



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 2010 domestic violence statistics are listed below:

- There were 74,244 domestic violence offenses reported by the police in 2010, a 1 percent increase compared to the 73,709 reported in 2009.
- Murders decreased 3 percent in 2010 (38) when compared to 2009 (39).
- Assaults accounted for 42 percent (31,234) and harassment accounted for 44 percent (32,598) of the reported offenses in 2010.
- Arrests were made in 31 percent (22,738) of the offenses reported for 2010, an increase of 2 percent when compared to arrests made in 2009.
- The most frequent day of domestic violence occurrences was Sunday (12,721).
- For the twenty-eighth consecutive year, the most frequent hours of domestic violence incidents were between 8:00 p.m. and midnight, when 26 percent (19,455) of the offenses were reported.
- Children were involved or present during 31 percent of all domestic violence offenses occurring in 2010. Specifically, 4 percent (3,129) were involved and 27 percent (19,842) were present.
- Wives were the victims in 18 percent (13,371) and ex-wives were the victims in 3 percent (2,438) of the reported domestic violence offenses in 2010. Overall, females were victims in 75 percent (55,919) of all domestic violence offenses.
- The number of domestic violence complaints that had prior court orders issued against the offender increased from 13,821 in 2009 to 14,245 in 2010. This is an increase of three percent.
- Alcohol and/or drugs were involved in 26 percent (19,298) of the reported offenses occurring in 2010. Alcohol involvement alone accounted for 23 percent (17,393) of the total domestic violence offenses reported.
- Persons age 60 or over were victims in 4 percent (2,806) of all reported domestic violence offenses that occurred in 2010. Elderly were the victims in 21 percent (8) of the domestic violence murders (38).
- 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 5 seconds.
- Domestic violence offenses arising from a dating relationship accounted for 15 percent (11,104) of the state total.
- There were 3,246 total arrests involving domestic violence restraining orders reported by police in 2010. Of these, 1,906 were arrests for violations of a restraining order **only**, while 1,304 were arrests for violations of a restraining order **with** an offense arrest.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS 2009/2010

Domestic Violence Offense		Number of Offenses	★Number of Arrests	★Percent of Offenses Involving an Arrest
Homicide	2009	39	17	44
	2010	38	14	37
	Percent Change	-3	-18	-16
Assault	2009	31,225	15,239	49
	2010	31,234	15,595	50
	Percent Change	0	2	2
Terroristic Threats	2009	3,286	1,051	32
	2010	3,246	963	30
	Percent Change	-1	-8	-6
Kidnapping	2009	49	25	51
	2010	46	22	48
	Percent Change	-6	-12	-6
Criminal Restraint	2009	187	86	46
	2010	168	74	44
	Percent Change	-10	-14	-4
False Imprisonment	2009	58	22	38
	2010	60	34	57
	Percent Change	3	55	50
Sexual Assault	2009	217	58	27
	2010	206	62	30
	Percent Change	-5	7	11
Criminal Sexual Contact	2009	52	17	33
	2010	68	23	34
	Percent Change	31	35	3
Lewdness	2009	13	2	15
	2010	14	4	29
	Percent Change	8	100	93
Criminal Mischief	2009	4,956	1,501	30
	2010	5,108	1,627	32
	Percent Change	3	8	7
Burglary	2009	649	229	35
	2010	670	248	37
	Percent Change	3	8	6
Criminal Trespass	2009	448	188	42
	2010	468	179	38
	Percent Change	4	-5	-10
Harassment	2009	32,198	3,764	12
	2010	32,598	3,793	12
	Percent Change	1	1	0
Stalking	2009	332	96	29
	2010	320	100	31
	Percent Change	-4	4	7
TOTAL	2009	73,709	22,295	30
	2010	74,244	22,738	31
	Percent Change	1	2	3

