



DECEMBER 2025

COMMUNITY IN CRISIS

A real-time report on domestic violence in New Orleans, LA.



INTRODUCTION

In this report, we visualize and compare arrest data from the first three months of 2023, 2024, and 2025 with a focus on domestic violence charges.

Crime, in general, is down. From January to March 2025, the number of total charges saw a 6.4% decrease compared to the same period in 2024, a reversal from 2024's 9% increase over 2023. Domestic violence charges increased by 3% from 2023 to 2024 and then fell by a whopping 17% in 2025. This significant difference in domestic violence charges warrants a deeper exploration of possible contributing factors such as changes in reporting or prevention/intervention programs.

While the number of domestic violence charges seems to be trending down, domestic violence is still the most frequently-charged crime in Orleans Parish Magistrate Court by a wide margin, indicating that our work as a community isn't finished in stopping this domestic violence epidemic.

KEY TAKEAWAYS



CRIME IS DOWN (INCLUDING DV)

- 2025 saw a 6% decrease in charges with a 17% decrease in domestic violence charges.
- Domestic Abuse Battery Involving Strangulation saw a 38% drop in charges in 2025.



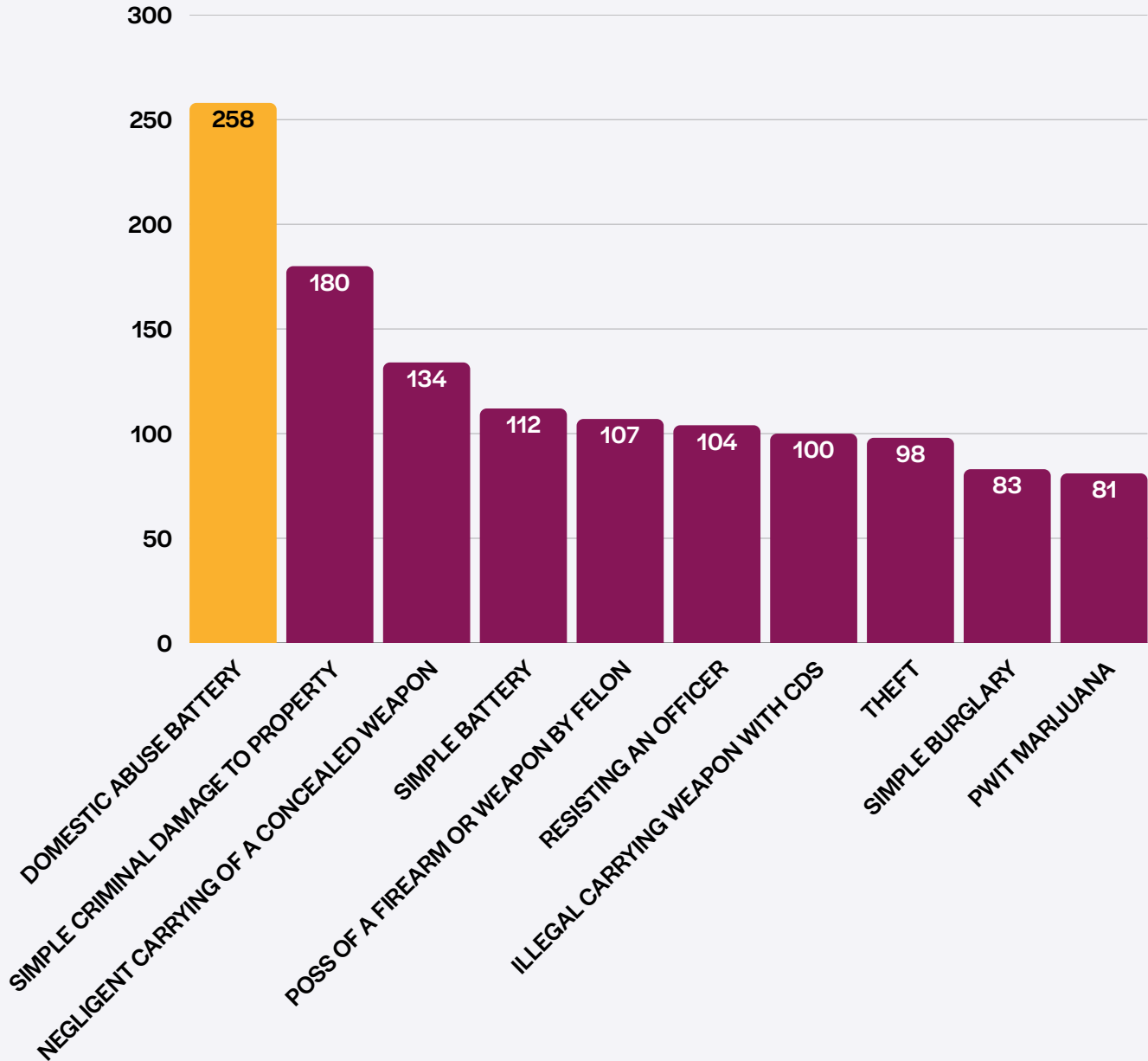
BUT DV IS STILL #1

- In 2024 and 2025, Domestic Abuse Battery was the #1 charge. In 2023 it was #2.
- In 2025 Domestic Abuse Battery had 43% more charges than the #2 charge, simple criminal damage to property.
- DV charges are still ahead of all other violent crimes in all three years.
- 1 out of every 8 charges in Orleans Parish Magistrate Court is a domestic violence charge.

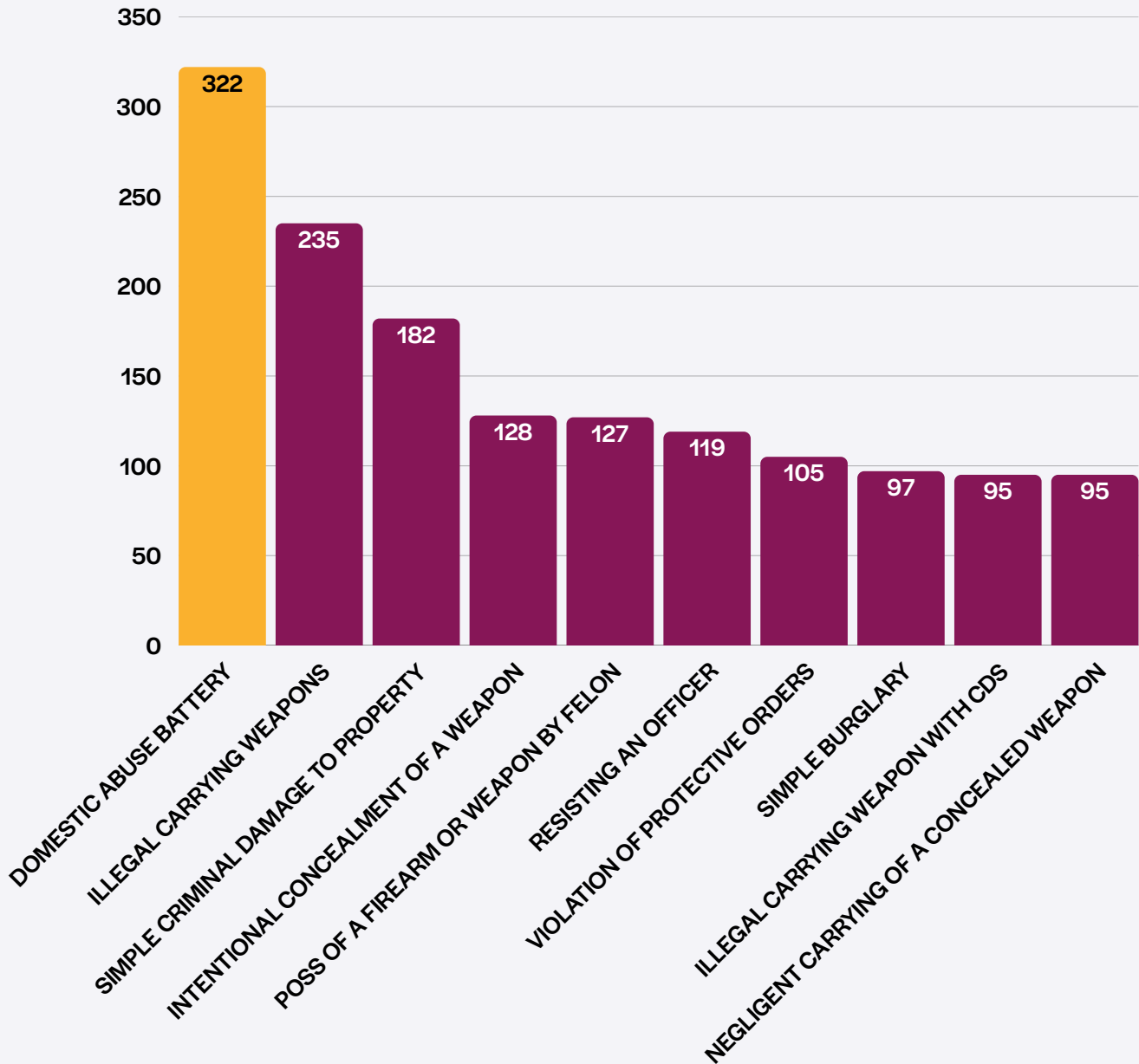
TOP 10 CHARGES:

