

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Homicide trends in the United States

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of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University
and
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This site contains a series of charts that describe homicide patterns and trends in the United States since 1976.

Homicide is of interest not only because of its severity but also because it is a fairly reliable barometer of all violent crime. At a national level, no other crime is measured as accurately and precisely.

The data on this site may differ slightly from previously published figures because of updates to the data files after publication and the imputation methods used.

The latest updates and additions:

[What's new in Homicide Trends](#)

The Supplemental Homicide Reports that are the primary data source for this presentation are available at the:

[National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#)

Additional violent crime information:

- [Key Facts at a Glance](#)
- [Crime and Victims](#)

Contents

- [Overview](#)
- [Long term trends and patterns](#)
- Demographic trends by
 - [Age](#)
 - [Infanticide](#)
 - [Eldercide](#)
 - [Gender](#)
 - [Race](#)
 - [Age, gender, and race](#)
- [Victim/offender relationship](#)
 - [Intimate homicide](#)
 - [Family homicide](#)
- [Law enforcement officers killed](#)
- [Multiple victims and offenders](#)
- [Circumstances](#)
- [Weapons trends](#)
- [Regional trends](#)
- [Trends by city size](#)
- [Clearances](#)
- [Justifiable homicides](#)
- [About the data](#)

 [Print version](#) PDF format (1.1M)

Production assistance for this website was provided by Timothy Kearley and Priscilla Middleton of BJS. Erica Smith, BJS statistician, provided the statistical review.

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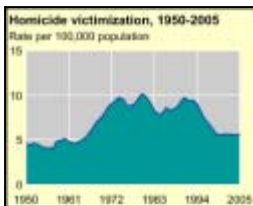
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Overview

- [Long term trends](#)
- Demographic trends by
 - [Age](#)
 - [Infanticide](#)
 - [Eldercide](#)
 - [Gender](#)
 - [Race](#)
 - [Age, gender, and race](#)
- [Victim/offender relationship](#)
 - [Intimates](#)
 - [Family](#)
- [Law enforcement officers killed](#)
- [Multiple victims and offenders](#)
- [Circumstances](#)
- [Weapons trends](#)
- [Regional trends](#)
- [Trends by city size](#)
- [Clearances](#)
- [Justifiable homicides](#)
- [Additional information about the data](#)

Link to full size versions of the graphics, additional findings, and links to the data:

Long term trends



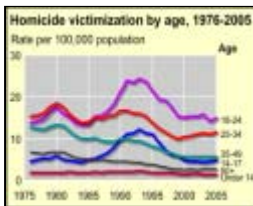
Homicide rates recently declined to levels last seen in the late 1960's

- [Homicide victimization rates, 1950-2005](#)
- [Number of homicides, 1950-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Demographic trends

Age

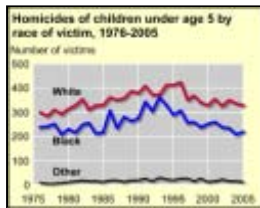


Older teens and young adults have the highest homicide victimization and offending rates

- [Homicide victimization rates by age, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide offending rates by age, 1976-2005](#)
- [Average age of homicide victims and offenders, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide victimization rates by age, 1980-2004](#), an animation
- [Homicide offending rates by age, 1980-2004](#), an animation
- [Percent of homicides in which the offender was known to the victim, 1976-2005 aggregate](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

- Infanticide

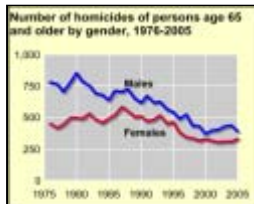


The number of homicides of children under age 5 increased through the mid 1990's, but declined recently

- [The number of homicides of children under age 5 by race, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide victimization rates for children under age 5 by race, 1976-2005](#)
- [The number of homicides of children under age 5 by age of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides of children under age 5 by relationship to the offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides of children under age 5 by gender of victim and offender, 1976-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

- Eldercide

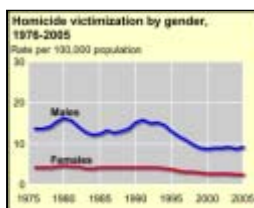


For persons age 65 or older, both the number of homicides and homicide victimization rates declined through 2000 and then stabilized

- [Homicides of persons age 65 and older by gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide victimization and offending rates for persons age 65 and older, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides committed during a felony by age of victim, 1976-2005 aggregate](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Gender

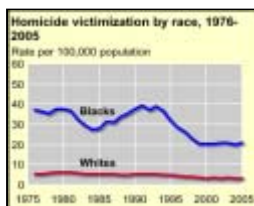


Most victims and perpetrators in homicides are male

- [Homicide victimization rates by gender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide offending rates by gender, 1976-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Race

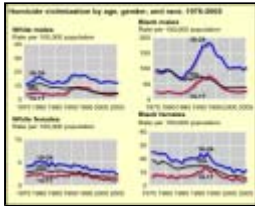


Racial differences exist, with blacks disproportionately represented among homicide victims and offenders

- [Homicide victimization rates by race, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide offending rates by race, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides by race of victim and offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Stranger and acquaintance homicides by race of victim and offender, 1976-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Age, gender, and race

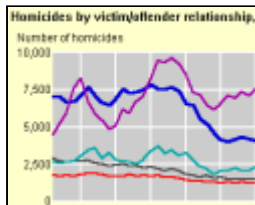


Patterns of victimization and offending vary by age, gender, and racial group

- [Homicide victimization rates by age, gender, and race, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide offending rates by age, gender, and race, 1976-2005](#)
- [Young males as a proportion of the population, homicide victims, and homicide offenders by race, 1976-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Victim/offender relationship



Most homicides with known victim/offender relationships involved people who knew each other

- [The number of homicides by victim/offender relationship, 1976-2005](#)
- [The number of homicides by victim/offender relationship and weapon use, 1976-2005](#)

- Intimates



There has been a decline in homicide of intimates, especially male victims

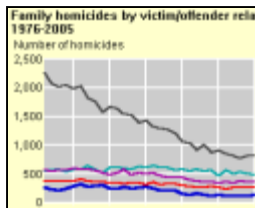
- [Homicides of intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides of intimates by gender and race of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Proportion of all homicides involving intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Number of homicides of intimates by relationship of the victim to the offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Intimate homicide rates by race, gender and relationship, 1976-2005](#)
- [Intimate homicides by type of weapon and gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

- Family

Family homicides most often involve spouses or ex-spouses although such crimes declined recently

- [Family homicides by relationship, 1976-2005](#)
- [Family homicides by relationship and race of victim, 1976-](#)



▲ [To the top](#)

- [2005](#)
- [Number of homicides of parents by gender of victim and offender and age of offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Number of homicides of siblings by gender of victim and offender and age of offender, 1976-2005](#)

Law enforcement officers



▲ [To the top](#)

The number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty has declined since the early 1970's

- [Law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, 1973-2005](#)
- [Law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty by weapon type, 1973-2005](#)

Multiple victims and offenders



▲ [To the top](#)

Few homicides involve multiple offenders and fewer involve multiple victims

- [Percent of homicides involving multiple offenders or multiple victims, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving multiple victims by number of victims, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving multiple offenders by age of offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving guns by number of victims, 1976-2005](#)

Circumstances



▲ [To the top](#)

The mix of circumstances surrounding homicides has changed over the last two decades

- [Number of homicides by circumstance, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving guns by circumstance, 1976-2005](#)

Weapons trends

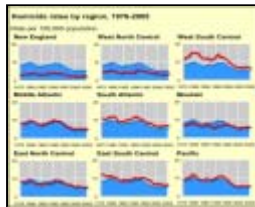
Homicides are most often committed with guns, especially handguns



- [Homicides by weapon type, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide offending by weapon type and age of offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving guns by age of victim, 1976-2005 aggregate](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Regional trends



In recent years, all regions have experienced a decline in homicide rates

- [Homicide victimization rates by region, 1976-2005](#)
- [Gun homicide victimization rates by region, 1976-2005](#)
- [Teen homicide offending rates by region, 1976-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Trends by city size

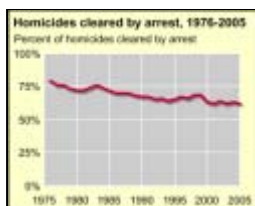


Changes in homicide trends have been driven by changes in the number of homicides in large American cities

- [Number of homicides in urban, suburban, and rural areas, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide victimization rates by size of city, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide offending rates by size of city, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of all homicides involving intimates by urban, suburban, and rural area, 1976-2005](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Clearances

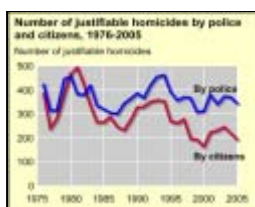


The percentage of homicides cleared by arrest has been declining

- [Percent of homicides cleared by arrest, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides cleared by age of victim, 1976-2005 aggregate](#)

▲ [To the top](#)

Justifiable homicides



The number of justifiable homicides has been declining

- [Number of justifiable homicides by police and citizens, 1976-2005](#)
- [Number of justifiable homicides by police and citizens by circumstance, 1976-2005](#)

- [Percent of justifiable homicides by police and citizens by age of victim, 1976-2005 aggregate](#)

[▲ To the top](#)

[Additional information about the data](#)

Data sources, methodology, and related sites

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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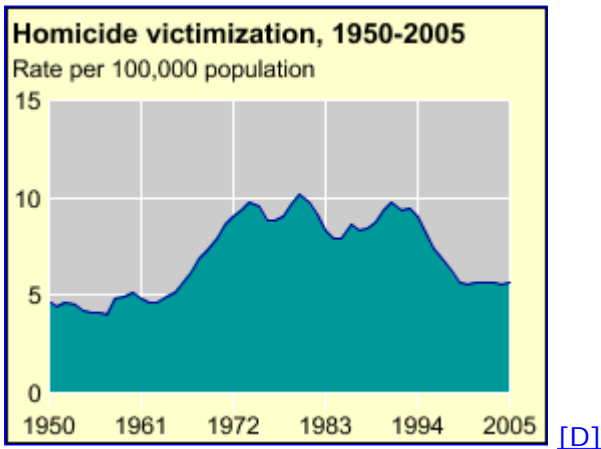
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Long term trends and patterns

Homicide rates recently declined to levels last seen in the late 1960's

- The homicide rate nearly doubled from the mid 1960's to the late 1970's.
- In 1980, it peaked at 10.2 per 100,000 population and subsequently fell off to 7.9 per 100,000 in 1984.
- It rose again in the late 1980's and early 1990's to another peak in 1991 of 9.8 per 100,000.
- From 1992 to 2000, the rate declined sharply. Since then, the rate has been stable.

To view data, click on the chart.



Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 1950-2005

See also **Key Facts at a Glance** chart on [Homicide victimization rates since 1900](#) based on data from the Vital Statistics of the United States.

After falling rapidly in the mid to late 1990's, the number of homicides began increasing in 1999 but remain at levels below those experienced in the early 1970's

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Long term trends

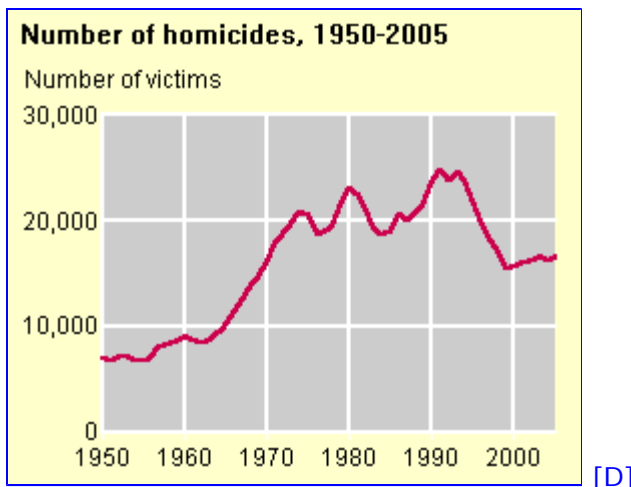
[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#) (.csv file)

Homicide victimization, 1950-2005

Year	Homicide rate per 100,000 population	Estimated number of homicides
1950	4.6	7,020
1951	4.4	6,820
1952	4.6	7,210
1953	4.5	7,210
1954	4.2	6,850
1955	4.1	6,850
1956	4.1	6,970
1957	4.0	8,060
1958	4.8	8,220
1959	4.9	8,580
1960	5.1	9,110
1961	4.8	8,740
1962	4.6	8,530
1963	4.6	8,640
1964	4.9	9,360
1965	5.1	9,960
1966	5.6	11,040
1967	6.2	12,240
1968	6.9	13,800
1969	7.3	14,760
1970	7.9	16,000
1971	8.6	17,780
1972	9.0	18,670
1973	9.4	19,640
1974	9.8	20,710
1975	9.6	20,510
1976	8.8	18,780
1977	8.8	19,120
1978	9.0	19,560
1979	9.7	21,460
1980	10.2	23,040

1981	9.8	22,520
1982	9.1	21,010
1983	8.3	19,308
1984	7.9	18,692
1985	7.9	18,976
1986	8.6	20,613
1987	8.3	20,096
1988	8.4	20,675
1989	8.7	21,500
1990	9.4	23,438
1991	9.8	24,703
1992	9.3	23,760
1993	9.5	24,526
1994	9.0	23,326
1995	8.2	21,606
1996	7.4	19,645
1997	6.8	18,208
1998	6.3	16,974
1999	5.7	15,522
2000	5.5	15,586
2001	5.6	16,039
2002	5.6	16,229
2003	5.7	16,582
2004	5.5	16,137
2005	5.6	16,692

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 1950-2005



Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 1950-2005

The demographic characteristics of homicide victims and offenders differ from the general population

Based on data for the years 1976-2005 -

- Blacks are disproportionately represented as both homicide victims and offenders. The victimization rates for blacks were 6 times higher than those for whites. The offending rates for blacks were more than 7 times higher the rates for whites.
- Males represent 77% of homicide victims and nearly 90% of offenders. The victimization rates for males were 3 times higher than the rates for females. The offending rates for males were 8 times higher than the rates for females.
- Approximately one-third of murder victims and almost half the offenders are under the age of 25. For both victims and offenders, the rate per 100,000 peaks in the 18-24 year-old age group.

Victims and Offenders by Demographic Group, 1976-2005

	Percent of -			Rate per 100,000 population	
	Victims	Offenders	Population	Victims	Offenders
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	7.8	8.7
Age					
Under 14	4.8%	.5%	20.5%	1.8	.2
14-17	5.0%	10.4%	6.1%	6.4	14.9
18-24	23.9%	36.6%	10.8%	17.0	29.3
25-34	28.8%	28.4%	15.7%	14.2	15.8
35-49	22.8%	17.3%	20.5%	8.6	7.3
50-64	9.3%	5.1%	14.2%	5.1	3.1

65+	5.3%	1.7%	12.3%	3.4	1.2
Gender					
Male	76.5%	88.8%	48.8%	12.3	15.8
Female	23.5%	11.2%	51.2%	3.6	1.9
Race					
White	50.9%	45.8%	83.7%	4.7	4.8
Black	46.9%	52.2%	12.3%	29.6	36.9
Other	2.1%	2.0%	4.0%	4.1	4.4

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information about the Data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Homicide trends in the U.S.

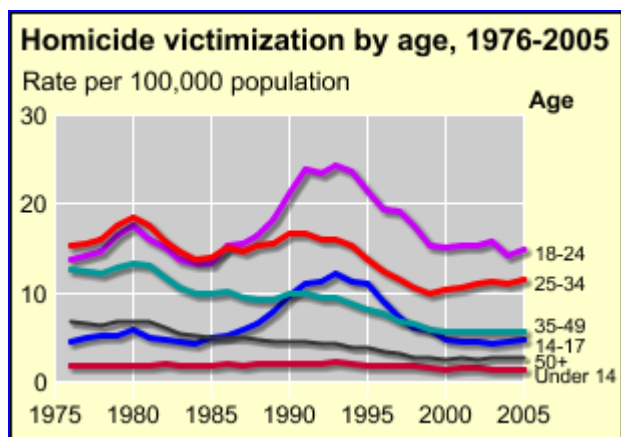
Age trends

Young adults have the highest homicide victimization and offending rates

Homicide victimization rates for teens and young adults increased rapidly in the late 1980's while rates for older age groups declined; after the early 1990's rates declined for all age groups

- For children under age 14, homicide victimization rates are the lowest of all age groups. Their homicide victimization rates declined to the lowest level recorded in 2000 and have remained stable since then.
- For young teens (14-17 years old), the homicide victimization rate increased almost 150% from 1985 to 1993. Since 1993 the victimization rates for young teens have declined to levels similar to those experienced from 1976-85.
- Older teens and young adults (18-24 years old) experienced the highest homicide victimization rates, a change from the late 1970's when 25-34 year-olds had the highest rates. Since 1993 their victimization rates have declined but still remain higher than the levels of the mid-1980's.
- For adults ages 35-49 and 50 and older, homicide victimization rates have remained stable in recent years.
- 25-34 year-olds experienced an increase in homicide victimization rates since 1999 when it was the lowest ever recorded.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

View an [animation of homicide victimization rates by age from 1980 to 2004](#).

Additional detail is available about homicides of children under age 5, [infanticide](#), and homicides of persons age 65 and older, [eldercide](#).

For more information about age patterns in violent victimization see [Key Facts at a Glance](#).

Homicide offending rates followed a similar pattern

- Offending rates for teens (14-17 years old) and young adults (18-24 years old) increased dramatically in the late 1980's while rates for older age groups declined.
- Offending rates for children under age 14 increased in the late 1980's and early 1990's, but fell to the lowest level recorded in 2003.
- Young adults (18-24 years -old) have historically had the highest offending rates and their rates nearly doubled from 1985 to 1993. Since 1993 offending rates for 18-24 year-olds have declined but remain slightly higher than levels prior to the mid 1980's.
- Offending rates of teens (14-17 years old) increased rapidly after 1985, surpassing the rates of 25-34 year-olds. After 2000, the offending rates for young teens reached the lowest levels recorded and fell below those for 25-34 year-olds.
- Offending rates for 25-34 year-olds fell from 1991 through 1999 but have increased since 1999.

To view data, click on the chart.

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Age trends

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[Rates](#) | [Numbers](#)

Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Age

	Under 14	14- 17	18- 24	25- 34	35- 49	50+
1976	1.8	4.5	13.8	15.4	12.6	6.8
1977	1.9	4.9	14.3	15.5	12.3	6.6
1978	1.9	5.1	14.6	16.1	12.2	6.3
1979	1.8	5.2	16.5	17.5	12.8	6.7
1980	1.8	5.9	17.5	18.5	13.2	6.8
1981	1.9	5.0	16.0	17.5	13.0	6.7
1982	2.0	4.8	15.0	15.7	11.8	6.2
1983	1.8	4.5	13.8	14.6	10.5	5.5
1984	1.7	4.2	13.2	13.8	10.0	5.1
1985	1.8	4.9	13.2	13.9	9.9	5.0
1986	2.0	5.2	15.3	15.2	10.1	5.0
1987	1.8	5.8	15.5	14.7	9.4	4.9
1988	2.0	6.5	16.4	15.3	9.2	4.7
1989	2.1	7.9	18.2	15.6	9.2	4.6
1990	2.0	9.7	21.1	16.7	9.9	4.4
1991	2.1	11.1	23.9	16.7	10.0	4.5
1992	2.0	11.3	23.4	16.1	9.4	4.2
1993	2.2	12.1	24.4	16.1	9.5	4.2
1994	2.0	11.2	23.6	15.4	8.9	3.8
1995	1.9	11.0	21.5	13.8	8.2	3.8
1996	1.9	9.1	19.5	12.4	7.7	3.4
1997	1.7	7.3	19.1	11.4	6.8	3.2
1998	1.7	6.2	17.5	10.7	6.5	2.8
1999	1.6	5.9	15.4	9.9	5.9	2.6
2000	1.4	4.8	15.0	10.3	5.7	2.5
2001	1.5	4.6	15.4	10.7	5.6	2.6
2002	1.5	4.5	15.3	11.0	5.7	2.5
2003	1.4	4.3	15.7	11.3	5.7	2.6
2004	1.4	4.6	14.3	11.1	5.6	2.6

2005 1.4 4.8 14.9 11.6 5.7 2.6

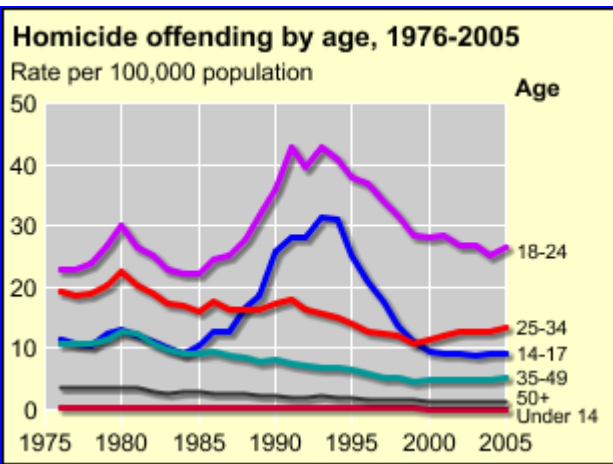
Homicide Victims by Age

	Under 14	14- 17	18- 24	25- 34	35- 49	50+
1976	872	757	3,861	4,918	4,390	3,737
1977	885	807	4,064	5,128	4,322	3,672
1978	894	833	4,192	5,449	4,365	3,565
1979	846	844	4,785	6,109	4,648	3,834
1980	863	950	5,146	6,845	4,885	3,957
1981	894	796	4,768	6,802	4,835	4,010
1982	945	743	4,438	6,189	4,625	3,739
1983	858	678	4,043	5,857	4,261	3,311
1984	833	630	3,842	5,634	4,210	3,112
1985	857	716	3,796	5,808	4,302	3,086
1986	961	758	4,335	6,445	4,521	3,105
1987	880	834	4,289	6,289	4,376	3,059
1988	1,003	934	4,438	6,605	4,433	2,933
1989	1,023	1,131	4,834	6,740	4,591	2,889
1990	999	1,296	5,650	7,215	5,085	2,829
1991	1,087	1,487	6,304	7,178	5,314	2,901
1992	1,026	1,537	6,055	6,856	5,217	2,741
1993	1,167	1,674	6,364	6,903	5,292	2,798
1994	1,088	1,575	6,099	6,500	5,092	2,570
1995	1,028	1,595	5,455	5,755	4,827	2,586
1996	1,050	1,354	4,885	5,069	4,658	2,351
1997	943	1,115	4,720	4,619	4,233	2,231
1998	959	967	4,331	4,253	4,074	2,026
1999	882	915	3,901	3,868	3,763	1,936
2000	814	767	3,950	4,009	3,770	1,958
2001	887	753	4,172	4,116	3,750	2,027
2002	838	732	4,232	4,193	3,828	2,047
2003	815	713	4,427	4,292	3,839	2,138
2004	789	773	4,085	4,209	3,757	2,241

2005 798 827 4,329 4,389 3,805 2,249

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

View an [animation of homicide offending rates by age from 1980 to 2004](#).

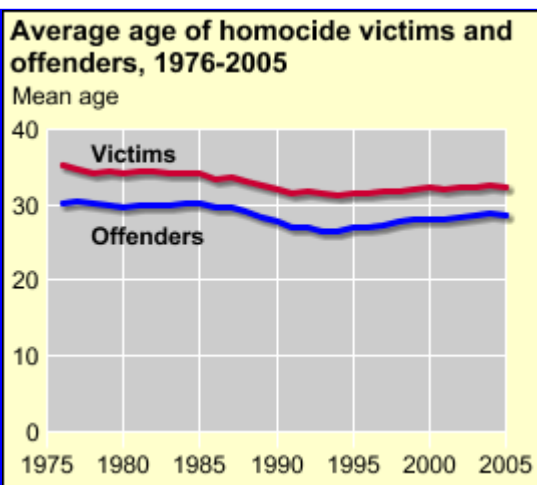
For more information about age patterns in violent offending see [Key Facts at a Glance](#).

After many years of decline, the average age of both victims and offenders has leveled off

The average age of --

- victims is greater than that of offenders and fell from 35.2 years in 1976 to 31.3 years in 1994
- offenders fell from about 30.3 years in 1976 to 26.4 years in 1994
- both offenders and victims has increased slightly in recent years yet remains lower than it was prior to the mid-1980's

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Young victims were more likely to know the

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Age trends

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[Rates](#) | [Numbers](#)

Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000 Population by Age

	Under 14	14- 17	18- 24	25- 34	35- 49	50+
1976	.2	11.4	22.8	19.4	10.7	3.7
1977	.2	10.7	22.8	18.6	10.9	3.7
1978	.3	10.5	24.0	18.9	10.9	3.5
1979	.2	12.4	26.8	20.4	11.3	3.7
1980	.2	13.0	30.0	22.6	12.8	3.6
1981	.2	12.2	26.6	20.2	12.3	3.5
1982	.2	11.1	25.1	19.1	10.8	3.1
1983	.2	10.2	23.0	17.4	9.8	2.7
1984	.2	9.2	22.2	16.9	9.1	2.8
1985	.2	10.5	22.2	16.0	9.1	2.8
1986	.2	12.7	24.4	17.5	9.4	2.7
1987	.2	12.9	25.2	16.2	8.8	2.7
1988	.2	16.8	27.9	16.3	8.6	2.6
1989	.3	18.5	31.6	16.4	8.0	2.3
1990	.2	25.7	36.1	17.4	8.2	2.3
1991	.3	28.1	42.7	18.0	7.5	2.1
1992	.3	28.0	39.6	16.4	7.2	2.1
1993	.3	31.3	42.8	15.6	7.0	2.2
1994	.4	31.2	40.8	14.9	6.8	1.8
1995	.3	25.1	37.8	13.9	6.4	1.8
1996	.2	21.0	36.9	12.8	5.8	1.7
1997	.2	17.5	34.0	12.3	5.2	1.7
1998	.2	13.7	31.8	12.0	5.3	1.5
1999	.2	11.1	28.5	10.9	4.7	1.5
2000	.1	9.5	28.1	11.5	4.8	1.4
2001	.1	9.3	28.4	12.1	4.8	1.3
2002	.1	9.0	26.9	12.8	4.9	1.3
2003	.1	8.8	26.7	12.7	5.0	1.4
2004	.1	9.1	25.2	12.6	5.0	1.4

2005 .1 9.3 26.5 13.5 5.1 1.4

Homicide Offenders by Age

	Under 14	14- 17	18-24	25- 34	35- 49	50+
1976	107	1,903	6,379	6,204	3,714	2,045
1977	104	1,771	6,461	6,144	3,830	2,078
1978	125	1,709	6,879	6,389	3,905	1,975
1979	94	1,996	7,752	7,117	4,109	2,117
1980	111	2,087	8,841	8,349	4,722	2,091
1981	86	1,940	7,944	7,839	4,598	2,068
1982	94	1,734	7,432	7,531	4,234	1,854
1983	84	1,557	6,756	7,002	3,979	1,630
1984	73	1,359	6,459	6,927	3,808	1,711
1985	97	1,545	6,386	6,684	3,947	1,713
1986	98	1,851	6,911	7,422	4,229	1,667
1987	118	1,867	6,979	6,957	4,114	1,669
1988	106	2,421	7,550	7,021	4,121	1,613
1989	129	2,638	8,382	7,110	4,002	1,448
1990	100	3,428	9,693	7,521	4,241	1,482
1991	142	3,777	11,250	7,717	4,005	1,377
1992	150	3,827	10,255	6,975	3,954	1,388
1993	168	4,320	11,186	6,656	3,888	1,420
1994	209	4,384	10,525	6,295	3,868	1,208
1995	151	3,653	9,605	5,786	3,762	1,254
1996	99	3,126	9,242	5,259	3,520	1,164
1997	106	2,677	8,403	4,998	3,256	1,164
1998	105	2,133	7,885	4,789	3,322	1,087
1999	91	1,736	7,202	4,259	3,015	1,099
2000	73	1,533	7,416	4,491	3,145	1,083
2001	52	1,512	7,705	4,660	3,192	1,045
2002	66	1,477	7,450	4,880	3,282	1,093
2003	79	1,474	7,523	4,816	3,368	1,155
2004	83	1,546	7,230	4,753	3,380	1,216

2005 60 1,612 7,714 5,116 3,410 1,216

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by age

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Mean Age of Victims and Offenders

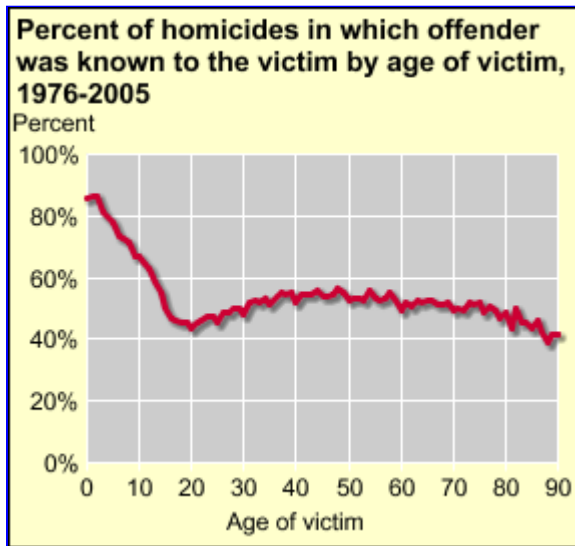
	Victims	Offenders
1976	35.2 yrs.	30.3 yrs.
1977	34.7	30.5
1978	34.3	30.2
1979	34.4	29.9
1980	34.1	29.6
1981	34.4	30.0
1982	34.4	29.9
1983	34.3	29.9
1984	34.3	30.3
1985	34.1	30.2
1986	33.5	29.8
1987	33.6	29.8
1988	33.0	29.1
1989	32.5	28.3
1990	32.0	27.7
1991	31.6	26.9
1992	31.7	27.0
1993	31.4	26.6
1994	31.3	26.4
1995	31.6	27.0
1996	31.6	27.0
1997	31.9	27.3
1998	31.7	27.7
1999	32.0	28.1
2000	32.2	28.2
2001	32.0	28.0
2002	32.2	28.4
2003	32.3	28.5
2004	32.6	28.8
2005	32.3	28.5

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

offender than older victims

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

The age distribution of homicide victims and offenders differs by type of homicide

For the years 1976-2005 combined -

- Almost one-quarter of the victims of gang-related killings were under the age of 18. Juveniles were also unusually involved as victims of family members, sex-related homicides, and homicide by arson or poison.
- Felony-murder, workplace murder, arson, and poison homicides claimed a relatively large percentage of older victims (ages 50 and over).

