

New York City
Domestic Violence
Fatality Review
Committee

**ANNUAL
REPORT
2011**



YOLANDA B. JIMENEZ
COMMISSIONER

(212) 788-3156

December 2011

Dear Colleagues:

Enclosed please find the sixth annual report of the New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. This report is being provided to you pursuant to Local Law 61.

This year's analysis showed a 17% reduction – from 41 in 2002 to 34 in 2010 - in intimate partner homicides, a sub-category of all family-related homicides.

Over the last year, the Committee has continued to expand the *Right to a Healthy Relationship* campaign to increase the community's awareness of what actions constitute domestic violence and of the availability of services. Since launching in 2010, the campaign's posters and palm cards have been displayed in over 1,200 pharmacies, banks, financial services locations, fast food restaurants, pet stores and other retail locations. In addition, this past summer, in coordination with FRC member agencies, the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence (OCDV) launched another phase of the initiative to coordinate outreach among City agencies and community organizations. Public outreach was conducted in the Brighton Beach, Coney Island and Sheepshead Bay communities in Brooklyn, and in the Fordham and Concourse communities in the Bronx. More than 8,000 pieces of public education material were distributed at local subway stations and busy intersections in commercial areas.

The FRC has continued its commitment to developing an environment that facilitates disclosure by domestic violence victims to staff of City agencies and nonprofit organizations. Over the last year, the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and OCDV partnered to develop a domestic violence awareness and referral training program for employees based in Brooklyn; similar training was provided to supervisory personnel in the Department of Homeless Services (DHS). To date, more than 1,100 NYCHA and DHS employees have been trained through this program. Over the next year, training will be provided to additional DHS and NYCHA employees.

I look forward to our continued partnership in raising awareness of domestic violence issues and expanding the *Right to a Healthy Relationship* campaign. I am confident that our efforts will create an environment that promotes the disclosure of domestic violence and enhances access to services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yolanda B. Jimenez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Yolanda B. Jimenez

The Fatality Review Committee Members

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Designee: Yolanda L. Rudich, Bureau Chief, Sex Crimes/Special Victims Bureau

Robert Doar, Administrator/Commissioner, Human Resources Administration
Designee: Marie B. Philip, Executive Director, Office of Domestic Violence

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Gisele Green, Mayoral Appointee representing the voice of victims

Theresa McIntosh, Mayoral Appointee representing the voice of victims

Edward Hill, Fatality Review Coordinator, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

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Executive Summary

This report describes 621 family-related homicides in New York City from 2002 to 2010.¹ There were 651 perpetrators involved in these homicides. The definition of family-related homicides was expanded in 2009 to include homicides by boyfriends/girlfriends. The number of family-related homicides decreased by 17% from 76 in 2002 to 63 in 2010, if one maintains the pre-2009 definition. Despite the expanded definition, the number of family-related homicides recorded has not significantly increased over time – with 76 homicides recorded in 2002 and 77 recorded in 2010. In the intervening years, homicide counts fluctuated. (Chart 1)

Family-related homicides involving perpetrators who were intimate partners of the victims declined by 17% since 2002 – from 41 in 2002 to 34 in 2010.² The decline is even more pronounced, as well as discernible in the intervening years, when considering the pre-2009 definition. According to the pre-2009 definition, there were 41 intimate partner homicides in 2002 and 20 in 2010 – a 51% decline. Since 2002, 49% (318 of 651) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were the intimate partner of the victim. (Chart 2)

Since 2002, children have accounted for 25% (157 of 621) of the family-related homicide victims. In 2010, there were 25 child victims in family-related homicides compared with 8 in 2009, corresponding to single-year proportion for 2010 of 32% (25 of 77) -- that is higher than the expected 25% seen in the 2002 to 2010 pooled data.³ (Chart 3)

Between 2002 and 2010, 35% (215 of 621) of family-related homicides were committed using a knife or other cutting instrument, the most commonly used weapon. The second most common weapon used was a firearm; 24% (151 of 621) of family-homicides were committed with a firearm. The number of family-related homicides committed with a firearm decreased from 18 in 2009 to 9 in 2010. (Chart 4)

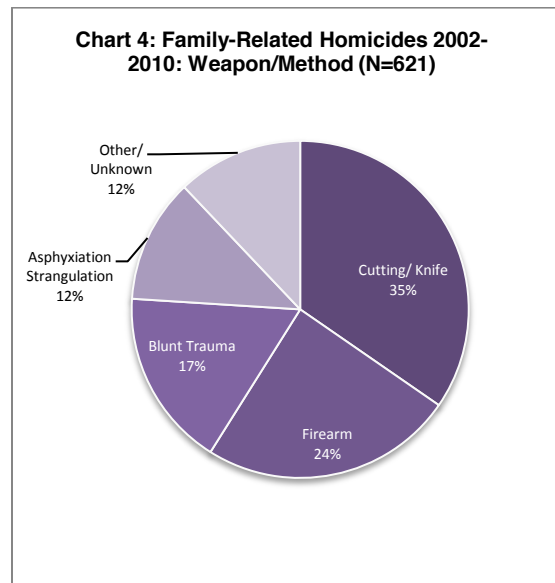
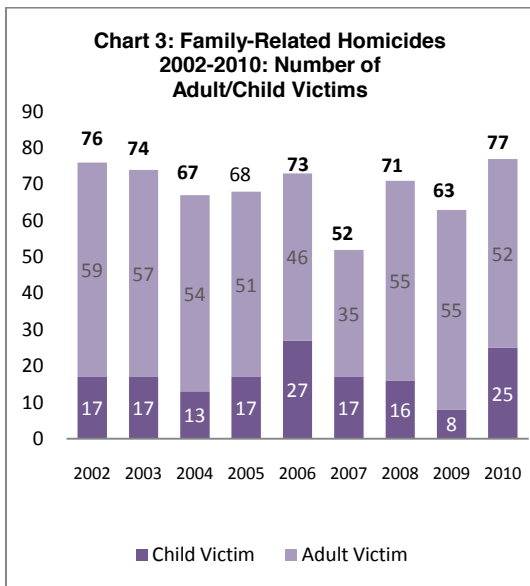
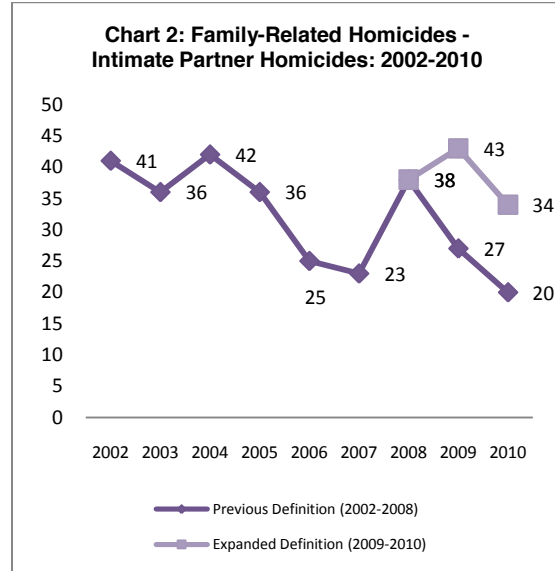
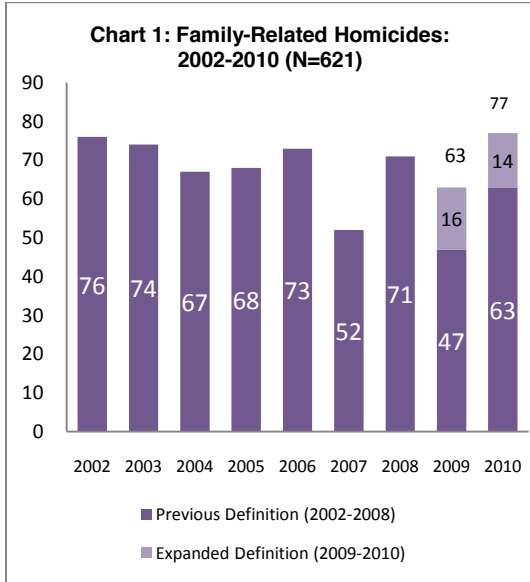
The Fatality Review Committee (FRC) found that, within a calendar year of the homicide, between 2005 and 2009 almost 45% of the family-related homicide victims and perpetrators did not have any contact with a City agency. Notably, almost 80% of victims did not have any contact with police in the calendar year preceding the homicide. This proportion has remained the same for the past five years.

The FRC mapped family-related homicides from 2004 through 2010. They remained concentrated in eight of the City's 59 community districts—Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 in the Bronx and 3, 8 and 16 in Brooklyn. Since 2004, 27% (123 of 458) of all family-related homicides that occurred in the City took place in these eight community districts. While 4 of 10 family-related homicides occurred in neighborhoods with low socioeconomic status, not all communities with low socioeconomic status experienced an elevated number of family-related homicides.⁴

Given the concentration of family-related homicide victims living in these Bronx and Brooklyn communities, the FRC implemented community assessments in both areas. The Bronx community assessment was completed in 2010. Based on that assessment, we have launched an initiative in these targeted communities to coordinate public education and outreach among City agencies and community organizations. In addition, we continue to

increase dissemination of information regarding services through strategically placed messaging in grocery store circulars at no cost; the training of City employees at DHS and NYCHA; and outreach to medical service providers.

During the coming year, we will proceed with an identical assessment in the Brooklyn communities by completing the community survey, continuing to meet with community groups, and conducting small group meetings with survivors. Through these activities, we hope to determine appropriate interventions that enhance the community’s knowledge of domestic violence services, and thereby increase the likelihood that a victim will reach out for those services.



