

# Assault Injuries & Deaths in NYC, 2001

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene  
Bureau of Injury Epidemiology



Michael R. Bloomberg  
*Mayor*

Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH  
*Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene*

# Table of Contents

<b>1. Introduction.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. Assault Injuries &amp; Deaths in NYC (Tables &amp; Graphs). ....</b>	<b>4-27</b>
<b>2.1 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Sex.....</b>	<b>4-5</b>
(Rates per 100,000 of Assault Injuries and Deaths by Sex, 2001)	
<b>2.2 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Age.....</b>	<b>6-7</b>
(Rates per 100,000 of Assault Injuries and Deaths by Age, 2001)	
<b>2.3 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Borough &amp; City.....</b>	<b>8-9</b>
(Rates per 100,000 of Assault Injuries and Deaths by Borough, 2001)	
<b>2.4 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Ethnicity.....</b>	<b>10-11</b>
<b>2.4 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Ethnicity Among Males.....</b>	<b>12-13</b>
<b>2.4 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Ethnicity Among Females (%).....</b>	<b>14-15</b>
<b>2.5 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Weapon Type.....</b>	<b>16-17</b>
(Rates per 100,000 of Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon, 2001)	
<b>2.6 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Weapon Type (%).....</b>	<b>18-19</b>
<b>2.6 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Weapon Among Males.....</b>	<b>20-21</b>
(Rates per 100,000 of Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon, 2001)	
<b>2.6 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Weapon Type Among Males (%).....</b>	<b>22-23</b>
<b>2.6 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Weapon Among Females.....</b>	<b>24-25</b>
(Rates per 100,000 of Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon, 2001)	
<b>2.6 Injuries &amp; Deaths by Weapon Type Among Females (%).....</b>	<b>26-27</b>

# Introduction

The New York City Injury Surveillance System (ISS, formerly known as WRISS) currently contains data on all intentional injury deaths (homicides and suicides) and hospitalized injuries (assaults and self-inflicted injuries) from 1990 through 2001, and intentional injuries treated in a sample of 29 Emergency Departments since 1997. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funded NYC DOH to establish a Weapon Related Injury Surveillance System in 1993, at the height of the violence epidemic in the United States. Since that time it has become one of the ongoing surveillance activities of NYC DOHMH. Initially only injuries caused by weapons: firearms and cutting and blunt instruments were monitored. It was expanded in 1997 to include other intentional injuries involving the use of physical force, biting, strangulation, fists, and feet. Other assaults such as rape, were included beginning in 1998.

ISS uses three sources of data to determine injury rates for New York City. The NYC DOHMH Office of Vital Statistics (VS) provides data on deaths; data on hospitalized injuries is from the Statewide Planning and Research Cooperative System (SPARCS). Vital Statistics and SPARCS use E-codes (external causes of morbidity and mortality) to classify injuries. Treated and released data is collected for one randomly selected week every quarter from Emergency Department (ED) records in 29 hospitals chosen because they treat between 80%-85% of the hospitalized assault injuries in New York City. All three sources of information include patient demographics, injury and weapon type, circumstance of the assault, perpetrator information, and disposition.

ISS allows DOHMH to describe and track patterns of intentional and unintentional injuries occurring in New York City. It also provides information to other city agencies, hospitals and health facilities, and community based organizations to help them understand how injuries effect their community's health and to develop the necessary programs and interventions to help reduce them.

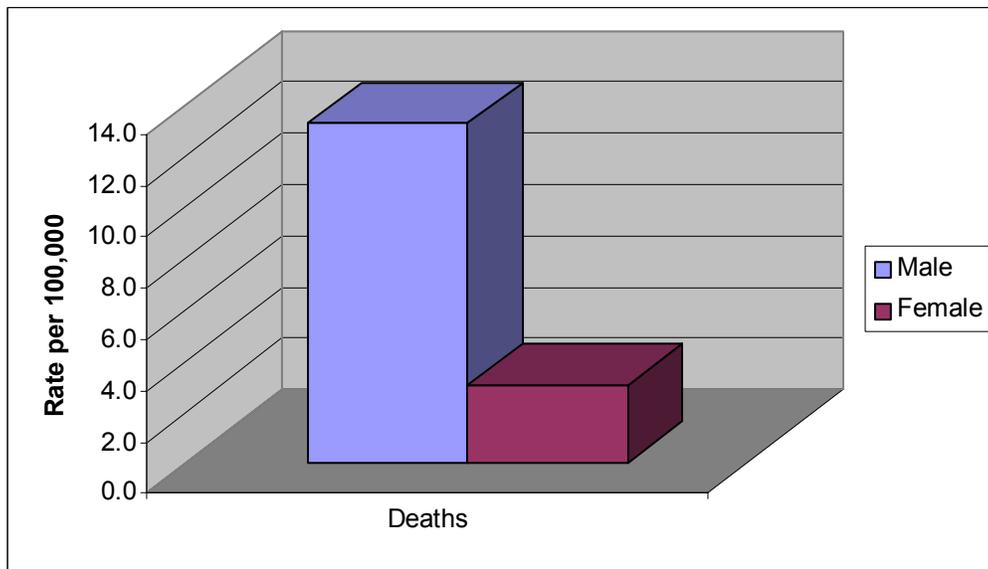
# Tables and Graphs

(Compares Treated & Released, Hospitalization, and Vital Stats data):

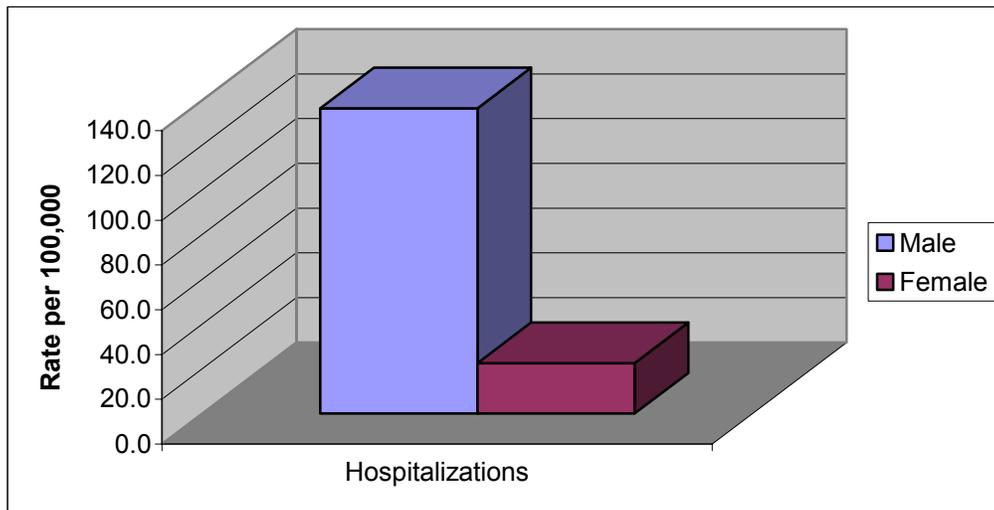
**Table 1: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Sex, 2001**  
(Rate per 100,000)

Sex	Deaths	Hospitalizations	Treated & Released
Male	13.2	136.4	530.6
Female	3.0	22.5	279.0
Overall Rate	7.9	76.5	398.2

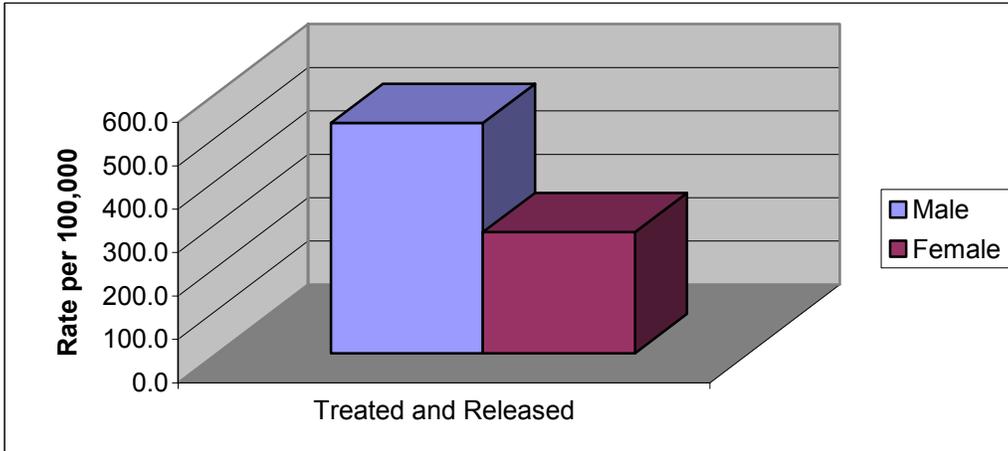
**Graph 1a: Assault Deaths by Sex, 2001**