Homicide Type by Age, 1976-2005

	Victims				Offenders			
	Under 18	18-34	35-49	50+	Under 18	18-34	35-49	50+
All homicides	9.8%	52.7%	22.8%	14.7%	10.9%	65.0%	17.3%	6.8%
Victim/offender relationship								
Intimate	1.5%	46.7%	34.3%	17.5%	1.0%	46.2%	34.9%	17.9%
Family	19.6%	31.9%	26.4%	22.1%	6.0%	49.1%	28.1%	16.8%
Infanticide	100.0%				7.9%	81.3%	9.7%	1.1%
Eldercide				100.0%	10.3%	49.2%	19.1%	21.4%
Circumstances								
Felony murder	7.6%	46.9%	21.8%	23.8%	14.8%	72.9%	10.3%	2.0%
Sex related	19.6%	45.1%	16.6%	18.7%	10.7%	73.6%	13.7%	2.0%
Drug related	5.4%	71.4%	19.9%	3.3%	10.6%	76.9%	11.3%	1.2%

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Age trends

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Victims who knew the offender by victim age

Age	Known		Stranger/Unsolved	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	6,405	85.9%	1,051	14.1%
1	3,782	86.5%	588	13.5%
2	2,978	86.1%	479	13.9%
3	1,752	81.4%	402	18.6%
4	1,215	79.6%	311	20.4%
5	871	78.1%	243	21.9%
6	661	73.1%	243	26.9%
7	619	72.6%	233	27.4%
8	572	71.2%	232	28.8%
9	525	67.0%	259	33.0%
10	517	67.1%	254	32.9%
11	517	64.1%	289	35.9%
12	718	63.1%	420	36.9%
13	961	58.3%	686	41.7%
14	1,658	55.1%	1,354	44.9%
15	2,655	50.0%	2,658	50.0%
16	4,007	46.9%	4,531	53.1%
17	5,854	46.4%	6,774	53.6%
18	7,411	45.2%	8,985	54.8%
19	8,932	45.2%	10,845	54.8%
20	9,097	43.6%	11,746	56.4%
21	9,463	45.5%	11,350	54.5%
22	9,696	46.0%	11,393	54.0%
23	9,804	47.4%	10,884	52.6%
24	9,527	47.2%	10,658	52.8%
25	9,818	45.4%	11,788	54.6%
26	9,350	48.4%	9,953	51.6%
27	8,871	48.4%	9,465	51.6%
28	8,622	49.8%	8,700	50.2%
29	8,546	50.3%	8,437	49.7%
30	8,742	48.3%	9,357	51.7%

31	7,625	51.7%	7,127	48.3%
32	7,800	52.3%	7,117	47.7%
33	7,054	52.2%	6,455	47.8%
34	7,161	53.4%	6,255	46.6%
35	7,026	51.0%	6,746	49.0%
36	6,229	53.0%	5,531	47.0%
37	6,166	55.5%	4,935	44.5%
38	5,914	54.8%	4,886	45.2%
39	5,627	55.1%	4,589	44.9%
40	5,565	52.2%	5,102	47.8%
41	4,859	54.6%	4,041	45.4%
42	4,950	54.4%	4,157	45.6%
43	4,327	54.7%	3,585	45.3%
44	4,076	55.9%	3,211	44.1%
45	4,071	54.0%	3,472	46.0%
46	3,547	53.9%	3,033	46.1%
47	3,445	54.8%	2,845	45.2%
48	3,163	56.2%	2,470	43.8%
49	3,048	55.5%	2,448	44.5%
50	3,137	52.8%	2,804	47.2%
51	2,449	53.0%	2,169	47.0%
52	2,564	53.3%	2,249	46.7%
53	2,277	52.5%	2,059	47.5%
54	2,307	55.6%	1,843	44.4%
55	2,144	53.4%	1,867	46.6%
56	1,932	52.7%	1,733	47.3%
57	1,860	53.5%	1,617	46.5%
58	1,674	54.9%	1,378	45.1%
59	1,543	52.8%	1,379	47.2%
60	1,563	49.5%	1,597	50.5%
61	1,392	51.8%	1,296	48.2%
62	1,452	50.5%	1,423	49.5%
63	1,326	52.7%	1,192	47.3%
64	1,147	52.1%	1,054	47.9%
65	1,328	52.3%	1,210	47.7%
66	965	52.3%	879	47.7%
67	1,039	51.0%	999	49.0%
68	946	51.5%	890	48.5%
69	884	51.7%	825	48.3%
70	914	49.3%	939	50.7%
71	765	50.0%	766	50.0%
72	841	49.1%	872	50.9%
73	726	51.8%	676	48.2%
74	722	51.1%	690	48.9%
75	728	51.7%	681	48.3%

76	598	48.9%	625	51.1%
77	578	50.8%	561	49.2%
78	534	49.6%	543	50.4%
79	508	47.0%	572	53.0%
80	505	48.5%	537	51.5%
81	379	43.4%	494	56.6%
82	421	49.8%	423	50.2%
83	322	45.2%	390	54.8%
84	293	45.7%	348	54.3%
85	259	43.8%	333	56.2%
86	257	46.2%	299	53.8%
87	180	42.5%	243	57.5%
88	143	39.1%	222	60.9%
89	117	41.7%	164	58.3%
90	113	41.6%	158	58.4%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

Gang related	24.2%	68.4%	6.1%	1.3%	28.9%	69.2%	1.6%	.3%
Argument	5.5%	56.1%	26.3%	12.2%	6.9%	60.2%	23.1%	9.7%
Workplace	.5%	28.0%	32.0%	39.5%	3.7%	53.1%	27.6%	15.5%
Weapon								
Gun homicide	7.4%	59.3%	22.4%	10.9%	11.9%	64.8%	15.8%	7.5%
Arson	28.3%	27.0%	19.2%	25.5%	11.5%	57.7%	23.8%	7.0%
Poison	28.0%	23.3%	16.5%	32.2%	4.5%	50.9%	26.2%	18.5%
Multiple victims or offenders								
Multiple victims	18.2%	46.3%	19.1%	16.4%	9.5%	66.1%	18.5%	5.9%
Multiple offenders	11.3%	55.5%	19.7%	13.5%	18.2%	73.1%	7.5%	1.2%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information about the Data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

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- [Homicide offending by weapon type and age of offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving guns by age of victim, 1976-2005 aggregate](#)
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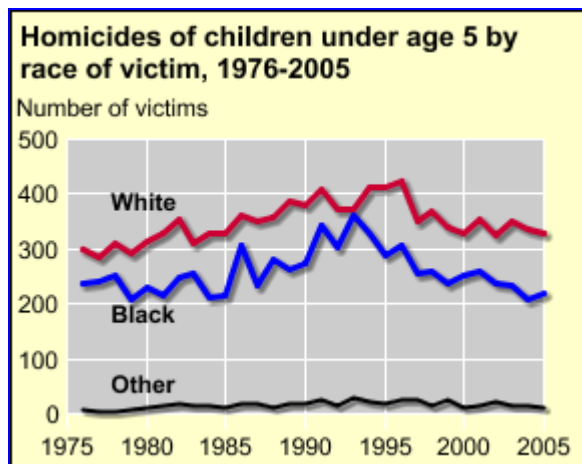
BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Infanticide

The number of homicides of children under age 5 increased through the mid 1990's, but declined recently

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

The infanticide rates have remained fairly stable or declined for all racial groups

Infanticide rates for --

- black children have recently declined, reaching the lowest level recorded in 2004
- white children have remained relatively stable
- children of other racial groups have remained relatively stable.

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Infanticide

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Homicides of Children under Age 5 by Race of Victim

	White	Black	Other	Total
1976	300	239	6	544
1977	286	242	3	531
1978	310	250	4	564
1979	293	208	9	511
1980	315	231	11	557
1981	328	214	13	556
1982	355	248	18	621
1983	311	254	16	581
1984	328	213	13	554
1985	330	216	10	556
1986	361	308	17	686
1987	350	234	17	601
1988	357	282	10	649
1989	386	263	18	667
1990	379	274	17	671
1991	409	343	26	778
1992	371	304	16	691
1993	371	362	28	761
1994	413	329	21	763
1995	412	288	18	719
1996	424	307	25	756
1997	351	255	25	631
1998	368	259	14	641
1999	338	239	25	601
2000	328	253	12	593
2001	354	260	16	630
2002	325	238	23	586
2003	349	234	15	598
2004	336	209	14	559
2005	328	218	10	555

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

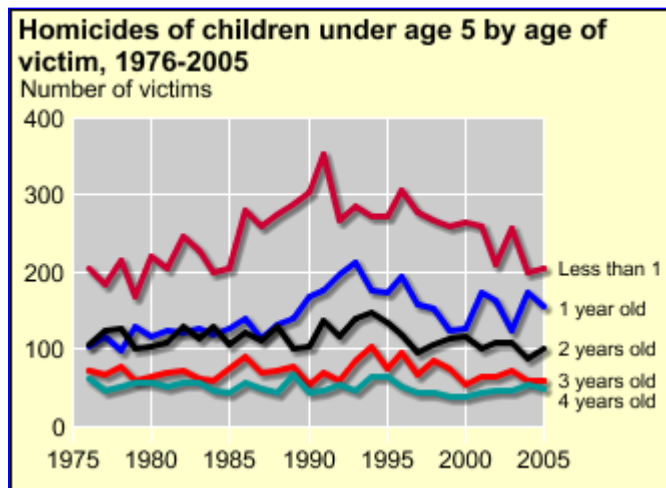
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[\[D\]](#)

The younger the child, the greater the risk for infanticide

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

A parent is the perpetrator in most homicides of children under age 5

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BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Infanticide

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Infanticide Rates per 100,000 Population by Race of Victim

	White	Black	Other
1976	2.4	10.2	1.6
1977	2.3	10.4	0.8
1978	2.5	10.7	1.0
1979	2.3	8.8	2.1
1980	2.4	9.4	2.2
1981	2.4	8.4	2.5
1982	2.5	9.6	3.2
1983	2.2	9.7	2.5
1984	2.3	8.1	2.0
1985	2.3	8.1	1.4
1986	2.5	11.5	2.4
1987	2.4	8.6	2.2
1988	2.4	10.2	1.3
1989	2.6	9.2	2.2
1990	2.5	9.3	2.0
1991	2.7	11.3	2.9
1992	2.4	9.8	1.6
1993	2.4	11.3	2.7
1994	2.6	10.2	2.0
1995	2.6	8.9	1.7
1996	2.7	9.5	2.2
1997	2.3	8.0	2.2
1998	2.4	8.1	1.2
1999	2.2	7.4	2.0
2000	2.2	7.9	0.9
2001	2.4	8.0	1.2
2002	2.2	7.4	1.7
2003	2.4	7.2	1.1
2004	2.3	6.4	1.0
2005	2.2	6.6	0.7

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Infanticide

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[Numbers](#) | [Percentages](#)

Infanticide by Victim Age

	Less than 1	Age of Victim				Total
		1 year old	2 years old	3 years old	4 years old	
1976	206	103	107	72	62	551
1977	184	118	125	67	46	540
1978	216	99	126	79	51	573
1979	170	131	101	61	56	520
1980	222	116	103	66	56	564
1981	204	124	109	69	52	557
1982	246	121	129	73	57	626
1983	228	127	113	62	57	586
1984	199	120	130	61	48	558
1985	206	127	107	75	44	558
1986	280	141	123	90	58	692
1987	261	115	111	70	49	606
1988	275	132	130	74	45	656
1989	288	140	101	78	67	674
1990	305	169	104	54	43	675
1991	354	177	137	71	47	785
1992	268	197	117	61	54	697
1993	286	214	139	87	46	770
1994	272	177	149	105	65	768
1995	273	175	135	76	65	724
1996	307	195	120	96	51	769
1997	278	159	97	67	45	645
1998	268	152	106	85	44	654
1999	260	124	113	76	39	613
2000	266	126	117	55	39	603
2001	260	173	100	64	44	641
2002	210	163	109	65	47	594
2003	258	125	108	74	46	610

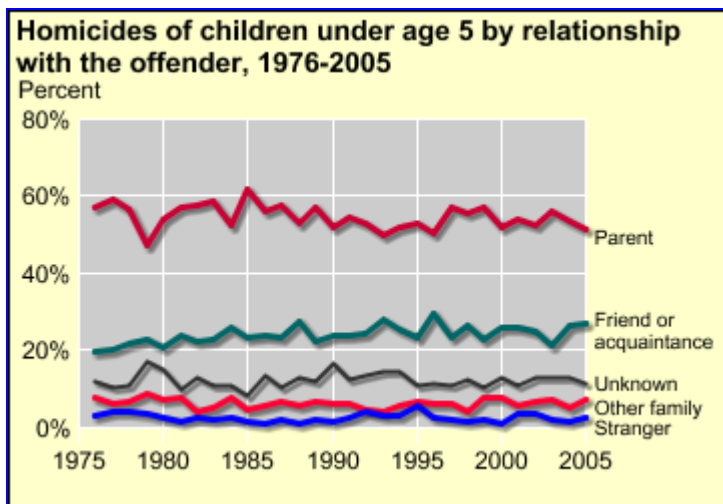
2004	201	174	89	60	54	578
2005	205	157	102	61	50	575

Infanticide by Victim Age

	Age of Victim					Total
	Less than 1	1 year old	2 years old	3 years old	4 years old	
1976	37.4%	18.7%	19.5%	13.1%	11.3%	100.0%
1977	34.2%	21.8%	23.2%	12.4%	8.4%	100.0%
1978	37.8%	17.3%	22.1%	13.9%	8.9%	100.0%
1979	32.7%	25.3%	19.4%	11.8%	10.8%	100.0%
1980	39.4%	20.6%	18.3%	11.8%	9.9%	100.0%
1981	36.7%	22.2%	19.6%	12.3%	9.3%	100.0%
1982	39.2%	19.3%	20.7%	11.7%	9.1%	100.0%
1983	38.8%	21.7%	19.2%	10.6%	9.7%	100.0%
1984	35.7%	21.6%	23.3%	10.9%	8.5%	100.0%
1985	36.8%	22.7%	19.2%	13.4%	7.9%	100.0%
1986	40.5%	20.4%	17.8%	13.0%	8.3%	100.0%
1987	43.0%	19.0%	18.3%	11.6%	8.1%	100.0%
1988	41.9%	20.2%	19.8%	11.2%	6.8%	100.0%
1989	42.8%	20.7%	15.0%	11.6%	9.9%	100.0%
1990	45.2%	25.0%	15.4%	8.0%	6.3%	100.0%
1991	45.1%	22.5%	17.4%	9.0%	6.0%	100.0%
1992	38.4%	28.2%	16.8%	8.7%	7.8%	100.0%
1993	37.1%	27.7%	18.0%	11.3%	5.9%	100.0%
1994	35.4%	23.1%	19.4%	13.6%	8.5%	100.0%
1995	37.8%	24.2%	18.6%	10.5%	9.0%	100.0%
1996	39.9%	25.3%	15.7%	12.5%	6.6%	100.0%
1997	43.1%	24.6%	15.0%	10.3%	7.0%	100.0%
1998	40.9%	23.2%	16.2%	13.0%	6.8%	100.0%
1999	42.4%	20.2%	18.5%	12.5%	6.4%	100.0%
2000	44.1%	20.9%	19.3%	9.2%	6.4%	100.0%
2001	40.5%	27.0%	15.6%	9.9%	6.9%	100.0%
2002	35.4%	27.5%	18.4%	10.9%	7.8%	100.0%
2003	42.2%	20.5%	17.6%	12.2%	7.5%	100.0%
2004	34.7%	30.2%	15.4%	10.5%	9.3%	100.0%
2005	35.7%	27.3%	17.7%	10.5%	8.8%	100.0%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

Note: Parents includes stepparents.

Of all children under age 5 murdered from 1976-2005 --

- 31% were killed by fathers
- 29% were killed by mothers
- 23% were killed by male acquaintances
- 7% were killed by other relatives
- 3% were killed by strangers

Of those children killed by someone other than their parent, 81% were killed by males.

Relationship, 1976-2005

Gender of offender	Parent	Other family	Friend/ Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown
Male	5,273	757	3,825	438	328
Female	4,947	416	728	24	101

Most of the children killed are male and most of the offenders are male

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Infanticide

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[Percentages](#) | [Numbers](#)

Percent of Homicides of Children under age 5
by Relationship with the Offender

	Other		Friend/ Parent family acquaintance		Stranger	Unknown	Total
1976	57.1%	8.0%	19.5%	3.3%	12.1%	100.0%	
1977	59.1%	6.1%	20.2%	4.1%	10.4%	100.0%	
1978	56.4%	6.6%	21.9%	4.0%	11.1%	100.0%	
1979	47.3%	9.0%	22.8%	3.8%	17.0%	100.0%	
1980	54.0%	7.5%	20.7%	2.8%	15.0%	100.0%	
1981	56.9%	7.9%	24.0%	1.6%	9.7%	100.0%	
1982	57.8%	4.3%	22.4%	2.4%	13.1%	100.0%	
1983	58.7%	5.3%	22.9%	2.3%	10.8%	100.0%	
1984	52.4%	7.8%	26.0%	2.7%	11.1%	100.0%	
1985	61.6%	4.8%	23.6%	1.7%	8.1%	100.0%	
1986	56.1%	5.6%	24.0%	.9%	13.4%	100.0%	
1987	57.7%	6.5%	23.2%	2.2%	10.3%	100.0%	
1988	52.8%	5.8%	27.4%	1.1%	13.0%	100.0%	
1989	57.1%	6.6%	22.4%	2.0%	12.0%	100.0%	
1990	51.9%	6.0%	24.1%	1.5%	16.4%	100.0%	
1991	54.3%	6.4%	24.1%	2.6%	12.6%	100.0%	
1992	53.0%	4.8%	24.6%	4.1%	13.5%	100.0%	
1993	49.7%	4.4%	28.3%	3.0%	14.6%	100.0%	
1994	51.9%	5.5%	25.2%	3.0%	14.4%	100.0%	
1995	52.9%	6.8%	23.6%	5.9%	10.8%	100.0%	
1996	50.2%	6.0%	29.8%	2.4%	11.6%	100.0%	
1997	56.9%	6.2%	23.5%	2.3%	11.1%	100.0%	
1998	55.5%	4.4%	26.5%	1.3%	12.4%	100.0%	
1999	57.0%	7.8%	23.0%	1.9%	10.3%	100.0%	
2000	52.1%	8.0%	25.8%	1.2%	12.9%	100.0%	
2001	54.0%	5.9%	25.9%	3.6%	10.7%	100.0%	
2002	52.4%	6.5%	24.7%	3.6%	12.8%	100.0%	
2003	56.3%	7.5%	21.4%	2.1%	12.8%	100.0%	

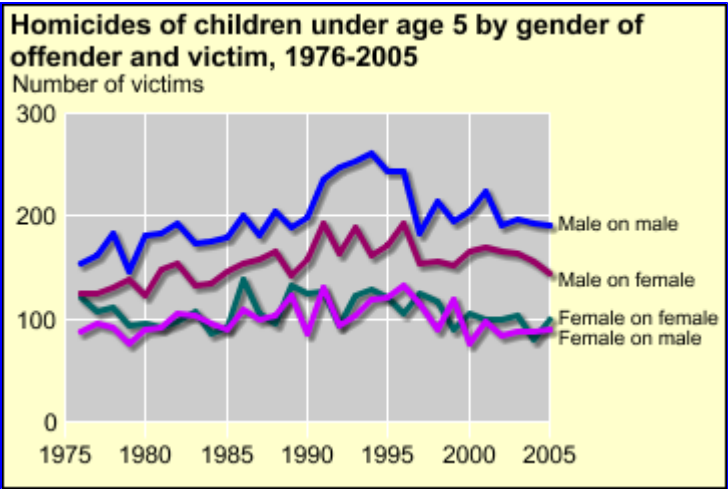
2004	53.6%	5.3%	26.4%	1.6%	13.0%	100.0%
2005	51.3%	7.4%	27.1%	2.7%	11.5%	100.0%

Homicides of Children under age 5 by Relationship with the Offender

	Other		Friend/ Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown	Total
	Parent	family				
1976	314	44	107	18	67	551
1977	319	33	109	22	56	540
1978	323	38	125	23	64	573
1979	246	47	119	20	89	520
1980	305	42	117	16	84	564
1981	317	44	134	9	54	557
1982	362	27	140	15	82	626
1983	344	31	134	13	63	586
1984	292	43	145	15	62	558
1985	344	27	132	10	45	558
1986	389	39	166	6	93	692
1987	350	39	141	13	63	606
1988	346	38	180	7	85	656
1989	385	44	151	14	81	674
1990	350	40	163	10	111	675
1991	426	50	189	21	99	785
1992	369	33	172	28	94	697
1993	383	34	218	23	112	770
1994	398	42	193	23	111	768
1995	383	49	171	43	78	724
1996	386	46	229	19	89	769
1997	367	40	152	15	71	645
1998	363	29	173	8	81	654
1999	350	48	141	12	63	613
2000	315	48	156	7	78	603
2001	346	38	166	23	68	641
2002	311	39	146	22	76	594
2003	343	46	131	13	78	610
2004	310	31	153	9	75	578
2005	295	43	156	16	66	575

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.
 See also [Additional information about the data.](#)

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

For additional statistical information on this topic, see the BJS publication [Child Victimizers: Violent Offenders and Their Victims.](#)

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Infanticide

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Infanticide by Gender of Victim and Offender

Male on Female on Male on Female on

	Male	Male	Female	Female
1976	153	120	124	87
1977	162	108	124	96
1978	184	112	130	91
1979	146	93	139	75
1980	182	96	122	90
1981	184	91	148	92
1982	193	98	153	106
1983	174	107	132	104
1984	175	86	134	95
1985	180	92	147	89
1986	200	138	153	109
1987	181	105	157	100
1988	205	96	165	104
1989	188	132	143	123
1990	199	124	158	86
1991	235	126	193	130
1992	247	94	164	94
1993	253	122	189	104
1994	261	128	161	119
1995	244	120	171	120
1996	244	105	193	133
1997	183	125	153	115
1998	215	117	156	90
1999	194	89	152	118
2000	205	105	166	75
2001	224	100	170	97
2002	190	100	166	84
2003	196	104	163	87
2004	193	79	156	87
2005	191	100	144	90

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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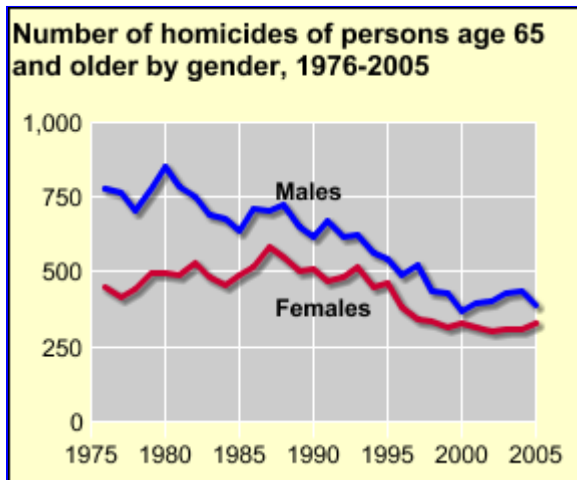
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Eldercide

For persons age 65 or older, both the number of homicides and homicide victimization rates declined through 2000 and then stabilized

- About 5% of all homicides were of persons age 65 or older.
- More males age 65 or older were homicide victims than females of the same age.

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Eldercide

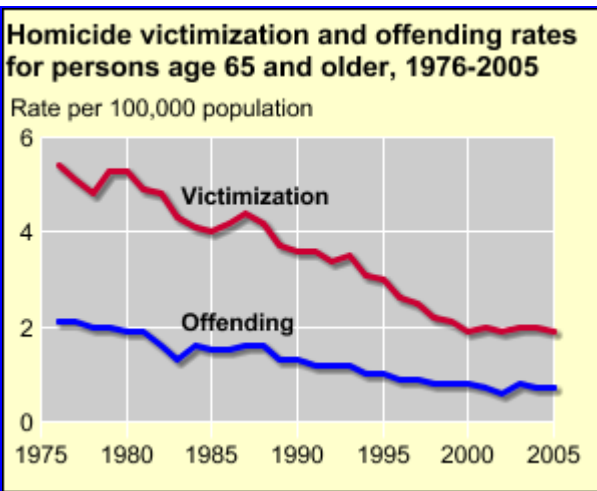
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Homicides of Persons
65 and Older by
Gender of Victim

	Male	Female
1976	776	450
1977	763	416
1978	703	441
1979	780	499
1980	850	495
1981	788	487
1982	754	533
1983	690	484
1984	675	456
1985	638	493
1986	712	517
1987	707	585
1988	723	547
1989	649	500
1990	617	510
1991	670	467
1992	620	484
1993	623	514
1994	567	451
1995	545	461
1996	490	384
1997	526	340
1998	435	334
1999	428	317
2000	370	328
2001	396	318
2002	402	302
2003	429	306
2004	434	308
2005	386	331

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

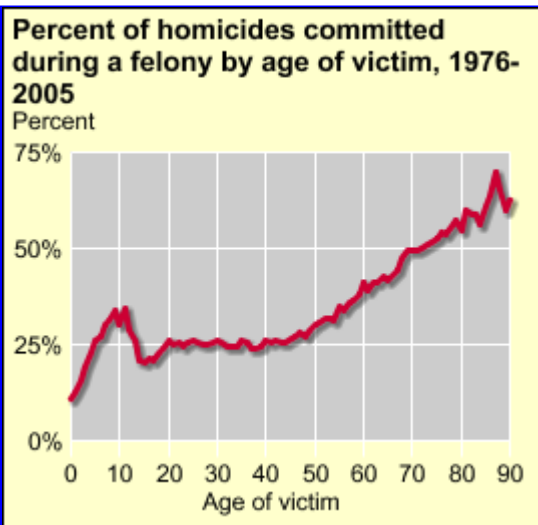


[D]

For additional statistical information on this topic, see the BJS publication [Crimes against persons age 65 or older, 1993-2002](#).

Older homicide victims were more likely to have been killed during a felony than younger victims

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.
See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Eldercide

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Homicide Victimization and Offending Rates per 100,000 Population for Persons 65 and Older

	Victims	Offenders
1976	5.4	2.1
1977	5.1	2.1
1978	4.8	2.0
1979	5.3	2.0
1980	5.3	1.9
1981	4.9	1.9
1982	4.8	1.6
1983	4.3	1.3
1984	4.1	1.6
1985	4.0	1.5
1986	4.2	1.5
1987	4.4	1.6
1988	4.2	1.6
1989	3.7	1.3
1990	3.6	1.3
1991	3.6	1.2
1992	3.4	1.2
1993	3.5	1.2
1994	3.1	1.0
1995	3.0	1.0
1996	2.6	.9
1997	2.5	.9
1998	2.2	.8
1999	2.1	.8
2000	1.9	.8
2001	2.0	.7
2002	1.9	.6
2003	2.0	.8
2004	2.0	.7
2005	1.9	.7

**Number of Homicide
Victims and Offenders
Age 65 and Older**

	Victims	Offenders
1976	1,226	473
1977	1,179	480
1978	1,145	465
1979	1,279	485
1980	1,345	473
1981	1,276	487
1982	1,286	432
1983	1,174	363
1984	1,132	456
1985	1,133	427
1986	1,229	438
1987	1,292	488
1988	1,269	482
1989	1,149	397
1990	1,127	415
1991	1,137	368
1992	1,105	373
1993	1,138	376
1994	1,019	335
1995	1,006	325
1996	876	300
1997	866	300
1998	769	267
1999	746	289
2000	699	284
2001	714	242
2002	704	232
2003	735	283
2004	743	275
2005	717	261

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Eldercide

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Victim age by circumstance

Age of victim	Felony		Other	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	712	11.0%	5,759	89.0%
1	482	12.5%	3,386	87.5%
2	476	15.7%	2,558	84.3%
3	362	19.2%	1,518	80.8%
4	294	22.7%	1,004	77.3%
5	249	26.2%	702	73.8%
6	204	27.0%	553	73.0%
7	210	30.0%	489	70.0%
8	208	31.1%	459	68.9%
9	216	34.0%	420	66.0%
10	183	30.1%	425	69.9%
11	220	34.6%	416	65.4%
12	261	28.8%	645	71.2%
13	319	26.3%	895	73.7%
14	479	21.0%	1,799	79.0%
15	816	20.1%	3,237	79.9%
16	1,359	21.1%	5,094	78.9%
17	1,981	20.9%	7,513	79.1%
18	2,791	22.8%	9,424	77.2%
19	3,506	24.0%	11,132	76.0%
20	3,905	25.8%	11,225	74.2%
21	3,879	24.9%	11,677	75.1%
22	3,998	25.6%	11,617	74.4%
23	3,817	24.7%	11,631	75.3%
24	3,818	25.6%	11,100	74.4%
25	3,972	25.8%	11,447	74.2%
26	3,663	25.5%	10,681	74.5%
27	3,411	25.1%	10,174	74.9%
28	3,231	25.0%	9,687	75.0%
29	3,222	25.4%	9,440	74.6%
30	3,439	26.3%	9,635	73.7%
31	2,798	25.3%	8,272	74.7%

32	2,746	24.4%	8,511	75.6%
33	2,466	24.5%	7,591	75.5%
34	2,454	24.3%	7,631	75.7%
35	2,649	26.0%	7,537	74.0%
36	2,276	25.7%	6,582	74.3%
37	2,025	24.0%	6,424	76.0%
38	1,946	23.7%	6,259	76.3%
39	1,877	24.4%	5,828	75.6%
40	2,077	26.2%	5,854	73.8%
41	1,731	25.6%	5,025	74.4%
42	1,805	26.0%	5,147	74.0%
43	1,547	25.6%	4,488	74.4%
44	1,436	25.7%	4,160	74.3%
45	1,505	26.4%	4,196	73.6%
46	1,359	26.9%	3,695	73.1%
47	1,354	28.0%	3,490	72.0%
48	1,173	27.1%	3,160	72.9%
49	1,219	28.6%	3,047	71.4%
50	1,364	30.2%	3,158	69.8%
51	1,093	30.5%	2,488	69.5%
52	1,192	31.9%	2,545	68.1%
53	1,068	31.6%	2,312	68.4%
54	1,018	31.4%	2,218	68.6%
55	1,077	34.8%	2,014	65.2%
56	948	33.7%	1,866	66.3%
57	973	36.0%	1,731	64.0%
58	881	36.7%	1,522	63.3%
59	879	38.1%	1,429	61.9%
60	990	41.0%	1,423	59.0%
61	833	38.9%	1,308	61.1%
62	926	41.0%	1,332	59.0%
63	801	40.9%	1,160	59.1%
64	750	42.8%	1,003	57.2%
65	849	41.8%	1,184	58.2%
66	624	43.1%	823	56.9%
67	689	44.1%	875	55.9%
68	693	47.2%	776	52.8%
69	669	49.4%	687	50.6%
70	721	49.6%	733	50.4%
71	593	49.7%	601	50.3%
72	675	50.1%	672	49.9%
73	574	51.2%	548	48.8%
74	572	51.7%	534	48.3%
75	588	52.6%	528	47.4%
76	519	54.1%	440	45.9%

77	478	53.7%	412	46.3%
78	483	55.7%	384	44.3%
79	490	57.2%	366	42.8%
80	442	54.7%	366	45.3%
81	405	59.8%	272	40.2%
82	396	58.6%	279	41.4%
83	333	58.7%	234	41.3%
84	290	56.5%	223	43.5%
85	287	61.0%	184	39.0%
86	284	63.5%	163	36.5%
87	248	70.0%	106	30.0%
88	187	65.1%	100	34.9%
89	130	59.9%	87	40.1%
90	131	62.5%	79	37.5%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by gender

Most victims and perpetrators in homicides are male

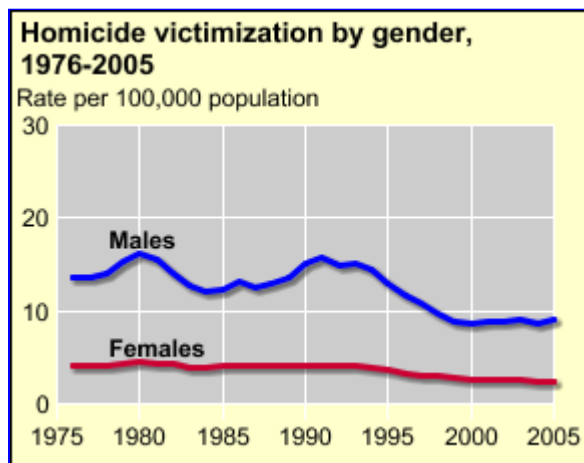
Male offender/Male victim	65.3%
Male offender/Female victim	22.7%
Female offender/Male victim	9.6%
Female offender/Female victim	2.4%

Both male and female offenders are more likely to target male victims than female victims.

Victimization rates for both males and females have declined in recent years

- Males were almost 4 times more likely than females to be murdered in 2005.
- In 2005 rates for females reached their lowest point recorded; rates for males increased slightly from the low point recorded in 2000.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

For more information about gender patterns in violent victimization see [Key Facts at a Glance](#).

Offending rates for both males and females

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by gender

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[Rates](#) | [Numbers](#)

Homicide Victimization
Rates per 100,000
Population by Gender

	Male	Female
1976	13.6	4.2
1977	13.7	4.2
1978	14.0	4.1
1979	15.4	4.4
1980	16.2	4.5
1981	15.6	4.3
1982	14.1	4.3
1983	12.8	3.9
1984	12.1	3.9
1985	12.2	4.0
1986	13.2	4.1
1987	12.6	4.2
1988	12.9	4.2
1989	13.6	4.0
1990	15.0	4.0
1991	15.7	4.2
1992	14.9	4.0
1993	15.0	4.2
1994	14.4	3.8
1995	12.9	3.7
1996	11.7	3.3
1997	10.7	3.0
1998	9.7	3.0
1999	8.8	2.7
2000	8.6	2.6
2001	8.8	2.6
2002	8.8	2.6
2003	9.0	2.5
2004	8.7	2.4

2005 9.0 2.3

**Homicide Victims by
Gender**

	Male	Female
1976	14,171	4,590
1977	14,397	4,710
1978	14,895	4,642
1979	16,428	5,017
1980	17,788	5,232
1981	17,405	5,096
1982	15,902	5,093
1983	14,588	4,703
1984	13,910	4,741
1985	14,079	4,880
1986	15,471	5,109
1987	14,811	5,268
1988	15,414	5,238
1989	16,407	5,085
1990	18,304	5,115
1991	19,270	5,394
1992	18,513	5,217
1993	18,937	5,550
1994	18,294	5,007
1995	16,552	5,022
1996	15,153	4,469
1997	14,057	4,125
1998	12,753	4,139
1999	11,704	3,800
2000	11,818	3,733
2001	12,232	3,775
2002	12,410	3,764
2003	12,804	3,693
2004	12,565	3,543
2005	13,122	3,545

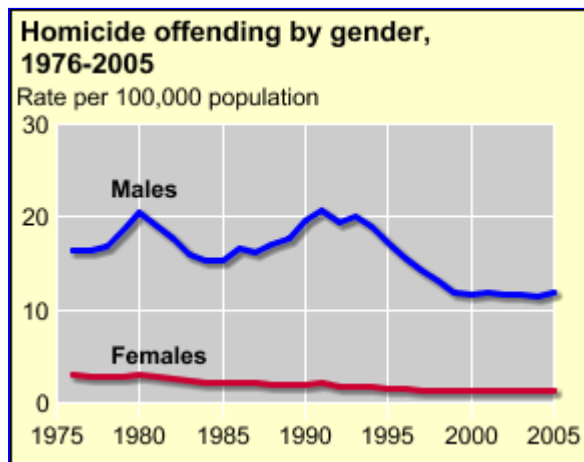
Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

followed the same pattern as victimization rates

- Males were almost 10 times more likely than females to commit murder in 2005.
- The offending rates for females declined since the early 1980's but stabilized after 1999. Offending rates for males peaked in the early 1990's, fell to record lows, and stabilized in recent years.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

The gender distribution of homicide victims and offenders differs by type of homicide

For the years 1976-2005 combined, among all homicide victims, females are particularly at risk for intimate killings and sex-related homicides.