Introduction

The Fatality Review Committee (FRC) was established in 2005 through Local Law 61, which requires the FRC to examine aggregate information pertaining to family-related fatalities and to develop recommendations for the coordination and improvement of services for domestic violence victims in New York City.⁵ This is the sixth Annual Report issued by the Committee. For this report, the FRC reviewed data on family-related homicides from 2002 through 2010.⁶

Effective July 21, 2008, the New York State Criminal Procedure Law and the Family Court Act were amended to allow victims in boyfriend/girlfriend relationships, whether or not they ever resided with the perpetrator, to seek an order of protection in Family Court. In determining if a relationship is of an intimate nature, several factors are now considered, including: (1) the frequency of interaction between the persons; (2) the duration of the relationship; (3) shared expenses; and (4) the extent of interaction with family members. Based on this amendment to New York State law, the New York City Police Department's (NYPD) definition of family-related offenses has been expanded to include individuals in current or former boyfriend/girlfriend intimate relationships, regardless of whether the victim lived with the abuser or whether the relationship was of a sexual nature. The family-related homicide data for 2009 and 2010 reflect this new definition, and impacts of the definitional change on available statistics are noted throughout this report.

Defining “Family-Related Homicides”

As stipulated by Local Law 61 of 2005 and defined by the New York City Police Department (NYPD), a domestic violence fatality is defined as a death of a family or household member resulting from an act or acts of violence by another family or household member. “Family or household member” refers to the following individuals:

- persons related by marriage;
- persons related by blood;
- persons legally married to one another;
- persons formerly married to one another regardless of whether they still reside in the same household;
- persons who have a child in common regardless of whether such persons have been married or have lived together at any time;
- persons not legally married, but currently living together in a family type relationship;
- persons not legally married, but who have formerly lived together in a family type relationship; and
- persons who are not related by blood or marriage and who are or have been in an intimate relationship regardless of whether such persons have lived together at any time (i.e., boyfriend/girlfriend). (Added in July 2008)

The definition includes same sex partners.

Data and Methods

This report describes, in aggregate, the 621 family-related homicides that occurred between 2002 and 2010.⁷ There were 651 perpetrators of these incidents. The FRC examined these homicide counts over time and assessed patterns across factors such as age, gender, race, and the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. As previously noted, in 2008, the definition of family-related was expanded to include individuals in boyfriend/girlfriend intimate relationships; the family-related homicide data for 2009 and 2010 reflect this new definition.

The following outlines the report's multiple data sources:

Family-Related Homicides

NYPD Data: NYPD maintains information on family-related homicides and provides the FRC with basic demographic and incident information including: (1) age of victim and perpetrator; (2) sex of victim and perpetrator; (3) race of victim; (4) weapon utilized; (5) familial relationship of the perpetrator to the victim; and (6) location of the crime. The FRC analyzed information on all family-related homicides that occurred in New York City from 2002 through 2010 for inclusion in this year's report. Data from prior years' reports have been updated, and the most recent year of data has been added.⁸ All homicide counts for 2002 through 2010 are presented in the report's findings sections or in the appendix.

The 2009 and 2010 data in this report include cases identified under the new definition, that is, cases of intimate partner homicides where the perpetrator was identified as the boyfriend/girlfriend. Accordingly, the FRC conducted two sets of analyses. First, it examined the total number of family-related homicides using the pre-2009 definition established in prior FRC reports; then, it examined the total number using the newly expanded definition of family-related homicides. Differences in the results of the two analyses caused by the change in definition are highlighted in the text. When there are no differences, results including the newly expanded definition of family-related homicides are presented.

Percent changes in family-related homicides from 2002 through 2010 were computed, and confidence intervals were constructed around counts from 2002 through 2010. Overlapping confidence intervals indicate that apparent changes were not statistically significant.

After pooling data from 2002 to 2010, chi square tests were used to compare the distribution of family-related homicides in select subgroup analyses (e.g., gender and age).

Contact with City Agencies and the Representative Contract Agencies (2009 family-related homicides): The FRC provided each FRC member agency with identifiers (name, date of birth, and address) for the victims and perpetrators of family-related homicides that occurred in 2009, the most recent year for which contact information on these homicides was available from City agencies and from nonprofit agencies contracting with the New York City Human Resources Administration (HRA) to provide

domestic violence services.⁹ The agencies independently cross-referenced that list with agency files, and reported whether they had any contact with the victims and/or perpetrators, during the year in which the homicide occurred and the calendar year prior to the homicide. This information was compared with all agency submissions to determine if an individual victim or perpetrator had contact with one or more agencies. The result of that data match is reported in aggregate for 2005 through 2009 in this report. The agencies also provided aggregate data regarding the timeframe during which the contact occurred relative to the homicide.¹⁰

United States Census Population Estimates: The population data used in this report reflect 2010 Census data obtained from the United States Census and the New York City Department of City Planning (City Planning). Individual level indicators of socioeconomic status (SES) for victims and perpetrators were not available. Instead poverty, median income, unemployment and educational attainment data at the neighborhood level (that is, community district) were obtained from the United States Census and City Planning, reflecting American Community Survey (ACS) multi-year estimates for 2007-2009, the most current data available for neighborhood-level analyses. According to Census Bureau requirement, no ACS survey area can have less than 100,000 people, thus, New York City's 59 community districts were collapsed into 55 community districts for the neighborhood-level SES analysis.

The Committee developed a community SES index by ranking the individual factors and combining these rankings into one score. Specifically, each community district was assigned a rank using quartiles to create the socioeconomic index, based on City Planning's 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics. Each of the following four indicators

- (1) the percentage of the individuals living below the poverty level;
- (2) the percentage of residents age 25 and older who have not graduated from high school;
- (3) the median household income; and
- (4) the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed

was ranked from 1 to 4, with lower numbers representing lower SES and the higher numbers representing higher SES. These rankings were then added together to create a composite SES index. The distribution of family-related homicides was examined across each quartile of this composite index.

Bronx and Brooklyn Community Assessment

The FRC has completed its community assessment in the Bronx, a multi-method project to identify community-level factors that may be associated with the high concentration of family-related homicides in Bronx Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9. The results of this assessment were presented in last year's annual report. This report describes actions taken in the Bronx in response to those results to increase the community's understanding of domestic violence and ways to seek help, and the linkages between victims and the existing domestic violence services.

We are currently undertaking a similar community assessment in high-fatality target areas of Brooklyn (Community Districts 3, 8 and 16). Information will be gathered through five methods, an approach designed to ensure that we capture multiple perspectives on both community resources and community needs. A detailed description of each of the five methods – secondary data review, in-depth individual meetings, small group meetings, focus groups and surveys – is provided in the section of this report entitled *Communities Experiencing a High Concentration of Family-Related Homicides*.

As of December 2011, we have partially completed information collection through one method – a 23-question community-based survey in the three target communities to assess (1) the community’s understanding of domestic violence (2) the level of knowledge of existing domestic violence resources, and (3) how a domestic violence victim might seek help.¹¹ The surveys have been administered in English and Spanish by trained staff and interns, and have taken approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Recruitment for the convenience sample for the survey has been conducted at health fairs, subway stations, parks, playgrounds, health centers, and National Night Out Against Crime events. Inclusion criteria include any person over the age of 18 who is living in Brooklyn within the targeted zones. The targeted sample size is 300; to date, 225 surveys have been completed. By summer 2012, we aim to complete survey administration as well as other information-gathering activities.

Confidentiality

All data summarized in this report are protected. The FRC meetings are closed to the public. Only the FRC Coordinator and FRC members review case level information on the homicide victims and perpetrators. Data are reported in aggregate only; identifying information is never presented.

Interpreting Report Findings

Comparisons of NYPD’s homicide counts over time and between subgroups must be interpreted with caution. While noteworthy changes from 2002 to 2010 are highlighted in the text, no changes over time were statistically significant with the exception of a discernable decline seen in intimate partner homicides, according to the pre-2009 definition. For other sub-group analyses, fluctuations in the intervening years reflect no discernible upward or downward trend. In addition, differences in select subgroup analyses were found not to be statistically significant. Statements about higher frequencies of homicide in certain subgroups must not be interpreted as conclusions about causation.

The data on homicide victims’ and perpetrators’ utilization of services were not subjected to statistical testing.

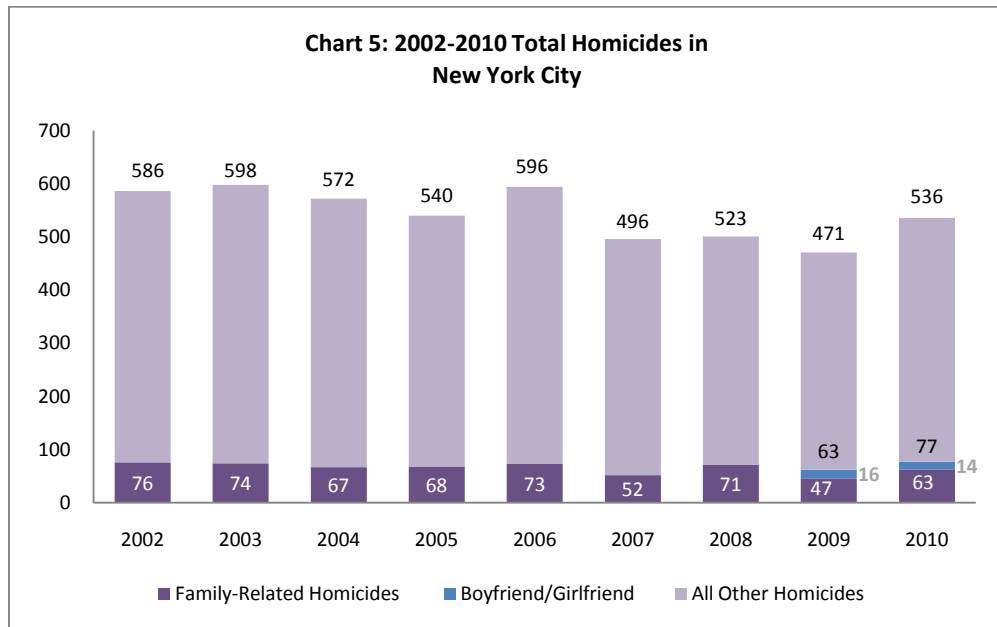
Prior research indicates that poor socioeconomic circumstances such as low income, unemployment and low educational attainment are risk factors for domestic violence homicides.¹² The Committee did not have access to the socioeconomic circumstances of the family-related homicide victims; therefore, the report’s socioeconomic data are presented at the community level only, and the relationship between individual socioeconomic status and risk of family-related homicide cannot be determined.