**Graph 1b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Sex, 2001**



**Graph 1c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Sex, 2001**

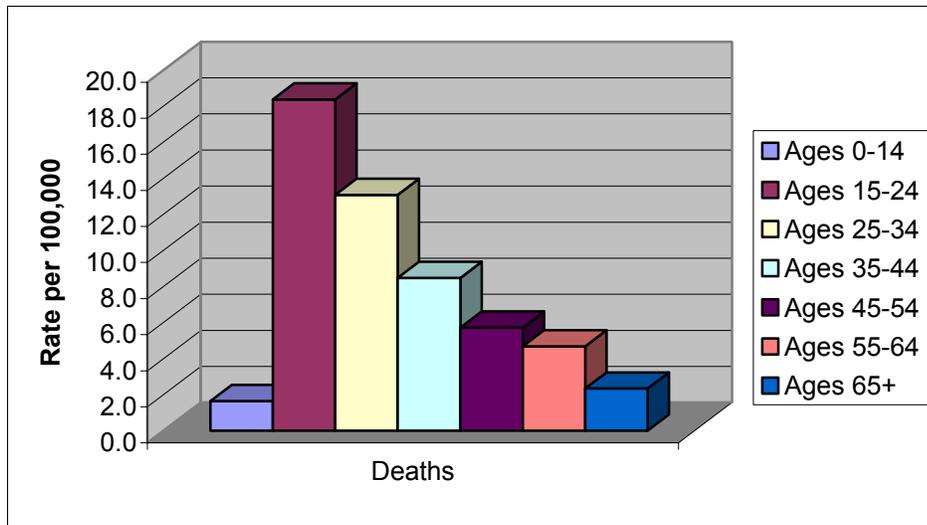


**Table 2: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Age, 2001**  
(Rate per 100,000)

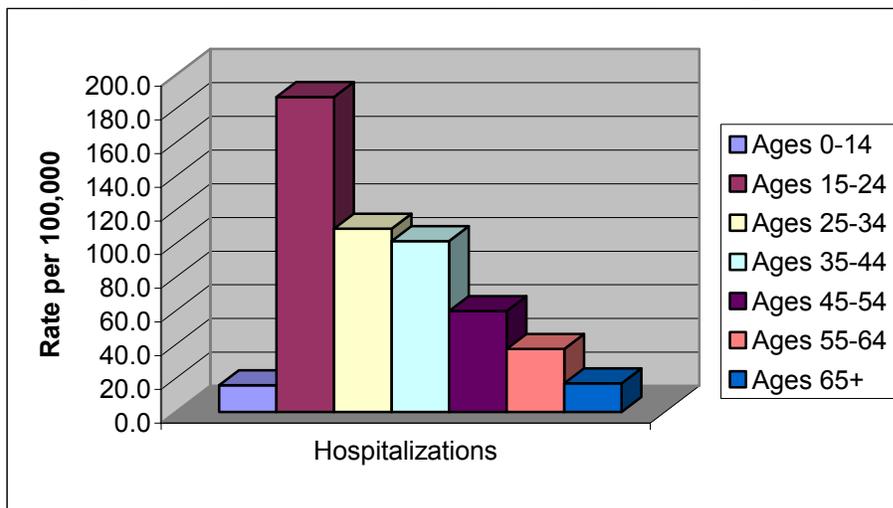
Age	Deaths	Hospitalizations	Treated & Released
0 to 14	1.7	15.9	237.7
15 to 24	18.4	186.9	946.6
25 to 34	13.1	108.8	552.5
35 to 44	8.5	101.4	455.7
45 to 54	5.7	59.9	286.2
55 to 64	4.7	37.5	116.8
65+	2.3	17.1	65.3
<b>Overall Rate</b>	7.9	76.5	399.8

\*Unknowns were excluded in the overall rate for treated and released data.

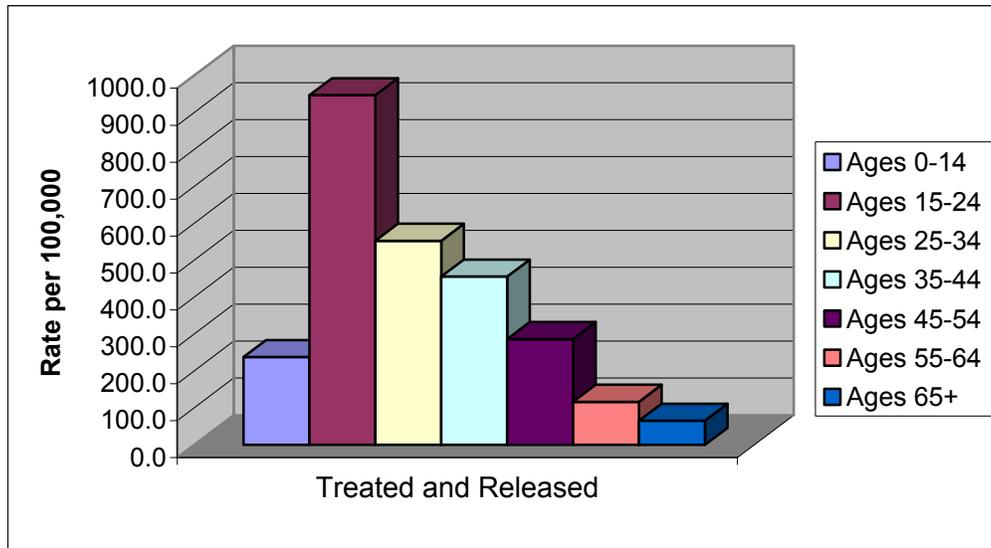
**Graph 2a: Assault Deaths by Age Group, 2001**