Homicide Type by Gender, 1976-2005

	Victims		Offenders	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
All homicides	76.5%	23.5%	88.8%	11.2%
Victim/offender relationship				
Intimate	35.2%	64.8%	65.5%	34.5%
Family	51.5%	48.5%	70.8%	29.2%
Infanticide	54.6%	45.4%	61.8%	38.2%
Eldercide	58.1%	41.9%	85.2%	14.8%
Circumstances				
Felony murder	78.4%	21.6%	93.2%	6.8%
Sex related	18.8%	81.2%	93.6%	6.4%
Drug related	90.2%	9.8%	95.5%	4.5%
Gang related	94.7%	5.3%	98.3%	1.7%
Argument	77.8%	22.2%	85.6%	14.4%
Workplace	79.1%	20.9%	91.3%	8.7%
Weapon				

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by gender

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[Rates](#) | [Numbers](#)

Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000 Population by Gender

	Male	Female
1976	16.3	3.0
1977	16.3	2.9
1978	16.9	2.7
1979	18.6	2.9
1980	20.6	3.1
1981	19.0	2.8
1982	17.6	2.6
1983	16.0	2.4
1984	15.4	2.2
1985	15.3	2.1
1986	16.7	2.2
1987	16.2	2.1
1988	17.0	2.0
1989	17.6	2.0
1990	19.6	2.0
1991	20.8	2.1
1992	19.4	1.8
1993	20.0	1.8
1994	19.0	1.8
1995	17.3	1.5
1996	15.6	1.6
1997	14.3	1.4
1998	13.2	1.4
1999	11.8	1.2
2000	11.7	1.2
2001	11.8	1.2
2002	11.7	1.2
2003	11.7	1.2
2004	11.5	1.2

2005 11.9 1.2

**Homicide Offenders by
Gender**

	Male	Female
1976	17,057	3,295
1977	17,160	3,228
1978	17,907	3,076
1979	19,955	3,231
1980	22,603	3,598
1981	21,204	3,271
1982	19,764	3,115
1983	18,139	2,869
1984	17,638	2,699
1985	17,757	2,615
1986	19,460	2,718
1987	19,111	2,592
1988	20,285	2,547
1989	21,124	2,584
1990	23,861	2,604
1991	25,617	2,651
1992	24,192	2,356
1993	25,201	2,436
1994	24,148	2,341
1995	22,235	1,976
1996	20,271	2,138
1997	18,660	1,944
1998	17,380	1,941
1999	15,675	1,728
2000	16,035	1,706
2001	16,461	1,705
2002	16,544	1,705
2003	16,643	1,771
2004	16,470	1,739
2005	17,301	1,826

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Gun homicide	82.7%	17.3%	91.3%	8.7%
Arson	56.4%	43.6%	79.1%	20.9%
Poison	55.3%	44.7%	63.5%	36.5%

Multiple victims or offenders

Multiple victims	63.3%	36.7%	93.5%	6.5%
Multiple offenders	85.6%	14.4%	91.6%	8.4%

The relationship between the victim and the offender differs for female and male victims

- Female victims are more likely than male victims to be killed by an intimate or family member.
- Male victims are more likely than female victims to be killed by acquaintances or strangers.

Victim Offender Relationship by Victim Gender, 1976-2005

Victim/Offender relationship	Percent of homicide victims by gender	
	Male	Female
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %
Intimate	5.0 %	30.0 %
Spouse	3.0	18.3
Ex-spouse	0.2	1.4
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	1.8	10.4
Other family	6.8 %	11.8 %
Parent	1.3	2.8
Child	2.1	5.4
Sibling	1.2	0.9
Other family	2.2	2.8
Acquaintance/Known	35.3 %	21.8 %
Neighbor	1.1	1.3
Employee/er	0.1	0.1
Friend/Acquaintance	29.4	17.0
Other Known	4.6	3.4
Stranger	15.5 %	8.7 %
Undetermined	37.4 %	27.6 %

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information about the Data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

Related charts on this site

- [Homicides of children under age 5 by gender of victim and offender, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides of persons age 65 and older by gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides of intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides of intimates by gender and race of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Proportion of all homicides involving intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Intimate homicide rates by race, gender and relationship, 1976-2005](#)
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[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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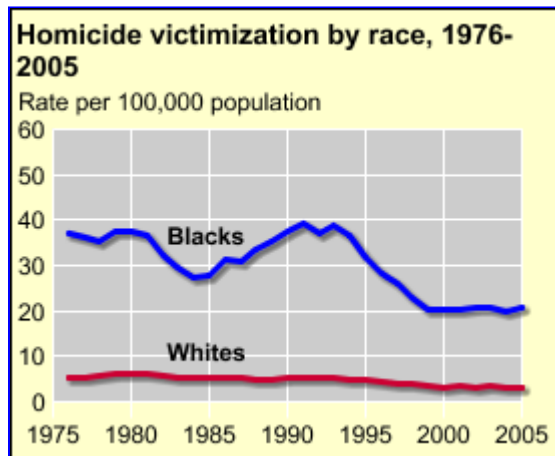
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by race

Racial differences exist, with blacks disproportionately represented among homicide victims and offenders

In 2005, homicide victimization rates for blacks were 6 times higher than the rates for whites.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

For more information about racial patterns in violent victimization see [Key Facts at a Glance](#).

In 2005, offending rates for blacks were more than 7 times higher than the rates for whites

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by race

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[Rates](#) | [Numbers](#)

Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Race

	White	Black	Other
1976	5.1	37.1	4.9
1977	5.4	36.2	4.7
1978	5.6	35.1	4.0
1979	6.1	37.5	4.1
1980	6.3	37.7	5.7
1981	6.2	36.4	6.1
1982	5.9	32.3	6.5
1983	5.3	29.4	6.4
1984	5.2	27.2	5.5
1985	5.2	27.6	5.5
1986	5.4	31.5	6.2
1987	5.1	30.7	5.2
1988	4.9	33.5	4.0
1989	5.0	35.1	4.3
1990	5.4	37.6	4.2
1991	5.5	39.3	6.0
1992	5.3	37.2	5.4
1993	5.3	38.7	5.5
1994	5.0	36.4	4.6
1995	4.8	31.6	4.9
1996	4.3	28.3	4.1
1997	3.9	26.0	4.1
1998	3.8	23.0	2.9
1999	3.5	20.5	3.3
2000	3.3	20.5	2.7
2001	3.4	20.4	2.8
2002	3.3	20.8	2.7
2003	3.4	20.9	2.8
2004	3.3	19.7	2.4

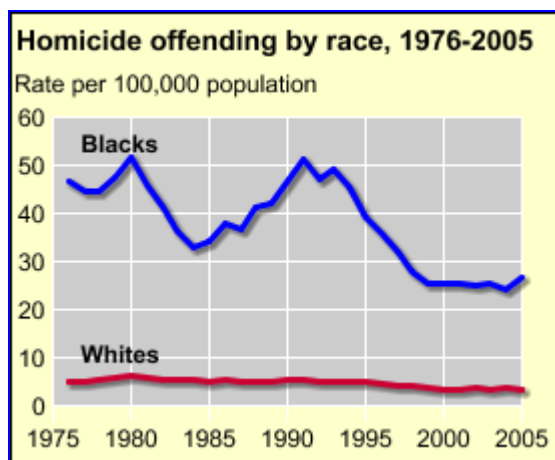
2005 3.3 20.6 2.5

Homicide Victims by Race

	White	Black	Other
1976	9,585	8,745	238
1977	10,041	8,669	236
1978	10,568	8,572	207
1979	11,625	9,311	215
1980	12,275	9,767	327
1981	12,163	9,862	348
1982	11,644	8,880	399
1983	10,604	8,201	417
1984	10,490	7,678	377
1985	10,590	7,891	399
1986	10,916	9,107	484
1987	10,526	9,000	424
1988	10,184	9,959	344
1989	10,325	10,566	390
1990	11,279	11,488	400
1991	11,661	12,226	608
1992	11,229	11,777	573
1993	11,278	12,435	601
1994	10,773	11,856	526
1995	10,376	10,444	581
1996	9,483	9,476	512
1997	8,620	8,842	524
1998	8,389	7,931	393
1999	7,777	7,139	458
2000	7,560	7,425	399
2001	7,884	7,522	424
2002	7,784	7,758	437
2003	7,932	7,893	468
2004	7,944	7,562	417
2005	8,017	7,999	437

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

The race distribution of homicide victims and offenders differs by type of homicide

For the years 1976-2005 combined -

- Black victims are over represented in homicides involving drugs. Compared with the overall involvement of blacks as victims, blacks are less often the victims of sex-related homicides, workplace killings, and homicide by poison.
- Race patterns among offenders are similar to those among victims.

Homicide Type by Race, 1976-2005

	Victims			Offenders		
	White	Black	Other	White	Black	Other
All homicides	50.9%	46.9%	2.1%	45.8%	52.2%	2.0%
Victim/offender relationship						
Intimate	56.6%	41.2%	2.2%	54.4%	43.4%	2.2%
Family	60.7%	36.9%	2.4%	59.2%	38.5%	2.3%
Infanticide	55.9%	41.6%	2.5%	55.4%	42.1%	2.5%
Eldercide	69.2%	29.1%	1.6%	54.5%	43.8%	1.6%
Circumstances						
Felony murder	54.7%	42.7%	2.6%	39.1%	59.3%	1.6%
Sex related	66.9%	30.5%	2.5%	54.7%	43.4%	1.9%
Drug related	37.4%	61.6%	.9%	33.9%	65.0%	1.1%
Gang related	57.5%	39.0%	3.5%	54.3%	41.2%	4.4%
Argument	48.6%	49.3%	2.1%	46.8%	51.1%	2.2%
Workplace	84.6%	12.2%	3.2%	70.5%	26.7%	2.8%
Weapon						
Gun homicide	47.2%	50.9%	1.9%	41.9%	56.4%	1.7%
Arson	58.9%	38.1%	2.9%	55.7%	42.0%	2.3%
Poison	80.6%	16.9%	2.5%	79.8%	18.4%	1.8%
Multiple victims or offenders						
Multiple victims	63.4%	33.2%	3.3%	55.7%	40.8%	3.5%

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by race

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[Rates](#) | [Numbers](#)

Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000 Population by Race

	White	Black	Other
1976	4.9	46.6	4.6
1977	5.1	44.4	4.8
1978	5.3	44.6	3.7
1979	5.8	47.7	5.0
1980	6.4	51.5	6.9
1981	6.0	45.9	6.3
1982	5.6	41.2	6.4
1983	5.3	36.3	6.2
1984	5.3	33.1	5.3
1985	5.1	34.0	5.8
1986	5.3	37.9	6.0
1987	5.2	36.6	5.0
1988	4.9	41.2	4.5
1989	5.1	42.0	4.7
1990	5.6	46.6	4.2
1991	5.6	51.4	5.4
1992	5.2	47.0	5.7
1993	5.2	49.2	5.6
1994	5.1	45.4	5.1
1995	4.9	39.3	5.4
1996	4.5	35.9	4.8
1997	4.1	32.2	4.5
1998	4.2	27.8	3.9
1999	3.6	25.4	3.9
2000	3.5	25.6	3.3
2001	3.5	25.6	3.0
2002	3.6	25.0	2.9
2003	3.5	25.3	3.4
2004	3.6	24.1	2.7
2005	3.5	26.5	2.8

Homicide Offenders by Race

	White	Black	Other
1976	9,157	10,969	226
1977	9,523	10,625	240
1978	9,915	10,875	192
1979	11,078	11,843	265
1980	12,487	13,320	394
1981	11,686	12,428	361
1982	11,154	11,333	393
1983	10,499	10,109	401
1984	10,631	9,343	363
1985	10,235	9,712	424
1986	10,740	10,970	468
1987	10,563	10,729	411
1988	10,190	12,257	385
1989	10,606	12,674	427
1990	11,823	14,238	404
1991	11,754	15,970	543
1992	11,078	14,866	605
1993	11,203	15,818	615
1994	11,096	14,807	587
1995	10,577	12,994	640
1996	9,804	12,007	599
1997	9,105	10,922	578
1998	9,230	9,571	519
1999	8,009	8,853	540
2000	8,011	9,240	490
2001	8,276	9,428	462
2002	8,473	9,313	462
2003	8,274	9,579	561
2004	8,522	9,234	453
2005	8,350	10,285	492

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Multiple offenders

54.8%

42.5%

2.7%

44.6%

53.0%

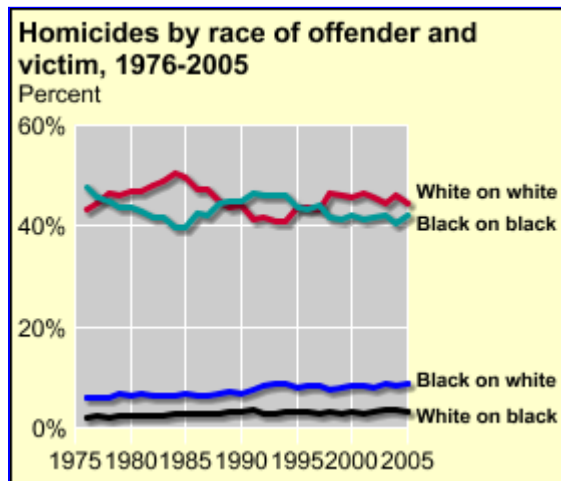
2.4%

Although slightly less true now than before, most murders are intraracial

From 1976 to 2005 --

- 86% of white victims were killed by whites
- 94% of black victims were killed by blacks

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Stranger homicides are more likely to cross racial lines than those that involve friends or acquaintances

For homicides committed by --

- a friend or acquaintance of the victim, less than one-tenth (8%) were interracial
- a stranger to the victim, one-quarter were interracial

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BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by race

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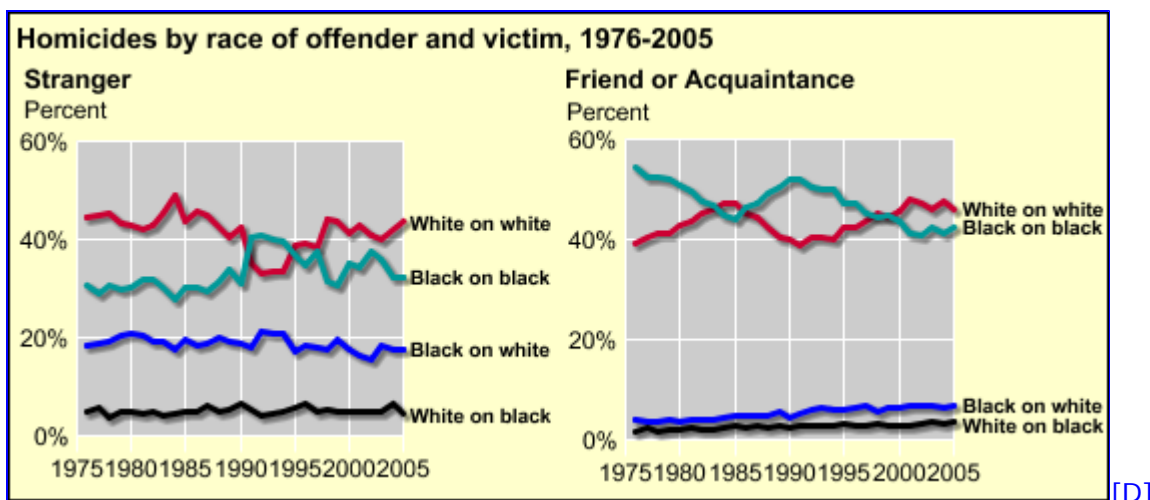
[Percentages](#) | [Numbers](#)

Percent of All Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders

	White on White	Black on White	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	43.5%	6.0%	.3%	2.0%	47.5%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1977	44.6%	5.9%	.4%	2.4%	45.8%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1978	46.3%	6.1%	.3%	1.8%	44.8%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.3%
1979	46.0%	6.8%	.4%	2.5%	43.7%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1980	46.8%	6.4%	.3%	2.2%	43.6%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1981	46.8%	6.8%	.2%	2.5%	43.0%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1982	48.1%	6.4%	.3%	2.5%	41.7%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1983	48.7%	6.3%	.3%	2.3%	41.6%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1984	50.3%	6.2%	.3%	2.6%	39.8%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1985	49.7%	6.7%	.3%	2.7%	39.8%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.5%
1986	47.1%	6.5%	.4%	2.6%	42.6%	.1%	.3%	.0%	.6%
1987	47.3%	6.3%	.4%	2.9%	42.2%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.5%
1988	44.9%	6.6%	.4%	2.7%	44.5%	.1%	.3%	.0%	.4%
1989	43.9%	7.0%	.3%	3.1%	44.8%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.5%
1990	44.1%	6.9%	.3%	3.2%	44.8%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.4%
1991	41.5%	7.7%	.3%	3.4%	46.3%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.4%
1992	41.7%	8.5%	.3%	2.7%	46.1%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1993	41.1%	8.9%	.3%	2.7%	46.2%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1994	41.1%	8.6%	.4%	3.1%	46.1%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.3%
1995	43.8%	8.0%	.4%	3.3%	43.6%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1996	43.8%	8.4%	.4%	3.3%	43.4%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.3%
1997	43.4%	8.4%	.3%	2.9%	44.0%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.6%
1998	46.4%	7.5%	.3%	3.2%	41.6%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1999	46.0%	8.1%	.4%	2.8%	41.5%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.9%
2000	45.5%	8.2%	.3%	3.0%	42.1%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.6%
2001	46.4%	8.2%	.4%	2.8%	41.4%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.4%
2002	45.7%	8.1%	.4%	3.2%	41.6%	.1%	.2%	.2%	.5%
2003	44.7%	8.6%	.3%	3.5%	42.0%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.5%
2004	46.1%	8.5%	.4%	3.5%	40.7%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.6%
2005	44.6%	8.8%	.3%	3.2%	42.2%	.0%	.2%	.2%	.5%

Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders									
	White on White	Black on White	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	6,279	862	44	290	6,855	2	29	12	59
1977	6,299	828	52	346	6,469	7	36	10	71
1978	6,776	899	40	269	6,547	5	37	5	48
1979	7,054	1,037	54	390	6,706	4	31	10	64
1980	7,384	1,011	42	343	6,886	7	34	9	67
1981	7,588	1,106	37	402	6,972	8	33	11	71
1982	7,184	960	44	377	6,226	3	44	12	79
1983	6,719	869	41	314	5,738	3	38	8	68
1984	6,664	816	42	341	5,264	3	36	9	63
1985	6,745	913	43	361	5,401	5	27	12	65
1986	6,896	949	54	378	6,235	7	41	6	88
1987	6,574	873	49	408	5,861	8	35	10	70
1988	6,362	939	62	389	6,312	8	40	7	58
1989	6,450	1,029	50	457	6,583	2	42	5	75
1990	6,984	1,089	43	502	7,091	2	42	9	69
1991	6,611	1,220	54	541	7,361	5	51	15	56
1992	6,241	1,272	40	410	6,903	4	35	17	63
1993	6,466	1,393	46	432	7,268	7	32	16	57
1994	6,208	1,306	56	469	6,960	4	42	13	52
1995	6,069	1,109	50	455	6,039	7	38	17	70
1996	5,604	1,077	49	418	5,550	13	32	17	41
1997	5,056	974	34	343	5,118	5	28	17	70
1998	5,210	841	36	363	4,666	8	30	12	56
1999	4,671	820	45	284	4,217	2	23	12	87
2000	4,643	834	34	302	4,298	5	24	12	57
2001	4,813	854	43	286	4,301	7	21	10	42
2002	4,795	847	45	337	4,363	9	26	17	54
2003	4,645	896	35	360	4,367	6	17	9	50
2004	4,761	880	36	358	4,201	1	21	13	62
2005	4,755	934	31	337	4,497	4	19	25	58

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.
 See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

Related charts on this site

- [The number of homicides of children under age 5 by race, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicide victimization rates for children under age 5 by race, 1976-2005](#)
- [Homicides of intimates by gender and race of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Intimate homicide rates by race, gender and relationship, 1976-2005](#)

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by race

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Acquaintance Homicides

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Percent of All Acquaintance Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders

	White on White	Black on White	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	39.0%	4.1%	.2%	1.5%	54.4%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1977	40.4%	3.7%	.3%	2.3%	52.4%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1978	41.4%	3.7%	.3%	1.5%	52.5%	.1%	.1%	.0%	.4%
1979	41.1%	3.9%	.3%	2.1%	51.9%	.0%	.2%	.0%	.5%
1980	42.9%	3.7%	.2%	1.8%	50.7%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.5%
1981	43.7%	3.9%	.2%	2.2%	49.5%	.0%	.2%	.0%	.3%
1982	45.2%	3.9%	.3%	2.1%	47.5%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.6%
1983	45.8%	4.1%	.2%	2.0%	46.9%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.6%
1984	47.3%	4.2%	.4%	2.3%	44.8%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.6%
1985	47.4%	4.9%	.3%	2.7%	44.1%	.1%	.1%	.1%	.3%
1986	45.1%	4.6%	.5%	2.2%	46.5%	.1%	.4%	.1%	.6%
1987	44.2%	4.7%	.5%	2.6%	47.0%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.6%
1988	42.2%	4.8%	.6%	2.4%	49.1%	.1%	.4%	.0%	.5%
1989	40.2%	5.4%	.4%	2.9%	50.2%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.6%
1990	40.1%	4.4%	.3%	2.5%	51.8%	.0%	.4%	.0%	.5%
1991	38.7%	5.3%	.5%	2.9%	51.8%	.0%	.4%	.1%	.4%
1992	40.3%	5.8%	.3%	2.6%	50.2%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1993	40.2%	6.3%	.3%	2.6%	49.8%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.4%
1994	40.1%	5.9%	.4%	2.9%	50.0%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.3%
1995	42.5%	5.8%	.4%	3.1%	47.1%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.7%
1996	42.2%	6.3%	.5%	2.8%	47.2%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.4%
1997	43.5%	6.6%	.4%	2.8%	45.4%	.1%	.2%	.2%	.8%
1998	45.3%	5.7%	.3%	3.3%	44.3%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.6%
1999	44.4%	6.3%	.5%	2.7%	44.6%	.0%	.4%	.1%	1.0%
2000	45.6%	6.5%	.4%	2.8%	43.6%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.7%
2001	47.8%	6.8%	.5%	2.7%	41.4%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.5%

2002	47.4%	6.7%	.6%	3.2%	40.8%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.7%
2003	45.9%	6.8%	.3%	3.7%	42.4%	.1%	.3%	.0%	.5%
2004	47.6%	6.5%	.4%	3.3%	41.2%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.6%
2005	46.0%	6.8%	.4%	3.4%	42.3%	.0%	.2%	.0%	.8%

Acquaintance Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders

	White on White	Black on White	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	2,926	311	14	111	4,079	2	17	10	27
1977	3,022	277	25	172	3,923	5	22	4	38
1978	2,946	267	20	103	3,737	4	8	1	25
1979	2,990	280	24	151	3,779	2	16	3	35
1980	3,282	287	18	137	3,880	2	14	4	35
1981	3,580	319	12	176	4,059	3	18	1	25
1982	3,440	298	25	159	3,612	3	25	3	46
1983	3,243	293	18	141	3,318	2	18	5	40
1984	3,269	290	25	162	3,101	3	19	4	41
1985	3,449	355	23	194	3,203	4	11	6	25
1986	3,610	368	39	172	3,717	5	30	5	50
1987	3,340	355	38	195	3,546	7	19	6	45
1988	3,321	375	44	190	3,858	5	33	1	36
1989	3,238	436	28	234	4,041	1	27	3	47
1990	3,366	373	25	208	4,351	2	30	3	39
1991	3,137	432	39	235	4,196	2	30	6	31
1992	3,167	455	20	202	3,944	3	23	5	37
1993	3,269	510	28	213	4,048	3	21	4	32
1994	3,145	460	33	230	3,928	3	26	2	25
1995	2,942	402	26	211	3,260	4	19	5	47
1996	2,885	432	36	189	3,227	9	21	8	25
1997	2,636	397	23	171	2,747	5	15	10	51
1998	2,633	328	19	193	2,576	2	19	6	32
1999	2,287	324	26	138	2,299	2	19	7	51
2000	2,165	310	20	134	2,068	1	13	4	32
2001	2,193	310	23	122	1,901	3	11	5	22
2002	2,253	318	28	153	1,942	7	15	7	32
2003	2,220	330	16	179	2,049	5	13	1	24
2004	2,237	303	19	156	1,935	1	15	6	29
2005	2,129	314	20	159	1,957	2	11	2	36

Stranger Homicides

[Percentages](#) | [Numbers](#)

Percent of All Stranger Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders

	White on White	Black on White	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	44.6%	18.5%	.9%	4.7%	30.8%		.3%	.1%	.2%
1977	45.1%	18.9%	.6%	5.6%	28.8%	.0%	.3%	.2%	.3%
1978	45.4%	19.1%	.5%	3.6%	30.6%		.6%	.0%	.2%
1979	43.2%	20.6%	.7%	4.9%	29.7%		.3%	.2%	.4%
1980	43.0%	20.7%	.5%	5.1%	30.2%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.2%
1981	41.9%	20.5%	.5%	4.6%	31.9%	.1%	.2%	.2%	.1%
1982	42.9%	19.1%	.5%	5.0%	31.9%		.4%	.2%	.1%
1983	45.4%	19.0%	.7%	4.1%	30.0%		.6%	.1%	.1%
1984	48.9%	17.7%	.3%	4.5%	27.6%		.5%	.1%	.3%
1985	43.6%	19.7%	.6%	4.9%	30.1%	.1%	.5%	.3%	.4%
1986	45.6%	18.3%	.3%	5.1%	30.1%	.1%	.4%	.1%	.2%
1987	44.9%	18.7%	.3%	6.2%	29.5%		.2%	.2%	.1%
1988	42.3%	20.2%	.6%	5.1%	31.4%		.1%	.2%	.1%
1989	40.6%	19.0%	.4%	5.4%	33.9%		.5%		.1%
1990	42.6%	18.9%	.5%	6.4%	31.0%		.2%	.2%	.1%
1991	35.1%	17.9%	.3%	5.4%	40.5%	.0%	.4%	.2%	.2%
1992	32.9%	21.1%	.5%	4.0%	40.9%	.0%	.3%	.2%	.1%
1993	33.6%	20.8%	.4%	4.4%	40.2%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.1%
1994	33.3%	20.9%	.6%	4.9%	39.5%		.4%	.3%	.2%
1995	38.6%	17.1%	.6%	5.8%	36.9%	.1%	.5%	.3%	.1%
1996	39.2%	18.5%	.1%	6.6%	34.7%	.1%	.4%	.2%	.1%
1997	38.2%	18.0%	.2%	4.9%	37.7%		.5%	.3%	.2%
1998	44.2%	17.5%	.6%	5.3%	31.3%		.4%	.3%	.3%
1999	43.8%	19.6%	.4%	5.1%	30.5%		.2%	.1%	.1%
2000	41.2%	17.4%	.4%	5.0%	35.0%	.1%	.3%	.2%	.3%
2001	42.9%	16.4%	.6%	5.1%	34.2%	.1%	.4%	.2%	.1%
2002	40.7%	15.4%	.4%	4.8%	37.6%	.1%	.4%	.5%	.1%
2003	39.9%	18.2%	.6%	4.8%	35.8%		.2%	.4%	.1%
2004	41.9%	17.7%	.6%	6.6%	32.4%		.2%	.2%	.3%
2005	43.7%	17.7%	.3%	4.5%	32.3%	.1%	.2%	.8%	.4%

Stranger Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders

	White on White	Black on White	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	992	413	19	105	685		7	1	3
1977	1,001	420	14	125	639	1	7	4	7
1978	1,055	443	10	84	711		15	1	4
1979	1,029	491	18	118	707		6	4	8
1980	1,104	531	13	131	775	2	4	2	6
1981	1,201	588	13	133	916	3	6	6	2

1982	1,128	504	12	133	839		10	5	2
1983	988	414	14	89	654		13	2	2
1984	1,075	389	8	100	606		11	2	6
1985	917	413	13	103	632	1	10	5	8
1986	953	383	5	106	629	1	7	1	4
1987	883	367	6	122	580		4	3	1
1988	881	421	12	106	654		2	5	2
1989	967	452	10	128	805		12		3
1990	1,201	534	14	182	873		7	6	3
1991	1,120	572	9	171	1,293	1	14	7	6
1992	897	574	14	110	1,116	1	7	5	2
1993	1,020	632	13	133	1,220	3	5	3	4
1994	892	559	15	131	1,056		12	8	4
1995	1,077	476	16	162	1,028	2	14	9	3
1996	915	432	3	153	808	2	9	6	2
1997	770	363	5	98	759		9	6	5
1998	840	333	12	100	595		8	6	6
1999	727	324	7	85	506		4	2	2
2000	783	330	8	94	666	2	6	5	6
2001	830	318	13	98	662	2	8	3	2
2002	864	326	9	102	798	1	9	10	2
2003	754	343	11	90	677		3	7	2
2004	811	343	13	128	626		5	3	6
2005	933	378	6	95	689	2	4	17	9

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Age, gender, and race trends

Patterns of victimization and offending vary by age, gender, and racial group

During the late 1990's, homicide victimization rates dropped for all groups. In recent years, rates for most groups stabilized.

In 2005 --

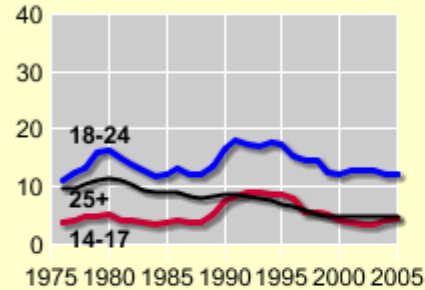
- Black males 18-24 years old had the highest homicide victimization rates. Their rates were more than double the rates for black males age 25 and older and almost 4 times the rates for black males 14-17 years old.
- Although much lower than the rates experienced in the late 1980's and early 1990's, rates for black males ages 18-24 remain higher in 2005 than in earlier periods.
- After increases in the early 1990's, both white and black 14-17 year old males experienced homicide victimization rates in 2005 that were about the same as those of the early 1970's.
- Young adults (18-24 years old) have the highest victimization rates in each racial and gender group.
- For white females of all ages, victimization rates have declined. Since 1993, rates for black females have also declined in all age groups.

To view data, click on the chart.

Homicide victimization by age, gender, and race, 1976-2005

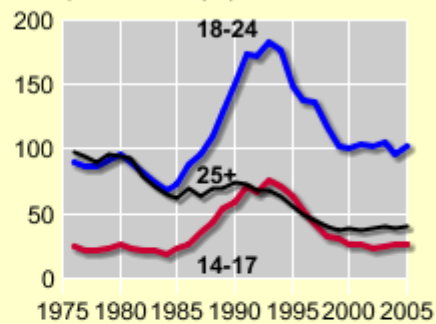
White males

Rate per 100,000 population



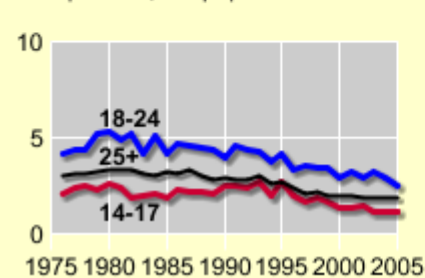
Black males

Rate per 100,000 population



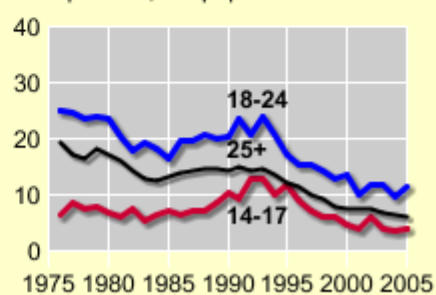
White females

Rate per 100,000 population



Black females

Rate per 100,000 population



[D]

Homicide offending patterns are similar to victimization patterns

- Black males 18-24 years old have the highest homicide offending rates. Their rates are more than 3 times the rates of black males 14-17 years old and almost 5 times the rates of black males age 25 and older.
- Young adults (18-24 years old) have the highest offending rates in each racial and gender group.
- For black males 18-24 years old, offending rates declined after 1993 reaching a low in 2004. The rate increased in 2005.
- For black male teens (14-17 years old), offending rates have increased since 2002 but remain relatively low compared to earlier periods.
- For white male young adults (18-24 years old), offending rates fell to an alltime low in 2005.
- For black females of all age groups, offending rates declined since the early 1990's.
- White females of all age groups experience the lowest offending rates.