The following charts show the most frequently charged crimes between January and March of 2023, 2024, and 2025.

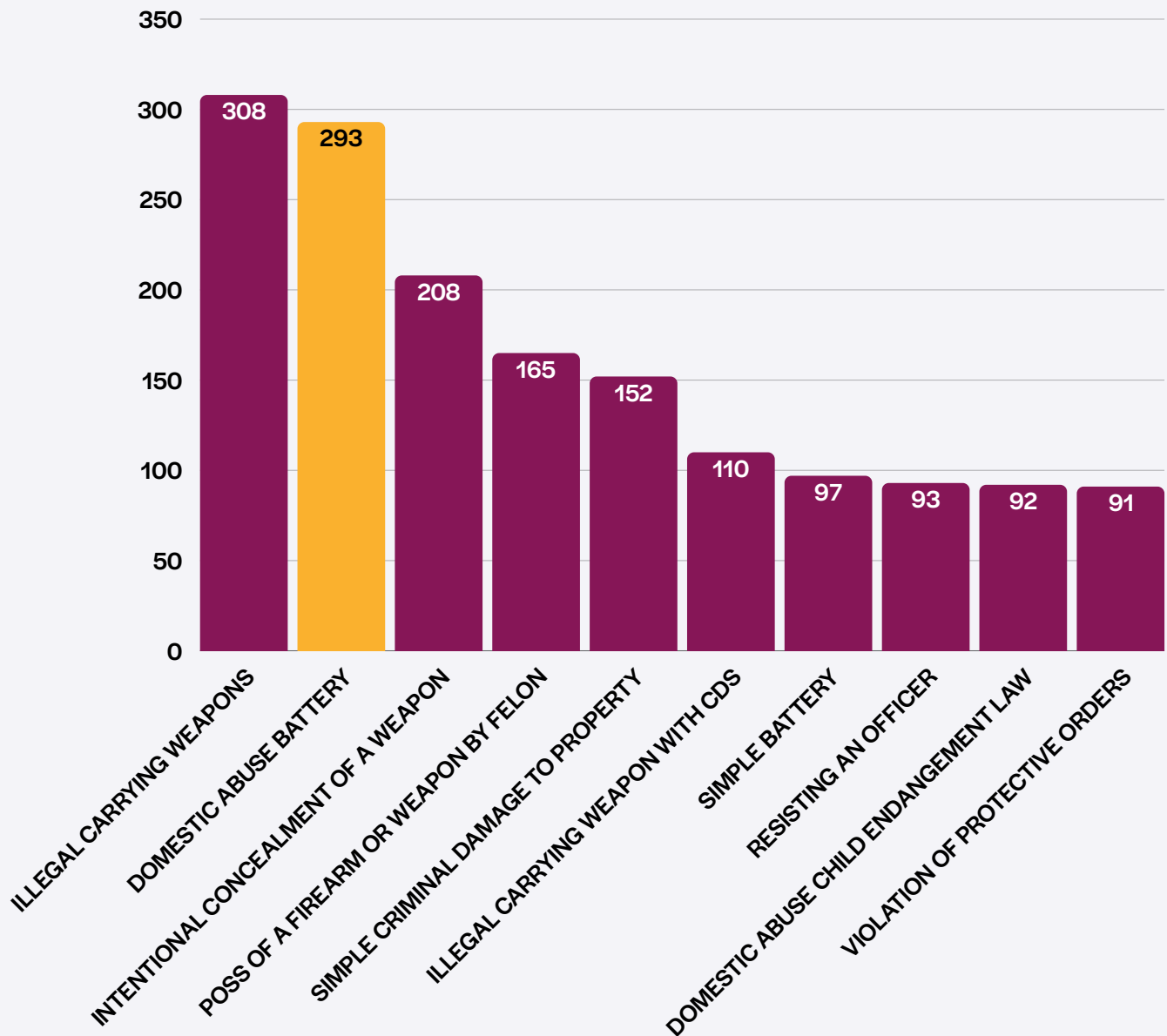
2025



2024

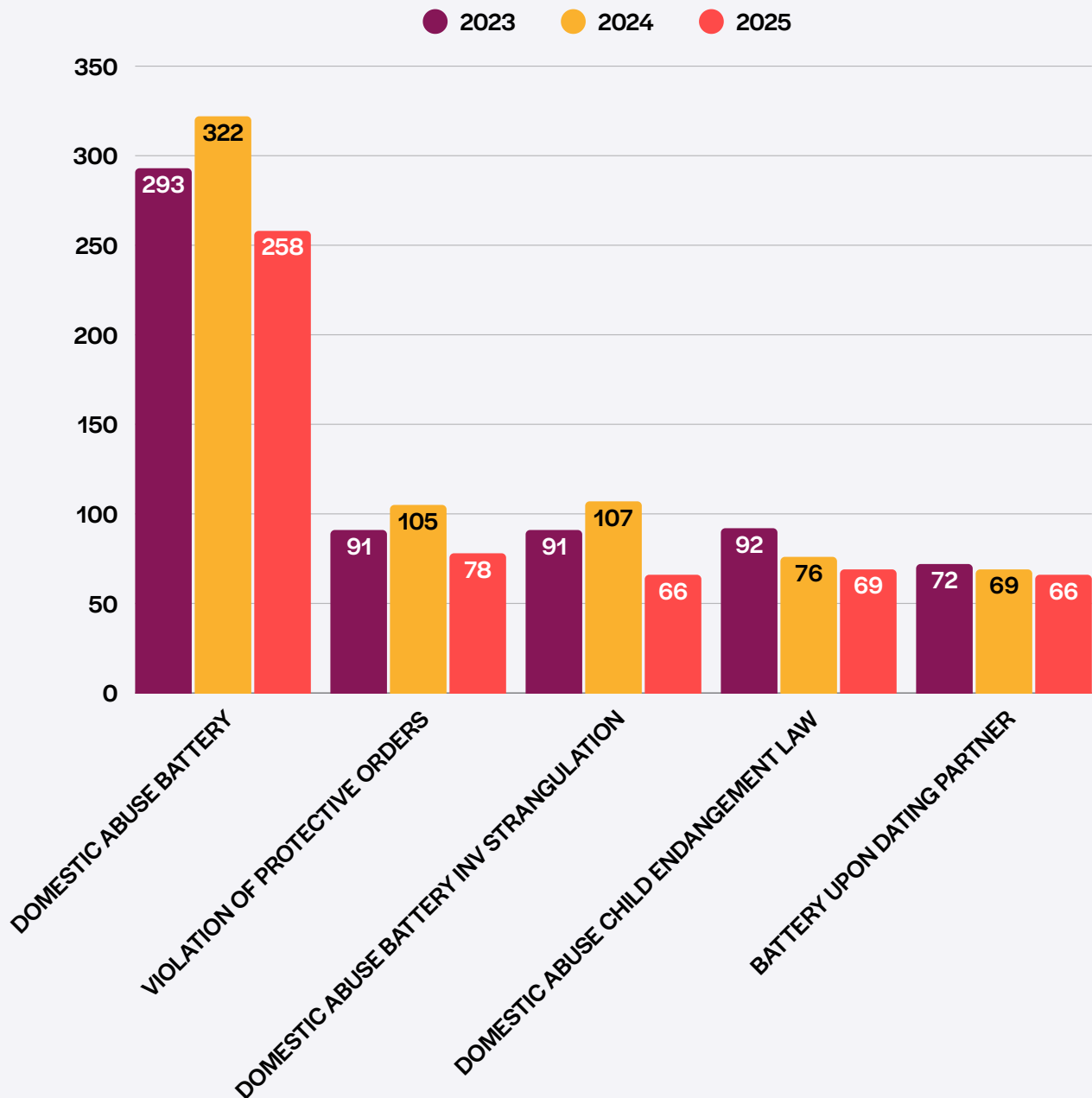