**Graph 2b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Age Group, 2001**



**Graph 2c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Age Group, 2001**

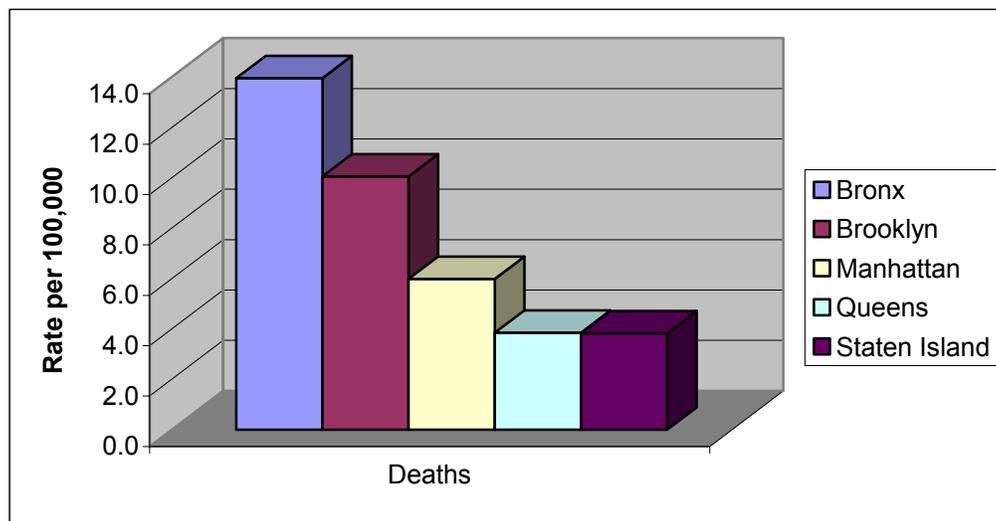


**Table 3: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Borough, 2001**  
(Rate per 100,000)

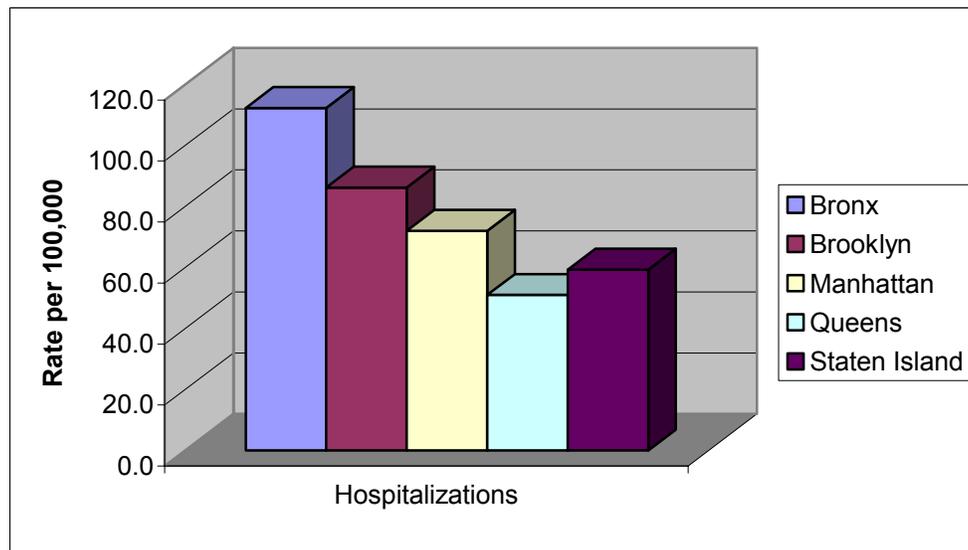
Borough	Deaths	Hospitalizations	Treated & Released
Bronx	14.0	112.3	702.4
Brooklyn	10.1	86.2	333.0
Manhattan	6.0	72.0	334.7
Queens	3.9	51.0	250.7
Staten Island	3.8	59.3	313.9
Overall Rate	7.9	76.5	370.8

\*Unknowns found in treated and released were excluded in the overall rate for treated and released data.

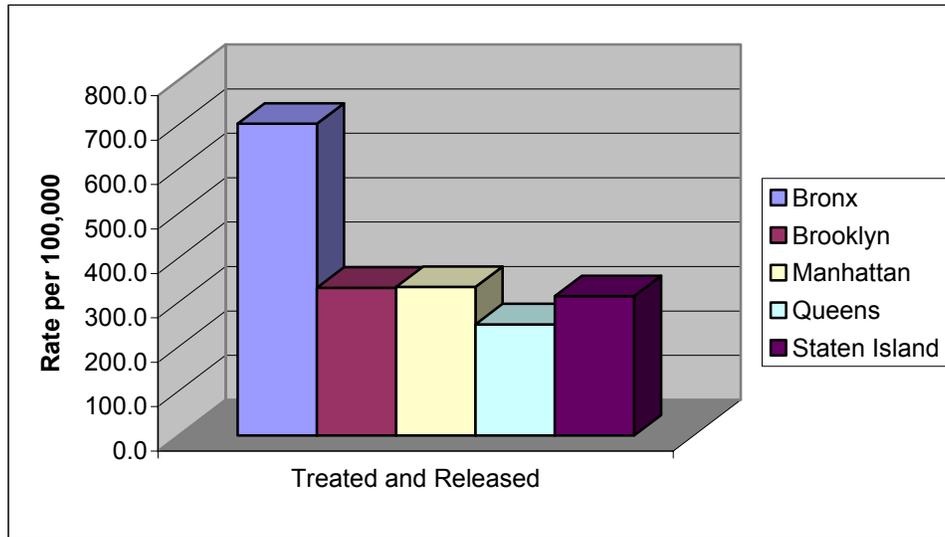
**Graph 3a: Assault Deaths by Borough, 2001**



**Graph 3b: Hospitalized Assault Deaths by Borough, 2001**



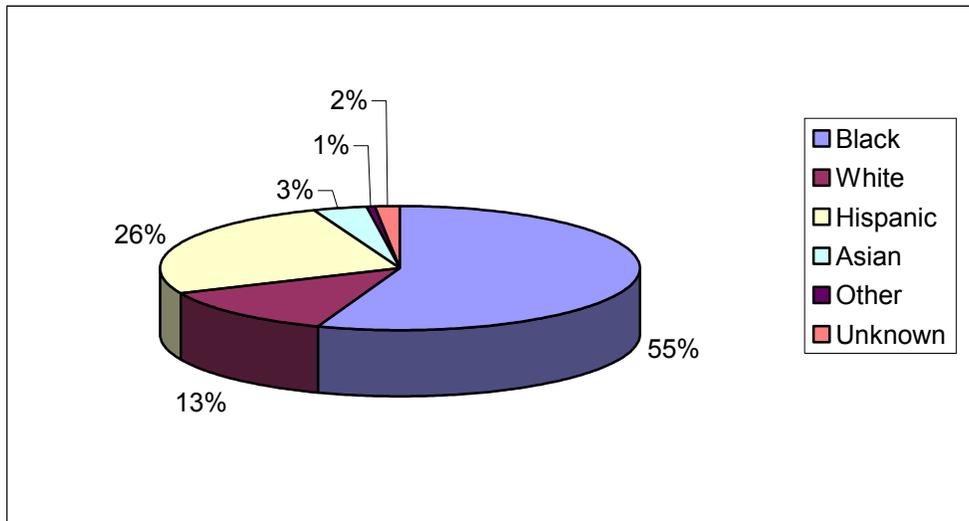
**Graph 3c: Treated and Released Assault Deaths by Borough, 2001**



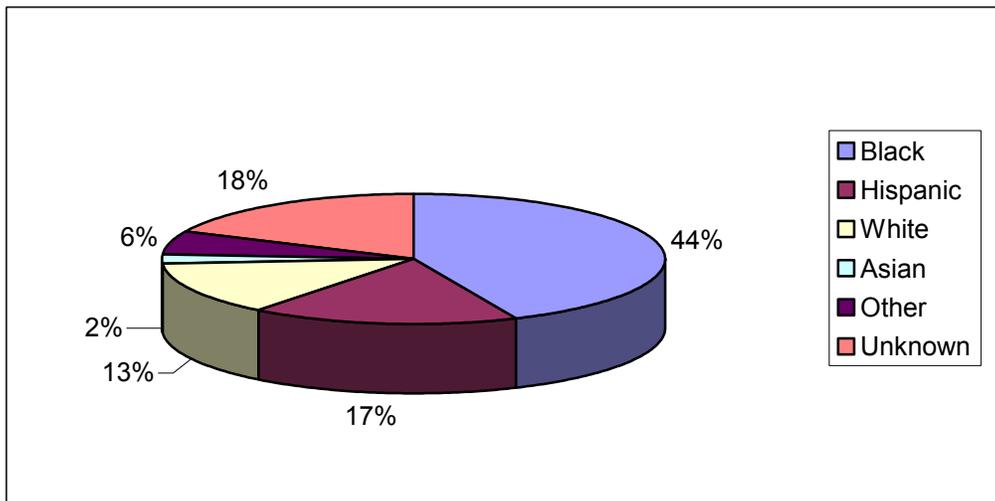
**Table 4: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Ethnicity, 2001**

Ethnicity	Deaths		Hospitalizations		Treated & Released	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Black</b>	349	55.5	2647	43.2	11979	37.2
<b>Hispanic</b>	164	26.1	1060	17.3	8171	25.4
<b>White</b>	80	12.7	824	13.4	2749	8.5
<b>Asian</b>	22	3.5	138	2.3	576	1.8
<b>Other</b>	4	0.6	347	5.7	1597	5.0
<b>Unknown</b>	10	1.6	1111	18.1	7131	22.1
<b>Total</b>	629	100	6127	100	32203	100

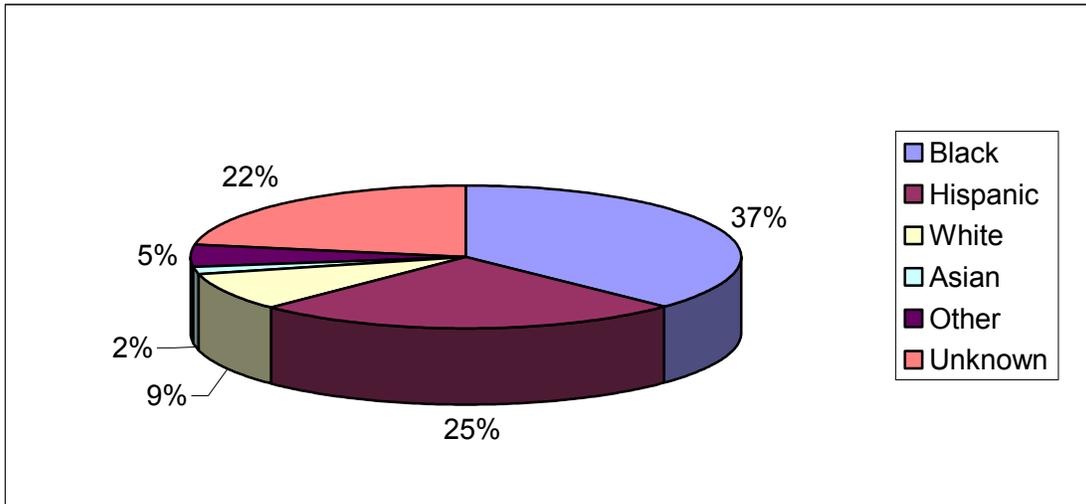
**Graph 4a: Assault Deaths by Ethnicity, 2001**



