

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
FAMILY VIOLENCE ARREST
INCIDENTS, 2003-2004
Annual Report



May, 2007

CONNECTICUT STATISTICAL
ANALYSIS CENTER
Central Connecticut State University

DESCRIPTION OF THE CONNECTICUT STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER

The Connecticut Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) is a Bureau of Justice Statistics funded collaborative venture between the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division at the Office of Policy and Management and the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Central Connecticut State University. The SAC functions as a clearing house for justice related information and, serves as a liaison in assisting the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the Justice Research Association (JRSA) in gathering state data and conducting policy and evaluation research.

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PRIOR CONNECTICUT FAMILY VIOLENCE REPORTS

Family Violence in Connecticut. Collected Abstracts of Evaluation and Research Relating to the Family Violence Prevention and Response Act. (1993) Office of Policy and Management Statistical Analysis Center.

Summary of Family Violence Arrest Incidents in Connecticut, (1987-1997 & 1992-2002) Office of Policy and Management Statistical Analysis Center.

Family Violence Arrests, Annual Report. (1999, 2000, 2002). Connecticut Department of Public Safety Crimes Analysis Unit.

Family Violence Homicides in Connecticut. (2000, 2001, 2002). State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes data on family violence arrests from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004 collected from the Family Violence Arrest Reports. It focuses on distinctions between types of family violence and dual versus non-dual arrest. For the purpose of this report Intimate Partner Violence is defined as victims and offenders or dual arrestees who are spouses, former spouses, persons who are presently living together or who have lived together, persons who ever had a child together, and persons in or recently in a dating relationship. Arrest incidents between other family members are considered Other Family Violence. An incident is termed a dual arrest if all parties involved were arrested (even if there were more than two people arrested).

Statistical Highlights

- In 2003 there were a total of 20,428 family violence arrest incidents reported. In 2004 the reported number of family violence arrest incidents dropped to 20,319.
- The dual arrest rate in 2003 was 22.1% and 20.9% in 2004.
- Women far outnumbered men as victims, especially for intimate partner violence.
- Women were more likely to be a victim of intimate partner violence, and men were more likely to be a victim of family violence.
- The largest category of individuals involved in family violence arrest incidents were persons who lived or are living together, or who have a child together.
- The use of dangerous weapons such as a gun or a knife was relatively uncommon compared to incidents involving hands, fists, feet, and other body parts.
- Family violence arrests were greater during the summer months and peaked in the evening.

Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence, Similarities and Differences.

Similarities

- Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence had similar rates of dual arrest
- In both types of family violence, offenders were more likely to be males and victims were more likely to be females.

Differences

- Other Family Violence was more likely to involve children. Children were present or involved in one-third to over half of all family violence incidents, exposing thousands of children to family violence each year.
- Intimate Partner Violence incidents were considerably more likely to involve a prior court order.

Dual arrests are distinct in important ways.

- Unlike the patterns for offenders and victims, dual arrestees were evenly split between males and females.
- Dual arrest incidents were considerably more likely than non-dual arrest incidents to involve minor injury as opposed to no injury. This is likely because dual arrest incidents were more likely to involve the use of hands, fists, feet, and other body parts as a weapon.

Family Violence Arrests in Connecticut

This is a summary report of family violence arrests made in Connecticut from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2004. The data for this report is taken from the Family Violence Offense Reports sent to the Crimes Analysis Unit of the Department of Public Safety. These reports are filed for every family violence arrest made, pursuant to the requirements of the Family Violence Prevention and Response Act of 1986. The Act and later amendments utilize an inclusive definition of family violence. The categories of the relationship of the victim to the offender or of arrestees to each other include spouses; former spouses; other relatives residing in the home; other relatives not residing in the home; persons who currently or formerly lived together or ever had a child together; and persons currently or recently in a dating relationship. A copy of the reporting form is included as Appendix A.

The most recent Summary of Family Violence Arrest Incidents in Connecticut, published in 2004, focused on trends from the period of 1992 through 2002. Information from that report and a presentation made at the Connecticut Domestic Violence conference in May of 2005 highlighted that although family violence arrests have increased slowly over time (starting in 1987 through 2002) arrests for family violence homicides and serious injuries have declined considerably. Arrests for domestic violence declined substantially through 1999. The increase in arrests after 1999 is due completely to the inclusion of dating relationships as domestic violence incidents. Questions at that conference and ongoing discussions throughout the state have raised the issue that some categories need to be examined in more detail to look for differences between types of family violence cases. For example, there is a concern that domestic violence cases (referred to as intimate partner violence in this report) may be distinct from other types of family violence in important ways. Being aware of differences between types of family violence cases would be helpful in creating more effective interventions for victims and offenders. To that end, this report focuses on examining distinctions between types of family violence arrest incidents: intimate partner violence versus other family violence, dual arrests versus non-dual arrests, and different social relationships between individuals involved in family violence arrest incidents.

Arrest Incidents

For the purposes of this report, an incident is considered to be Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) if it involved any current or former spouses, current or recent dating partners, people currently or formerly living together, or people who have a child together.¹ Incidents that did not involve any people in the former categories and involved relatives who do and do not live together are referred to as Other Family Violence (OFV), and would include cases such as physical child abuse. Please note that one arrest incident can include multiple arrests. For example, a dual arrest of a husband and wife is one arrest incident that included two arrests. For purposes of this report, any time that all parties involved in an incident are arrested, it is referred to as a dual arrest, even if more than two people were arrested. Over 95 percent of dual arrest cases in Connecticut in 2003 and 2004 involved only two individuals. Definitions and details of abbreviations used throughout this report can be found in Appendix B.