Family-Related Homicide Findings in New York City

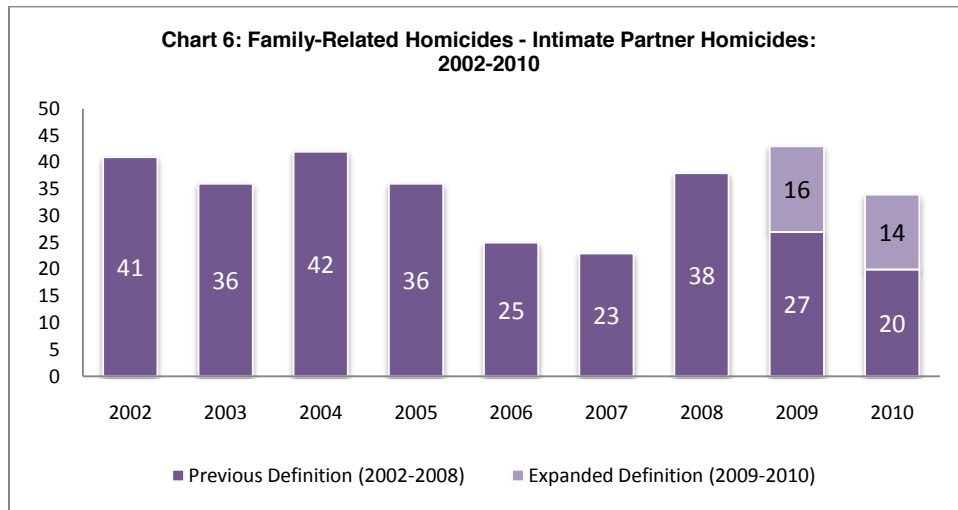
Victims

A comparison of family-related homicides in 2002 and in 2010 must take into account the new definition of “family-related”. In 2002, 76 family-related homicides were recorded. In 2010, 77 family-related homicides were recorded, including 14 boyfriend/girlfriend homicides. It is important to note that only 63 of the homicides recorded in 2010 would have been classified as family-related prior to 2009. Assessing change over time according to the pre-2009 definition of family-related homicides, there was a 17% reduction in family-related homicides between 2002 and 2010 (from 76 in 2002 to 63 in 2010). From 2002 to 2010, there were 621 family-related homicides in total.

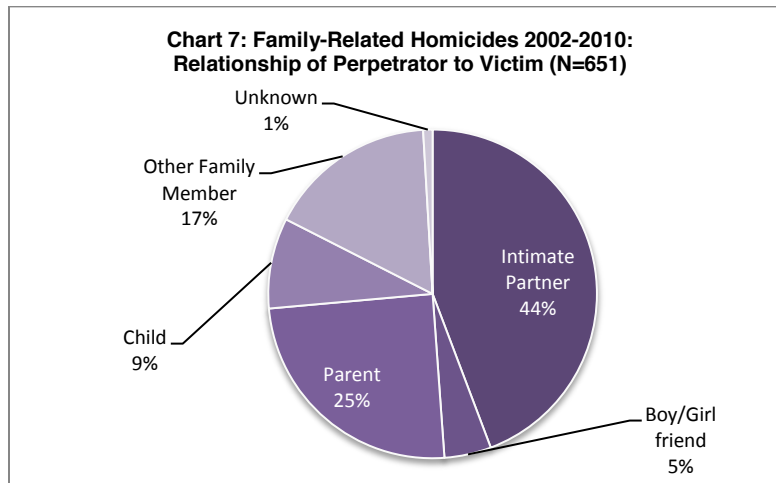
Fluctuations in the intervening years do not suggest a steady upward or downward trend. Between 2002 and 2010 family-related homicide accounted for 14% of all homicides in New York City.



Intimate partner¹³ homicides declined between 2002 and 2010. 41 intimate partner homicides were recorded in 2002 and 34 in 2010. When *excluding* the boyfriend/girlfriend cases under the new expanded definition, intimate partner homicides declined by 51% from 41 in 2002 to 20 in 2010. While counts fluctuated in the intervening years, data suggests a discernible downward trend when applying the pre-2009 definition and excluding the boyfriend/girlfriend cases under the expanded definition of intimate partner homicides.



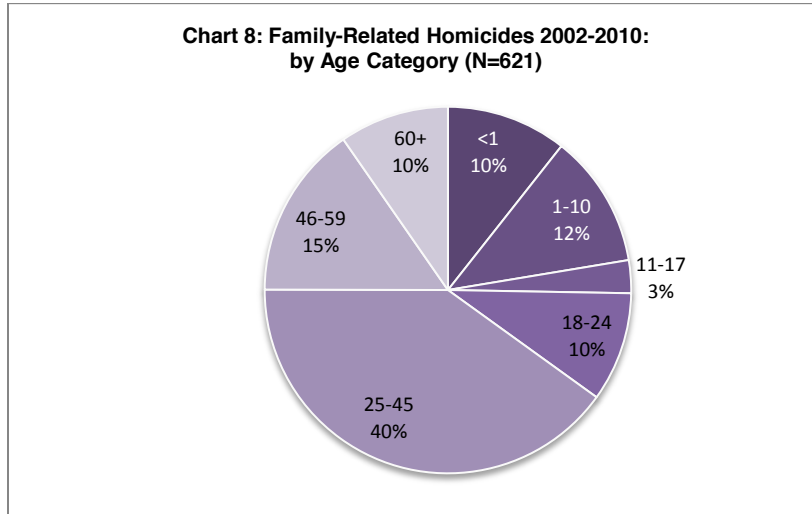
Almost half of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were the intimate partner of the victim. From 2002 through 2010, 49% (318 of 651) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were the intimate partner of the victims; this figure includes boyfriend/girlfriends, as per the expanded definition beginning in 2009. Additionally, 25% (161 of 651) of the perpetrators were parents; 17% (108 of 651) were other family members (e.g., uncle, aunt, cousin, brother, sister) and 9% of perpetrators (58 of 651) were the child of the victim.



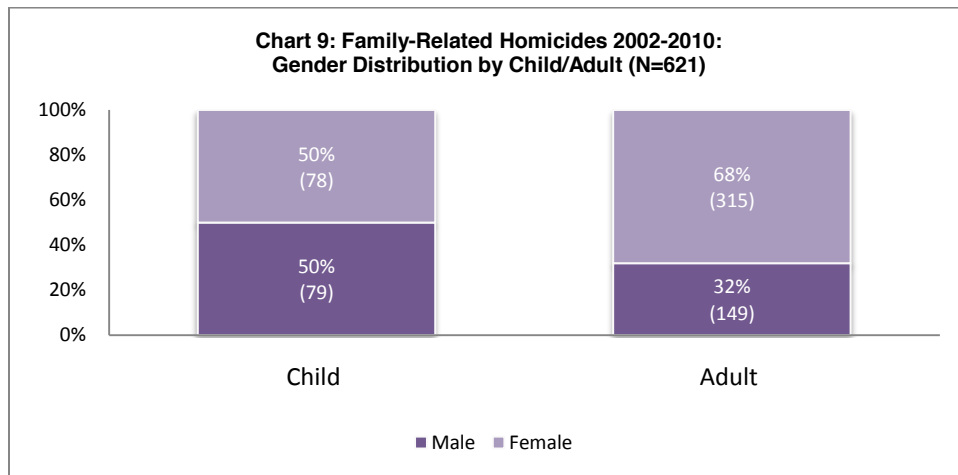
Other Victim Characteristics

Age: The age group with the greatest number of victims is 25 to 45 year olds. Forty percent (40%, 249 of 621) of family-related homicide victims between 2002 and 2010 were between the ages of 25 and 45. Another 15% (95 of 621) were victims between the ages of 46 and 59, while 10% (60 of 621) were age 60 and over.

Overall from 2002-2010 children accounted for 25% (157 of 621) of the family-related homicide victims. In 2010, the percentage of homicides involving a child victim increased to 32% (25 of 77) as a result of the dramatic single-year increase in family-related homicides among children from 2009 to 2010. Close review of child victimization is warranted to detect if this concerning increase persists.



Gender: Over 60% of family-related homicide victims are female. From 2002 through 2010, females accounted for 63% (393 of 621) of the family-related homicide victims. The gender distribution varied slightly by age; with females accounting for 50% (78 of 157) of child victims (under age of 18) and 68% (315 of 464) of adult victims (age 18 and older).



Race/Ethnicity: Almost 4 of 5 family-related homicide victims from 2002 to 2010 were black or Hispanic. Despite annual fluctuation in the number of black and Hispanic homicide victims and despite a 52% decline from 2002 to 2010 in family-related homicides involving Hispanic victims (from 25 in 2002 to 12 in 2010), these two subgroups accounted for 79% of all victims during this period.

When *excluding* the boyfriend/girlfriend cases under the new expanded definition results in a 68% reduction in the number of Hispanic family-related homicide victims from 2002 to 2010 (from 25 to 8), however, it does not correspond to a change in the proportion of family-related homicides victims who are black or Hispanic during this time period.

