

2004 Domestic Abuse Incident Report (DAIR) Executive Summary

Special Notes

- The Department of Justice is in the final phase of automating and streamlining data collection and presentation for this report. The change in methodology makes the direct comparison of data from reports filed previous to 2003 inaccurate.
- Racine County submitted charging statistics only and is otherwise not represented in the 2004 report.
- Dane County submitted limited data for 2004 and is not represented in most of the 2004 reports. [Click here to see the data reported by Dane County.](#)
- Technological difficulties prevent the complete integration of Milwaukee County data into the report. Milwaukee data is integrated wherever possible and a special *Milwaukee County Report* has been compiled.
- **Specialized reports for individual counties** may be available upon request. Call (608) 261-8645 for more information.

2004 DAIR Data Summary

1. [Total Incidents Reported](#)
 2. [Gender, Age, Ethnicity & Relationship to Victim](#)
 3. [Arrest, Dual-Arrest, Dual-Situation](#)
 4. [Charging Statistics](#)
 5. [Sentencing Statistics Statewide](#)
 6. [Sentencing Statistics Outside Milwaukee County](#)
 7. [Sentencing Statistics Milwaukee County](#)
 8. [Domestic Homicide-Adult Victims](#)
 9. [Domestic Homicide-Child Victims](#)
 10. [List of All Available 2004 Data Reports](#)
- **During 2004, there were 28,293 domestic violence incidents reported** to law enforcement and referred to district attorneys' offices throughout Wisconsin, excluding Racine County who does not contribute data to this report. This represents an increase from 2003 when 27,102 incidents were reported.
 - Approximately one-third (8,192) of reported incidents were reported in Milwaukee County.

- Consistent with 2003 statistics, victims of domestic violence outside of Milwaukee County were most often 18-29 year-old white females who were victimized by a spouse, ex-spouse, cohabitant or ex-cohabitant.

[Click here for gender, age, ethnicity and relationship statistics.](#)

- **Arrests** were made in 13,448 incidents, or approximately 54% of all reported incidents.
- Outside of Milwaukee County, a **dual** situation/arrest was reported in 2.5% of incidents, down 1% from 2003. (Dual statistics unavailable for Milwaukee County.)

[Click here for arrest statistics for counties other than Milwaukee County](#)

- **Most Common Charges Issued:** In Milwaukee County, the most common charge issued for a domestic abuse incident was battery. Disorderly conduct was the most common charge issued in reported domestic abuse incidents outside of Milwaukee County.

Dane county reported the type of charge issued (felony, misdemeanor or forfeiture) rather than the specific charge issued. The most common type of charge issued by the district attorney's office was a misdemeanor charge (representing 63% of all charges issued), followed by forfeitures (representing 23% of all charges issued) and felony charges (representing 14% of all charges issued).

[Click here for charging statistics for the state of Wisconsin and the counties of Milwaukee and Racine.](#)

[Click here for charging statistics for Dane County.](#)

- **Sentences imposed for domestic abuse incidents** frequently contained a combination of behavioral and financial conditions with supervision and/or confinement requirements.

On average statewide, nearly half of all reported sentences included some form of financial condition, such as a fine or restitution.

Sentences reported by counties outside of Milwaukee County were more likely to impose confinement than Milwaukee County sentences (15% versus 8% in Milwaukee County); and less likely to utilize a deferred prosecution agreement (less than 1% compared to 4% in Milwaukee County).

Milwaukee County reported a more frequent use of behavioral conditions (e.g. counseling, no-contact prohibitions) than counties outside Milwaukee County (used in 21% of reported sentences in Milwaukee County versus 16% statewide).

The use of supervision as a part of reported sentences in Milwaukee County (16%) was similar to the use of supervision elsewhere (reported as part of 14% of all sentences).

- **Sentences Outside of Milwaukee County**

Financial conditions were imposed as part of 51% of reported sentences in 2004, compared to 45% in 2003.