¹ The category of people currently or formerly living together is included as intimate partner violence in keeping with past reports. Examination of family violence arrest reports by the Department of Public Safety Crimes Analysis Unit supports that the bulk of the incidents in that category are intimate partners currently or formerly living together.

Comparison of Family Violence Arrests in 2003 and 2004

In general, there were not large differences between family violence arrests made in 2003 and 2004. After this section, results will be presented combining data on arrests from the two years. Of all family violence arrest incidents, the substantial majority are for intimate partner violence (Figure 1). Although the number of family violence (FV) arrest incidents declined for the third year in a row, it was less than a 1% decrease in the total number of family violence arrest incidents (Table 1). In both years, there were over 20,000 family violence arrest incidents. The total number of arrestees also declined (-1.5%), completely as a function of a decrease in dual arrestees. Additional years of data will be needed to determine if this represents a sustained trend or periodic variation.

Figure 1: Family Violence Arrest Incidents

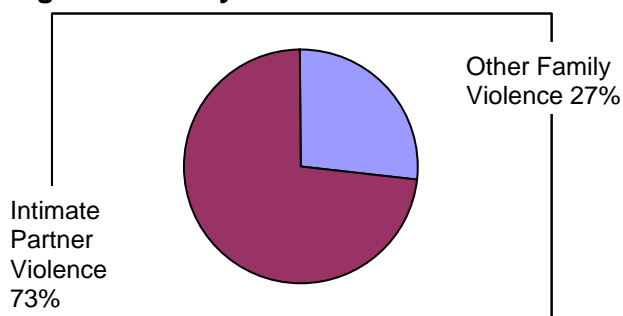


Table 1: Family Violence Arrest Incidents & Arrestees by Year

	Total FV Incidents	IPV		OFV		Dual		Non-Dual		Total FV Arrestees
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
2003	20,428	15,075	73.8	5,353	26.2	4,518	22.1	15,910	77.9	25,400
2004	20,319	14,725	72.5	5,594	27.5	4,256	20.9	16,063	79.1	25,022

Summary of Dual Arrests, Broken Down by Intimate Partner Violence & Other Family Violence

An ongoing concern in Connecticut has been the rate of dual arrests, especially for intimate partner violence. The dual arrest rate dropped from 22.1% of all incidents in 2003 to 20.9% in 2004 (Table 2). This decrease was due entirely to a decrease in the dual arrest rate for intimate partner violence, which dropped from 22.0% of all intimate partner violence incidents in 2003 to 20.3% in 2004. The drop in dual arrests for intimate partner violence does not appear to be due to the law change that took effect on October 1, 2004 (Public Act 04-66, Section 1b), adding self-defense language to the family violence statute. However, the three months of data available after the policy change do not represent an adequate amount of time to assess if the law change will lower dual arrest rates for intimate partner violence. Any effect of the law change can be better assessed once data are available from arrests in 2005 and beyond.

Table 2: Dual Arrest Rates by Year and Type of Family Violence

	Total Dual Arrest Incidents		IPV Dual Arrest Incidents		OFV Dual Arrest Incidents	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
2003	4,518	22.1	3,319	22.0	1,199	22.4
2004	4,256	20.9	2,996	20.3	1,260	22.5

Situational Characteristics of Family Violence Arrest Incidents

There were parallels and some important differences between intimate partner violence and other family violence incidents in terms of situational characteristics.

Date and Time of Offense. Family violence arrests varied seasonally, with arrests higher in the summer months (results not shown).² Arrests were higher on weekend days in comparison to weekdays, especially for intimate partner violence (Figure 2).³ Arrests for family violence were higher at night, with intimate partner violence arrests peaking between 10 p.m. and midnight and other family violence arrests peaking earlier, between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. (Figure 3). These patterns were the same for dual and non-dual arrest incidents.

Figure 2: Day of Week of Arrest Incident by Type of Family Violence

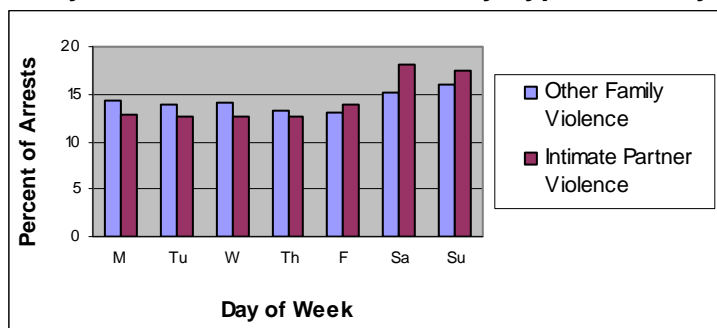
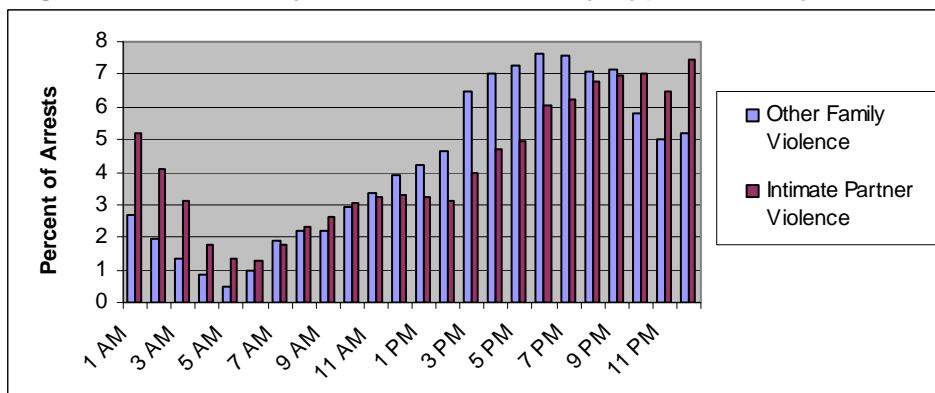


Figure 3: Time of Day of Arrest Incident by Type of Family Violence



Substance Use. Alcohol and drugs play a major role in family violence arrest incidents, as they do in general violent crime incidents; they were present in almost one-third (32.7%) of family violence arrest incidents. The use of drugs and/or alcohol appears more likely for intimate partner violence and non-dual arrest incidents (Table 3). It is important to note that information is not available on which parties to the incident were involved with substance use.

