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MARYLAND

BATTERED

SPOUSE

REPORT

1985

NCJRS

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ACQUISITIONS



MARYLAND STATE POLICE

April 1, 1986

To: The Members of the General Assembly of Maryland State House Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In response to House Joint Resolution #32, concerning Battered Spouses, passed in the 1977 session of the Maryland General Assembly, the Maryland State Police respectfully submits this collection of data on domestic violence.

Due to the enthusiasm and requests for copies of this report by criminal justice, social services, and other societies and committees dealing with Spousal Assaults, the Maryland State Police will continue to collect these statistics.

Hopefully, this report will be helpful in finding ways to curb this type of violence.

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GB:bls

Attachment

The 1985 Maryland Battered Spouse Report was prepared by the Maryland State Police, Criminal Records-Central Repository. Those responsible for the report are:

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LIMITATIONS OF A BATTERED SPOUSE REPORTING PROGRAM

The main goal of the Maryland Battered Spouse Program is to furnish the legislature with statistics on Battered Spouses. However, there are limitations to the information collected which should be clearly understood before any conclusions are drawn from the data presented in this report.

Domestic assaults of a non-aggravated nature are many times handled informally and, as a consequence, incomplete or inaccurate recording of the event may result. Procedures for handling non-aggravated domestic assaults vary between departments.

Non-aggravated domestic assaults in some instances are taken directly to the Court system and are not reported to a police department. This varies depending upon the county in which the assault occurs.

While the current method of collecting Battered Spouse information for this report provides less than a complete picture, there is at present, no other informational system in general use gathering these statistics from police agencies that will more accurately perform this task.

INTRODUCTION

The Maryland Battered Spouse Program was established through House Joint Resolution 32 which was introduced by Delegate Pauline Menes, requesting the Maryland State Police to maintain certain information on complaints of domestic assaults. The statistics in this report were collected from January 1, 1981 through December 31, 1985.

DEFINITION

A Battered Spouse in the Maryland UCR Program is considered to be:

- A married person living with their spouse upon whom an aggravated or nonaggravated assault was committed by their mate.
- 2. A married person estranged from their spouse upon whom an aggravated or nonaggravated assault was committed by their mate.
- 3. A male and female not married to each other and who are living together or had lived together at some time, upon whom an aggravated or non-aggravated assault was committed by their mate.

REPORTING PROCEDURES

The Battered Spouse report is part of the Uniform Crime Reports which are submitted monthly to Maryland State Police by 129 police agencies.

Under the Maryland Battered Spouse Program, law enforcement agencies are required to submit a specified Battered Spouse Report. The necessary information for this report is gathered monthly from each agency's record of complaints, investigation, and arrests. The UCR Field Representatives provided assistance and training to law enforcement agencies in the completion of this report.

CLASSIFICATION

Aggravated Assault, as defined under the Maryland Uniform Crime Reporting Program, is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Attempts are included since it is not necessary that any injury result when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed. An assault in which hands, fists, and feet are used, and severe personal injury to the victim results, is also classified as an aggravated assault.

Any assault in which hands, fists, and feet are used and no serious injury to the victim results, is classified as a non-aggravated assault.

*VOLUME

A total of 12,658 spousal assaults were reported to law enforcement agencies during 1985. This represents an increase of 24.3% when compared to 1984.

		FIVE YEAR	RTREND		
	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981
JANUARY	891	716	613	665	695
FEBRUARY	846	689	551	681	688
MARCH	957	794	649	754	751
APRIL	954	763	644	811	740
MAY	1,126	791	676	834	778
JUNE	1,161	91 7	717	825	849
JULY	1,166	962	763	885	843
AUGUST	1,182	841	802	728	855
SEPTEMBER	1,058	816	804	712	729
OCTOBER	1,173	1,035	768	774	740
NOVEMBER	1,109	851	-, ¹ 765	722	643
DECEMBER	1,035	010, 1	788	674	71 7
TOTAL	12,658	10,185	8,540	9,065	9,028

^{*}Does not include spousal assaults reported by Military Installations. See "Military Installation - Domestic Assault Section" in this report.

Analysis: There is no apparent statistical correlation by month. The 1985 statistics show a 24.3% increase in domestic assaults. We feel a large percentage is the direct result of specific training seminars involving law enforcement submission of this crime.