**Graph 4b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Ethnicity, 2001**



**Graph 4c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Ethnicity, 2001**

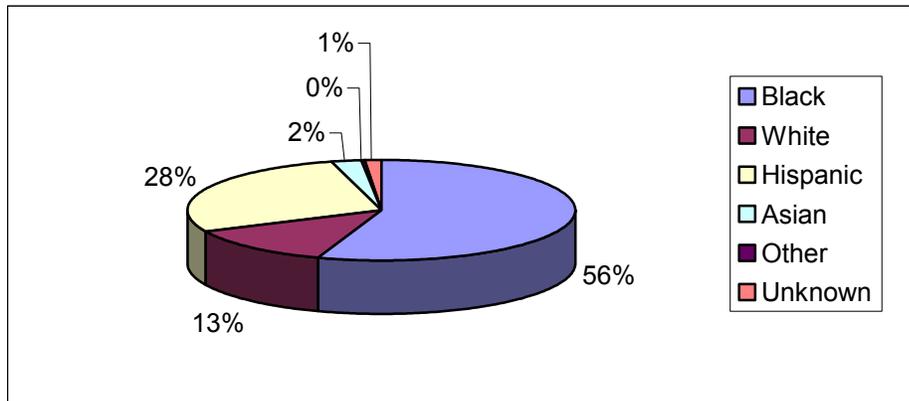


The numbers for Treated and Released are subject to error due to inconsistency of hospital reporting of race/ethnicity.

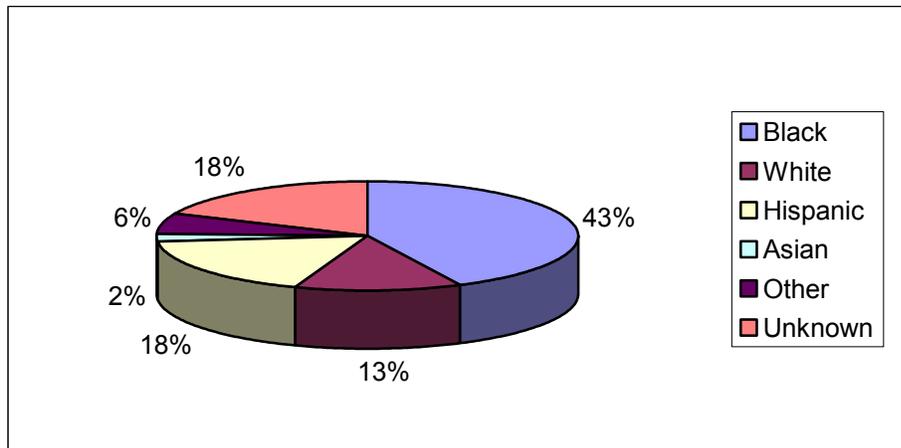
**Table 5: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Ethnicity Among Males, 2001**

Ethnicity	Deaths		Hospitalizations		Treated & Released	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Black</b>	277	55.3	2210	42.8	6593	32.8
<b>Hispanic</b>	139	27.7	913	17.6	5274	26.2
<b>White</b>	64	12.8	672	12.9	2154	10.7
<b>Asian</b>	12	2.4	112	2.2	409	2.0
<b>Other</b>	2	0.4	316	6.1	1207	6.0
<b>Unknown</b>	7	1.4	954	18.4	4494	22.3
<b>Total</b>	501	100	5177	100	20131	100

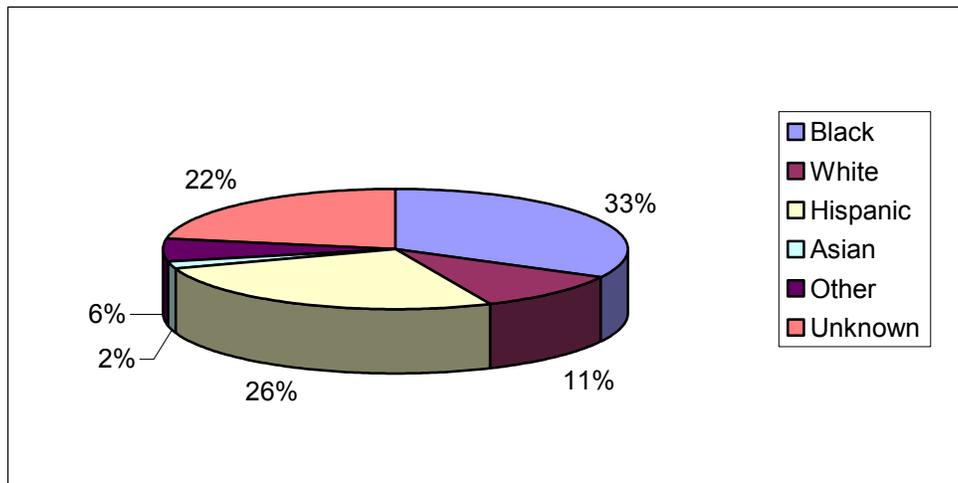
**Graph 5a: Assault Deaths by Ethnicity Among Males, 2001**



**Graph 5b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Ethnicity Among Males, 2001**



**Graph 5c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Ethnicity Among Males, 2001**

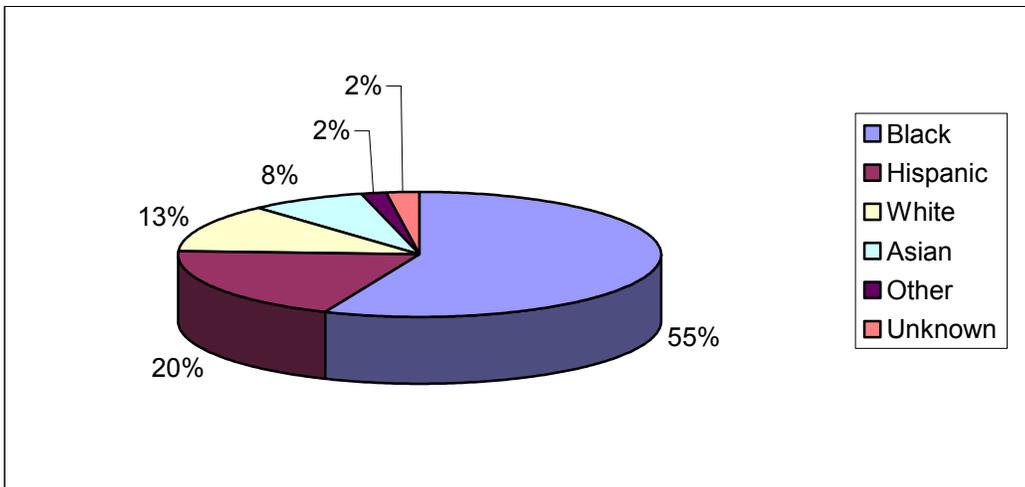


The rates for Treated and Released are subject to error due to inconsistency of hospital reporting of race/ethnicity.

