



Crime in Oklahoma, 2018

Selected Findings

Sept 2019

Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted

The Oklahoma Uniform Crime Reporting Program collects data on 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.”

In 2018, Oklahoma law enforcement reported no officers were killed as a result of felonious act or as a result of an accident or negligence.

A total of 995 assaults on a law enforcement officer were reported in 2018; this is a 5.2% increase compared to the 946 assaults reported in 2017.

In 28.2% of the 995 assaults, law enforcement officers were responding to a Disturbance Call.

Additionally, 17.7% of assaults occurred when the law enforcement officers were handling or transporting a prisoner. Other activities related to assaults of law enforcement officers included: traffic pursuits and stops; investigating suspicious person or circumstance; and attempting other arrests.

The highest number (148) of assaults occurred between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 12:00 A.M.

Approximately half of assaults that occurred on a law enforcement officer occurred between 4:00 P.M. and 12:00 A.M.

The most common type of weapon (77.8%) used against a law enforcement officer were personal weapons (i.e. hands, fists, feet, etc.).

An “Other Dangerous Weapon” (i.e. blunt object, brass knuckles, etc.) was used in 13.9% of assaults; a knife/cutting instrument was used in 3.3%. Lastly, 5.0% of assaults against a law enforcement officer in 2018 involved a firearm.

Law enforcement officers were not injured in 75.3% of reported assaults, whereas officers did receive an injury in 24.7% of assaults. Officers who had an injury as a result of the assault increased 13.4% compared to 2017.

Law Enforcement Officer Assaults in Oklahoma, 2009-2018

