



Section Eleven

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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 in 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. Pursuant to a change in N.J.S.A. 2C:25-24 enacted June 9, 1999, arrest data is presented by county. Domestic Violence restraining order violations are now captured and reported. 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. It is through analysis of this data that, hopefully, the keys to preventing future violence can be found.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Highlights of the 2006 domestic violence statistics are listed below:

- There were 73,749 domestic violence offenses reported by the police in 2006, a 3 percent decrease compared to the 75,651 reported in 2005.
- Murders increased 2 percent in 2006 (42) when compared to 2005 (41).
- Assaults accounted for 44 percent (32,450) and harassment accounted for 41 percent (30,532) of the reported offenses in 2006.
- Arrests were made in 31 percent (22,700) of the offenses reported for 2006, a decrease of less than one-half of one percent when compared to arrests made in 2005.
- The most frequent day of domestic violence occurrences was Sunday (13,504).
- For the twenty-fourth consecutive year, the most frequent hours of domestic violence incidents were between 8:00 p.m. and midnight, when 27 percent (19,886) of the offenses were reported.
- Children were involved or present during 33 percent of all domestic violence offenses occurring in 2006. Specifically, 5 percent (3,888) were involved and 28 percent (20,857) were present.
- Wives were the victims in 20 percent (15,104) and ex-wives were the victims in 3 percent (2,407) of the reported domestic violence offenses in 2006. Overall, females were victims in 77 percent (56,661) of all domestic violence offenses.
- The number of domestic violence complaints that had prior court orders issued against the offender decreased from 15,558 in 2005 to 15,481 in 2006. This is a decrease of less than one-half of one percent.
- Alcohol and/or drugs were involved in 28 percent (20,603) of the reported offenses occurring in 2006. Alcohol involvement alone accounted for 25 percent (18,164) of the total domestic violence offenses reported.
- Persons age 60 or over were victims in 3 percent (2,251) of all reported domestic violence offenses that occurred in 2006. Elderly were the victims in 12 percent (5) of the domestic violence murders (42).
- 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 7 minutes and 7 seconds.
- Domestic violence offenses arising from a dating relationship accounted for 15 percent (10,865) of the state total.
- There were 3,102 total arrests involving domestic violence restraining orders reported by police in 2006. Of these, 1,818 were arrests for violations of a restraining order **only**, while 1,284 were arrests for violations of a restraining order **with** an offense arrest.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS 2005/2006

Domestic Violence Offense		Number of Offenses	☆Number of Arrests	☆Percent of Offenses Involving an Arrest
Homicide	2005	41	24	59
	2006	42	27	64
	Percent Change	2	13	8
Assault	2005	33,674	16,166	48
	2006	32,450	15,702	48
	Percent Change	-4	-3	0
Terroristic Threats	2005	4,239	1,236	29
	2006	3,673	1,079	29
	Percent Change	-13	-13	0
Kidnapping	2005	47	22	47
	2006	38	16	42
	Percent Change	-19	-27	-11
Criminal Restraint	2005	190	83	44
	2006	188	79	42
	Percent Change	-1	-5	-5
False Imprisonment	2005	35	22	63
	2006	46	14	30
	Percent Change	31	-36	-52
Sexual Assault	2005	217	54	25
	2006	214	64	30
	Percent Change	-1	19	20
Criminal Sexual Contact	2005	54	22	41
	2006	44	14	32
	Percent Change	-19	-36	-22
Lewdness	2005	3	-	-
	2006	11	4	36
	Percent Change	&	&	&
Criminal Mischief	2005	5,056	1,623	32
	2006	4,997	1,525	31
	Percent Change	-1	-6	-3
Burglary	2005	680	243	36
	2006	653	228	35
	Percent Change	-4	-6	-3
Criminal Trespass	2005	506	206	41
	2006	555	213	38
	Percent Change	10	3	-7
Harassment	2005	30,603	3,835	13
	2006	30,532	3,661	12
	Percent Change	*	-5	-8
Stalking	2005	306	70	23
	2006	306	74	24
	Percent Change	0	6	4
TOTAL	2005	75,651	23,606	31
	2006	73,749	22,700	31
	Percent Change	-3	-4	0

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

& Percent change not calculated due to small volume.

