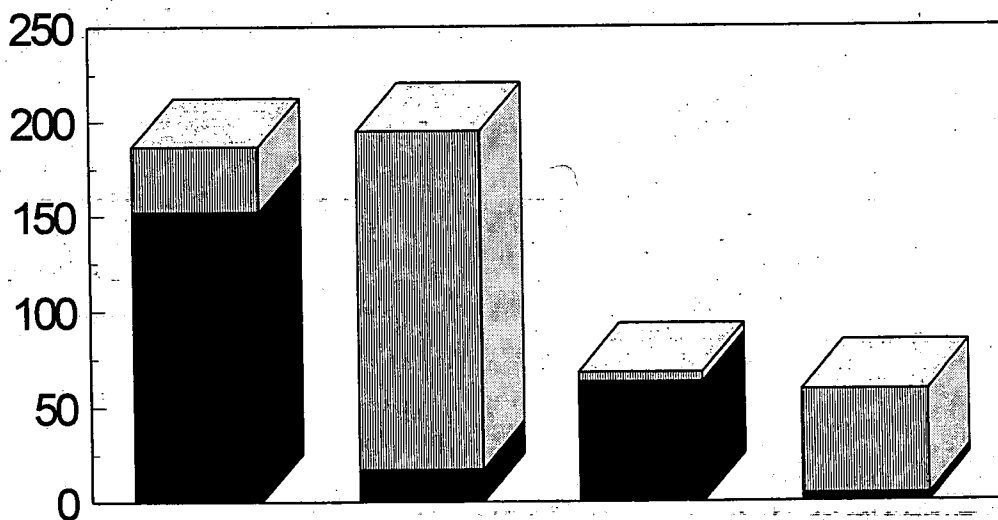
Also, there is an approximate similarity between the number of white victims and white offenders, and black victims and black offenders.

- Can we generalize, based on this data, that individuals most likely stalk those of the same race?
- Can we generalize, based on this data, that individuals most likely stalk those of the opposite gender?

As you can see from the graphs on the next page, some generalizations can be made from the data: for example, males tend to stalk females, and offenders tend to stalk those of their own race.

There are exceptions to these broad generalizations, however. The most glaring exception is that female offenders are *more likely* to stalk females than males.

Sex and Race of Offenders Versus Victims



	White Male	White Female	Black Male	Black Female
Offender 	152	17	63	4
Victim 	35	178	5	55

* Other race groups excluded due to low numbers.

Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

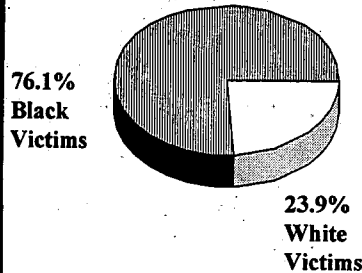
Who is Stalking Who?

By Race:

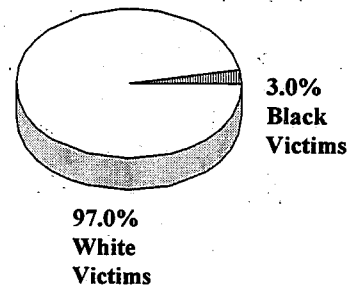
- White offenders stalk white victims 97 percent of the time.
- Black offenders also stalk victims of their own race the majority of the time (over 76 percent).

By Race of Offender and Victim

Black Offenders



White Offenders

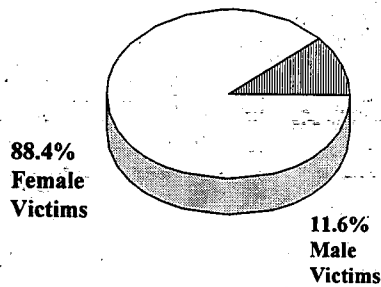


By Gender:

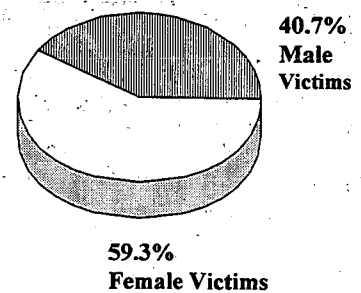
- Male offenders stalk female victims the majority of the time (88.4 percent). When male victims were involved, there were multiple victims over 72 percent of the time, some male and some female.
- Females, on the other hand, stalk victims of their own sex the majority of the time (nearly 60 percent), When female victims are involved, there were multiple victims (mixed gender) only 37.5 percent of the time.