² Summer months are June, July, and August.

³ Weekends were defined as 6 p.m. Friday through 5:59 p.m. Sunday.

Table 3: Substance Use by Type of Family Violence & Dual versus Non-Dual Arrest Incident

Substance Use Involved	IPV Arrest Incidents				OFV Arrest Incidents			
	Dual		Non-Dual		Dual		Non-Dual	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No	3,133	49.6	9,971	42.5	1,542	62.7	4,859	57.2
Yes	2,171	34.4	8,558	36.4	534	21.7	2,073	24.4
Unknown	1,011	16.0	4,956	21.1	383	15.6	1,556	18.3

Prior Court or Foreign Orders. A prior court or foreign order was more common in intimate partner violence arrest incidents, especially in non-dual Intimate Partner Violence arrest incidents, where there was a court order in almost one quarter of arrest incidents (Table 4). Unfortunately, in one quarter of family violence arrest incidents, information about a prior court or foreign order was unknown at the time the report was completed. Knowledge of court orders is valuable information for police on the scene. This has been recognized by the federal government in authorizing funds for some police departments to update technology to insure that officers have accurate and timely information about court orders. While the proportion of cases where the presence of a prior court or foreign order was unknown had dropped from 2003 to 2004 (-1.4%), it is not clear if this is an ongoing trend or year to year variation.

Table 4: Prior Court/Foreign Order by Type of Family Violence & Dual versus Non-Dual Arrest Incident

Prior Court or Foreign Order	IPV Arrest Incidents				OFV Arrest Incidents			
	Dual		Non-Dual		Dual		Non-Dual	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No	3,846	60.9	12,457	53.0	1,692	68.8	5,558	65.5
Yes	861	13.6	5,448	23.2	128	5.2	858	10.1
Unknown	1,608	25.5	5,580	23.8	639	26.0	2,072	24.4

Involvement of Child Under 18 Years Old. All types of family violence arrest incidents frequently have minors (children under the age of 18) involved or at least present. Since other family violence arrest incidents include child abuse and abuse of adults by their children, it is not surprising that children were very likely to be involved as victims or offenders, especially in non-dual arrest cases (see Table 5). In fact, children were a part of other family violence incidents in one form or the other more than half of the time (58.8%). When children were a part of an intimate partner violence incident, it was usually as a witness (being present), and only rarely as a direct participant.

Table 5: Involvement of a Child by Type of Family Violence & Dual versus Non-Dual Arrest Incident

Child Present or Involved ⁴	IPV Arrest Incidents				OFV Arrest Incidents			
	Dual		Non-Dual		Dual		Non-Dual	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Present	1,819	28.8	5,959	25.4	363	14.8	787	9.3
Involved	203	3.2	1,834	7.8	932	37.9	4,350	51.2

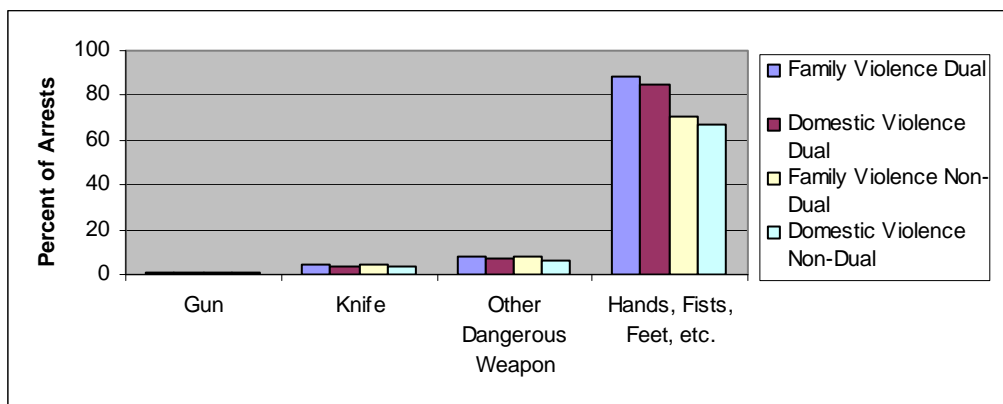
⁴ Arrest incidents were categorized as one of the following: as a child under 18 being present, involved, or no children present or involved/not applicable.

Seriousness of Offense

Weapons used, arrest offense, and victim injury are all measures of the seriousness of a family violence incident. For both IPV and OFV, and dual or non-dual arrest incidents, the more serious the offense characteristic, the less common it was.

Weapons.⁵ The most common weapon used in family violence incidents were hands, fists, feet, and other body parts, which were much more likely to have been used in a dual arrest versus a non-dual arrest. Use of other weapons, such as guns and knives, was relatively unusual.

