South Carolina Victims of Domestic Violence In 1999

October 2000

Prepared by:
Rob McManus
Coordinator of Planning and Research
Office of Justice Programs
SC Department of Public Safety

Table of Contents

Introduction 3

Methodology 3

Findings
- Domestic and Other Violence by Offense Category 4
- Relationship of Domestic Violence Victims to Offenders 4
- Domestic Violence Victims by Relationship to Offender and Sex 5
- Domestic Violence Victims by Race and Sex 6
- Domestic Violence Victims by Age Group 6
- Domestic Violence Rate per 10,000 by County ..... 7 & 8
- Weapons Used Against Victims of Domestic Violence 8
- Location of Domestic Violence 9
- Domestic Violence In Marriage 9
  - Domestic Violence Victims In Marriage by Race and Sex ..... 9 & 10
  - Domestic Violence Victims In Marriage by Age Group 10
  - Location of Domestic Violence In Marriage 10
- Domestic Violence In Romantic Relationships ..... 10 & 11
  - Domestic Violence In Romantic Relationships by Race and Sex 11
  - Domestic Violence Victims in Romantic Relationships by Age Group 12
  - Location of Domestic Violence in Romantic Relationships 12
- Domestic Violence In Families (Non-spousal) 12
  - Domestic Violence Among Family Members 13
  - Family Domestic Violence Victims by Race and Sex 13
  - Domestic Violence Victims in Families by Age Group ..... 13 & 14
  - Location of Domestic Violence Among Family Members 14
- Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders 14
  - Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Sex ..... 14 & 15
  - Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age 15
  - Married Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age 15
  - Romantically Linked Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age 16
  - Family Related Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age 16

Summary 17

Appendix A ..... 18 & 19

Appendix B 20

South Carolina Victims of Domestic Violence in 1999

The following represents an overview of victims of domestic violence as taken from the South Carolina Incident Based Reporting System (SCIBRS) in 1999. These data are collected and maintained by the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED), and were made available to the South Carolina Department of Public Safety for the specific purpose of providing the Governor's Task Force on Domestic Violence with information relevant to an understanding of this serious problem. It is worth noting that South Carolina is in an unusually advantageous position to provide this level of information, being one of only three states that has 100% law enforcement participation with statewide data meeting the FBI's standards for the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Nonetheless, domestic violence is a complex phenomenon, one which defies simple explanation and certainly requires more than a statistical overview to achieve a serious understanding of it as a social problem.

Methodology

Incident reports are taken by law enforcement officers whenever a criminal incident comes to their attention. These reports contain much of the basic information pertaining to the incident, information concerning who was victimized, what if any weapons were involved, what sort of offense took place as well as other information. These reports are forwarded to SLED for entry into the SCIBRS data set. SCIBRS data for calendar year 1999 provided the basis for this analysis. Data were taken from the victim segment of the record and linked to the offense segment as needed to provide information required for analysis. Links were made on the basis of case numbers. This particular analysis is based on data from the 1999 end of year file tape, a file which consists of all incidents as they were reported to SLED by the cutoff date for data entry. Since SLED maintains a two-year window for updates, edits and corrections, this file will be replaced next year by a file which will contain any such actions that occur during 2000.

For the purpose of this analysis, a broad definition of violence has been employed. The operational definition of violence includes the following offenses: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with an object, forcible fondling, simple assault, intimidation, incest and statutory rape. Similarly, a broad definition of domestic has been used for this analysis. Domestic has been operationally defined to include spouses, common law spouses, parents, siblings, children, grandparents, grandchildren, in-laws, stepparents, stepchildren, stepsiblings, other family members, boyfriends and girlfriends, children of a boyfriend or girlfriend, babysittees (a child who is being cared for by a baby sitter) homosexual relations and ex-spouses.

It is important to understand that there are limitations to the SCIBRS data set. First, SCIBRS does not have any means of identifying individuals therefore at present, these data cannot be linked to other data sets which might provide information beyond that collected on the incident report. Second, SCIBRS can only provide information concerning reported events. It is reasonable to believe that a significant portion of domestic violence may not be reported.

Findings

In 1999, there were 128,897 reported victims of violence as defined for the purpose of this study. Of that total, 53,725, or 41.7% met the operational definition of domestic. Simple assault was the most commonly reported crime and domestic violence victims made up a majority (51.8%) of simple assault victims in 1999.