By Sex of Offender and Victim

Male Offenders



Female Offenders



Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

- General arrests include all felony and misdemeanor arrests, including stalking. Traffic offenses and violations are not included.

The counts in this section include all arrests from the criminal history of the arrestees.

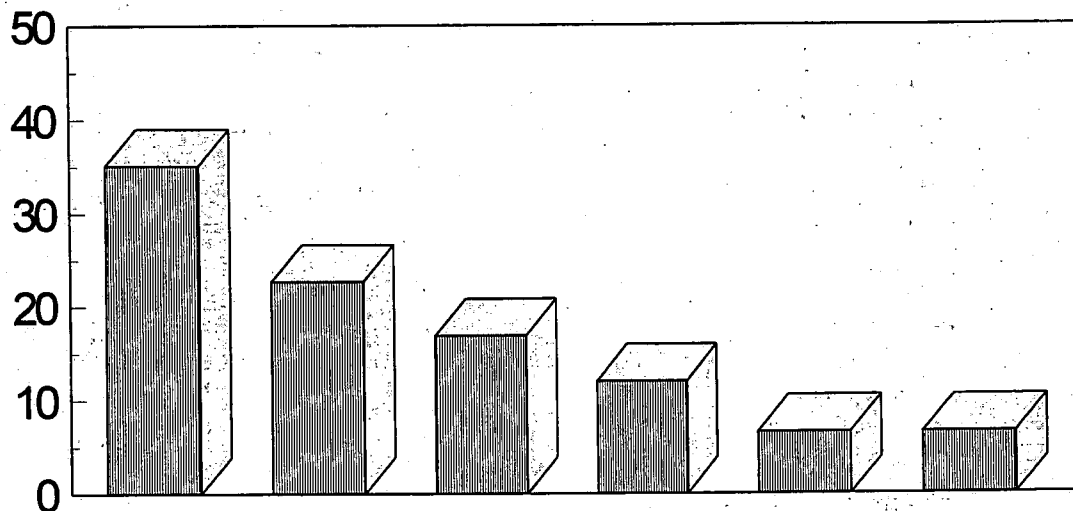
GENERAL ARRESTS

- Delaware's 242 reported stalkers have accumulated an aggregated history of 5,010 arrests and 9,295 charges. There may be multiple charges for each arrest.

- On average, each stalker has been arrested over 20 times.
- There is a wide variety in criminal histories. The minimum number of arrests is 1, and the maximum is 124 arrests.

Number of Total Arrests in Criminal History

Percent of Offenders in Each Arrest Number Group



Arrests	1 - 10	11 - 20	21 - 30	31 - 40	41 - 50	More than 50
Percent	35.1	22.7	16.9	12.0	6.6	6.6

Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

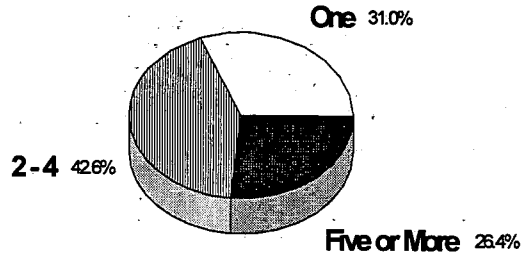
Do those charged with stalking have many other felony arrests on their records?

Sixty-nine percent have been arrested for felonies other than stalking. Over 26 percent have five or more felonies on record. On average, each arrestee for stalking has 3.9 felonies on record, ranging from one to 21 felonies.

Thirty-one percent of stalkers have no other felony on record.

Number of Arrests: Any Felonies

Persons Arrested for Stalking



How serious were these felonies?

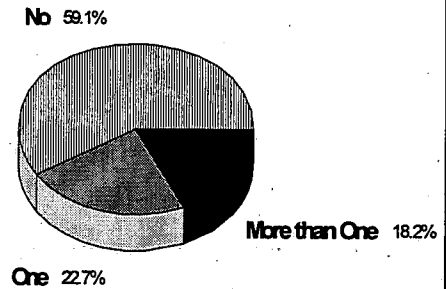
Although all felonies are serious charges, the most serious felony charges are defined here as class A, B, or C felonies. Examples of such are murder, forcible rape, or kidnapping.

Over 41 percent of stalkers have committed a serious felony, with about 18 percent have been charged with 2 to 6 serious felonies.

The average number of most serious felonies per stalker is 0.8.

