



Crime in Oklahoma, 2014 Selected Findings

June 2015

Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted

The Oklahoma Uniform Crime Reporting Program collects data for law enforcement officers killed or assaulted in the line of duty.

According to reporting guidelines, assault on a law enforcement officer includes “any assault or death that occurred while the officer was working in an official capacity (on or off-duty), had full arrest powers, was wearing or carrying a badge and firearm, and was being paid from public funds is included.”

Assaults on law enforcement increased in 2014.

Oklahoma law enforcement agencies reported 804 assaults on officers, representing a 10.7% increase compared to 2013. There were no reports of officers killed in 2014.

In comparison, no officers were killed in the line of duty in 2013. In 2012, two officers were killed – one as a result of a felonious act and one as a result of an accident or negligent act.

The majority of assaults occurred at night.

Thirty-seven percent of officer assaults occurred from 6:01 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. The highest number of officer assaults (15%) occurred from 10:01 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., while the lowest number of assaults (1.9%) occurred from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

The majority of officers were assaulted while responding to a disturbance call.

Approximately 35% (280) of assaults occurred while the officer was reporting to a disturbance call, and 11% of officer assaults occurred during prison handling and/or transport.

Ten percent of assaults occurred during a traffic pursuit/stop, representing a 2.5% decrease compared to 2013.

The majority of officers were assaulted with personal weapons.

Seventy-five percent of officers were assaulted with personal weapons (hands, feet, fist), while 16% were assaulted with other dangerous weapons, and 5.2% with firearms. Officers assaulted with a knife or other cutting instrument increased 350% from the previous year.

Assault-related injuries increased in 2014.

Nineteen percent of officers sustained injuries during the assault, representing a 24% increase compared to 2013. In comparison, officer assaults resulted in 123 injuries in 2013 and 139 injuries in 2012.

Officer Assaults in Oklahoma, 2005-2014