★ 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

2009/2010

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprisonment	Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact
Atlantic	2009	6	1,580	200	-	5	3	5	2
	2010	1	1,594	170	4	9	2	8	4
Bergen	2009	1	1,935	242	1	10	6	8	4
	2010	4	1,813	254	-	15	8	5	4
Burlington	2009	2	1,342	80	-	8	2	11	3
	2010	1	1,286	106	3	12	2	13	2
Camden	2009	1	3,350	249	12	23	2	30	2
	2010	5	3,255	235	7	11	5	20	6
Cape May	2009	1	478	45	1	1	-	2	1
	2010	-	540	22	-	3	1	-	-
Cumberland	2009	2	1,564	109	5	18	1	6	1
	2010	2	1,702	85	1	15	2	9	3
Essex	2009	6	3,076	641	11	20	8	14	7
	2010	6	3,046	573	8	31	5	31	6
Gloucester	2009	1	1,428	102	-	11	3	10	4
	2010	-	1,447	111	2	8	-	12	1
Hudson	2009	1	1,942	163	4	12	2	13	3
	2010	4	1,818	135	7	5	2	13	5
Hunterdon	2009	-	191	15	-	2	2	1	-
	2010	-	207	17	-	1	-	3	1
Mercer	2009	7	1,460	58	2	3	4	12	1
	2010	2	1,391	48	3	2	2	10	5

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2009/2010

Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	Stalking	County Total	Percent Change	Arrests
1	199	42	30	3,609	16	5,698	0	1,082
-	247	33	28	3,579	15	5,694		1,114
-	204	23	44	1,880	27	4,385	-4	1,331
-	186	31	38	1,815	34	4,207		1,241
1	254	27	25	2,214	12	3,981	-2	1,750
1	247	29	32	2,178	7	3,919		1,727
1	605	102	46	2,599	21	7,043	-3	2,135
1	544	107	47	2,529	26	6,798		2,249
1	74	7	11	581	2	1,205	-1	364
-	80	10	10	517	6	1,189		418
2	260	45	15	1,559	9	3,596	7	1,052
1	293	35	12	1,662	9	3,831		1,183
-	419	81	19	1,040	39	5,381	-1	1,623
3	448	61	18	1,068	31	5,335		1,705
-	240	23	16	1,362	12	3,212	5	1,094
1	243	24	38	1,479	15	3,381		1,142
1	264	52	18	1,357	29	3,861	-7	1,038
-	230	50	4	1,273	26	3,572		979
-	20	3	2	346	5	587	29	183
-	37	3	8	479	3	759		191
-	211	18	18	1,077	18	2,889	1	1,019
1	214	39	22	1,166	18	2,923		1,014

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2009/2010

County	Year	Homicide	Assault	Terroristic Threats	Kidnapping	Criminal Restraint	False Imprisonment	Sexual Assault	Criminal Sexual Contact
Middlesex	2009	2	2,105	246	1	13	7	24	4
	2010	3	2,077	222	3	8	12	15	3
Monmouth	2009	1	2,062	217	5	17	1	16	6
	2010	2	2,176	240	2	10	4	16	7
Morris	2009	-	927	133	-	10	4	8	1
	2010	2	938	133	1	10	5	8	1
Ocean	2009	2	1,899	191	1	8	4	14	1
	2010	3	1,964	212	1	7	2	6	6
Passaic	2009	3	2,292	364	2	12	1	18	7
	2010	-	2,289	448	2	10	3	21	5
Salem	2009	-	411	27	-	3	1	-	-
	2010	-	442	23	-	2	1	1	1
Somerset	2009	1	669	10	1	5	-	6	2
	2010	-	733	10	-	1	-	4	-
Sussex	2009	1	426	38	-	2	-	6	-
	2010	1	477	37	1	1	-	3	-
Union	2009	1	1,691	125	3	4	4	11	3
	2010	2	1,586	131	1	5	4	6	8
Warren	2009	-	397	31	-	-	3	2	-
	2010	-	453	34	-	2	-	2	-
TOTAL	2009	39	31,225	3,286	49	187	58	217	52
	2010	38	31,234	3,246	46	168	60	206	68