Figure 4: Weapon Use by Type of Family Violence & Dual versus Non-Dual Arrest Incidents



Arrest Offense. The differences in most serious arrest incident offense⁶ between intimate partner violence and other family violence were largely a function of differences in three things: 1) definitions of Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence, 2) definitions of types of crimes, and 3) differences between dual and non-dual arrest incidents. Risk of Injury to a Minor is a form of child maltreatment, which on its own would be categorized as family violence. This may explain why it was a more common arrest offense for Other Family Violence arrest incidents. It is likely in Intimate Partner Violence arrest incidents that Risk of Injury to a Minor meant a child was present during the present during the incident. Presence of a restraining or a protective order was more common in intimate partner violence (see above section on court or foreign orders), as was reflected in it being a more common arrest offense for Intimate Partner Violence arrest incidents. In most cases, restraining orders are only against one party, as was reflected in arrests for Other/Violation of a Court Order being more likely to be non-dual than dual incidents. Homicide, sexual assault, and kidnapping arrests typically have a defined victim and offender, so they are not a dual arrest situation. Breach of the Peace and Disorderly Conduct arrests were more likely to be dual arrests, with Breach of the Peace being a more common arrest charge for Intimate Partner Violence and Disorderly Conduct being more common for Other Family Violence.

⁵ Percentages sum to more than 100 because multiple weapons can be listed per arrest incident.

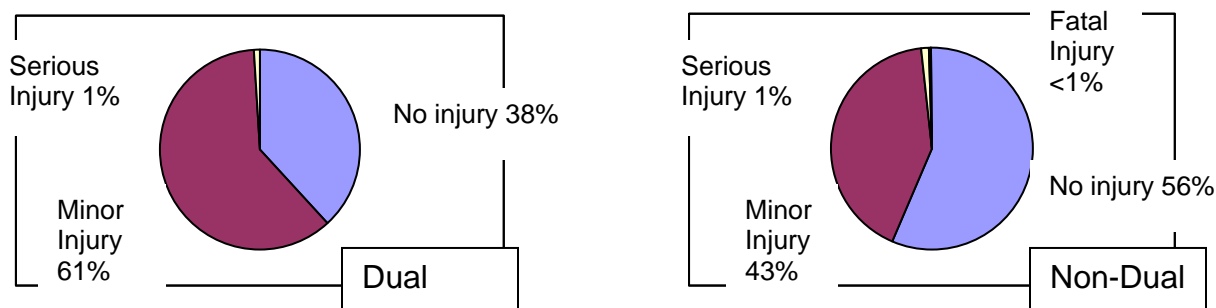
⁶ Only the most serious arrest offense is recorded on the family violence offense report. The offenses are listed in order of seriousness (see Table 6).

Table 6: Most Serious Arrest Offense by Type of Family Violence & Dual or Non-Dual Arrest Incident

Arrest Offense	IPV Arrest Incidents				OFV Arrest Incidents			
	Dual		Non-Dual		Dual		Non-Dual	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Homicide	0	0	39	.2	0	0	13	.2
Assault	2,072	32.8	7,833	33.4	805	32.7	2,411	28.4
Kidnapping	0	0	63	.3	0	0	8	.1
Sexual Assault	0	0	121	.5	0	0	73	.9
Criminal Mischief	126	2.0	1,188	5.1	18	.7	432	5.1
Risk of Injury to a Minor	2	0	259	1.1	22	.9	434	5.1
Breach of Peace	1,581	25.0	4,708	20.0	582	23.7	1,563	18.4
Disorderly Conduct	2,388	37.8	5,849	24.9	1,014	41.2	3,060	36.1
Other/Violation of Court Order	146	2.3	3,425	14.6	18	.7	494	5.8

Injury. Over half (52%) of all family violence arrest incidents involved no physical injury. Those cases with injury overwhelming involved minor injuries (97%). However, the notable difference is that dual arrest incidents were considerably more likely to involve injury than non-dual arrest incidents (Figures 5 and 6).

Figures 5 & 6: Injury for Dual and Non-Dual Arrest Incidents



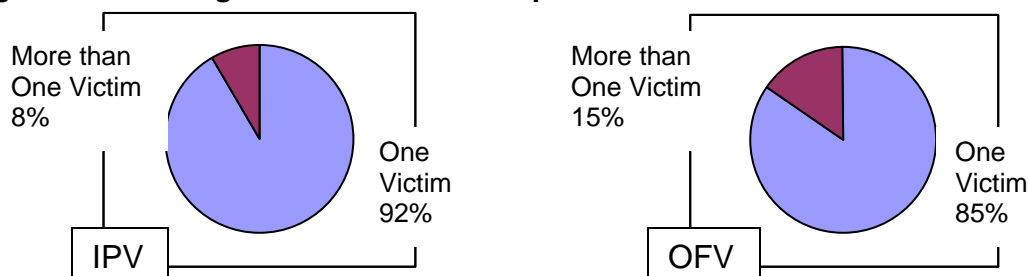
Relationships Between Individuals in Family Violence Arrest Incidents

This section details how victims and offenders and participants in duals arrest incidents compared to each other in terms of age, gender, and social relationship, as well as exploring the number of different types of individuals involved in family violence incidents. Characteristics of victims, offenders, and participants in dual arrests will be covered in a later section (see pages 14-17).