Domestic and Other Violence by Offense Category

Offense	Domestic		Not Domestic		Total
	N	Pct.	N	Pct.	N
Murder	81	28.7	201	71.3	282
Rape	450	26.8	1,226	73.2	1,676
Forcible Sodomy	218	39.3	337	60.7	555
Sexual Assault w Object	108	47.6	125	52.4	227
Robbery	137	1.9	7,261	98.1	7,398
Aggravated Assault	9,846	38.2	15,945	61.8	25,791
Simple Assault	35,769	51.8	33,251	48.2	69,020
Intimidation	6,508	32.0	13,816	68.0	20,324
Incest	10	100.0	0	0	10
Statutory Rape	139	27.8	361	72.2	500

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Domestic victims constituted a majority of victims only among simple assault and incest victims. However, they accounted for 25% or more among every victimization category other than robbery.

The single most frequently occurring victim/offender relationship among domestic violence victims was boyfriend/girlfriend. This category contained 28.4% of all domestic violence victims. It is important to note that this category includes relationships that range from short term casual ones to long term romantic relationships. However, the combined total of the spouse and common law spouse categories accounted for 37.8% of domestic violence victims. The least frequently occurring category was stepsibling, which accounted for .1% of domestic violence victims.

Relationship of Domestic Violence Victims to Offenders

Victim to Offender Relationship	Number	Pct.
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	15,236	28.4
Spouse	14,977	27.9
Common law spouse	5,311	9.9

Victim to Offender Relationship	Number	Pct.
Sibling	3,775	7.0
Parent	3,536	6.6
Other family member	3,257	6.1
Child	3,098	5.8
Ex-spouse	1,285	2.4
In-law	1,155	2.1
Stepchild	701	1.3
Stepparent	538	1.0
Grandparent	231	0.4
Child of boy/girlfriend	217	0.4
Grandchild	186	0.3
Homosexual Relation	117	0.2
Stepsibling	74	0.1
Babysittee	31	0.1

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Family relationships (family, marriage and common law relations) accounted for 68.5% of domestic violence victims.

Victims of domestic violence were more often female than male, with females accounting for 74.9% of domestic violence victims. The distribution of domestic violence victims by sex varied depending upon the victim/offender relationship. When the victim and offender were linked by marriage (spouse or common-law spouse), the victim distribution was 81.1% female and 18.9% male. Similarly, when the victim and offender were linked by a romantic relationship (boyfriend/girlfriend or homosexual relation), the distribution of victims by sex was 83.9% female and 16.1% male. However, when the victim and offender were linked by a non-spousal family relationship (children, in-laws, grandparents, etc.), the distribution of victims by sex was 58.7% female and 41.3% male. Among other domestic violence victims (ex-spouses, children of boyfriend or girlfriend and babysittees), the distribution by sex was 77.6% female and 22.4% male.

Domestic Violence Victims by Relationship to Offender and Sex

	Female		Male	
Relationship	Number	Pct.	Number	Pct.
Marriage	16,451	81.1	3,831	18.9
Romantic	12,886	83.9	2,467	16.1
Family	9,708	58.7	6,835	41.3
Other	1,189	77.6	343	22.4
Total	40,234	74.9	13,476	25.1

Note: There were 15 cases where sex was unknown.
Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Victims of domestic violence were more often white (50.6%) than any other racial category. Blacks accounted for 49.0% of domestic violence victims. Asians, American Indians and persons of unknown race together accounted for 0.4% of domestic violence victims. Consequently, for the purpose of this analysis, the racial categories were collapsed into white and non-white.

Domestic Violence Victims by Race and Sex

Race/Sex	Number	Pct.
White female	20,222	37.7
Non-white female	19,982	37.2
White male	6,936	12.9
Non-white male	6,517	12.1

Note: There were 68 cases in which either race or sex was reported as unknown.
Source: SCIBRS, SLED

It is important to note that although white domestic violence victims outnumber non-white domestic violence victims, the white population in South Carolina is approximately twice the size of the non-white population. Ethnicity, defined within SCIBRS as Hispanic or non-Hispanic, was not a significant factor. Only 337 (0.6%) victims of domestic violence were reported to be Hispanic.

Victims of domestic violence were more often young and middle-aged adults. The single largest age group of domestic violence victims was the age 26 to 34 group which accounted for 30.4%.