* Less than one-half of one percent.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2009/2010

Lewdness	Criminal Mischief	Burglary	Criminal Trespass	Harassment	Stalking	County Total	Percent Change	Arrests
-	393	43	22	1,785	41	4,686		1,517
2	432	39	33	1,896	17	4,762	2	1,416
-	358	36	58	2,519	21	5,317		1,854
2	398	37	39	2,540	32	5,505	4	1,918
-	210	11	22	1,248	17	2,591		772
-	189	15	27	1,285	16	2,630	2	720
-	357	32	22	2,586	9	5,126		1,388
-	368	40	32	2,497	11	5,149	0	1,457
2	326	49	20	1,107	21	4,224		1,444
-	309	60	24	1,076	23	4,270	1	1,499
-	71	4	11	276	2	806		315
-	76	4	11	313	2	876	9	351
-	129	5	15	1,480	4	2,327		553
-	121	4	8	1,434	2	2,317	0	565
-	57	2	7	773	6	1,318		349
-	75	9	5	895	3	1,507	14	365
2	242	37	16	1,724	12	3,875		1,193
2	278	30	21	1,840	13	3,927	1	1,203
2	63	7	11	1,076	9	1,601		239
-	93	10	11	1,077	11	1,693	6	281
13	4,956	649	448	32,198	332	73,709		22,295
14	5,108	670	468	32,598	320	74,244	1	22,738

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES/ARRESTS 2006 Through 2010

Domestic Violence Offense	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests	Offenses	Arrests
Homicide	42	27	38	19	57	30	39	17	38	14
Assault	32,450	15,702	31,661	15,549	30,429	15,017	31,225	15,239	31,234	15,595
Terroristic Threats	3,673	1,079	3,411	1,025	3,359	1,046	3,286	1,051	3,246	963
Kidnapping	38	16	27	11	27	13	49	25	46	22
Criminal Restraint	188	79	136	57	154	75	187	86	168	74
False Imprisonment	46	14	53	24	41	22	58	22	60	34
Sexual Assault	214	64	233	83	198	69	217	58	206	62
Criminal Sexual Contact	44	14	47	21	54	18	52	17	68	23
Lewdness	11	4	13	2	11	4	13	2	14	4
Criminal Mischief	4,997	1,525	4,889	1,532	4,958	1,525	4,956	1,501	5,108	1,627
Burglary	653	228	586	217	636	242	649	229	670	248
Criminal Trespass	555	213	460	180	427	143	448	188	468	179
Harassment	30,532	3,661	30,055	3,489	30,023	3,416	32,198	3,764	32,598	3,793
Stalking	306	74	292	70	239	45	332	96	320	100
TOTAL	73,749	22,700	71,901	22,279	70,613	21,665	73,709	22,295	74,244	22,738

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TYPE OF WEAPON AND EXTENT OF INJURY 2009/2010

Type of Weapon		Extent of Injury			TOTAL
		Aggravated Serious	Non-Aggravated Minor	None	
Gun	2009	36	12	95	143
	2010	20	15	89	124
	Percent Change	-44	25	-6	-13
Knife	2009	300	358	306	964
	2010	289	398	288	975
	Percent Change	-4	11	-6	1
Other Dangerous Weapon	2009	356	974	298	1,628
	2010	350	926	357	1,633
	Percent Change	-2	-5	20	*
Hands, Fists, Feet, etc.	2009	769	16,759	12,639	30,167
	2010	800	16,371	13,132	30,303
	Percent Change	4	-2	4	*
None	2009	-	-	40,807	40,807
	2010	-	-	41,209	41,209
	Percent Change	-	-	1	1
TOTAL	2009	1,461	18,103	54,145	73,709
	2010	1,459	17,710	55,075	74,244
	Percent Change	*	-2	2	1

* Less than one-half of one percent.

