



## **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED AND ASSAULTED - 2010**

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## LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED AND ASSAULTED 2010

In October 2011, the FBI released its annual *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted* for 2010. The report is based on data submitted to the FBI from agencies participating in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program, FBI field offices, and federal agencies including the U.S. Capitol Police, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of the Treasury, and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. Data is provided for duly sworn city, university and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement officers feloniously killed, officers accidentally killed, and officers assaulted, with narrative descriptions provided for incidents where officers were feloniously killed.

The data pertain to those officers who at the time of the incident met the following criteria:

- They were working in an official capacity
- They had full arrest powers
- They ordinarily wore a badge and carried a firearm
- They were paid from governmental funds set aside specifically for payment of sworn law enforcement representatives

In addition, their deaths must have been directly related to injuries received during the incidents.

### National statistics

- Fifty-six law enforcement officers were feloniously killed in the line of duty in 2010. The deaths occurred in 22 states and Puerto Rico. In 2009, 48 officers were feloniously killed.
- Characteristics of the feloniously killed officer in 2010:
  - Average age was 38.
  - Average length of service was 10 years.
  - 54 officers were male, 2 officers were female.
  - 48 officers were white, 7 were black, and 1 was Asian/Pacific Islander.
- Characteristics of the incident surrounding the murder:
  - 27 percent occurred in ambush situations.
  - 25 percent occurred in arrest situations.
  - 11 percent occurred during the investigation of disturbance calls.
  - 14 percent occurred while investigating suspicious persons or circumstances.
  - 13 percent occurred during traffic stops/pursuits.
  - 5 percent occurred during tactical situations.
  - 3 percent occurred while conducting an investigative activity.
  - 2 percent occurred during the handling, transport, or custody of prisoners.

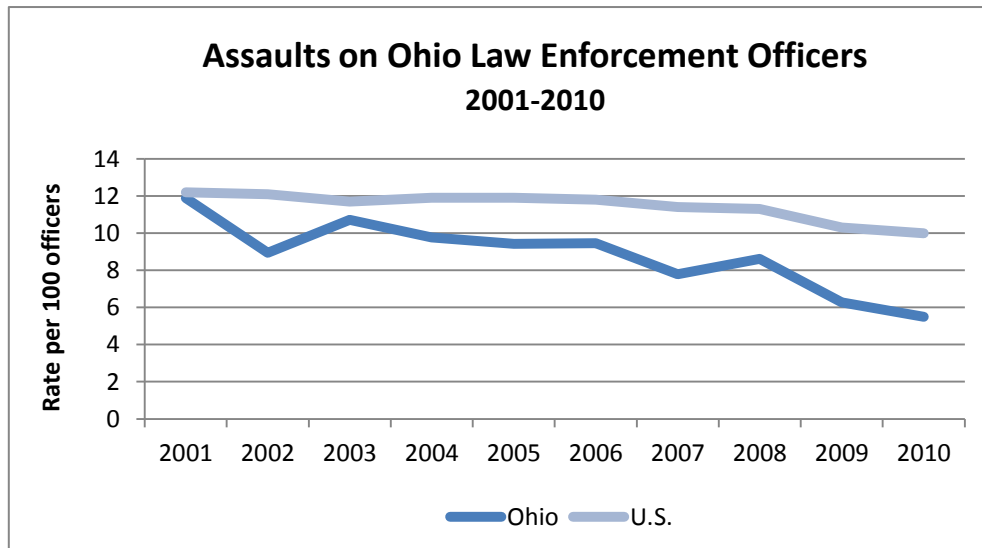
- Fifty-five of the 56 officers were killed by a firearm. Of these, 69 percent were killed with handguns, and 27 percent were killed with rifles. Seven officers attempted to fire their own weapon and 16 fired their own weapon during the incidents. Thirty-eight percent of firearm deaths of officers occurred when the distance between the victim and offender was between 0-5 feet.
- Sixty-eight percent of officers were wearing body armor at the time of their murder.
- The average age of the 69 identified alleged offenders was 31 years. All but two were male. Twenty-five were white and 35 were black. Eighty-three percent had prior criminal arrests, and 28 percent were under judicial supervision at the time of the felonious incident.
- There were 72 accidental deaths of law enforcement officers in 2010. Fifty-four died as the result of a vehicle-related accident, including automobile (45), motorcycle (7) or aircraft (2) accidents. Eleven were struck by vehicles (directing or stopping traffic, assisting motorists). Three were accidentally shot. Four officers died as the result of other accidental causes.
- 53,469 officers were assaulted in the line of duty, a rate of 10.0 per 100 officers. Eighty-one percent of these officers were assaulted with personal weapons, such as hands, fists, or feet. Twenty-seven percent of all assaults resulted in an injury.
- Over a 10-year period, 41 percent of felonious killings of officers occurred in the A.M. hours between midnight and noon, while the remaining 59 percent occurred in the P.M. hours. The six-hour stretch between 8 P.M. and 2 A.M. accounted for 37 percent of such incidents. Similarly, these were the most active hours for assaults on officers, as 42 percent of all assaults occurred between 8 P.M. and 2 A.M.

### **Ohio statistics**

- There was one felonious killing of an officer in Ohio in 2010, and since 2001, there have been 14 felonious killings in Ohio.  

A 43 year old Elyria Police Department patrol officer was fatally shot on March 15 while responding to a disturbance call. The officer, an 18-year veteran of law enforcement, arrived on the scene, made contact with the 58 year old man who was the subject of the disturbance call, and went inside with the man. While inside, the man fired at the officer with a 9 mm semiautomatic handgun, striking the officer in the front and side of the head, the neck and chest, and in the stomach below the protective vest. The victim officer radioed for backup. The alleged shooter, who left the residence, was confronted by officers arriving on the scene. An altercation ensued, and the alleged offender was shot and killed by the officers. The victim officer was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead upon arrival from the gunshot wound to the side of his head. The alleged shooter had a prior law enforcement relationship with the victim officer and a prior criminal record that included violent crime.
- One Ohio officer was accidentally killed in 2010. A trooper from the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Bucyrus Post, was killed in an auto accident.

- During 2010, 138 Ohio agencies reported 287 assaults on officers. Eighty-three percent of the assaults were committed with a personal weapon. Two percent were committed with a firearm.
- The rate of assault per 100 officers in Ohio in 2010 was 5.5, which is below the U.S. rate of 10.0 per 100 officers.



Source: FBI, *Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted*, 2010.