DAY OF WEEK

Friday, Saturday and Sunday comprised 51% of assaults. 19% of all assaults occurred on Sunday, as compared to 19% on Saturday of 1985.

		FIVE Y	YEAR TREND		
	<u>1 985</u>	1984	<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1 981</u>
MONDAY	1,572	1,294	1,017	1,051	1,110
TUESDAY	1,568	1,162	1,055	1,005	999
WEDNESDAY	1,498	1,171	977	1,043	1,035
THURSDAY	1,569	1,236	1,067	1,114	1,154
FRIDAY	1,683	1,375	1,218	1,330	1,272
SATURDAY	2,370	1,951	1,641	1,842	1,759
SUNDAY	2,398	1,996	1,565	1,680	1,699
		70 705	0 = 10	A	
TOTAL	12,658	10,185	8,540	9,065	9,028

Analysis: Friday, Saturday and Sunday comprised over 50% of all assaults in the 5 year study.

HOUR OF THE DAY

54% of the spousal assaults occurred between 6:00 P.M. and 2:00 A.M.

				FIVE	YEAR TREND		
			1985	<u>1 984</u>	1983	1982	1981
12:00			808	655	552	612	552
1:00			655	580		539	493
2:00			670	581	483	486	482
3:00			486	351	302	383	347
4:00			289	242	1 94	2 35	1 94
5:00	A.M.		2 0 5	150	147	138	129
6:00	A.M.		165	149	1 31	127	149
7:00	A.M.		210	172	151	144	151
8:00	A.M.		273	166	154	146	207
9:00	A.M.		302	225	177	205	208
10:00	A.M.		320	255	218	215	201
11:00	A.M.		295	275	234	254	228
12:00	Noon		392	31.3	275	271	271
1:00	P.M.		312	278	210	246	271
2:00	P.M.		396	281	236	272	287
	P.M.		420	338	278	287	303
4:00	P.M.	1.0	499	393	350	361	385
5:00	P.M.		640	513	425	463	511
	P.M.		769	613	520	543	518
	P.M.		796	629	556	582	569
	P.M.		908	723	528	577	5 94
	P.M.		930	760	620	608	620
	P.M.		928	745	644	700	655
11:00			990	798	645	671	703

Analysis: Over 50% of all assaults occur between 6:00 P.M. and 2:00 A.M. Coupled with the hour of the day trend, 50% of all assaults will occur on Friday, Saturday and Sunday between 6:00 P.M. and 2:00 A.M.

AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS

A total of 3,231 aggravated assaults of a spousal nature were reported during 1985. This comprised 25.5 percent of the total spousal assaults. Also this represents a 31.6 percent increase when compared to the 2,455 aggravated spousal assaults reported in 1984.

A total of 9,427 non-aggravated or simple assaults were reported during 1985. This comprises 74.5 percent of the total spousal assaults. This represents a 21.9 percent increase when compared to the 7,730 non-aggravated spousal assaults reported in 1984.

VICTIMS OF SPOUSAL ASSAULTS BY WEAPON

Firearms comprised 9.2 percent of the total aggravated assaults and 2.3 percent of the total assaults. In 1984, firearms comprised 10.6 percent of the total aggravated assaults and 2.6 percent of the total assaults.

Knife or cutting instruments comprised 21.8 percent of the total aggravated assaults and 5.6 percent of the total assaults. In 1984, knife or cutting instruments comprised 24.3 percent of the total aggravated assaults and 8.9 percent of the total assaults.

Other dangerous weapons comprised 35.1 percent of the total aggravated assaults and 8.9 percent of the total assaults. In 1984, other dangerous weapons comprised 35.2 percent of the total aggravated assaults and 8.5 percent of the total assaults.

Aggravated assaults by physical force comprised 33.9 percent of the aggravated assaults and 8.6 percent of the total assaults. In 1984, aggravated assaults by physical force comprised 29.9 percent of the total aggravated assaults and 7.2 percent of the total assaults.

Non-aggravated simple assaults accounted for 74.5 percent of all spousal assaults. In 1984, non-aggravated simple assaults comprised 75.8 percent of all spousal assaults.

VICTIMS

In 1985, spousal assault victims were female in 84.8 percent of all cases as compared to 85.3 percent in 1984. This represents a .6 percent decrease in female victims.

60.5 percent of the victims were white, while 38.6 percent were black and .8 percent were of other races. In 1984, 60.6 percent were white, 38.1 percent were black, and 1.3 percent were of other races.