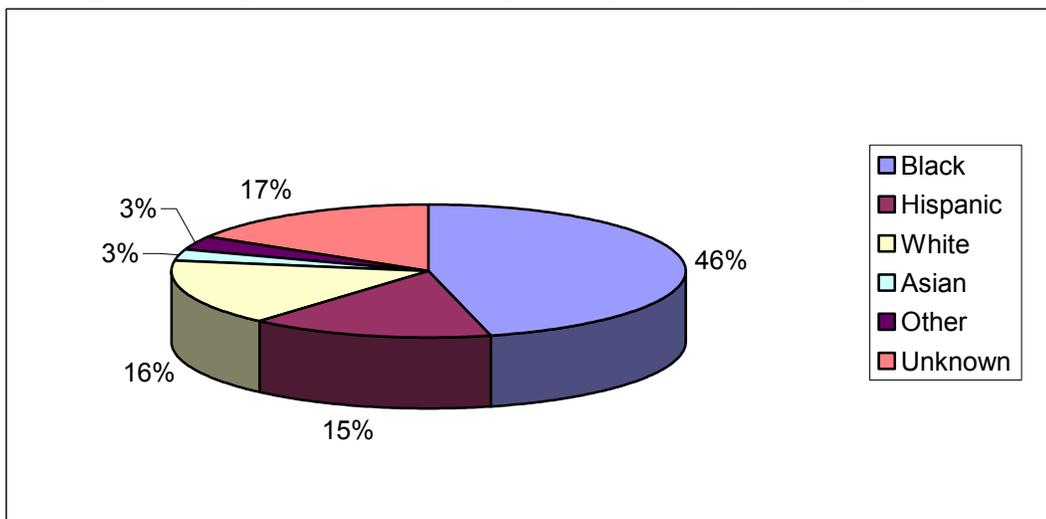
**Table 6: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Ethnicity Among Females, 2001**

Ethnicity	Deaths		Hospitalizations		Treated & Released	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Black</b>	72	56.3	437	46.0	5256	44.7
<b>Hispanic</b>	25	19.5	147	15.5	2823	24.0
<b>White</b>	16	12.5	152	16	594	5.1
<b>Asian</b>	10	7.8	26	2.7	167	1.4
<b>Other</b>	2	1.6	31	3.3	390	3.3
<b>Unknown</b>	3	2.3	157	16.5	2526	21.5
<b>Total</b>	128	100	950	100	11756	100

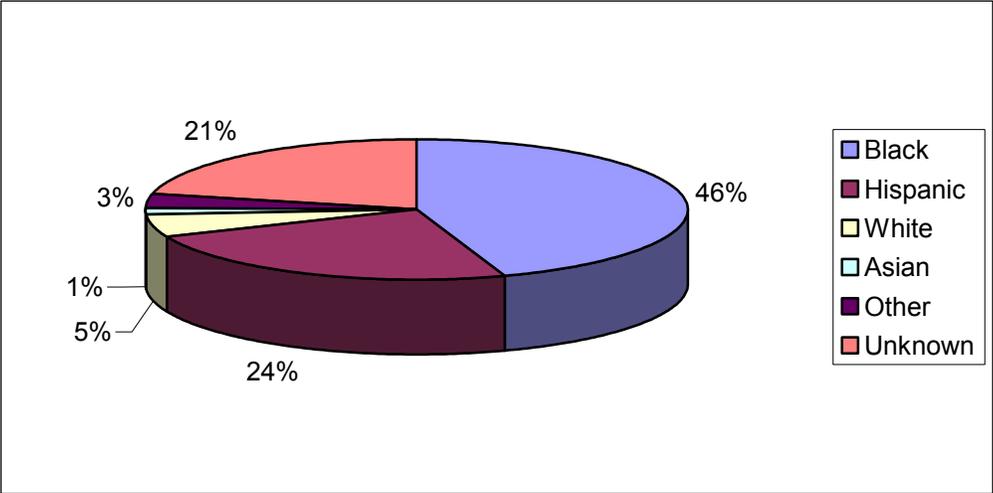
**Graph 6a: Assault Deaths by Ethnicity Among Females, 2001**



**Graph 6b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Ethnicity Among Females, 2001**



**Graph 6c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Ethnicity Among Females, 2001**



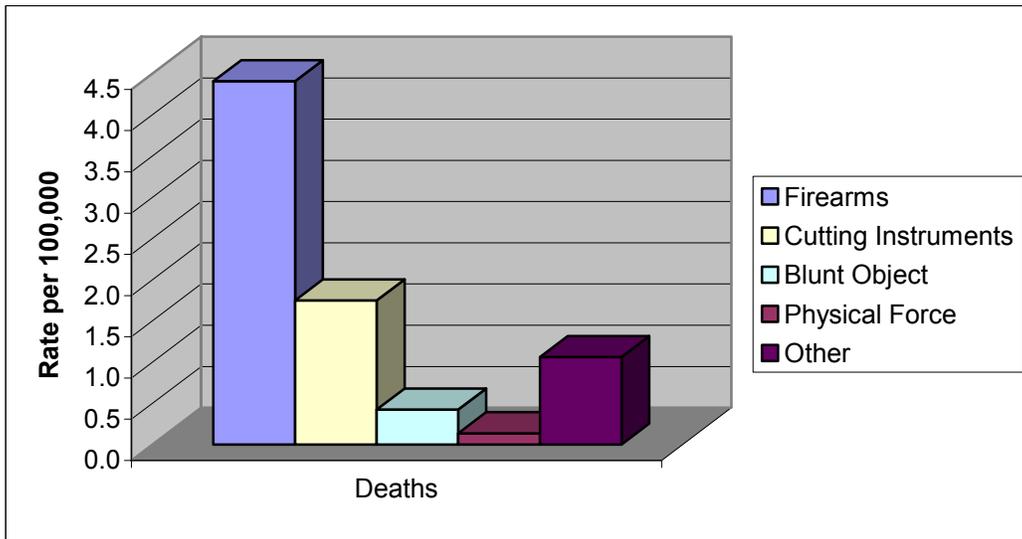
The rates for Treated and Released are subject to error due to inconsistency of hospital reporting of race/ethnicity.

**Table 7: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon, 2001**  
(Rate per 100,000)

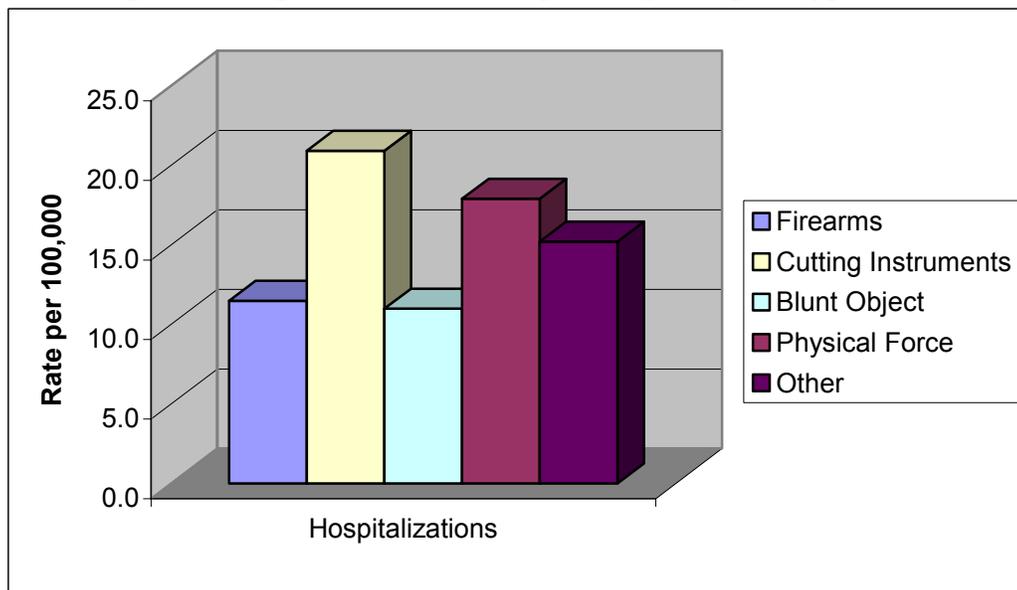
Weapon	Deaths	Hospitalizations	Treated & Released
Firearms	4.4	11.5	6.5
Cutting Instruments	1.7	20.9	60.1
Blunt Object	0.4	11.0	69.8
Physical Force	0.1	17.9	230.5
Other	1.1	15.2	29.5
<b>Overall Rate</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>76.5</b>	<b>396.3</b>

\*Unknowns were excluded in the overall rate.

