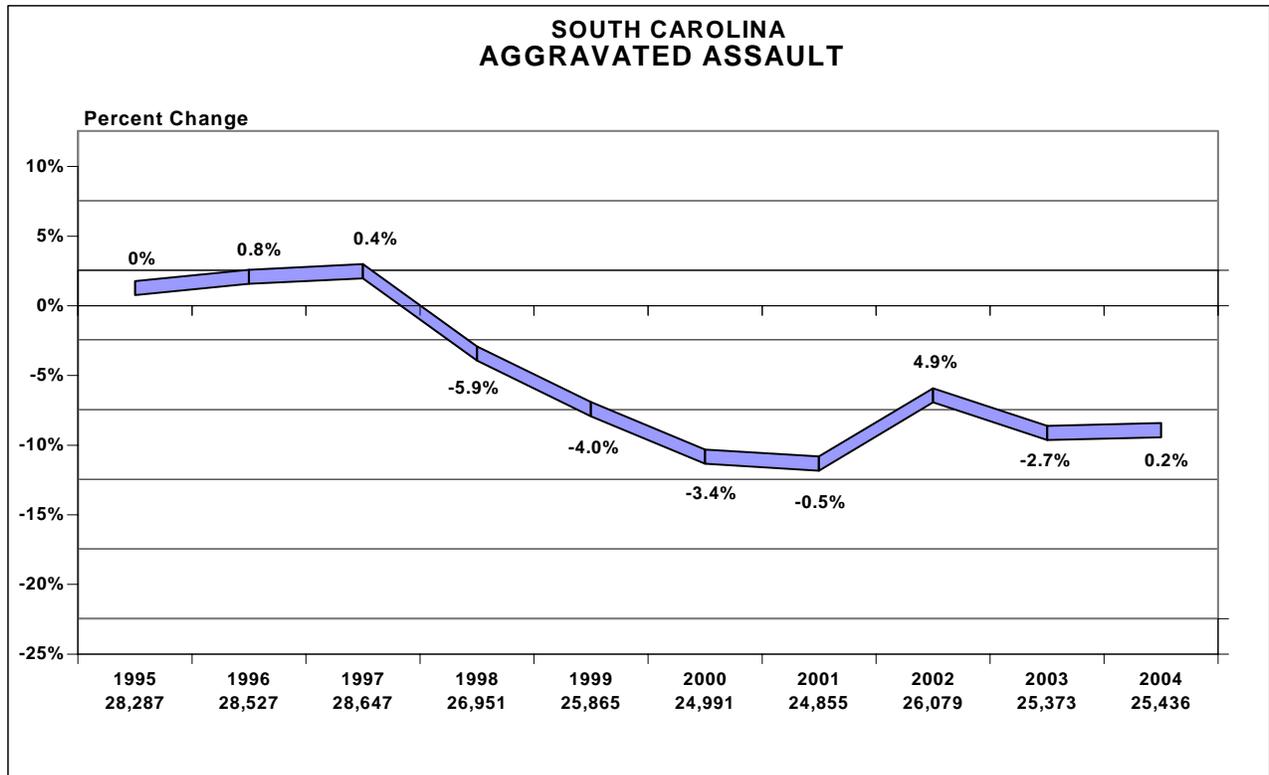


# AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

## **DEFINITION**

Aggravated Assault, for UCR purposes, is defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another with the intent of inflicting serious bodily injury. Aggravated Assaults are frequently accomplished through the use or threatened use of dangerous weapons. However, assaults resulting in serious injury from the use of hands or feet are also counted in this category. Attempts to assault are counted here since it is not necessary that injury result whenever a dangerous weapon is employed. Attempts to commit murder are classified under this category. One offense is counted for each victim of aggravated assault.



### 2004 SUMMARY

A total of 25,436 aggravated assaults was reported in the 2004 crime index. During this year, aggravated assaults increased 0.2 percent compared to those reported in 2003.

There were 14,145 aggravated assaults cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared, amounting to a clearance rate of 55.6 percent statewide.

Aggravated assaults accounted for 77.3 percent of all violent crimes and 11.6 percent of the total crime index.

