

Intimate Partner Violence In Idaho:

Trends From 2002 through 2006



Prepared by Rochelle Mereen
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

Cost information for this publication is available from the Idaho State Police in accordance with Idaho Code, Section 60 202. This project was supported by Grant No. 2005-STCC-88. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not represent the official position or policies of the United States Department of Justice.

Introduction

The following report describes incidents of reported intimate partner violence occurring in Idaho between 2002 and 2006. A description is given of intimate partner violence victims, the offense, the relationship between intimates, and Idaho's intimate partner violence rates broken down by county and region.

A brief summary of the characteristics of intimate partner violence from 2002 through 2006 in the state of Idaho include the following:

- ❖ There were 29,892 victims of intimate partner violence.
 - The number of victims increased between 2005 to 2006 by 8.5%
 - However, Idaho's victimization rate (IPV victims per 1,000 population) decreased between 2005 and 2006 by 4.3%.
- ❖ There were 27,840 recorded incidents of intimate partner violence (IPV)
 - Incidents of IPV increased between 2002 through 2006 by 5.3%.
- ❖ 82.0% of all IPV incidents involved simple assault.
- ❖ 78.4% of victims of intimate partner violence were female.
- ❖ 42.0% of IPV offenders were the spouse of the victim.

Data Collection and Definitions

Information used for this report was obtained from Idaho's repository for the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS), which collects data on each criminal incident reported to police. To be included as an act of violence against an intimate partner, data related to all acts of violence between intimates was collected including: crimes of aggravated assault, simple assault, forcible sex offenses (forcible rape, sodomy, fondling, and sexual assault with an object), kidnapping/abduction, homicide, intimidation and robbery. Intimate partners are defined as current or former spouses, boyfriends and girlfriends, and common law spouses. Therefore, this report is limited to incidents in which a spouse or ex-spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, or common law spouse (child in common) committed one of the previously mentioned crimes against the victim.

Intimate Partner Violence and Victims From 2002-2006

Chart 1 displays intimate partner violence (IPV) in Idaho for the past five years. The number of victims involved in an IPV incident in Idaho increased by 5.3% from 2002 to 2006. During this same time period, the victimization rate decreased by 4.3%, a result of Idaho's growing population. The number of reported intimate partner violence victims increased by 8.5% in the last year between 2005 and 2006.