Two People versus Multiple Victim or Offender Incidents. Most family violence arrest incidents, whether they were a dual arrest or not, involved only two people (90.2%). When considering non-dual arrest incidents, intimate partner violence arrest incidents were more likely to involve a single victim with a single offender than other family violence arrest incidents

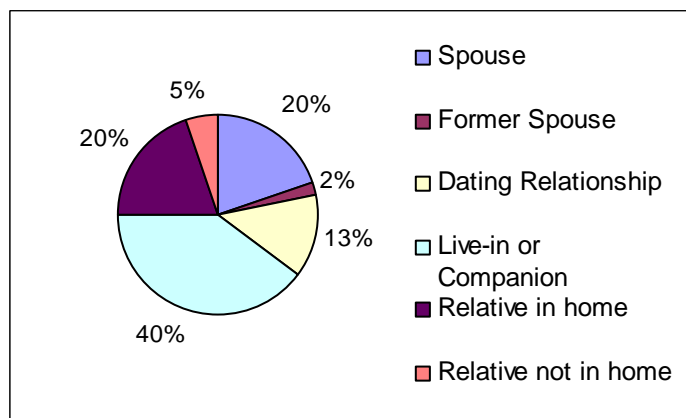
(91.2% versus 81.1%), with other family violence incidents being almost twice as likely to involve multiple victims (Figures 7 and 8).

Figures 7 & 8: Single Victim versus Multiple Victims in IPV and OFV Arrest Incidents



Social Relationship Between Individuals. Persons presently living together, formerly living together, or who have a child together were the largest category of individuals involved in family violence arrest incidents, followed by relatives (residing and not residing together) and spouses (current and former). The distribution across social relationship was not appreciably different between dual and non-dual arrest incidents, with one exception. Arrest of a former spouse was more commonly a single arrest incident instead of a dual arrest incident (analyses not shown). Analysis of relationship between individuals was limited to arrest incidents involving only one victim and one offender or dual arrests of only two people (N=36,765).

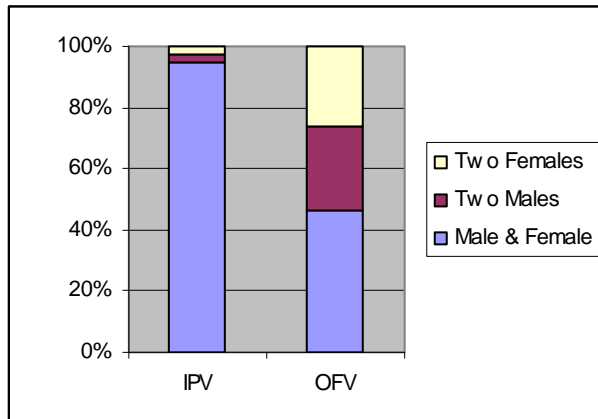
Figure 9: Relationship Between Individuals in Two Person Family Violence Arrest Incidents



Gender Combinations of Family Violence Arrest Incidents Individuals.⁷ In terms of gender, who was involved in family violence arrest incidents differed drastically between intimate partner violence and other family violence, and also between dual and non-dual arrest incidents. Almost all intimate partner violence arrest incidents involved a male and a female (95%).

⁷ Individuals' gender combination analysis was limited to single victim-single offender arrest incidents and dual arrest incidents involving only two people.

Figure 10: Gender Combinations of Individuals in Intimate Partner Violence & Other Family Violence Arrest Incidents



In cases of a single victim and single offender intimate partner violence arrest incident, most arrests were of a male offender against a female victim (Table 7). In the case of dual arrest incidents, while most intimate partner violence arrests are of a male and a female (91%), there cannot be a direct comparison because both are legally treated as offenders. For other family violence arrest incidents, in single victim-single offender incidents, half of the incidents were mixed gender, with the remaining half split evenly between same sex pairs. However, dual arrest incidents were split fairly evenly across the three different gender combinations.

Table 7: Gender Combination of Participants by Type of Family Violence & Dual or Non-Dual Arrest Incident

Gender Combinations	IPV Arrest Incident				OFV Arrest Incident			
	Dual		Non-Dual		Dual		Non-Dual	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
One Male – One Female ⁸	5,602	91.0	20,436	95.5	806	34.8	3,472	50.4
Female Victim-Male Offender	n/a	n/a	17,203	80.4	n/a	n/a	2,946	42.8
Male Victim-Female Offender	n/a	n/a	3,233	15.1	n/a	n/a	526	7.6
Two Males	302	4.9	562	2.6	814	35.1	1,709	24.8
Two Females	252	4.1	410	1.9	698	30.1	1,702	24.7

Age Differences for Family Violence Arrest Incidents Individuals. Individuals involved in intimate partner violence arrest incidents were closer in age on average than those involved in other family violence arrest incidents (Table 8). This may be a function of elder abuse and child abuse being included as a part of other family violence. This may also be what accounts for a larger proportion of non-dual other family violence arrest incidents having at least a 10 year age difference between individuals.

⁸ For non-dual arrest incidents, this category was a combination of the female victim-male offender and male victim-female offender categories.

Table 8: Age Difference by Type of Family Violence & Dual versus Non-Dual Arrest Incident

Age Difference	IPV Arrest Incidents				OFV Arrest Incidents			
	Dual		Non-Dual		Dual		Non-Dual	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
<5 years	3,540	57.5	12,274	57.3	694	29.9	994	14.4
5-10 years	1,734	28.2	6,093	28.5	296	12.8	603	8.8
>10 years	882	14.3	3,041	14.2	1,328	57.3	5,286	76.8

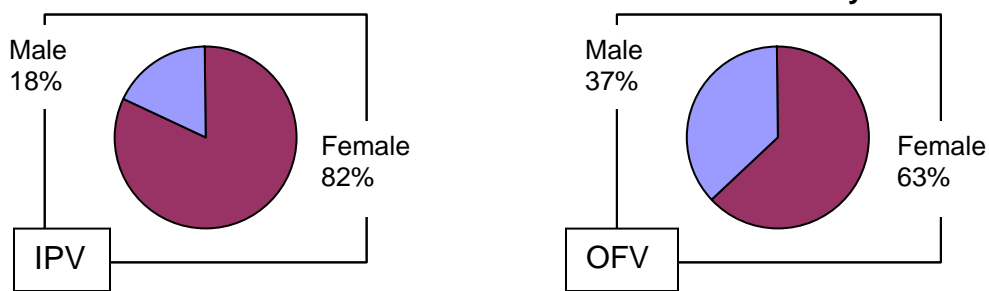
Summary of Characteristics of Individuals Involved in Family Violence Arrest Incidents