Domestic Violence Victims by Age Group

Age	Number	Pct.
0 to 12	2,323	4.3
13 to 17	3,794	7.1
18 to 24	11,429	21.4
25 to 34	16,251	30.4
35 to 44	12,821	24.0
45 to 54	4,527	8.5
55 to 64	1,366	2.6
65 and older	919	1.7

Note: 295 cases missing age data
Source: SCIBRS, SLED

The statewide domestic violence rate was 138.3 victims of domestic violence per 10,000 unit of population. Greenwood County had the highest rate of reported domestic violence among South Carolina counties, while Williamsburg County had the lowest rate of reported domestic violence. The domestic violence rate was determined by dividing the number of domestic violence victims by the county population and multiplying the product by 10,000.

Domestic Violence Rate per 10,000 by County

County	Rate per 10,000
Greenwood	275.8
Fairfield	262.8
Colleton	240.6
Marlboro	215.9
Horry	211.6
Orangeburg	207.3
Jasper	183.1
Chester	179.4
Dillon	178.1
Spartanburg	172.0
Laurens	171.1
Georgetown	163.0
Edgefield	163.0
Anderson	162.6
Abbeville	161.1
Lancaster	155.9
York	154.8
Florence	150.6
Beaufort	149.2
Dorchester	147.8
Lee	147.8
Barnwell	143.6
Cherokee	143.1
Charleston	142.7
Marion	142.0
Berkeley	137.7
Calhoun	131.7
Chesterfield	127.0
Darlington	126.5
Clarendon	119.4
Lexington	111.1
Hampton	111.0
McCormick	106.3
Aiken	105.2

County	Rate per 10,000
Allendale	104.4
Richland	101.0
Saluda	97.1
Kershaw	97.0
Pickens	94.4
Greenville	93.7
Newberry	92.2
Oconee	89.9
Bamberg	84.0
Sumter	77.2
Union	60.2
Williamsburg	45.1

Sources: SCIBRS, SLED; Office of Research and Statistics

The most commonly reported weapon category employed in domestic violence was the category personal weapons, i.e., hands, feet, fists, elbows, etc., accounting for 67.7% of all weapons. Deadly weapons were used relatively infrequently in domestic violence. However, among Part I Index violent offenses (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) deadly weapons were reported more often.

Weapons Used Against Victims of Domestic Violence

Weapon	Number	Pct.
Firearms	1,587	3.0
Knife	2,824	5.3
Blunt Object	1,879	3.5
Motor Vehicle	500	.9
Personal Weapons	36,365	67.7
Other	3,055	5.7
Unknown	6,831	12.7
None	684	1.3

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

It is important to note that use of a weapon can also mean that the weapon was used to threaten as well as to harm the victim. Therefore a firearm might be reported without the weapon being discharged or fired.

The most commonly reported location of domestic violence was at a residence or home (80.1%) followed by apartments or condominiums.

Location of Domestic Violence

Location	Number	Pct.
Residence/Home	43,035	80.1
Apt. or condo	3,575	6.7
Highway, road, etc.	2,775	5.2
Office bldg.	796	1.5
Bar/night club	398	0.7
All other locations	3,146	5.9

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Domestic Violence In Marriage

The combined category of spouses and common-law spouses (N=20,282) accounted for 37.8% of domestic violence victims in 1999. The most commonly reported offense was simple assault.

Domestic Violence In Marriage

Offense	Number	Pct.
Murder	22	0.1
Rape	95	0.5
Forcible Sodomy	12	0.1
Sex Assault W Object	8	<0.1
Forcible Fondling	8	<0.1
Robbery	18	<0.1
Aggravated Assault	3,463	17.1
Simple Assault	14,414	71.0
Intimidation	2,247	11.1
Statutory Rape	1	<0.1

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Among spouses, victims of domestic violence were more often white females, followed by non-white females, white males and non-white males.

Domestic Violence Victims in Marriage by Race and Sex

Race/Sex	Number	Pct.
White female	9,512	46.9
Non-white female	6,972	34.1
White male	2,182	10.8

Race/Sex	Number	Pct.
Non-white male	1,644	8.1
Unknown	23	.1

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

The median age among domestic violence victims in marriage was 32.5 years old and the mean age was 33.7 years old. Nearly 69% of the victims of domestic violence in marriage were in the 25 to 44 year old range.