VICTIMS

% OF AGGRAVATED VS. NON-AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS

FIVE YEAR TREND

CLASSIFICATION	SEX	1985	1984	1983	1982	<u>1 981</u>
FIREARM	M	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6
	F	1.9	2.1	2.6	2.4	2.6
KNIFE OR CUTTING INSTRUMENT	M	2.7	2.8	3.2	3.1	3.0
	F	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7
OTHER DANGEROUS	M	2.9	2.8	2.1	2.0	1.8
WEAPON	F	6.0	5.7	5.5	5.0	4.7
HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC.	M	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.9	0.8
	F	8.0	6.7	8.4	9.2	8.0
TOTAL AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS	M	6.7	6.5	6.7	6.7	6.1
	F	18.8	17.6	19.5	19.5	18.0
TOTAL NON-AGGRA-	M	8.5	8.1	6.6	6.3	5.7
VATED ASSAULTS	F	66.0	67.8	67.2	67.5	70.2
GRAND TOTAL	M	15.2	14.7	13.3	13.0	11.8
	F	84.8	85.3	86.7	87.0	88.2

ASSAULTS

NUMBER OF INCIDENTS

FIVE YEAR TREND

CLASSIFICATION	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981
FIREARM	298	259	268	283	284
KNIFE	704	5 97	5 34	547	515
OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON	1,134	866	649	631	582
HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC.	1,095	733	781	916	792
NON-AGGRAVATED	9,427	7,730	6,308	6,688	6,855
TOTAL	12,658	10,185	8,540	9,065	9,028

Analysis: There has been a steady increase in the percent of male victims from 11.8% in 1981 to 15.2% in 1985.

HOUSEHOLD STATUS

Statistics show that 72.3 percent of the total spousal assaults occurred while spouses were living together at the time of the assault, while 17.1 percent were estranged. In 17.1 percent of the cases, the household status was unknown. In 1984, 75.2 percent of the total spousal assaults occurred while spouses were living together, while 16 percent were estranged. In 8.8 percent of the 1984 cases, the household status was unknown. Those assaults counted in the living together category included married persons as well as those unmarried couples living together.

CIRCUMSTANCES

16.6 percent of the circumstances were reported to police departments as "arguments" with no further explanation. In 38.5 percent of the spousal assault cases, no reason at all was given to the responding officer. In 1984, 16.6 percent were reported as "arguments" with no further explanation, and in 41.7 percent of the cases, no reason was given at all.

The only significant reason given to police was alcohol related situations which accounted for 18.0 percent of the total. In 1984, alcohol related situations accounted for 16.1 percent of the total, also the most significant reason given to police.

CIRCUMSTANCES

NATURE OF ARGUMENT	1 985	1 984	1983	1 982	1 981
	1300	<u> 1001</u>	1300	1 502	1301
ALCOHOL	2,284	1,635	1,454	1,483	1,394
DRUGS	119	72	48	67	41
FOOD/COOKING	66	92	46	60	63
FRIENDS	139	140	139	1 37	114
GAMBLING	9	3	5	6	2
HOUSEHOLD CHORES	78	53	49	63	33
INFIDELITY	707	545	360	339	391
EMPLOYMENT/ JOB RELATED	107	90	57	67	59
MENTAL IMBALANCE	54	37	35	41	43
MONEY	603	462	315	325	359
OFFSPRING	702	599	509	481	378
PROPERTY	490	331	293	314	292
RELATIVES	128	91	59	86	80
SEX	162	95	79	80	68
НОВВУ	12	6	6	7	5
T.V	24	24	11	25	19
OTHER	2,100	1,661	937	2,340	3,450
UNKNOWN	4,874	4,249	4,138	3,144	2,237
TOTAL	12,658	10,185	8,540	9,065	9,028

CLEARANCES

52.5 percent of all spousal assault cases reported to law enforcement agencies are known to be cleared. 19.0 percent were cleared by arrest and 33.5 percent were exceptionally cleared. In 47.4 percent of the incidents, the clearance was unknown. In 1984, 49.6 percent were cleared, 17.3 percent were cleared by arrest, and 32.3 percent were exceptionally cleared. In 50.3 percent of the incidents, the clearance was unknown.

