

Intimate Partner Violence In Idaho:

Trends From 1998 - 2005

**Statistical Analysis Center
Idaho State Police
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Prepared by M. Marie Kifer
Idaho State Police
Planning, Grants and Research Bureau
Statistical Analysis Center
Meridian, Idaho 83680-0700
(208) 884-7040
Pgr@isp.idaho.gov

Website:

www.isp.state.id.us/pgr/Research/sac.html

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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to describe violence between intimate partners in Idaho between 1998 and 2005. Contained in this publication is a description of intimate partner violence victims, the offense, the relationship between intimates, and Idaho's intimate partner violence broken down by region and county.

Data Collection and Definitions

The data used for this publication was taken from Idaho's National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) state repository, which collects data on each criminal incident reported to police. Intimate partner violence (IPV) is defined as an act of violence against an intimate partner. Violence is defined by physical injury, force, or threat of force, and includes the crimes of homicide, aggravated assault, simple assault, intimidation, kidnapping/abduction, robbery, and forcible sex offenses (forcible rape, sodomy, fondling and sexual assault with an object). Intimate partners are defined as current or former spouses, boyfriends and girlfriends, and common law spouses. Therefore, the data described herein is limited to incidences in which a boyfriend/girlfriend, current or former spouse, or common law spouse (child in common) committed the previously mentioned crimes against the victim.

Highlights

- From the beginning of 1998 to the end of 2005, Idaho experienced a 1.5% decrease in the number of victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). During this same time period, the rate of victimization (number of victims per 1,000 people) decreased by 15.1%.
- With the exception of Region 5, the rate of IPV victims decreased in all Idaho Regions. Region 2 had a 44% decrease in its rate of intimate partner violence (IPV), contributing the most to Idaho's overall victimization rate decrease (map on page 9).
- The majority of IPV victims have consistently been female, white, non-Hispanic, and around the age of 31.1 years. However, Hispanics are consistently overrepresented as victims of IPV compared to their overall population in Idaho.
- Simple assault is the most common violent crime between intimates (82.7%), with aggravated assault being the second most common (8.6%).
- Most victims of IPV were victimized by their spouses (44.4%). However, the rate of violent crimes involving boyfriends and girlfriends increased by 18% between 1998 and 2005, while those involving spouses decreased.
- The percentage of victims who were also an offender in an IPV incident decreased between 1998 and 2005 (from 15.9% to 12.7%).
- Simple assault is the only violent crime between intimates in which males have a higher rate of victimization than women.
- Female victims are more likely to be victimized by their boyfriends. Male victims are more likely to be victimized by their spouse or ex-spouse.

Data Considerations and Limitations

The following should be considered when using and interpreting information from incident based reporting systems to describe the amount of crime in Idaho.

- NIBRS only contains information about crimes reported to the police, not all crime in Idaho.
- Tribal law enforcement agencies do not participate in Idaho's Uniform Crime Report (UCR) program.
- In previous years, some law enforcement agencies have not participated in Idaho's UCR program. However, currently 99.8% of Idaho's population is covered by 105 law enforcement agencies that do participate.
- NIBRS does not include an identifier for intimate partner violence, nor document the reasons, conflicts, or motives behind criminal acts. Therefore, NIBRS information only allows for the identification of the relationship between the victim and offender and the purported crime.
- Population size, density, and urbanization may affect the number and rate of reported crime.
- Changes in crime or victimization rates may be due to increased reporting or population density.
- Rates in sparsely populated areas are affected greatly by deviations in crime incidences.
- Changes in police departments and/or sheriff's offices' leadership, policies, the size or effectiveness of the police force, local politics, and local awareness may attribute to increases or decreases in reported crime.