* Less than one-half of one percent.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2005/2006

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprisonment	Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact
Atlantic	2005	4	1,856	248	5	12	1	7	4
	2006	-	1,639	182	2	5	3	3	3
Bergen	2005	1	1,946	319	1	10	-	12	5
	2006	2	2,020	309	1	10	5	12	3
Burlington	2005	2	1,435	100	2	13	1	7	4
	2006	2	1,424	90	1	8	3	13	1
Camden	2005	3	3,429	267	5	22	2	31	6
	2006	2	3,439	220	9	20	4	28	2
Cape May	2005	1	507	32	-	3	2	3	1
	2006	-	432	39	-	1	-	-	-
Cumberland	2005	1	1,595	102	-	17	2	4	1
	2006	2	1,508	89	2	18	3	6	-
Essex	2005	5	3,233	682	2	13	5	22	6
	2006	7	3,037	674	4	19	6	16	2
Gloucester	2005	1	1,477	104	2	6	2	6	2
	2006	2	1,395	63	1	13	-	7	2
Hudson	2005	7	2,736	400	8	15	2	15	3
	2006	7	2,424	278	5	4	4	19	7
Hunterdon	2005	-	160	31	-	1	-	1	1
	2006	-	142	9	-	-	-	1	-
Mercer	2005	4	1,721	74	3	8	4	14	2
	2006	1	1,615	61	3	9	-	10	2

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2005/2006

Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	Stalking	County Total	Percent Change	Arrests
-	205	35	33	3,374	11	5,795	-7	1,444
1	231	34	35	3,221	19	5,378		1,115
-	167	20	46	2,175	27	4,729	-1	1,278
1	195	27	51	1,997	31	4,664		1,311
-	276	29	42	1,678	9	3,598	5	1,982
1	233	14	29	1,973	3	3,795		1,918
-	571	86	40	2,172	18	6,652	2	2,386
2	637	108	48	2,280	15	6,814		2,363
-	76	7	19	648	4	1,303	-9	418
-	64	5	19	620	5	1,185		315
-	255	31	21	1,259	2	3,290	2	994
1	254	26	22	1,415	7	3,353		954
-	454	91	21	921	51	5,506	-5	1,714
3	396	74	26	941	40	5,245		1,560
1	196	27	26	1,332	6	3,188	-6	1,152
-	210	26	26	1,252	13	3,010		1,039
1	292	63	12	1,414	29	4,997	-9	1,097
-	290	43	25	1,447	16	4,569		1,092
-	34	1	7	378	5	619	-21	138
-	34	1	2	298	2	489		129
-	332	34	19	1,080	9	3,304	-5	1,096
-	285	32	32	1,071	15	3,136		1,043

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2005/2006

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprisonment	Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact
Middlesex	2005	4	2,201	373	5	6	2	15	5
	2006	4	2,351	324	3	18	2	24	9
Monmouth	2005	2	2,154	283	1	19	3	20	4
	2006	4	2,176	298	1	14	5	13	3
Morris	2005	1	931	147	-	10	1	3	1
	2006	-	959	163	2	11	3	7	3
Ocean	2005	-	2,115	333	2	8	-	20	1
	2006	1	2,177	269	2	10	-	9	2
Passaic	2005	2	2,503	473	6	8	5	12	4
	2006	2	2,221	381	1	16	1	11	3
Salem	2005	-	392	23	-	1	-	1	-
	2006	-	358	17	-	2	-	2	-
Somerset	2005	-	751	15	-	7	1	6	3
	2006	-	702	10	1	1	3	8	1
Sussex	2005	1	321	44	-	1	1	4	-
	2006	1	336	37	-	4	2	6	1
Union	2005	2	1,789	130	5	6	1	14	1
	2006	4	1,747	117	-	3	2	16	-
Warren	2005	-	422	59	-	4	-	-	-
	2006	1	348	43	-	2	-	3	-
TOTAL	2005	41	33,674	4,239	47	190	35	217	54
	2006	42	32,450	3,673	38	188	46	214	44

