

Numbers Now....

Criminal Justice in Oklahoma

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October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence advocates, service providers, and survivors organize community events around the nation in October to increase awareness and honor victims of those killed by their abuser.

OSBI publishes statewide domestic violence statistics for Oklahoma. For reporting purposes, domestic violence is defined as “threatening, causing, or attempting to cause physical harm between family or household members.” Murders, sex crimes, and assaults are included in the annual report. According to the 2014 *Crime in Oklahoma* report:

- In 2014, 24,226 domestic violence incidents were reported to police, representing a 6.2% increase compared to 2013;
- The most common offense reported was assault and battery (85.2%), followed by sex crimes (3.3%);
- Domestic violence murders represented 21.3% of all murders reported in 2014; of those, 5.6% were intimate partner murders;
- Law enforcement responded to the most calls (1,584) between 8:01 and 9:00 p.m.;
- Reports of domestic violence were highest on Sundays, which has remained consistent over the years.

The *Crime in Oklahoma* report can be accessed at www.osbi.ok.gov

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Third Annual OSBI Victim Support Symposium will be held in Edmond

OSBI will host the Third Annual OSBI Victim Support Symposium at the OSBI Forensic Science Center in Edmond November 14, 2015. The Symposium provides victims of violent crime and their families with the opportunity to connect with others who have had similar experiences. Guests will learn about the criminal justice system in Oklahoma, and they will have the opportunity to visit with law enforcement, victim service providers, and prosecutorial staff. For more information about the symposium, please contact the OSBI Victim's Support Program at (405) 715-9579.

Family Justice Center Community Forum Held in OKC

Nikki Lofftus, Statistical Research Specialist

Last month, officials from the San Diego Family Justice Center hosted a forum to educate officials and the public about plans to build a Family Justice Center in Oklahoma City. Family Justice Centers serve victims of domestic violence by offering comprehensive services, including counseling, legal assistance, medical services, and childcare in one building.

Since opening the Family Justice Center in 2007, San Diego has experienced a 95% reduction in domestic violence homicides. In contrast, Oklahoma has one of the highest domestic violence rates in the Nation. Officials and community leaders hope opening a Family Justice Center in Oklahoma City will provide victims with access to programs and services. For more information about Family Justice Centers, please visit: <http://www.familyjusticecenter.org/the-family-justice-center-approach.html>

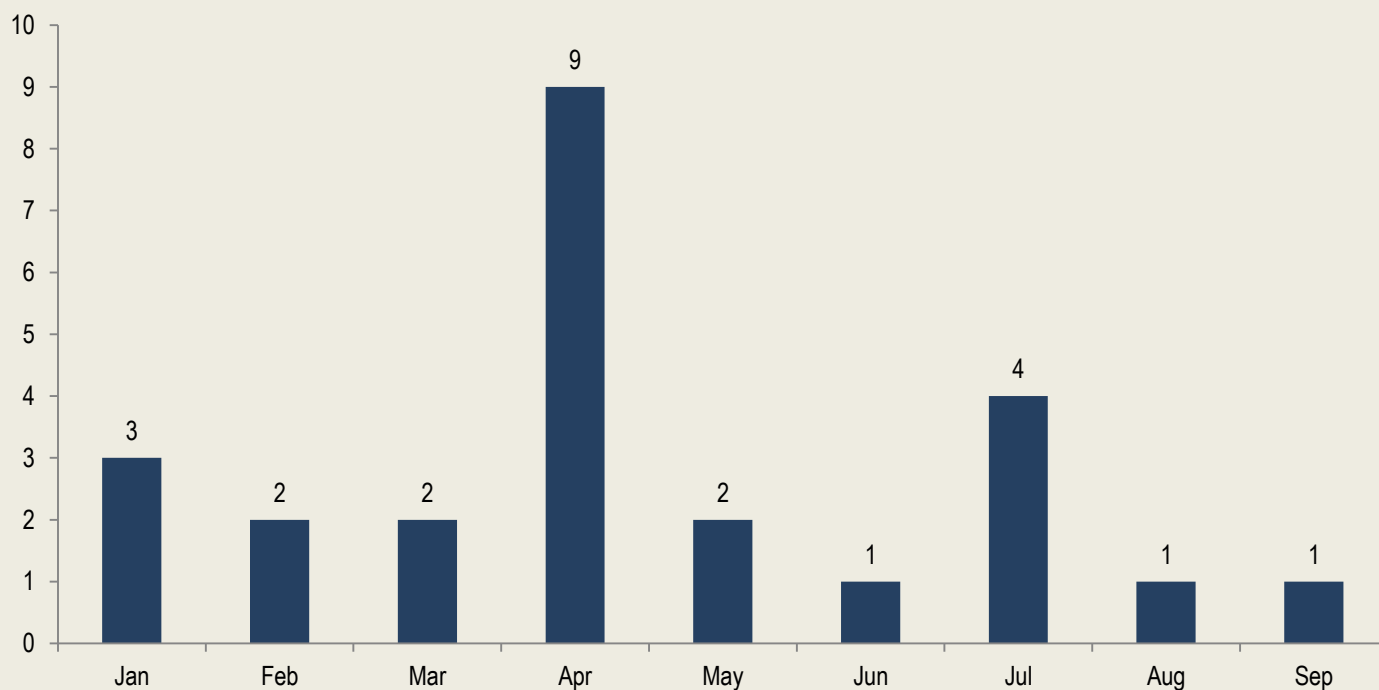
The Oklahoma Lethality Assessment: One Year Later

John Flores-Hidones, Statistical Research Specialist

November 1, 2014, Oklahoma became the first state to enact legislation requiring law enforcement to administer a lethality screening when responding to domestic violence calls. Based on Dr. Jacqueline Campbell's Danger Assessment, the Oklahoma lethality assessment is an 11 question instrument designed to assess the likelihood of lethality. Based on the victim's responses, the officer may activate a safety protocol.

The law was enacted less than a year ago. What impact, if any, has the law had on domestic violence in Oklahoma? A preliminary analysis of statewide reports of domestic violence show a 2.3% decrease in the number of reports made to law enforcement. Domestic violence murders have increased 24%; however, reports of sex crimes and assaults have decreased (9.7% and 2.6% respectively).

Fatal Officer-Involved Shootings in Oklahoma, 2015: By the Numbers



Oklahoma SAC Staff Attends National Forum on Criminal Justice

Meredith Mouser, Statistical Research Specialist

In August, SAC staff attended the annual National Forum on Criminal Justice in Atlanta, Georgia. Hosted by the National Criminal Justice Association, the Justice Research and Statistics Association, and the Integrated Justice Information Systems Institute, the forum focused on integrating research, technology, and policy to improve public safety. Jeremy Travis, President of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, opened the forum with a presentation about mass incarceration in the United States. Georgia Governor Nathan Deal also spoke about criminal and juvenile justice reform that has been initiated during his time as governor. SAC staff also attended various workshop sessions during the forum. These sessions included, “Embedding Evidence in Criminal Justice Policy and Planning,” “The Justice Reinvestment Initiative: Research Guiding Policy,” “Analyzing Prescription Drug Abuse Trends and Responses through Information Sharing,” “Increasing Public Safety through Neighborhood Revitalization,” and “Assessing the Impact of Marijuana Legalization on Public Safety and Public Health.”

Mission

To collect, analyze, and disseminate criminal justice research to educate and assist law enforcement and the citizens of Oklahoma.