There are two ways of clearing a case. One is by making an arrest and charging the person with the offense. The second method is known as an exceptional clearance, whereby the police department knows who committed the offense, knows the location of the offender so that they can take him into custody. They must also have enough information to support an arrest, charge, and turning over to the court for prosecution. However, there is some reason beyond police control that prevents the department from making an arrest. The most frequent reason is the victim's refusal to cooperate in the prosecution.

BATTERED SPOUSE - BY COUNTY

1 985	1984	1983	1982	1981
614	507	455	372	360
40	. 34	35	29	33
175	157	121	109	120
61	45	46	45	43
23	21	19	25	26
42	37	42	25	17
37	31	29	23	21
39	23	10	26	17
122	90	111	66	65
75	69	42	24	18
262	198	152	127	144
86	108	95	63	76
36	27	34	27	34
140	63	23	37	34
598	447	511	460	492
39	54	48	42	71
200	148	137	129	131
242	1.82	235	191	198
65	12	18	27	17
52	51	73	71	75
1,644	1,271	863	790	71 3
548	486	425	401	402
1,096	785	438	389	311
	614 40 175 61 23 42 37 39 122 75 262 86 36 140 598 39 200 242 65 52	614 507 40 34 175 157 61 45 23 21 42 37 37 31 39 23 122 90 75 69 262 198 86 108 36 27 140 63 598 447 39 54 200 148 242 1.82 65 12 52 51 1,644 1,271 548 486	614 507 455 40 34 35 175 157 121 61 45 46 23 21 19 42 37 42 37 31 29 39 23 10 122 90 111 75 69 42 262 198 152 86 108 95 36 27 34 140 63 23 598 447 511 39 54 48 200 148 137 242 182 235 65 12 18 52 51 73 1,644 1,271 863 548 486 425	614 507 455 372 40 34 35 29 175 157 121 109 61 45 46 45 23 21 19 25 42 37 42 25 37 31 29 23 39 23 10 26 122 90 111 66 75 69 42 24 262 198 152 127 86 108 95 63 36 27 34 27 140 63 23 37 598 447 511 460 39 54 48 42 200 148 137 129 242 182 235 191 65 12 18 27 52 51 73 71 1,644 1,271 863 790 548 486 425 401

BATTERED SPOUSE - BY COUNTY

FIVE YEAR TREND

	1 985	1984	1983	1982	1981
REGION V - BALTO. METRO	REGION 9,539	7,762	6,559	7,315	7,319
Baltimore City	3,304	2,844	2,934	3,770	3,907
Anne Arundel County	555	774	443	225	283
Baltimore County	5,058	3,648	2,776	2,979	2,757
Harford County	372	324	205	142	152
Howard County	250	172	201	199	220
PARKS		0	0		0
STATE TOTAL	12,658	10,185	8,540	9,065	9,028

Analysis: As a result of the training seminars, a large percentage of the 1985 increase is believed to be due to better reporting procedures.

AGGRAVATED VS. NON-AGGRAVATED

	1985	1984	<u>1983</u>	1982	1981
REGION I - EASTERN SHORE					
CAROLINE COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	13 27 40 19th	9 25 34 19th	13 22 35 18th	11 18 29 17th	10 23 33 18th
CECIL COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	38 137 175 10th	27 130 157 9th	22 99 121 10th	30 79 109 10th	20 100 120 10th
DORCHESTER COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	22 39 61 1 6th	17 28 45 17th	13 33 46 15th	18 27 45 14th	16 27 43 15th
KENT COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	1 22 23 23rd	1 20 21 23rd	2 17 19 22nd	4 21 25 21 st	5 21 26 19th
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	8 34 42 18th	11 26 37 18th	16 26 42 16th	10 15 25 21st	4 13 17 22nd
SOMERSET COUNTY				Andrew Mills	
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	10 27 37 21st	9 22 31 20th	3 26 29 20th	8 15 23 24th	3 18 21 20th