* Less than one-half of one percent.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2005/2006

Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	Stalking	County Total	Percent Change	Arrests
-	365	54	33	1,694	24	4,781		1,598
-	417	39	26	1,779	30	5,026	5	1,649
-	405	48	50	2,345	19	5,353		1,744
-	391	42	58	2,367	31	5,403	1	1,860
1	180	7	12	1,152	15	2,461		697
-	137	14	27	1,252	21	2,599	6	727
-	370	41	38	2,647	16	5,591		1,302
1	397	64	45	2,742	14	5,733	3	1,460
-	284	59	23	1,244	29	4,652		1,795
-	287	50	15	1,093	24	4,105	-12	1,601
-	66	6	10	311	4	814		327
-	44	1	14	220	5	663	-19	299
-	134	8	21	1,396	5	2,347		623
1	124	13	17	1,318	3	2,202	-6	529
-	50	2	3	556	4	987		247
-	56	4	10	532	-	989	*	278
-	269	25	22	1,922	7	4,193		1,360
-	249	34	21	1,895	8	4,096	-2	1,272
-	75	6	8	905	12	1,491		214
-	66	2	7	819	4	1,295	-13	186
3	5,056	680	506	30,603	306	75,651		23,606
11	4,997	653	555	30,532	306	73,749	-3	22,700

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS 2002 Through 2006

Domestic Violence Offense	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests
Homicide	52	33	57	29	44	27	41	24	42	27
Assault	36,823	17,800	35,193	16,965	33,712	16,247	33,674	16,166	32,450	15,702
Terroristic Threats	4,593	1,366	4,523	1,327	4,194	1,285	4,239	1,236	3,673	1,079
Kidnapping	24	11	24	9	44	19	47	22	38	16
Criminal Restraint	160	70	140	64	159	79	190	83	188	79
False Imprisonment	43	21	52	31	46	23	35	22	46	14
Sexual Assault	201	69	234	78	212	77	217	54	214	64
Criminal Sexual Contact	75	25	46	15	57	17	54	22	44	14
Lewdness	10	2	11	3	9	1	3	-	11	4
Criminal Mischief	4,987	1,626	4,756	1,524	4,809	1,518	5,056	1,623	4,997	1,525
Burglary	670	237	671	238	621	218	680	243	653	228
Criminal Trespass	565	236	556	190	537	193	506	206	555	213
Harassment	31,348	4,206	30,986	4,058	31,333	4,241	30,603	3,835	30,532	3,661
Stalking	293	72	318	74	332	69	306	70	306	74
TOTAL	79,844	25,774	77,567	24,605	76,109	24,014	75,651	23,606	73,749	22,700

- Arrests for domestic violence offenses decreased 4 percent.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TYPE OF WEAPON AND EXTENT OF INJURY 2005/2006

Type of Weapon		Extent of Injury			TOTAL
		Aggravated Serious	Non-Aggravated Minor	None	
Gun	2005	32	32	121	185
	2006	31	22	114	167
	Percent Change	-3	-31	-6	-10
Knife	2005	332	440	378	1,150
	2006	306	438	346	1,090
	Percent Change	-8	*	-8	-5
Other Dangerous Weapon	2005	431	1,120	365	1,916
	2006	364	1,119	340	1,823
	Percent Change	-16	*	-7	-5
Hands, Fists, Feet, etc.	2005	806	17,758	13,887	32,451
	2006	727	17,294	13,280	31,301
	Percent Change	-10	-3	-4	-4
None	2005	-	-	39,949	39,949
	2006	-	-	39,368	39,368
	Percent Change	-	-	-1	-1
TOTAL	2005	1,601	19,350	54,700	75,651
	2006	1,428	18,873	53,448	73,749
	Percent Change	-11	-2	-2	-3

