

Intimate Partner Violence In Idaho:

Trends From 2000 - 2004

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Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide the number of reported intimate partner violence incidences in Idaho between 2000 and 2004. Contained in this publication is a description of intimate partner violence victims, the offense, the relationship between intimates, and Idaho's intimate partner violence rates broken down by region and county.

Data Collection and Definitions

The data used for this report was extracted from Idaho's repository for the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which collects data on each criminal incident reported to police. For purposes of this writing, intimate partner violence 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, rape, sexual assault, robbery, intimidation, kidnapping/abduction, aggravated assault, and simple assault. Intimate partners are defined as current or former spouses, boyfriends and girlfriends, and common law spouses. Therefore, the data described in this report is limited to incidences in which the victim's boyfriend/girlfriend, current or former spouse, or common law spouse committed the previously mentioned crimes against them.

Data Considerations and Limitations

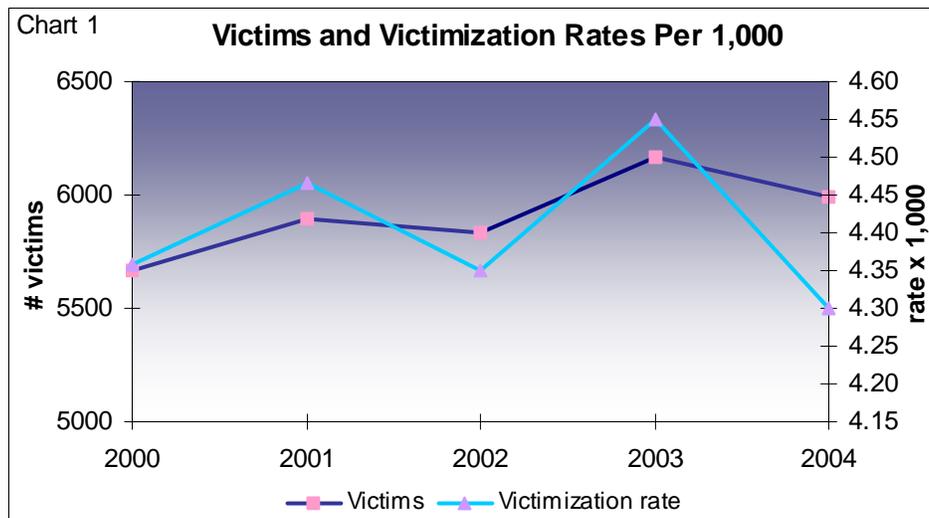
There are two data considerations when using information from NIBRS to describe the amount of crime in Idaho. First, NIBRS only contains information about crimes reported to the police, not all crime in Idaho. Second, crimes reported to Tribal law enforcement agencies and police agencies in Lemhi County (except for 2004) are not reported in NIBRS. However, approximately 98% of Idaho's population is covered by 105 law enforcement agencies that do participate in Idaho's UCR program.

When analyzing intimate partner violence with data from NIBRS, two data limitations exist. First, the potential for double counting incidences exists due to data collection methods. This risk of double counting may result from independently documenting incidences occurring at the same address or to the same victim-offender. In addition, multiple victimizations of the same victim in the same incident may be double-counted as a result of multiple police responses to a single location. Second, NIBRS does not include an identifier for intimate partner violence, nor documents 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. For these reasons, the following should be interpreted with the knowledge of these data considerations and limitations.

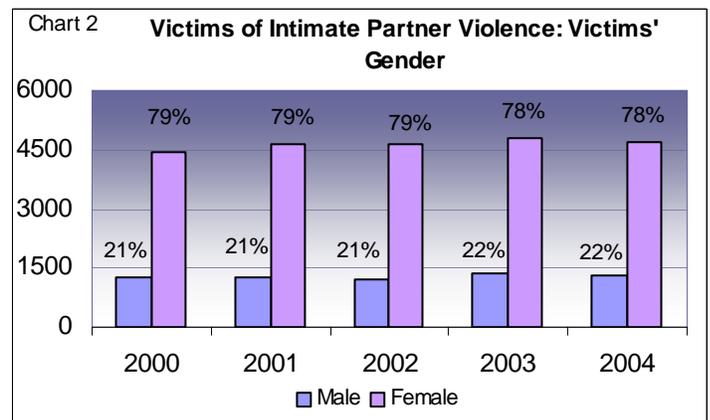
Intimate Partner Violence Incidences and Victims From 2000-2004

Chart 1 displays Idaho’s five-year trend of intimate partner violence from 2000 to 2004. The rate and number of victimizations between intimate partners decreased in 2002 before increasing once again in 2003. Between 2000 and 2004, the number of reported intimate partner violence victims in Idaho increased by a little more than a half percent (.06%). However, taking the increased population into account, the rate of victimization decreased by 1% since 2000.