Blacks were disproportionately affected by family-related homicides, as they comprise 23% of New York City’s population but accounted for 49% (302 of 621) of family-related homicide victims.¹⁴ Hispanics account for 29% of the City’s population and 30% (187 of 621) of family-related homicide victims. Whites account for 33% of New York City’s population, but accounted for only 14% (84 of 621) of the family-related homicide victims from 2002 through 2010. Asians account for 13% of New York City’s population, but accounted for 7% (46 of 621) of the family-related homicide victims from 2002 through 2010.¹⁵

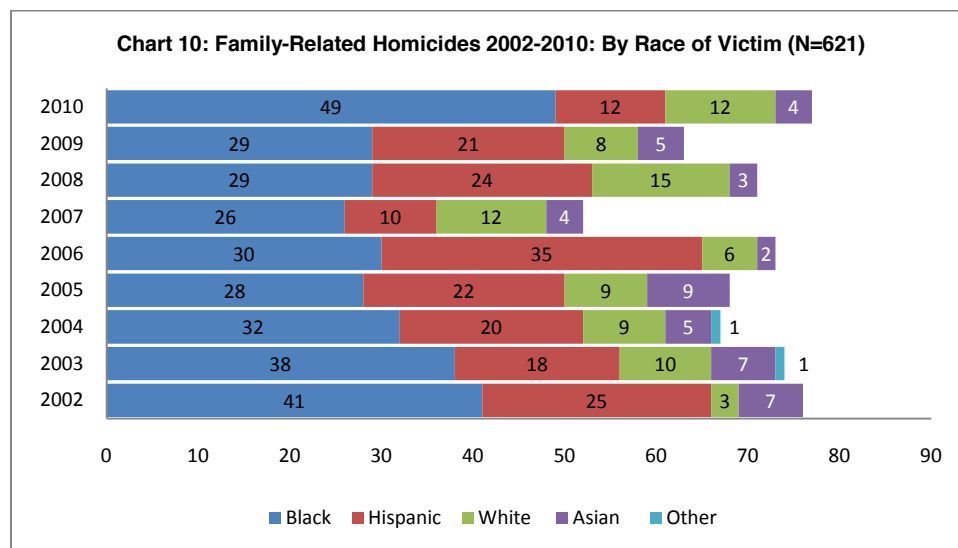


Table 1: 2002-2010 Percentage of Family-Related Homicide Victims by Race and Percentage of Citywide Population (N=621)

Race/Ethnicity	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Population
Black	302	49%	23%
Hispanic	187	30%	29%
White	84	14%	33%
Asian	46	7%	13%
Other	2	<1%	2%

Geographic Location: Compared to New York City’s other boroughs, Brooklyn has had the largest decline in family-related homicides. Excluding the 14 boyfriend/girlfriend homicides that occurred in 2010 reveals notable decreases in three of the boroughs in family-related homicides when comparing 2002 to 2010 family-related homicide counts as defined before 2009. Specifically, family-related homicides dropped 43% (from 37 in 2002 to 21 in 2010) in Brooklyn; 33% (from 9 in 2002 to 6 in 2010) in Manhattan; and 13% in Queens (from 15 in 2002 to 13 in 2010). The number was unchanged in the Bronx (15 in 2002 and 2010).

Comparing the new expanded definition of family-related homicides from 2010 with 2002 family-related homicides still shows a decline in two boroughs, albeit less pronounced. Family-related homicides dropped 24% in Brooklyn, from 37 in 2002 to 28 in 2010. In Manhattan, family-related homicides remained largely unchanged, decreasing by one – from 9 in 2002 to 8 in 2010. During the same time period, family-related homicides remained constant in Queens at 15, while they increased by 20% (from 15 to 18) in the Bronx and from zero to 8 in Staten Island. In 2010, four of the Staten Island victims were the result of a multiple victim homicide. In all five boroughs, the number of family-related homicides fluctuated in the intervening years, with no steady upward or downward trend.

Just less than half of the City’s population resides in the Bronx and Brooklyn, yet 60% of the family-related homicides occurred in these boroughs. Specifically, 17% of the City’s population resides in the Bronx, while 23% (145 of 621) of the family-related homicides occurred there. Thirty-one percent of the City’s population resides in Brooklyn, while 36% (225 of 621) of the family-related homicides occurred there.¹⁶

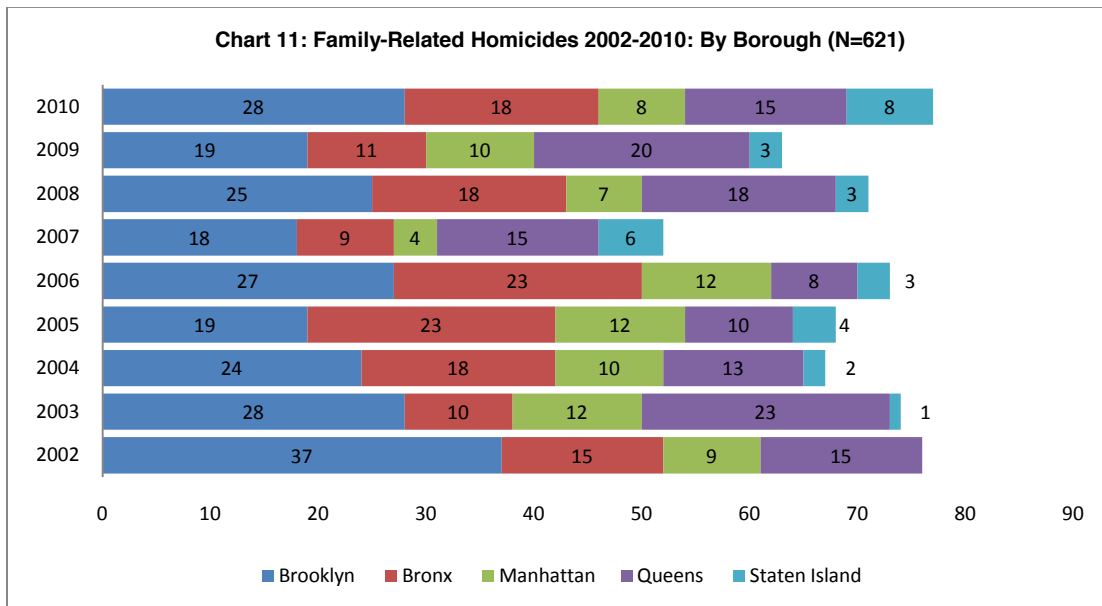


Table 2: 2002-2010 Percentage of Family-Related Homicide Victims by Borough and Percentage of Citywide Population (N=621)

Borough	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Population
Brooklyn	225	36%	31%
Bronx	145	23%	17%
Queens	137	22%	27%
Manhattan	84	14%	19%
Staten Island	30	5%	6%

Specific Location: Most family-related homicides occur at the victim’s residence:

From 2002 through 2010, 82% (509 of 621) of the family-related homicides occurred at the victim’s home.

Family-Related Homicides Involving Elders and Children

Given previous FRC reports indicating that victims over the age of 60 had limited contact with City agencies prior to the homicide,¹⁷ the FRC continued its targeted examination of family-related homicides among elders.

The annual number of elder family-related homicide victims is relatively constant.

From 2002 through 2010, there were 60 family-related homicides involving victims aged 60 and over, comprising 10% of all family-related homicides. The average age of the elder victim was 71.

Table 3: 2002-2010 Elder (60+) Family-Related Homicide Victims (N=60)

Number	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Elder Victims	9	8	7	3	9	6	7	3	8	60

Over half of elder family-related homicide victims are female. Fifty-seven percent (34 of 60) of elder family-related homicide victims were female.

Brooklyn has the largest number of elder family-related homicide victims.

From 2002 through 2010, 38% (23 of 60) of the family-related homicides involving an elder victim occurred in Brooklyn, 32% (19 of 60) occurred in Queens, 17% (10 of 60) in Manhattan, 8% (5 of 60) in the Bronx, and 5% (3 of 60) in Staten Island.

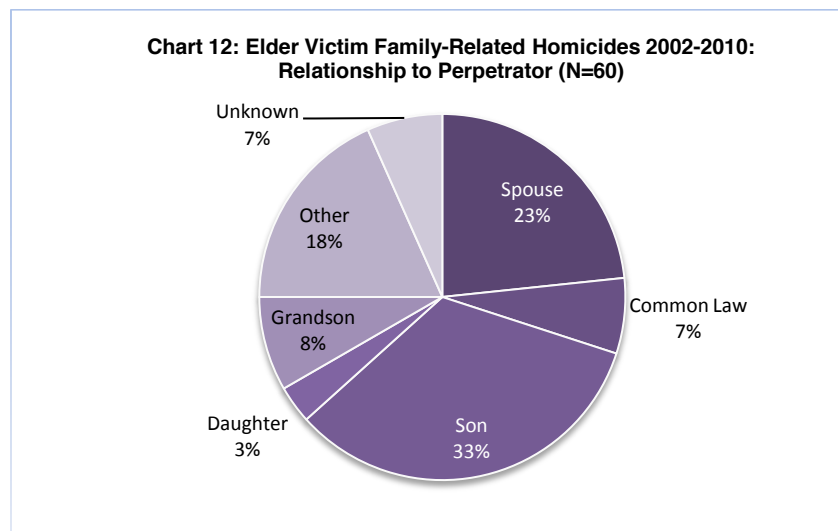
Brooklyn’s elderly are disproportionately affected. While 29% of the City’s elder population resides in Brooklyn, 38% of the City’s family-related homicides involving an elder victim occurred in that borough.¹⁸

Table 4: 2002-2010 Percentage of Elder Family-Related Homicide Victims and Percentage of Citywide Elder Population (N=60)

Borough	Number of Elder Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Elder Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Elder Population
Brooklyn	23	38%	29%
Queens	19	32%	29%
Manhattan	10	17%	21%
Bronx	5	8%	15%
Staten Island	3	5%	6%

One-third of elder family-related homicide victims die at the hands of their son.

From 2002 through 2010, the perpetrator of the elder family-related homicide was the victim’s adult son in 33% (20 of 60) of the cases. In contrast, only 3% (2 of 60) of elder family-related victims were killed by their daughter. Another 30% (18 of 60) were killed by their spouse or common law partner.



Child Family-Related Homicide Victims (age 17 and under)

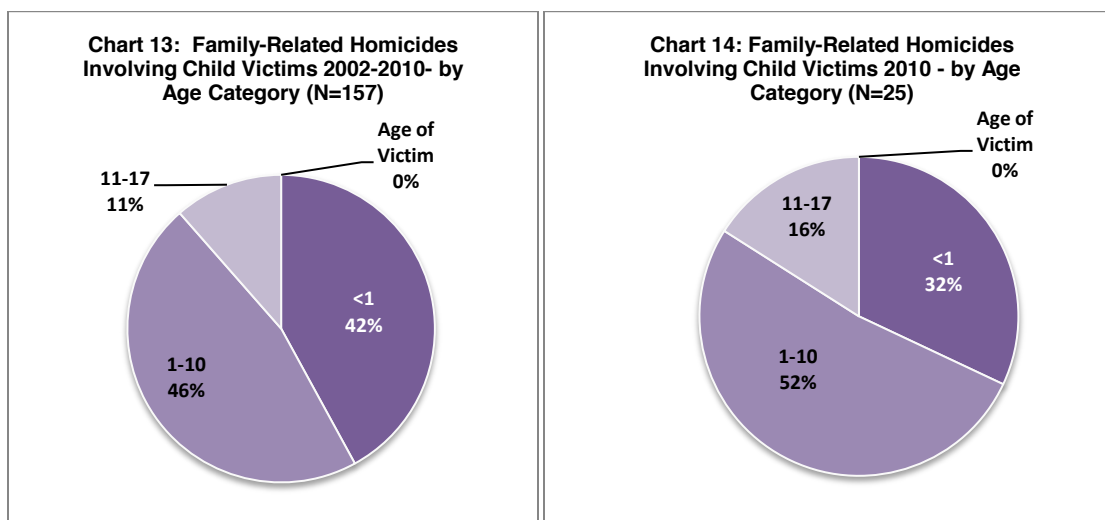
In 2010 there were 25 child victims in family-related homicides compared to 8 in 2009.¹⁹ Overall from 2002 to 2010, children accounted for 25% (157 of 621) of the family-related homicide victims. In 2010, the percentage of homicides involving a child victim increased to 32% (25 of 77), up from 21% (17 of 76) in 2002. While it is difficult to determine if this one-year increase is the beginning of an upward trend or an anomaly, the increase calls for a closer look at homicides involving child victims.