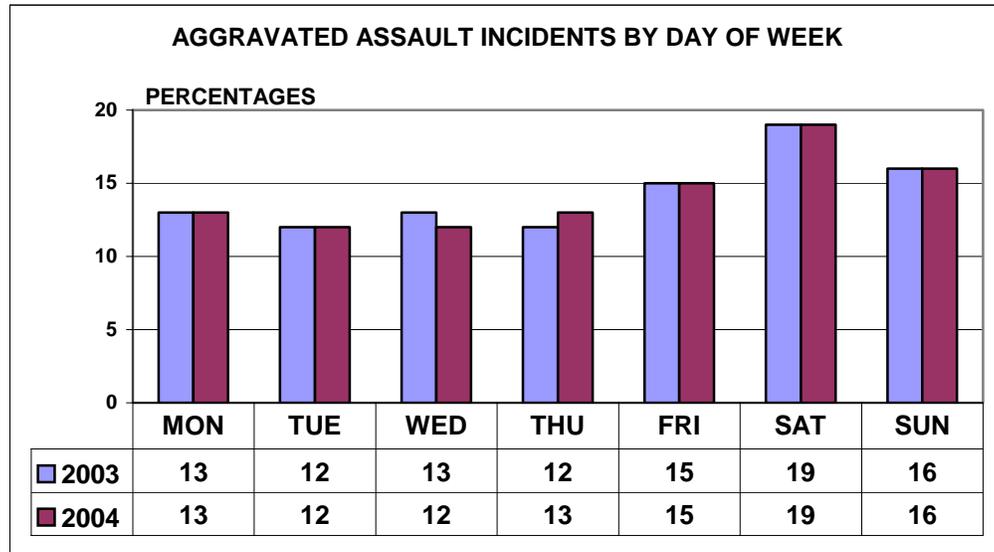
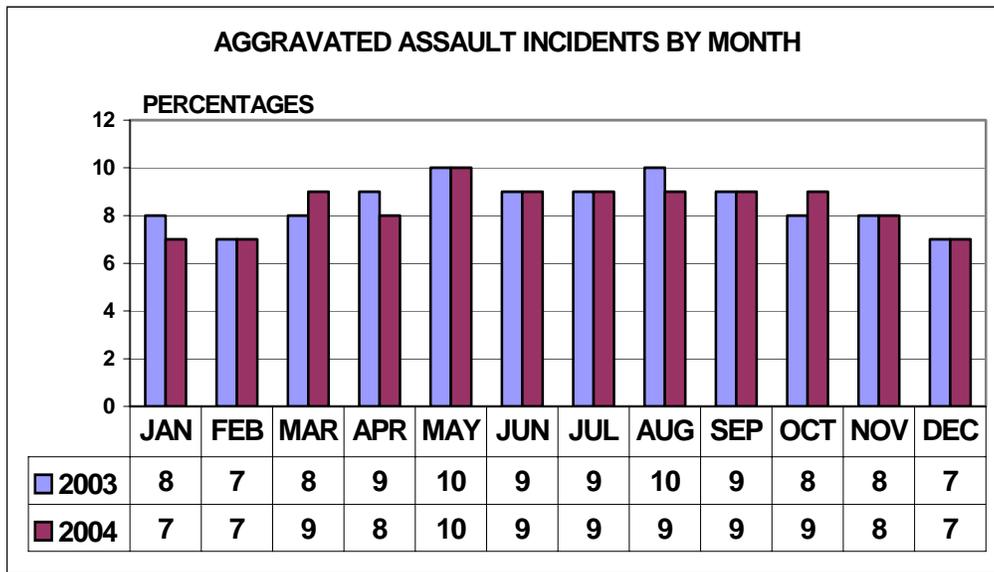
The aggravated assault rate in South Carolina was 60.9 per 10,000 persons.

The age group 25-34 accounted for 25.5 percent of persons arrested for aggravated assault. Males represented 78.0 percent of the total arrests made. Of all persons arrested for this offense, 41.8 percent were white, 57.7 percent were black, and 0.5 percent were other races.

Firearms were used in 21.2 percent of all aggravated assaults, cutting instruments in 18.3 percent, hands and feet in 29.2 percent, other weapons in 30.1 percent, and unknown weapons in 1.3 percent.