2023



Domestic Abuse Battery was #1 in the last two years and #2 in 2023. In 2025 Domestic Abuse Battery had 43% more charges than the #2 charge, simple criminal damage to property.

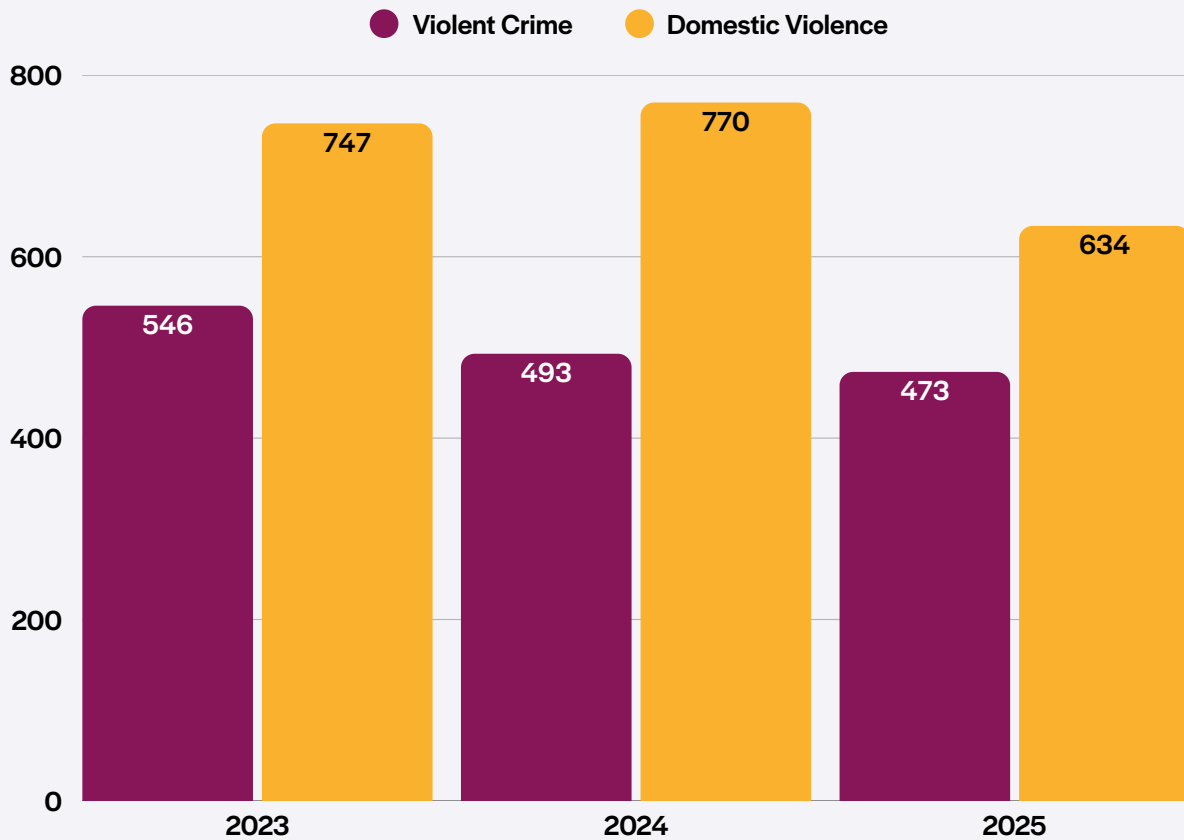
Top 5 Domestic Violence Charges



Domestic Abuse Battery saw a 19% drop in charges and Domestic Abuse Battery Involving Strangulation saw a 38% drop in 2025.