Chart 1

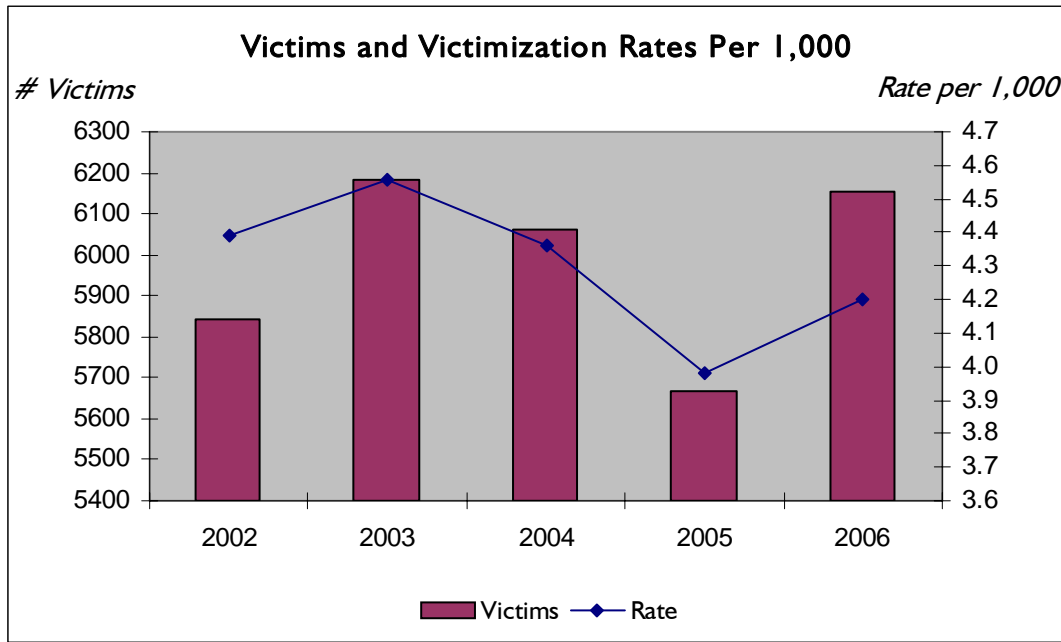


Table 1

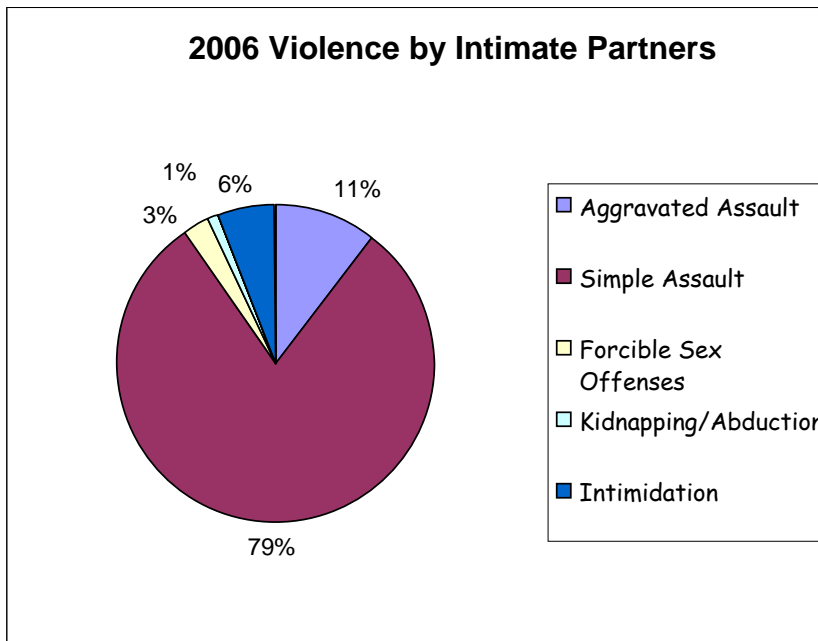
Year	# of Incidents	Rate	# of Victims	Rate
2002	5408	4.07	5841	4.39
2003	5756	4.25	6182	4.56
2004	5614	4.04	6061	4.36
2005	5314	3.73	5672	3.98
2006	5748	3.92	6158	4.20

Intimate Partner Violence Offenses

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

Chart 2 displays the top five most common violent offenses among intimate partners for 2006. It is clearly apparent that simple assault occurs most often, accounting for 79.0% of IPV crimes in 2006. Simple assault accounted for 82.0% of intimate partner violence crimes over that past five years, between 2002 and 2006. Aggravated assault is the second most common violent crime between intimates at 9.0% from 2002 to 2006.

Chart 2



Intimate Partner Violence Victims

As shown in Chart 3, females represent the majority of victims involved in an intimate partner violence incident, an average of 78.4% between 2002 and 2006. Males represent an average of only 21.5% of victims of reported intimate partner violence during this same time period.