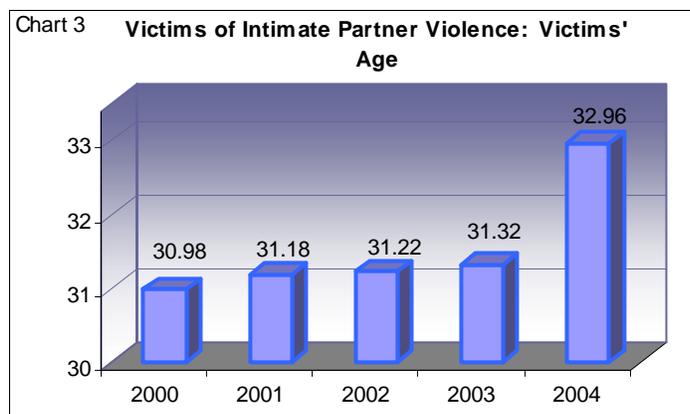
Intimate Partner Violence Victims

Females have consistently comprised the majority of intimate partner violence victims. As displayed in Chart 2, females made up 78 to 79 percent of victims of reported intimate partner violence between 2000 and 2004. In contrast, males accounted for only 21 to 22 percent of these victims. Further, male victims have been consistently older than female victims. Males



have averaged an age of 33 since 2000 and females have averaged an age of 31 years¹. The average ages of victims, on the other hand, have not stayed consistent.

Chart 3 shows that between 2000 and 2003, reported victims of intimate partner violence averaged an age of 31 years. However, the average age of victims rose in 2004, with victims averaging an age of 33. The average age of victims in 2004 is significantly different from the average age of victims in 2000 and 2001². There is not a statistical difference between the average age of victims in 2004 and the average age of victims in 2002 and 2003.



Intimate Partner Violence Offenses

As stated previously, intimate partner violence, for the purpose of this report, includes the crimes of aggravated assault, simple assault, forcible sex offenses (forcible rape, sodomy, and sexual assault with an object), kidnapping/abduction, homicide, intimidation and robbery. It is important to note that although NIBRS may list several offenses for each victim, only the most violent offense for each victim is listed in Table 1.

Table 1

	Violence by Intimate Partners									
	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Murder/Non-negligent										
Manslaughter	4	0.1%	8	0.1%	7	0.1%	6	0.1%	4	0.1%
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
Aggravated Assault	455	8.0%	478	8.4%	475	8.1%	478	7.8%	496	8.3%
Simple Assault	4,765	84.1%	4,765	83.5%	4,869	83.5%	5,136	83.3%	4,953	82.7%
Forcible Sexual Offenses	123	2.2%	123	2.2%	132	2.3%	135	2.2%	120	2.0%
Intimidation	274	4.8%	276	4.8%	325	5.6%	361	5.9%	369	6.2%
Kidnapping/Abduction	46	0.8%	46	0.8%	20	0.3%	46	0.7%	43	0.7%
Robbery	2	0.0%	9	0.2%	5	0.1%	4	0.1%	4	0.1%
Total	5,669		5,706		5,833		6,167		5,990	

¹ T-test has a significance level less than .05.

² Brown-Forsythe has a significance level less than .05.

Table 1 presents the type and number of violent acts among intimate partners between 2000 and 2004. Clearly, simple assault is the most common violent crime between intimates, accounting for 83% of these crimes between 2000 and 2004. The second most common violent crime is aggravated assault, which accounts for eight percent of violent crime between intimates from 2000 to 2004.

Relationship Between Victims and Offenders

Between 2000 and 2004, most victims of intimate partner violence were victimized by their spouses (44%). However, as shown in Table 2, the number of reported violent crimes involving boyfriends and girlfriends increased between 2000 and 2004, while those involving spouses decreased. Victimization between all other intimate partners remained stable.