- Twenty-eight percent (20,301) of all domestic violence complaints resulted in injury. This is a decrease of less than one-half of one percent when compared to the 20,951 that occurred in 2005.
- Of all the domestic violence offenses involving weapons (34,381), hands, fists, feet, etc. were used in 91 percent (31,301) of these offenses.
- Domestic violence offenses involving a gun decreased 10 percent when compared to 2005.
- Serious injuries were reported in 1,428 offenses, an 11 percent decrease when compared to the 1,601 reported in 2005.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TYPE & SEX OF VICTIM 2006

Type of Offense		Relationship of Victim to Offender							Total Number of Offenses
		Spouse	Ex-spouse	Co-parent	Relative	Friend	Ex-friend	Total	
Homicide	Male	1	-	-	6	6	1	14	42
	Female	7	2	-	5	12	2	28	
Assault	Male	1,912	155	941	1,775	2,527	484	7,794	32,450
	Female	6,257	492	4,975	2,585	8,292	2,055	24,656	
Terroristic Threats	Male	115	35	66	179	159	97	651	3,673
	Female	795	185	592	299	555	596	3,022	
Kidnapping	Male	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	38
	Female	5	-	11	2	10	9	37	
Criminal Restraint	Male	5	-	3	5	6	3	22	188
	Female	44	3	31	8	53	27	166	
False Imprisonment	Male	2	-	1	2	1	-	6	46
	Female	11	-	6	3	17	3	40	
Sexual Assault	Male	-	-	-	3	3	2	8	214
	Female	41	3	19	13	92	38	206	
Criminal Sexual Contact	Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	44
	Female	6	3	2	4	23	6	44	
Lewdness	Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	11
	Female	1	1	2	-	4	3	11	
Criminal Mischief	Male	270	63	170	268	404	232	1,407	4,997
	Female	718	100	688	618	992	474	3,590	
Burglary	Male	15	5	12	29	27	32	120	653
	Female	56	20	107	62	96	192	533	
Criminal Trespass	Male	17	18	15	25	23	27	125	555
	Female	86	37	59	73	82	93	430	
Harassment	Male	1,725	486	806	1,125	1,663	1,106	6,911	30,532
	Female	7,031	1,527	3,554	2,319	5,378	3,812	23,621	
Stalking	Male	4	4	3	1	4	13	29	306
	Female	46	34	33	5	38	121	277	
TOTAL	Male	4,066	766	2,018	3,418	4,823	1,997	17,088	73,749
	Female	15,104	2,407	10,079	5,996	15,644	7,431	56,661	
GRAND TOTAL		19,170	3,173	12,097	9,414	20,467	9,428	73,749	-

ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Alcohol or Drugs Involved) † 2006

Domestic Violence Offense	Total Number of Offenses	Substance Involved			Total Alcohol and Drugs	Percent of Offenses Involving Alcohol or Drugs
		Only Alcohol	Only Drugs	Both Alcohol and Drugs		
Homicide	42	6	2	3	11	26.2
Assault	32,450	10,232	589	686	11,507	35.5
Terroristic Threats	3,673	560	89	72	721	19.6
Kidnapping	38	9	1	-	10	26.3
Criminal Restraint	188	43	7	7	57	30.3
False Imprisonment	46	8	-	1	9	19.6
Sexual Assault	214	49	5	11	65	30.4
Criminal Sexual Contact	44	17	1	-	18	40.9
Lewdness	11	1	-	-	1	9.1
Criminal Mischief	4,997	1,332	107	88	1,527	30.6
Burglary	653	104	35	8	147	22.5
Criminal Trespass	555	116	17	6	139	25.0
Harassment	30,532	5,665	385	312	6,362	20.8
Stalking	306	22	5	2	29	9.5
TOTAL	73,749	18,164	1,243	1,196	20,603	27.9

† Indicates alcohol or drug use by either victim or offender.