Profile of Victims

For this analysis, an individual was defined as a victim of intimate partner violence versus family violence based on their relationship to the offender. Some victims classified as victims of family violence were a part of an intimate partner violence incident, because the incident also included an intimate partner violence arrest. There were 36,153 victims who were a part of 31,973 family violence non-dual arrest incidents in 2003 and 2004. Two-thirds of those victims were victims of intimate partner violence, with the remaining one-third being victims of other family violence.

Gender. Women far outnumbered men as victims (75% versus 25%), especially for intimate partner violence (Figures 11 and 12).

Figures 11 & 12: Gender of Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence Victims



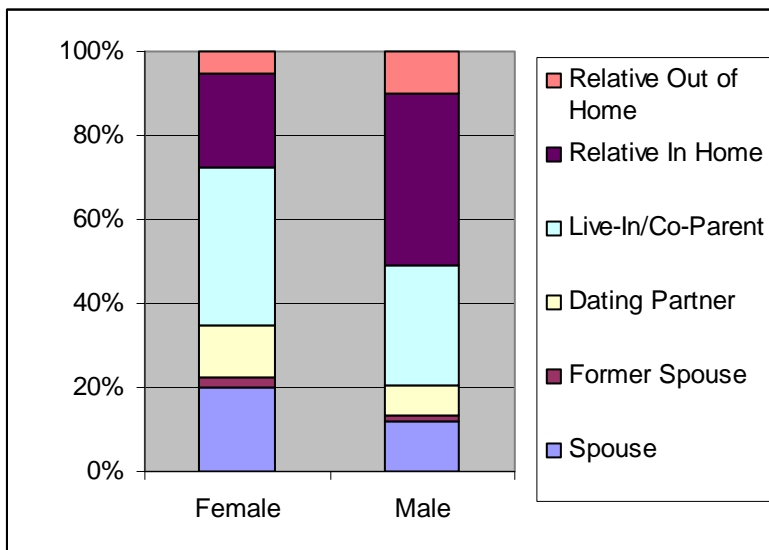
Age. Victims of intimate partner violence were on average older than victims of other family violence, which was likely a function of child abuse being a part of other family violence. Within intimate partner violence, male victims were on average older than female victims. For other family violence, a higher proportion of victims were in the youngest and oldest categories compared to intimate partner violence. Males were more likely to be victims of other family violence when they are younger, especially under age 5 (12% for males versus 7% for females).

Table 9: Age of Victims by Type of Family Violence & Gender

Victim Age	Intimate Partner Violence Victims				Other Family Violence Victims			
	Female		Male		Female		Male	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Under 20	1,949	9.9	428	9.8	2,580	34.0	2,134	47.2
20 to 29	6,781	34.5	1137	26.1	793	10.4	509	11.3
30 to 39	5,907	30.0	1241	28.4	1,298	17.1	390	8.6
40 to 49	3,887	19.8	1071	24.5	1,664	21.9	740	16.4
50 and up	1,152	5.9	487	11.2	1,260	16.6	745	16.5

Relationship to Offender. Females were more likely to be a victim of intimate partner (72% of female victims), while male victims were more likely to be a victim of other family violence (51% of male victims).

Figure 13: Victim Relationship to Offender by Gender of Victim

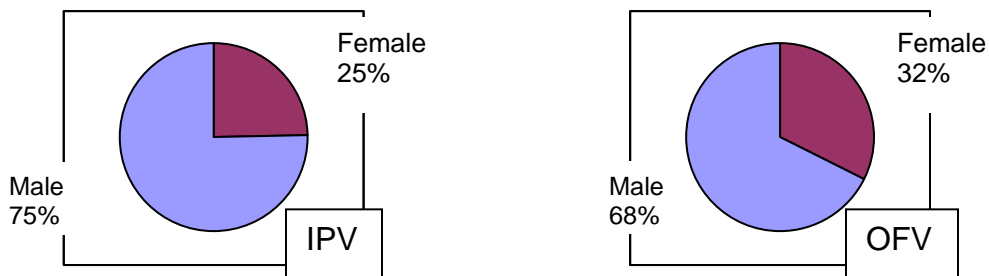


Profile of Offenders

There were 32,550 offenders who were a part of 31,973 family violence non-dual arrest incidents in 2003 and 2004.

Gender. Unlike for victims, more males than females were offenders in family violence arrests.

