



Officers Assaulted

The following information concerns duly sworn city, university and college, county, state, and tribal law enforcement officers who were assaulted in the line of duty in 2015 and who met certain other [criteria](#).

Overview

- In 2015, the FBI collected assault data from 11,961 law enforcement agencies that employed 507,852 officers. These officers provided service to more than 241.3 million persons, or 75.1 percent of the nation's population. (See Table [70](#).)
- Law enforcement agencies reported that 50,212 officers were assaulted while performing their duties in 2015. (See Table [70](#).)
- The rate of officer assaults in 2015 was 9.9 per 100 sworn officers. (See Table [70](#).)

Injuries

- Of the 50,212 officers who were assaulted in 2015, 14,281 (28.4 percent) sustained injuries. (Based on Table [70](#).)
- 30.5 percent of the officers who were attacked with personal weapons (e.g., hands, fists, or feet) suffered injuries. (See Table [75](#).)
- 12.3 percent of the officers who were assaulted with knives or other cutting instruments were injured. (See Table [75](#).)
- 9.5 percent of officers who were attacked with firearms were injured. (See Table [75](#).)
- 24.7 percent of officers who were attacked with other dangerous weapons were injured. (See Table [75](#).)

Times of incidents

- For the seventeenth consecutive year, the largest percentage of assaults on officers (13.5 percent) happened from 12:01 a.m. to 2 a.m. (See Table 72.)
- The smallest percentage of assaults on officers (3.0 percent) occurred between 6:01 a.m. and 8 a.m. (See Table 72.)

Circumstances

Of all officers who were assaulted in 2015:

- 32.4 percent were responding to disturbance calls. (Based on Table 73.)
- 15.6 percent were attempting other arrests. (Based on Table 73.)
- 12.2 percent were handling, transporting, or maintaining custody of prisoners. (Based on Table 73.)

Clearances

Law enforcement agencies can clear offenses by arrest or exceptional means (i.e., when they can identify the perpetrator but are unable to make an arrest due to circumstances beyond their control, such as the death or suicide of the subject).

- In 2015, law enforcement agencies cleared 89.3 percent of the 50,212 reported assaults on law enforcement officers. (See Table 73.)
- By type of circumstance, agencies cleared the greatest percentage of assaults (92.0 percent) on officers who were attempting other arrests. (See Table 73.)
- Agencies reported that they cleared 91.0 percent of the 16,256 assaults on officers who were responding to disturbance calls. (See Table 73.)

Assignments

- 62.3 percent of the officers who were assaulted were assigned to 1-officer vehicle patrols. (Based on Table 74.)
- 17.7 percent of the officers who were assaulted were assigned to 2-officer vehicle patrols. (See Table 74.)
- 4.0 percent of officers who were assaulted were assigned to detective duties or special assignments. (Based on Table 74.)
- 16.1 percent of officers were assigned to other duties when they were assaulted in the line of duty. (Based on Table 74.)

Weapons

- In 2015, 79.0 percent of officers who were assaulted in the line of duty were attacked with personal weapons (e.g., hands, fists, or feet). (Based on Table 75.)
- 4.0 percent of the officers were assaulted with firearms. (Based on Table 75.)
- 1.8 percent of the officers were assaulted with knives or other cutting instruments. (Based on Table 75.)
- 15.1 percent of the officers were assaulted with other dangerous weapons. (Based on Table 75.)

Information about officers assaulted can be found in Tables 70-78. Specific information about officers assaulted and injured with firearms or knives/other cutting instruments can be found on the Detailed Assault Data page and in Tables 79-122.