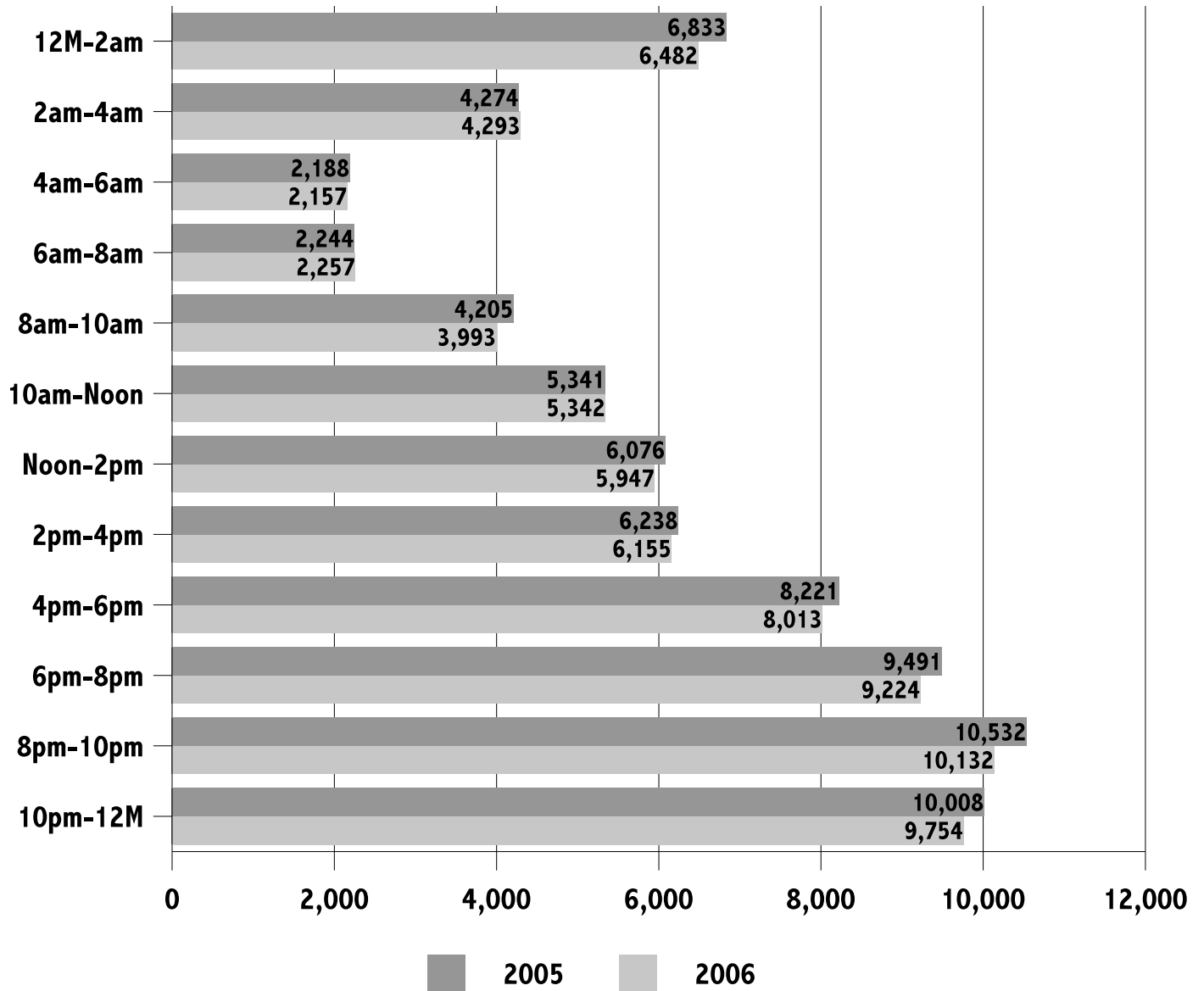
- Drugs or alcohol were involved in 26 percent (11) of domestic violence homicides.
- Twenty-eight percent (20,603) of the reported acts of domestic violence (73,749) involved the use of drugs or alcohol.