Chart 3

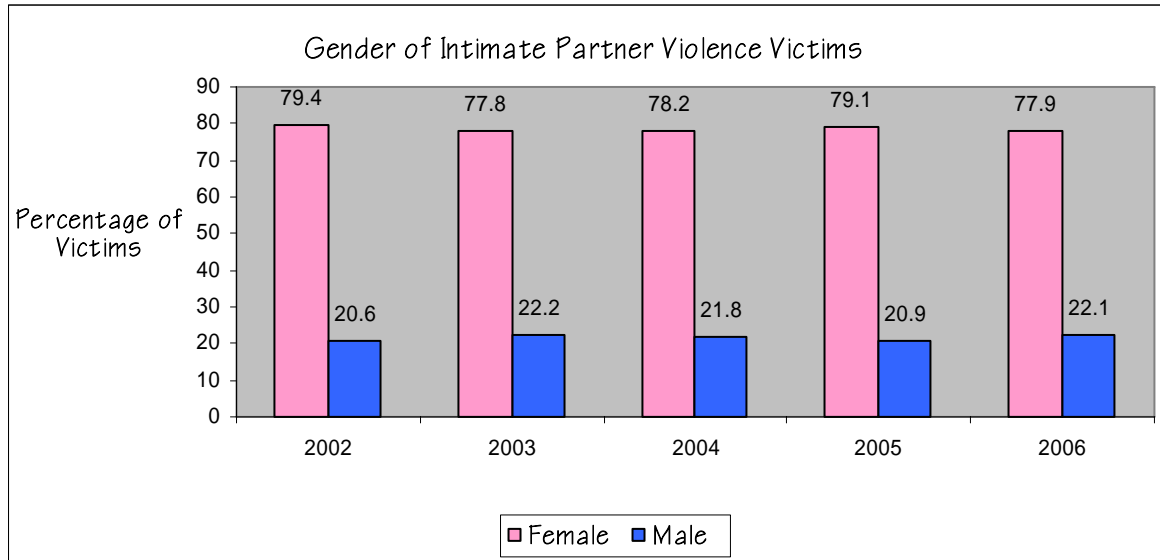


Table 2 displays more characteristics of IPV victims. Most victims are white, (an average of 97.1%), Non-Hispanic (89.2%), and an average age of 31.3 years old. Between 2002 and 2006, females comprised 23,453 of the 29,892 total victims.

Table 2.

Year	Victim's Characteristics				Average Age	Total # Victims
	Non-white %	White %	Hispanic %	Non Hispanic %		
2002	2.9	97.1	10.2	89.8	31.1	5840
2003	2.8	97.2	11.9	88.1	31.2	6175
2004	2.5	97.5	10.5	89.5	31.6	6056
2005	3.1	96.9	10.6	89.4	31.3	5666
2006	3.0	97.0	10.6	89.4	31.2	6155
Total Victims: 2002-2006						
29,892						

Relationship between Victims and Offenders

Most victims of intimate partner violence between 2002 and 2006 were victimized by a spouse (42.0%). Table 3 shows that the number of reported violent crimes involving boyfriends and girlfriends increased by 19.1% between 2002 and 2006. Comparatively, a decrease of 11.4% is noted for IPV crimes involving spouses during this same time

period. Victimization between all other intimate partners remain relatively stable. Occasionally, the victim is also an offender in an IPV incident (between 13 and 14 percent from 2002 to 2006). The occurrence of a victim also being an offender has decreased in recent years from 14.5% in 2002 to 12.9% in 2006.

