

**ALABAMA CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION CENTER**

**2000  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
IN ALABAMA**

**ALABAMA CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION CENTER  
LARRY WRIGHT  
Director**

**STATISTICAL  
ANALYSIS  
CENTER**

**Domestic Violence**

This report was produced by the Statistical Analysis Center of the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center. Data presented in this report was provided by the Uniform Crime Reporting Division of ACJIC for the calendar year of 2000. For purposes of this report, domestic violence is indicated when the relationship of the victim and offender is husband, wife, common-law spouse, ex-husband, ex-wife, girlfriend, boy-friend, ex-girlfriend, or ex-boyfriend. Statistics contained within this report include adult and juvenile victims.

**STATE OF ALABAMA  
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## Domestic Violence

- Of the 22,084 violent offenses\* reported in 2000, 20% were domestic violence incidents. Domestic violence was indicated in 4,485 offenses reported: in 38 homicides; 202 rapes; 50 robberies; and in 4,195 aggravated assaults. 2,690 incidents of domestic violence were cleared for a 60% clearance rate. 40% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.
- There were 25,341 domestic simple assaults, which represent 38% of all simple assaults reported in 2000. 14,890 domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 59% clearance rate. 39% of the clearances were exceptional.
- 83% of the victims were females, and 17% were males. 53% of the victims were black, and 48% were white. In 56% of the offenses, the offender was black, and in 83% the offender was male.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 3% of the offenses; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 84%; a knife was the weapon used in 3%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 10%.
- 36% of the victims suffered injuries: 2% were injured with a firearm; 5% were injured with a knife; 85% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 8% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- In 34% of domestic violence offenses the victim was the wife of the offender; in 26% the victim was the girlfriend of the offender.

\*Excluding simple assaults

### Relationship of Victim and Offender

The Victim was:	Percent
Wife	30%
Common-law wife	4%
Ex-wife	6%
Husband	7%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	2%
Girlfriend	26%
Ex-girlfriend	16%
Boyfriend	5%
Ex-boyfriend	3%

## Domestic Violence - Homicide

- There were 38 domestic homicides reported in 2000, representing 12% of the 314 homicides reported in Alabama for that year. 30 domestic homicides were cleared for an 79% clearance rate.
- 34% of the victims were males, and 66% were females. 66% of the victims were black, and 34% were white.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 53% of the homicides; a knife was the weapon used 24%; hands, fists or feet were used as a weapon in 5%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 18%.
- In 41% of the homicides the victim was the wife or ex-wife of the offender; in 22% the victim was the husband; in 22% the victim was the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend; and in 15% of the homicides the victim was the boyfriend or ex-boyfriend of the offender.
- 76% of the homicides occurred at a residence; 8% occurred in a street, alley, or parking lot; and 16% occurred in other locations.
- In 68% of the homicides the offender was black; and in 65% the offender was a male. 63% of the homicides had black victims and black offenders; 26% had white victims and white offenders; 5% had white victims and black offenders; 0% had black victims and white offenders; and in 6% of the homicides the offender's race was not reported.

### Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	22%
Common-law wife	14%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	11%
Common-law husband	8%
Ex-husband	3%
Girlfriend/Ex-girlfriend	22%
Boyfriend/Ex-boyfriend	15%

## Domestic Violence - Rape

- There were 202 domestic violence rapes in 2000, representing 15% of the 1,377 rapes reported in Alabama for that year. 126 domestic rapes were cleared for a 62% clearance rate. 53% of the clearances were exceptional.
- 53% of the victims were black females and 47% were white females.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 4% of the rapes; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 83%; a knife was the weapon used in 7%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 6%.
- 28% of the victims suffered injuries: 7% were injured with a firearm; 4% were injured with a knife; 84% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 5% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- 71% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender, and 29% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.
- 82% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 3% occurred in a street or alley; and 15% occurred in other locations.
- In 45% of the rapes the offender was white, and in 50% the offender was black.
- 28% of domestic rape victims were juveniles, but only 6% of the offenders were juveniles.

### Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	21%
Common-law wife	2%
Ex-wife	6%
Girlfriend	39%
Ex-girlfriend	32%

## Domestic Violence - Robbery

- There were 50 robberies in 2000 that indicated domestic violence. This represents 1% of the 5,271 robberies reported for Alabama in that year. 29 domestic robberies were cleared for a 58% clearance rate. 69% of the clearances were exceptional.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 16% of the robberies; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 68%; a knife was the weapon used in 12%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 4%.
- 27% of the victims suffered injuries: 0% were injured with a firearm; 18% were injured with a knife; 82% were injured with fists, feet or hands; and 0% were injured with other dangerous weapons.
- 78% of the victims were the girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; 10% of the victims were the wife or ex-wife of the offender.
- 54% of the offenses occurred at a residence; 20% occurred in a street or alley; and 26% occurred in other locations.
- In 78% of the robberies, the offender was black and in 89% the offender was a male.

### Relationship of Victim and Offender

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	6%
Common-law wife	2%
Ex-wife	2%
Husband	0%
Common law-husband	0%
Ex-husband	0%
Girlfriend	12%
Ex-girlfriend	66%
Boyfriend	4%
Ex-boyfriend	8%

# Domestic Violence - Assault

## Aggravated

- Of the 15,122 aggravated assaults reported in 2000, 4,195 were domestic aggravated assaults - or 28% of all aggravated assaults reported in Alabama for that year. 2,505 incidents of domestic aggravated assault were cleared for a 60% clearance rate. 28% of the clearances were exceptional.
- A firearm was the weapon used in 13% of the assaults; hands, fists, or feet were used as a weapon in 29%; a knife was the weapon used in 19%; and other dangerous weapons were used in 39%.
- 46% of the victims were injured: 7% with a firearm; 24% with a knife; 36% with fists, feet or hands; and 33% with other dangerous weapons
- 36% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife of the offender; 36% of the victims were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend of the offender; and 12% of the victims were a husband or ex-husband of the offender. 67% of the offenders were black, and 73% were males.

## Simple

- There were 25,341 domestic simple assaults reported in 2000, or 38% of all simple assaults for that year. 14,890 incidents of domestic simple assaults were cleared for a 59% clearance rate. 39% of the clearances were exceptional, i.e...lack of prosecution.
- Hands, fists or feet were used as a weapon in 94% of these assaults, however, 36% of the victims still reported injuries.
- 42% of the victims were a wife or ex-wife to the offender; 43% were a girlfriend or ex-girlfriend.

## **Domestic Violence - Aggravated Assault**

### **Relationship of Victim and Offender**

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	28%
Common-law wife	4%
Ex-wife	4%
Husband	10%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	23%
Ex-girlfriend	13%
Boyfriend	11%
Ex-boyfriend	5%

## **Domestic Violence - Simple Assault**

### **Relationship of Victim and Offender**

<u>The Victim was:</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Wife	33%
Common-law wife	4%
Ex-wife	5%
Husband	6%
Common-law husband	1%
Ex-husband	1%
Girlfriend	27%
Ex-girlfriend	16%
Boyfriend	4%
Ex-boyfriend	3%