Figures 14 & 15: Gender of Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence Offenders



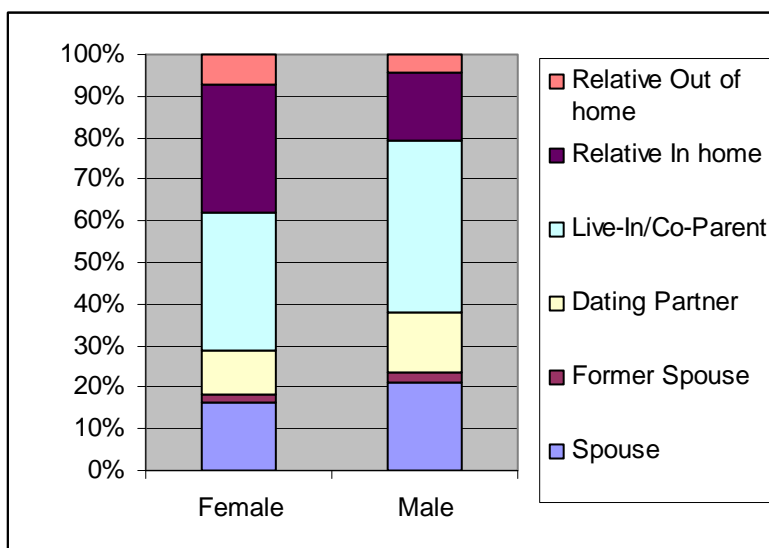
Age. The age distribution for intimate partner violence offenders were very similar to that of victims, and did not differ appreciably between men and women. Offending rose in the late-teens and stayed high through 20's and 30's, then began a noticeable decline in the mid-40's. The pattern differed for other family violence offenders. Other family violence offending for males and females was largely the province of the young, with offending peaking between 16 and 17. All female family violence offenders were more likely to be very young (under 20) than males.

Table 10: Age of Offenders by Type of Family Violence & Gender

Offender Age	Intimate Partner Violence Offenders				Other Family Violence Offenders			
	Female		Male		Female		Male	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Under 20	360	9.9	984	5.5	1,037	46.5	1,803	38.7
20 to 29	1,170	32.1	5,822	32.8	379	17	1,017	21.8
30 to 39	1,123	30.8	5,597	31.5	346	15.5	736	15.8
40 to 49	781	21.4	3,997	22.5	340	15.3	757	16.3
50 and up	209	5.7	1,366	7.7	126	5.7	342	7.3

Relationship to Victim. For offenders, the relationship to the victim is only presented for single victim-single offender incidents (87% of offenders). The differences in social relationship for males and females between victims (Figure 13) and offenders (Figure 16) reflects that males were more likely than females to be offenders in intimate partner violence (79% male offenders), multiple offender incidents (59% male offenders), and multiple victims incidents (79% male offenders), and females were more likely to be victims in intimate partner violence (72% female victims) and in multiple victim or offender incidents (64% female victims for both).

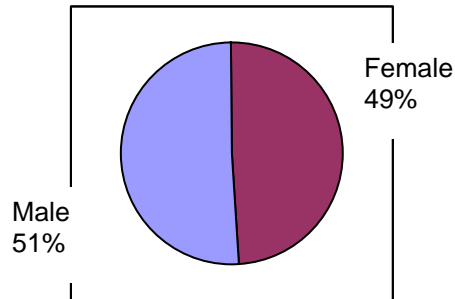
Figure 16: Offender Relationship to Victim by Gender of Offender



Profile of Participants in Dual Arrest Incidents

There were 17,871 arrestees that were a part of 8,774 dual arrest incidents in 2003 and 2004.

Gender. Compared to arrestees in non-dual arrest incidents, who were predominantly male, participants in dual arrest incidents were split quite evenly between males and females. This was true for intimate partner violence (50% female, 50% male) and other family violence (48% female, 52% male) arrests.

Figure 17: Gender of Participants in Dual Arrests

Age. Those involved in dual arrests for intimate partner violence were younger than non-dual arrest intimate partner violence offenders, but the overall pattern was similar, with female arrestees for intimate partner violence more likely to be younger than males. As in non-dual arrests, arrestees for other family violence were more likely to be very young (under 20), but they were also more likely to be older (50 and up).

Table 11: Age of Participants in Dual Arrests by Type of Family Violence & Gender

Dual Arrestee Age	Intimate Partner Violence				Other Family Violence			
	Female		Male		Female		Male	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Under 20	739	11.7	418	6.5	852	34.5	885	32.7
20 to 29	2,322	36.9	2,224	34.7	559	22.7	678	25
30 to 39	1,846	29.3	1,880	29.4	433	17.6	376	13.9
40 to 49	1,134	18.0	1,386	21.6	449	18.2	483	17.8
50 and up	253	4.0	496	7.7	174	7.1	285	10.5

Social Relationship Between Participants. The distribution of arrestees by social relationship between the participants in dual arrests mirrored the overall findings (see figure 9 on page 12), with essentially no differences by gender.

Summary of Findings

This report explored important distinctions between types of family violence arrest incidents. Some of the key findings include:

- The dual arrest rate for intimate partner violence dropped 1.7% between 2003 and 2004. Data from later years will reveal if this is a persistent trend.
- The number of incidents where information about a prior court or foreign order was unknown dropped 1.4% between 2003 and 2004. Data from later years will reveal if this is the start of an ongoing trend.
- *Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence are similar in important ways:*
 - Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence had similar rates of dual arrest.
 - In both types of family violence, offenders were more likely to be males and victims were more likely to be females.

- *Intimate Partner Violence and Other Family Violence are different in important ways:*
 - Intimate Partner Violence victims were more likely than Other Family Violence victims to be female, and Intimate Partner Violence offenders were more likely to be male than Other Family Violence offenders.
 - Intimate Partner Violence incidents were more likely to be a single victim and single offender, which is consistent with research findings that intimate partner violence is the type of violent crime least likely to be witnessed by a third party (Felson & Ackerman, 2001; Felson & Messner, 1999).
 - Intimate Partner Violence incidents were considerably more likely to involve a prior court order.
 - Other Family Violence was more likely to involve children. However, it is important to highlight that children were present or involved in one-third to over half of all family violence incidents, so thousands of Connecticut children were exposed to one or both forms of family violence each year.