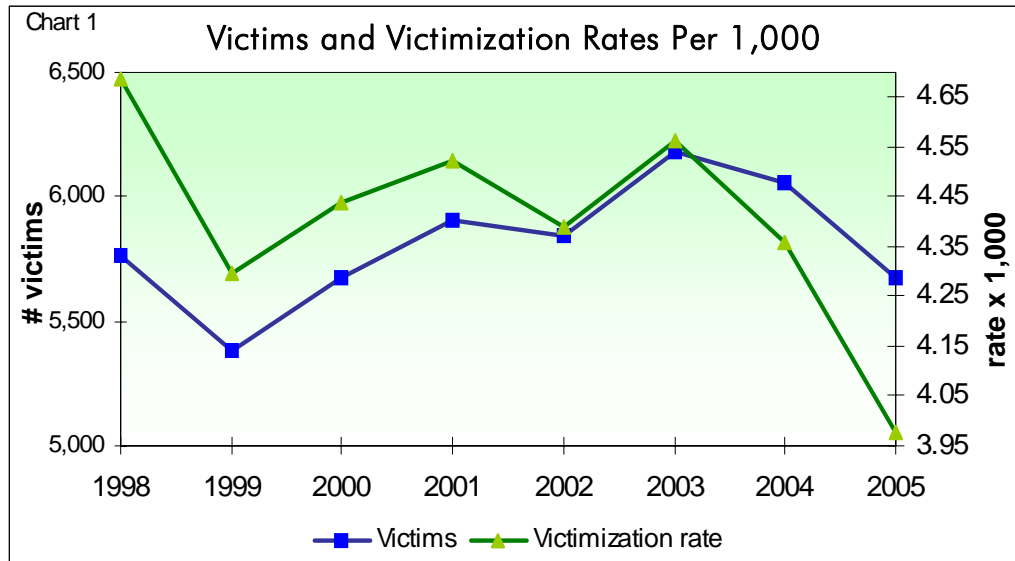
For these reasons, the following should be interpreted with the knowledge of these data considerations and limitations.

Intimate Partner Violence Incidences and Victims From 1998-2005

Chart 1 displays Idaho's intimate partner violence from 1998 to 2005. The number and rate of IPV victims declined dramatically from 1998 to 1999. After this initial decrease, the number and rate of victimizations steadily increased between 1999 and 2001 and again in 2003. However, Idaho's IPV rates have never reached the high levels experienced in 1998. After 2003, the rate and number of IPV victims decreased, with a dramatic decrease from 2004 to 2005. Overall, between the beginning of 1998 and the end of 2005, the number of reported IPV victims in Idaho decreased by 1.5%. However, taking the increased population into account, the rate of victimization decreased by 15.1% since 1998.

Intimate Partner Violence Victims

The majority of IPV victims have consistently been female, White, Non-Hispanic, with an average age of 31.1 years. Table 1 illustrates how consistent many IPV victims' characteristics have been.



Females have consistently comprised the majority of IPV victims. As displayed in Table 1, females made up 78.5% of reported IPV victims between 1998 and 2005. Another consistent victim characteristic is that most are White, making up 97.3% of IPV victims. In addition, Hispanics have consistently been overrepresented as IPV victims compared to their overall population in Idaho. Between 1998 and 2005, 10.2% of IPV victims were Hispanic, yet they are only about 8.9% of Idaho's population (according to the U.S. Census population estimates for 2004).

Table 1

	Victim's Characteristics						
	Female %	Male %	White %	Non-White %	Hispanic ^a %	Non-Hispanic %	Average Age ^b
Average	78.5	21.5	97.3	2.7	10.2	89.8	31.3
1998	78.8	21.2	97.4	2.6	8.8	91.2	31.1
1999	78.3	21.7	97.6	2.4	10.1	89.9	31.0
2000	78.1	21.9	97.4	2.6	9.8	90.2	31.0
2001	78.5	21.5	97.4	2.6	9.9	90.1	31.2
2002	79.4	20.6	97.1	2.9	10.2	89.8	31.2
2003	77.8	22.2	97.2	2.8	11.9	88.1	31.8
2004	78.2	21.8	97.5	2.5	10.5	89.5	31.7
2005	79.1	20.9	96.9	3.1	10.6	89.4	31.4
Total	36,476	9,980	44,400	1,236	4,564	39,967	

a. Chi-square sig. at .001 level; Cramer's V = .028 b. Brown-Forsythe sig. at .05 level; Games-Howell indicate sig. difference between 2004 and 1999 and 2000.