- Twenty-six percent (19,169) of all domestic violence complaints resulted in injury. This is a decrease of 2 percent when compared to the 19,564 that occurred in 2009.
- Of all the domestic violence offenses involving weapons (33,035), hands, fists, feet, etc. were used in 92 percent (30,303) of these offenses.
- Domestic violence offenses involving a gun decreased 13 percent when compared to 2009.
- Serious injuries were reported in 1,459 offenses, a decrease of less than one-half of one percent when compared to the 1,461 reported in 2009.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TYPE & SEX OF VICTIM 2010

Type of Offense		Relationship of Victim to Offender							Total Number of Offenses	
		Spouse	Ex-spouse	Co-parent	Relative	Friend	Ex-friend	Civil Union Partner		Total
Homicide	Male	2	1	-	6	6	1	-	16	38
	Female	8	-	3	4	5	2	-	22	
Assault	Male	1,734	165	1,047	2,131	2,736	468	6	8,287	31,234
	Female	5,199	412	4,787	2,943	7,809	1,781	16	22,947	
Terroristic Threats	Male	87	21	65	213	157	65	-	608	3,246
	Female	614	151	583	322	497	470	1	2,638	
Kidnapping	Male	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	46
	Female	4	-	10	5	10	15	-	44	
Criminal Restraint	Male	3	1	2	2	4	6	-	18	168
	Female	27	2	18	19	61	23	-	150	
False Imprisonment	Male	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	4	60
	Female	13	-	11	6	21	5	-	56	
Sexual Assault	Male	1	-	-	-	3	2	1	7	206
	Female	44	5	30	17	70	33	-	199	
Criminal Sexual Contact	Male	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	3	68
	Female	8	4	15	6	21	11	-	65	
Lewdness	Male	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	14
	Female	5	-	1	2	2	4	-	14	
Criminal Mischief	Male	244	45	188	319	438	188	4	1,426	5,108
	Female	644	110	705	754	1,026	438	5	3,682	
Burglary	Male	17	10	9	26	22	30	-	114	670
	Female	49	36	162	39	110	160	-	556	
Criminal Trespass	Male	16	16	11	35	29	18	1	126	468
	Female	51	38	60	52	69	72	-	342	
Harassment	Male	1,826	496	965	1,408	1,865	1,116	7	7,683	32,598
	Female	6,648	1,654	4,094	2,917	5,844	3,747	11	24,915	
Stalking	Male	5	2	4	3	5	12	-	31	320
	Female	57	26	36	5	48	117	-	289	
TOTAL	Male	3,936	757	2,293	4,146	5,268	1,906	19	18,325	74,244
	Female	13,371	2,438	10,515	7,091	15,593	6,878	33	55,919	
GRAND TOTAL		17,307	3,195	12,808	11,237	20,861	8,784	52	74,244	-

ANALYSIS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (Alcohol or Drugs Involved) † 2010

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	38	3	-	1	4	10.5
Assault	31,234	9,659	465	465	10,589	33.9
Terroristic Threats	3,246	496	81	44	621	19.1
Kidnapping	46	5	2	-	7	15.2
Criminal Restraint	168	38	7	6	51	30.4
False Imprisonment	60	14	2	1	17	28.3
Sexual Assault	206	51	9	6	66	32.0
Criminal Sexual Contact	68	15	2	2	19	28.0
Lewdness	14	1	-	1	2	14.3
Criminal Mischief	5,108	1,246	81	63	1,390	27.2
Burglary	670	89	18	11	118	17.6
Criminal Trespass	468	82	7	6	95	20.3
Harassment	32,598	5,679	346	275	6,300	19.3
Stalking	320	15	2	2	19	5.9
TOTAL	74,244	17,393	1,022	883	19,298	26.0