Victims were known to have been using alcohol at the time of the offense in 12.2 percent of the cases, drugs in 0.3 percent, and alcohol and drugs in 0.3 percent.

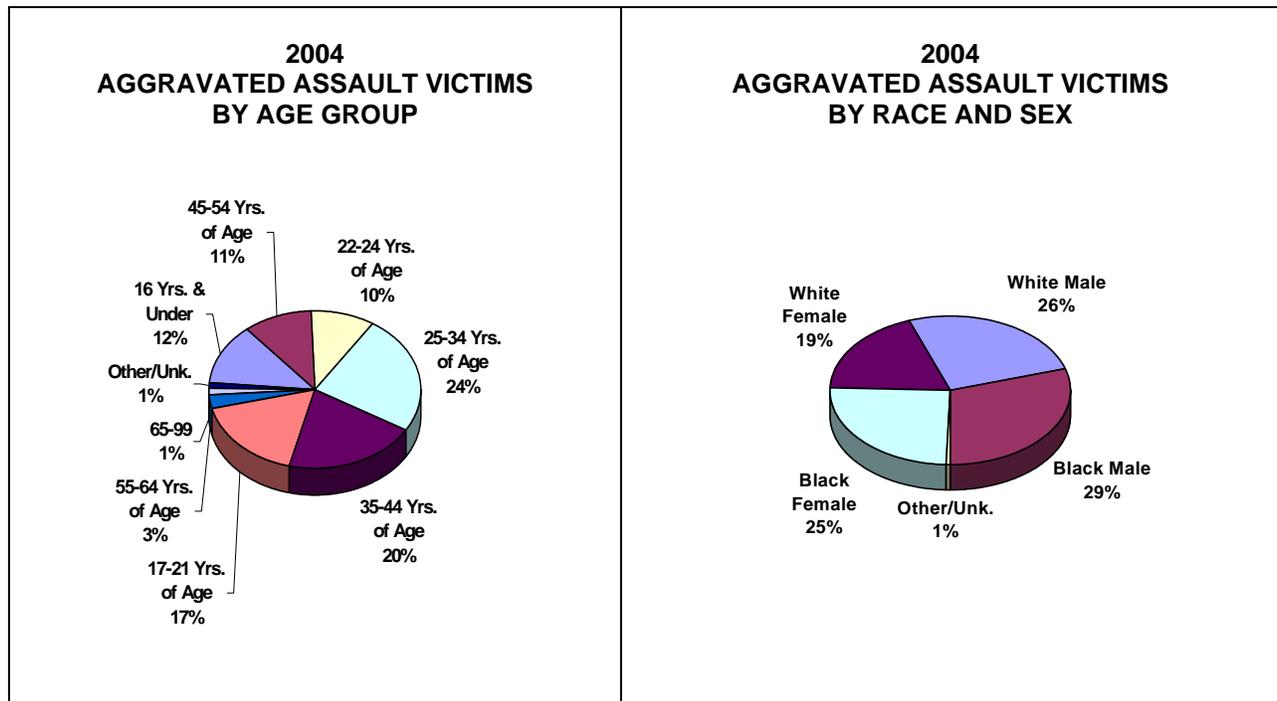
Offenders were known to have been using alcohol at the time of the offense in 17.0 percent of the cases, drugs in 0.8 percent, and alcohol and drugs in 1.0 percent.



**2004 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT VICTIMS BY AGE, SEX, RACE**

Age Group	Total	White Male	Black Male	Other Male	Unk Male	White Female	Black Female	Other Female	Unk Female	Unk Unk
Infant	51	15	17	1	0	9	9	0	0	0
01 – 04	222	54	71	0	2	42	51	0	0	2
05 – 09	406	112	155	0	0	50	89	0	0	0
10 – 16	2,488	570	908	7	3	365	626	4	3	2
17 – 21	4,425	1,092	1,322	6	3	715	1,276	5	5	1
22 – 24	2,515	633	669	5	3	472	726	6	1	0
25 – 34	6,213	1,635	1,634	15	9	1,233	1,673	7	5	2
35 – 44	5,191	1,328	1,451	10	4	1,222	1,165	9	2	0
45 – 54	2,709	743	931	3	2	500	524	4	2	0
55 – 64	730	250	235	0	0	134	109	2	0	0
65 – 99	314	95	79	2	0	78	59	1	0	0
Other/Unk.	292	85	79	1	4	37	59	0	6	21
<b>State Total</b>	<b>25,556</b>	<b>6,612</b>	<b>7,551</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>4,857</b>	<b>6,366</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>

**NOTE:** The victim counts shown here have not been subjected to the “hierarchy rule” (explained elsewhere); therefore, all victims linked to this offense type are counted.