OFFENSES AGAINST ELDERLY VICTIMS (60 Years of age or over) 2006

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	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-
Assault	792	87	138	4	3	9	8	162	251	66	54	5	5
Terroristic Threats	139	6	11	1	1	3	4	25	57	11	10	3	7
Kidnapping	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Criminal Restraint	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-
False Imprisonment	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Sexual Assault	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
Criminal Sexual Contact	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lewdness	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Criminal Mischief	204	6	12	6	1	3	3	47	89	17	12	5	3
Burglary	23	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	10	1	-	2	-
Criminal Trespass	42	-	3	-	-	-	2	10	23	-	1	2	1
Harassment	1,031	78	183	13	16	6	6	161	389	62	67	28	22
Stalking	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
TOTAL	2,251	177	350	24	21	21	24	415	828	158	148	46	39

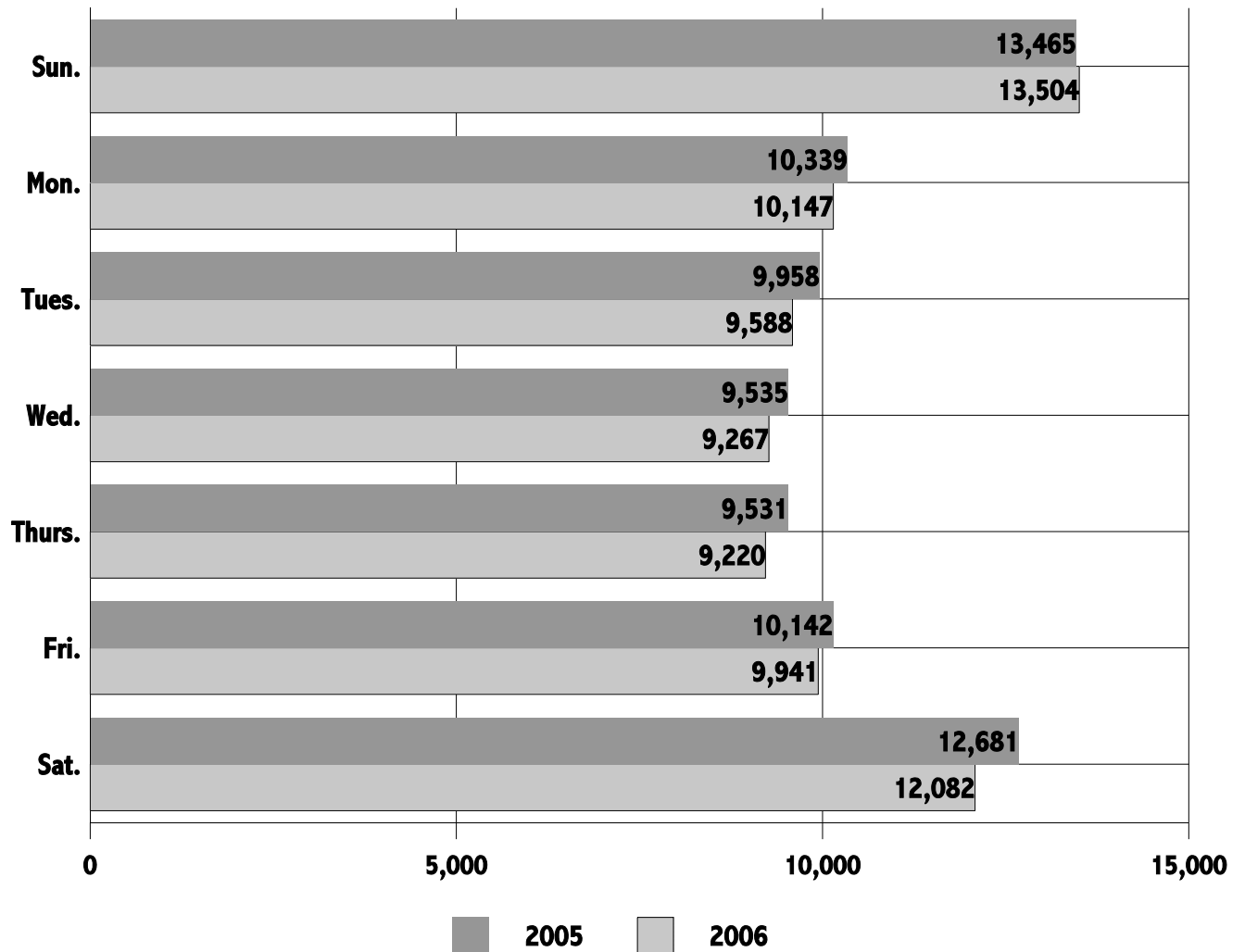
- Assaults accounted for 35 percent (792) of all domestic violence offenses for victims 60 years old or over.
- Females age 60 or over were the victims in 63 percent (1,410) of the 2,251 elderly abuse offenses.
- Persons age 60 or over were the victims in 3 percent (2,251) of all the reported domestic violence offenses during this period.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TIME OF DAY 2005/2006