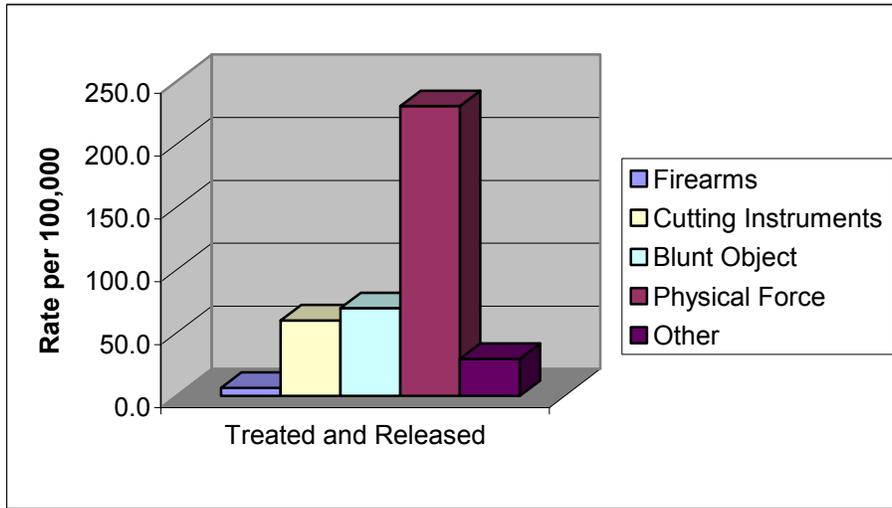
**Graph 7a: Assault Deaths by Weapon Type, 2001**



**Graph 7b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Weapon Type, 2001**



**Graph 7c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Weapon Type, 2001**

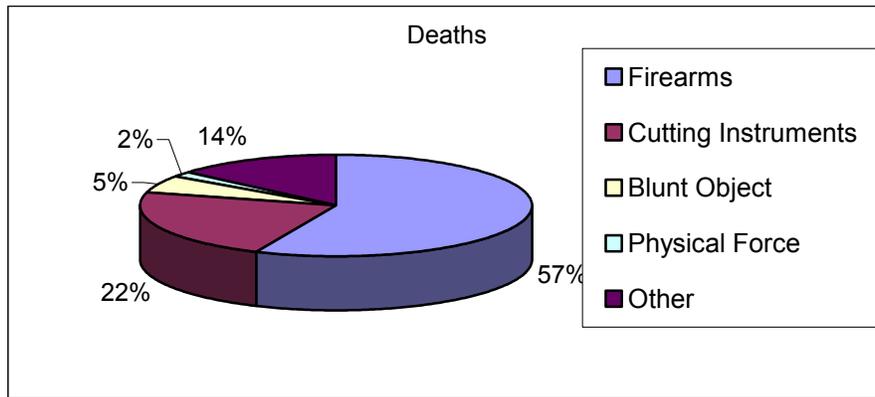


**Table 8: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon, 2001**

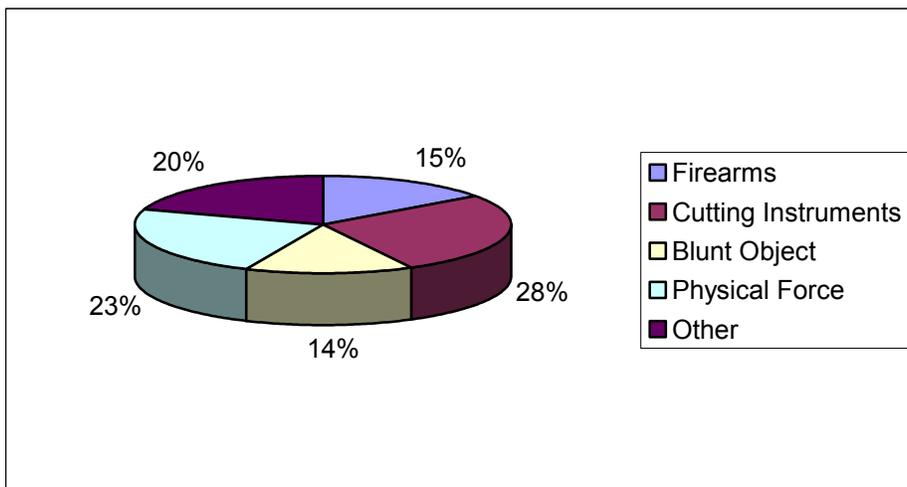
Weapon	Deaths		Hospitalizations		Treated & Released	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Firearms	353	56.6	920	15.0	520	1.6
Cutting Instruments	140	22.1	1675	27.3	4810	15.2
Blunt Object	34	5.0	880	14.4	5590	17.6
Physical Force	11	1.7	1434	23.4	18460	58.2
Other	91	14.6	1218	19.9	2359	7.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6127</b>	<b>6127</b>	<b>31739</b>	<b>100</b>

\*Unknowns were excluded in the overall rate.

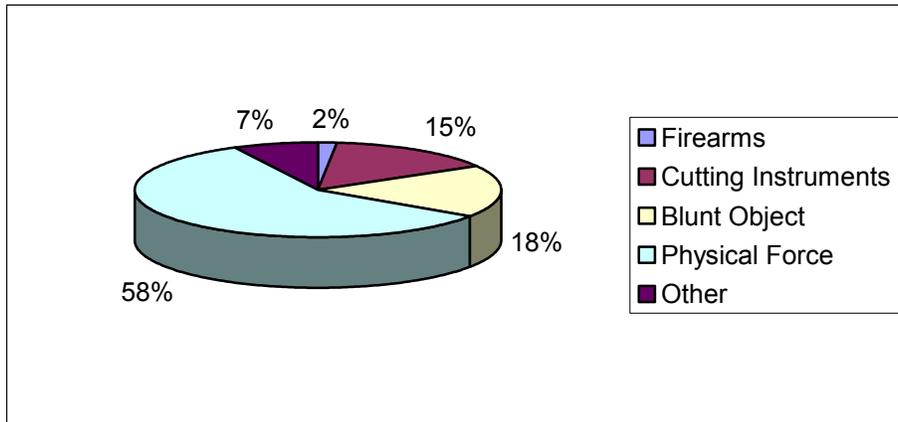
**Graph 8a: Assault Deaths by Weapon Type, 2001**



**Graph 8b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Weapon Type, 2001**



**Graph 8c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Weapon Type, 2001**

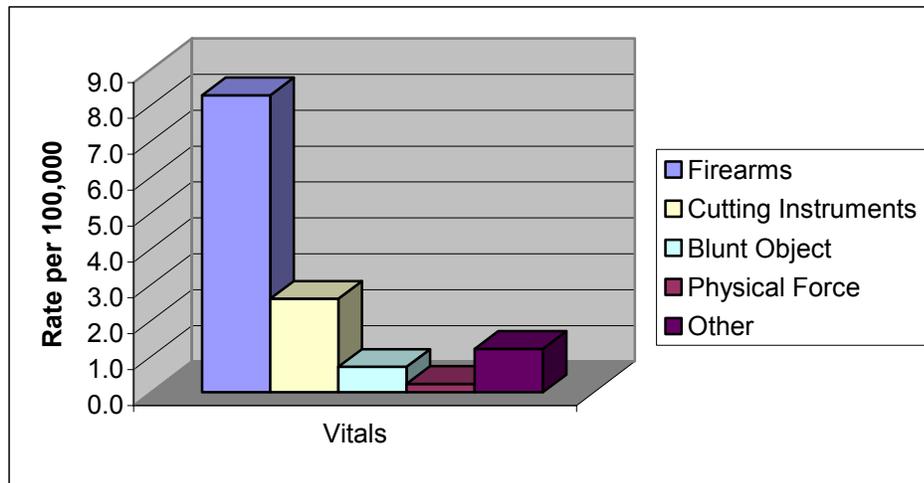


**Table 9: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon Among Males, 2001**  
(Rate per 100,000)

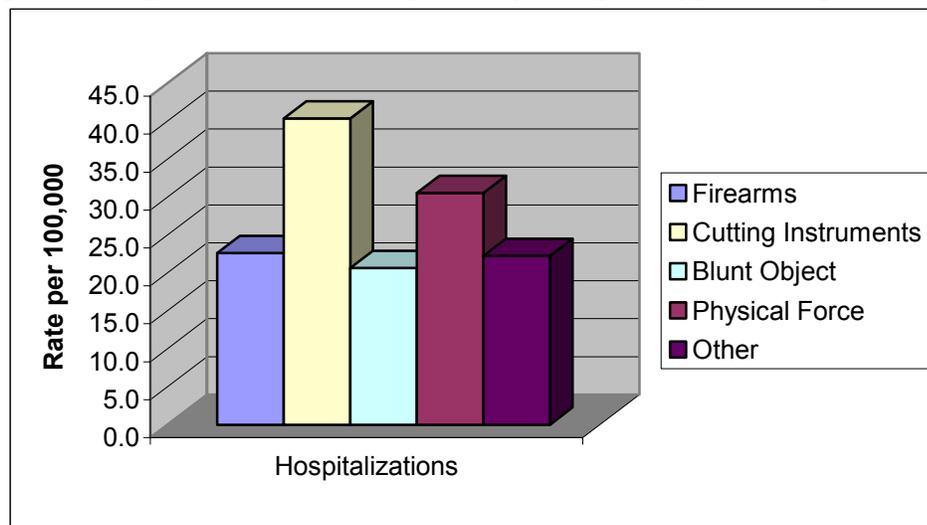
Weapon	Deaths	Hospitalizations	Treated & Released
Firearms	8.3	22.6	11.3
Cutting Instruments	2.6	40.4	98.9
Blunt Object	0.7	20.7	103.8
Physical Force	0.2	30.5	270.7
Other	1.2	22.2	29.4
<b>Overall Rate</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>136.4</b>	<b>513.9</b>

\*Unknowns were excluded in the overall rate.