Domestic Violence Victims in Marriage by Age Group

Age Group	Number	Pct.
Infant to 12	8	<0.1
13 to 17	160	0.8
18 to 24	3,480	17.2
25 to 34	7,883	38.9
35 to 44	6,072	29.9
45 to 54	1,933	9.6
65 and older	212	1.0

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Similar to the overall pattern within domestic violence, domestic violence within marriage occurred primarily within the residence.

Location of Domestic Violence In Marriage

Location	Number	Pct.
Residence/Home	16,994	83.4
Apt. or condo	1,074	5.3
Highway, road, etc.	873	4.3
Office bldg.	246	1.2
Hotel or motel	212	1.0
All other	939	4.6

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Domestic Violence In Romantic Relationships

Romantic relationships were defined as victims to offender relationship of boyfriend or girlfriend, or as a homosexual relationship. It is important to note once again that this categorization would include romantic relationships of a short-term nature as well as long

term relationships. Romantic relationships accounted for 15,353 (28.6%) of the domestic violence victims.

Simple assault was the most commonly reported offense (68.5%) between romantic partners followed by aggravated assault (18.1%).

Domestic Violence In Romantic Relationships

Offenses	Number	Pct.
Murder	24	0.2
Rape	110	0.7
Forcible Sodomy	20	0.1
Sexual Assault w Object	8	0.1
Forcible Fondling	15	0.1
Robbery	67	0.4
Aggravated Assault	2,774	18.1
Simple Assault	10,517	68.5
Intimidation	1,714	11.2
Statutory rape	104	0.7

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Domestic Violence victimization between romantic partners was reported most often among non-white females, followed by white females, non-white males and white males. Females accounted for 83.9% of domestic violence victims within romantic relationships.

Domestic Violence Victims In Romantic Relationships by Race and Sex

Race/Sex	Number	Pct.
Non-white female	7,822	50.9
White female	5,055	32.9
Non-white male	1,458	9.5
White male	1,003	6.5
Unknown	15	0.1

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Victims of domestic violence in romantic relationships were somewhat younger than victims of domestic violence in marriage. The median age was 26.5 years old and the mean age was 29 years old. Approximately 68% of victims of domestic violence in romantic relationships were in the 18 to 34 year old range.

Domestic Violence Victims in Romantic Relationships by Age Group

Age Group	Number	Pct.
Infant to 12	11	0.1
13 to 17	807	5.3
18 to 24	5,212	34.2
25 to 34	5,194	34.0
35 to 44	3,053	20.0
45 to 54	800	5.2
55 to 64	113	0.7
65 and older	66	0.4

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

The location of domestic violence in romantic relationships was somewhat more varied than within marriage. Home or residence was the most commonly reported location, accounting for 69.9% of the locations. However, apartments or condominiums, highways, roads or alleys, office buildings, hotels/motels, parking lots and bars/night clubs were also locations that were reported.

Location of Domestic Violence in Romantic Relationships

Location	Number	Pct.
Residence/Home	10,734	69.9
Apt. or condo	1,697	11.1
Highway, road, etc.	1,181	7.7
Office bldg.	324	2.1
Hotel or motel	294	1.9
Parking lot	241	1.6
Bar/night club	183	1.2
All other locations	699	4.6

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Domestic Violence In Families (Non-spousal)

Domestic violence within families was defined as violence where the victim was a child, stepchild, parent, stepparent, sibling, stepsibling, grandparents, grandchildren, in-laws or other family members. Domestic violence within families accounted for 30.8% of all reported domestic violence. Simple assault was the most commonly reported offense, accounting for 61.1% of domestic violence victims among family members.

Domestic Violence Among Family Members

Offense	Number	Pct.
Murder	31	0.2
Rape	220	1.3
Forcible Sodomy	174	1.1
Sexual Assault w Object	88	0.5
Forcible Fondling	405	2.4
Robbery	47	0.3
Aggravated Assault	3,417	20.6
Simple Assault	10,107	61.1
Intimidation	2,020	12.2
Incest	10	0.1
Statutory Rape	32	0.2

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

White females were the most commonly reported victims of domestic violence within the family followed by non-white females, white males and non-white males. However it is noteworthy that the distribution by sex (58.6% female and 41.3% male) marks a departure from the distribution of sex among victims of domestic violence in both marriage and romantic relationships.