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

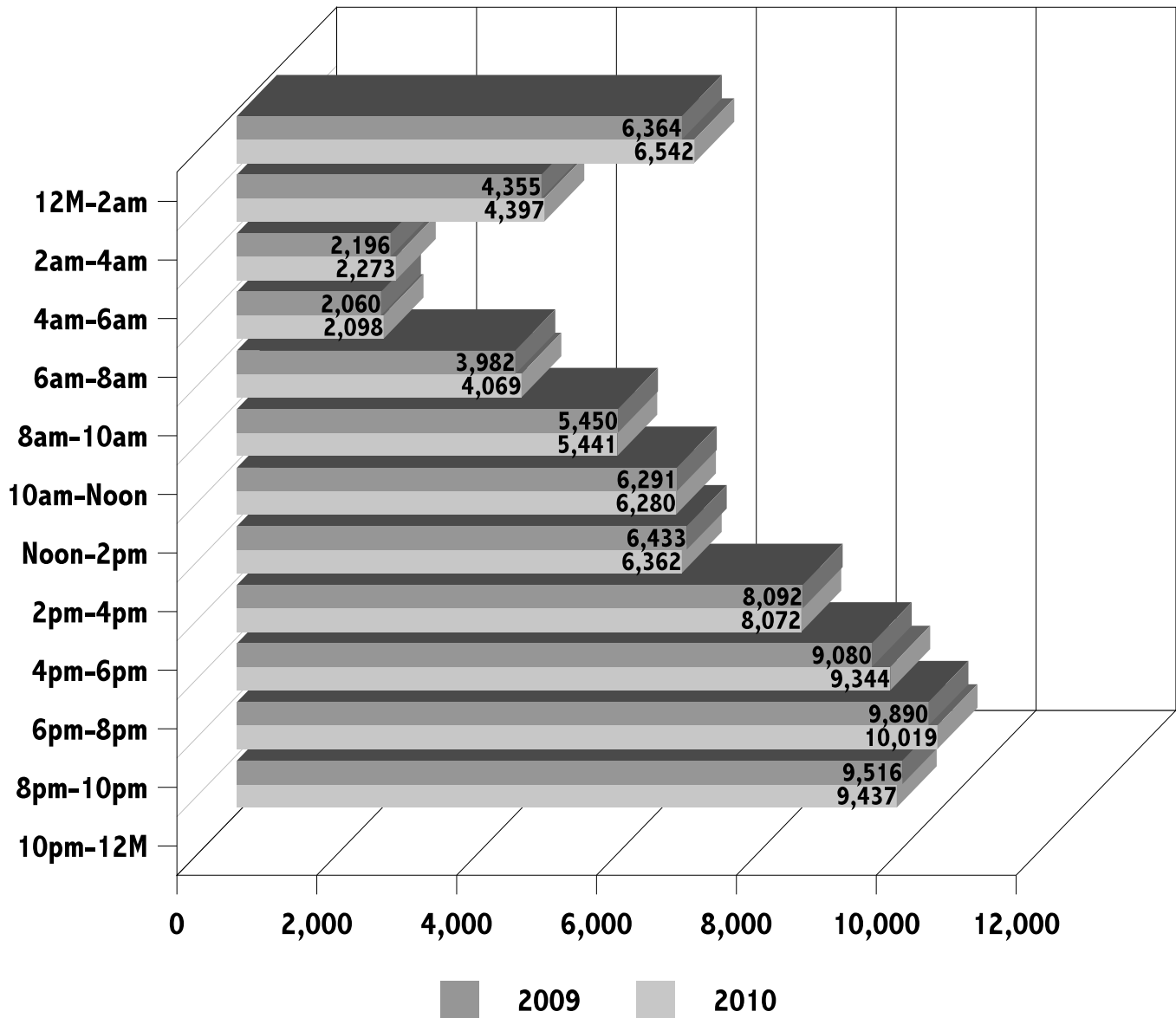
- Drugs or alcohol were involved in 11 percent (4) of domestic violence homicides.
- Twenty-six percent (19,298) of the reported acts of domestic violence (74,244) involved the use of drugs or alcohol.