Intimate Partner Violence Offenses

As stated previously, intimate partner violence, for the purpose of this report, includes the crimes of homicide, aggravated assault, simple assault, forcible sex offenses, kidnapping/abduction,

robbery, and intimidation. It is important to note that although NIBRS may list several offenses for each victim, only the most violent offense (as listed) for each victim is counted in Table 2.

Table 2 presents the type and number of violent acts among intimate partners between 1998 and 2005. Clearly, simple assault is the most common violent crime between intimates, accounting for 82.7% of these crimes between 1998 and 2005. The second most common violent crime is aggravated assault, which accounts for 8.6% of violent crimes between intimates for the same time frame. One significant aspect shown in Table 2 is that aggravated assault between intimates increased from 2004 to 2005. This increase even surpasses the increase in all aggravated assaults in Idaho, which increased by 6.7% from 2004 to 2005.

Table 2

	Violence by Intimate Partners							
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Murder/Non-neg. Mansl.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Negligent Manslaughter	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Aggravated Assault	8.0	9.2	8.0	8.1	8.2	7.8	8.0	11.6
Simple Assault	83.5	82.0	84.0	83.9	83.4	83.1	82.7	79.0
Forcible Sexual Offenses	1.5	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.2
Kidnapping/Abduction	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.7
Robbery	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Intimidation	6.4	6.0	4.8	4.7	5.6	5.9	6.2	6.4
Total Number	5,759	5,380	5,678	5,906	5,840	6,182	6,059	5,673

A few victim characteristics are associated with the type of violence they experienced. For example, simple assault is the only violent crime between intimates in which males have a higher rate of victimization than women (88.3% of males compared to 81.2% of females¹). In addition, victims of murder/non-negligent manslaughter are significantly older (39 years) than victims of forcible sex offenses (21 years), robbery (27 years), kidnapping (29 years), and intimidation (32 years)². However, there is no statistically significant difference in age between victims of murder and victims of aggravated assault (33 years) or simple assault (31 years).

Relationship Between Victims and Offenders

Between 1998 and 2005, most victims of IPV were victimized by their spouses (44.4%). However, as shown in Table 3, the number of reported violent crimes involving boyfriends and girlfriends increased by 18% between 1998 and 2005, while those involving spouses decreased. Victimization between all other intimate partners remained relatively stable.

(Footnotes)

¹ Chi-square has a significance level less than .001; phi=.077.

² Brown-Forsythe has a significance level less than .001.

Table 3 further indicates that between 14 and 16 percent (14.7%) of victims from 1998 to 2005 were also offenders in the incident. The percentage of victims that were also offenders has decreased in recent years from 15.9% in 1998 to 12.7% in 2005.

Table 3

	Victim's Relationship to the Offender							
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Spouse	46.7	47.9	47.4	44.7	43.7	42.9	41.1	41.2
Common-Law Spouse	11.3	11.8	13.4	12.5	11.6	10.2	11.5	10.6
Boy/Girlfriend	34.5	32.8	32.2	35.0	38.2	39.8	39.7	40.8
Ex-Spouse	7.2	7.1	6.6	7.3	6.0	6.7	7.0	6.6
Homosexual Relationship	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8
Total Number	5,759	5,380	5,678	5,906	5,840	6,182	6,059	5,673
% Victim Was Also Offender	15.9	15.9	16.0	14.5	14.5	13.9	14.2	12.7

A couple of victim characteristics are associated with the type of intimate relationship the victim has with the offender. For example, female victims are more likely than male victims to be in a girlfriend/boyfriend relationship with the offender (38% of females versus 32% of males)³. Male victims on the other hand are more likely than their female counterparts to be the offender's spouse or ex-spouse (55.5% of men compared to 50.1% of women). In addition, victims of violence committed by their ex-spouse are significantly older (34 years) than all other intimate relationship types (31 years)⁴. Further, victims of IPV committed by their boy/girlfriend are significantly younger (29 years) than other intimate relationship types (33 years)⁵.