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Age, gender, and race trends

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Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Age, Race, and Gender

	White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	3.7	11.3	9.8	24.2	89.8	97.2	2.1	4.2	3.0	6.3	25.1	19.3
1977	4.1	12.5	9.9	22.4	86.9	94.1	2.4	4.4	3.1	8.7	24.5	17.2
1978	4.7	13.3	10.4	21.9	86.4	90.3	2.5	4.4	3.1	7.6	23.7	16.5
1979	4.9	16.0	11.0	23.2	90.9	95.7	2.3	5.2	3.2	7.8	24.0	18.2
1980	5.1	16.2	11.4	26.3	96.7	94.8	2.6	5.3	3.3	6.8	23.5	17.1
1981	4.3	14.9	11.3	23.0	89.7	93.2	2.4	4.9	3.3	6.0	20.4	16.0
1982	4.0	13.9	10.4	22.3	82.6	79.5	1.9	5.2	3.3	7.5	17.7	14.4
1983	3.8	12.7	9.4	21.4	75.0	70.7	2.0	4.2	3.1	5.2	19.4	13.0
1984	3.5	11.9	9.1	18.4	68.0	64.6	2.1	5.1	3.0	6.4	18.2	12.4
1985	3.9	12.1	8.9	23.7	73.3	62.4	1.9	4.2	3.2	7.3	16.5	13.2
1986	4.1	13.3	9.0	26.8	87.9	70.2	2.3	4.7	3.1	6.5	19.7	14.1
1987	3.7	12.3	8.5	36.2	96.4	64.0	2.2	4.6	3.3	7.1	19.6	14.4
1988	3.9	12.3	8.1	43.3	109.5	69.2	2.2	4.5	3.0	7.2	20.8	14.8
1989	5.3	13.4	8.2	54.3	128.3	70.5	2.1	4.4	2.8	8.6	20.0	14.7
1990	7.5	16.7	8.7	59.0	151.0	74.4	2.5	4.0	2.9	10.3	20.5	14.3
1991	8.5	18.2	8.8	71.9	173.7	72.7	2.5	4.6	2.8	9.4	23.4	15.0
1992	9.0	17.4	8.4	67.3	171.8	67.6	2.4	4.4	2.8	12.8	20.8	14.4
1993	9.1	17.2	8.1	76.4	183.5	68.3	2.7	4.3	3.0	12.7	24.1	14.5
1994	8.7	17.8	7.7	71.6	176.2	64.3	2.0	3.8	2.6	10.0	20.7	13.7
1995	8.6	17.3	6.9	63.2	148.9	56.4	2.7	4.2	2.7	11.9	17.1	12.2
1996	7.9	15.4	6.5	52.2	138.2	50.0	2.0	3.3	2.4	8.9	15.4	11.3
1997	5.7	14.5	5.9	42.0	136.5	45.5	1.7	3.5	2.1	7.2	15.4	9.9
1998	5.7	14.5	5.3	32.8	117.4	40.6	1.9	3.4	2.2	5.9	14.3	9.3
1999	5.1	12.5	5.0	31.0	102.4	36.5	1.7	3.4	2.0	5.9	12.9	7.9
2000	4.1	12.1	4.7	25.8	100.6	38.1	1.4	2.9	2.0	4.5	13.5	7.6
2001	3.8	12.9	4.8	26.3	104.0	37.5	1.4	3.2	2.0	3.9	10.1	7.6
2002	3.6	12.7	4.8	22.6	102.5	39.0	1.5	2.9	1.9	6.1	11.8	7.4
2003	3.5	13.0	4.8	24.7	104.8	39.8	1.1	3.2	1.9	3.8	11.9	6.9
2004	4.0	12.0	4.9	25.8	95.6	38.3	1.1	2.9	1.9	3.7	9.7	6.6
2005	4.4	12.2	4.9	26.4	102.0	39.9	1.1	2.5	1.9	4.0	11.3	6.2

Homicide Victims by Age, Race and Gender

	White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	265	1,363	4,974	264	1,471	4,884	147	499	1,718	69	442	1,183
1977	289	1,525	5,114	244	1,468	4,853	161	531	1,809	95	444	1,090
1978	331	1,637	5,458	239	1,496	4,795	167	531	1,804	84	440	1,074
1979	337	1,984	5,926	254	1,608	5,229	152	629	1,897	85	454	1,224
1980	352	2,038	6,306	295	1,780	5,478	170	652	2,037	76	463	1,217
1981	289	1,898	6,381	267	1,735	5,709	153	612	2,051	70	418	1,209
1982	264	1,748	5,977	256	1,601	5,009	123	637	2,136	85	362	1,118
1983	242	1,585	5,486	241	1,457	4,570	124	503	2,025	58	397	1,037
1984	217	1,467	5,401	204	1,320	4,285	126	607	1,947	70	371	1,010
1985	238	1,465	5,384	259	1,421	4,243	113	489	2,167	79	334	1,106
1986	249	1,583	5,525	292	1,701	4,889	132	542	2,093	70	396	1,205
1987	223	1,429	5,284	394	1,845	4,569	128	517	2,257	76	387	1,260
1988	234	1,390	5,131	472	2,068	5,049	125	491	2,112	77	406	1,326
1989	311	1,487	5,251	590	2,388	5,255	116	469	1,986	92	382	1,341
1990	412	1,874	5,672	614	2,827	5,652	131	428	2,051	104	395	1,327
1991	472	1,992	5,796	755	3,225	5,650	131	475	2,026	96	449	1,422
1992	507	1,864	5,556	721	3,185	5,372	128	452	2,051	133	394	1,395
1993	516	1,846	5,411	832	3,440	5,499	144	441	2,192	133	464	1,425
1994	499	1,885	5,204	799	3,287	5,266	107	386	1,926	108	395	1,373
1995	512	1,792	4,754	734	2,765	4,696	151	417	2,036	134	324	1,242
1996	477	1,569	4,489	617	2,561	4,231	111	320	1,788	101	292	1,164
1997	356	1,457	4,101	509	2,509	3,921	100	335	1,610	84	289	1,041
1998	357	1,462	3,732	402	2,169	3,555	111	325	1,716	69	270	992
1999	322	1,285	3,572	379	1,930	3,238	99	332	1,531	69	248	859
2000	269	1,296	3,436	326	1,979	3,505	88	299	1,583	54	271	851
2001	249	1,408	3,550	337	2,100	3,508	85	337	1,598	48	207	871
2002	241	1,422	3,561	295	2,115	3,700	91	312	1,553	76	247	862
2003	237	1,475	3,663	331	2,190	3,833	66	342	1,556	49	253	814
2004	268	1,385	3,770	358	2,033	3,737	73	322	1,533	49	209	795
2005	301	1,432	3,776	378	2,205	3,944	70	278	1,593	55	248	755

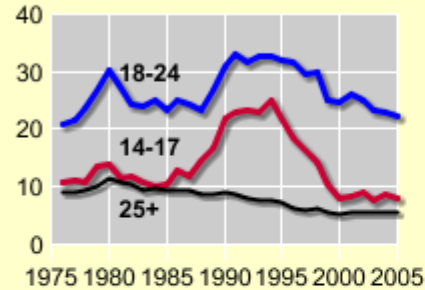
Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Homicide offending by age, gender, and race, 1976-2005

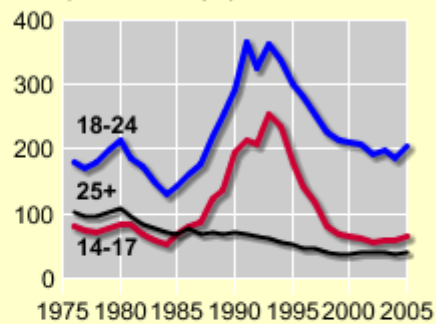
White males

Rate per 100,000 population



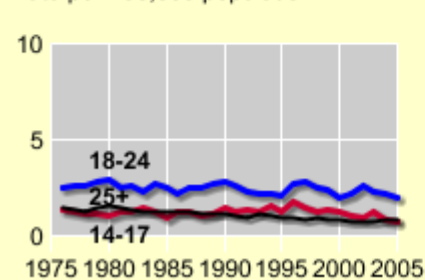
Black males

Rate per 100,000 population



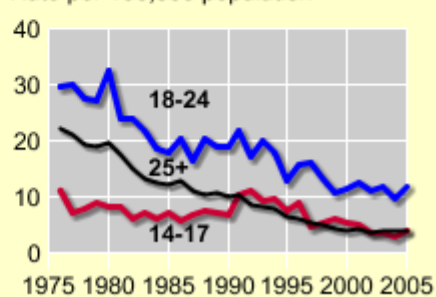
White females

Rate per 100,000 population



Black females

Rate per 100,000 population



[D]

Young males, particularly young black males, are disproportionately involved in homicide compared to their share of the population

- For young white males, their proportion of the population increased slightly since 2001, while their proportion of homicide victims has been stable and their proportion of offenders has declined.
- For young black males, their proportion of the population has remained at about 1%. After 1993, their proportion of homicide victims declined slightly before stabilizing in recent years. Their proportion of homicide offenders increased rapidly from the mid 1980's to the early 1990's and then declined slightly remaining at over one-quarter of all offenders..

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Age, gender, and race trends

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Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000 Population by Age, Race and Gender

	White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	10.9	21.0	8.9	80.6	180.9	100.9	1.4	2.5	1.5	11.2	29.5	22.1
1977	11.2	21.7	9.2	73.7	169.9	96.3	1.3	2.6	1.4	7.0	29.9	21.0
1978	10.9	23.6	9.5	70.0	178.5	96.3	1.1	2.6	1.3	7.8	27.4	19.2
1979	13.5	26.8	10.2	78.7	197.7	101.6	1.1	2.8	1.5	9.1	27.0	18.8
1980	13.9	30.1	11.4	83.8	212.6	108.9	1.0	2.9	1.6	8.1	32.6	19.5
1981	11.6	27.1	10.8	82.9	186.0	96.6	1.2	2.5	1.5	8.1	23.9	17.6
1982	11.7	24.5	10.4	69.4	174.9	85.1	1.2	2.6	1.4	5.9	24.1	15.1
1983	10.9	23.9	9.5	57.4	150.3	76.2	1.5	2.3	1.3	7.2	21.9	13.1
1984	10.0	25.2	9.6	52.8	130.1	71.5	1.2	2.7	1.2	6.0	18.5	12.4
1985	10.4	23.2	9.3	69.0	143.5	68.8	.9	2.5	1.2	7.1	18.0	12.0
1986	12.9	25.1	9.5	80.1	162.2	77.1	1.2	2.2	1.2	5.7	20.2	12.7
1987	11.8	24.4	9.3	87.5	177.9	69.3	1.3	2.5	1.2	6.8	16.5	11.1
1988	14.6	23.2	8.8	125.4	219.5	72.6	1.0	2.5	1.1	7.5	20.5	10.2
1989	16.8	26.8	8.6	135.5	250.6	67.8	1.1	2.7	1.1	7.0	18.9	10.8
1990	22.0	30.9	9.2	194.5	290.8	70.3	1.5	2.8	1.1	6.9	19.1	10.1
1991	22.8	32.9	8.8	214.1	365.1	68.8	1.3	2.6	1.0	10.5	21.9	10.2
1992	23.3	31.8	8.0	209.1	326.4	65.5	1.4	2.3	.9	11.1	17.2	8.7
1993	22.8	32.7	7.8	253.1	362.5	60.7	1.3	2.2	1.1	9.2	20.0	8.1
1994	24.9	32.7	7.5	235.5	338.3	55.1	1.6	2.2	1.0	9.6	17.7	7.8
1995	22.0	32.1	7.2	178.6	301.3	51.3	1.3	2.1	.9	7.5	13.0	6.3
1996	18.3	31.7	6.4	143.3	282.5	47.2	1.8	2.7	.9	8.8	15.7	6.2
1997	16.3	29.5	5.9	116.8	252.8	45.0	1.5	2.8	.8	4.5	15.9	5.3
1998	14.2	29.8	6.1	80.7	227.1	39.6	1.2	2.5	.9	5.3	13.2	5.1
1999	10.6	24.9	5.4	68.4	212.9	36.3	1.4	2.4	.8	6.1	10.7	4.3
2000	8.1	24.6	5.3	63.7	211.4	38.0	1.2	2.0	.8	5.2	11.4	4.0
2001	8.2	26.1	5.4	61.0	207.3	38.8	1.0	2.2	.7	5.1	12.6	4.2
2002	9.2	24.9	5.5	54.6	192.2	41.0	.9	2.6	.7	3.6	11.0	3.7
2003	7.7	23.2	5.5	58.3	199.4	39.6	1.3	2.3	.7	3.6	11.9	4.1
2004	8.7	22.9	5.6	59.8	184.9	38.0	.8	2.2	.8	2.7	9.8	3.9
2005	7.9	22.4	5.5	64.1	203.3	41.8	.7	2.0	.8	4.0	11.8	4.0

Homicide Offenders by Age, Race and Gender

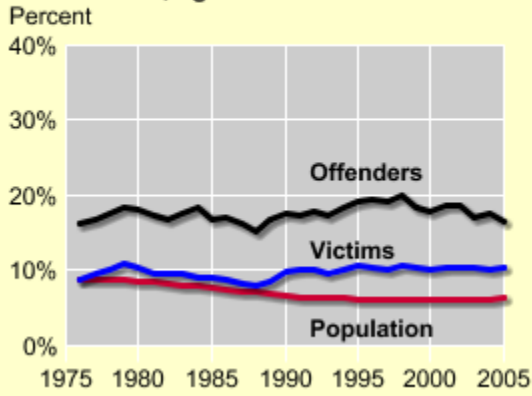
	White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	780	2,525	4,561	877	2,963	5,069	99	294	852	122	520	1,360
1977	795	2,650	4,782	803	2,867	4,969	86	312	834	77	543	1,326
1978	762	2,905	5,011	767	3,091	5,110	75	309	790	85	509	1,254
1979	932	3,312	5,490	863	3,499	5,555	75	339	888	100	511	1,266
1980	948	3,781	6,288	941	3,914	6,289	67	362	987	91	640	1,387
1981	783	3,446	6,107	962	3,595	5,922	81	308	910	94	490	1,330
1982	766	3,078	5,946	796	3,393	5,366	76	322	924	68	495	1,170
1983	698	2,973	5,539	648	2,919	4,930	93	279	871	81	449	1,043
1984	621	3,102	5,687	585	2,526	4,743	70	324	792	66	376	1,011
1985	634	2,811	5,631	753	2,782	4,676	50	289	779	77	364	1,003
1986	787	2,980	5,817	872	3,139	5,369	68	253	782	61	405	1,083
1987	712	2,827	5,805	954	3,407	4,944	76	280	802	73	326	969
1988	871	2,626	5,570	1,367	4,144	5,293	59	268	748	80	400	916
1989	989	2,967	5,510	1,471	4,665	5,050	59	281	740	75	362	988
1990	1,209	3,459	5,939	2,025	5,443	5,342	80	294	789	70	368	943
1991	1,261	3,593	5,786	2,250	6,779	5,347	69	273	736	107	419	968
1992	1,308	3,405	5,314	2,239	6,052	5,208	74	232	678	115	327	845
1993	1,291	3,521	5,254	2,755	6,797	4,890	69	230	774	97	384	797
1994	1,430	3,464	5,097	2,627	6,310	4,513	85	223	727	104	337	780
1995	1,309	3,331	4,941	2,072	5,596	4,268	73	209	654	84	246	639
1996	1,112	3,228	4,399	1,694	5,232	3,996	102	263	651	100	297	638
1997	1,014	2,964	4,112	1,415	4,646	3,883	89	270	623	52	298	553
1998	894	2,991	4,284	990	4,196	3,465	73	238	708	62	250	546
1999	668	2,547	3,838	837	4,015	3,223	83	237	590	72	206	462
2000	525	2,628	3,923	805	4,158	3,499	74	200	621	63	230	453
2001	539	2,856	4,016	783	4,188	3,630	62	230	541	63	259	485
2002	611	2,786	4,118	712	3,966	3,888	57	275	601	45	232	428
2003	518	2,632	4,155	782	4,166	3,811	83	250	597	47	252	480
2004	590	2,641	4,303	828	3,931	3,709	54	247	654	36	212	471
2005	540	2,622	4,213	917	4,395	4,139	44	224	683	55	260	485

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

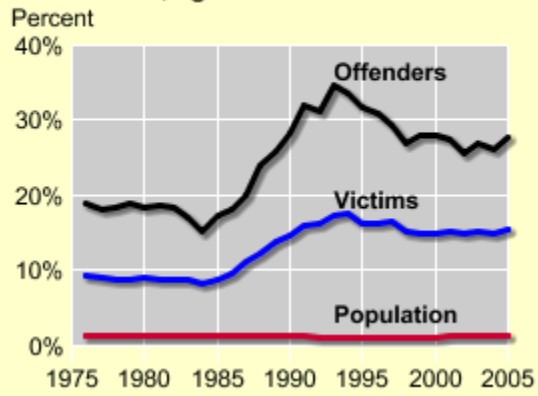
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Young males as a proportion of the population, homicide victims, and homicide offenders, 1976-2005

White males, ages 14-24



Black males, ages 14-24



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data.](#)

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Age, gender, and race trends

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Proportion of Population, Victims, and Offenders by Demographic Group

	White Males, Ages 14-24			Black Males, Ages 14-24			All Others		
	Population	Victims	Offenders	Population	Victims	Offenders	Population	Victims	Offenders
1976	8.9%	8.7%	16.2%	1.3%	9.2%	18.9%	89.8%	82.1%	64.9%
1977	8.9%	9.5%	16.9%	1.3%	9.0%	18.0%	89.8%	81.6%	65.1%
1978	8.8%	10.1%	17.5%	1.3%	8.9%	18.4%	89.9%	81.1%	64.1%
1979	8.8%	10.8%	18.3%	1.3%	8.7%	18.8%	89.9%	80.5%	62.9%
1980	8.6%	10.4%	18.0%	1.3%	9.0%	18.5%	90.1%	80.6%	63.4%
1981	8.5%	9.7%	17.3%	1.4%	8.9%	18.6%	90.2%	81.4%	64.1%
1982	8.3%	9.6%	16.8%	1.3%	8.8%	18.3%	90.4%	81.6%	64.9%
1983	8.1%	9.5%	17.5%	1.3%	8.8%	17.0%	90.6%	81.7%	65.5%
1984	7.9%	9.0%	18.3%	1.3%	8.2%	15.3%	90.9%	82.8%	66.4%
1985	7.7%	9.0%	16.9%	1.3%	8.9%	17.4%	91.1%	82.2%	65.7%
1986	7.5%	8.9%	17.0%	1.3%	9.7%	18.1%	91.3%	81.4%	64.9%
1987	7.3%	8.2%	16.3%	1.2%	11.1%	20.1%	91.5%	80.6%	63.6%
1988	7.1%	7.9%	15.3%	1.2%	12.3%	24.1%	91.7%	79.9%	60.5%
1989	6.9%	8.4%	16.7%	1.2%	13.9%	25.9%	91.9%	77.8%	57.4%
1990	6.7%	9.8%	17.6%	1.2%	14.7%	28.2%	92.1%	75.6%	54.1%
1991	6.5%	10.0%	17.2%	1.2%	16.1%	31.9%	92.3%	73.9%	50.9%
1992	6.4%	10.0%	17.8%	1.1%	16.4%	31.2%	92.5%	73.6%	51.0%
1993	6.4%	9.6%	17.4%	1.1%	17.4%	34.6%	92.5%	73.0%	48.0%
1994	6.3%	10.2%	18.5%	1.1%	17.5%	33.7%	92.6%	72.3%	47.8%
1995	6.2%	10.7%	19.2%	1.1%	16.2%	31.7%	92.6%	73.1%	49.2%
1996	6.1%	10.4%	19.4%	1.1%	16.2%	30.9%	92.7%	73.4%	49.7%
1997	6.1%	10.0%	19.3%	1.1%	16.6%	29.4%	92.8%	73.5%	51.3%
1998	6.1%	10.7%	20.1%	1.1%	15.2%	26.8%	92.8%	74.1%	53.0%
1999	6.1%	10.4%	18.5%	1.1%	14.9%	27.9%	92.8%	74.8%	53.6%
2000	6.1%	10.0%	17.8%	1.1%	14.8%	28.0%	92.7%	75.2%	54.3%
2001	6.1%	10.3%	18.7%	1.2%	15.2%	27.4%	92.7%	74.5%	53.9%
2002	6.2%	10.3%	18.6%	1.2%	14.9%	25.6%	92.7%	74.9%	55.7%
2003	6.2%	10.4%	17.1%	1.2%	15.3%	26.9%	92.6%	74.4%	56.0%
2004	6.2%	10.2%	17.7%	1.2%	14.8%	26.1%	92.6%	75.0%	56.1%
2005	6.3%	10.4%	16.5%	1.2%	15.5%	27.8%	92.5%	74.1%	55.7%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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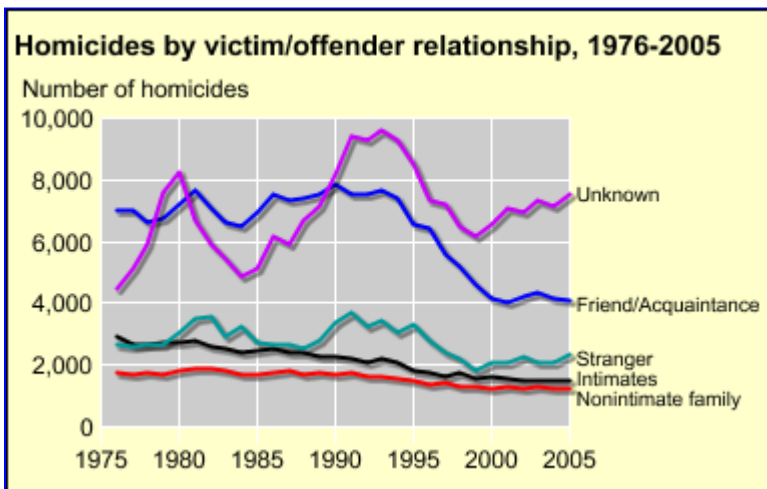
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Homicide trends in the U.S. Victim/offender relationship

Most homicides with known victim/offender relationships involved people who knew each other

- The number of homicides where the victim/offender relationship was undetermined has been increasing since 1999 but has not reached the levels experienced in the early 1990s.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Note: Intimate includes spouses, ex-spouses, boyfriends, girlfriends, and same-sex relationships. Friend/Acquaintance includes neighbor, employee, employer, and other known.

These data are grouped from the original categories. For the detailed categories see the following tables:

[Weighted](#) | [Unweighted](#)

In 14% of all murders, the victim and the offender were strangers.

- Spouses and family members made up about 15% of all victims.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Victim/offender relationship

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These data are grouped from the original categories. This additional detail is provided in tables:
Weighted | [Unweighted](#)

Relationship of victim to offender, 1976-2005

	Other		Friend/ Intimate family		Stranger	Undetermined
1976	2892	1754		7018	2635	4481
1977	2669	1712		7022	2565	5152
1978	2633	1743		6645	2648	5891
1979	2726	1719		6753	2686	7576
1980	2712	1837		7180	3066	8245
1981	2790	1904		7683	3485	6660
1982	2571	1879		7100	3559	5900
1983	2523	1805		6641	2892	5449
1984	2379	1711		6491	3267	4843
1985	2469	1710		6941	2756	5104
1986	2527	1722		7532	2677	6152
1987	2372	1799		7327	2663	5938
1988	2384	1663		7372	2541	6720
1989	2272	1757		7551	2807	7113
1990	2304	1696		7875	3362	8202
1991	2225	1766		7547	3733	9428
1992	2098	1608		7543	3215	9295
1993	2202	1599		7681	3446	9602
1994	2055	1551		7409	3054	9262
1995	1832	1465		6544	3288	8481
1996	1775	1350		6451	2762	7311
1997	1614	1403		5607	2395	7190
1998	1762	1319		5208	2209	6472
1999	1576	1329		4610	1837	6170
2000	1614	1228		4149	2046	6549
2001	1531	1286		4040	2100	7080
2002	1522	1240		4232	2283	6927
2003	1486	1301		4346	2052	7343
2004	1503	1261		4187	2081	7116

2005 1510 1242 4082 2319 7540

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

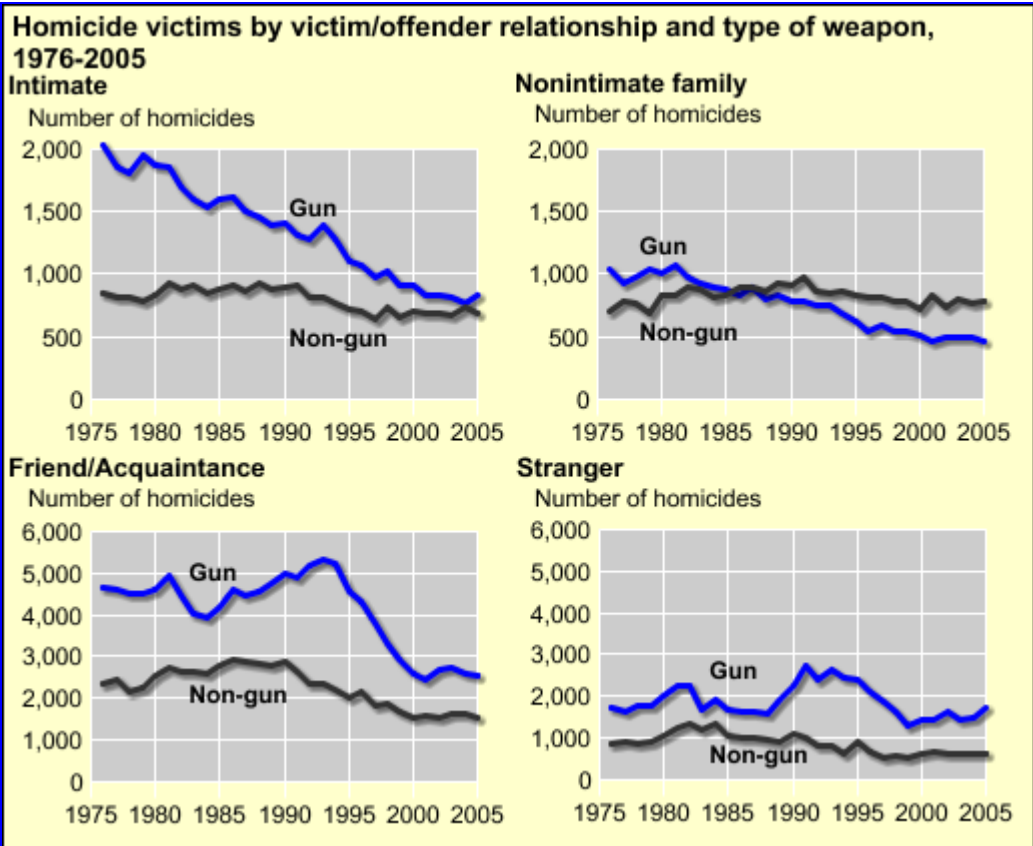
- About one-third of the victims were acquaintances of the assailant.
- The victim/offender relationship was undetermined in over one-third of homicides.

Victim/Offender Relationship, 1976-2005

	All homicides, 1976-2005	
	Percent	Number
Total	100.0%	594,276
Stranger	13.9%	82,428
Nonstranger		
Spouse	7.0%	41,700
Other family	8.0%	47,358
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	3.8%	22,829
Other Acquaintance	32.1%	190,767
Relationship undetermined	35.2%	209,194

Homicides committed by friends/acquaintances and strangers are more likely to involve guns than those committed by intimates or family members

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Victim/offender relationship

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Relationship of victim to offender by weapon, 1976-2005

	Intimate		Other family		Friend/ Acquaintance		Stranger		Undetermined	
	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun
1976	2039	853	1045	709	4671	2347	1751	884	2473	2007
1977	1858	811	927	786	4596	2426	1644	921	2931	2221
1978	1811	822	970	773	4493	2152	1771	877	3403	2488
1979	1950	776	1034	685	4513	2241	1783	903	4311	3265
1980	1877	835	1005	832	4629	2551	2022	1044	4854	3392
1981	1860	930	1078	825	4962	2721	2255	1230	3909	2750
1982	1691	880	983	896	4458	2643	2236	1323	3270	2630
1983	1604	919	923	881	4015	2626	1701	1191	3023	2426
1984	1532	847	898	813	3919	2572	1924	1343	2745	2097
1985	1593	875	886	824	4169	2772	1688	1069	2802	2302
1986	1612	915	832	890	4598	2935	1649	1027	3490	2662
1987	1511	862	901	899	4467	2860	1637	1026	3359	2579
1988	1451	933	802	861	4548	2824	1593	948	4144	2577
1989	1387	885	832	926	4751	2800	1902	904	4549	2564
1990	1411	894	787	909	4994	2881	2249	1113	5631	2571
1991	1315	910	785	981	4901	2646	2745	988	6632	2796
1992	1276	822	746	862	5196	2347	2410	805	6573	2723
1993	1391	812	756	843	5336	2345	2643	802	6951	2652
1994	1282	772	689	862	5224	2185	2440	614	6700	2562
1995	1104	727	628	837	4537	2007	2397	891	6063	2418
1996	1079	696	541	810	4306	2145	2104	658	5234	2078
1997	975	639	593	810	3774	1833	1865	530	5129	2062
1998	1025	737	536	782	3329	1880	1614	596	4509	1963
1999	917	659	544	785	2935	1675	1316	521	4405	1766
2000	906	708	514	714	2596	1553	1444	602	4743	1806
2001	839	691	457	829	2470	1570	1445	655	4927	2153
2002	832	690	503	737	2693	1539	1651	632	5146	1781
2003	816	670	501	799	2720	1626	1447	605	5568	1776
2004	762	741	493	768	2573	1614	1475	605	5358	1758
2005	824	685	463	778	2538	1543	1712	607	5808	1732

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

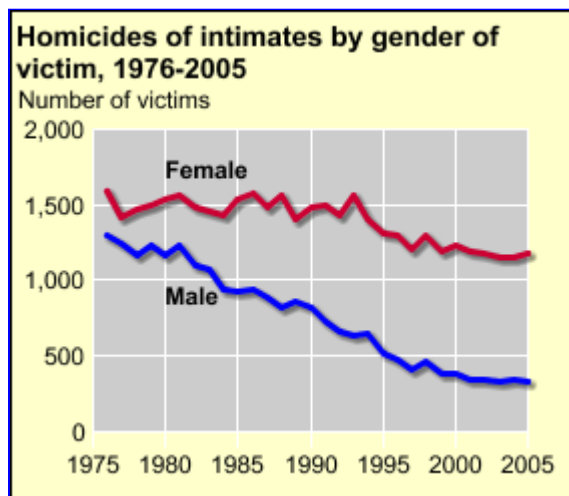
Intimate homicide

There has been a decline in homicide of intimates, especially male victims

Intimates are defined to include spouses, ex-spouses, boyfriends, and girlfriends.

- The number of men murdered by intimates dropped by 75% since 1976.
- The number of women killed by intimates was stable for nearly two decades. After 1993, the number declined reaching the lowest level recorded in 2004.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

In general, the number of intimate victims in each race and gender group declined

Between 1976 and 2005 --

- the number of white females killed by intimates rose in the mid-1980's, then declined after 1993 reaching the lowest recorded in 2002. The number fluctuated slightly after 2002.
- the number of intimate homicides for all other race and gender groups declined over the period; the number of black males killed by intimates dropped by 83%, white males by 61%, black females by 52%, and white females by 6%.

To view data, click on the chart.

