

## **SECTION D**

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

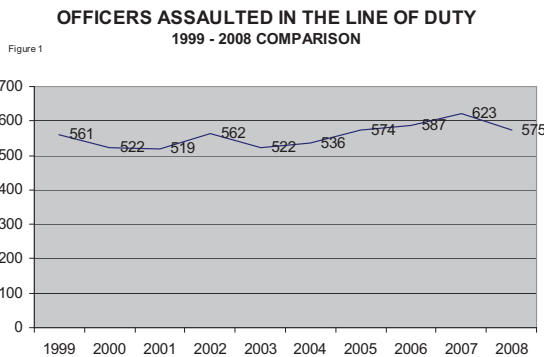
*the people that make up the organization*

## DIED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

2007 Sean Wissink, Des Moines PD  
 2003 Dennis McElderry, Davis Co S.O.  
 1998 Edward Halligan, Muscatine Co S.O.  
 1997 Gilbert Androy, Fremont Co S.O.  
 1993 Kipton Hayward, Polk Co S.O.  
 1993 Todd Stone, Clinton P.D.  
 1993 Phillip Heimbecker Sr., Woodbury Co S. O.  
 1993 Jon Hermann, Woodbury Co S.O.  
 1990 Allen Neiland, Iowa State Patrol



## IOWA OFFICERS ASSAULTED IN THE LINE OF DUTY



Caution should be used when analyzing this data. As with the crime data, it represents reports from law enforcement jurisdictions accounting for 96.7% of the total population of Iowa.

Over the last decade the number of Iowa law enforcement officers assaulted annually in the line of duty increased from 2003 through 2007. In 2008, 575 officers were reported as being assaulted, which equates to a 7.7% decrease from 2007. Over the past decade the lowest reported number of officer assaults occurred in 2001 (519) and the highest number in 2007 (623).

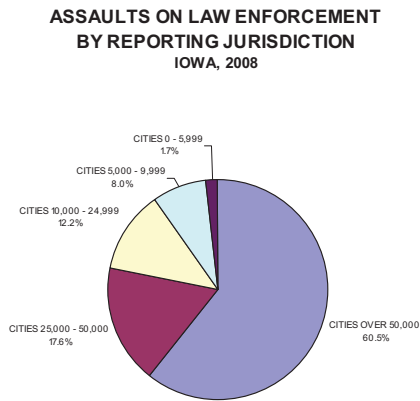
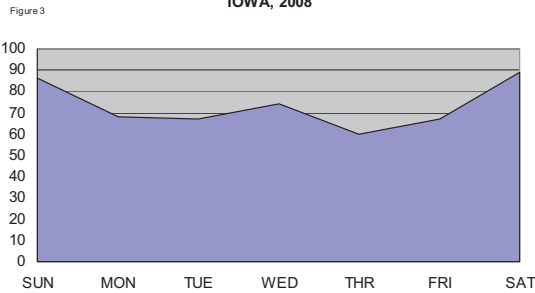


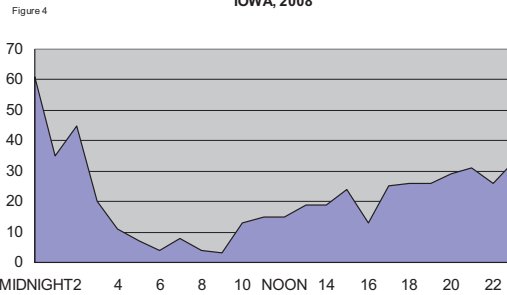
Figure 2

Assaults on law enforcement officers in the line of duty most often occurred in larger metropolitan areas of Iowa. Seventy-eight percent of the assaults were reported as occurring within suburban areas. Cities reporting a population less than 6,000 people reported the lowest number of assaults.

**INCIDENTS OF ASSAULT BY DAY  
IOWA, 2008**

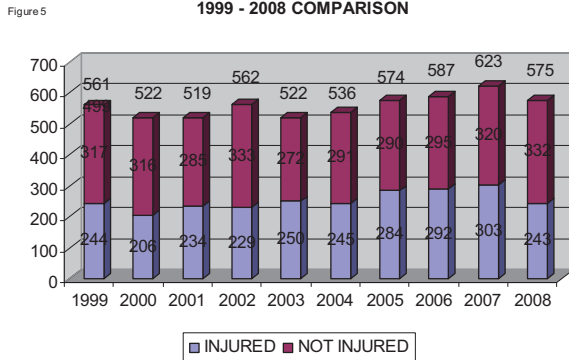


**INCIDENTS OF ASSAULT BY HOUR  
IOWA, 2008**



In 2008, officer assaults occurred most often on Saturdays (89) followed by Sunday (86). A peak number of assaults were also recorded on Wednesday. This matches the trend over the last decade that shows the majority of officer assaults occurring on the weekends with a lower peak on one of the midweek days. A time of day trend has also been identified over the last decade with the midnight hour being the most recorded assault time for each year. The highest percentage of assaults has occurred between the hours of 10:00 pm and 2:00 am. The lowest assault times have been recorded between 6:00 am and 8:00 am.