VIOLENT CRIMES

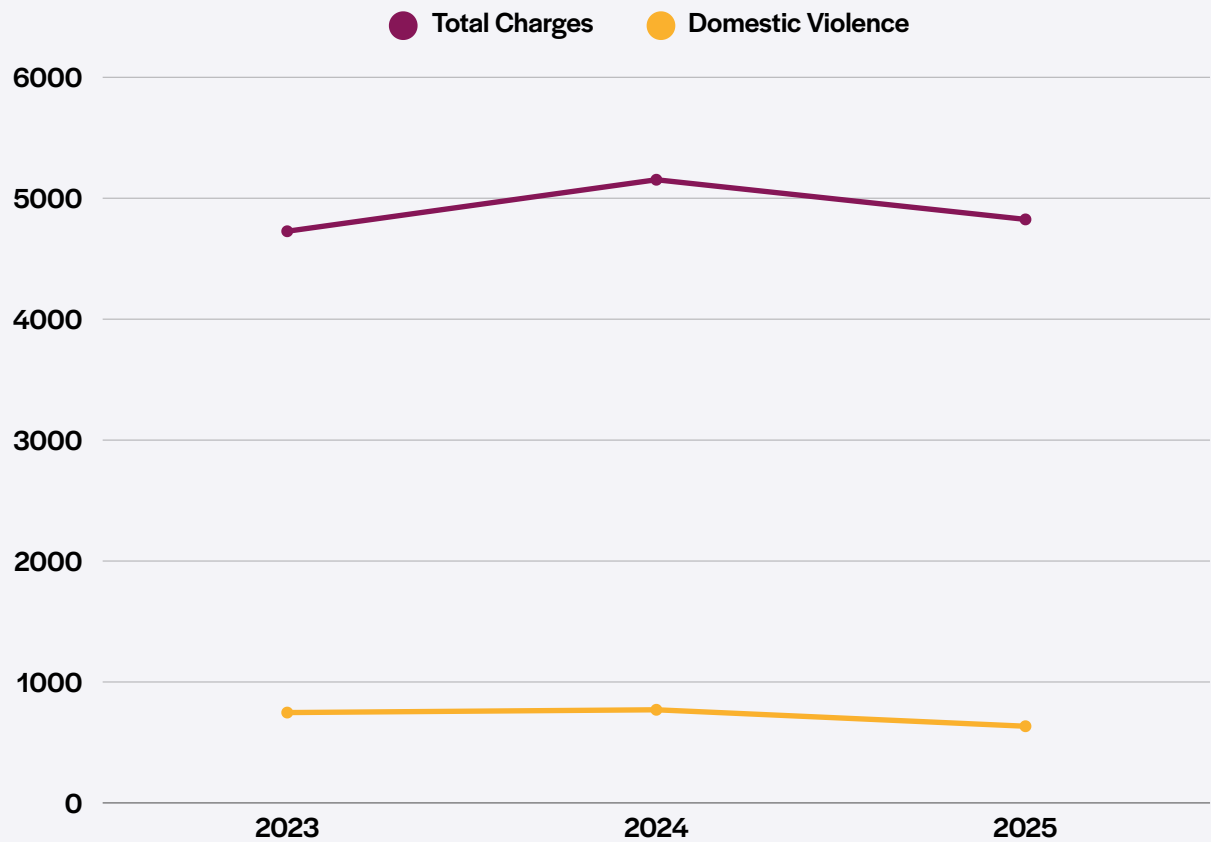
The chart below shows the number of domestic violence charges and the number of charges for violent crimes other than domestic violence for January to March of 2023, 2024, and 2025.



Domestic violence charges significantly outnumbered other charges for violent crimes. Even with a decrease in DV charges in 2025, there were 34% more charges for domestic violence than other violent crimes.

TOTAL CHARGES

The chart below shows the total number of charges and the total number of domestic violence charges for January to March of 2023, 2024, and 2025.



Both total charges and domestic violence charges saw a decline in 2025.

CONCLUSION

Crime is down. Domestic violence is down. It's still too high. It's still the #1 charge by a wide margin and outpaces all other violent crimes.