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Intimate homicide

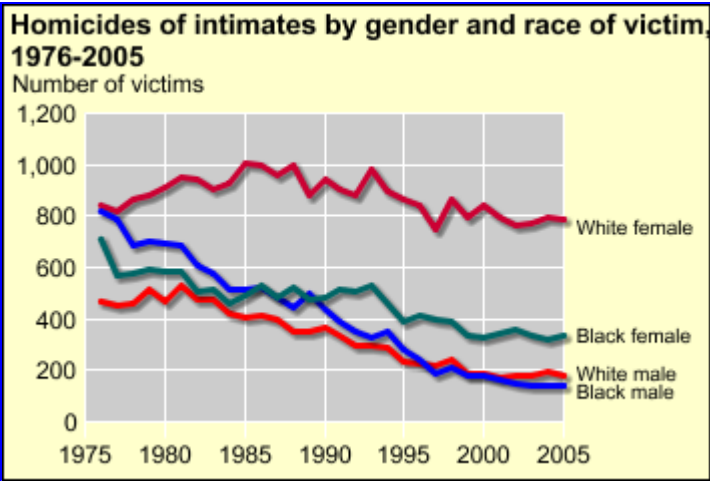
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Intimate Homicide
Victims by Gender

	Male	Female
1976	1,304	1,587
1977	1,248	1,421
1978	1,159	1,473
1979	1,229	1,498
1980	1,169	1,543
1981	1,232	1,558
1982	1,093	1,477
1983	1,067	1,456
1984	947	1,432
1985	927	1,542
1986	946	1,581
1987	891	1,482
1988	816	1,568
1989	862	1,410
1990	820	1,485
1991	734	1,492
1992	662	1,436
1993	638	1,563
1994	654	1,401
1995	521	1,311
1996	476	1,299
1997	413	1,202
1998	460	1,302
1999	381	1,195
2000	382	1,232
2001	344	1,187
2002	339	1,182
2003	330	1,156
2004	344	1,155
2005	329	1,181

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

About 11% of murder victims were determined to have been killed by an intimate

Victim/Offender Relationship, 1976-2005

	All homicides, 1976-2005	
	Percent	Number
Total	100.0%	594,276
Intimate	10.9%	64,529
Non-intimate	53.9%	320,554
Undetermined	35.2%	209,194

For additional detail, see [Victim/offender relationship](#).

Female murder victims are substantially more likely than male murder victims to have been killed by an intimate

In recent years -

- About one third of female murder victims were killed by an intimate.
- About 3% of male murder victims were killed by an intimate.
- Of all female murder victims, the proportion killed by an intimate has been increasing.
- Of male murder victims, the proportion killed by an intimate has dropped.

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Intimate homicide

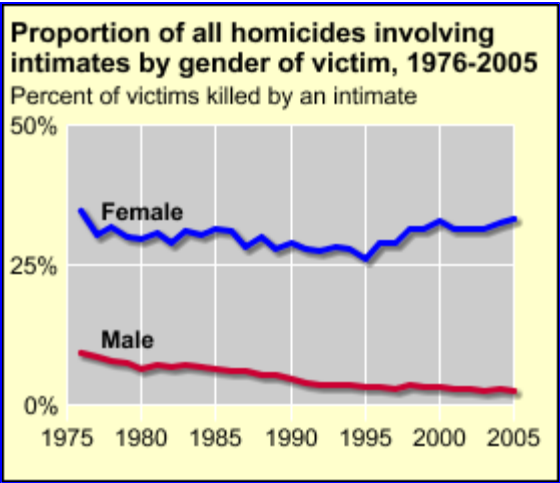
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Intimate Homicide Victims by Race and Gender

	White		Black		Other	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1976	467	840	820	709	11	20
1977	452	821	786	565	5	17
1978	462	864	689	577	7	14
1979	513	880	700	590	10	13
1980	466	912	694	584	5	33
1981	528	947	684	582	18	27
1982	476	942	607	504	9	29
1983	476	906	580	511	10	37
1984	417	930	515	463	14	34
1985	406	1,002	512	491	10	48
1986	416	994	522	532	5	52
1987	397	958	482	483	8	35
1988	351	998	448	524	15	36
1989	351	879	499	473	10	42
1990	364	941	436	487	16	44
1991	333	907	393	518	7	55
1992	296	877	352	504	9	48
1993	294	980	331	533	12	43
1994	291	897	351	462	11	35
1995	233	865	281	387	6	50
1996	229	844	241	416	6	27
1997	216	749	187	399	9	40
1998	238	862	209	392	11	38
1999	190	797	181	336	8	57
2000	186	841	180	330	14	49
2001	174	792	161	342	9	50
2002	179	763	150	362	8	49
2003	176	774	144	333	7	45
2004	195	798	138	316	11	33
2005	183	789	138	337	7	44

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

For every age group female murder victims are more likely than male victims to have been killed by an intimate

Percent of all murders by intimates, 1976-2005

	Male victims	Female victims
12-17	--	5 %
18-24	2 %	29
25-29	4	37
30-34	6	41
35-39	8	43
40-44	9	42
45-49	10	40
50-59	10	32
60+	6	21

-- Less than 0.5%

Most intimate homicides involved spouses, although in recent years the number of deaths by boyfriends and girlfriends was about the same

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Intimate homicide

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[Percentages](#) | [Numbers](#)

Percent Intimate Homicide Victims by Gender

	Male			Female		
	Non-intimate or		Total	Non-intimate or		Total
	Intimate	Unknown		Intimate	Unknown	
1976	9.2%	90.8%	100.0%	34.6%	65.4%	100.0%
1977	8.7%	91.3%	100.0%	30.2%	69.8%	100.0%
1978	7.8%	92.2%	100.0%	31.7%	68.3%	100.0%
1979	7.5%	92.5%	100.0%	29.9%	70.1%	100.0%
1980	6.6%	93.4%	100.0%	29.5%	70.5%	100.0%
1981	7.1%	92.9%	100.0%	30.6%	69.4%	100.0%
1982	6.9%	93.1%	100.0%	29.0%	71.0%	100.0%
1983	7.3%	92.7%	100.0%	31.0%	69.0%	100.0%
1984	6.8%	93.2%	100.0%	30.2%	69.8%	100.0%
1985	6.6%	93.4%	100.0%	31.6%	68.4%	100.0%
1986	6.1%	93.9%	100.0%	30.9%	69.1%	100.0%
1987	6.0%	94.0%	100.0%	28.1%	71.9%	100.0%
1988	5.3%	94.7%	100.0%	29.9%	70.1%	100.0%
1989	5.3%	94.7%	100.0%	27.7%	72.3%	100.0%
1990	4.5%	95.5%	100.0%	29.0%	71.0%	100.0%
1991	3.8%	96.2%	100.0%	27.7%	72.3%	100.0%
1992	3.6%	96.4%	100.0%	27.5%	72.5%	100.0%
1993	3.4%	96.6%	100.0%	28.2%	71.8%	100.0%
1994	3.6%	96.4%	100.0%	28.0%	72.0%	100.0%
1995	3.1%	96.9%	100.0%	26.1%	73.9%	100.0%
1996	3.1%	96.9%	100.0%	29.1%	70.9%	100.0%
1997	2.9%	97.1%	100.0%	29.1%	70.9%	100.0%
1998	3.6%	96.4%	100.0%	31.4%	68.6%	100.0%
1999	3.3%	96.7%	100.0%	31.5%	68.5%	100.0%
2000	3.2%	96.8%	100.0%	33.0%	67.0%	100.0%
2001	2.8%	97.2%	100.0%	31.4%	68.6%	100.0%
2002	2.7%	97.3%	100.0%	31.4%	68.6%	100.0%

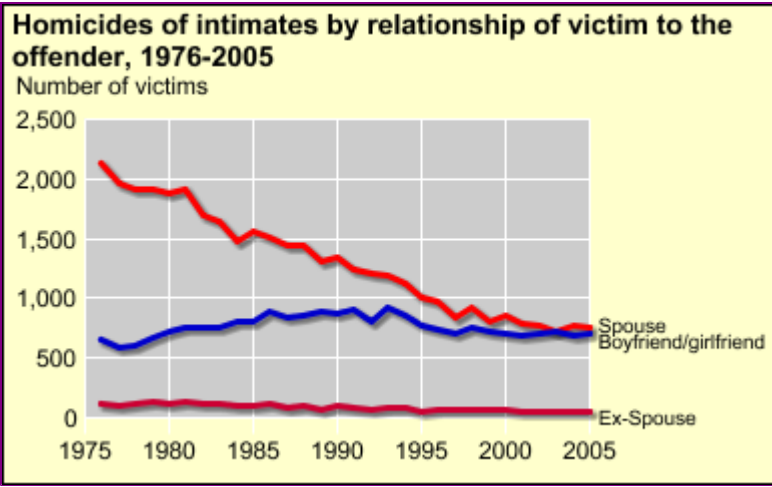
2003	2.6%	97.4%	100.0%	31.3%	68.7%	100.0%
2004	2.7%	97.3%	100.0%	32.6%	67.4%	100.0%
2005	2.5%	97.5%	100.0%	33.3%	66.7%	100.0%

Intimate Homicide Victims by Gender

	Male			Female		
	Non-intimate or Intimate			Non-intimate or Intimate		
	Unknown	Total		Unknown	Total	
1976	1,304	12,867	14,171	1,587	3,003	4,590
1977	1,248	13,149	14,397	1,421	3,289	4,710
1978	1,159	13,736	14,895	1,473	3,169	4,642
1979	1,229	15,199	16,428	1,498	3,520	5,017
1980	1,169	16,619	17,788	1,543	3,689	5,232
1981	1,232	16,173	17,405	1,558	3,539	5,096
1982	1,093	14,809	15,902	1,477	3,615	5,093
1983	1,067	13,521	14,588	1,456	3,247	4,703
1984	947	12,963	13,910	1,432	3,309	4,741
1985	927	13,152	14,079	1,542	3,338	4,880
1986	946	14,525	15,471	1,581	3,529	5,109
1987	891	13,920	14,811	1,482	3,787	5,268
1988	816	14,598	15,414	1,568	3,670	5,238
1989	862	15,545	16,407	1,410	3,674	5,085
1990	820	17,484	18,304	1,485	3,631	5,115
1991	734	18,536	19,270	1,492	3,903	5,394
1992	662	17,851	18,513	1,436	3,781	5,217
1993	638	18,299	18,937	1,563	3,987	5,550
1994	654	17,640	18,294	1,401	3,607	5,007
1995	521	16,031	16,552	1,311	3,712	5,022
1996	476	14,677	15,153	1,299	3,170	4,469
1997	413	13,644	14,057	1,202	2,923	4,125
1998	460	12,293	12,753	1,302	2,838	4,139
1999	381	11,324	11,704	1,195	2,604	3,800
2000	382	11,437	11,818	1,232	2,501	3,733
2001	344	11,888	12,232	1,187	2,588	3,775
2002	339	12,071	12,410	1,182	2,583	3,764
2003	330	12,474	12,804	1,156	2,537	3,693
2004	344	12,220	12,565	1,155	2,388	3,543
2005	329	12,793	13,122	1,181	2,363	3,545

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

The intimate homicide rate has fallen for blacks in every gender and relationship category while the rate for whites has not declined for all categories

The intimate homicide rate --

- for white girlfriends was higher in 2005 than it was in 1976
- for white wives and ex-wives has declined but not as much as that for white husbands and ex-husbands
- for black husbands and ex-husbands was 20 times greater in 1976 than it was in 2005
- is higher for black girlfriends than any other group in 2005, although it has declined 66% since 1976.

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Intimate homicide

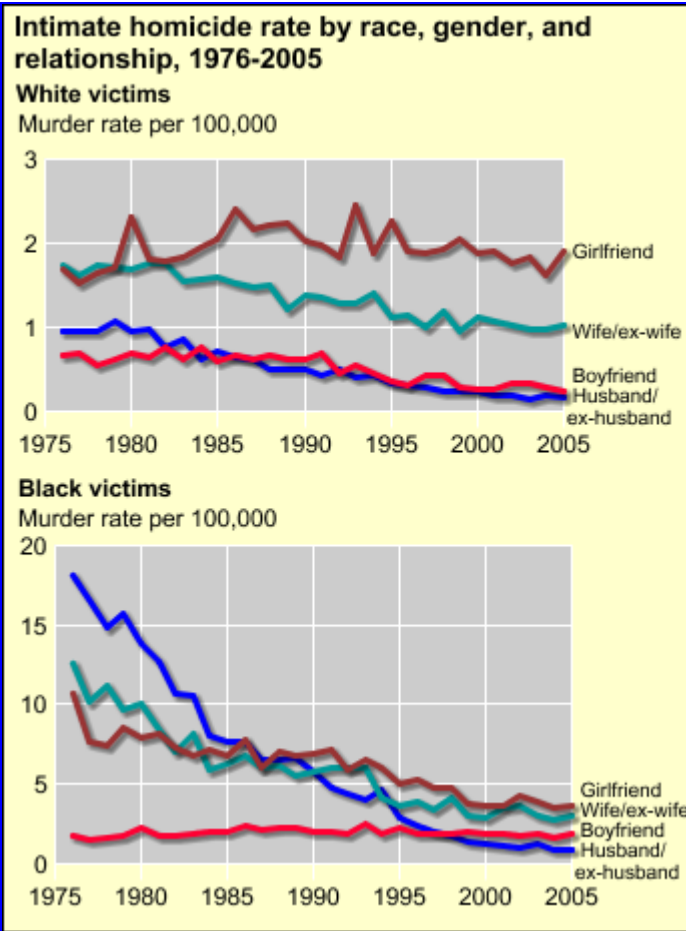
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Intimate Homicide Victims by Relationship

	Spouse	Ex-Spouse	Boyfriend/ Girlfriend
1976	2,134	112	646
1977	1,967	108	594
1978	1,909	114	610
1979	1,915	139	673
1980	1,874	111	727
1981	1,908	128	754
1982	1,697	124	749
1983	1,647	119	757
1984	1,475	93	811
1985	1,561	108	799
1986	1,514	123	889
1987	1,450	91	831
1988	1,435	94	855
1989	1,306	73	894
1990	1,335	104	865
1991	1,243	76	906
1992	1,214	75	809
1993	1,186	86	930
1994	1,122	82	850
1995	1,002	57	773
1996	974	66	735
1997	842	67	706
1998	929	73	760
1999	798	60	718
2000	851	66	697
2001	793	50	688
2002	770	53	699
2003	716	55	716
2004	764	54	685
2005	757	53	700

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

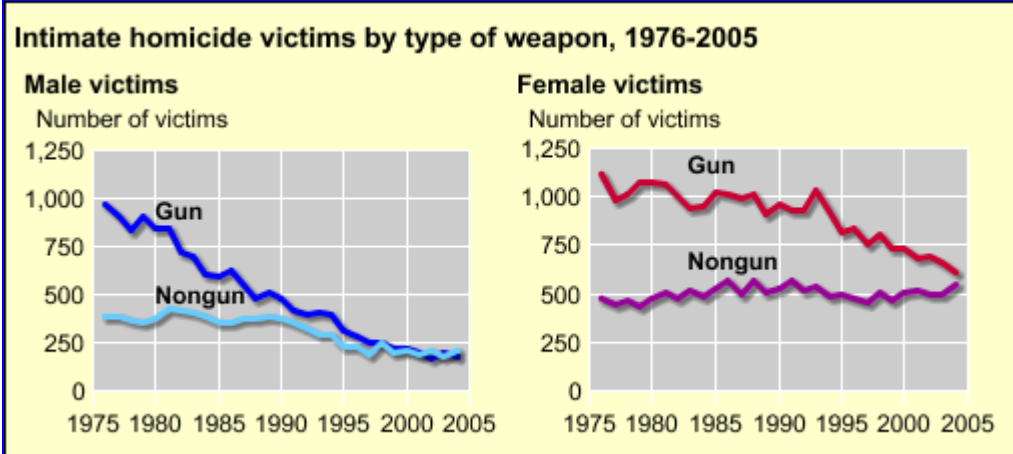


[D]

Note: This chart refers to persons ages 20-44. The number of married or divorced persons is the population base used to calculate spouse and ex-spouse rates and the number of never married or widowed persons is the population base used to calculate boyfriend/girlfriend rates.

The number of male and female intimate victims killed with guns has fallen.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Intimate homicide

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Intimate Homicide Victims by Weapon and Gender

	Gun		Nongun	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
1976	929	1,109	375	477
1977	878	980	370	441
1978	802	1,010	357	463
1979	884	1,066	345	431
1980	805	1,072	364	471
1981	809	1,051	423	506
1982	688	1,003	405	474
1983	666	938	401	518
1984	584	949	364	483
1985	574	1,019	353	523
1986	598	1,014	348	567
1987	526	985	365	497
1988	448	1,003	368	565
1989	482	905	380	505
1990	453	957	367	527
1991	386	929	348	563
1992	349	927	313	509
1993	361	1,030	277	533
1994	370	913	284	488
1995	292	813	230	498
1996	251	828	225	471
1997	230	745	183	457
1998	228	797	232	505
1999	190	728	191	468
2000	181	725	200	508
2001	164	675	180	511
2002	142	689	198	493
2003	155	662	175	495
2004	154	608	190	547
2005	147	678	182	504

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

In general, guns are most often used in intimate homicide but weapon type varies by relationship. From 1990 to 2005 --

- Over two-thirds of the spouse and ex-spouse victims were killed by guns.
- Boyfriends were more likely to be killed by knives than any other group of intimates.
- Girlfriends were more likely to be killed by force than any other group of intimates.

Homicides by relationship and weapon type, 1990-2005

Relationship of victim to offender

	Total	Gun	Knife	Blunt object	Force	Other weapon
Husband	100 %	69 %	26 %	2 %	1 %	3 %
Ex-husband	100	86	10	1	0	3
Wife	100	68	14	5	10	4
Ex-wife	100	77	12	3	5	3
Boyfriend	100	45	47	3	3	3
Girlfriend	100	56	20	5	14	5

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis. Due to refinements in the analysis, the data presented may differ from previous editions.

See also: [Intimate Partner Violence](#)

Related charts on this site

- [Percent of all homicides involving intimates by urban, suburban, and rural area, 1976-2005](#)
- [Victim offender relationship by victim gender, 1976-2005](#)

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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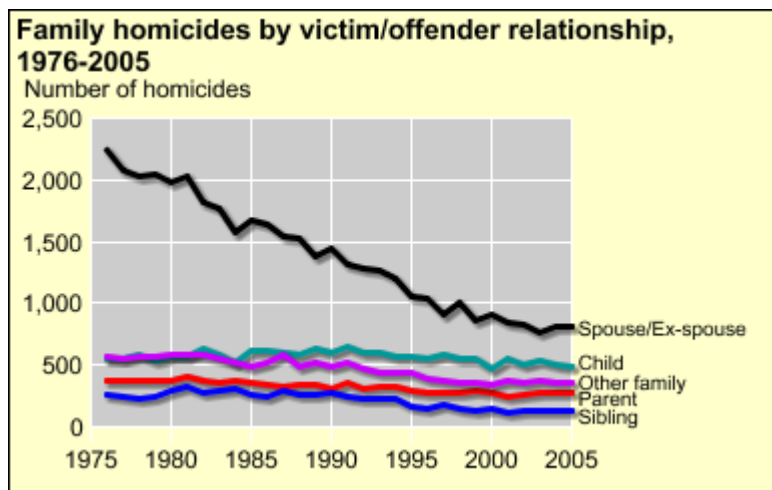
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Family homicides

Family homicides most often involve spouses or ex-spouses although such crimes declined recently

- After spousal killing, children killed by their parents are the most frequent type of family homicide.
- Siblings are murder victims less often than other family members.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

For additional detail on spousal homicides, see [Intimate homicides](#).

For blacks and whites, homicides involving all family relationships have been declining.

To view data, click on the chart.

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Family homicides

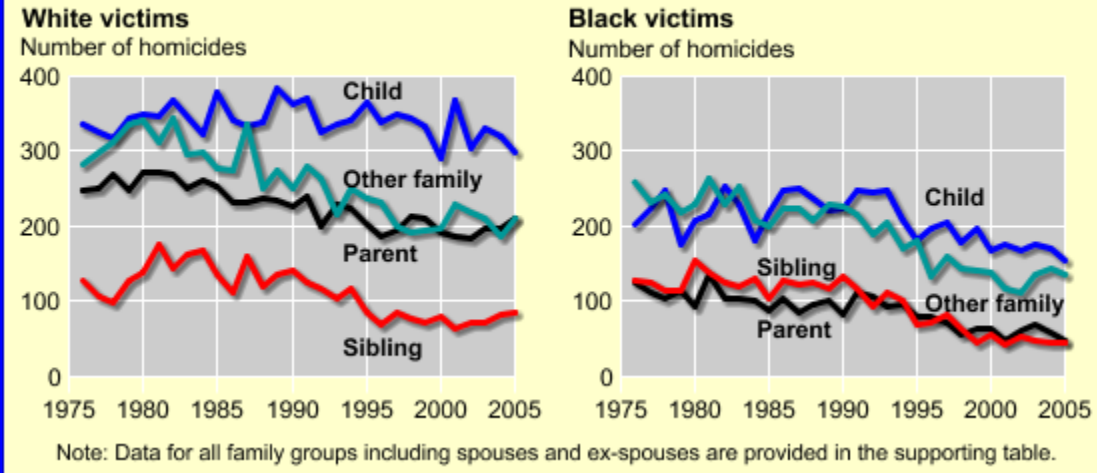
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	Relationship of victim to offender							
	Spouse/ Ex-spouse	Parent	Sibling	Child	Other family	Friend/ Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown
1976	2,246	378	265	551	561	7,663	2,635	4,481
1977	2,075	369	241	558	545	7,615	2,565	5,152
1978	2,022	377	225	579	562	7,256	2,648	5,891
1979	2,053	371	245	538	565	7,426	2,686	7,576
1980	1,985	372	300	573	591	7,907	3,066	8,245
1981	2,036	411	328	576	588	8,436	3,485	6,660
1982	1,821	380	278	637	584	7,851	3,559	5,900
1983	1,766	365	293	587	559	7,398	2,892	5,449
1984	1,568	366	308	520	518	7,301	3,267	4,843
1985	1,669	350	253	614	492	7,741	2,756	5,104
1986	1,637	346	250	613	513	8,422	2,677	6,152
1987	1,541	327	288	602	583	8,158	2,663	5,938
1988	1,529	342	257	586	479	8,226	2,541	6,720
1989	1,378	346	258	631	523	8,445	2,807	7,113
1990	1,439	316	280	606	495	8,740	3,362	8,202
1991	1,320	362	247	645	512	8,455	3,733	9,428
1992	1,290	313	221	604	471	8,352	3,215	9,295
1993	1,272	329	223	608	438	8,611	3,446	9,602
1994	1,204	324	223	567	436	8,258	3,054	9,262
1995	1,058	297	160	573	436	7,316	3,288	8,481
1996	1,040	274	142	549	384	7,186	2,762	7,311
1997	908	268	174	584	377	6,312	2,395	7,190
1998	1,002	273	142	546	357	5,967	2,209	6,472
1999	858	288	124	557	360	5,328	1,837	6,170
2000	917	269	140	471	348	4,848	2,046	6,549
2001	843	241	118	560	366	4,729	2,100	7,080
2002	823	260	127	503	350	4,931	2,283	6,927
2003	771	271	131	528	371	5,061	2,052	7,343
2004	817	269	130	506	356	4,873	2,081	7,116
2005	810	271	136	479	356	4,783	2,319	7,540

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Family homicides by victim offender relationship and victim race, 1976-2005



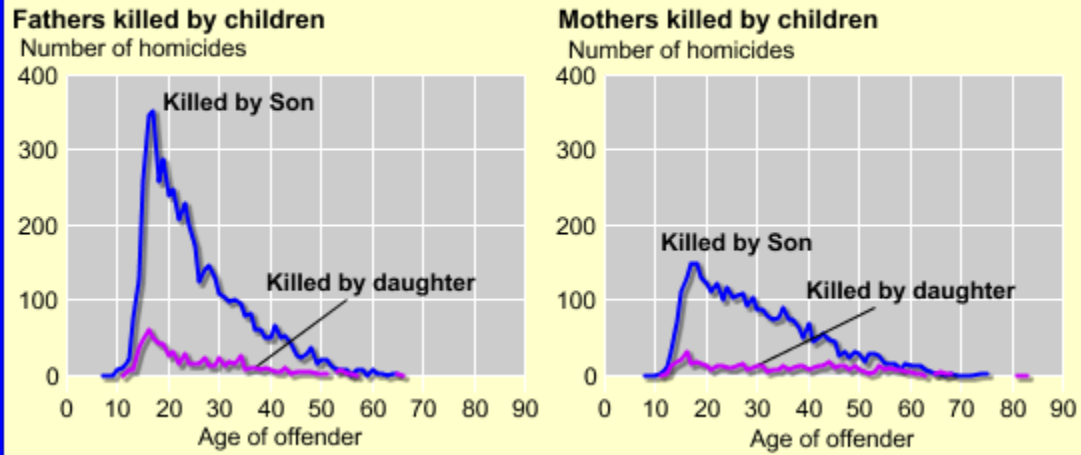
[D]

Fathers are more likely than mothers to be killed by their children

Teenage sons are most often the perpetrator in parental killings.

To view data, click on the chart.

Parents killed by their children by gender and age of offender, 1976-2005



[D]

Brothers are more likely than sisters to kill a sibling

Older teen and young adult males are most often the perpetrator in killings of brothers. Males who kill their sisters tend to be younger than males who kill their brothers.

Sisters rarely kill their siblings.

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Family homicides

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Relationship of victim to offender by race of victim, 1976-2005

	White					Black				
	Spouse/ Ex-spouse	Parent	Sibling	Child	Other family	Spouse/ Ex-spouse	Parent	Sibling	Child	Other family
1976	1100	247	128	335	282	1106	126	129	202	259
1977	1067	251	107	324	298	973	112	126	225	232
1978	1083	268	98	318	311	909	105	115	249	242
1979	1140	247	127	344	335	886	114	114	177	218
1980	1076	271	138	348	340	871	93	155	207	230
1981	1193	273	177	346	311	806	135	138	216	263
1982	1101	268	144	369	345	691	104	124	253	230
1983	1059	250	163	346	296	680	103	121	229	252
1984	982	262	169	322	298	558	100	131	182	207
1985	1074	254	136	378	278	554	88	103	219	201
1986	1010	231	113	342	274	584	103	127	249	223
1987	977	233	159	332	335	530	86	122	251	224
1988	963	237	120	339	250	517	97	125	238	208
1989	844	235	135	385	275	500	102	116	220	229
1990	931	228	140	363	250	452	82	133	223	228
1991	839	239	124	370	279	431	113	116	248	217
1992	828	201	116	325	264	423	107	92	244	190
1993	834	229	103	337	217	400	94	113	247	205
1994	818	224	118	340	250	356	97	100	207	171
1995	725	203	85	366	238	295	81	68	182	181
1996	737	186	68	338	233	274	79	71	196	133
1997	614	194	86	348	201	256	71	83	206	161
1998	707	214	76	345	191	259	56	63	179	145
1999	608	211	73	332	194	205	64	45	198	140
2000	669	192	81	291	197	198	65	55	168	139
2001	600	187	65	369	230	203	48	42	177	118
2002	581	185	72	304	219	199	61	54	168	112
2003	547	197	72	330	211	187	69	49	177	136
2004	612	197	82	319	186	177	59	46	170	144
2005	593	211	84	299	210	187	48	45	155	135

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Family homicides

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Number of homicide offenders who killed a parent by gender of victim and offender and age of offender, 1976-2005

Age of offender	Fathers killed by children		Mothers killed by children	
	Male offender (son)	Female offender (daughter)	Male offender (son)	Female offender (daughter)
7		1		
8		1		1
9		1		1
10		9		1
11		11	1	3
12		20	9	10
13		74	9	31
14		129	36	71
15		259	47	113
16		347	61	130
17		353	51	149
18		259	43	149
19		287	42	131
20		241	26	122
21		249	32	111
22		208	15	122
23		230	28	102
24		199	17	116
25		174	16	104
26		126	16	106
27		140	23	109
28		147	14	92
29		130	13	104
30		109	23	89
31		104	12	87
32		98	18	79
33		101	17	75
34		96	27	76
35		79	7	90
36		83	11	74

37	61	10	74	10
38	60	9	63	13
39	51	11	50	13
40	50	7	69	8
41	66	4	45	10
42	51	6	50	12
43	54	11	57	12
44	42	3	49	18
45	26	5	44	11
46	24	6	26	14
47	29	5	33	12
48	36	4	23	7
49	17	2	33	12
50	21	3	30	9
51	21	3	19	6
52	14		30	2
53	8	4	30	5
54	8	7	26	14
55	9	2	17	8
56	1	2	15	11
57	7	1	17	9
58	9		8	7
59	1		16	4
60	9		14	6
61	2	1	14	2
62	2		12	2
63	1		8	1
64	2		5	
65	2	2	3	3
66		1	2	4
67	1		1	2
68		2	3	2
69			1	
70			1	
71			1	
72		2	1	
74			2	
75			2	
76				1
78			1	
81				1
83			1	1

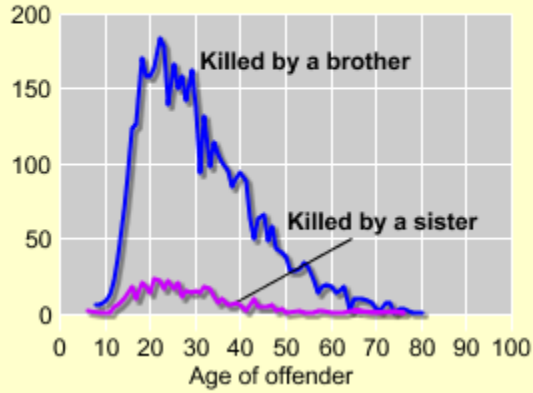
Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Victims killed by their siblings by gender and age of offender, 1976-2005

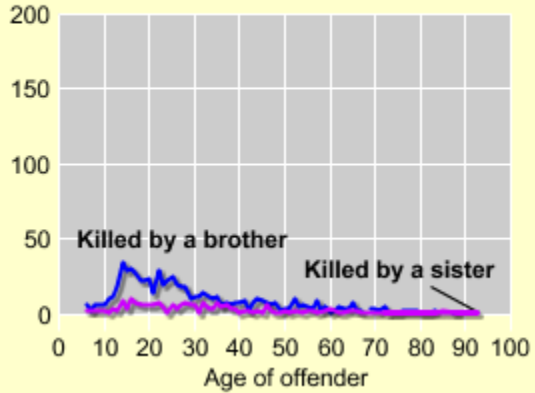
Brothers killed by a sibling

Number of homicides



Sisters killed by a sibling

Number of homicides



[D]

Note: Includes only single victim homicides.

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data.](#)

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Family homicides

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Sibling homicides by gender of victim and offender
and offender age, 1976-2005

Age of offender	Brother victim		Sister victim		
	Killed by brother	Killed by Sister	Killed by Brother	Killed by Sister	
6		2	2	7	2
7				3	
8		7		6	2
9		7	1	6	
10		9	1	6	2
11		13	1	10	1
12		23	5	12	4
13		39	6	18	3
14		69	10	34	9
15		95	14	29	4
16		124	19	31	11
17		127	11	28	8
18		170	21	23	7
19		158	19	23	7
20		159	14	24	6
21		164	24	14	7
22		184	23	29	8
23		178	17	20	5
24		140	22	23	1
25		166	17	25	7
26		150	21	20	4
27		159	12	19	7
28		143	16	18	8
29		162	15	11	6
30		137	16	12	6
31		95	15	12	1
32		132	18	14	8
33		99	17	12	4
34		115	12	10	4
35		106	8	12	8
36		101	11	7	5

37	96	7	8	6
38	85	7	7	4
39	90	8	8	4
40	94	6	8	1
41	89	2	9	3
42	64	7	2	2
43	50	11	8	1
44	64	5	11	2
45	67	5	9	1
46	49	5	8	7
47	58	6	7	2
48	44	3	8	1
49	41	4	2	1
50	39	1	4	2
51	29		4	1
52	29		10	2
53	31	2	5	
54	35	1	6	1
55	32		5	2
56	22	1	4	2
57	15	3	9	1
58	19	3	3	
59	20		5	2
60	18	1	1	4
61	14	1	2	3
62	16	1	5	1
63	19	1	4	1
64	3	3	4	2
65	10	2	8	
66	11	3	3	2
67	10		2	1
68	9			1
69	8	1	4	
70	4		4	
71	2	1	2	1
72	8		5	1
73	8		1	1
74	1	2	1	
75	4		1	1
76	4	1	2	
77	2		2	
78	1		3	
79	1		2	
80	1		1	
81			1	

82	2	1	
83		3	1
84			
85		1	2
86	1		
87		1	
88	1	1	1
89			
90			
91			
92			
93			1

Note: Includes only the first victim in cases with more than one victim.