- *Dual arrests are distinct in important ways:*
 - Unlike the patterns for offenders and victims, dual arrestees were evenly split between males and females.
 - Dual arrest incidents were considerably more likely than non-dual arrest incidents to involve minor injury as opposed to no injury. This is likely because dual arrest incidents were more likely to involve the use of hands, fists, feet, and other body parts as a weapon (although dual arrest incidents were not more likely to include the use of other weapons).

Intimate partner violence and other family violence exist in a larger context of family violence nationally and violent crime in general. Connecticut's inclusive definition of family violence sometimes makes it difficult to compare state findings with national findings.⁹ However, many of the patterns in Connecticut mirror what is found nationally, especially in terms of the gender proportions of intimate partner violence victims and offenders, and the proportion of intimate partner violence arrest incidents involving a single victim and single offender. Patterns of family violence in Connecticut also mirror some aspects of violent crime in its totality. Arrests for both peak in the evening hours, on weekends, and in the summer months. The more serious a characteristic of an arrest incident, such as arrest offense, weapon use, and injury, the less common it is. Also like violence in general, offending is predominantly done by males. Unlike violence overall, family violence victims in Connecticut are more likely to be female than male.

It is important to draw distinctions and see similarities between different types of family violence and between family violence and violence in general because this can help inform intervention and prevention efforts aimed at stopping violence.

⁹ For example, federal publications of national findings regarding intimate partner violence and family violence typically include boyfriends and girlfriends in the non-family violence category.

FOR FURTHER REFERENCE

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APPENDIX A: FAMILY VIOLENCE OFFENSE REPORT

Family Violence Offense Report											CTL NUMBER — OFFICE USE ONLY				
State of Connecticut Department of Public Safety															
<small>(Print or type all entries. See other instructions on the reverse side of this form.)</small>															
1. Arrest Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		2. If Zero Reporting, Enter Period Covered (MM/YY)		3. Case Number			4. Local PD Name			5. Offense Town Code		6. Offense Date		7. Offense Time	
OFFENSE CODES		A. Homicide B. Assault C. Kidnapping		D. Sexual Assault E. Criminal Mischief F. Risk of Injury		G. Breach of Peace H. Disorderly Conduct I. Other/Violation Court Order		8. Enter letter(s) to indicate type(s) of offense(s): _____							
WEAPONS CODES		A. Firearm B. Knife		C. Other Dangerous Weapon (specify) _____ D. Hands, Fists, Feet, etc.		9. Enter the NUMBER of weapons used by type A. _____ C. _____ B. _____ D. _____									
INJURY CODES		A. Serious Physical Injury B. Minor Physical Injury		C. No Apparent Physical Injury D. Fatal		10. Enter a letter for the most serious type of injury to any victim: A. _____ C. _____ B. _____ D. _____									
STATUS CODES		V. Victim *O. Offender *B. Both/All <small>*Only when arrested for actual family violence</small>		RELATIONSHIP CODES:		A. Spouse B. Former Spouse C. Other relative residing in the home		D. Other relative NOT residing in the home E. Persons who are presently living together, have lived together, or ever had a child together. F. Persons in, or who have recently been in, a dating relationship.							
11. Status Code	12. Last Name			13. First Name			14. MI	15. Sex	16. DOB	17. Relationship of VICTIM to Offender (enter if victim only)			18. Liquor/Drugs Involved?		
													Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>		
													Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>		
													Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>		
													Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>		
													Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>		
19. Prior Court or Foreign Orders? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown				20. A Child under 18 years old was: <input type="checkbox"/> A. Involved <input type="checkbox"/> B. Present <input type="checkbox"/> C. N/A											
21. Remarks (optional)															
22. Officer's Name & Rank						23. Badge Number			24. Date of Report		25. Supervisor's Signature & Rank				
DPS-230-C (Rev. 08/04)														AGENCY COPY	

APPENDIX B: DEFINITIONS

Arrest Incident: An occurrence of family violence in which at least one arrest has been made. Breach of Peace and Disorderly Conduct: Crimes of threatening; harassment and reckless endangerment may be reported under either breach of peace or disorderly conduct.

Dual Arrest: When all the parties involved in the incident are arrested. While this is typically a dual arrest, there are some cases where more than two people were arrested (300 cases or 3.4% of all dual arrests).

General Violence: Violence between people of all social relationships, including family violence, violence between friends and acquaintances, violence between people known to one another, and violence between strangers.

Family Violence: An incident resulting in physical harm, bodily injury, or assault; or an act of threatened violence that causes fear of imminent bodily harm, bodily injury or assault between or among family members, household members or those in a dating relationship. Verbal abuse or argument alone does not constitute family violence. Acts of parents or guardians disciplining their minor children are not classified as family violence unless such acts are judge to constitute abuse. In order for an offense to be classified as family violence, there must be present danger, the likelihood that physical violence will occur, and the relationship between the parties confirms to the relationships as defined by statute.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Incident: The relationship of the victim to the offender or of the offenders to each other (in the case of a dual arrest) is spouse, former spouse, persons who are presently living together, persons who have lived together, persons who ever had a child together, persons in a dating relationship, and persons who have recently been in a dating relationship

Minor: A victim or arrestee under the age of 18 at the time of the incident.

Minor Injury: An impairment or physical condition or pain.

N: Sample size for the relevant category.

Non-Dual Arrest: An incident in which there is at least one victim – not all parties were arrested. Multiple individuals can be arrested as part of a non-dual arrest incident as long as there is a victim.

Other Family Violence (OFV) Incident: The relationship of the victim to the offender or of the offenders to each other (in the case of a dual arrest) is a relative living in or out of the home.

Serious Injury: A physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death; or which causes disfigurement, serious impairment of health, or loss or serious impairment of the function of any bodily organ.