Most Serious Felony Arrests

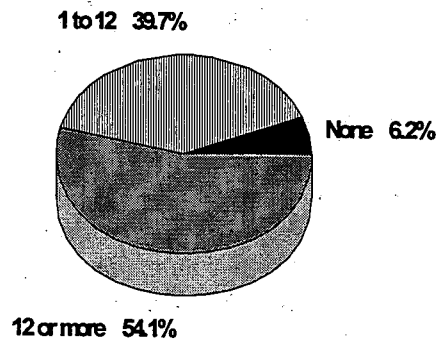
(Class A, B, or C Felonies)



Do stalkers commit many misdemeanor crimes?

Only 6.2 percent have no misdemeanors in their criminal history. Offenders committed an average 16.3 misdemeanors; the number of misdemeanor arrests ranges from 0 to 102.

Misdemeanor Arrests



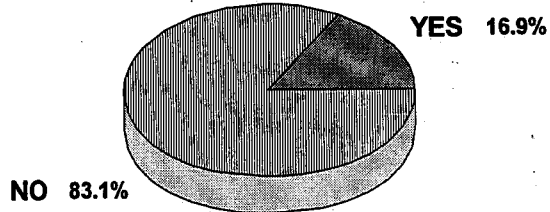
Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Additional Stalking Arrests?

Is it common for offenders to receive additional stalking charges?

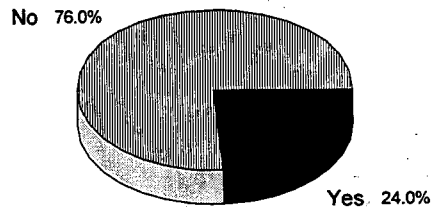
Forty-one or 16.9 percent have been charged more than once with stalking. No time factors (such as time outside of prison or months passed since first stalk data) were taken into account for this statistic.



Percent of Stalkers with Weapons Charges in Criminal History

What percentage of stalkers commit weapons crimes?

Twenty-four percent of the stalkers did have an arrest for a weapons charge in their history.

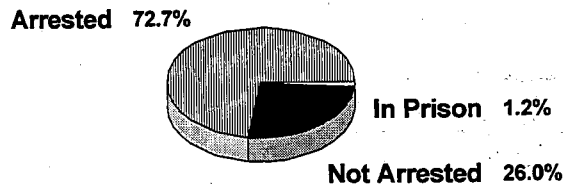


How many of those arrested for stalking never are arrested again?

This data is more updated than the other data, including arrests up to June 1995.

With at least one year of post-stalking data, twenty-six percent are never arrested again.

Percent Never Rearrested Post Stalking Arrest Any Crime (except traffic) Up to June 1995



* Definition of "In Prison" category:
The offender has been in prison since stalking arrest with no releases.

Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

What were the most serious offenses of those charged with stalking?

This chart indicates the most serious charges on record for each individual charged with stalking. Crimes are ranked in an heirarchical order.

The order of severity is a standard taken from Delaware SENTAC guidelines.

This chart lists the most serious chart from the offender's history - these arrests may have occurred prior to or since the stalking charge.

- Four, or 1.6 percent, have been arrested for either homicide or attempted homicide at some point in their history.
- Forty-six, or 19 percent were charged with assault 1 or assault 2.

- Fifty-one or over 22 percent have a burglary or robbery charge as their most serious charge.
- For 86 or 35.5 percent of the offenders, the most seious other arrest had been a non-stalking harrassment charge, such as terroristic threatening.

OFFENSE	NUMBER OF STALKERS	PERCENT	CUMULATIVE PERCENT
HOMICIDE	3	1.2	1.2
ATTEMPTED HOMICIDE	1	0.4	1.6
ASSAULT 1,2	46	19.0	20.6
RAPE	12	4.9	25.6
KIDNAPPING	16	6.6	32.2
ROBBERY 1 BURGLARY 1	9	3.7	35.9
ROBBERY 2 BURGLARY 2,3	45	18.6	54.5
HARASSMENT	86	35.5	90.0
OTHER	24	9.9	100.0

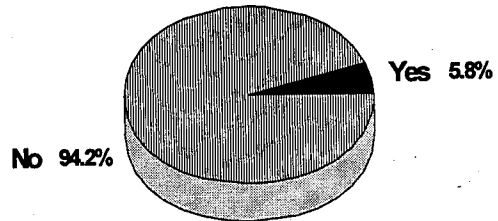
Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