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Law enforcement officers killed

The number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty has declined since the early 1970's

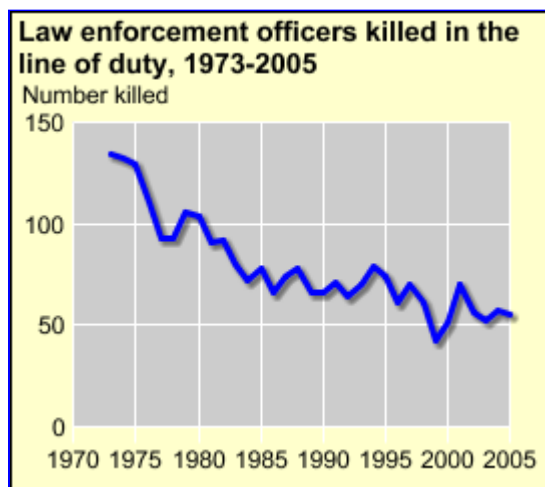
Between 1996 and 2005, of the 575 officers killed --

- 26% were in arrest situations
- 18% were in ambush situations
- 18% were making traffic pursuits/stops
- 17% were on disturbance calls
- 12% were investigating suspicious persons/circumstances
- 10% were in other situations

Of the 662 assailants identified in the killing of law enforcement officers from 1996-2005 --

- more than half had a prior conviction
- 2 out of 5 had a prior arrest for a violent crime.

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

Most law enforcement officers are killed with firearms, particularly handguns

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends in law enforcement officers killed

[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#) (.csv file)

Law Enforcement
Officers Feloniously
Killed

Year	Total killed*
1973	134
1974	132
1975	129
1976	111
1977	93
1978	93
1979	106
1980	104
1981	91
1982	92
1983	80
1984	72
1985	78
1986	66
1987	74
1988	78
1989	66
1990	66
1991	71
1992	64
1993	70
1994	79
1995	74
1996	61
1997	70
1998	61
1999	42
2000	51
2001	70
2002	56
2003	52
2004	57

2005 55

* The 72 deaths that resulted from the events of September 11, 2001 are not included in this total
Source: FBI, Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, 1973-2005

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

The greatest proportion of the recent decline in murders of law enforcement officers is attributable to the decline in handgun murders.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, 1973-2005
[Additional information](#) about the data used in *Homicide trends in the U.S.*

See also [Policing and Homicide, 1976-98: Justifiable Homicide of Felons by Police and Murder of Police by Felons](#)

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends in law enforcement officers killed by weapon type

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Law Enforcement Officers Feloniously Killed

Year	Total killed*	With handguns	With other guns	Other methods*
1973	134	93	34	7
1974	132	95	33	4
1975	129	93	34	2
1976	111	66	28	17
1977	93	59	24	10
1978	93	67	24	2
1979	106	76	24	6
1980	104	69	26	9
1981	91	69	17	5
1982	92	60	22	10
1983	80	54	20	6
1984	72	46	20	6
1985	78	58	12	8
1986	66	51	11	4
1987	74	49	18	7
1988	78	63	13	2
1989	66	40	17	9
1990	66	48	9	9
1991	71	50	18	3
1992	64	44	11	9
1993	70	50	17	3
1994	79	66	12	1
1995	74	43	19	12
1996	61	50	7	4
1997	70	50	18	2
1998	61	40	18	3
1999	42	25	16	1
2000	51	33	14	4
2001	70	46	15	9
2002	56	38	13	5
2003	52	34	11	7
2004	57	36	18	3
2005	55	42	8	5

* The 72 deaths that resulted from the events of September 11, 2001 are included in these totals

Source: FBI, Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, 1973-2005

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

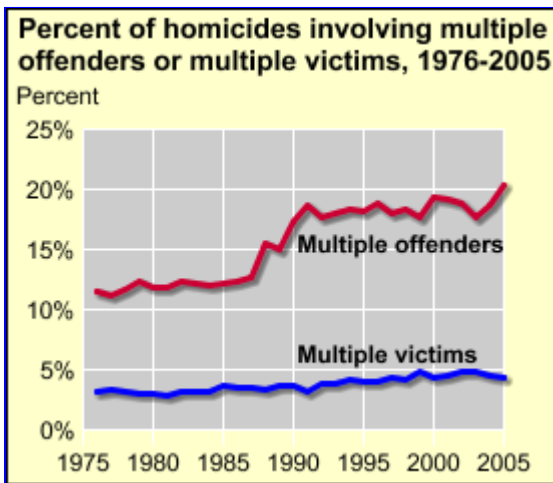
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Multiple victims and offenders

Few homicides involve multiple offenders and fewer involve multiple victims

- Homicides are more likely to involve multiple offenders than multiple victims.
- The proportion of homicides involving multiple offenders rose dramatically in the late 1980's and early 1990's and remains high; it was 11.5% in 1976 and 20.3% in 2005.
- The proportion of homicides involving multiple victims increased gradually during the last two decades from 3.1% of all homicides in 1976 to 4.4% in 2005.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

About 1 percent of all homicide incidents are known to have both multiple victims and multiple offenders

Offenders			
Victims	Single	Multiple	Unknown
Single	58%	10%	29%
Multiple	2%	1%	1%

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Multiple victims and offenders

[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#) (.csv file)

Percent of Homicides with Multiple Offenders and Victims

	Offenders	Victims
1976	11.5	3.1
1977	11.2	3.3
1978	11.6	3.1
1979	12.3	3.0
1980	11.8	3.0
1981	11.9	2.9
1982	12.3	3.2
1983	12.1	3.2
1984	12.0	3.2
1985	12.1	3.6
1986	12.4	3.5
1987	12.6	3.5
1988	15.5	3.3
1989	15.0	3.6
1990	17.4	3.6
1991	18.7	3.1
1992	17.6	3.9
1993	18.0	3.8
1994	18.3	4.2
1995	18.2	4.0
1996	18.9	4.0
1997	18.0	4.3
1998	18.4	4.1
1999	17.6	4.8
2000	19.3	4.3
2001	19.1	4.5
2002	18.8	4.9
2003	17.7	4.9
2004	18.7	4.5
2005	20.3	4.4

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

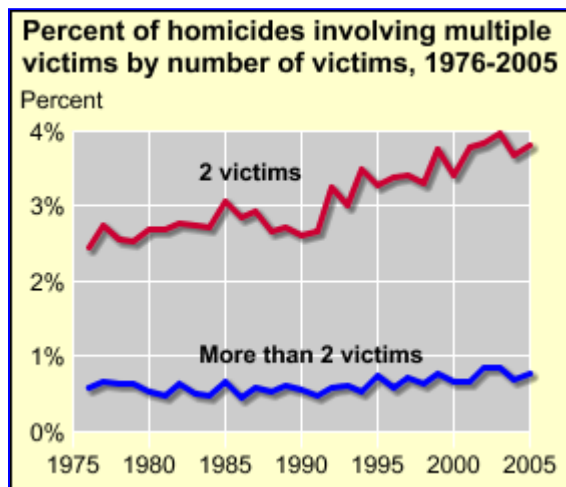
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

The proportion of homicides involving two or more victims has increased

In 2005, of all homicide incidents--

- 4% involved 2 victims
- .6% involved 3 victims
- .1% involved 4 victims
- .05% involved 5 or more victims

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

Homicides committed by younger offenders are more likely to involve multiple offenders

In 2005 homicides involving multiple offenders represented --

- 35% of the homicides committed by offenders 14-17 years old
- 28% of the homicides committed by offenders 18-24 years old
- 14% of the homicides committed by offenders age 25 or older

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Multiple victims and offenders

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[Percentages](#) | [Numbers](#)

Victims per Homicide Incident

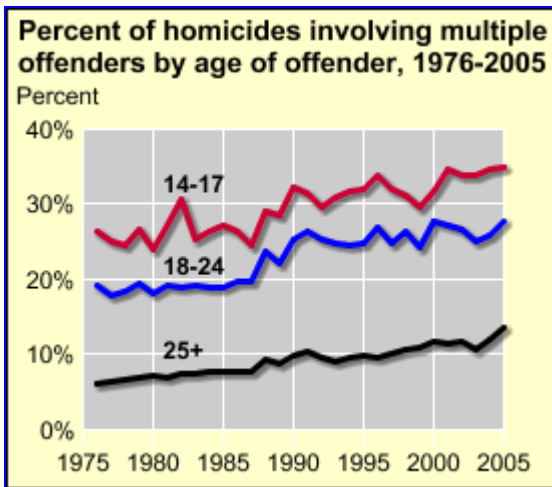
	Number of Victims in Offense				
	1	2	3	4	5+
1976	96.96%	2.45%	.37%	.13%	.09%
1977	96.59%	2.76%	.43%	.18%	.05%
1978	96.79%	2.56%	.47%	.11%	.07%
1979	96.83%	2.53%	.39%	.17%	.09%
1980	96.80%	2.68%	.31%	.13%	.08%
1981	96.83%	2.68%	.33%	.08%	.08%
1982	96.57%	2.78%	.39%	.15%	.11%
1983	96.75%	2.75%	.34%	.12%	.04%
1984	96.80%	2.72%	.30%	.07%	.11%
1985	96.27%	3.07%	.52%	.08%	.07%
1986	96.70%	2.84%	.32%	.09%	.05%
1987	96.48%	2.92%	.47%	.05%	.07%
1988	96.82%	2.66%	.32%	.13%	.07%
1989	96.66%	2.73%	.42%	.15%	.04%
1990	96.81%	2.62%	.38%	.12%	.07%
1991	96.86%	2.67%	.31%	.12%	.05%
1992	96.17%	3.24%	.41%	.12%	.06%
1993	96.38%	3.00%	.43%	.13%	.05%
1994	95.99%	3.48%	.40%	.09%	.03%
1995	95.99%	3.27%	.50%	.11%	.14%
1996	96.04%	3.38%	.46%	.09%	.04%
1997	95.86%	3.41%	.53%	.12%	.07%
1998	96.06%	3.30%	.48%	.10%	.05%
1999	95.46%	3.77%	.50%	.15%	.11%
2000	95.93%	3.41%	.48%	.12%	.06%
2001	95.55%	3.78%	.53%	.10%	.04%
2002	95.32%	3.84%	.62%	.16%	.07%
2003	95.15%	3.98%	.57%	.18%	.11%
2004	95.62%	3.68%	.50%	.13%	.07%
2005	95.41%	3.81%	.60%	.12%	.05%

Victims per Homicide Incident

	Number of Victims in Offense				
	1	2	3	4	5+
1976	17,492	442	67	24	16
1977	17,695	505	78	33	8
1978	18,166	481	89	21	13
1979	19,936	521	80	34	18
1980	21,426	593	70	30	17
1981	20,970	579	71	18	18
1982	19,392	557	79	30	22
1983	17,963	511	63	22	8
1984	17,373	488	53	13	19
1985	17,457	556	94	15	12
1986	19,157	562	63	18	11
1987	18,575	563	91	10	13
1988	19,250	528	63	26	14
1989	19,940	564	86	31	8
1990	21,773	590	84	28	15
1991	23,026	634	73	30	11
1992	21,828	735	94	28	13
1993	22,618	705	102	30	13
1994	21,390	776	90	19	7
1995	19,637	669	101	22	29
1996	18,022	635	86	16	7
1997	16,592	591	92	21	13
1998	15,552	535	78	17	8
1999	14,007	554	74	21	17
2000	14,236	505	72	18	9
2001	14,549	576	81	15	6
2002	14,587	587	94	24	11
2003	14,798	619	89	29	17
2004	14,645	564	76	19	11
2005	15,079	602	95	19	8

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

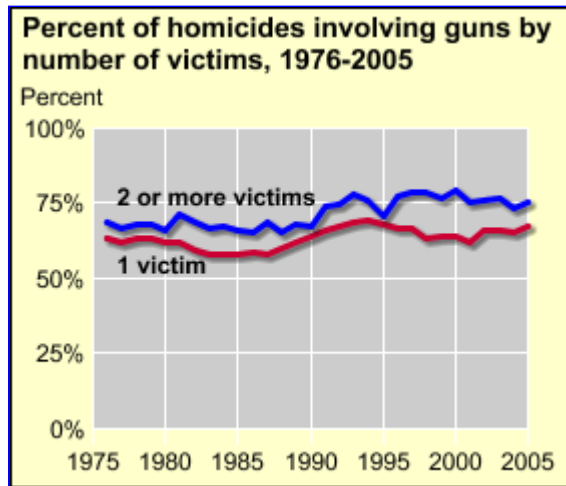
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

Multiple victim homicides are more likely to involve guns than single victim homicides

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 1976-2005

[Additional information](#) about the data used in *Homicide trends in the U.S.*

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Multiple victims and offenders

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Percent of Homicides with Multiple Offenders by Offender Age

	Offender Age		
	14- 17	18- 24	25+
1976	26.4	19.2	6.2
1977	25.0	17.9	6.5
1978	24.5	18.4	6.7
1979	26.6	19.5	7.0
1980	23.9	18.2	7.2
1981	27.1	19.2	6.9
1982	30.6	18.9	7.4
1983	25.3	19.3	7.5
1984	26.3	18.8	7.7
1985	27.3	18.9	7.6
1986	26.5	19.6	7.7
1987	24.5	19.6	7.8
1988	29.1	23.6	9.3
1989	28.5	22.2	8.9
1990	32.2	25.2	9.8
1991	31.5	26.3	10.5
1992	29.6	25.4	9.5
1993	30.9	24.9	9.1
1994	31.8	24.5	9.5
1995	31.9	24.8	9.8
1996	33.8	26.9	9.6
1997	31.9	24.9	10.0
1998	31.1	26.4	10.6
1999	29.6	24.3	10.9
2000	31.6	27.7	11.7
2001	34.8	27.2	11.4
2002	33.8	26.6	11.8
2003	33.8	25.1	10.7
2004	34.7	25.9	12.0

2005 35.0 27.7 13.7

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Multiple victims and offenders

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Percent of Homicides by Victim Count and Gun Involvement

	One Victim		Multiple Victims	
	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun
1976	63.4%	36.6%	68.9%	31.1%
1977	62.2%	37.8%	66.4%	33.6%
1978	63.3%	36.7%	67.9%	32.1%
1979	63.0%	37.0%	67.8%	32.2%
1980	62.2%	37.8%	65.9%	34.1%
1981	61.8%	38.2%	71.2%	28.8%
1982	59.5%	40.5%	68.4%	31.6%
1983	57.7%	42.3%	66.9%	33.1%
1984	58.3%	41.7%	67.6%	32.4%
1985	58.0%	42.0%	66.1%	33.9%
1986	58.6%	41.4%	65.4%	34.6%
1987	58.3%	41.7%	68.7%	31.3%
1988	60.3%	39.7%	65.2%	34.8%
1989	62.0%	38.0%	67.9%	32.1%
1990	64.1%	35.9%	67.4%	32.6%
1991	65.7%	34.3%	74.2%	25.8%
1992	67.6%	32.4%	74.9%	25.1%
1993	68.9%	31.1%	77.9%	22.1%
1994	69.5%	30.5%	75.7%	24.3%
1995	67.9%	32.1%	70.9%	29.1%
1996	66.6%	33.4%	77.4%	22.6%
1997	66.7%	33.3%	78.8%	21.2%
1998	63.6%	36.4%	78.6%	21.4%
1999	64.0%	36.0%	76.5%	23.5%
2000	64.2%	35.8%	79.0%	21.0%
2001	62.0%	38.0%	75.1%	24.9%
2002	65.7%	34.3%	76.3%	23.7%
2003	65.8%	34.2%	76.4%	23.6%
2004	65.2%	34.8%	73.5%	26.5%
2005	67.2%	32.8%	75.3%	24.7%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

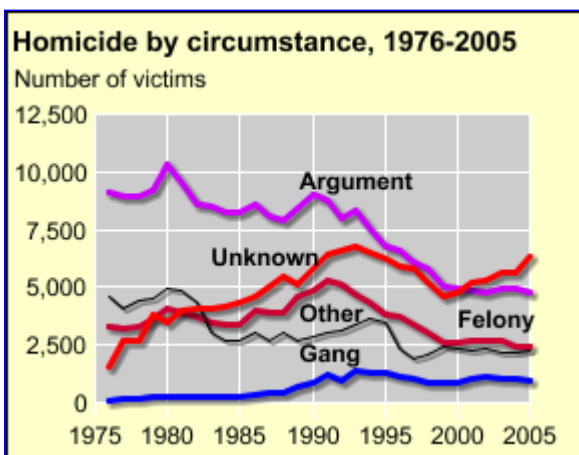
Homicide circumstances

The mix of circumstances surrounding homicides has changed over the last two decades

The number of homicides --

- in which the circumstances were unknown is greater than any known category of circumstances
- resulting from arguments declined in recent years but remains the most frequently cited circumstance of the known circumstances
- that occurred during the commission of another felony like a robbery or burglary declined since 1991 but stabilized in recent years
- involving adult or juvenile gang violence increased almost 8 fold since 1976.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Note: Arguments include brawls due to the influence of narcotics or alcohol, disagreements about money or property and other arguments.

Felony types include homicides committed during a rape, robbery, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, arson, and violations of prostitution and commercial vice laws, other sex offenses, narcotic drug laws, and gambling laws.

Gang homicides include gangland killings and juvenile gang killings.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Homicide circumstances

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Homicide Victims by Circumstance

	Felony	Argument	Gang	Other	Unknown
1976	3,327	9,106	129	4,630	1,588
1977	3,189	8,929	180	4,112	2,709
1978	3,262	8,950	194	4,447	2,706
1979	3,623	9,237	264	4,534	3,803
1980	4,070	10,299	221	4,963	3,486
1981	3,882	9,519	280	4,835	4,005
1982	3,721	8,613	238	4,322	4,116
1983	3,479	8,469	260	3,058	4,044
1984	3,382	8,211	223	2,708	4,166
1985	3,388	8,284	288	2,690	4,329
1986	3,992	8,602	357	3,015	4,644
1987	3,935	8,087	395	2,678	5,005
1988	3,932	7,872	428	3,010	5,437
1989	4,593	8,433	678	2,709	5,086
1990	4,867	8,988	905	2,867	5,812
1991	5,283	8,806	1,192	3,027	6,393
1992	5,143	7,950	994	3,110	6,563
1993	4,721	8,309	1,362	3,403	6,735
1994	4,303	7,529	1,340	3,622	6,536
1995	3,829	6,753	1,331	3,451	6,246
1996	3,690	6,620	1,091	2,331	5,918
1997	3,413	6,103	999	1,888	5,807
1998	2,998	5,845	834	2,048	5,245
1999	2,642	4,993	837	2,455	4,594
2000	2,626	4,988	846	2,331	4,795
2001	2,694	4,840	1,071	2,246	5,187
2002	2,656	4,752	1,119	2,371	5,305
2003	2,702	4,974	1,069	2,172	5,611
2004	2,390	4,944	1,026	2,144	5,643
2005	2,432	4,787	955	2,223	6,295

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

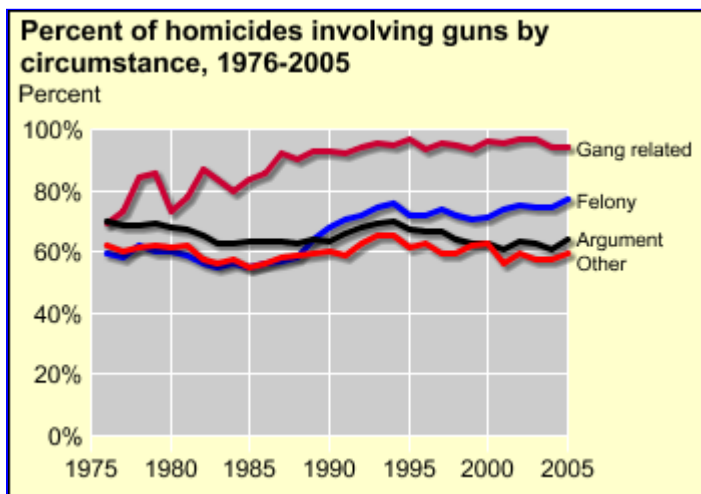
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

The proportion of homicides involving guns differs by circumstance

Gun involvement --

- in gang related homicides increased after 1980
- in homicides that occurred during the commission of a felony increased from 55% in 1985 to 77% in 2005.
- in homicides resulting from arguments declined to the lowest levels recorded recently
- in homicides resulting from other circumstances remained relatively constant

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.
See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

Related charts on this site

- [Percent of homicides committed during a felony by age of victim, 1976-2005 aggregate](#)

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Homicide circumstances

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[Percentages](#) | [Numbers](#)

Percent Gun Use by Circumstance Type

	Felony		Argument		Gang		Other		Unknown	
	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun
1976	59.7%	40.3%	70.2%	29.8%	69.1%	30.9%	62.1%	37.9%	61.1%	38.9%
1977	57.9%	42.1%	68.5%	31.5%	73.2%	26.8%	59.9%	40.1%	64.1%	35.9%
1978	61.9%	38.1%	68.7%	31.3%	84.3%	15.7%	61.5%	38.5%	63.5%	36.5%
1979	60.0%	40.0%	69.4%	30.6%	85.9%	14.1%	62.4%	37.6%	60.7%	39.3%
1980	60.2%	39.8%	68.1%	31.9%	73.2%	26.8%	61.4%	38.6%	63.0%	37.0%
1981	58.5%	41.5%	67.5%	32.5%	77.7%	22.3%	62.4%	37.6%	64.5%	35.5%
1982	56.3%	43.7%	65.6%	34.4%	86.9%	13.1%	57.8%	42.2%	62.6%	37.4%
1983	55.0%	45.0%	62.6%	37.4%	83.9%	16.1%	56.0%	44.0%	60.9%	39.1%
1984	56.0%	44.0%	62.9%	37.1%	79.9%	20.1%	57.7%	42.3%	62.4%	37.6%
1985	55.2%	44.8%	63.5%	36.5%	83.4%	16.6%	54.8%	45.2%	62.6%	37.4%
1986	56.1%	43.9%	63.4%	36.6%	85.8%	14.2%	55.9%	44.1%	63.2%	36.8%
1987	57.1%	42.9%	63.1%	36.9%	92.4%	7.6%	57.9%	42.1%	61.6%	38.4%
1988	57.9%	42.1%	62.6%	37.4%	90.3%	9.7%	59.0%	41.0%	66.4%	33.6%
1989	64.3%	35.7%	64.1%	35.9%	92.6%	7.4%	59.3%	40.7%	65.4%	34.6%
1990	68.2%	31.8%	63.3%	36.7%	92.7%	7.3%	60.4%	39.6%	69.7%	30.3%
1991	70.9%	29.1%	65.8%	34.2%	92.4%	7.6%	58.8%	41.2%	72.3%	27.7%
1992	71.7%	28.3%	68.2%	31.8%	94.2%	5.8%	62.6%	37.4%	76.2%	23.8%
1993	74.7%	25.3%	69.5%	30.5%	95.1%	4.9%	65.1%	34.9%	76.7%	23.3%
1994	75.5%	24.5%	69.9%	30.1%	94.8%	5.2%	65.5%	34.5%	76.7%	23.3%
1995	72.1%	27.9%	67.1%	32.9%	96.6%	3.4%	61.6%	38.4%	76.4%	23.6%
1996	72.0%	28.0%	66.8%	33.2%	93.3%	6.7%	62.7%	37.3%	73.3%	26.7%
1997	74.1%	25.9%	66.4%	33.6%	95.3%	4.7%	59.8%	40.2%	74.2%	25.8%
1998	71.6%	28.4%	64.2%	35.8%	94.9%	5.1%	59.4%	40.6%	72.9%	27.1%
1999	70.6%	29.4%	62.8%	37.2%	93.5%	6.5%	62.3%	37.7%	73.2%	26.8%
2000	71.5%	28.5%	62.7%	37.3%	95.8%	4.2%	62.6%	37.4%	74.8%	25.2%
2001	73.9%	26.1%	61.1%	38.9%	95.1%	4.9%	55.9%	44.1%	75.6%	24.4%
2002	75.4%	24.6%	63.2%	36.8%	96.5%	3.5%	59.2%	40.8%	76.1%	23.9%
2003	74.4%	25.6%	62.8%	37.2%	96.8%	3.2%	57.4%	42.6%	76.4%	23.6%
2004	74.5%	25.5%	61.1%	38.9%	94.4%	5.6%	57.7%	42.3%	77.0%	23.0%

2005 76.9% 23.1% 63.8% 36.2% 94.4% 5.6% 59.5% 40.5% 78.9% 21.1%

Trends in Weapon and Circumstance Type

	Felony		Argument		Gang		Other		Unknown	
	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun
1976	1,934	1,306	6,354	2,692	86	38	2,709	1,650	897	570
1977	1,807	1,316	6,069	2,789	130	48	2,323	1,552	1,624	911
1978	1,969	1,211	6,103	2,778	163	30	2,590	1,620	1,623	932
1979	2,122	1,417	6,369	2,808	223	36	2,712	1,632	2,165	1,402
1980	2,385	1,579	6,946	3,258	161	59	2,853	1,793	2,042	1,198
1981	2,222	1,577	6,370	3,068	216	62	2,870	1,727	2,385	1,315
1982	2,049	1,587	5,602	2,939	207	31	2,388	1,740	2,393	1,428
1983	1,868	1,527	5,263	3,140	215	41	1,628	1,280	2,294	1,472
1984	1,855	1,455	5,115	3,020	177	44	1,491	1,093	2,380	1,433
1985	1,820	1,476	5,203	2,995	239	48	1,384	1,140	2,492	1,489
1986	2,182	1,709	5,403	3,114	305	50	1,617	1,276	2,674	1,555
1987	2,173	1,636	5,044	2,948	365	30	1,473	1,072	2,820	1,759
1988	2,230	1,620	4,881	2,910	385	41	1,689	1,175	3,351	1,698
1989	2,876	1,598	5,342	2,995	621	50	1,511	1,037	3,072	1,626
1990	3,236	1,510	5,604	3,254	836	66	1,633	1,070	3,762	1,634
1991	3,638	1,494	5,709	2,970	1,094	90	1,657	1,162	4,280	1,641
1992	3,581	1,416	5,336	2,490	934	58	1,827	1,090	4,522	1,414
1993	3,410	1,155	5,661	2,486	1,288	67	2,043	1,093	4,674	1,418
1994	3,175	1,029	5,178	2,230	1,262	69	2,191	1,151	4,530	1,375
1995	2,670	1,034	4,453	2,186	1,283	45	2,000	1,249	4,324	1,333
1996	2,586	1,006	4,336	2,156	1,012	73	1,360	810	3,970	1,448
1997	2,468	862	3,968	2,004	950	47	1,046	704	3,904	1,357
1998	2,066	820	3,649	2,034	786	42	1,117	764	3,394	1,260
1999	1,801	749	3,061	1,812	772	54	1,413	853	3,070	1,121
2000	1,806	719	3,028	1,799	796	35	1,338	799	3,235	1,090
2001	1,744	617	2,828	1,804	908	47	1,091	861	3,568	1,150
2002	1,892	616	2,908	1,697	1,067	39	1,278	881	3,678	1,155
2003	1,923	663	3,018	1,785	1,033	34	1,139	844	3,940	1,214
2004	1,709	585	2,927	1,863	963	57	1,141	836	3,921	1,169
2005	1,784	536	2,943	1,671	896	53	1,191	811	4,532	1,210

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

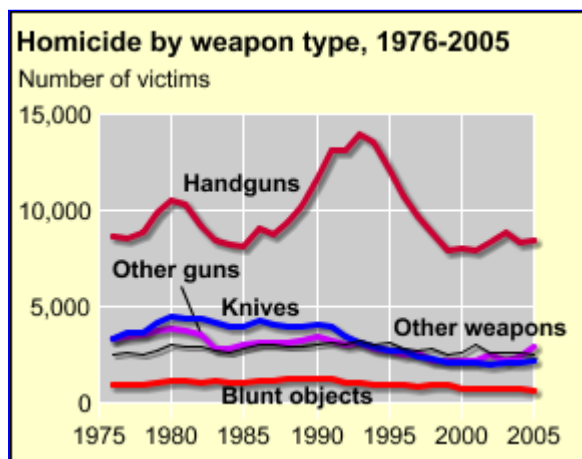
Homicide trends in the U.S.
Weapons used

Homicides are most often committed with guns, especially handguns

Like the homicide rate generally, gun-involved incidents increased sharply in the late 1980's and early 1990's before falling to a low in 1999. The number of gun-involved homicides increased thereafter to levels experienced in the mid 1980's.

During this same time period, homicides involving weapons other than firearms have declined slightly.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Gun homicides by teens and young adults rose sharply

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Weapons used

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Homicides by Weapon Type

	Handgun	Other gun	Knife	Blunt object	Other weapon
1976	8,651	3,328	3,343	912	2,546
1977	8,563	3,391	3,648	900	2,618
1978	8,879	3,569	3,685	937	2,490
1979	9,858	3,732	4,121	1,039	2,710
1980	10,552	3,834	4,439	1,153	3,061
1981	10,324	3,740	4,364	1,166	2,927
1982	9,137	3,501	4,383	1,032	2,957
1983	8,472	2,794	4,214	1,098	2,731
1984	8,183	2,835	3,956	1,090	2,626
1985	8,165	2,973	3,996	1,051	2,794
1986	9,054	3,126	4,235	1,176	3,018
1987	8,781	3,094	4,076	1,169	2,980
1988	9,375	3,162	3,978	1,296	2,869
1989	10,225	3,197	3,923	1,279	2,877
1990	11,677	3,395	4,077	1,254	3,037
1991	13,101	3,277	3,909	1,252	3,161
1992	13,158	3,043	3,447	1,088	3,024
1993	13,981	3,094	3,140	1,082	3,233
1994	13,496	2,840	2,960	963	3,071
1995	12,050	2,679	2,731	981	3,169
1996	10,731	2,533	2,691	917	2,777
1997	9,705	2,631	2,363	833	2,678
1998	8,844	2,168	2,257	896	2,805
1999	7,943	2,174	2,042	902	2,461
2000	7,985	2,218	2,099	727	2,556
2001	7,900	2,239	2,090	776	3,032
2002	8,286	2,538	2,018	773	2,588
2003	8,830	2,223	2,085	745	2,645
2004	8,304	2,357	2,133	759	2,595
2005	8,478	2,868	2,147	671	2,528

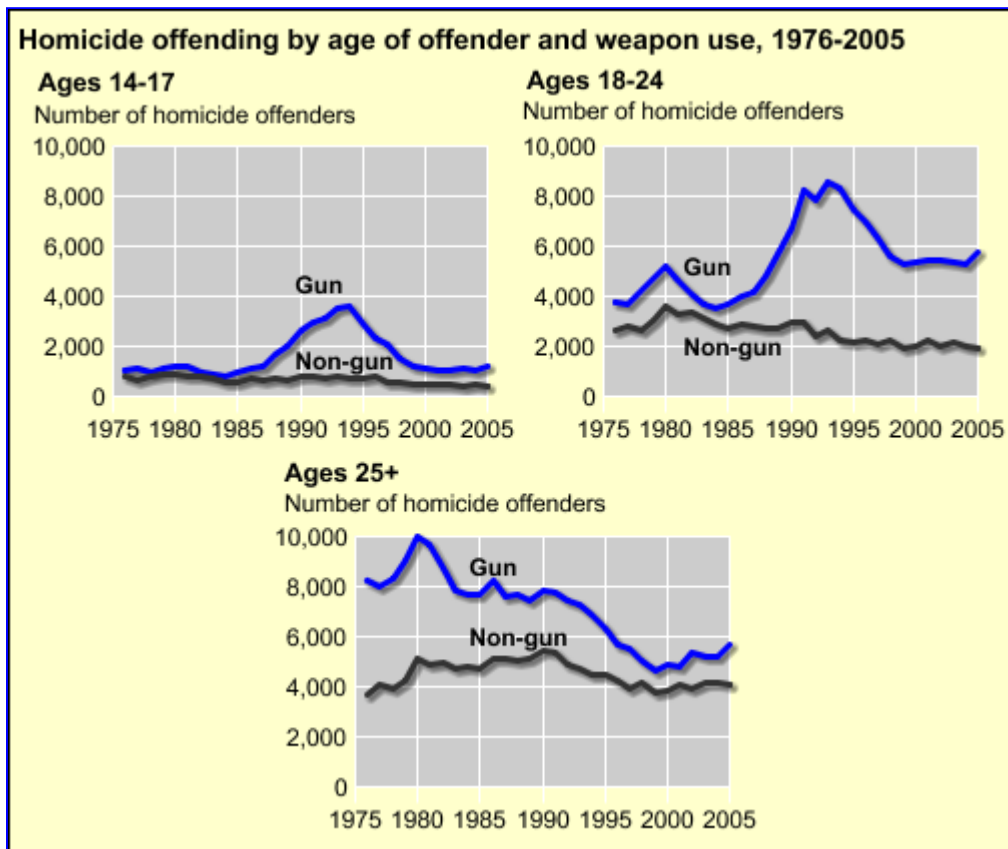
Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

beginning with the mid-1980's and fell after the early 1990's

- Gun homicides by persons 18-24 years old declined after the peak in 1993 but have not returned to the levels seen prior to the mid 1980's.
- The trend in nongun homicides shows little change, declining or fluctuating slightly for all age groups.
- Gun homicides by adults 25 and older declined through 1999, but have increased since then.
- The sharp increase in homicides from the mid-1980's through the early 1990's and much of the subsequent decline is attributable to gun violence by juveniles and young adults.