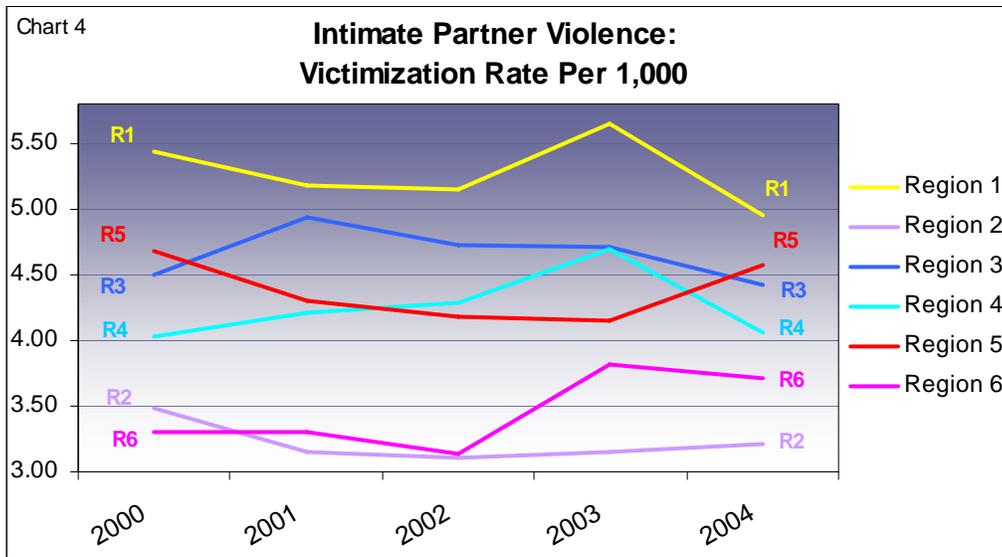
Table 2 further indicates that between 14 and 16 percent of victims from 2000 to 2004 were also offenders in the incident.

Table 2

	Relationship of the Victim to the Offender									
	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	1,824	32%	2,064	35%	2,226	38%	2,454	40%	2,380	40%
Common-Law Spouse	761	13%	738	13%	677	12%	629	10%	695	12%
Spouse	2,689	47%	2,635	45%	2,549	44%	2,642	43%	2,486	42%
Ex-Spouse	375	7%	435	7%	352	6%	415	7%	422	7%
Homosexual Relationship	20	0.4%	26	0.4%	29	0.5%	27	0.4%	0	0%
Victim Was Also Offender	902	16%	847	14%	842	14%	850	14%	848	14%

Intimate Partner Violence from 2000 to 2004, By Region and County

The following describes the number of intimate partner violence victims and victimization rates for each region and county. Use caution when interpreting changes in the number of reported victims and victimization rates. A rate increase/decrease doesn't necessarily mean 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. Furthermore, changes in police department and/or sheriff's office leadership and policies, and local awareness of domestic violence may attribute to increases or decreases in reported victimization rates.



Region 1

As demonstrated in Chart 4, Region 1 has the highest rate of intimate partner violence compared to other regions. The victimization rate of intimate partner violence substantially decreased in Region 1 between 2003 and 2004, by 12%. Table 3 shows that Shoshone County had the greatest decrease in the rate of victimizations. The rate of intimate partner violence in Shoshone County decreased by 29% between 2000 and 2004, with the biggest decrease occurring between 2000 and 2001.

Region 2

As illustrated in Chart 4, Region 2 has generally had the lowest victimization rate of reported intimate partner violence. Region 2 has also had the most stable victimization rate since 2001. After a nine percent decrease in the rate of intimate partner victimizations in 2001, the rate has remained stable around 3.15 victims per 1,000 people.

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 intimate partner violence since 2001 (see Chart 4). However, a few counties experienced dramatic changes in victimization rates during this time period. For example, Washington County had a 74% rate increase between 2003 and 2004. On the other hand, Valley County experienced a 56% decrease in their victimization rate during the same time period (refer to Table 3).

Region 4

Referring to Table 3, Region 4 had a slight one percent increase in intimate partner victimization rates between 2000 and 2004. Region 4 also has an average victimization rate (4.06) that closely matches the state average of 4.4 victims per 1,000 people. However, Region 4 contains one county whose victimization rate has repeatedly been the highest in the state. Over the last five years, Cassia County has had a victimization rate one and a half times greater than the state average (6.74 compared to 4.40). In fact, Cassia County had the highest victimization rate in 6 years with a rate of 7.37 victims per 1,000 people in the county.

Region 5

Region 5 had a 2% decrease in the rate of intimate partner violence victims since 2000. While the general pattern in these victimization rates for Region 5 has been a decline, its two most populated counties have witnessed increases since 2003. As shown in Table 3, Bannock County's victimization rate increased from 6.22 to 6.63. Bingham County's rate of intimate partner violence increased 19%, from 2.89 to 3.43.

Region 6

Looking at Table 3, one may be surprised at the huge percent changes in rates for some counties in Region 6. For example, Custer County had a rate increase of 243% between 2000 and 2004. Further, Clark County had a 100% decrease in its rate of intimate partner violence. However, both these counties have small populations and their victimization rates are therefore affected by minute fluctuations. In fact, Clark County's 100% victimization decrease is attributable to having two less victims in 2004 than in 2000.