OFFENSES AGAINST ELDERLY VICTIMS (60 Years of age or over) 2010

Domestic Violence Offense	Total Number of Offenses	Relationship of Victim to Offender													
		Spouse		Ex-spouse		Co-parent		Relative		Friend		Ex-friend		Civil Union Partner	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Homicide	8	1	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Assault	989	106	191	2	3	8	7	218	285	85	69	7	8	-	-
Terroristic Threats	174	7	33	2	3	1	2	36	53	10	20	2	5	-	-
Kidnapping	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Criminal Restraint	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	2	-	-	-
False Imprisonment	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sexual Assault	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Criminal Sexual Contact	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Lewdness	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Criminal Mischief	206	11	6	3	1	1	-	47	104	17	12	2	2	-	-
Burglary	13	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	7	-	-	1	1	-	-
Criminal Trespass	28	2	1	1	-	-	-	8	11	1	4	-	-	-	-
Harassment	1,369	105	236	24	32	11	12	257	464	72	95	26	34	-	1
Stalking	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2,804	233	472	32	39	21	22	569	935	186	204	40	50	0	1

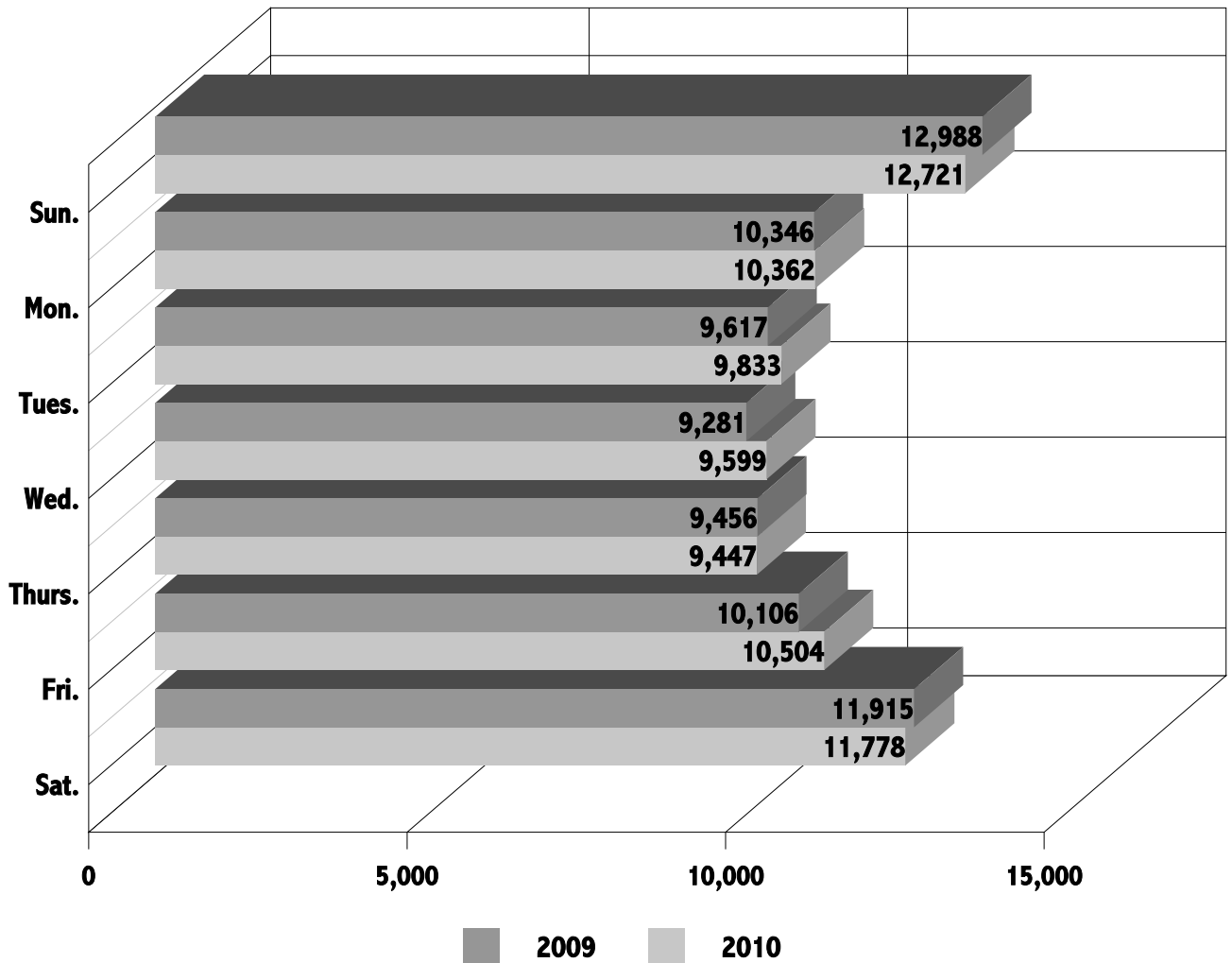
- Assaults accounted for 35 percent (989) of all domestic violence offenses for victims 60 years old or over.
- Females age 60 or over were the victims in 61 percent (1,723) of the 2,804 elderly abuse offenses.
- Persons age 60 or over were the victims in 4 percent (2,804) of all the reported domestic violence offenses during this period.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY TIME OF DAY 2009/2010