Table 5: 2002-2010 Child (17 and Under) Family-Related Homicide Victims (N=157)

Number	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Child Victims	17	17	13	17	27	17	16	8	25	157

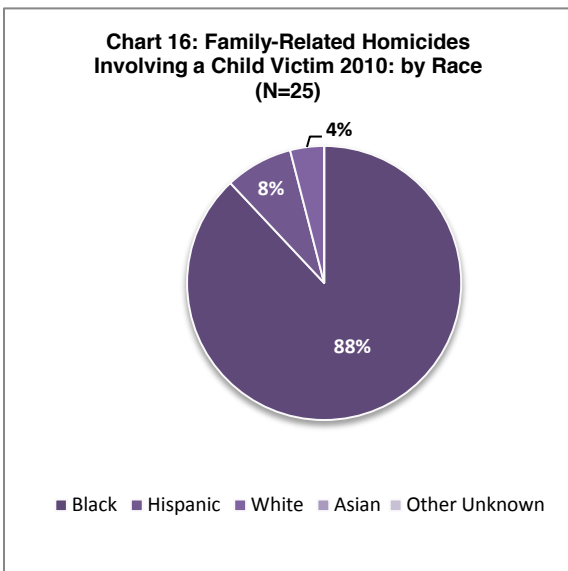
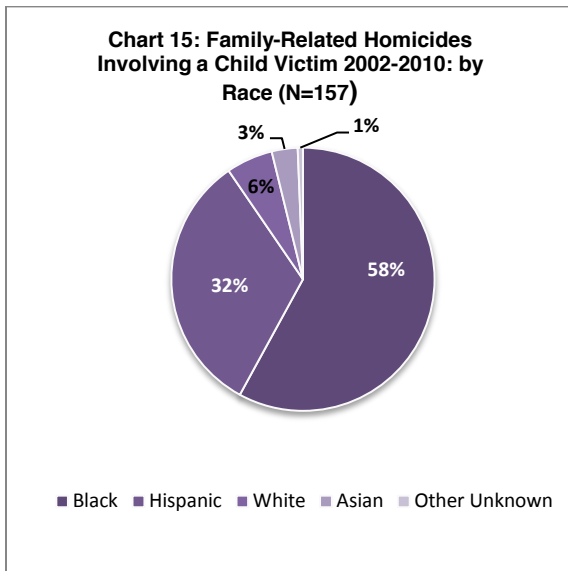
From 2002 through 2010, the average number of child family-related homicide victims was 17. From 2002 through 2010, there were 157 family-related homicides involving victims age 17 and under. Almost ninety percent (139 of 157) of the child victims were 10 years of age or younger. Forty-six percent (73 of 157) of those were between the ages of 1 and 10, while 42% (66 of 157) were under age 1. Eleven percent (18 of 157) were between the age of 11 and 17.

In 2010, 52% (13 of 25) of the child victims were between the ages of 1 and 10, while 32% (8 of 25) were under the age of 1.

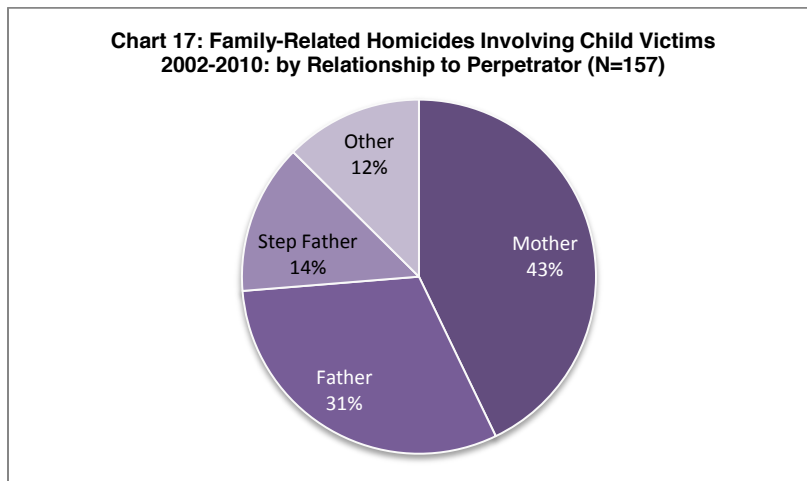


Blacks accounted for almost 60% (91 of 157) of all family-related homicides involving a child victim from 2002 through 2010. Hispanics accounted for 32% (51 of 157); whites 6% (9 of 157); and Asians 3% (5 of 157) of the child victims during the same time period.

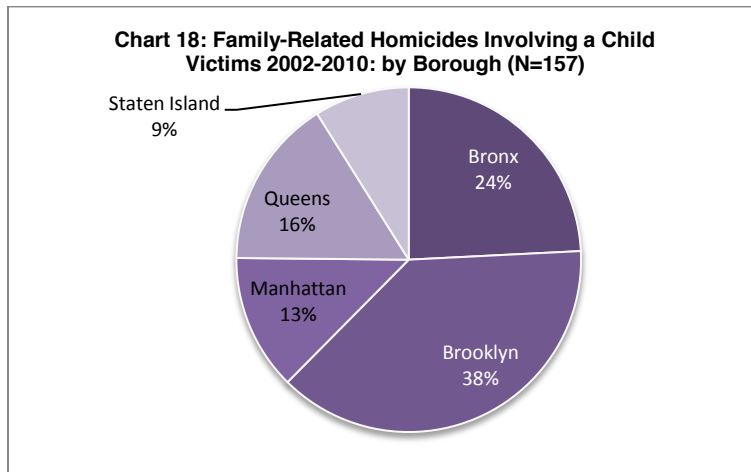
In 2010, blacks accounted for 88% (22 of 25) of all the child victims in family-related homicides – almost double the annual average of 10 child victims in this subgroup since 2002. In comparison, blacks accounted for 50% (12 of 24) of the victims aged 25 to 45; 60% (9 of 15) of victims age 46 to 59 and 38% (3 of 8) of the victims age 60 and over.



Almost three-quarters (74%, 129 of 175) of the perpetrators of child homicides were the victim’s mother (43%, 75 of 175) or father (31%, 54 of 175). The perpetrator was the child’s step-father in another 14% (24 of 175) of the cases. Between 2002 and 2010, there were 157 child victims of family-related homicides; there were 175 perpetrators of these homicides.



Sixty percent of the family-related homicides involving child victims occurred in Brooklyn or the Bronx. From 2002 through 2010, 38% (60 of 157) of the family-related homicides involving child victims occurred in Brooklyn, 24% (38 of 157) occurred in the Bronx, 16% (25 of 157) in Queens, 13% (20 of 157) in Manhattan and 9% (14 of 157) in Staten Island. The distribution of homicides among children across boroughs was similar in 2010.



Children account for almost half of all victims of family-related homicides on Staten Island. Forty-seven percent (14 of 30) of all victims of family-related homicides on Staten Island between 2002 and 2010 were children.²⁰ Children accounted for 27% (60 of 225) of the family-related homicide victims in Brooklyn, 26% (38 of 145) in the Bronx, 24% (20 of 84) in Manhattan, and 18% (25 of 137) in Queens during the same time period.

Characteristics of Perpetrators of Family-Related Homicides²¹

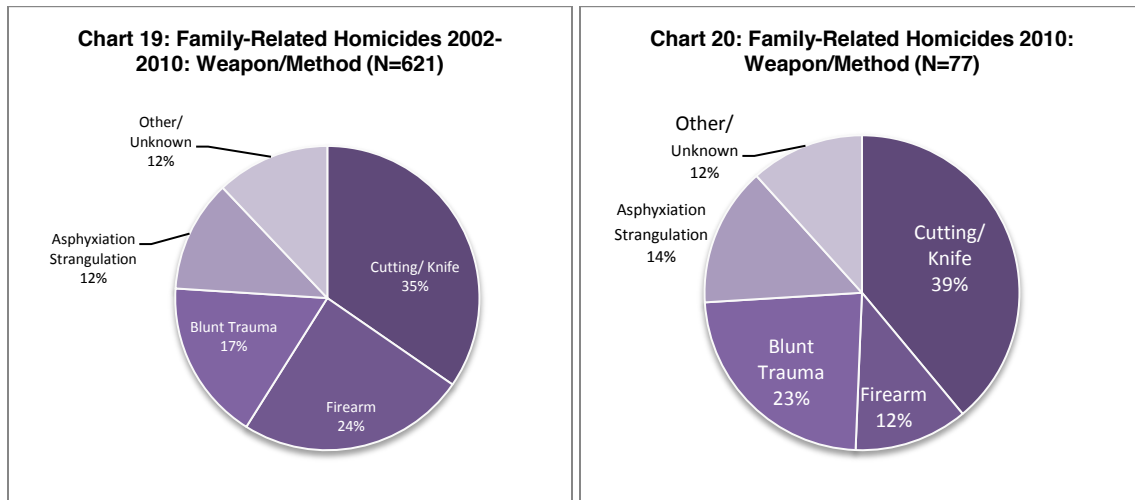
The majority of perpetrators of family-related homicides are males and over half are between the ages of 25 and 45. From 2002 through 2010, there were 651 perpetrators involved in 621 family-related homicides. Seventy-five percent (488 of 651) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were male. Sixty percent (390 of 651) were between the ages of 25 and 45; 18% (120 of 651) were between the ages of 18 and 24; and 3% (20 of 651) of the perpetrators were under the age of 18. Perpetrators in the age groups 18 to 24 and 25 to 45 were disproportionately represented. They account for 11% and 33% of New York City’s population, respectively, but accounted for 18% and 60% of the perpetrators during 2002 through 2010, respectively.²²

Table 6: 2002-2010 Percentage of Family-Related Homicide by Age Category of Perpetrator and Percentage of Citywide Population (N=651)

Age of Perpetrator	Number of Perpetrators	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Population
11-17	20	3%	9%
18-24	120	18%	11%
25-45	390	60%	34%
46-59	86	13%	16%
60+	28	4%	13%
Unknown	7	1%	-

A small proportion of homicides involve multiple victims. From 2002 through 2010, 6% (39 of 621) of family-related homicide cases involved two or more victims. Forty-six percent (18 of 39) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved children, with at least one victim under the age of 18; most (14, or 78%) of these victims were under the age of ten. Forty-six percent (18 of 39) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved a perpetrator who was the parent or step-parent of one of the victims. Another 26% (10 of 39) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved a perpetrator who was the intimate partner of one of the victims.