County	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		% Change Rate 2000-2004
	N	Rate									
Benewah	41	4.46	26	2.88	24	2.67	35	3.82	44	4.91	10%
Bonner	137	3.70	175	4.69	167	4.37	180	4.62	163	4.09	10%
Boundary	24	2.42	36	3.62	31	3.07	26	2.53	31	2.98	23%
Kootenai	678	6.19	638	5.71	656	5.76	747	6.43	662	5.41	-13%
Shoshone	93	6.77	64	4.75	71	5.42	72	5.40	62	4.83	-29%
Region 1	975	5.43	940	5.18	950	5.15	1060	5.64	962	4.95	-9%
Clearwater	20	2.25	19	2.21	23	2.72	20	2.32	36	4.29	91%
Idaho	54	3.49	28	1.82	63	4.12	53	3.40	66	4.23	21%
Latah	68	1.95	53	1.51	42	1.19	53	1.48	53	1.51	-23%
Lewis	14	3.74	5	1.38	10	2.69	15	3.96	12	3.20	-14%
Nez Perce	193	5.16	208	5.62	172	4.64	176	4.80	157	4.15	-20%
Region 2	349	3.48	314	3.15	310	3.11	317	3.15	324	3.22	-8%
Ada	1304	4.30	1456	4.65	1435	4.49	1424	4.37	1429	4.30	0%
Adams	5	1.44	3	0.88	4	1.16	5	1.42	7	2.03	41%
Boise	18	2.67	26	3.75	22	3.11	9	1.25	22	2.99	12%
Canyon	703	5.28	840	6.04	846	5.84	902	6.11	784	4.96	-6%
Elmore	136	4.66	178	6.07	137	4.65	140	4.66	154	5.33	14%
Gem	56	3.68	36	2.33	46	2.97	42	2.66	73	4.57	24%
Owyhee	23	2.15	34	3.12	37	3.41	40	3.61	34	3.09	44%
Payette	108	5.23	95	4.57	105	5.00	105	4.91	78	3.61	-31%
Washington	25	2.51	40	4.02	24	2.42	27	2.67	37	4.64	85%
Valley	45	5.89	31	4.05	35	4.65	36	4.70	21	2.09	-65%
Region 3	2426	4.50	2746	4.94	2691	4.73	2730	4.71	2639	4.42	-2%
Blaine	68	3.55	74	3.74	75	3.68	87	4.65	64	3.03	-15%
Camas	3	3.06	2	1.98	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	3.95	29%
Cassia	149	6.96	137	6.34	148	6.81	163	7.37	133	6.22	-11%
Gooding	36	2.54	38	2.67	30	2.10	41	2.81	38	2.65	4%
Jerome	47	2.55	55	2.98	91	4.87	99	5.20	90	4.67	83%
Lincoln	0	0.00	1	0.24	2	0.48	1	0.23	8	1.85	-
Minidoka	84	4.18	57	2.91	70	3.60	58	2.92	71	3.69	-12%
Twin Falls	268	4.16	324	5.01	293	4.48	331	4.96	276	4.06	-2%
Region 4	655	4.03	688	4.21	709	4.29	780	4.69	684	4.06	1%
Bannock	500	6.62	455	6.00	429	5.66	480	6.22	502	6.63	0%
Bear Lake	2	0.31	4	0.62	1	0.16	2	0.31	2	0.32	2%
Bingham	166	3.97	151	3.57	166	3.91	125	2.89	148	3.43	-14%
Caribou	12	1.64	14	1.89	15	2.05	17	2.28	23	3.19	94%
Franklin	7	0.62	4	0.35	7	0.60	5	0.42	12	0.98	60%
Oneida	15	3.63	4	0.96	6	1.45	5	1.19	7	1.69	-54%
Power	18	2.40	35	4.67	25	3.39	21	2.79	21	2.81	17%
Region 5	721	4.68	667	4.30	649	4.18	655	4.14	715	4.58	-2%
Bonneville	430	5.19	430	5.13	420	4.93	512	5.90	537	5.99	15%
Butte	2	0.69	0	0.00	2	0.69	0	0.00	4	1.41	104%
Clark	2	1.94	4	4.03	3	3.01	1	0.98	0	0.00	-100%
Custer	4	0.92	11	2.58	15	3.58	12	2.81	13	3.16	243%
Fremont	11	0.93	16	1.35	17	1.43	37	3.06	24	1.96	110%
Jefferson	46	2.39	49	2.53	32	1.62	26	1.29	28	1.35	-44%
Lemhi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1.53	-
Madison	16	0.58	13	0.47	18	0.65	16	0.57	16	0.52	-11%
Teton	30	4.91	19	2.93	16	2.33	17	2.43	21	2.90	-41%
Region 6	543	3.30	543	3.30	524	3.14	621	3.82	655	3.71	13%
Statewide	5669	4.36	5898	4.47	5833	4.35	6167	4.55	5990	4.30	-1%

* Rates were calculated using county population figures, furnished by the U.S. Census.
 ** A rate increase/decrease doesn't necessarily mean crime incidences are going up/down. These changes may be due to increased reporting or population density. In addition, sparsely populated areas are affected greatly by deviations in crime incidences.
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