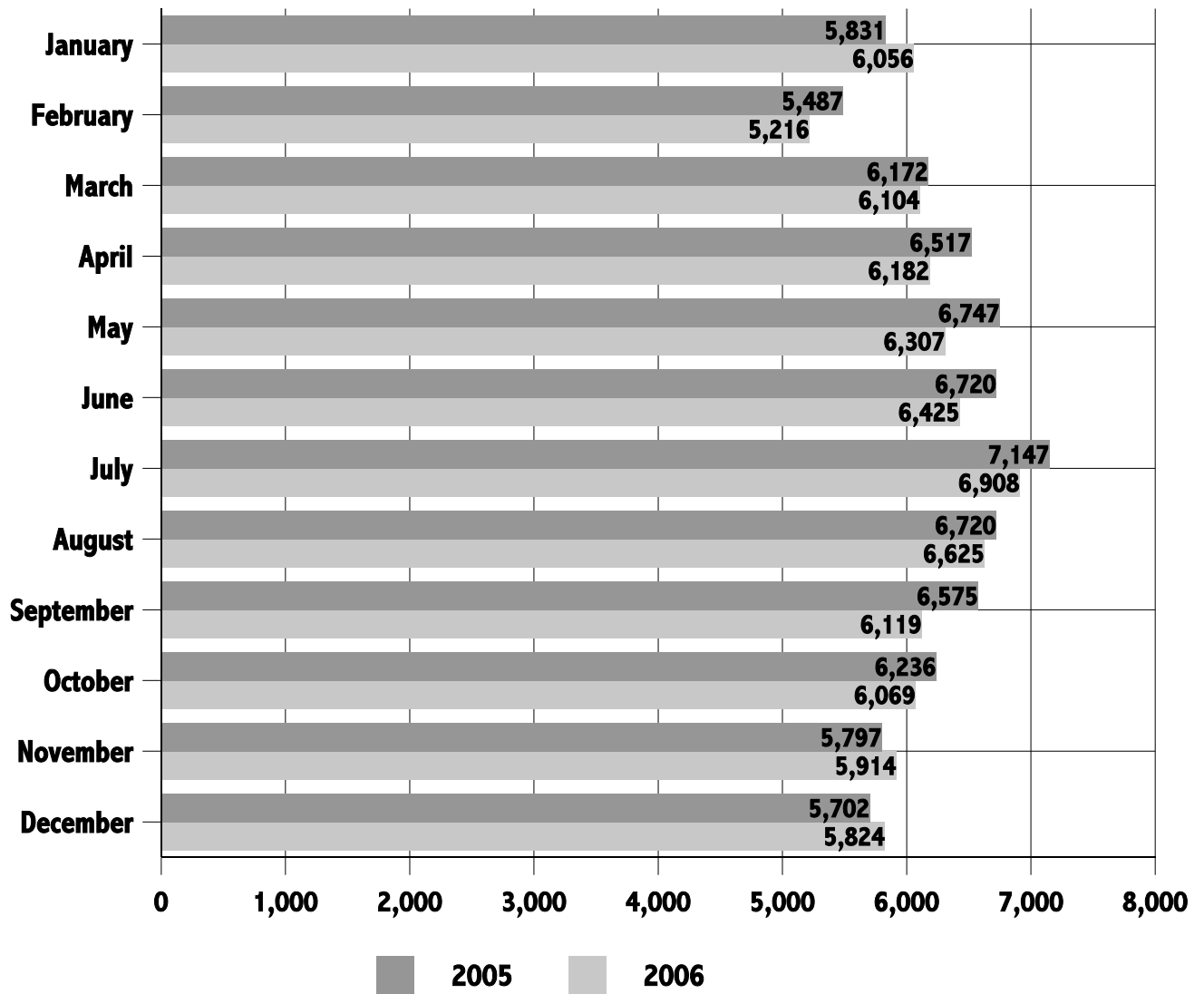
- During 2006, 27 percent (19,886) of the reported domestic violence offenses occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 12 midnight.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY DAY OF WEEK 2005/2006