Intimate Partner Violence from 1998 to 2005, By Region and County

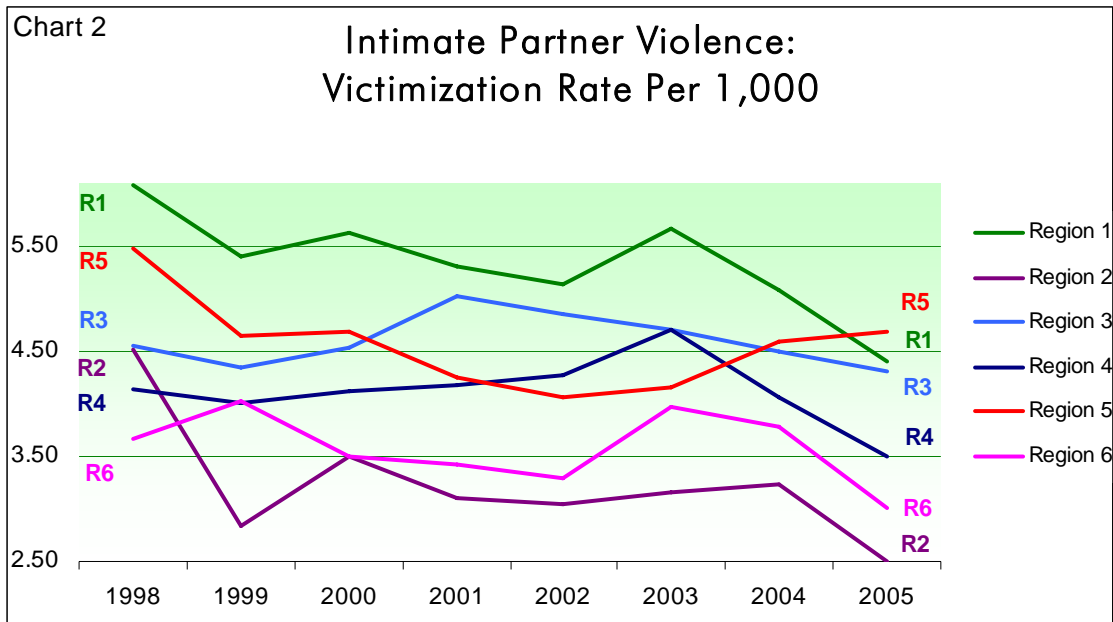
The following describes the number of IPV victims and victimization rates for each region and county between 1998 and 2005. Use caution when interpreting changes in the number of reported victims and victimization rates. A rate increase/decrease doesn't necessarily indicate that crime incidences are going up or down. These changes may be due to increased reporting. In addition, victimization rates in sparsely populated areas are greatly affected by deviations in crime incidences. Also use caution when comparing victimization rates between different jurisdictions since size, urbanization, population density, citizen reporting practices and law enforcement activities may affect victimization rates.

(Footnotes)

³ Chi-square has a significance level less than .001

⁴ t-test has a significance level less than .001.

⁵ t-test has a significance level less than .001.



Region 1

As demonstrated in Chart 2, Region 1 has historically had the highest rate of IPV compared to other regions. However, after a 22% decrease since 2003, Region 1 no longer has the highest IPV victimization rate. Table 4 shows that Shoshone County contributed the most to this decrease. The rate of IPV victims in Shoshone County decreased by 66% between 1998 and 2005; with the biggest decrease occurring in 2005 (50% decrease).

Region 2

As illustrated in Chart 2, Region 2 has had the lowest victimization rate of reported IPV since 1999. The map on page 9 indicates that Region 2, the least populated region in Idaho, has an IPV victimization rate of 2.5 victims for every 1,000 people in the region. Table 4 shows that Region 2 experienced the biggest drop in its victimization rate from 1998 to 2005 compared to all other regions (a 44% decrease).

Region 3

Region 3 is the most populated region in the state. Despite its large population, Region 3 has experienced a steady decrease in its rate of IPV since 2001 (see Chart 2). However, a few counties experienced rate increases in recent years. As Table 4 shows, Gem County went from 2.7 IPV victims per 1,000 people in 2003 to 4.7 victims per 1,000 people in 2005, a 77% rate increase. Adams County also experienced a 79% victimization rate increase from 2003 to 2005. However,

since Adams County is the least populated county in the region, its victimization rate is affected by minute fluctuations (refer to Table 4).