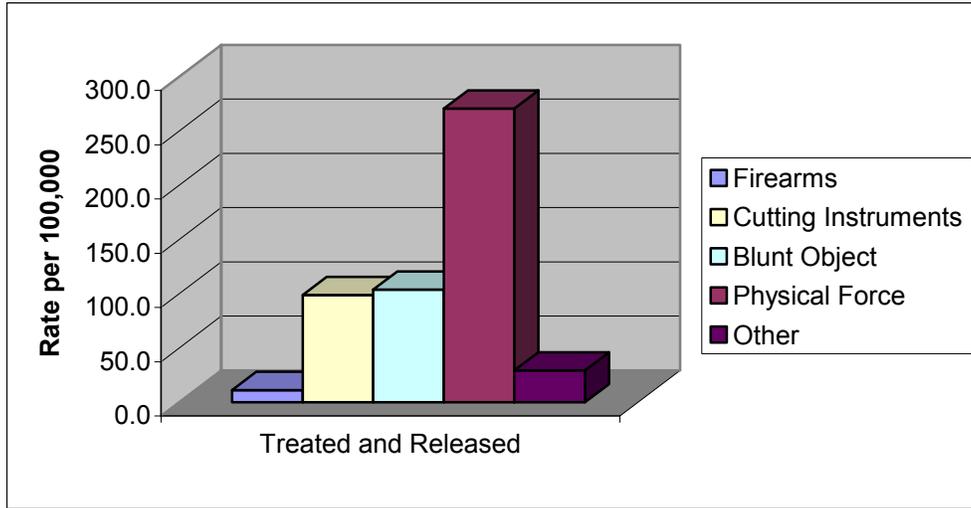
**Graph9a: Assault Deaths by Weapon Type Among Males, 2001**



**Graph9b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Weapon Type Among Males, 2001**



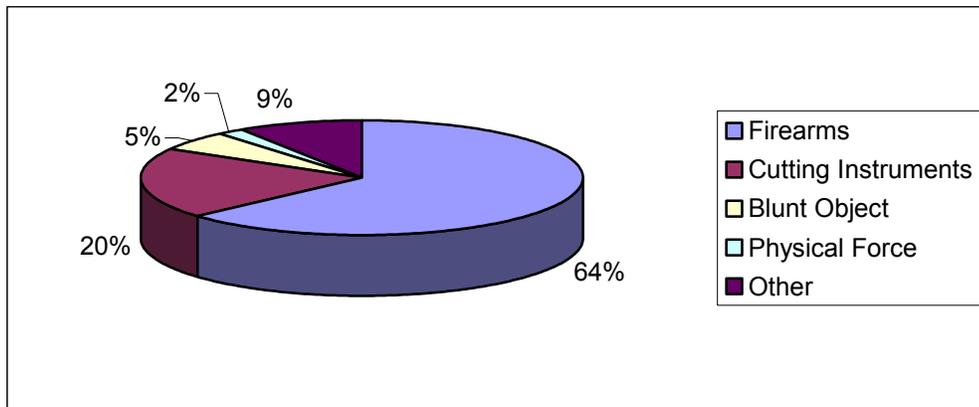
**Graph9c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Weapon Type Among Males, 2001**



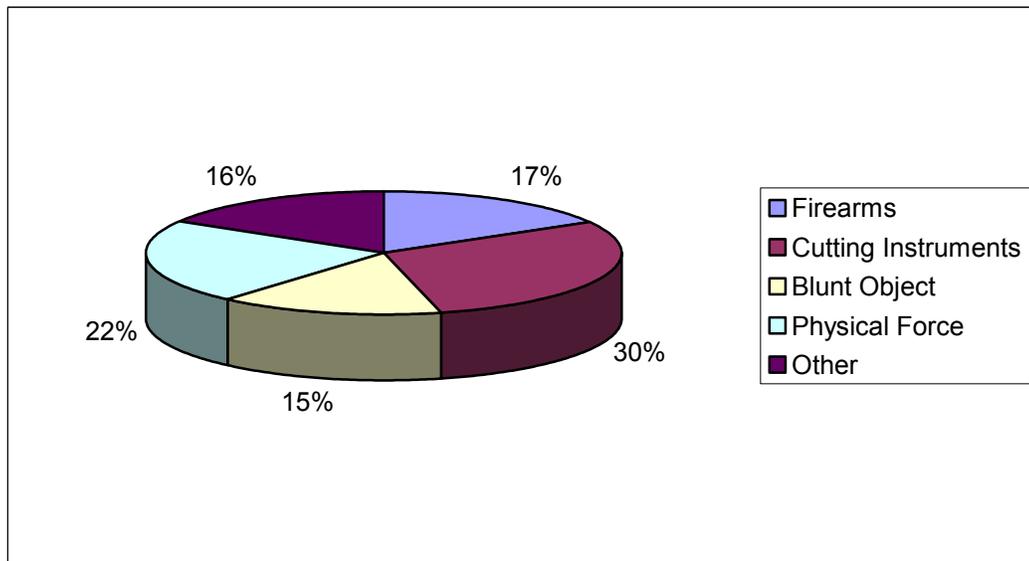
**Table 10: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon Among Males, 2001**

Weapon	Deaths		Hospitalizations		Treated & Released	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Firearms	314	63.4	858	16.6	427	2.2
Cutting Instruments	99	20.0	1532	29.6	3751	19.2
Blunt Object	27	5.5	784	15.1	3937	20.1
Physical Force	9	1.8	1159	22.4	10270	52.6
Other	46	9.3	374	7.2	1114	5.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>5177</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>19500</b>	<b>100</b>

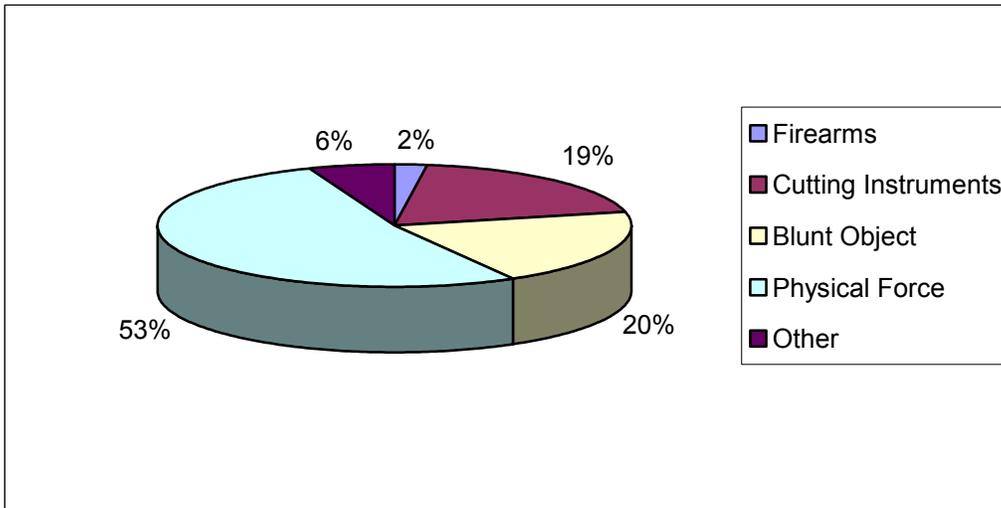
**Graph 10a: Deaths by Weapon Type Among Males, 2001**



