Assault

Assaults are categorized as either aggravated or simple. **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT** is defined as an attack with a weapon, an attack that causes serious bodily harm, or threatened assault with a weapon. **SIMPLE ASSAULT** is defined as an unlawful attack or threat of an attack that does not cause serious bodily harm. Assault victimization varies largely by sex and geography. Some professions, including law enforcement and emergency room nurses, are also at increased risk.¹

**NOTE:** Data for 2014 unless otherwise indicated. Hover for data hyperlinks to source material.

### Victims report:

- **Aggravated**
  - 1,092,091 aggravated assaults
  - Rock, clubs, other (35.2%)
  - Firearms (29.7%)
  - Knives (20.7%)
  - Unidentified weapons (6.0%)
  - No weapon (8.2%)

- **Simple**
  - 3,318,923 simple assaults

#### Aggravated

- Aggravated assault rate **declined by 21.2%** from 2005-2014, to 4.1 incidents/1,000 people²
- **293,005 arrests** for aggravated assault, or 117.1 arrests/100,000 people²
- **58.4%** of aggravated assaults are **reported to police**, compared to 55.8% of all serious violent crime²

#### Simple

- Simple assault rate **declined by 35.4%** from 2005-2014, to 12.4 incidents/1,000 people²
- **859,214 arrests** for other assaults, or 343.4 arrests/100,000 people²
- **40%** of simple assaults are **reported to police**²

#### Assaults by victim sex and relationship to offender

**Percentage of aggravated assault cases by victim sex and relationship to offender,** where known³

- Men: nonstranger = 58.2, stranger = 38.1
- Women: nonstranger = 34.0, stranger = 54.2

**Percentage of simple assault cases by victim sex and relationship to offender,** where known³

- Men: nonstranger = 52.0, stranger = 22.4
- Women: nonstranger = 39.3, stranger = 72.2

- **22.5%** of **WOMEN** who report an aggravated assault indicate their assailant was an **intimate partner** vs **4.1%** of **MEN**³
- **18.5%** of **WOMEN** who report a simple assault indicate their assailant was an **intimate partner** vs **3.7%** of **MEN**³

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**JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS
JUSTICE FOR ALL**

**OVCC**

- 1,092,091 aggravated assaults
- 3,318,923 simple assaults
Law enforcement officers in the line of duty are assaulted at a rate of 9 assaults per 100 officers.

- 30.8% of police officers are assaulted responding to disturbance calls
- 17.5% while attempting arrest
- 13.0% handling or transporting prisoners

79.9% are assaulted with hands, fists, or feet; 4.0% are assaulted with firearms.

28.3% of assaulted officers are injured.

14.3% are assaulted between midnight and 2 am (the largest percentage), consistent across the previous decade.

62.2% of assaulted officers are assigned to one-officer vehicle patrols vs 17.7% are assigned to two-officer vehicle patrols.

**SOURCES**