Region 4

Looking at Table 4, Region 4 has a victimization rate of 3.5 IPV victims per 1,000 people in the region, which is lower than Idaho's rate of 4.0 in 2005. Region 4 also contains one county whose victimization rate has repeatedly been the highest in the state. From 2000 to 2004, Cassia County has had a victimization rate one and a half times greater than the state average (6.7 compared to 4.4). However, with a 27% decrease in its victimization rate last year, Cassia County no longer has the highest rate of victimization in the State.

Region 5

Region 5 is the only region whose victimization rate actually increased in the last year, by 2%. Table 4 reveals that Region 5 had a rate of 4.7 victims of IPV for every 1,000 people in the region in 2005. Bannock County, the region's most populated county, had a 23% decrease in its victimization rate between 1998 and 2005. Despite this decrease, Bannock County still has the highest IPV victimization rate (6.4) than any other county in Idaho.

Region 6

Although Region 6 has the second lowest victimization rate in the state, it also contains the county with the second highest victimization rate. Bonneville County is Idaho's fourth most populated county and yet it has the second highest victimization rate in 2005 with 5.2 victims per 1,000 people in the county (see Table 4).

County	1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		% Rate Change 98-05
	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	
Benewah	57	6.3	42	4.5	41	4.5	26	2.8	24	2.5	35	3.8	44	4.8	22	2.4	-62%
Bonner	133	3.8	102	2.8	138	3.7	175	4.7	167	4.4	180	4.6	167	4.2	155	3.8	1%
Boundary	24	2.4	28	2.8	24	2.4	36	3.6	31	3.0	26	2.5	31	3.0	35	3.3	38%
Kootenai	717	7.1	677	6.6	678	6.5	638	6.0	657	5.8	749	6.5	671	5.6	635	5.1	-29%
Shoshone	97	6.8	82	5.8	93	6.8	66	4.7	70	4.9	73	5.5	62	4.7	31	2.4	-66%
Region 1	1029	6.1	931	5.4	976	5.6	942	5.3	950	5.1	1064	5.7	977	5.1	878	4.4	-28%
Clearwater	28	2.9	20	2.1	20	2.2	19	2.1	23	2.5	20	2.3	36	4.2	31	3.6	23%
Idaho	57	3.7	50	3.3	54	3.5	28	1.8	63	3.9	54	3.5	67	4.3	45	2.8	-24%
Latah	91	2.8	40	1.2	68	1.9	53	1.5	42	1.2	53	1.5	53	1.5	42	1.2	-58%
Lewis	8	1.9	13	3.2	14	3.7	5	1.3	10	3.7	15	4.0	12	3.1	12	3.1	61%
Nez Perce	265	7.1	158	4.2	192	5.3	208	5.6	172	4.6	176	4.8	160	4.3	126	3.3	-53%
Region 2	449	4.5	281	2.8	348	3.5	314	3.1	310	3.0	318	3.2	328	3.2	256	2.5	-44%
Ada	1230	4.5	1177	4.2	1304	4.3	1456	4.7	1438	4.6	1425	4.4	1454	4.4	1462	4.3	-6%
Adams	5	1.3	4	1.0	5	1.4	3	0.8	4	1.1	5	1.4	7	2.0	9	2.5	99%
Boise	6	1.2	13	2.5	18	2.7	26	3.8	22	3.2	9	1.3	22	3.0	26	3.7	214%
Canyon	641	5.4	634	5.2	704	5.4	842	6.3	845	6.2	901	6.1	787	5.1	807	5.0	-8%
Elmore	106	4.2	114	4.4	136	4.7	178	6.0	137	4.5	141	4.7	154	5.2	107	3.6	-14%
Gem	33	2.2	57	3.8	56	3.7	36	2.3	46	2.9	42	2.7	75	4.7	77	4.7	109%