**Graph 10b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Weapon Type Among Males, 2001**



**Graph 10c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Weapon Type Among Males, 2001**

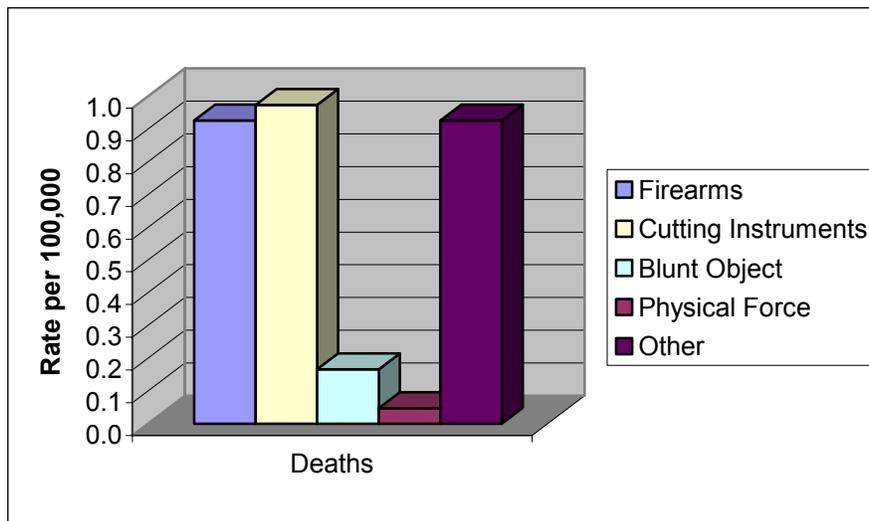


**Table 11: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon Among Females, 2001**  
(Rate per 100,000)

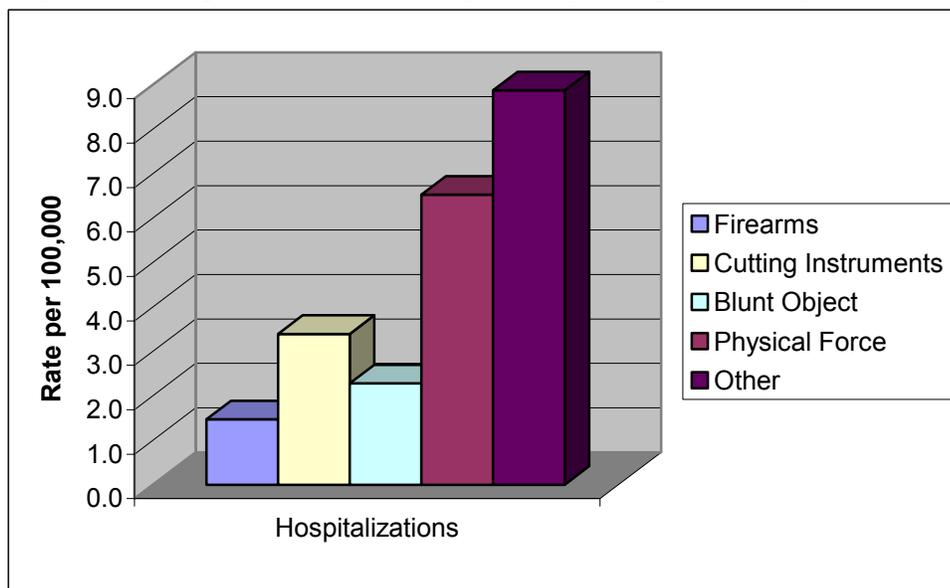
Weapon	Deaths	Hospitalizations	Treated & Released
Firearms	0.9	1.5	2.2
Cutting Instruments	1.0	3.4	23.8
Blunt Object	0.2	2.3	38.3
Physical Force	0.0	6.5	190.4
Other	0.9	8.9	29.5
<b>Overall Rate</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>284.3</b>

\*Unknowns were excluded in the overall rate.

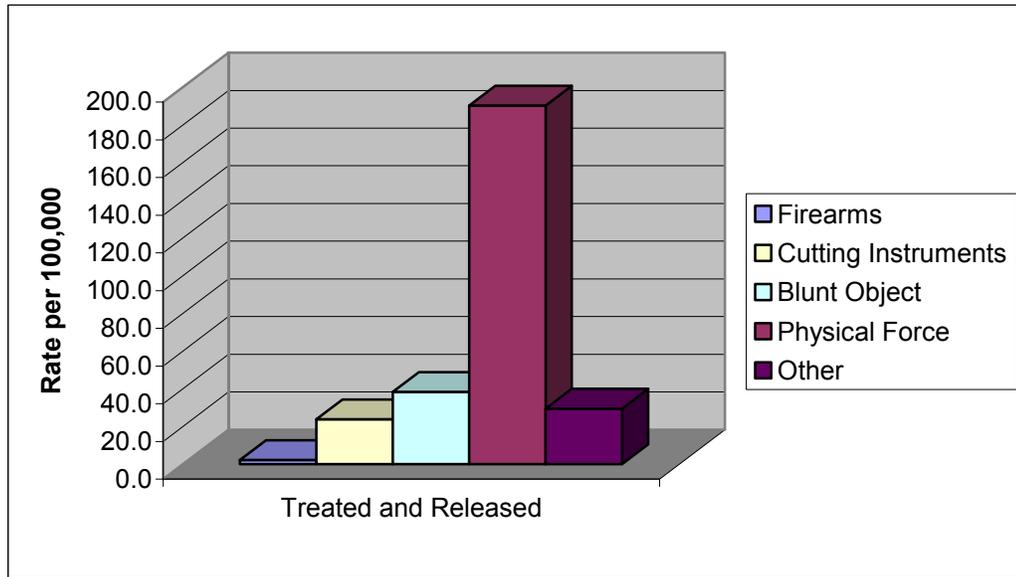
**Graph 11a: Assault Deaths by Weapon Among Females, 2001**



**Graph 11b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Weapon Among Females, 2001**



**Graph 11c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Weapon Among Females, 2001**

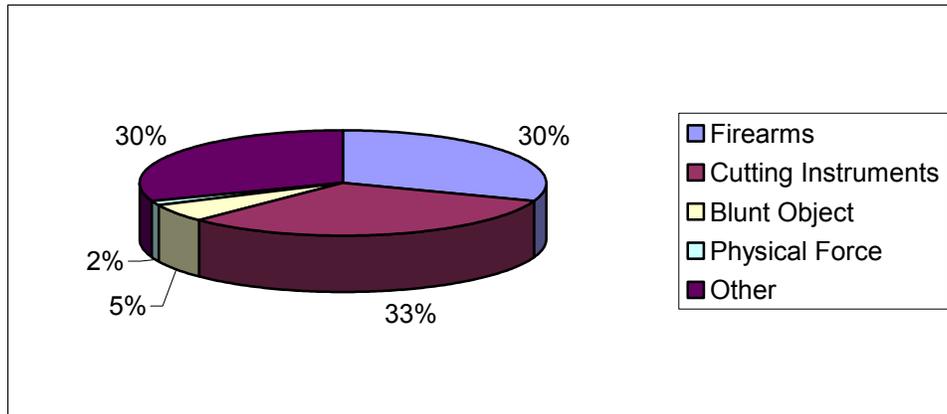


**Table 12: Assault Injuries and Deaths by Weapon Among Females, 2001**

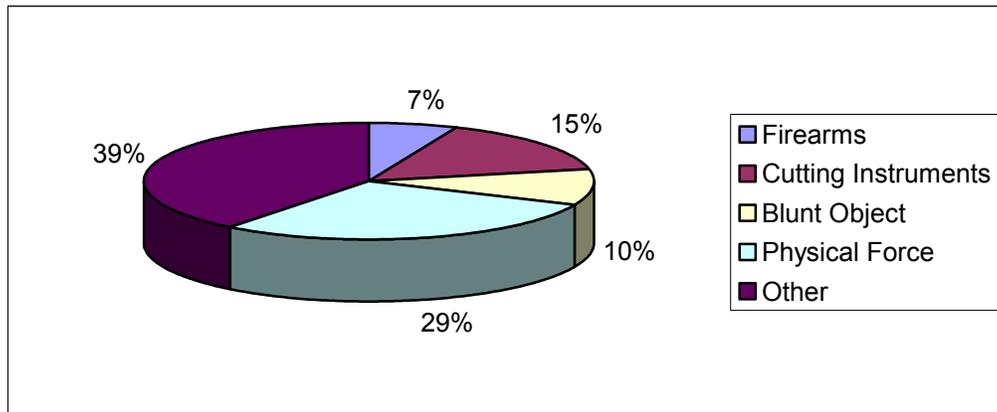
Weapon	Deaths		Hospitalizations		Treated & Released	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Firearms	39	30.4	62	6.5	93	0.8
Physical Force	2	1.6	275	28.9	8023	67.0
Cutting Instruments	41	32.0	143	15.1	1003	8.4
Blunt Object	7	5.5	96	10.1	1616	13.5
Other	39	30.5	374	39.4	1244	10.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>11979</b>	<b>100</b>

\*Unknowns were excluded in the total.

**Graph 12a: Assault Deaths by Weapon Type Among Females, 2001**



**Graph 12b: Hospitalized Assault Injuries by Weapon Type Among Females, 2001**



**Graph 12c: Treated and Released Assault Injuries by Weapon Type Among Females, 2000**