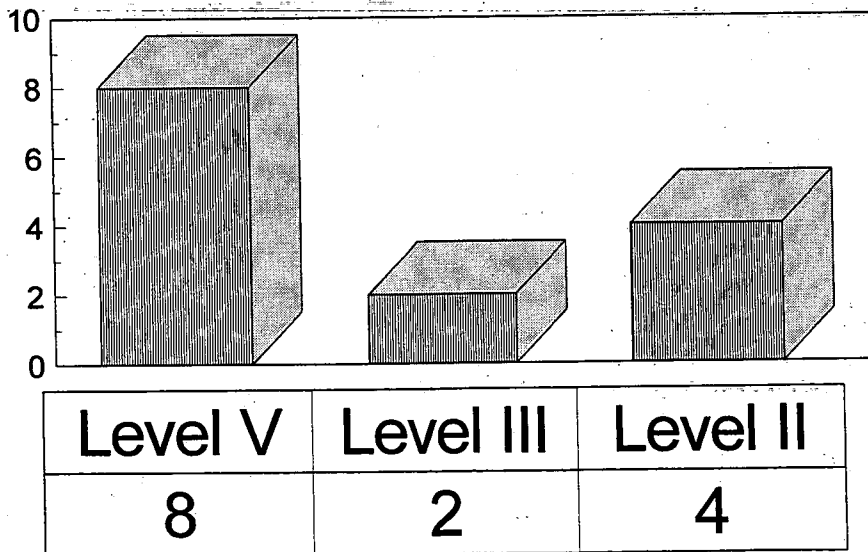
What percentage were convicted and sentenced of stalking?

- Fourteen (or 5.8 percent) of the 242 arrested were convicted of stalking.
- Out of the 14, 8 (or 57 percent) received a Level V sentence.
 - Three received six month sentences.
 - Four received 12 month sentences.
 - One received a 36 month sentence.
- Two (or 11 percent) received a Level III sentence.
- Four (or 25 percent) received a Level II sentence.

Sentenced for Stalking Charge



Sentencing for Convicted Stalkers



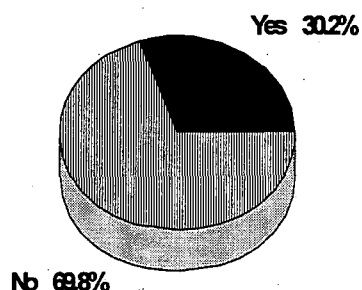
Stalking

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

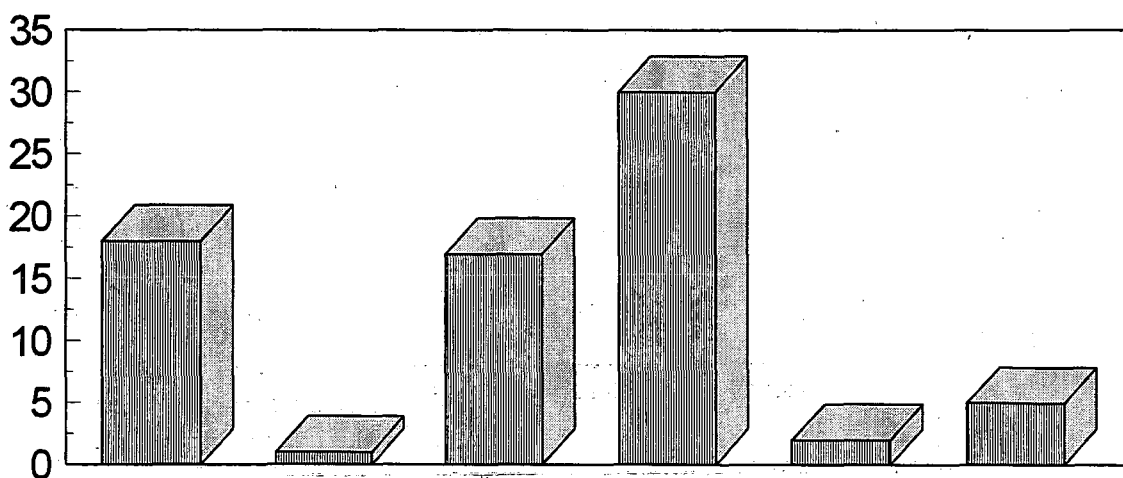
How many were convicted of stalking OR accompanying charges?