Family Domestic Violence Victims by Race and Sex

Race/Sex	Number	Pct.
White female	4,853	29.3
Non-white female	4,846	29.3
White male	3,520	21.3
Non-white male	3,303	20.0
Unknown	29	0.2

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

The median age of victims of domestic violence within the family was 27.5 years; the mean age was 17.2 years. The distribution of ages was not concentrated in any one or two age groupings, as was the case with victims in marriage or romantic relationships.

Domestic Violence Victims in Families by Age Group

Age Group	Number	Pct.
Infant to 12	2,184	13.3
13 o 17	2,755	16.7

Age Group	Number	Pct.
18 to 24	2,554	15.5
25 to 34	2,565	15.6
35 to 44	3,303	20.0
45 to 54	1,676	10.2
55 to 64	813	4.9
65 and older	632	3.8

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Victimization among family members was reported most often in the home or residence, accounting for 85.9% of the total. Apartments or condominiums were the second most commonly reported location, accounting for 4.3% of all locations.

Location of Domestic Violence Among Family Members

Location	Number	Pct.
Residence/Home	14,220	85.9
Apt. or condo	716	4.3
Highway, road, etc.	642	3.9
Office bldg.	170	1.0
All other	803	4.9

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders

A comparison of domestic violence victims to offenders was conducted to determine age differences and the degree to which domestic violence occurred between and within sex groups. It is important to note that since this analysis was done on the basis of an non-hierarchical count of offenders, the totals will vary from the victim count.

Most domestic violence (88.6%) was inter-sexual, i.e., domestic violence victims and the associated domestic violence offenders were of opposite sexes. Males victimizing females constituted the largest portion of domestic violence (74.4%), followed by females victimizing males (14.2%), females victimizing females (6.0%) and males victimizing males (5.3%).

Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Sex

	Victim's Sex	
Offender's Sex	Female	Male
Female	1,051 (6.0%)	2,478 (14.2%)

	Victim's Sex	
Offender's Sex	**Female**	**Male**
Male	12,965 (74.4%)	920 (5.3%)

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Domestic violence offenders were older than victims. The mean age of domestic violence offenders was 35.1 years old, the median age was 34 years old. The mean age of domestic violence victims was 33.8, the median age was 33 years old. The mean age difference was 1.3 years, in favor of offenders.

Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age

	Mean	Median
Offenders	35.1	34
Victims	33.8	33

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Among spouses (spouse and common-law spouses) domestic violence offenders were older than victims. The mean age of domestic violence offenders within a married relationship was 35.1 years old and the median age was 34 years old. The mean age of domestic violence victims within a married relationship was 33.8 years old and the median age was 33 years old. The mean age difference was 1.3 years, in favor of offenders.

Married Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age

	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.
Offenders	35.1	34	11.2
Victim	33.8	33	10.1

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Among romantically linked (boyfriend/girlfriend and homosexual relations) domestic violence offenders were older than domestic violence victims. The mean age of domestic violence offenders within a romantic relationship was 30.1 years old and the median age was 28 years old. The mean age of domestic violence victims within a romantic relationship was 29.0 years old and the median age was 27 years old. The mean age difference was 1.3 years, in favor of offenders.

Romantically Linked Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age

	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.
Offenders	30.1	28	10.5
Victims	29.0	27	9.8

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Among family members, not including spouses or common-law spouses, domestic violence offenders were older than domestic violence victims. The mean age of domestic violence offenders within family relationships was 30.2 years of age and the median age was 29 years old. The mean age of domestic violence victims within a family relationship was 29.2 years old and the median age was 26 years old. The mean age difference was .9 years, in favor of offenders. It is important to note that within the family member grouping, although the mean age difference was smaller than within married or romantic relationships, the age distribution for both domestic violence victims and domestic violence victims was more widely disbursed. This is reflected in the comparatively larger standard deviations, as compared to romantic and married relationships, for both domestic violence victims and offenders.

Family Related Domestic Violence Victims and Offenders by Age

	Mean	Median	Std. Dev.
Offenders	30.2	29	13.4
Victims	29.2	26	16.7

Source: SCIBRS, SLED

Summary

The SCIBRS data provide a very useful snapshot of domestic violence over a single year, and provide a level of understanding that would otherwise be lacking. The data reveal that within domestic violence victims there are primarily three groups: spouses, romantic partners and family members. These groups vary in several important ways. Spouses and romantic partners who fall prey to domestic violence tend to be overwhelmingly female as opposed to victims of domestic violence with family relationships who are more evenly distributed by sex (although there too there was a clear majority of female victims). Domestic violence victims who were involved in romantic relationships were younger than spouses, while victimized family members were younger still.