This epidemic needs further study. We don't know if the decline was due to a change in policy that reduced the occurrence of the crime, a change in the way the statistics are reported on crimes that happened, or a just natural regression from a statistical outlier.

Eva Lessinger, founder of Beyond Harm, said "I would love to say that prevention programming or societal changes towards [domestic violence] had a part in reducing actual incidence of strangulation, but unfortunately, I don't think either of those are realistic."

Jocelyn Pinkerton, Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Program Director at the New Orleans Health Department, said, "It is important to clarify that numbers of DV arrests don't necessarily reflect that incidences of DV has gone down, this is more representative that NOPD is just making fewer arrests. NOPD reported that DV calls for service are down by 12%, so the fact that DV arrests are down 17% could [be] more reflective of NOPD issuing more warrants compared to making arrests."

The fact that it's so hard to tell if the decrease is a real reduction in crime or a statistical anomaly is a major issue. How can we fix what we don't understand? We need public and private agencies to work together to share information, identify what's working, and deploy a solution into our community to halt this epidemic. We are entering an era of radical expansion of publicly-accessible data with the launch of the criminal court's new data and filing system, Clerk Connect. We hope that leaders, agencies, stakeholders, advocates, and community members will take advantage of these new tools to gain a better understanding of domestic violence root causes and develop better interventions and better resources for those who are impacted by it.

In our community, the people we are hurting the most aren't strangers; it's the people we love, and it has to stop.

APPENDIX I

Our analysis includes the crimes listed below as domestic violence. Some charges can be non-domestic in nature in some cases, but were included in an arrest for domestic violence.

| Charge Code | Charge Description | Charge Code | Charge Description |
|----------------|--|---------------------|--|
| RS 14 27 62.8 | ATT HOME INVASION | RS 14 35.3 N | DOMESTIC BATTERY W/SERIOUS BODILY INJURE |
| RS 14 27 45 | ATT SIMPLE KIDNAPPING | RS 14 35.3 O | DOMESTIC ABUSE WITH A DANGEROUS WEAPON |
| RS 14 34.1 | 2ND DEGREE BATTERY | RS 14 35.3 P | AGG 2ND DEGREE DOMESTIC BAT W/FIREARM |
| RS 14 34.9 | BATTERY UPON DATING PARTNER | RS 14 37.7 | DOMESTIC ABUSE AGG ASSAULT |
| RS 14 34.9 C | BATTERY UPON DATING PARTNER-1ST CONVICT | RS 14 37.7 A | DOM ABUSE AGG ASS W/DANG WEAPON ON HHM |
| RS 14 34.9 D | BATTERY UPON DATING PARTNER 2ND CONV | RS 14 37.7 B 1 | DOMESTIC ABUSE AGGRAVATED ASSAULT |
| RS 14 34.9 I | DATING PARTNER ABUSE CHILD ENDANGERMENT | RS 14 37.7 C | DOM ABUSE AGG ASSAULT |
| RS 14 34.9 J | BATTERY UPON A PREGNANT DATING PARTNER | RS 14 37.7 D | AGG ASSAULT CHILD ENDANGERMENT LAW |
| RS 14 34.9 K | BATTERY ON DATING PARTNER STRANGULATION | RS 14 39 | NEGLIGENT INJURING |
| RS 14 34.9 L | BATTERY ON DATING PARTNER STRANGULATION | RS 14 40.1 | TERRORIZING |
| RS 14 34.9 O | BATTERY ON DATING PARTNER W/ DANG WEAPON | RS 14 40.2 | STALKING |
| RS 14 34.9.1 | AGG ASSAULT OF A DATING PARTNER | RS 14 40.2 A 3 | STALKING PERSON WITH A PROTECTIVE ORDER |
| RS 14 34.9.1 D | AGG ASSAULT-DATING PARTNER W/MINOR PRESE | RS 14 40.2 B 1 A | STALKING FIRST OFFENSE |
| RS 14 35.3 | DOMESTIC ABUSE BATTERY | RS 14 40.2 B 2 A | STALKING |
| RS 14 35.3 C | DOMESTIC ABUSE BATTERY FIRST OFFENSE | RS 14 40.2 B 2A B 3 | STALKING A PERSON UNDER PROTECTIVE ORDER |
| RS 14 35.3 C K | DOM ABUSE BATTER 1ST OFF VICTIM PREGNANT | RS 14 40.2 B 3 | STALKING BY REPEATED HARASSING UNDER P.O |
| RS 14 35.3 C L | DOM ABUSE BATTERY 1ST OFF STRANGULATION | RS 14 40.3 | CYBERSTALKING |
| RS 14 35.3 D | DOMESTIC ABUSE SECOND OFFENSE | RS 14 40.3 B 1 | CYBERSTALKING |
| RS 14 35.3 E | DOMESTIC ABUSE THIRD OFFENSE | RS 14 42 | FIRST DEGREE RAPE |
| RS 14 35.3 F | DOMESTIC ABUSE 4TH & SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE | RS 14 42.1 | SECOND DEGREE RAPE |
| RS 14 35.3 I | DOMESTIC ABUSE CHILD ENDANGEMENT LAW | RS 14 43.1 | SEXUAL BATTERY |

