

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIM DATA UCR Reporting Requirements

DCJS collects data concerning domestic violence in New York State as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program. Domestic violence is characterized by the current or former relationship of the people involved in a crime incident. Domestic violence victim data are to be reported regardless of whether or not a complaint was filed or an arrest was made.

For purposes of UCR crime reporting, domestic violence data should be captured when the victim/offender relationship is one of the following:

1. Persons related by consanguinity (blood) or through marriage (affinity).
2. Persons legally married to each other, or formerly married to each other.
3. Persons who have a child in common, regardless of whether such persons have been married or lived together at any time.
4. Persons who are currently living together, or who have previously lived together, in a significant intimate relationship, including same-sex couples, to the extent that such relationship can be readily discerned.
5. Persons who are currently or who have previously been involved in a significant intimate relationship, including same-sex couples, to the extent that such relationship can be readily discerned.

The last page of the Return A includes a table for entering domestic violence victim data. The counts in this table should include the total number of victims of domestic violence-related offenses within a reported incident, regardless of the top UCR offense. For example, a simple assault by one spouse on the other is to be counted on the domestic violence victim data table even if a more serious non-domestic violence-related offense was reported in the same incident. However, **only one domestic violence-related offense can be counted per victim**. Therefore, victims of multiple offenses in the same incident should be counted only once on the Domestic Violence Victim Data table, in the top domestic violence-related offense for which they were reported as the victim.

Hierarchy For Reporting Domestic-Violence Related Offense

When reporting victims of domestic violence, it is important to count only one offense per victim. When an incident involves multiple offenses against the same victim, the following hierarchy of domestic violence-related offenses should be used to determine which offense the victim should be reported under:

- Murder
- Rape
- Aggravated assault
- Kidnapping
- Sex offenses (other than rape)
- Coercion
- Simple assault
- Violation of protective order
- Endangering the welfare of a child

Scoring Offenses

All the above offenses classified as domestic violence are considered crimes against persons. Therefore, agencies should record one offense for each victim on the Domestic Violence Victim Data table.

The domestic violence table counts the above offenses in the following five offense groupings:

- Aggravated assault
- Simple assault
- Sex offenses (includes sexual misconduct, rape, sodomy, sexual abuse, compelling prostitution, incest, and promoting the sexual performance of a child)
- Other violent offenses (murder, kidnapping, coercion, and endangering the welfare of a child)
- Violation of a protective order

Domestic violence offenses to be reported in the Domestic Violence Victim Data table include any of the above offenses (or attempts) perpetrated by people in domestic relationships against each other.

Victim Categories

Victim categories on the UCR form are defined below. They are meant to be mutually exclusive.

1. Wife by husband: include wife, ex-wife, husband, and ex-husband.
2. Husband by wife: include husband, ex-husband, wife, and ex-wife.
3. Child by parent: include a child of any age, minor or adult.
4. Parent by child: include a child of any age, minor or adult.
5. Other family relation: aunts, uncles, grandparents, sisters-in-law, cousins, and other blood and in-law relations.
6. Intimate partner (female victim): include all current and former intimate partner relationships where the couple was never legally married.
7. Intimate partner (male victim): as above.