A knife or other cutting instrument is commonly used in family-related homicides. From 2002 to 2010, a knife or other cutting instrument was the most commonly used weapon in family-related homicides (35%, 215 of 621). Perpetrators used firearms in 24% (151 of 621) of the family-related homicides that occurred during this period. In 2010, the number of family-related homicides perpetrated with a firearm declined by 50% – from 18 in 2009 to 9 in 2010.



Overview of Prior Agency Contact with Victims and Perpetrators of Family-Related Homicides

All data presented in this section reflect the 327 victims and 325 perpetrators of family-related homicides that occurred between 2005²³ and 2009, and describes documented contact that occurred at some point between January of the year prior to the homicide and the date of the homicide. For example, if a homicide occurred in September of 2009, agencies would report any contact for the period January 1, 2008 through the date of the homicide.

Information regarding contact is specific to each agency. A victim or perpetrator may have had contact with more than one City agency or non-City agency.

Over half of family-related homicide victims and perpetrators had contact with at least one City agency or a City-contracted organization within the calendar year preceding the homicide. Fifty-six percent (183 of 327) of the victims had documented contact with at least one City agency or City-contracted organization at some point in the calendar year preceding the homicide. A slightly larger percentage (58%, 189 of 325) of perpetrators had contact with at least one City agency or City-contracted organization during the same time period.²⁴ Forty-four percent (144 of 327) of the victims and 42% (136 of 325) of the perpetrators never had any contact with a City agency or a City-contracted organization during this time period. Data relating to contacts with individual City agencies are discussed below.

Between 2005 and 2009, 42% (137 of 327) of the victims and 46% (150 of 325) of the perpetrators had documented contact with the Human Resource Administration (HRA) for services including cash assistance, food stamps or Medicaid. Of the victims, 3% (10 of 327) received domestic violence-related services through HRA. Three female perpetrators on the list for 2009 fatalities sought assistance for domestic violence previous to the incident, and two female perpetrators received services for domestic violence after the incident.

The Administration for Children's Services (ACS) had contact with 20% (64 of 327) of victims and 18% (60 of 325) of perpetrators. For the 2009 cases, ACS reported that they had contact with the 12 families within one year of the homicide. Since 2005, only 14 of the families ever came to the attention of ACS specifically for domestic violence-related allegations. Other cases came to the attention of ACS for a range of other issues, including educational neglect, inadequate guardianship, substance abuse, and sexual abuse.

The Department of Homeless Services (DHS) had contact with 7% (22 of 327) of the victims and 6% (21 of 325) of the perpetrators, while 9% (30 of 327) of the victims and 8% (25 of 325) of the perpetrators were residing in New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) housing at the time of the homicide.

The Department for the Aging (DFTA) had contact with only one of the victims of family-related homicides at some point in the calendar year preceding the homicide.

Table 7 2005-2009 Number and Percentage of Family-Related Homicide Cases with Agency Contact (within the previous calendar year of homicide)

Agency	Victims with Agency Contact (N=327)	%	Perpetrators with Agency Contact (N=325)	%
Any Contact with City Agency Prior to the Homicide	183	56%	189	58%
Human Resources Administration (HRA)	137	42%	150	46%
New York City Police Department (NYPD)	71	22%	72	22%
Administration for Children's Services (ACS)	64	20%	60	18%
Department of Homeless Services (DHS)	22	7%	21	6%
New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA)	30	9%	25	8%
Department for the Aging (for victims 60+, N=60)	1	2%	0	0%

Socioeconomic Circumstances of Neighborhoods Impacted by Family-Related Homicides

Poor socioeconomic circumstances, such as low income, unemployment and low educational attainment, are risk factors for domestic violence homicides.²⁵ Since the FRC did not have access to individual-level income, employment status, or educational attainment of the individual family-related homicide victims, we examined neighborhood-level socioeconomic indicators by community districts.²⁶ Indicators included: (1) the percentage of the individuals living below the poverty level; (2) the percentage of residents age 25 and older who have not graduated from high school; (3) the median household income; and (4) the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed. The community district was identified by the victims' residences and not the location of the homicide – although it was often the same. The community districts were ranked from high to low on these indicators and then grouped into quartiles according to the four neighborhood characteristics found in the estimate formulated from the 2007-2009 American Community Survey. As discussed below, the four neighborhood-level indicators were also combined to create a composite measure of neighborhood-level socioeconomic status. The distribution of family-related homicides across the quartiles was assessed. Details on community district ranks and the composite SES indicator appear in Appendix C.

Analysis of 2004 through 2010 family-related homicide data and review of socioeconomic status (SES) indicators point to a possible association between poor economic conditions and the frequency of family-related homicides in New York City communities. This information is also presented in Chart 10. Specifically:

Poverty:²⁷ Thirty-seven percent (171 of 458) of the family-related homicide victims resided in communities with a high percentage of the population (more than 26%) living below the poverty level. These communities only account for 25% of the City's population.

Median Household Income:²⁸ Thirty-six percent (167 of 458) of family-related homicide victims resided in communities with low median household income levels – less than \$37,600 annually. Furthermore, 79% (363 of 458) of family-related homicide victims resided in communities with a median household income less than the median household income for New York City (\$55,495).²⁹

Unemployment Rate:³⁰ More than 4 in 10 victims (43%, 196 of 458) resided in communities with high unemployment – exceeding 9.6%. These communities account for only 26% of the City's population. Only 24% of all New York City's community districts have unemployment rates higher than 9.6%.³¹

High School Graduates:³² Thirty percent (139 of 458) of the family-related homicide victims from 2004 through 2010 resided in communities where more than 28% of the residents age 25 and older have never received a high school diploma. In contrast, 21% of the City's population age 25 and over never obtained a high school diploma.³³

Table 8: 2004-2010 Number and Percentage of Family-Related Homicides by Poverty, Unemployment Rate, and Educational Attainment for Census Tract in which Family-Related Homicides Occurred (N=458)³⁴

Socioeconomic Neighborhood Characteristics		
Level	Number of Homicides	Percentage of Homicides
Poverty		
0-11.0%	76	17%
11.1-16.3%	98	21%
16.4%-25.9%	113	25%
26.0%-40.8%	171	37%
Median Household Income		
\$0-\$37,634	167	36%
\$37,635-\$45,861	97	21%
\$45,862-\$58,709	118	26%
\$58,710-\$104,305	76	17%
Unemployment		
0%-6.6%	64	14%
6.7%-7.7%	108	24%
7.8%-9.5%	90	20%
9.6%-16.9%	196	43%
No High School Diploma		
0%-13.7%	75	16%
13.8-21.1%	130	28%
21.2%-27.8%	114	25%
27.9%-49.8%	139	30%

To further examine the poor socioeconomic conditions that are documented risk factors for domestic violence, we developed a community socioeconomic status indicator called “composite SES.” To this end, we totaled the rank scores on the above mentioned factors (i.e., poverty, median household income, unemployment and education attainment), creating one composite score. We again ranked each of New York City’s community districts as combined for the American Community Survey on this composite SES measure, identified quartiles labeled “very low,” “low,” “medium,” and “high” and determined the number of family-related homicides in each grouping.

Most of the neighborhoods with the highest number of family-related fatalities were among the lowest SES neighborhoods in the City. Forty percent (184 of 458) of the family-related homicides between 2004 and 2010 occurred in the 13 communities with the lowest SES rankings. These communities only account for only 23% of the City’s population. Taking population density into account, the rate of family-related homicides was highest in neighborhoods with the lowest SES. The rate of family-related homicides was more than two times greater in the City’s lowest SES neighborhoods (9.9 per 100,000) as compared with high SES neighborhoods (4.4 per 100,000). Neighborhoods with the high SES index scores accounted for 19% (88 of 458) of the family-related homicides that occurred, while 29% of the City’s population resides in high SES

neighborhoods. Forty percent (184 of 458) of family-related homicides occurred in neighborhoods with the lowest SES, while 23% of the City’s population resides in the lowest SES neighborhoods.

Table 9: 2004-2010 Distribution of Family-Related Homicides in SES Quartiles (N=458)³⁵

SES Rank	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Population
Very Low	184	40%	23%
Low	104	23%	24%
Medium	82	18%	23%
High	88	19%	29%

It is important to note that not all neighborhoods with low SES experience a high concentration of family-related homicides, and not all neighborhoods with high SES experience a low concentration of family-related homicides. For example, Manhattan Community District (CD) 12 and Brooklyn CD 4 are in the lowest SES quartile but have relatively few family-related homicides (5 and 4 respectively between 2004 and 2010). Conversely, Queens CD 13 is ranked in the highest SES quartile but experienced a relatively high number of family-related homicides (13) during the same time period. These patterns suggest the need to identify additional factors contributing to higher concentrations of family-related homicides in these neighborhoods and led the FRC to decide to conduct further community assessments, as discussed below.