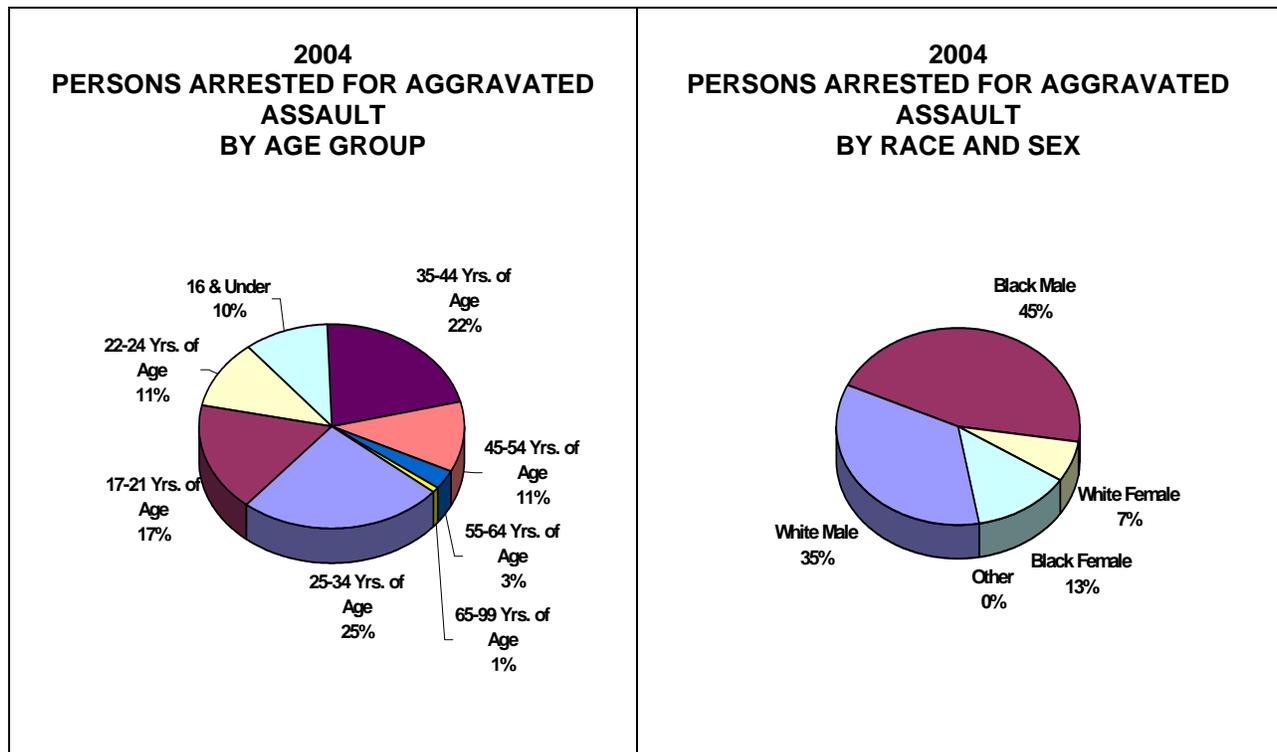


Twenty-six percent of aggravated assault victims in 2004 were white males, 28 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger; 30 percent were black males, 33 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger. White females accounted for 19 percent of aggravated assault victims, 24 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger; black females accounted for 25 percent of aggravated assault victims, 32 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger.