**OFFICERS INJURED DURING ASSAULT  
1999 - 2008 COMPARISON**



The percentage of assaults resulting in injuries to the officer peaked in 2006 accounting for 49.7% of the total assaults. Officers reported being injured from the assault more often during the second half of the decade (47%) compared with injured officers during the first five years (43%). In 2008, injuries to assaulted officers were reported in 42.3% of the assaults, which is a more than 6% decrease from 2007.

Activity	Injury	W/O Injury	Total	% of Tot.
Disturbance Call	94	120	214	37.3
Burglary in Progress	1	3	4	0.7
Robbery in Progress	0	1	1	0.2
Attempting Other Arrests	38	64	102	17.8
Civil Disorder	6	2	8	1.4
Handling or Transporting Prisoners	45	39	84	14.6
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	2	8	10	1.7
Ambush - No Warning	0	0	0	0.0
Mentally Deranged	6	9	15	2.6
Traffic Pursuits or Stops	12	28	40	7.0
All Other Circumstances	39	58	97	16.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>575</b>	

**OFFICER ASSAULTS BY WEAPON  
IOWA, 2008**

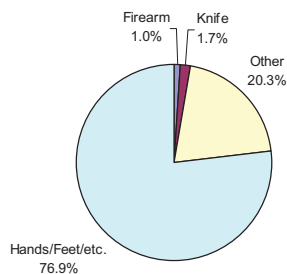


Figure 6

In 2008, the highest percentage of officer assaults were perpetrated when the officer responded on a disturbance call (37.2%) followed by officers assaulted while making an arrest on a separate charge (17.7%). In 2008, the offender used personal weapons such as hands and feet to assault the officer in 76.9% of the incidents. Weapons other than a firearm or knife were used 20.3% of the time. Injury resulted from an assault with personal weapons 45.7% of the time.

Activity	Firearm	Knife	Other	Hands/Feet/etc.	Total
Disturbance Call	1	0	35	178	214
Burglary in Progress	0	0	0	4	4
Robbery in Progress	0	0	0	1	1
Attempting Other Arrests	0	0	24	78	102
Civil Disorder	0	0	0	8	8
Handling or Transporting Prisoners	0	1	17	66	84
Investigating Suspicious Persons or Circumstances	2	2	0	6	10
Ambush - No Warning	0	0	0	0	0
Mentally Deranged	1	4	1	9	15
Traffic Pursuits or Stops	1	1	17	21	40
All Other Circumstances	1	2	23	71	97
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>575</b>

Officer assaults by assignment follow similar patterns from year to year. The majority of assaults occur among uniformed single officer cars and primarily when an assisting officer is present. In 2008, one officer cars accounted for 64% of the assaults compared with 63% in 2007. Uniformed officers accounted for 85% of the officers assaulted in 2008 compared with 80% in 2007.

National statistics indicate that the vast majority of police departments use one-officer cars. Recent research indicates that assaults of officers are closely related to resistance to police use of force, and that resistance may be greater for one-officer cars than for two officer cars.

Assignment	Total
<b>Two Officer Car</b>	<b>139</b>
Uniformed	135
Plain Clothes	4
<b>One Officer Car</b>	<b>368</b>
Uniformed - alone	127
Uniformed - assisted	226
Plain Clothes - alone	8
Plain Clothes - assisted	7
<b>Other</b>	<b>68</b>
Other - alone	15
Other - assisted	53
<b>Total</b>	<b>575</b>

# LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEES



The Program Services Bureau of the Department of Public Safety not only collects uniform crime reporting data, but also collects information on law enforcement civilian personnel as well as law enforcement officers. The information displayed below is from the 99 county sheriffs, the 3 state universities, 132 police departments and the Iowa Department of Public Safety.

Officers of the Iowa Department of Public Safety are in the Division of State Patrol, the Division of Criminal Investigation, the Division of Narcotics Enforcement and the Fire Marshal Division.

<b>Table 4 NUMBER OF FULL-TIME LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEES BY AGENCY</b>							
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2008							
AGENCY	MALE OFFICERS	FEMALE OFFICERS	TOTAL OFFICERS	MALE CIVILIANS	FEMALE CIVILIANS	TOTAL CIVILIANS	EMPLOYEE TOTAL
DEPT. OF PUBLIC SAFETY	625	44	669	136	178	314	983
POLICE DEPTS.	2,686	245	2,931	106	481	587	3,518
SHERIFFS DEPTS.	1,392	96	1,488	83	1,087	1,922	3,410
UNIV DPS	67	13	80	17	23	40	120
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,770</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>5,168</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>1,769</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>8,031</b>

**NUMBER OF REPORTED FULL-TIME OFFICERS  
2004 - 2008**

Figure 7