To view data, click on the chart.



Homicides of teens and young adults are more likely to be committed with a gun than homicides of persons of other ages

The percentage of homicide victims killed with a gun increases with age up to age 17 and declines thereafter.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Weapons used

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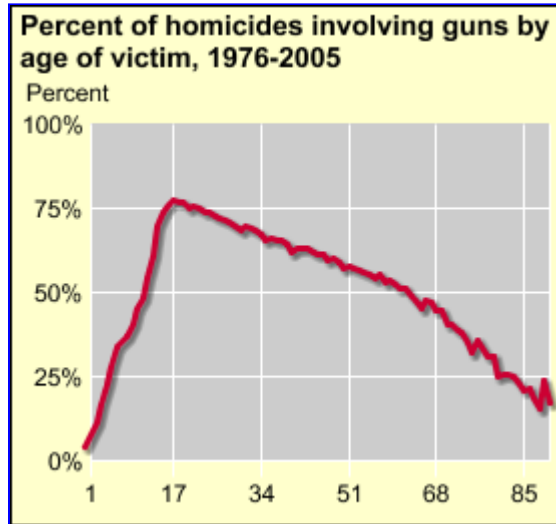
Homicides by Weapon and Age of Offender

	Under 14		14-17		18-24		25+	
	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun
1976	55	49	1,071	832	3,771	2,608	8,271	3,692
1977	52	51	1,097	674	3,700	2,760	8,010	4,042
1978	77	37	936	773	4,230	2,649	8,340	3,930
1979	47	44	1,155	841	4,716	3,036	9,072	4,272
1980	55	53	1,209	878	5,213	3,628	10,024	5,138
1981	51	33	1,180	761	4,636	3,308	9,660	4,846
1982	35	59	964	770	4,076	3,356	8,691	4,928
1983	42	41	863	695	3,671	3,085	7,870	4,741
1984	37	34	795	564	3,549	2,910	7,664	4,782
1985	54	40	955	590	3,652	2,733	7,644	4,700
1986	64	34	1,104	747	4,034	2,877	8,209	5,109
1987	56	60	1,214	653	4,197	2,781	7,614	5,125
1988	55	47	1,679	742	4,825	2,724	7,712	5,043
1989	81	46	1,976	661	5,658	2,725	7,439	5,120
1990	57	42	2,617	811	6,740	2,953	7,817	5,426
1991	101	41	2,949	827	8,253	2,998	7,740	5,358
1992	97	53	3,115	712	7,868	2,387	7,469	4,848
1993	123	44	3,543	777	8,569	2,617	7,244	4,720
1994	159	50	3,632	752	8,287	2,239	6,870	4,501
1995	108	43	2,907	746	7,406	2,199	6,301	4,501
1996	65	35	2,347	779	6,976	2,266	5,702	4,241
1997	49	57	2,093	584	6,341	2,062	5,493	3,924
1998	62	41	1,554	578	5,638	2,247	5,051	4,147
1999	41	42	1,236	500	5,252	1,950	4,651	3,722
2000	30	40	1,088	445	5,380	2,037	4,845	3,874
2001	19	33	1,020	492	5,452	2,252	4,787	4,109
2002	37	26	1,023	453	5,431	2,019	5,336	3,919
2003	42	35	1,086	387	5,370	2,153	5,187	4,151
2004	41	39	1,062	485	5,268	1,962	5,177	4,173
2005	24	35	1,193	418	5,790	1,924	5,665	4,077

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

Related charts on this site

- [Intimate homicides by type of weapon and gender of victim, 1976-2005](#)
- [Law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty by weapon type, 1973-2005](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving guns by circumstance, 1976-2005](#)
- [Gun homicide victimization rates by region, 1976-2005](#)

[Previous](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Weapons used

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Percent of Homicides
Involving Guns by
Victim Age

Age of

Victim	Gun	Nongun
0	4.0%	96.0%
1	7.6%	92.4%
2	11.5%	88.5%
3	16.8%	83.2%
4	22.9%	77.1%
5	27.9%	72.1%
6	34.1%	65.9%
7	34.9%	65.1%
8	36.9%	63.1%
9	40.4%	59.6%
10	45.4%	54.6%
11	48.1%	51.9%
12	54.4%	45.6%
13	61.0%	39.0%
14	69.6%	30.4%
15	73.6%	26.4%
16	76.3%	23.7%
17	77.2%	22.8%
18	77.0%	23.0%
19	77.0%	23.0%
20	75.0%	25.0%
21	75.4%	24.6%
22	74.8%	25.2%
23	73.7%	26.3%
24	73.6%	26.4%
25	72.7%	27.3%
26	72.0%	28.0%
27	71.5%	28.5%
28	71.0%	29.0%
29	69.7%	30.3%

30	68.2%	31.8%
31	69.8%	30.2%
32	68.8%	31.2%
33	68.3%	31.7%
34	67.0%	33.0%
35	65.5%	34.5%
36	65.8%	34.2%
37	65.2%	34.8%
38	65.2%	34.8%
39	64.4%	35.6%
40	62.2%	37.8%
41	63.2%	36.8%
42	62.9%	37.1%
43	63.2%	36.8%
44	62.2%	37.8%
45	61.4%	38.6%
46	61.4%	38.6%
47	59.8%	40.2%
48	60.1%	39.9%
49	59.0%	41.0%
50	57.3%	42.7%
51	57.6%	42.4%
52	57.0%	43.0%
53	56.6%	43.4%
54	55.9%	44.1%
55	55.2%	44.8%
56	54.2%	45.8%
57	55.4%	44.6%
58	52.7%	47.3%
59	53.3%	46.7%
60	52.3%	47.7%
61	51.3%	48.7%
62	51.0%	49.0%
63	49.0%	51.0%
64	47.7%	52.3%
65	45.0%	55.0%
66	47.7%	52.3%
67	47.2%	52.8%
68	44.8%	55.2%
69	44.4%	55.6%
70	40.6%	59.4%
71	40.3%	59.7%
72	38.8%	61.2%
73	38.1%	61.9%
74	35.3%	64.7%

75	32.4%	67.6%
76	36.0%	64.0%
77	32.5%	67.5%
78	30.9%	69.1%
79	31.0%	69.0%
80	25.1%	74.9%
81	25.8%	74.2%
82	25.8%	74.2%
83	24.9%	75.1%
84	22.8%	77.2%
85	21.1%	78.9%
86	21.5%	78.5%
87	18.6%	81.4%
88	15.6%	84.4%
89	24.1%	75.9%
90	17.2%	82.8%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Regional trends

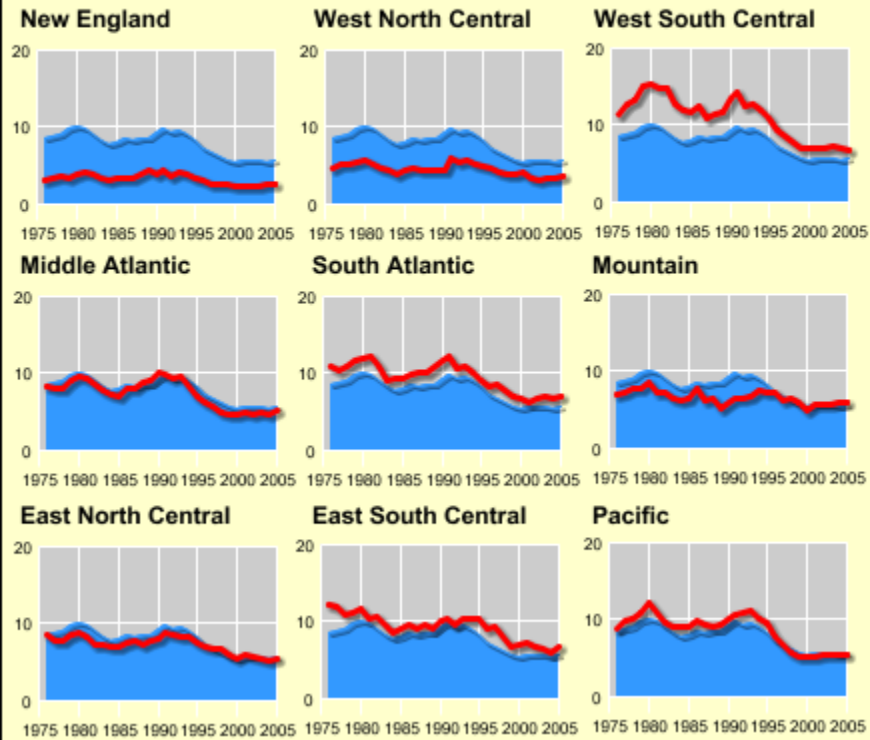
In recent years, all regions have experienced a decline in homicide rates

- Rates of murder, and especially those involving guns, are higher in southern regions of the United States--in the [East South Central](#), [West South Central](#), and the [South Atlantic](#) regions.
- For over 20 years, the rates in the [Pacific](#) region were above average; in 1998 they fell below the national norm.
- The rates of the [Middle Atlantic](#) and [East North Central](#) regions were closest to the national average of all regions.
- Relatively low rates exist in the [New England](#), [Mountain](#), and [West North Central](#) regions. Rates in the mountain region have moved from below the national average to slightly above in recent years.

To view data, click on the chart.

Homicide rates by region, 1976-2005

Rate per 100,000 population



[D]

Note: The solid area (in blue) represents the trend for the entire United States while the lines (in red) are the trends for each region.

Trends in gun homicides follow patterns similar to those for all homicides

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Regional trends

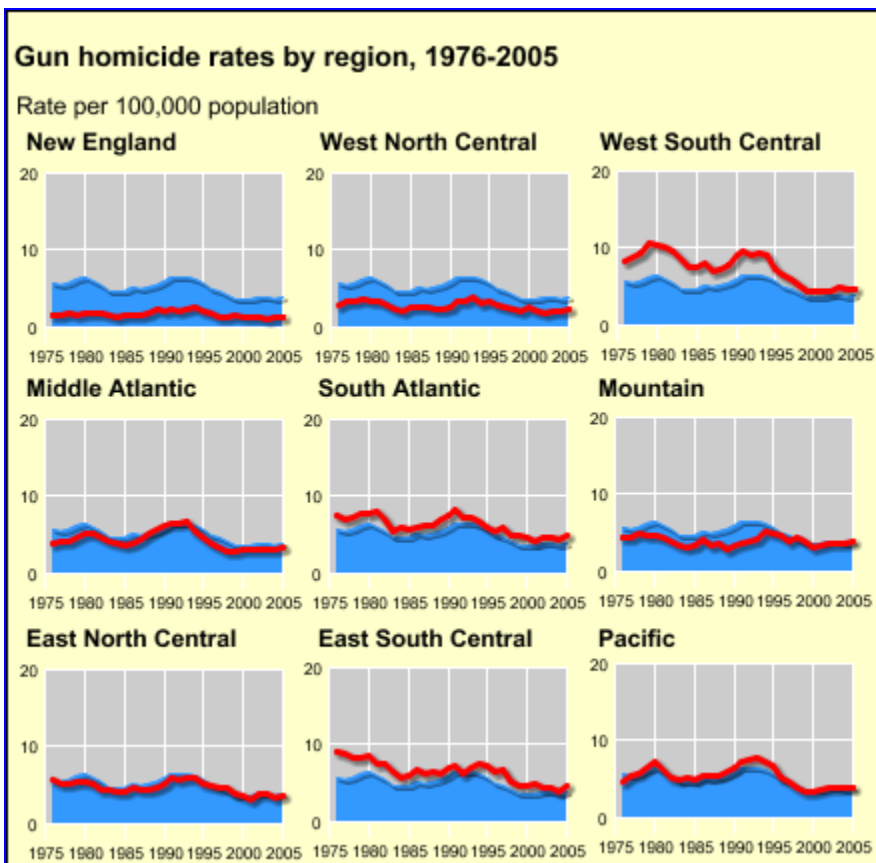
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Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Region

	NE	MA	ENC	WNC	SA	ESC	WSC	MT	PA	US Total
1976	3.2	8.2	8.5	4.6	10.9	12.2	11.3	7.1	8.9	8.7
1977	3.3	8.0	7.8	5.1	10.3	11.9	12.6	7.4	9.9	8.8
1978	3.6	8.0	7.9	5.1	10.9	10.9	13.2	7.8	10.1	9.0
1979	3.5	9.0	8.5	5.4	11.7	11.1	15.1	7.9	11.0	9.8
1980	3.9	9.6	8.8	5.6	11.9	11.6	15.2	8.5	12.3	10.2
1981	4.1	9.3	8.2	5.2	12.2	10.5	14.8	7.3	11.0	9.8
1982	3.8	8.6	7.3	4.8	10.9	10.7	14.7	7.3	9.7	9.1
1983	3.3	7.9	7.3	4.3	9.1	9.6	12.8	6.5	9.1	8.3
1984	3.2	7.4	7.0	3.8	9.4	8.5	11.9	6.3	9.1	7.9
1985	3.3	7.1	7.1	4.3	9.3	9.1	11.6	6.6	9.2	8.0
1986	3.5	8.0	7.5	4.7	9.8	9.7	12.4	7.7	9.9	8.6
1987	3.4	8.1	7.7	4.5	10.0	9.1	10.9	6.3	9.4	8.3
1988	3.8	8.8	7.4	4.3	10.0	9.6	11.3	6.6	9.1	8.5
1989	4.4	9.0	7.7	4.3	11.0	9.1	11.7	5.3	9.4	8.7
1990	3.9	10.2	8.0	4.4	11.6	10.2	13.5	6.0	10.1	9.4
1991	4.4	9.9	8.8	6.0	12.2	10.4	14.2	6.5	10.7	9.8
1992	3.7	9.3	8.6	5.4	10.6	9.7	12.5	6.6	10.8	9.3
1993	4.1	9.6	8.3	5.8	10.9	10.3	12.7	6.7	11.1	9.5
1994	3.9	8.2	8.4	5.2	10.1	10.3	12.0	7.6	10.1	9.0
1995	3.5	7.1	7.6	4.9	9.1	10.4	10.8	7.3	9.5	8.2
1996	3.0	6.2	7.0	4.6	8.2	9.2	9.3	7.4	7.8	7.4
1997	2.5	5.6	6.8	4.2	8.6	9.4	8.5	6.3	6.8	6.8
1998	2.6	4.9	6.7	4.0	7.7	8.0	7.8	6.6	5.8	6.3
1999	2.5	4.6	5.9	3.9	7.0	6.7	6.9	6.1	5.2	5.7
2000	2.3	4.7	5.5	4.1	6.7	7.0	6.9	4.9	5.1	5.5
2001	2.4	4.9	5.9	3.5	6.3	7.4	6.9	5.6	5.3	5.6
2002	2.4	4.7	5.8	3.2	6.8	6.7	6.9	5.7	5.5	5.6
2003	2.3	5.0	5.5	3.3	6.9	6.5	7.4	5.8	5.5	5.7
2004	2.5	4.8	5.1	3.5	6.7	6.1	7.0	5.9	5.4	5.5
2005	2.6	5.1	5.4	3.6	7.0	6.8	6.7	5.9	5.5	5.6

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

Note: The solid area (in blue) represents the trend for the entire United States while the lines (in red) are the trends for each region.

In many regions, trends in firearms-related homicide offending rates for teens differ from the general firearms-related homicide offending pattern

For all regions, teen firearms-related homicide offending rates climbed from the mid-1980's and through the early 1990's and have subsequently fallen. However, the upswing and subsequent downturn occurred at different times in different regions.

Teen offending rates started their steep ascents after--

- 1984 in the Middle Atlantic and Pacific regions
- 1985 in the East North Central region
- 1986 in the South Atlantic region
- 1987 in the New England, East South Central, and West South Central regions
- 1988 in the West North Central region
- 1989 in the Mountain region

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Regional trends

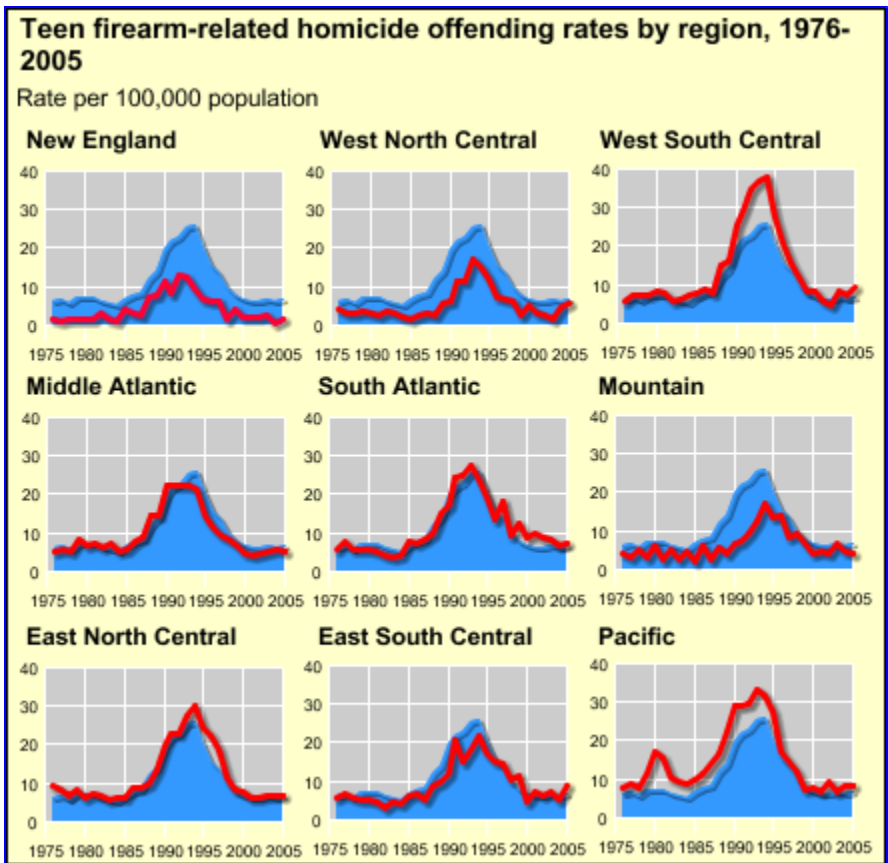
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Gun Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Region

	NE	MA	ENC	WNC	SA	ESC	WSC	MT	PA	US	Total
1976	1.6	4.0	5.7	2.9	7.5	9.2	8.3	4.3	4.8		5.6
1977	1.5	4.1	5.1	3.4	6.9	8.9	8.8	4.3	5.5		5.5
1978	1.8	4.2	5.3	3.5	7.3	8.3	9.4	4.9	5.7		5.7
1979	1.5	4.8	5.5	3.6	7.9	8.4	10.7	4.6	6.4		6.2
1980	1.9	5.3	5.5	3.5	7.9	8.6	10.4	4.7	7.2		6.4
1981	1.9	5.1	5.2	3.3	8.1	7.5	10.2	4.3	6.3		6.1
1982	1.7	4.6	4.4	2.9	7.0	7.5	9.7	4.0	5.3		5.5
1983	1.5	4.1	4.4	2.4	5.5	6.5	8.5	3.4	4.9		4.8
1984	1.3	3.9	4.2	2.1	5.9	5.7	7.6	3.1	5.1		4.7
1985	1.5	3.7	4.2	2.6	5.7	5.9	7.5	3.5	5.0		4.7
1986	1.6	4.0	4.6	2.7	6.0	6.7	8.1	4.2	5.4		5.1
1987	1.6	4.5	4.4	2.5	6.2	6.2	6.9	3.4	5.4		4.9
1988	1.8	5.2	4.4	2.3	6.3	6.4	7.3	3.7	5.4		5.1
1989	2.3	5.6	4.6	2.3	7.1	6.3	7.7	2.8	5.9		5.4
1990	2.1	6.3	5.2	2.6	7.5	7.0	9.0	3.4	6.6		6.0
1991	2.4	6.6	5.9	3.5	8.2	7.4	9.7	3.7	7.2		6.5
1992	2.1	6.5	5.8	3.3	7.2	6.2	9.1	3.9	7.6		6.4
1993	2.4	6.7	5.9	3.8	7.4	7.0	9.3	4.2	7.9		6.6
1994	2.6	5.4	5.9	3.2	6.8	7.6	9.1	5.1	7.4		6.3
1995	2.1	4.7	5.3	3.3	6.1	7.3	7.3	4.9	6.7		5.6
1996	1.7	4.0	4.9	2.9	5.5	6.6	6.4	4.7	5.3		5.0
1997	1.4	3.5	4.7	2.6	6.0	6.8	5.9	3.9	4.7		4.6
1998	1.3	2.9	4.7	2.4	5.0	5.1	5.3	4.3	3.8		4.1
1999	1.5	2.8	4.0	2.1	4.9	4.6	4.4	3.9	3.4		3.7
2000	1.3	3.0	3.6	2.5	4.6	4.6	4.5	3.1	3.4		3.6
2001	1.3	3.0	3.2	2.0	4.2	4.9	4.4	3.5	3.6		3.6
2002	1.3	3.0	4.0	1.9	4.7	4.4	4.5	3.7	3.9		3.8
2003	1.1	3.2	3.9	2.0	4.7	4.4	4.9	3.7	3.8		3.8
2004	1.4	3.0	3.5	2.2	4.4	3.9	4.8	3.6	3.8		3.6
2005	1.3	3.3	3.7	2.3	4.9	4.7	4.7	3.8	4.0		3.8

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

Note: The solid area (in blue) represents the trend for the entire United States while the lines (in red) are the trends for each region.

States in the regions listed above:

Region	States
New England	Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont
Middle Atlantic	New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania
East North Central	Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin
West North Central	Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
South Atlantic	Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia
East South Central	Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee
West South Central	Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas
Mountain	Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming
Pacific	Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.
 See also [Additional information about the data](#).

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Regional trends

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Teen Gun Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000 Population by Region

	NE	MA	ENC	WNC	SA	ESC	WSC	MT	PA	US	Total
1976	1.3	5.4	9.4	4.4	5.9	5.5	5.5	4.1	7.8		6.4
1977	1.1	5.6	8.2	3.3	7.7	6.8	7.2	3.1	9.0		6.6
1978	1.4	5.0	6.5	3.1	5.7	5.8	7.3	5.0	7.6		5.7
1979	1.8	8.3	8.3	3.7	5.8	5.1	7.2	2.9	11.6		7.1
1980	1.7	7.0	6.3	3.2	5.8	5.4	8.5	6.1	17.1		7.5
1981	1.5	7.5	7.2	2.8	5.3	4.8	7.8	2.6	15.6		7.4
1982	3.3	6.1	6.8	3.7	4.3	2.9	5.8	5.3	10.5		6.2
1983	1.6	7.2	5.8	2.9	3.6	4.6	6.4	2.7	9.5		5.7
1984	1.2	5.4	6.3	2.0	4.2	4.0	7.4	4.5	9.0		5.4
1985	4.3	5.5	6.3	1.7	7.8	6.4	7.9	2.3	9.9		6.5
1986	2.9	7.9	8.6	2.4	7.2	6.6	8.6	6.1	11.4		7.6
1987	2.8	9.0	9.0	3.3	8.4	5.3	7.6	2.7	14.1		8.4
1988	7.1	14.5	10.1	2.6	9.7	8.8	15.2	5.6	16.6		11.7
1989	8.0	14.3	13.4	5.8	15.2	9.9	16.0	4.2	22.5		13.9
1990	11.3	22.3	19.6	6.0	17.0	12.0	25.3	6.7	29.3		19.7
1991	8.3	22.1	23.0	11.4	24.5	21.0	28.9	7.1	29.1		22.0
1992	12.8	22.4	22.8	11.4	24.8	15.0	34.6	9.3	29.8		22.8
1993	12.5	22.2	27.6	17.2	27.6	18.0	37.0	12.5	33.0		25.7
1994	9.4	21.2	29.9	15.0	24.0	21.8	37.8	17.4	31.5		25.8
1995	6.5	14.4	24.2	12.0	19.3	17.1	27.5	13.3	27.3		20.0
1996	6.0	11.6	22.2	7.2	13.4	15.0	20.8	13.9	17.2		15.8
1997	6.2	9.2	18.9	6.5	18.0	14.8	15.5	8.5	14.6		13.7
1998	1.8	8.2	11.5	6.3	9.3	10.6	11.8	9.5	11.9		10.0
1999	4.4	6.8	8.3	2.4	12.3	11.4	8.2	6.9	7.1		7.9
2000	2.2	4.6	8.0	5.2	8.7	4.7	8.4	4.2	7.6		6.8
2001	2.2	3.9	6.2	3.0	9.8	7.4	5.9	4.7	6.9		6.3
2002	2.3	4.6	6.1	2.4	8.9	6.0	4.7	3.9	9.4		6.2
2003	2.8	5.0	7.0	1.6	8.3	7.4	8.3	7.0	6.5		6.5
2004	0.4	5.9	6.7	4.9	6.7	5.4	7.2	4.8	8.2		6.3
2005	1.5	5.4	6.8	5.8	7.4	8.8	9.2	3.9	8.1		6.9

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

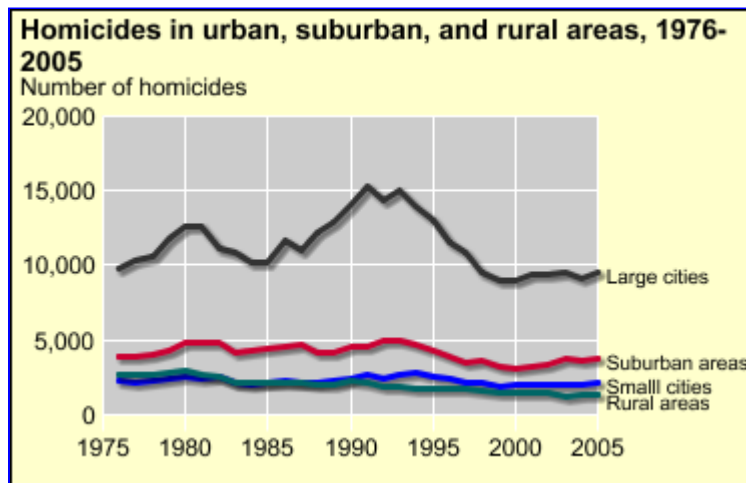
Trends by city size

Changes in homicide trends have been driven by changes in the number of homicides in large American cities

From 1976-2005 --

- over half of the homicides occurred in cities with a population of 100,000 or more
- almost one-quarter of the homicides occurred in cities with a population of over 1 million.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Note: Large cities have a population of 100,000 or more while small cities have a population of less than 100,000.

Until recently, homicide rates for large American cities varied by size

The homicide victimization rates of cities with a population of --

- one million or more have plummeted, reaching the lowest level in the past two decades

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by city size

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Homicides by Location Type				
	Large city	Small city	Suburban	Rural
1976	9,860	2,297	3,954	2,669
1977	10,398	2,203	3,836	2,683
1978	10,563	2,341	3,963	2,692
1979	11,825	2,469	4,362	2,805
1980	12,605	2,609	4,845	2,982
1981	12,615	2,413	4,866	2,626
1982	11,117	2,492	4,847	2,554
1983	10,855	2,148	4,190	2,117
1984	10,187	2,042	4,350	2,110
1985	10,159	2,141	4,482	2,198
1986	11,622	2,252	4,610	2,127
1987	11,021	2,208	4,725	2,146
1988	12,191	2,213	4,221	2,055
1989	12,913	2,300	4,214	2,073
1990	14,078	2,478	4,597	2,287
1991	15,247	2,748	4,533	2,172
1992	14,402	2,437	5,025	1,896
1993	14,989	2,632	5,030	1,879
1994	14,008	2,882	4,762	1,678
1995	12,975	2,539	4,288	1,807
1996	11,573	2,368	3,940	1,768
1997	10,848	2,123	3,557	1,682
1998	9,594	2,134	3,638	1,604
1999	8,967	1,904	3,173	1,478
2000	9,048	1,974	3,030	1,534
2001	9,399	1,947	3,182	1,509
2002	9,343	1,973	3,419	1,469
2003	9,574	2,009	3,744	1,201
2004	9,130	1,981	3,666	1,370
2005	9,513	2,158	3,722	1,299

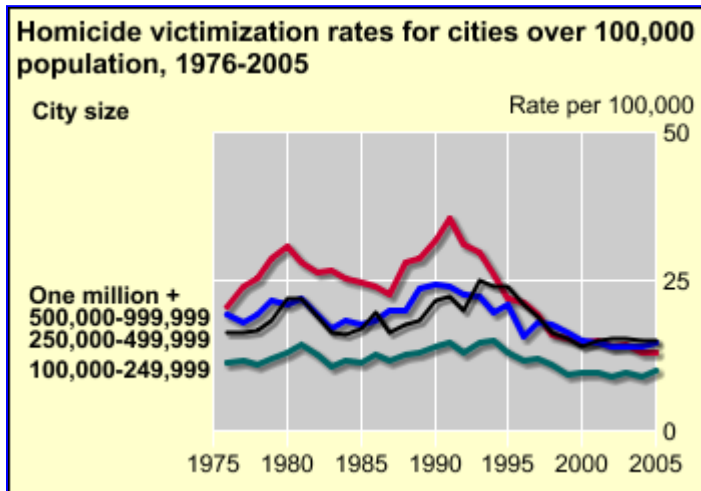
Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

- 100,000 to 249,999 are the lowest rates among large cities.

Since 2003, homicide rates for cities with populations of 250,000 to 499,999 and 500,000 to 999,999 have remained stable.