| Charge Code | Charge Description | Charge Code | Charge Description |
|----------------|--|----------------|--|
| RS 14 35.3 K | DOMESTIC ABUSE BATTERY-VICTIM PREGNANT | RS 14 62.8 B 2 | HOME INVASION-ARMED W/ DANGEROUS WEAPON |
| RS 14 35.3 K I | DOMESTIC ABUSE CHILD/VICTIM PREGNANT | RS 14 66 | EXTORTION |
| RS 14 35.3 L | DOMESTIC ABUSE BATTERY INV STRANGULATION | RS 14 66 A 1 | EXTORT-THREAT INJURY |
| RS 14 44 | AGG KIDNAPPING | RS 14 79 | VIOLATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDERS |
| RS 14 44.1 | SECOND DEGREE KIDNAPPING | RS 14 79 B 1 | 1ST OFF VIO OF PROTECTIVE ORDER |
| RS 14 44.1 A 5 | 2ND DEGREE KIDNAPPING ARMED WITH WEAPON | RS 14 79 B 2 | 2ND OFF VIO OF PROTECTIVE ORDER |
| RS 14 45 | SIMPLE KIDNAPPING | RS 14 79 C 1 | VIOLATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDER W/BATTERY |
| RS 14 45.1 | INTERFERENCE WITH CUSTODY OF A CHILD | RS 14 79 C 2 | VIOL PROTECT ORDER BATTERY > 1 CONVICTN |
| RS 14 46 | FALSE IMPRISONMENT | RS 14 80 | FELONY CARNAL KNOWLEDGE OF A JUVENILE |
| RS 14 46.1 | FALSE IMPRISONMENT WITH WEAPON | RS 14 93 | CRUELTY TO JUVENILE |
| RS 14 56 | CRIMINAL DAMAGE/DOMESTIC | RS 14 93.2.3 | SECOND DEGREE CRUELTY TO JUVENILES |
| RS 14 62.3 | UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY INHABITED DWELLING | RS 14 285 | OBSCENE PHONE CALLS |
| RS 14 62.8 | HOME INVASION | RS 14 285 A | UNLAWFUL COMMUNICATION |
| RS 14 62.8 A | UNAUTH ENTRY OF ANY INHABITED DWELLING | RS 14 338 | INTERFERING WITH EMGERENCY COMMUNICATION |

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Court Watch NOLA Thanks Aron Culotta, Gordon Ebbitt, the EllaWest Foundation, the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the Keller Family Foundation, Eva Lessinger, the National Science Foundation, the New Orleans Family Justice Center, the New Orleans Health Department, the New Orleans Recreation and Culture Fund, Jocelyn Pinkerton, the Piper Fund, the RosaMary Foundation, the Tulane Center for Community-Engaged Artificial Intelligence, the Tulane Center for Public Service, Arthur Wisdom, Matthew Wisdom, and the Wisdom Family Foundation for their continued support of Court Watch NOLA's work.

Contact

Court Watch NOLA

PO Box 750633

New Orleans, LA 70175

504-356-3577

www.courtwatchnola.org

jmanley@courtwatchnola.org

[@courtwatchnola](#)