**2004 PERSONS ARRESTED FOR AGGRAVATED ASSAULT**

Age Group	Total	White Male	Black Male	Other Male	White Female	Black Female	Other Female
01 – 09	16	9	5	0	1	1	0
10 – 16	947	222	464	1	67	192	1
17 – 21	1,615	484	829	5	71	223	3
22 – 24	1,000	302	497	6	60	134	1
25 – 34	2,346	848	1,036	19	175	265	3
35 – 44	2,023	824	760	7	184	245	3
45 – 54	1,054	401	476	3	62	111	1
55 – 64	280	126	120	1	15	18	0
65 – 99	80	31	38	0	4	7	0
<b>State Total</b>	<b>9,361</b>	<b>3,247</b>	<b>4,225</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>1,196</b>	<b>12</b>

**NOTE:** The arrest counts shown here have not been subjected to the “hierarchy rule” (explained elsewhere); therefore, all persons arrested that are linked to this offense type are counted.

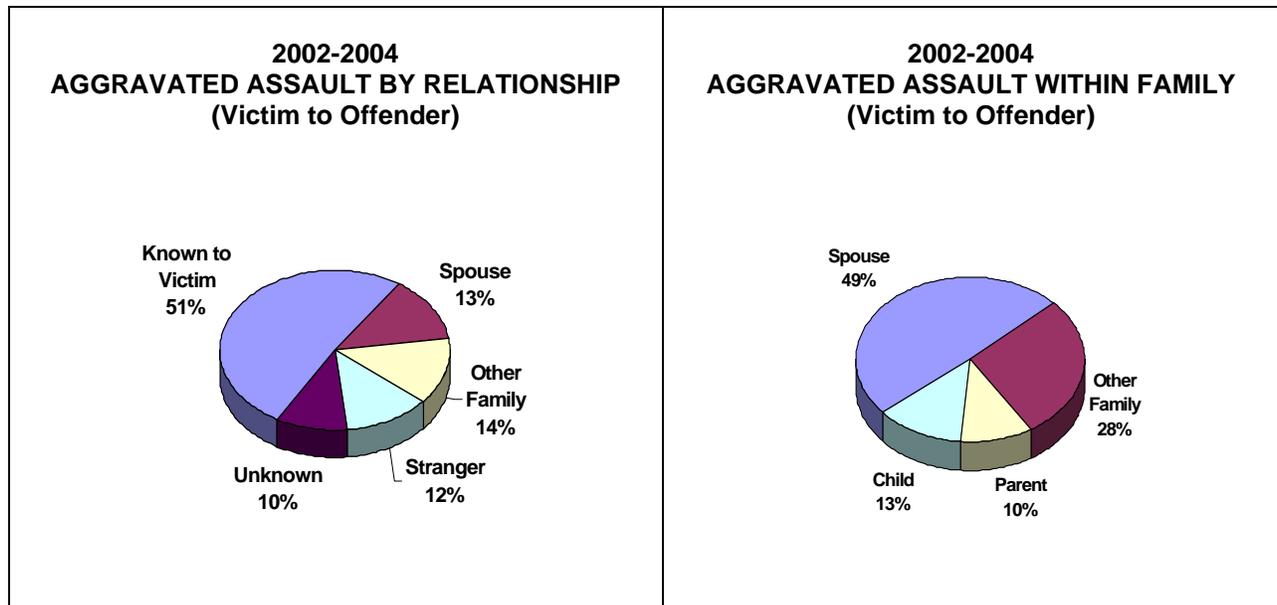


Thirty-five percent of persons arrested for aggravated assault in 2004 were white males, 22 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger, 45 percent were black males, 31 percent of those were 21 years of age or younger. White females accounted for 7 percent of persons arrested for aggravated assault, while black females accounted for 13 percent of persons arrested. More than 21 percent of the white females and 34 percent of the black females were 21 years of age or younger.