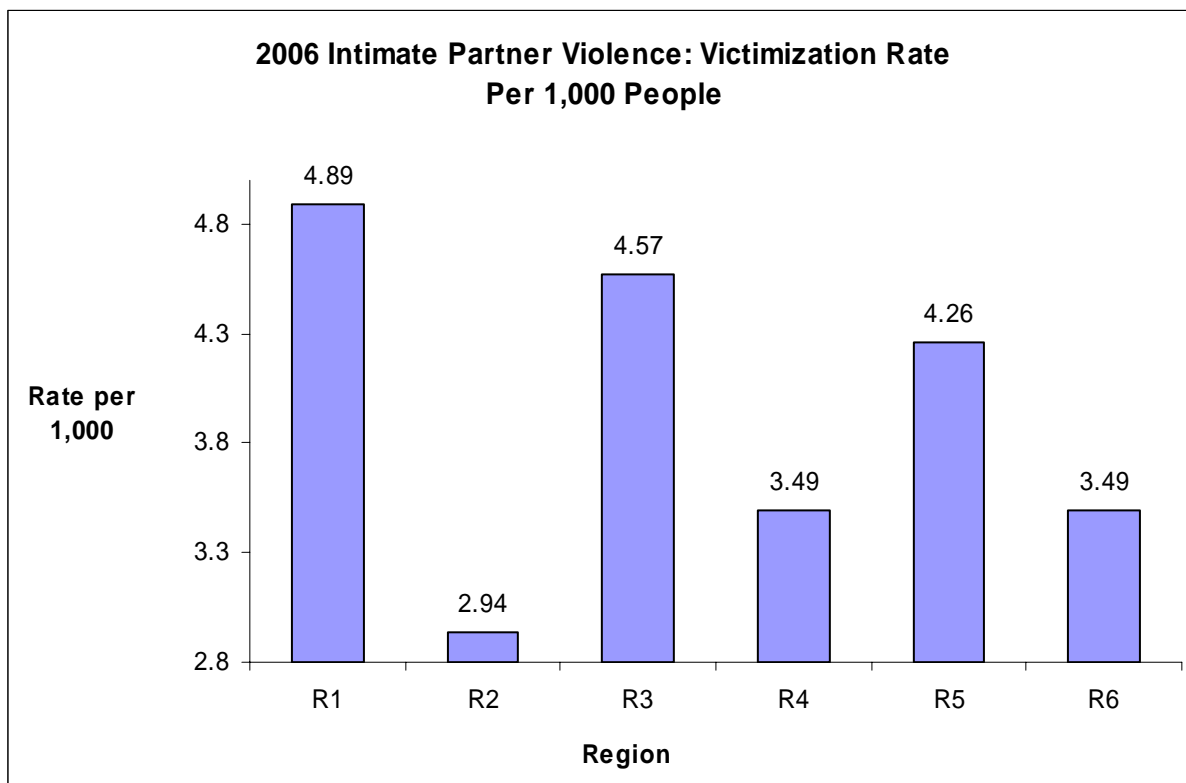
Table 3

Victim's Relationship to the Offender	Percent of Victims					Number of Victims				
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Spouse	43.7	42.9	41.1	41.2	38.7	2551	2650	2492	2336	2383
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	38.2	39.8	39.8	40.8	45.5	2229	2460	2412	2313	2804
Victim Was Also Offender	14.5	13.9	14.2	12.7	12.9	847	857	863	719	793
Common-Law Spouse	11.6	10.2	11.5	10.6	9.1	678	630	695	604	561
Ex-Spouse	6.1	6.7	7.0	6.6	6.1	356	416	426	373	373
Homosexual Relationship	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.7	29	28	40	46	40

Intimate Partner Violence from 2002 to 2006, By Region and County

The following describes the number of intimate partner violence victims and victimization rates for each region and county in Idaho between 2002 and 2006. Use caution when interpreting changes in the number of reported victims and victimization rates. A rate increase/decrease doesn't necessarily indicate that IPV crime incidents are going up or down. These changes may be due to an increase in the reporting of such incidents. Also, victimization rates in sparsely populated areas are greatly affected by deviations in the occurrence of crime. When comparing victimization rates between different jurisdictions, size, urbanization, population density, citizen reporting practices, and law enforcement activities may affect victimization rates.

Chart 4



Region 1

As shown in Chart 4, Region 1 has the highest rate of IPV when compared to other regions for 2006. Contributing to this are the high 2006 IPV rates in both Shoshone (4.07) and Kootenai (5.71) counties, as shown in Table 4. However, when looking at the rate change from 2002 to 2006, each county in Region 1 has actually had a decrease in their victimization rates, excluding Benewah County, which Table 4 shows had an increase of 5% between 2002 and 2006.