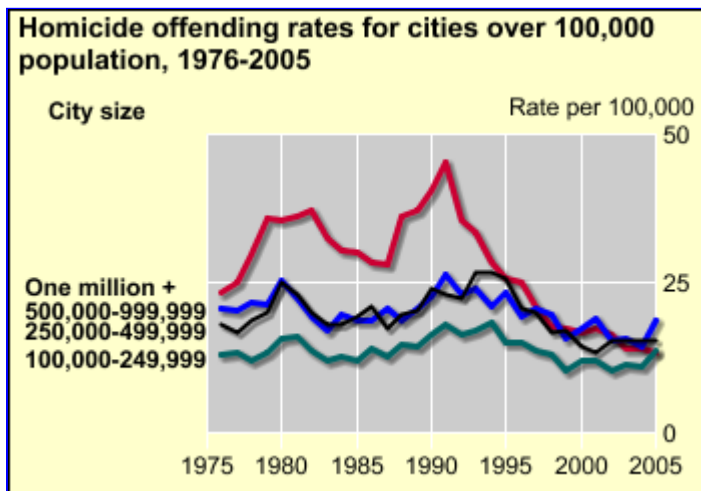
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[\[D\]](#)

Trends in homicide offending rates of cities show patterns similar to their victimization rates

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

Certain homicide types vary by size of place

For the years 1976-2005 combined, large cities are -

- much more commonly the site of drug-related and gang-related killings

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by city size

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Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population for Cities
over 100,000 by Population Group

One Million

	and over	500K - 999K	250K - 499K	100K - 249K
1976	20.9	19.5	16.5	11.3
1977	24.1	18.1	16.4	11.6
1978	25.4	19.4	16.7	11.0
1979	28.8	21.7	18.6	12.0
1980	30.9	21.3	22.1	13.0
1981	28.2	22.2	22.0	14.3
1982	26.5	19.4	19.1	12.8
1983	27.0	17.2	16.3	10.7
1984	25.5	18.5	16.1	11.7
1985	24.8	17.9	17.2	11.4
1986	24.1	18.4	19.8	12.7
1987	22.9	20.1	16.3	11.7
1988	28.2	20.3	17.7	12.7
1989	28.8	23.8	18.3	13.2
1990	31.9	24.6	21.7	14.1
1991	35.5	24.1	22.4	14.9
1992	31.1	22.9	20.1	13.2
1993	29.9	22.5	25.1	14.6
1994	26.3	19.7	24.0	15.0
1995	22.3	21.1	24.3	13.2
1996	21.6	15.7	21.1	11.9
1997	19.3	18.1	19.1	12.0
1998	16.2	17.8	16.6	11.2
1999	15.5	16.6	15.3	9.5
2000	14.8	15.0	14.1	9.6
2001	15.1	14.6	15.2	9.7
2002	14.2	14.2	15.6	9.2
2003	14.4	14.1	15.6	9.8

2004	13.2	14.1	15.0	9.2
2005	13.0	14.8	15.2	10.1

Homicide Victimizations for Cities over 100,000
Population by Population Group

	One Million and over	500K - 999K	250K - 499K	100K - 249K
1976	3,792	2,415	1,959	1,694
1977	4,382	2,327	1,820	1,868
1978	4,526	2,296	1,957	1,784
1979	5,093	2,691	2,154	1,886
1980	5,386	2,475	2,686	2,058
1981	4,969	2,696	2,617	2,333
1982	4,268	2,392	2,354	2,104
1983	4,827	2,151	2,079	1,798
1984	3,802	2,211	2,172	2,002
1985	3,678	2,154	2,329	1,998
1986	4,826	1,969	2,659	2,168
1987	4,626	2,143	2,200	2,052
1988	5,720	2,360	2,078	2,032
1989	5,554	2,894	2,288	2,177
1990	6,372	2,512	2,843	2,351
1991	7,171	2,630	2,919	2,526
1992	6,342	2,793	2,798	2,470
1993	6,346	2,514	3,346	2,782
1994	5,614	2,435	3,086	2,867
1995	4,475	2,708	3,148	2,645
1996	4,816	1,641	2,768	2,349
1997	4,343	1,878	2,329	2,298
1998	3,498	1,960	2,039	2,097
1999	3,379	2,005	1,822	1,761
2000	3,541	1,881	1,699	1,926
2001	3,676	1,940	1,816	1,968
2002	3,512	1,907	1,929	1,995
2003	3,544	1,959	1,896	2,175
2004	3,277	1,959	1,887	2,008
2005	3,242	2,075	1,822	2,375

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by city size

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Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000 Population for Cities over 100,000 by Population Group

	One Million and over	500K - 999K	250K - 499K	100K - 249K
1976	23.6	20.7	18.2	13.1
1977	25.3	20.5	16.9	13.5
1978	29.8	21.9	18.8	12.0
1979	35.8	21.6	20.0	13.3
1980	35.7	25.4	25.1	15.7
1981	36.3	22.5	23.2	16.0
1982	37.2	19.6	20.2	13.8
1983	32.7	17.0	18.1	12.0
1984	30.7	19.8	18.2	12.7
1985	30.3	18.8	19.5	12.1
1986	28.6	18.7	21.3	14.2
1987	28.1	20.9	17.4	12.7
1988	36.1	18.9	19.7	14.8
1989	37.4	20.9	20.5	14.5
1990	40.5	22.8	24.1	16.6
1991	45.2	26.5	23.2	18.2
1992	35.5	23.1	22.6	16.5
1993	33.7	24.1	26.7	17.1
1994	28.4	21.1	27.0	18.4
1995	25.8	23.4	25.7	15.0
1996	25.0	19.3	20.9	15.1
1997	21.1	20.7	20.3	13.7
1998	17.9	19.8	16.8	13.2
1999	17.5	15.9	17.0	10.5
2000	16.9	17.3	14.3	12.1
2001	17.4	19.0	13.5	12.0
2002	16.3	15.6	15.3	10.4
2003	14.2	15.7	15.3	11.5

2004	14.2	14.5	15.4	11.1
2005	13.3	18.9	15.3	13.8

**Homicide Offenders for Cities over 100,000
Population by Population Group**

	One Million and over	500K - 999K	250K - 499K	100K - 249K
1976	4,286	2,563	2,161	1,956
1977	4,599	2,637	1,875	2,138
1978	5,300	2,599	2,198	1,937
1979	6,334	2,684	2,314	2,091
1980	6,222	2,941	3,049	2,480
1981	6,401	2,732	2,753	2,609
1982	5,986	2,423	2,485	2,243
1983	5,840	2,125	2,304	2,020
1984	4,580	2,367	2,453	2,163
1985	4,497	2,265	2,640	2,093
1986	5,721	1,997	2,850	2,385
1987	5,672	2,226	2,345	2,214
1988	7,331	2,197	2,319	2,327
1989	7,213	2,533	2,568	2,358
1990	8,083	2,325	3,157	2,724
1991	9,118	2,887	3,027	3,001
1992	7,237	2,813	3,137	3,038
1993	7,154	2,694	3,561	3,237
1994	6,059	2,605	3,464	3,502
1995	5,178	3,004	3,339	2,915
1996	5,564	2,014	2,739	2,906
1997	4,737	2,145	2,479	2,506
1998	3,875	2,172	2,062	2,409
1999	3,816	1,924	2,018	1,915
2000	4,066	2,170	1,726	2,335
2001	4,232	2,520	1,611	2,356
2002	4,029	2,097	1,890	2,229
2003	3,500	2,183	1,855	2,533
2004	3,525	2,019	1,932	2,359
2005	3,303	2,644	1,836	3,158

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

- relatively less likely to be the location of family-related and work-related homicides.

Homicide Type by Urbanicity, 1976-2005

	Percent of all homicides			
	Large city	Small city	Suburban	Rural
All homicides	57.3%	11.5%	21.0%	10.2%
Victim/offender relationship				
Intimate	40.7%	14.5%	28.0%	16.8%
Family	38.7%	13.2%	29.1%	19.0%
Infanticide	47.9%	15.0%	25.5%	11.6%
Eldercide	46.9%	13.5%	24.2%	15.3%
Circumstance				
Felony murder	61.0%	11.1%	20.3%	7.7%
Sex related	48.4%	12.2%	27.2%	12.2%
Drug related	67.4%	9.9%	18.1%	4.5%
Gang related	69.3%	13.1%	16.9%	0.7%
Argument	53.4%	12.7%	21.0%	12.9%
Workplace	31.4%	13.4%	37.2%	17.9%
Weapon				
Gun homicide	59.3%	10.6%	19.8%	10.4%
Arson	54.8%	13.1%	21.7%	10.4%
Poison	38.9%	15.7%	29.3%	16.0%
Multiple victims or offenders				
Multiple victims	47.4%	11.9%	27.0%	13.7%
Multiple offenders	61.7%	10.2%	19.1%	8.9%

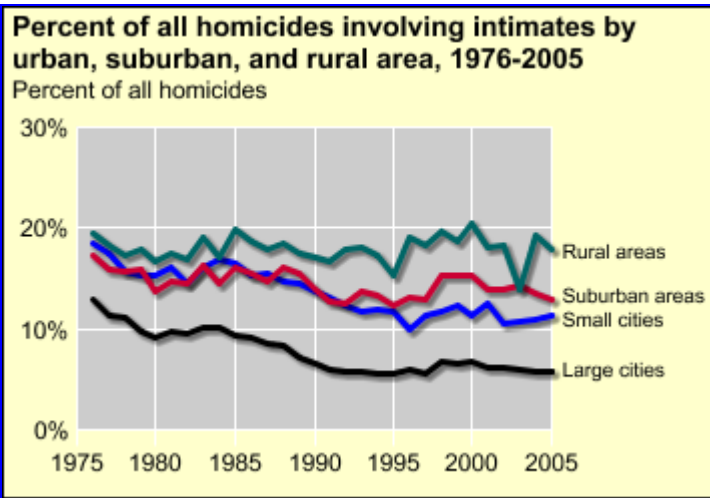
The proportion of homicides that are intimate homicides differs by type of area

Intimate homicides (spouses, ex-spouses, boyfriends, and girlfriends) made up a larger percentage of murders in rural areas than in suburban or urban areas.

Intimate homicides declined in all types of places. From 1976 to 2005, the number of intimate murders --

- in large cities fell by more than half, while the number of nonintimate murders increased slightly
- in small cities dropped by more than 40%, although the number of nonintimate homicides increased slightly
- in rural areas dropped by 55%, while nonintimate homicides dropped by 50%
- in suburban areas declined by 29%, while nonintimate homicides declined by 1%.

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

Note: Large cities have a population of 100,000 or more while small cities have a population of less than 100,000.

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

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Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends by city size

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Percent Intimate Homicide Victims by Location

	Large city		Small city		Suburban		Rural	
	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown
1976	12.9%	87.1%	18.5%	81.5%	17.2%	82.8%	19.4%	80.6%
1977	11.4%	88.6%	17.4%	82.6%	15.8%	84.2%	18.3%	81.7%
1978	11.2%	88.8%	15.7%	84.3%	15.7%	84.3%	17.3%	82.7%
1979	9.8%	90.2%	15.2%	84.8%	15.9%	84.1%	17.8%	82.2%
1980	9.1%	90.9%	15.2%	84.8%	13.7%	86.3%	16.6%	83.4%
1981	9.7%	90.3%	16.1%	83.9%	14.7%	85.3%	17.5%	82.5%
1982	9.6%	90.4%	14.5%	85.5%	14.6%	85.4%	16.9%	83.1%
1983	10.1%	89.9%	16.0%	84.0%	16.3%	83.7%	19.0%	81.0%
1984	10.2%	89.8%	16.9%	83.1%	14.6%	85.4%	17.0%	83.0%
1985	9.4%	90.6%	16.5%	83.5%	16.1%	83.9%	19.9%	80.1%
1986	9.2%	90.8%	15.3%	84.7%	15.5%	84.5%	18.7%	81.3%
1987	8.6%	91.4%	15.5%	84.5%	14.7%	85.3%	17.9%	82.1%
1988	8.3%	91.7%	14.7%	85.3%	16.0%	84.0%	18.4%	81.6%
1989	7.2%	92.8%	14.6%	85.4%	15.5%	84.5%	17.4%	82.6%
1990	6.6%	93.4%	13.8%	86.2%	13.9%	86.1%	17.0%	83.0%
1991	6.0%	94.0%	13.2%	86.8%	12.8%	87.2%	16.7%	83.3%
1992	5.7%	94.3%	12.4%	87.6%	12.6%	87.4%	17.8%	82.2%
1993	5.8%	94.2%	11.7%	88.3%	13.7%	86.3%	18.1%	81.9%
1994	5.6%	94.4%	12.0%	88.0%	13.3%	86.7%	17.2%	82.8%
1995	5.6%	94.4%	11.8%	88.2%	12.4%	87.6%	15.2%	84.8%
1996	5.9%	94.1%	9.9%	90.1%	13.2%	86.8%	19.1%	80.9%
1997	5.6%	94.4%	11.3%	88.7%	12.9%	87.1%	18.2%	81.8%
1998	6.7%	93.3%	11.8%	88.2%	15.2%	84.8%	19.7%	80.3%
1999	6.5%	93.5%	12.3%	87.7%	15.2%	84.8%	18.6%	81.4%
2000	6.8%	93.2%	11.3%	88.7%	15.2%	84.8%	20.5%	79.5%
2001	6.1%	93.9%	12.6%	87.4%	13.9%	86.1%	18.0%	82.0%
2002	6.1%	93.9%	10.6%	89.4%	14.0%	86.0%	18.2%	81.8%
2003	5.9%	94.1%	10.8%	89.2%	14.3%	85.7%	14.0%	86.0%
2004	5.8%	94.2%	10.9%	89.1%	13.5%	86.5%	19.2%	80.8%
2005	5.8%	94.2%	11.3%	88.7%	13.0%	87.0%	17.8%	82.2%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

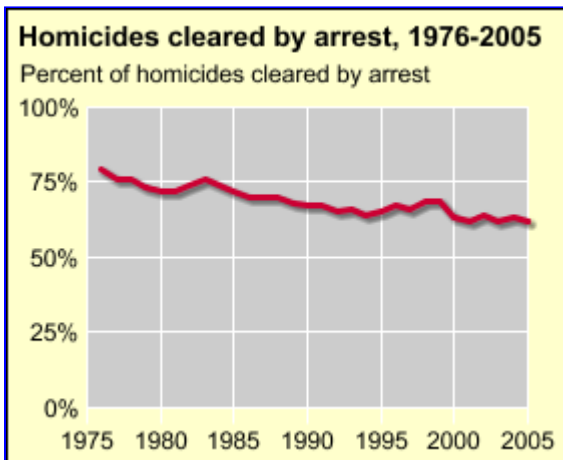
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Clearances

The percentage of homicides cleared by arrest has been declining

- In 2005, 62% of all homicides were cleared compared to 79% in 1976.
- Homicide has the highest clearance rate of all serious crimes.

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

Note: Law enforcement agencies clear or solve an offense when at least one person is arrested, charged with the commission of the offense, and turned over to the court for prosecution. Law enforcement agencies may also clear a crime by exceptional means such as when an identified offender is killed during apprehension or commits suicide.

Police are more likely to identify a suspect if the victim is a child

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Clearances

[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#) (.csv file)

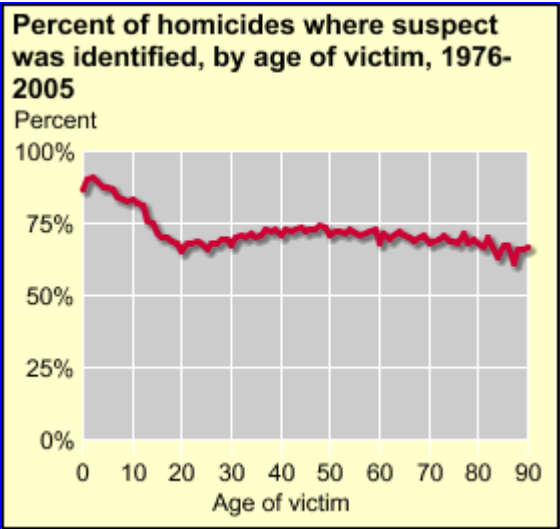
Percent of
Homicides
Cleared by
Arrest

	Percent
	cleared
1976	79%
1977	76%
1978	76%
1979	73%
1980	72%
1981	72%
1982	74%
1983	76%
1984	74%
1985	72%
1986	70%
1987	70%
1988	70%
1989	68%
1990	67%
1991	67%
1992	65%
1993	66%
1994	64%
1995	65%
1996	67%
1997	66%
1998	69%
1999	69%
2000	63%
2001	62%
2002	64%
2003	62%
2004	63%

2005 62%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Clearances

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Percent Cleared by Victim Age

Age of Suspect identified Suspect unknown

Victim	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	6,474	86.8%	982	13.2%
1	3,961	90.6%	409	9.4%
2	3,138	90.8%	320	9.2%
3	1,928	89.5%	226	10.5%
4	1,335	87.5%	191	12.5%
5	974	87.4%	140	12.6%
6	784	86.7%	120	13.3%
7	718	84.3%	134	15.7%
8	669	83.2%	135	16.8%
9	648	82.6%	136	17.4%
10	641	83.2%	130	16.8%
11	657	81.6%	148	18.4%
12	926	81.3%	213	18.7%
13	1,249	75.8%	399	24.2%
14	2,260	75.0%	752	25.0%
15	3,808	71.7%	1,505	28.3%
16	5,993	70.2%	2,545	29.8%
17	8,821	69.9%	3,806	30.1%
18	11,224	68.5%	5,173	31.5%
19	13,405	67.8%	6,372	32.2%
20	13,602	65.3%	7,242	34.7%
21	14,106	67.8%	6,707	32.2%
22	14,414	68.4%	6,674	31.6%
23	14,187	68.6%	6,502	31.4%
24	13,695	67.8%	6,490	32.2%
25	14,327	66.3%	7,279	33.7%
26	13,196	68.4%	6,107	31.6%
27	12,512	68.2%	5,825	31.8%
28	11,992	69.2%	5,330	30.8%
29	11,804	69.5%	5,179	30.5%
30	12,181	67.3%	5,918	32.7%

31	10,375	70.3%	4,377	29.7%
32	10,562	70.8%	4,355	29.2%
33	9,472	70.1%	4,037	29.9%
34	9,625	71.7%	3,790	28.3%
35	9,609	69.8%	4,162	30.2%
36	8,366	71.1%	3,393	28.9%
37	8,086	72.8%	3,015	27.2%
38	7,828	72.5%	2,972	27.5%
39	7,459	73.0%	2,757	27.0%
40	7,530	70.6%	3,137	29.4%
41	6,496	73.0%	2,404	27.0%
42	6,600	72.5%	2,507	27.5%
43	5,765	72.9%	2,147	27.1%
44	5,369	73.7%	1,918	26.3%
45	5,464	72.4%	2,079	27.6%
46	4,775	72.6%	1,805	27.4%
47	4,571	72.7%	1,720	27.3%
48	4,179	74.2%	1,454	25.8%
49	4,051	73.7%	1,445	26.3%
50	4,197	70.7%	1,743	29.3%
51	3,328	72.1%	1,290	27.9%
52	3,464	72.0%	1,349	28.0%
53	3,111	71.7%	1,226	28.3%
54	3,016	72.7%	1,134	27.3%
55	2,871	71.6%	1,141	28.4%
56	2,592	70.7%	1,073	29.3%
57	2,481	71.3%	997	28.7%
58	2,203	72.2%	849	27.8%
59	2,125	72.7%	797	27.3%
60	2,144	67.9%	1,016	32.1%
61	1,923	71.5%	765	28.5%
62	1,994	69.4%	881	30.6%
63	1,791	71.1%	727	28.9%
64	1,583	71.9%	617	28.1%
65	1,792	70.6%	746	29.4%
66	1,297	70.3%	547	29.7%
67	1,406	69.0%	632	31.0%
68	1,285	70.0%	551	30.0%
69	1,208	70.7%	501	29.3%
70	1,266	68.4%	586	31.6%
71	1,051	68.6%	481	31.4%
72	1,189	69.4%	523	30.6%
73	995	71.0%	407	29.0%
74	969	68.6%	443	31.4%
75	966	68.5%	444	31.5%

76	830	67.8%	394	32.2%
77	811	71.2%	328	28.8%
78	736	68.4%	340	31.6%
79	746	69.1%	333	30.9%
80	708	68.0%	333	32.0%
81	582	66.7%	291	33.3%
82	592	70.2%	252	29.8%
83	470	66.0%	243	34.0%
84	406	63.3%	235	36.7%
85	399	67.5%	193	32.5%
86	374	67.3%	182	32.7%
87	258	61.0%	165	39.0%
88	241	66.0%	124	34.0%
89	186	65.9%	96	34.1%
90	181	66.8%	90	33.2%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

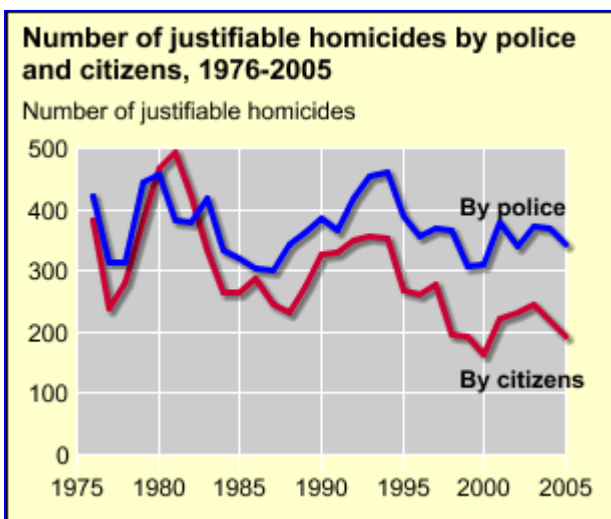
Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Justifiable homicides

The number of justifiable homicides has been declining

- Generally, the number of justifiable homicides committed by police exceeded the number committed by citizens.
- In the last 10 years, the number of justifiable homicides has declined 13%.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Note: Justifiable homicides are defined as the killing of a felon by a law enforcement officer in the line of duty or the killing of a felon during the commission of a felony by a private citizen.

The circumstances surrounding justifiable homicides differ for those committed by police and those committed by citizens.

- Most justifiable homicides by police are the result of attacks on officers.
- The most frequent circumstances cited for justifiable homicides by citizens is to disrupt a crime while in progress or when a citizen was attacked.

To view data, click on the chart.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends in justifiable homicide by police and citizens

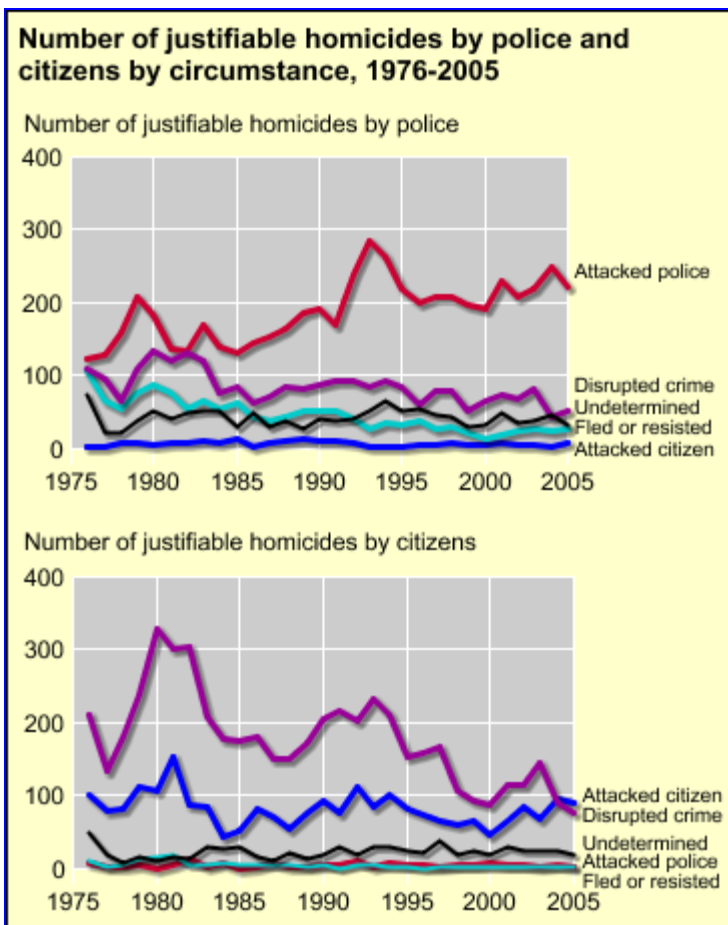
[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#) (.csv file)

Number of justifiable
homicides

Year	By Citizen	By Police
1976	381	420
1977	240	314
1978	280	314
1979	383	443
1980	467	459
1981	495	383
1982	423	380
1983	334	419
1984	265	333
1985	265	321
1986	289	303
1987	246	300
1988	233	342
1989	273	363
1990	328	385
1991	331	367
1992	351	418
1993	357	455
1994	353	462
1995	268	389
1996	261	356
1997	277	369
1998	196	367
1999	192	308
2000	164	309
2001	221	378
2002	233	341
2003	245	371
2004	219	368
2005	192	343

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



[D]

Most justifiable homicides are intraracial

- In incidents involving citizens, three-quarters involved citizens and felons of the same race.
- In incidents involving police, two-thirds involved police officers and felons of the same race.

Percent of justifiable homicides

Race of felon	Race of citizen who killed felon			
	White	Black	Other	Total
White	36 %	3 %	1 %	40 %
Black	17	40	1	59
Other	1	--	1	1
Total	54	43	3	100

Race of felon	Race of officer who killed felon			
	White	Black	Other	Total
White	55 %	3 %	--	59 %
Black	28	11	--	39

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Trends in justifiable homicide by justification reason

[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#) (.csv file)

[By citizens](#) | [By police](#)

Justifiable homicides by citizens

Year of Offense	Attacked cop	Attacked citizen	Fled or resisted	Disrupted crime	Undetermined	
1976		8	101	11	212	49
1977		2	80	4	134	20
1978		2	82	6	182	8
1979		5	111	13	237	17
1980		1	108	17	329	12
1981		6	153	20	300	16
1982		13	87	5	305	13
1983		3	86	6	208	31
1984		9	44	7	178	27
1985		1	52	6	175	31
1986		3	82	5	182	17
1987		7	70	5	152	12
1988		2	54	5	151	21
1989		4	77	4	173	15
1990		5	94	5	206	18
1991		6	78	1	217	29
1992		11	112	5	203	20
1993		2	86	6	232	31
1994		9	100	3	211	30
1995		5	82	4	153	24
1996		6	74	1	159	21
1997		3	66	3	168	37
1998		5	61	4	106	20
1999		6	66	4	92	24
2000		7	46	4	88	19
2001		6	66	2	116	31
2002		5	84	4	115	25
2003		3	68	4	145	25
2004		6	95	3	91	24
2005		3	91	2	77	19

Justifiable homicides by police

Year of Offense	Attacked cop	Attacked citizen	Fled or resisted crime	Disrupted crime	Undetermined
1976	124	4	108	109	75
1977	128	4	65	95	22
1978	159	9	56	67	23
1979	209	9	77	109	39
1980	183	5	87	133	51
1981	138	7	76	120	42
1982	134	9	55	132	50
1983	171	10	66	120	52
1984	140	8	56	77	52
1985	131	14	62	84	30
1986	144	4	43	64	48
1987	154	8	39	70	29
1988	165	12	43	84	38
1989	186	15	52	82	28
1990	193	10	52	89	41
1991	171	11	53	94	38
1992	237	7	40	92	42
1993	285	4	28	86	52
1994	264	4	36	92	66
1995	220	2	32	84	51
1996	199	5	37	61	54
1997	208	6	28	80	47
1998	207	7	29	80	44
1999	197	6	23	53	29
2000	191	6	15	65	32
2001	229	8	18	74	49
2002	207	6	25	68	35
2003	219	6	27	81	38
2004	250	4	25	43	46
2005	222	8	27	53	33

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

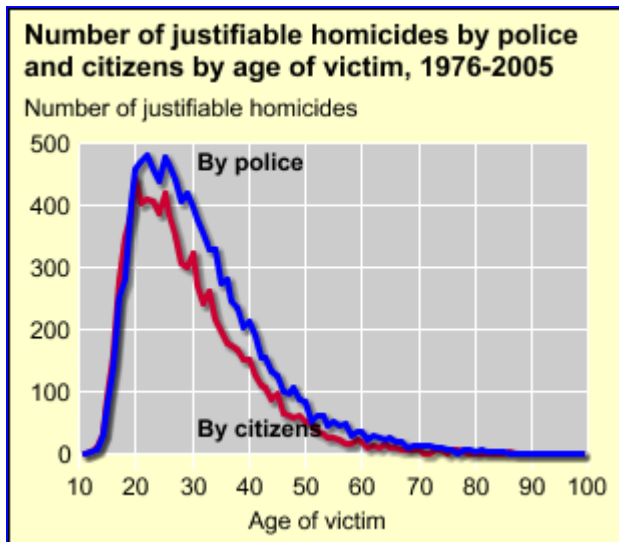
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

Other	2	--	--	2
Total	85	14	1 %	100

-- Less than 0.5%

The age distribution of the felons killed by police is slightly older than that for felons killed by citizens

To view data, click on the chart.



[\[D\]](#)

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional information about the data](#).

Note: The victims of the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks are not included in this analysis.

[Previous](#)

[Contents](#)

[Next](#)

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Justifiable homicide age of felon killed

[To the chart based on these data](#) | [Download spreadsheet version](#) (.csv file)

Number of justifiable
homicides

Age of Felon Killed	By Citizen	By Police
11	0	1
12	2	2
13	11	7
14	31	28
15	89	78
16	158	138
17	279	251
18	348	281
19	386	403
20	441	458
21	402	472
22	409	481
23	408	457
24	388	438
25	418	478
26	383	466
27	351	441
28	306	408
29	301	419
30	321	396
31	271	378
32	241	355
33	261	328
34	215	329
35	198	274
36	179	282
37	174	246
38	167	235
39	151	204
40	152	212
41	127	191

42	109	155
43	106	154
44	88	133
45	98	126
46	65	101
47	62	98
48	58	108
49	60	87
50	52	85
51	47	50
52	34	62
53	32	60
54	26	44
55	27	51
56	24	44
57	17	48
58	17	30
59	22	37
60	18	35
61	10	24
62	12	30
63	10	27
64	15	22
65	10	27
66	9	19
67	7	19
68	7	10
69	6	14
70	5	12
71	1	13
72	1	14
73	6	10
74	5	10
75	1	6
76	5	6
77	5	1
78	3	5
79	1	8
80	1	3
81	0	7
82	1	4
83	1	3
84	1	3
85	0	4
86	3	1

87	1	0
88	0	1
89	0	1
94	0	1
97	1	0
99	1	0

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2005.

See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

BJS: Bureau of Justice Statistics

Homicide Trends in the U.S.

Additional information about the data

[Data sources](#) | [Methodology](#) | [Related sites](#)

Data Sources

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR)

Launched over 70 years ago, the Uniform Crime Reporting Program collects and publishes criminal offense, arrest, and law enforcement personnel statistics. Under the UCR program, law enforcement agencies submit information to the FBI monthly. Offense information is collected on the eight Index offenses of homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Information on the number of persons arrested includes many additional crime types such as drug abuse violations and driving under the influence. The FBI annually publishes data from the UCR in [Crime in the United States](#). The UCR is one of the two major national indicators about crime. For more information about these two indicators, see [The Nation's Two Crime Measures](#).

The UCR program collects only those data which come to the attention of law enforcement through victim reports or observation. Of all the crimes included in the UCR, homicide is the most complete. Homicide counts suffer from a minimal level of underreporting. In addition, the number of crimes where law enforcement makes an arrest or clears the offense is the highest for homicide compared to the other serious offenses collected by the UCR. Other offenses including forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assault are currently available only in summary count form without details about the incident, victims, or offenders. Homicide information -- through the Supplementary Homicide Reports data -- is available in incident form.

FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

Most of the data used here are from the Supplementary Homicide Reports which is a part of the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. Supplemental data about homicide incidents are submitted monthly with detail on location, victim, and offender characteristics. These reports include information on the month and year of an offense, on the reporting agency and its residential population, county and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) codes, geographic division, and population group, on the age, race, and sex of victims and offenders, and on the victim/offender relationship, weapon use, and circumstance of the crime. For the years 1976-2005, contributing agencies provided supplemental data for 538,210 of the estimated 594,277 murders. Supplemental data were also reported for 597,359 of the estimated 659,862 offenders.

Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA)

Also a part of the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, LEOKA utilizes data from several sources including the Uniform Crime Reports. Once notified of a line-of-duty death, the FBI contacts the employing agency to obtain additional details. LEOKA includes data about Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers who were killed feloniously or by accidents or who were assaulted. An [annual report](#) is published by the FBI.

▲ [To the top](#)

Methodology

Homicide as defined here includes murder and nonnegligent manslaughter which is the willful killing of one human being by another. The general analyses excluded deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder. Justifiable homicides based on the reports of law enforcement agencies are analyzed separately. Deaths from the terrorist attacks of 9/11/01 are not included in any of the analyses although they are available on the data file on which the analyses are based. These data are based solely on police investigation, as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body.

Not all agencies which report offense information to the FBI also submit supplemental data on homicides. About 91% of homicides reported in the UCR are included in the SHR. To account for the total number of homicides, this analysis weighted the SHR data to match national and State estimates prepared by the FBI. All victim-based analyses are adjusted in this manner.

While many agencies report supplemental data on homicides, much of the data concerning offenders may not be reported because no suspects were identified. The most significant problem in using SHR data to analyze offender characteristics is the sizable and growing number of unsolved homicides contained in the data file. Ignoring unsolved homicides, of course, would seriously understate calculated rates of offending by particular subgroups of the population, distort trends over time among these same subgroups, and bias observed patterns of offending to the extent that the rate of missing offender data is associated with offender characteristics.

To adjust for unsolved homicides, a method for offender imputation has been devised, using available information about the victims murdered in both solved and unsolved homicides. Through this imputation algorithm, the demographic characteristics of unidentified offenders are inferred on the basis of similar homicide cases -- similar in terms of the victim's demographic profile, circumstances of the homicide such as felony or argument, location of the homicide (region and urbaness), gun involvement, and year of the offense -- that had been solved. In other words, offender profiles for unsolved crimes are estimated based on the offender profiles in solved cases matched on victim age, sex, and race; circumstances of the homicide; location of the homicide; and gun involvement; as well as year. All offender-based estimates were imputed using this procedure.

🔗 [To more detail on the weighting and imputation procedures](#)

The data file analyzed is available from the [National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#) (NACJD).

To analyze these data online, go to the [NACJD Data Analysis System](#).

▲ [To the top](#)

Related sites

Bureau of Justice Statistics

- [Homicide Trends and Characteristics](#) by State and local agency for jurisdictions with more than 250,000 population data is available from Data Online.
- [Crime and Victims Page](#)
- [Key Facts at a Glance](#)
- [Trends in Juvenile Violence](#) including 1997 update by James Alan Fox, Professor of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University
- [Bridging Gaps in Police Crime Data](#) a discussion paper on the FBI's UCR program including the SHR prepared by Michael D. Maltz, University of Illinois at Chicago under the BJS Visiting Fellows Program
- [Policing and Homicide, 1976-98: Justifiable Homicide of Felons by Police and Murder of Police by Felons](#) presents annual trends from 1976 to 1998 in two types of homicide: justifiable homicides of felons by police, and murders of police officers by felons.

Federal Bureau of Investigation - Uniform Crime Reports

National Institute of Justice - Homicide in Eight U.S. Cities (Acrobat file)

Statistical Briefing Book from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

National Archive of Criminal Justice Data

- [Analyze Homicide Data Online](#)

Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)