Behavioral conditions were used less frequently in 2004 (in 16% of sentences) than in 2003 (in 21% of sentences).

Confinement was imposed as frequently in 2004 (14.7%) as it was in 2003 (14.1%).

Supervision requirements were imposed slightly less frequently in 2004 (as part of 14% of the reported sentences) than in 2003 (16%).

[Click here for detailed sentencing statistics for counties outside of Milwaukee.](#)

[Click here for Milwaukee County sentencing statistics.](#)

- **Milwaukee County Sentences** for domestic violence offenses differed somewhat in 2004 than the year prior, most notably in the less frequent use of behavioral conditions and a marked increase in the use of financial conditions.

Financial conditions were imposed as part of 45% of all reported sentences in 2004, compared with 12% of reported sentences in 2003.

Behavioral conditions were imposed as part of 21% of sentences reported in 2004, compared to 52% of all sentences reported in 2003.

In 2004, the imposition of supervision (part of 16% of reported sentences) and stayed jail terms (part of 6% of reported sentences) did not differ significantly from their reported imposition in 2003.

Jail was imposed more often in 2004 (as part of 8% of sentences) than 2003 (as part of 1% of sentences)

Deferred prosecution agreements were utilized as part of 4% of reported sentences in 2004, compared with less than 1% in 2003.

[Click here for Milwaukee County sentencing statistics.](#)

- **31 domestic homicides with adult** victims were reported in 2004, down from 34 reported in 2003.

Perpetrators: Approximately 60% of 2004 domestic homicides of adults were perpetrated by a non-spouse family member (in 9 cases) or a boyfriend (in 9 cases). Spouses were responsible for nearly a quarter of all domestic homicides in 2004 (7 cases). This differed from the year prior when spouses accounted for one-third of domestic homicides, boyfriends for another one-third and non-spouse family members perpetrated 15% of the reported homicides.

Weapons Used: In 2004, 64% of perpetrators of domestic homicide of an adult used a firearm or knife to kill their victim. There was a significant decline in the use of firearms in domestic homicides compared to 2003. Firearms were used in 35% of the 2004 incidents compared to 56% of 2003 incidents. The use of knives was slightly higher in 2004, being used in 29% of the incidents (compared to 21% in 2003).

- **There were 14 children killed as a result of a domestic situation in 2004**, slightly down from 15 victims reported in 2003. Ten of the 14 victims were male. Eight victims were Caucasian children killed by a Caucasian offender. The remaining six victims were African American children killed by an African American offender.

Perpetrators: Domestic homicides of children were most often perpetrated by a parent (in 13 of 14 cases).

Weapons Used: In 2004, the most frequent method of domestic homicide of children was classified as “personal” meaning the perpetrator used his or her hands, feet, body, etc.

to kill their victim (5 cases) and asphyxiation (5 cases). A firearm was used in 1 case reported in 2004. This differed from 2003 reports. In 2003, a firearm was used in 5 cases, asphyxiation in 4 cases and only 2 cases involved “personal” weapons.

Age of Victims: In 2004, 11 of 14, or 78% of victims of child homicide involving a domestic situation were age three and younger. Nine of the fourteen victims were one-year-olds. In 2003, 11 of the 15 reported victims were age three and younger. Eight of the fifteen were age one or younger.

[Click here for Domestic Homicide Statistics](#)

- **The 2004 Domestic Abuse Incident Report Includes :**

[Victim/Offender Relationship, Ethnicity, Gender, & Age](#)

[Arrest Data: Law Enforcement Response](#)

[County Comparison by Population: Incidents & Arrests](#)

[Top Charges Issued Statewide & Milwaukee & Racine County](#)

[Disposition of Charges Report](#)

[Sentencing Report](#)

[Milwaukee County Special Report](#)

[Domestic Homicide Report](#)

[Dane County Referral and Charging Statistics](#)