Region 2

As illustrated in Chart 4, Region 2 has continually had the lowest victimization rate of reported intimate partner violence. Region 2 had a very low rate of 2.5 in 2005, the lowest rate observed among all regions between 2002 and 2006. However, two counties in Region 2 show a rather significant increase in their victimization rate between 2002 and 2006. Table 4 shows rate increases for both Latah County (82%), and Clearwater County (78%), between 2002 and 2006.

Region 3

Region 3 is the most populated region in the state of Idaho. Ada County, the most populated county in the region, had a victimization rate increase of only 1% between 2002 and 2006. Table 4 shows that Adams County, a less populated county, had the largest increase in reported IPV since 2002, with an increase of 71%. However, small fluctuations in reported intimate partner violence occurring in lesser populated areas will have a substantial effect on the victimization rate for that area.

Region 4

Looking at Chart 4, the victimization rate in Region 4 has been steadily decreasing since 2003, in which the rate was at 4.7 IPV victims per every 1,000 people in the region. At least four of the counties, (Blaine, Cassia, Jerome, and Minidoka), in Region 4 show a decrease (35-40%) in the victimization rate between 2002 and 2006 as shown in Table 4. One county's victimization rate has increased dramatically in the last year. From 2005 to 2006, Gooding County had a victimization rate increase of 148%.

Region 5

As illustrated in Table 4, Region 5 is one of two regions in the state whose victimization rate increased (5%) between 2002 and 2006. Region 5 has a rate of 4.26 victims of IPV for every 1,000 people in the region in 2006. Bannock County, the region's most populated county, has one of the highest IPV victimization rates (5.76) in the state for 2006.

Region 6

Between 2002 and 2006, Region 6 had an increase to their victimization rate of 6%. Table 4 shows that Region 6 has a rate of 3.49 victims of intimate partner violence for every 1,000 people in the region in 2006. Bonneville County, one of Idaho's most populated counties, has had an 8% increase to their victimization rate between 2002 and 2006. Bonneville County shows a victimization rate of 5.36 for 2006, one of the higher rates of IPV across the state.