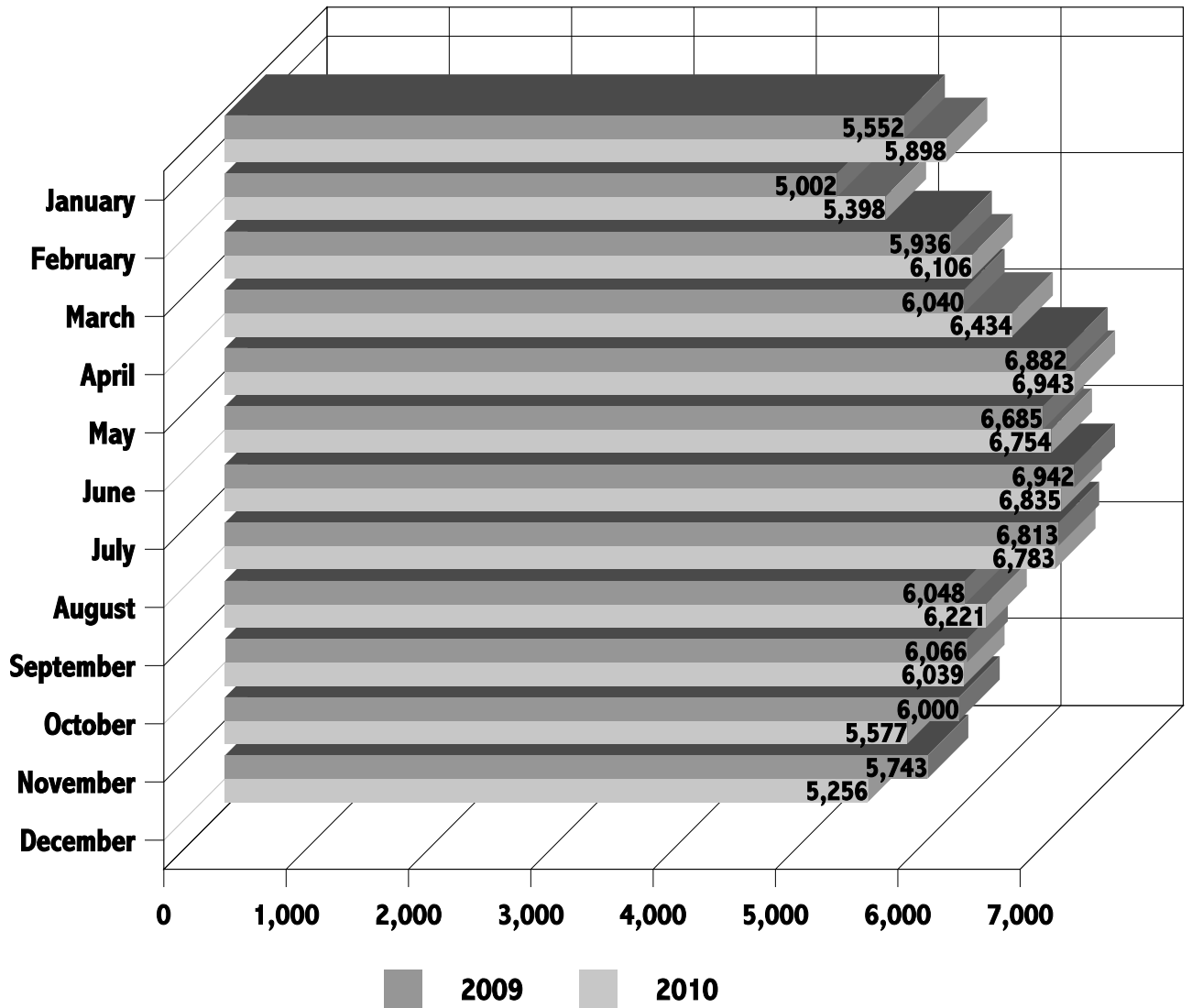
- During 2010, 26 percent (19,456) of the reported domestic violence offenses occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 12 midnight.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY DAY OF WEEK 2009/2010