Owyhee	23	2.2	25	2.4	23	2.2	34	3.1	37	3.4	40	3.6	35	3.1	22	2.0	-12%
Payette	102	5.0	113	5.4	108	5.2	95	4.5	105	4.9	105	4.9	79	3.6	87	3.9	-21%
Valley	47	5.7	30	3.7	45	5.9	31	4.0	35	4.4	36	4.7	37	4.7	26	3.2	-44%
Washington	27	2.6	18	1.7	25	2.5	40	3.9	24	2.3	27	2.7	21	2.1	16	1.6	-41%
Region 3	2221	4.6	2187	4.3	2427	4.5	2748	5.0	2693	4.9	2732	4.7	2673	4.5	2640	4.3	-5%
Blaine	81	4.6	52	3.0	68	3.6	74	3.8	75	4.2	87	4.6	66	3.1	73	3.4	-27%
Camas	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	3.0	2	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	4	3.7	0	0.0	-
Cassia	136	6.2	143	6.6	150	7.0	137	6.3	148	6.7	163	7.4	134	6.1	97	4.4	-29%
Gooding	29	2.1	34	2.4	36	2.5	38	2.6	30	2.0	41	2.8	37	2.5	18	1.2	-42%
Jerome	71	4.0	59	3.2	47	2.6	55	2.9	91	4.8	99	5.2	90	4.7	59	3.0	-25%
Lincoln	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.4	2	0.5	1	0.2	7	2.4	1	0.3	33%
Minidoka	44	2.1	78	3.8	84	4.2	57	2.8	70	3.3	59	3.0	71	3.6	59	3.0	43%
Twin Falls	297	4.8	275	4.3	274	4.3	324	4.9	293	4.4	333	5.0	280	4.1	293	4.2	-12%
Region 4	659	4.1	641	4.0	662	4.1	688	4.2	709	4.3	784	4.7	689	4.1	600	3.5	-16%
Bannock	620	8.3	509	6.7	501	6.6	458	5.9	429	5.5	482	6.2	511	6.6	497	6.4	-23%
Bear Lake	0	0.0	2	0.3	2	0.3	4	0.6	1	0.2	2	0.3	3	0.5	2	0.3	-
Bingham	136	3.2	157	3.7	166	4.0	151	3.5	166	3.8	126	2.9	148	3.4	202	4.6	42%
Caribou	6	0.8	10	1.3	12	1.6	14	1.9	15	2.0	17	2.3	23	3.2	10	1.4	69%
Franklin	27	2.5	13	1.1	7	0.6	4	0.3	7	0.6	5	0.4	12	1.0	11	0.9	-64%
Oneida	15	3.7	13	3.1	15	3.6	4	0.9	6	1.4	5	1.2	7	1.7	8	1.9	-49%
Power	43	5.1	24	2.8	18	2.4	35	4.5	25	3.2	21	2.8	21	2.8	22	2.9	-44%
Region 5	848	5.5	729	4.6	722	4.7	670	4.3	649	4.1	658	4.2	729	4.6	752	4.7	-14%
Bonneville	438	5.4	486	5.9	430	5.2	430	5.1	425	5.0	516	5.9	542	6.1	476	5.2	-4%
Butte	0	0.0	2	0.6	2	0.7	0	0.0	2	0.7	0	0.0	4	1.4	2	0.7	-
Clark	4	4.7	1	1.1	2	2.0	4	3.8	3	2.8	1	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-100%
Custer	8	1.9	4	1.0	4	0.9	11	2.5	15	3.3	12	2.8	13	3.1	5	1.2	-36%
Fremont	13	1.1	15	1.2	11	0.9	16	1.3	17	1.4	37	3.1	24	1.9	17	1.4	25%
Jefferson	45	2.3	60	3.1	46	2.4	49	2.5	32	1.6	26	1.7	28	1.4	7	0.3	-86%
Lemhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1.5	17	2.1	-
Madison	17	0.7	16	0.7	16	0.6	14	0.5	18	0.6	16	0.6	16	0.5	15	0.5	-33%
Teton	28	5.2	27	4.8	30	5.0	19	3.1	16	2.6	17	2.4	21	2.9	6	0.8	-84%
Region 6	553	3.7	611	4.0	543	3.5	544	3.4	529	3.3	626	4.0	663	3.8	545	3.0	-18%
Statewide	5759	4.7	5380	4.3	5678	4.4	5906	4.5	5840	4.4	6182	4.6	6059	4.4	5671	4.0	-15%

* Rates were calculated using adjusted county population figures, published in the Crime in Idaho series by the Idaho State Police.

**Agencies in some years did not report. Although population numbers were adjusted, the amount of reported crime was affected.

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION RATES BY REGION