Table 4

Number of Victims and Rate of Victimization Per 1,000 Population by County and Region											
County	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		% Change Rate 1998-2006
	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	
Benewah	24	2.52	35	3.82	44	4.78	22	2.39	25	2.64	5%
Bonner	167	4.37	180	4.62	167	4.18	155	3.79	158	3.76	-14%
Boundary	31	3.03	26	2.53	31	2.99	35	3.28	25	2.29	-24%
Kootenai	658	5.84	749	6.45	671	5.60	634	5.05	748	5.71	-2%
Shoshone	70	4.90	73	5.47	62	4.68	31	2.36	55	4.07	-17%
Region 1	951	5.15	1064	5.67	977	5.07	877	4.40	1011	4.89	-5%
Clearwater	23	2.48	20	2.32	36	4.20	31	3.60	38	4.42	78%
Idaho	63	3.92	54	3.46	67	4.26	45	2.81	50	3.10	-21%
Latah	42	1.16	53	1.48	53	1.48	41	1.14	75	2.11	82%
Lewis	10	3.73	15	3.96	12	3.14	12	3.12	20	5.20	39%
Nez Perce	171	4.55	176	4.80	160	4.29	126	3.35	120	3.08	-32%
Region 2	309	3.03	318	3.16	328	3.24	255	2.50	303	2.94	-3%
Ada	1438	4.61	1425	4.38	1455	4.39	1462	4.29	1648	4.66	1%
Adams	4	1.11	5	1.42	7	1.95	9	2.54	7	1.90	71%
Boise	22	3.18	9	1.25	22	2.98	26	3.69	24	3.10	-2%
Canyon	846	6.21	902	6.11	787	5.09	807	4.98	884	5.23	-16%
Elmore	137	4.54	141	4.69	154	5.23	107	3.61	85	2.89	-36%
Gem	46	2.92	42	2.66	75	4.66	77	4.70	65	3.89	33%
Owyhee	37	3.35	40	3.61	35	3.07	22	1.95	29	2.55	-24%
Payette	105	4.92	105	4.91	79	3.61	87	3.93	98	4.30	-13%
Valley	35	4.41	36	4.70	37	4.69	26	3.18	34	3.98	-10%
Washington	24	2.32	27	2.67	21	2.06	16	2.88	17	1.64	-29%
Region 3	2694	4.85	2733	4.71	2674	4.50	2640	4.35	2891	4.57	-6%
Blaine	75	4.23	87	4.65	66	3.11	73	3.37	55	2.53	-40%
Camas	0	0.00	0	0.00	4	3.74	0	0.00	8	7.43	**
Cassia	148	6.67	163	7.37	134	6.08	97	4.42	89	4.07	-39%
Gooding	30	2.04	41	2.81	38	2.60	18	1.22	45	3.03	48%
Jerome	91	4.79	99	5.20	90	4.67	59	2.98	63	3.13	-35%
Lincoln	2	0.48	1	0.23	7	2.42	1	0.34	2	0.66	37%
Minidoka	70	3.35	59	2.98	71	3.60	59	2.99	39	2.00	-40%
Twin Falls	293	4.42	332	4.98	280	4.09	293	4.20	305	4.28	-3%
Region 4	709	4.27	782	4.70	690	4.08	600	3.50	606	3.49	-18%
Bannock	429	5.48	483	6.25	511	6.63	498	6.41	462	5.76	5%
Bear Lake	1	0.15	2	0.31	3	0.47	2	0.31	7	1.10	634%
Bingham	166	3.84	126	2.91	148	3.38	202	4.56	193	4.30	12%
Caribou	15	1.98	17	2.28	23	3.15	10	1.35	10	1.37	-31%
Franklin	7	0.60	5	0.42	12	0.99	11	0.88	9	0.71	19%
Oneida	6	1.40	5	1.19	7	1.66	8	1.88	5	1.16	-17%
Power	25	3.20	21	2.79	21	2.79	22	2.87	12	1.51	-53%
Region 5	649	4.07	659	4.17	729	4.60	753	4.69	698	4.26	5%
Bonneville	425	4.97	515	5.93	542	6.11	476	5.18	505	5.36	8%
Butte	2	0.67	0	0.00	4	1.37	2	0.69	4	1.39	109%
Clark	3	2.83	1	0.98	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	-100%
Custer	15	3.33	12	2.81	13	3.12	5	1.18	2	0.48	-86%
Fremont	17	1.39	37	3.06	24	1.94	17	1.35	23	1.83	32%
Jefferson	32	1.61	26	1.67	28	1.36	7	0.33	68	3.07	91%
Lemhi	**	**	**	**	12	1.52	17	2.12	11	1.36	**
Madison	18	0.63	16	0.57	16	0.53	15	0.48	16	0.50	-20%
Teton	16	2.57	17	2.43	21	2.92	6	0.81	15	1.96	-24%
Region 6	529	3.29	625	3.96	663	3.78	545	3.01	644	3.49	6%
Statewide	5841	4.39	6181	4.56	6061	4.36	5670	3.98	6153	4.20	-4%

* 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.

Data Considerations and Limitations

When using and interpreting information from an incident based reporting system, the following should be taken into consideration when describing 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 99.9% of Idaho's population is covered by 108 law enforcement agencies that do participate.
- NIBRS does not include an identifier for intimate partner violence, nor does it document the reasons, conflicts, or motives behind criminal acts. Therefore, NIBRS information only allows for the identification of the relationship between the victim and the offender and the implied 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 offices' leadership, policies, size or effectiveness of the police force, local politics, and local awareness may attribute to increases or decreases in reported crime.

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION RATES BY REGION