Communities Experiencing High Concentration of Family-Related Homicides: The Bronx and Brooklyn Community Assessments

Family-related homicides from 2004 through 2010 were mapped Citywide within community district boundaries.³⁶ The maps on subsequent pages display the resulting areas of high concentrations. Family-related homicides were concentrated – that is, 7 to 10 homicides occurring within one mile of each other – in eight of the City’s 59 community districts. Five of those community districts are located in the Bronx (Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9); and three are located in Brooklyn (Community Districts 3, 8 and 16). These community districts account for more than a quarter (27%, 123 of 458) of the family-related homicides that occurred in New York City between 2004 and 2010.

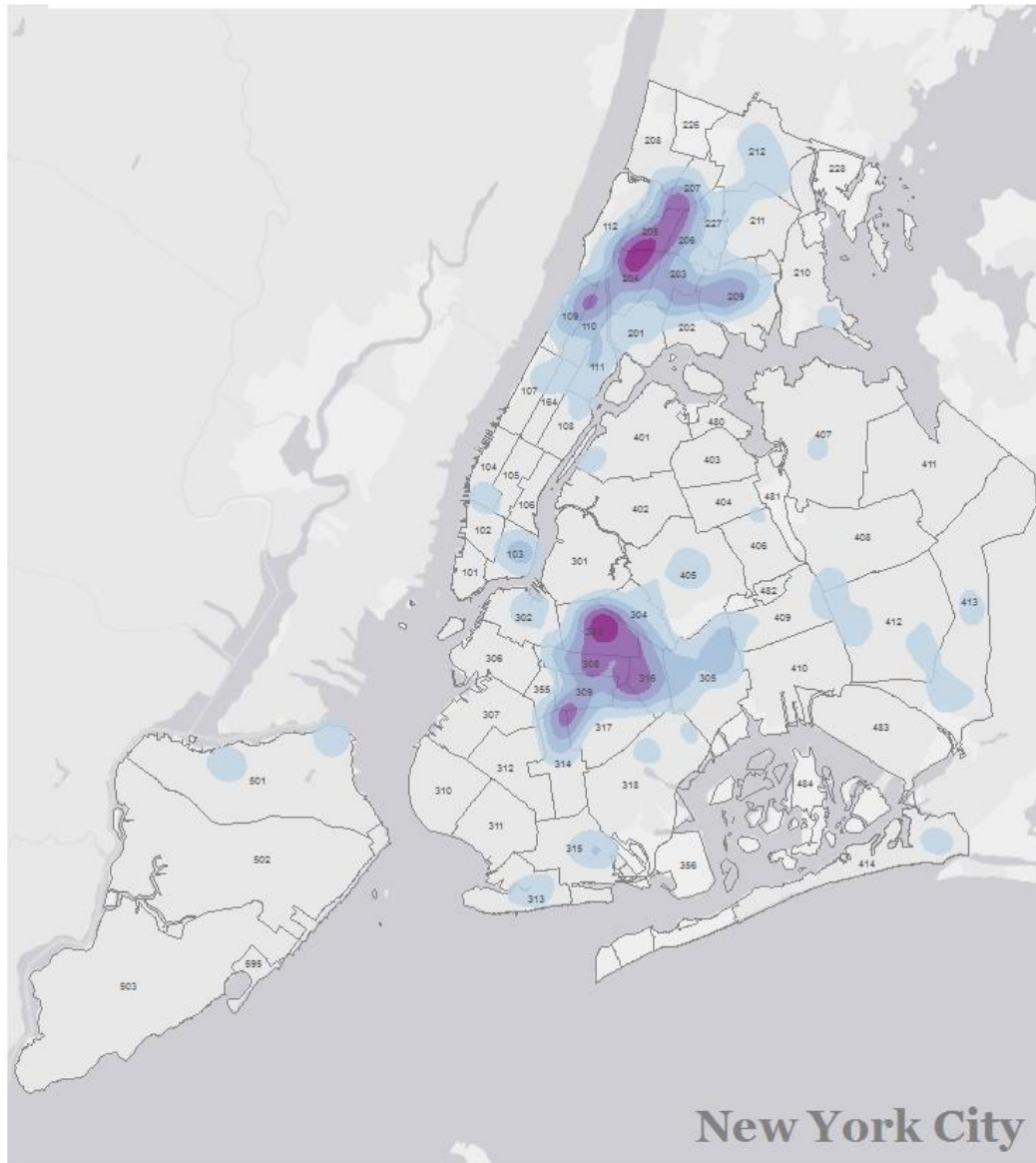
Table 10: 2004-2010 Family-Related Homicides in Bronx and Brooklyn Community Assessment Area

Community Assessment Areas	Number of Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Borough Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Family-Related Homicides
Brooklyn (CDs 3, 8 and 16)	48	30%	10%
Bronx (CDs 4, 5, 6, 9)	75	63%	16%

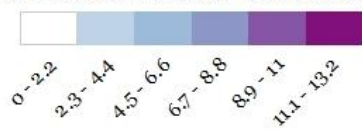
While poor socioeconomic circumstances, such as low income, unemployment and low educational attainment are risk factors for domestic violence homicides,³⁷ a review of neighborhood-level socioeconomic indicators (poverty, median household income, unemployment, and education attainment) indicated a need to identify additional factors contributing to higher concentrations of family-related homicides in these neighborhoods.

Thus, in 2008 and 2009, the FRC, through its participating City agencies and representative contract agencies, conducted a community assessment in the targeted Bronx community districts (Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9) to gain a better understanding of the concentration of family-related homicides in these neighborhoods. The FRC completed the Bronx community assessment, a multi-method project to identify any community-level factors that may be associated with the high concentration of family-related homicides in the targeted community districts. The community assessment found that: (1) community members, including victims, are unclear about which behaviors constitute domestic violence; (2) victims turn first to friends and family members for assistance and have limited awareness of specific domestic violence services other than police services, and; (3) challenges exist in linking victims to existing services and keeping them engaged in services. The results of this assessment were presented in last year’s annual report.

Map 1: Family-Related Homicides 2004-2010: Victim Residence per Mile by Community District
Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area