- Sunday recorded the highest number of occurrences in 2006 with 13,504 offenses.
- During 2006, 35 percent (25,586) of the reported domestic violence offenses occurred during the weekend (Saturday and Sunday).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY MONTH OF YEAR 2005/2006



- In 2006, the highest number of domestic violence offenses occurred during the month of July.
- During 2006, the month with the lowest number of reported domestic violence offenses was February.

RESTRAINING ORDER ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2005/2006

	Domestic Violence Restraining Order Only			Domestic Violence Restraining Order with Offense Arrest			Total Arrests Involving Domestic Violence Restraining Orders		
	2005	2006	Percent Change	2005	2006	Percent Change	2005	2006	Percent Change
ATLANTIC	90	72	-20	73	54	-26	163	126	-23
BERGEN	87	75	-14	132	131	-1	219	206	-6
BURLINGTON	87	91	5	79	82	4	166	173	4
CAMDEN	246	222	-10	171	167	-2	417	389	-7
CAPE MAY	58	46	-21	37	23	-38	95	69	-27
CUMBERLAND	104	86	-17	58	49	-16	162	135	-17
ESSEX	111	93	-16	85	71	-16	196	164	-16
GLOUCESTER	130	133	2	94	73	-22	224	206	-8
HUDSON	58	76	31	56	58	4	114	134	18
HUNTERDON	26	7	-73	8	6	-25	34	13	-62
MERCER	99	62	-37	86	65	-24	185	127	-31
MIDDLESEX	79	88	11	77	50	-35	156	138	-12
MONMOUTH	119	105	-12	92	86	-7	211	191	-9
MORRIS	84	105	25	37	46	24	121	151	25
OCEAN	167	175	5	87	70	-20	254	245	-4
PASSAIC	187	148	-21	73	70	-4	260	218	-16
SALEM	46	29	-37	38	20	-47	84	49	-42
SOMERSET	100	88	-12	40	33	-18	140	121	-14
SUSSEX	26	28	8	19	12	-37	45	40	-11
UNION	79	79	0	93	110	18	172	189	10
WARREN	27	10	-63	16	8	-50	43	18	-58
STATE TOTALS	2,010	1,818	-10	1,451	1,284	-12	3,461	3,102	-10