

# **THE CATO INSTITUTE'S NATIONAL POLICE MISCONDUCT REPORTING PROJECT 2010 Annual Report**

## **Introduction**

This is the 2010 National Police Misconduct Statistics and Reporting Project (NPMSRP) Police Misconduct Statistical Report. This report is the result of data captured from January 2010 through December 2010 by the NPMSRP consisting of reports that meet credibility criteria which have been gathered from multiple media sources throughout the United States. For more information about the NPMSRP, the process used to gather data on police misconduct, and other information about our reporting process please visit our [FAQ page](#) or [About page](#). You can also review older statistical reports and ancillary reports [here](#).

## **Sexual Misconduct**

Officer-involved sexual misconduct describes an entire subset of police misconduct that includes non-criminal complaints such as consensual sexual activity that occurs while an officer is on-duty, sexual harassment, up to felony acts of sexual assault or child molestation. Sexual misconduct was the second most common form of misconduct reported throughout 2010 with 618 officers

involved in sexual misconduct complaints during that period, 354 of which were involved in complaints that involved forcible non-consensual sexual activity such as sexual assault or sexual battery.

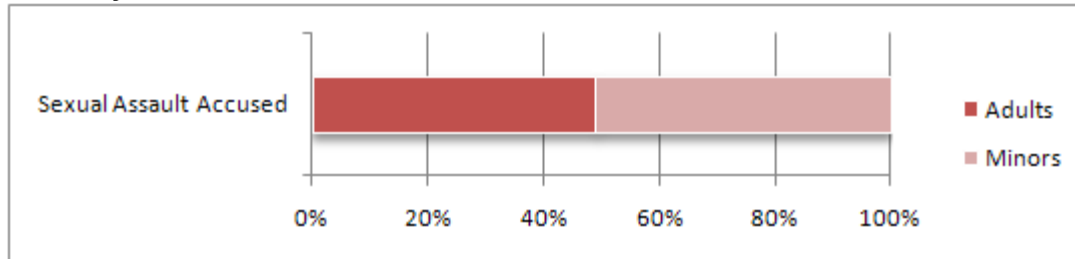


Figure 6. Officers involved with sexual misconduct by percentage of incidents involving children or adults.

Of the officers associated with reports of serious sexual misconduct, 51% (180) were involved with reports that involved minors and 49% (174) involved adults.

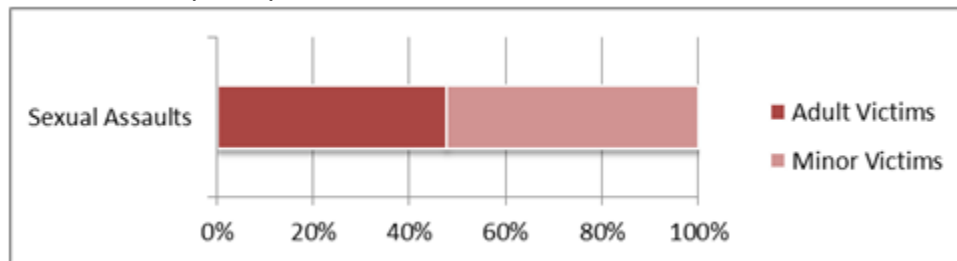


Figure 7. Alleged victims of officer-involved sexual assaults by age.

However, of the 479 alleged victims of serious sexual misconduct which were tracked, 52% (249) were minors and 48% (230) were adults. This would appear to indicate that minors are victims of alleged serial offenders slightly more often than adults. Of the 354 officers involved with serious sexual misconduct reports, 56 law enforcement officers were involved in allegations where multiple victims were involved.

When current data is filtered to examine only incidents that can be classified as violent crimes as specified per the [US FBI/DOJ Uniform Crime Reporting](#) standards and then compared with the [2009 FBI/DOJ UCR Crime in the United States report](#) as a per capita general population and per capita law enforcement basis the results indicate that overall violent crime rates are not too divergent between the two population groups with a difference of only 20.1 per 100k point between the two. However, there appear to be some more significant differences at a more granular level with robbery rates for police far below those reported for the general population but sexual assault rates are significantly higher for police when compared to the general population.

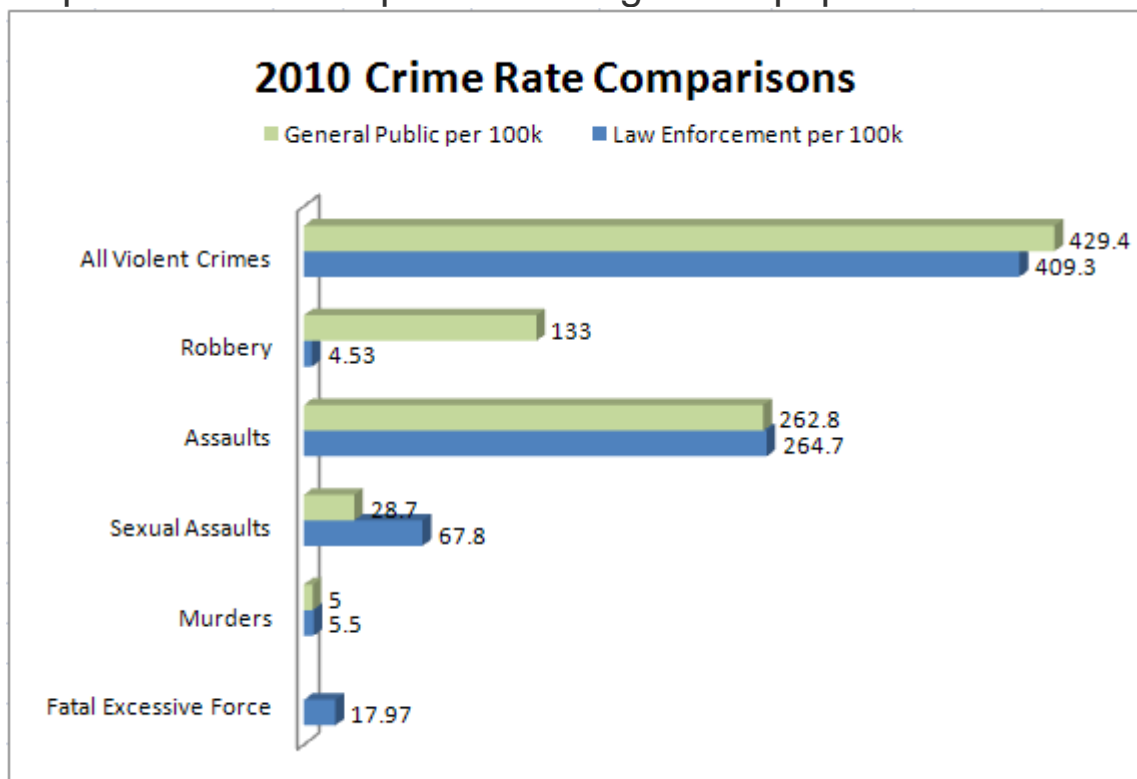


Figure 10. Violent Crime Rate comparison between general population UCR data and law enforcement population NPMSRP data.

While the rate of police officers officially charged with murder is only 1.06% higher than the current general population murder rate, if excessive force complaints involving fatalities were prosecuted as murder the murder rate for law enforcement officers would exceed the general population murder rate by 472%.