Domestic violence victims were more often female than male, although as noted earlier the strength of that relationship varies among victim to offender relationship categories. Domestic violence victims were evenly distributed by race, however that implies a disproportionate number of minority victims given the overall racial distribution within the state (approximately 2:1 of white to non-white). Ethnicity does not appear to be a factor with so few Hispanic victims being reported. Victimization occurred primarily, perhaps as might reasonably be expected, in the home. Deadly weapons were involved in many domestic violence victimizations and with deadly consequences. However, by definition, with simple assaults accounting for two thirds of domestic violence victimizations, the preponderance of victimizations involved personal weapons such as hands, fists and feet.

Although SCIBRS data constitutes a very useful and rich source of information concerning domestic violence, at best it only provides a surface view of a much deeper problem. The findings raise a number of more pressing questions that cannot be answered with these data. Does domestic violence in South Carolina represent an escalating continuum of events, or is it largely a number of one time flash-point incidents ranging in intensity from low level assaults to homicide? Do these victimizations represent a large number of individuals, or are they serial victims being subjected to violence time and time again? What arrest policies are being followed by local law enforcement agencies, do they deter future violence and do they have a confounding impact upon the data? Do arrests lead to convictions and if so what sanctions are being imposed? Are those convicted of domestic violence being treated and or deterred from future violence, or does this pattern continue? Some of these questions might be answered on the basis of case studies, reviewing both incident reports and case file information from criminal justice and social service agencies that have contact with domestic violence victims or domestic violence offenders. There are also implications for future research could best be addressed by the use of other data sources such as emergency room admission data, health risk survey data or victimization survey data. More focused analysis of SCIBRS data might also augment any additional research efforts.

Appendix A

Criminal Offense Definitions

Aggravated Assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness. This also includes assault with disease (as in cases when the offender is aware that he/she is infected with a deadly disease and deliberately attempts to inflict the disease by biting, spitting, etc.).

Forcible Fondling: The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against that person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Forcible Sodomy: Oral or anal sexual intercourse with another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Incest: Non-forcible sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.

Intimidation: To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to actual physical attack.

Murder: The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Rape: The carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity. (This does not include statutory rape.)

Robbery: The taking, or attempting to take, anything of value under confrontational circumstance from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm.

Simple Assault: An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration, or loss of consciousness.

Sexual Assault with an Object: To use an object or instrument to unlawfully penetrate, however slightly, the genital or anal opening of the body of another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

Statutory Rape: Non-forcible sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

(FBI, 1996)

Appendix B

Overview of the Data Source

The SCIBRS data set consists of the compilation of incident reports forwarded to SLED by local law enforcement agencies throughout the state. Whenever a criminal incident is reported to law enforcement, the responding officer fills out a Uniform Incident Report that is forwarded to SLED. The information in SCIBRS is drawn from this report. SCIBRS is fully compliant with the FBI's NIBRS requirements and has additional data elements as well that SLED has determined would provide useful information. Participation in NIBRS among South Carolina's law enforcement agencies has been virtually 100% since 1991, with the exception of the final quarter of 1995. Law enforcement agencies that do not report directly to SLED, report through other local law enforcement agencies, usually the Sheriff's Department of that county. For the most part, SLED receives paper incident reports and enters the data, determining the offense classification based on a review of the narrative describing the incident. For law enforcement agencies that have been certified to transmit their data electronically to SLED, the offense classification is made at the local level. Part of the certification process involves training to make reliable offense classifications. These classifications conform to NIBRS standards, and unfortunately, cannot be made to correspond to state offenses such as criminal domestic violence. The SCIBRS data are maintained in annual files, created after the previous year's data have been received and entered. However, SLED keeps each file open for an additional year to enable it to receive edits, additions, deletions and other corrections. As a result, there are two types of annual files: year end files which are the first version of the annual file, and purge files which are the final, corrected version of that file. This analysis accessed the end of year file for 1999. This file will be updated sometime during 2001 and many, if not all, of the totals will change.