AGGRAVATED VS. NON-AGGRAVATED

	1985	<u>1 984</u>	<u>1 983</u>	1982	1981
TALBOT COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	4 35 39 20th	8 15 23 22nd	5 5 10 24th	7 19 26 20th	7 10 17 22nd
WICOMICO COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	12 110 122 12th	6 84 90 12th	26 85 111 11th	27 39 66 12th	18 47 65 14th
WORCESTER COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	19 56 75 14th	22 47 69 13th	12 30 42 16th	5 19 24 23rd	8 10 18 21st
REGION II - SOUTHERN MARYLAND				en de la companya de La companya de la co	
CALVERT COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	16 70 86 13th	25 · 83 108 11th	23 72 95 12th	9 54 63 1 3th	18 58 76 11th
CHARLES COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	6 30 36 22nd	5 22 27 21st	13 21 34 19th	8 19 27 18th	7 27 34 16th
ST. MARY'S COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	34 106 140 11th	11 52 63 14th	6 17 23 21st	6 31 37 16th	5 29 34 16th

AGGRAVATED VS. NON-AGGRAVATED

	1 985	<u>1 984</u>	1983	1982	1981
REGION III - WESTERN MARYLAND					
ALLEGANY COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	13 26 39 20th	13 41 54 15th	10 38 48 14th	12 30 42 15th	7 64 71 13th
CARROLL COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	47 153 200 9th	30 118 148 10th	34 103 137 9th	34 95 129 9th	25 106 131 9th
FREDERICK COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	89 153 242 8th	62 120 182 7th	91 144 235 6th	52 139 191 7th	47 151 198 7th
GARRETT COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	8 57 65 15th	1 11 12 24th	1 17 18 23rd	9 18 27 18th	2 15 17 22nd
WASHINGTON COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	14 38 52 17th	18 33 51 16th	30 43 73 13th	25 46 71 11th	32 43 75 12th
REGION IV - WASHINGTON METRO RE	GION				
MONTGOMERY COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	79 469 548 5th	51 435 486 5th	69 356 425 5th	50 351 401 3rd	62 340 402 3rd

AGGRAVATED VS. NON-AGGRAVATED

	<u>1 985</u>	1984	1983	1982	<u>1981</u>
PR. GEORGE'S COUNTY				· •	
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	339 757 1,096 3rd	283 502 785 3rd	205 233 438 4th	237 152 389 4th	165 146 311 4th
REGION V - BALTIMORE METRO I	REGION				
BALTIMORE CITY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	547 2,757 3,304 2nd	453 2,391 2,844 2nd	488 2,446 2,934 1st	597 3,173 3,770 1st	663 3,244 3,907 1st
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	181 374 555 4th	191 583 774 4th	122 321 443 3rd	72 153 225 5th	55 228 283 5th
BALTIMORE COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	1,644 3,414 5,058 1st	1,143 2,505 3,648 1st	994 1,782 2,776 2nd	1,091 1,888 2,979 2nd	923 1,834 2,757 2nd
HARFORD COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	60 312 372 6th	44 280 324 6th	12 193 205 7th	25 117 142 8th	36 116 152 8th
HOWARD COUNTY					
Aggravated Non-Aggravated Total Ranking	27 223 250 7th	15 157 172 8th	22 179 201 8th	30 169 199 6th	35 185 220 6th

MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

DOMESTIC ASSAULTS

1985

	AGGRAVATED	NON-AC	GGRAVATED	TOTAL
ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND	6		29	35
FT. GEORGE G. MEADE	2		71	73
FT. RITCHIE	8		17	25
ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE	7		21	28
PATUXENT NAVAL AIR STATION	6		39	45
FT. DETRICK	3		1	4
U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY	7		7	14
GRAND TOTAL	39		1 85	224

MARYLAND SUPPLEMENTARY BATTERED SPOUSE REPORT

	AGENCY	IDENTIFIER
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Forward By 30th Day After The End of Each Month To:
Criminal Records — Central Repository
Maryland State Police, Pikesville, Md. 21208

				Victim		m	Offender		ler			DIODOCITION		
Assault Classifi- cation	Date	Day of Week	Time	Age	Sex	Race	Age	Sex	Race	INJURIES (Serious, slight, none)	HOUSEHOLD STATUS (Living together or estranged)	DISPOSITION (Arrest, Exceptional, Unknown)	CIRCUMSTANCES (Argument over third party, argument over money, etc.)	
													•	
*			-											
					-								DO NOT USE THIS SPACE	
													RECORDED	
										Date of Report			EDITED	
Departi	nent Repor	tina					···		-	Prepared By	Titi	le	PUNCHED VERIFIED	
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Report	for Month	of .				-			_	Head of Department MAR	YLAND UCR COPY		Md UCR Form 9	