- Virtually all of the 242 arrested for stalking had additional charges within the same case.
- Seventy-three (or 30.2 percent) of them were convicted for some crime, whether it was for stalking or an accompanying crime. Conviction on accompanying crimes ranged from kidnapping to failure to stop at a stop sign.
- Out of the 73, 18 (or 25 percent) received a Level V sentence.
- Over 64 percent received Level II or Level III sentences. A few were fined.

Sentenced for Some Charge within Stalking Case (Stalking or Other Crime)



Sentencing for Conviction within Stalking Case (Stalking Charge or Accompanying Charge)



Level V	Level IV	Level III	Level II	Level I	Fined
18	1	17	30	2	5

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Domestic Violence in Delaware



Statistical Analysis Center

1994

Glossary

DOMESTIC RELATIONS: Include partners and relatives. The term "partner" refers to a spouse, common-law spouse, boy/girlfriend, or homosexual relation. The term "relative" refers to a child, stepchild, child of boy/girlfriend, parent, sibling, stepsibling, grandchild, grandparent, in-law, or other family member (aunt, uncle, etc.).

CRIMINAL HOMICIDE: This includes murder, the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human by another, and includes negligent manslaughter; e.g., vehicular homicide, criminally negligent homicide, manslaughter, as well as first and second degree murder.

FORCIBLE RAPE: The carnal knowledge of a male or female forcibly and against his or her will, comprised of the most serious sexual violence crimes, including unlawful sexual intercourse and unlawful sexual penetration.

OTHER SEXUAL ASSAULT: Includes sexual harassment, indecent exposure, sexual exploitation of a child, and dealing in child pornography.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT: An assault classified as aggravated is determined by criteria rather than statute. The criteria pertain to the severity of the attack, unless a weapon is used. Attempted Murder is an aggravated assault.

SIMPLE ASSAULT: Includes offensive touching, menacing, second-degree reckless endangering, and assault in the third degree. Some of these assaults could be aggravated depending upon circumstances.

Glossary

Five Levels of Sentencing

The following definitions are from the Department of Correction's SENTAC (Sentencing Accountability Commission) Manual:

Level I

Administrative Probation

Level II

General community supervision achieved through direct offender contact and monitoring/verifying the offender's activities through collateral contact.

Level III

Supervision which requires intensive contacts achieved through face-to-face offender contact, collateral contact, verification of each offender's activities (e.g.: residence, employment, training and school), treatment programs and community service. The emphasis is on supervision through increased community contacts.

Level IV

Uses Home Confinement, Half Way Houses, and Residential Treatment programs as an intermediate accountability level less than Level V full incarceration but exceeding the requirements of Level III intensive supervision.

Level V

A sentence consisting of a commitment to the Department of Correction for a period of incarceration.

Appendix

Domestic Violence in Delaware 1994

Delaware Code, Title 11

§ 1312A. Stalking; class F felony.

(a) Any person who wilfully, maliciously and repeatedly follows or harasses another person or who repeatedly makes a credible threat with the intent to place that person in reasonable fear of death or serious physical injury is guilty of the crime of stalking.

(b) For the purposes of this section the following definitions are provided:

(1) "Harasses" means a knowing and wilful course of conduct directed at a specific person which seriously alarms, annoys or harasses the person, and which serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and must actually cause substantial emotional distress to the person.

(2) "Course of conduct" means a pattern of conduct composed of a series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose. Constitutionally protected activity is not included within the meaning of "course of conduct."

(3) "Credible threat" means a threat made with the intent, and the apparent ability, to carry out the threat, so as to cause the person who is the target of the threat to reasonably fear for that person's own safety. The threat must be against the life of a person, or a threat to cause serious physical injury to a person.

(c) In the event a person charged under this section is engaged in lawful labor picketing, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that such person does not have the intent required under subsection (a) of this section.

(d) Any person who violates subsection (a) of this section when there is a no contact order, temporary restraining order or injunction in effect prohibiting the behavior described in subsection (a) of this section against the same party shall be imprisoned for a period of not less than 6 months and fined not more than \$1,000.

(e) Upon a subsequent conviction occurring within 7 years of a prior conviction under subsection (a) of this section against the same victim, and involving an act of violence or a credible threat of violence, as defined in this section, the violator shall be imprisoned for a period of not less than 1 year and fined not more than \$1,000.

(f) This section shall not apply to conduct which occurs in furtherance of law enforcement or private detective business. Private detective business is defined consistent with Chapter 13 of Title 24.

Stalking is a class F felony. (68 Del. Laws, c. 250, § 1; 70 Del. Laws, c. 186, § 1.)