- Sunday recorded the highest number of occurrences in 2010 with 12,721 offenses.
- During 2010, 33 percent (24,499) of the reported domestic violence offenses occurred during the weekend (Saturday and Sunday).

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENSES BY MONTH OF YEAR 2009/2010



- In 2010, the highest number of domestic violence offenses occurred during the month of May.
- During 2010, the month with the lowest number of reported domestic violence offenses was December.

RESTRAINING ORDER ARRESTS BY COUNTY 2009/2010

	Domestic Violence Restraining Order Only			Domestic Violence Restraining Order with Offense Arrest			Total Arrests Involving Domestic Violence Restraining Orders		
	2009	2010	Percent Change	2009	2010	Percent Change	2009	2010	Percent Change
ATLANTIC	100	111	11	76	83	9	176	194	10
BERGEN	80	87	9	85	102	20	165	189	15
BURLINGTON	143	133	-7	70	67	-4	213	200	-6
CAMDEN	186	223	20	189	198	5	375	421	12
CAPE MAY	44	48	9	23	27	17	67	75	12
CUMBERLAND	115	95	-17	78	77	-1	193	172	-11
ESSEX	81	70	-14	62	74	19	143	144	1
GLOUCESTER	114	107	-6	84	98	17	198	205	4
HUDSON	61	71	16	49	46	-6	110	117	6
HUNTERDON	12	12	0	17	18	6	29	30	3
MERCER	65	72	11	71	74	4	136	146	7
MIDDLESEX	124	111	-10	59	50	-15	183	161	-12
MONMOUTH	133	145	9	100	83	-17	233	228	-2
MORRIS	96	79	-18	53	40	-25	149	119	-20
OCEAN	175	150	-14	86	82	-5	261	232	-11
PASSAIC	127	115	-9	40	75	88	167	190	14
SALEM	35	52	49	23	16	-30	58	68	17
SOMERSET	72	87	21	46	29	-37	118	116	-2
SUSSEX	35	39	11	24	23	-4	59	62	5
UNION	64	57	-11	56	64	14	120	121	1
WARREN	26	42	62	14	14	0	40	56	40
STATE TOTALS	1,888	1,906	1	1,305	1,340	3	3,193	3,246	2