**2002-2004 RELATIONSHIP OF AGGRAVATED ASSAULT VICTIMS TO OFFENDERS**

<b>Relationship Of Victim To Offender</b>	<b>Number of Victims 2002</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>	<b>Number of Victims 2003</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>	<b>Number of Victims 2004</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>
<b>Within Family</b>	<b>7,195</b>	<b>27.5</b>	<b>6,874</b>	<b>27.0</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>25.5</b>
Spouse	2,385	9.1	2,245	8.8	2,057	8.1
Common-Law Spouse	1,168	4.5	1,152	4.5	1,132	4.4
Parent, Stepparent	733	2.8	738	2.9	649	2.5
Child, Stepchild	912	3.5	876	3.4	796	3.1
Sibling, Stepsib.	876	3.3	822	3.2	783	3.1
Other Family	1,121	4.3	1,041	4.1	1,083	4.2
<b>Known to Victim</b>	<b>13,121</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>13,063</b>	<b>51.4</b>	<b>13,139</b>	<b>51.5</b>
Acquaintance	10,092	38.5	9,990	39.3	10,146	39.8
Ex-Spouse	167	0.6	176	0.7	159	0.6
Boy/Girlfriend	2,862	10.9	2,897	11.4	2,834	11.1
<b>Stranger</b>	<b>3,102</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>3,183</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>3,215</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>2,764</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>2,328</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>2,640</b>	<b>10.4</b>
<b>State Total</b>	<b>26,182</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25,448</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>25,494</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The victim counts in this table have not been subjected to the "hierarchy rule" (explained elsewhere), therefore, all victims linked to this offense type are counted. For simplicity, only one relationship category has been counted for each victim. (If there was more than one offender related to a victim, only the relationship "closest" to that victim was counted.)

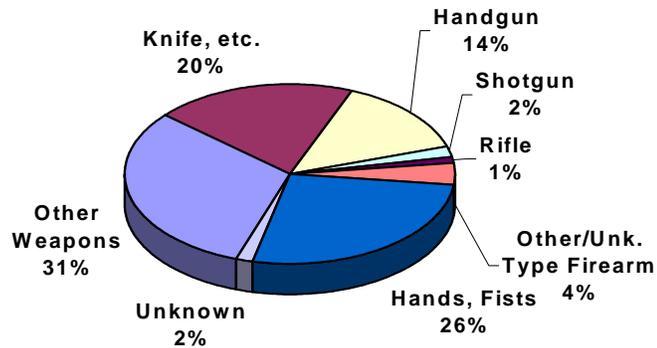


**2002-2004 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WEAPON DISTRIBUTION**

<b>Weapons</b>	<b>2002 Incidents</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>	<b>2003 Incidents</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>	<b>2004 Incidents</b>	<b>% Distr.</b>
Handgun	3,141	14.1	2,889	13.7	2,937	13.8
Shotgun	469	2.1	442	2.1	411	1.9
Rifle	293	1.3	232	1.1	238	1.1
Other/Unk. Type Firearm	718	3.2	738	3.5	905	4.3
Knife, Cutting Instr.	4,546	20.4	4,189	19.9	3,887	18.3
Hands, Fists	5,410	24.3	5,673	27.0	6,201	29.2
Other Weapons	7,150	32.1	6,579	31.3	6,384	30.1
Unknown	523	2.4	286	1.4	267	1.3
<b>State Total</b>	<b>22,250</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,028</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,230</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The incident counts in this table have not been subjected to the "hierarchy rule" (explained elsewhere), therefore, all incidents in this category are counted. For simplicity, only one weapon type has been counted for each incident. (If there was more than one weapon type used in an incident, only the primary weapon as listed in order in this table - was counted.)

**2002-2004  
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT WEAPON DISTRIBUTION**



**2002-2004 AGGRAVATED ASSAULT INCIDENTS BY PREMISE**

Premise	2002 Incidents	% Distr.	2003 Incidents	% Distr.	2004 Incidents	% Distr.
Residences, Apts.	14,086	63.3	13,009	61.9	13,032	61.4
Roads, Parking Lots, etc.	4,404	19.7	4,447	21.1	4,480	21.1
Commercial	885	4.0	821	3.9	773	3.6
Nightclubs, Bars	842	3.8	820	3.9	881	4.1
Hotels, Motels	243	1.1	243	1.2	235	1.1
Convenience Stores, etc.	394	1.8	342	1.6	382	1.8
Schools, Churches	583	2.6	595	2.8	584	2.8
Woods, etc.	150	0.7	156	0.7	180	0.8
Other	663	3.0	595	2.8	683	3.2
<b>State Total</b>	<b>22,250</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,028</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>21,230</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**NOTE:** The counts in this table have not been subjected to the "hierarchy rule" (explained elsewhere).