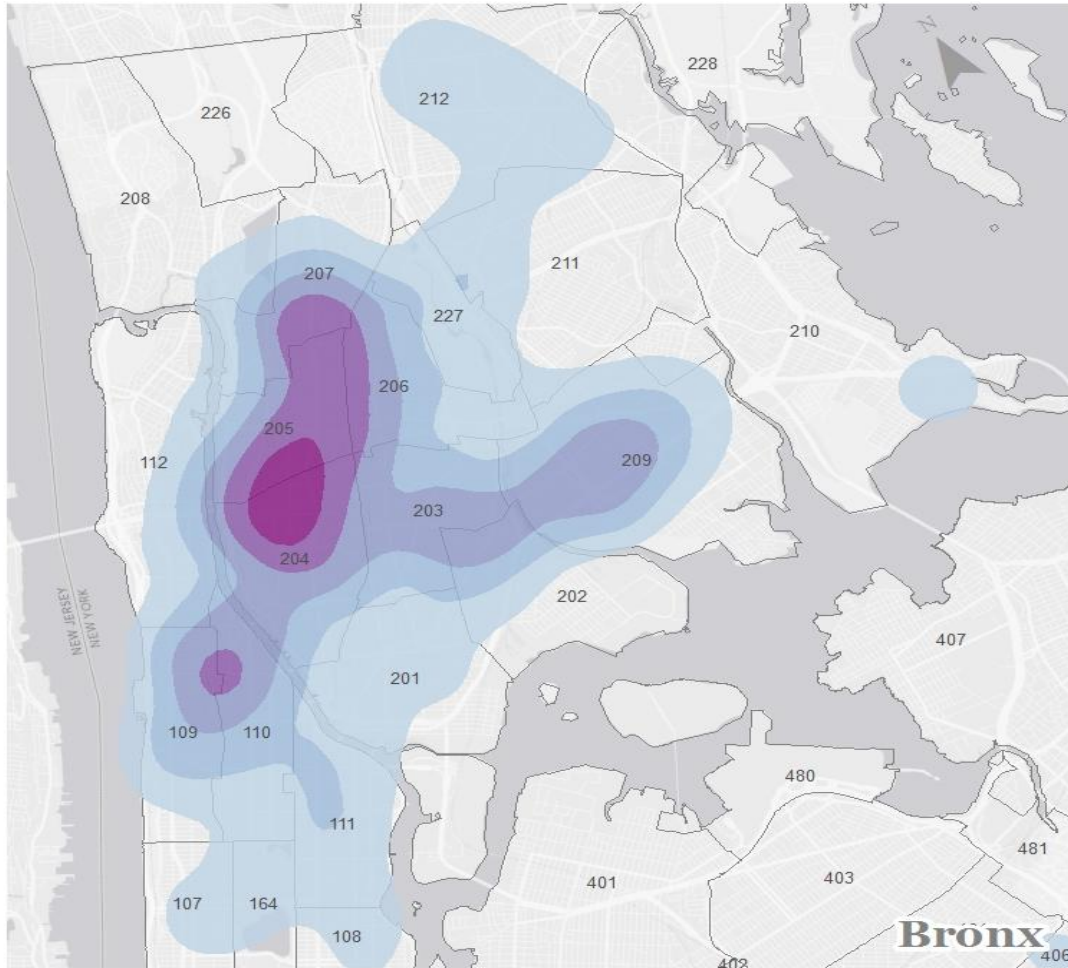
Number of Deaths within 1 Mile



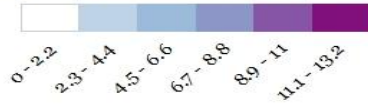
0 2.5 5 10 Miles



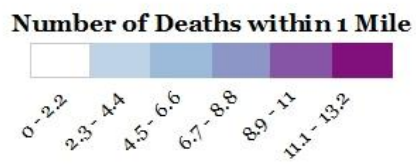
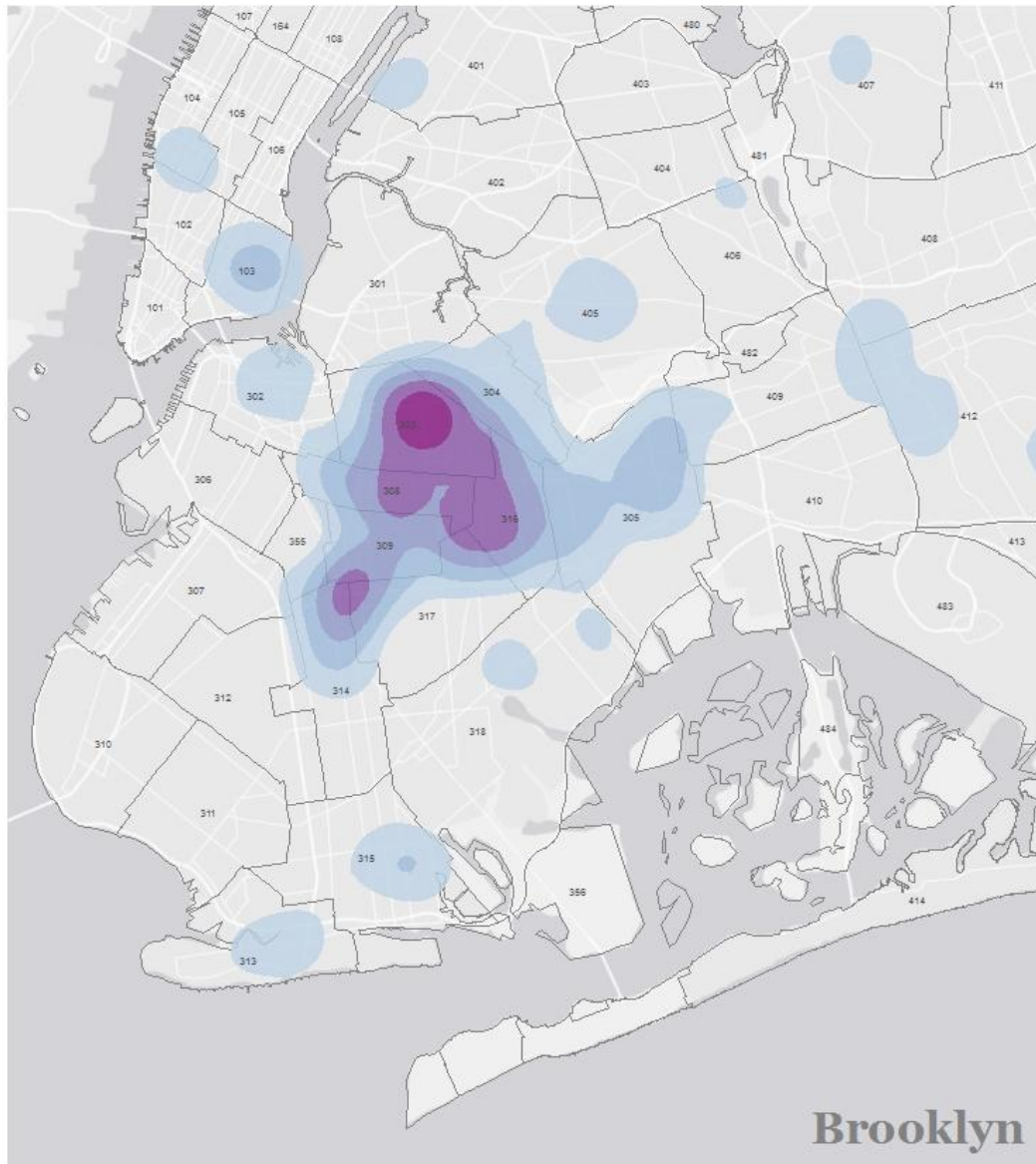
**Map 2: Family-Related Homicides 2004-2010: Victim Residence per Mile - Bronx
Community Districts**
Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area



Number of Deaths within 1 Mile



**Map 3: Family-Related Homicides 2004-2010: Victim Residence per Mile - Brooklyn
Community Districts**
Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area



In 2011, we launched a community assessment in the target community districts in Brooklyn. The purpose was three-fold, namely, to identify: (1) problems and successes with service delivery and receipt; (2) met and unmet needs among community members; and (3) strategies used to mitigate problems and to achieve successes. Components of a community assessment used in the Bronx project will be included in the Brooklyn project, including a review of secondary data sources (such as Census data) and information collection through in-depth individual meetings, small group meetings, and focus groups, as well as a population-level survey.

A survey of community attitudes about domestic violence and knowledge of community resources is being conducted in the target area in Brooklyn. From May 2011 through November 2011, 225 surveys were completed, with a diverse response from our convenience sample. With a target sample size of 300 respondents, we aim to continue the street-level intercept survey through the first half of 2012.

We continue to meet with community representatives, organizations and service providers to discuss the objectives of the assessment and begin to assess the community perception of domestic violence in their community and the availability of services for victims. To date, we have not conducted a sufficient number of meetings to report back on any information collected from these meetings.

Action Steps

During 2011, the Committee has continued to work to increase knowledge of domestic violence services across the City and encourage help-seeking and reduce barriers for victims to be linked to existing domestic violence services. The following steps have been taken and will continue based on the findings of the community assessment:

Knowledge and Help-seeking

Public Education and Outreach

Domestic Violence Public Education Initiative

In August 2011, OCDV, in coordination with other members of the FRC, launched an initiative to coordinate outreach among City agencies and community organizations in neighborhoods experiencing a high level of domestic violence and in communities where family-related homicides recently occurred. The initial outreach was conducted in the Brighton Beach, Coney Island and Sheepshead Bay communities in Brooklyn, and additional outreach was conducted in the Concourse and Fordham communities in the Bronx. In Brooklyn, the Commissioners of the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and Mayor's Office for Immigrant Affairs held an information session with local community media outlets to raise awareness around the occurrence of domestic violence and services available in the community. Public education materials were distributed at local subway stations, and a Russian language domestic violence prevention message was broadcast on a local Russian language radio station. Public education material was distributed at key transit locations in the Bronx.

Domestic Violence Awareness Everyday Campaign

The *Domestic Violence Awareness Everyday Campaign*, which was launched in June 2010 to increase communities' knowledge about domestic violence and how and where to get help, was expanded to an additional 200 retail locations across the City, including over 100 in Brooklyn and the Bronx. Materials include posters and palm cards that emphasize that everyone has a right to a healthy relationship and highlight the full range of behaviors that constitute domestic violence. The campaign was displayed at various retail locations, including Petland Discount, CVS and C-Town Supermarkets locations. All participating businesses have done this at no cost to the City. To date, the campaign has been displayed at over 1,000 business locations citywide.

OCDV is working with the Bronx Chamber of Commerce to continue to expand this public education campaign. OCDV is targeting an additional 100 various business locations to display the public education material in the Bronx over the next 12 months.

Radio Public Service Announcements

OCDV partnered with the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities and NYC Media to produce a radio public service announcement (PSA) campaign addressing the issue of domestic violence in the community of people with disabilities. The PSA radio ads have been running on Radio NYC (WNYE 91.5 FM) and NYC Drive TV Drive Channel (NYC Drive - Radio NYC heard over live traffic video feeds).

A Spanish-language radio PSA was also re-launched with the support of 93.1 FM Amor and Mega 97.9 FM. Commissioner Jimenez of OCDV and Grammy award-winning musicians Gilberto Santa Rosa and Juan Luis Guerra recorded announcements to reach out to Spanish-speaking domestic violence survivors.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In each of the last three years, OCDV has partnered with Alpha 1 Marketing, the parent company of C-Town, Bravo and AIM Supermarkets, to place the public education message on the back page of a weekly circular during a two-week period in October (Domestic Violence Awareness Month). The circular was then distributed in 123 C-Town, Bravo and AIM supermarkets. In addition, a domestic violence prevention bag stuffer was placed in each customer's order in Bronx and Brooklyn community assessment areas. This outreach was also conducted during April 2011. Alpha 1 Marketing has done this at no cost to the City.

Informational Meetings

The FRC coordinator, and staff at the Family Justice Center, Bronx, held an informational meeting at the Center to provide community stakeholders with an overview of the findings of the community assessment and to build community participation in educational activities. The meeting was attended by approximately 60 individuals representing domestic violence service providers, community board leaders, community-based organizations, and health care professionals.

Challenges Linking Victims to Existing Services

Training and Skill Building

Training with City Agencies

The FRC has continued its commitment to developing an environment that facilitates disclosure by domestic violence victims to City agencies and nonprofit organizations. Over the last year, NYCHA and OCDV partnered to develop a domestic violence awareness and referral training program for NYCHA employees based in Brooklyn. The training covered the following topics: (1) prevalence of domestic violence in New York City; (2) power and control dynamics of domestic violence; (3) potential barriers to leaving a domestic violence situation; (4) intersection of mental health, physical disabilities, substance abuse and immigration issues which arise in domestic violence cases; (5) identification of potential signs of domestic violence; and (6) domestic violence resources in New York City. A total of 175 NYCHA employees were trained, and this program will be expanded to Queens over the next year.

Last year, OCDV collaborated with DHS to develop a domestic violence awareness and referral training program for supervisory employees of the DHS Police unit. A total of 50 DHS Police received this training.

To date, more than 1,100 NYCHA and DHS employees have been trained through this program.

Medical Provider Training

During August 2011, OCDV and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) provided training entitled “Domestic Violence Screening and Referral: Training for Medical Providers” to approximately 50 medical providers and staff at the Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center in Brooklyn. The training offered medical providers skill-building tools for responding to domestic violence issues during health care encounters. Additional outreach and training is planned for the Brooklyn target areas over the next year.

Brooklyn Community Assessment

As noted above, OCDV will continue the Brooklyn community assessment over the next year, aiming to complete the assessment by the end of 2012. Specifically, during the next year we will: (1) complete the community-based survey with 300 reached through convenience sampling; (2) conduct small group meetings with community-based organizations; and (3) conduct small group and one-on-one meetings with domestic violence survivors. Through these meetings we hope to obtain information in two general areas: (1) the community’s knowledge of the occurrence of domestic violence, the existence of services in the community and pathways to assistance; and (2) the challenges of linking victims to existing domestic violence services. The findings from the Brooklyn assessment will inform additional community outreach, public education initiatives, and agency trainings, and other potential activities to enhance community knowledge and help-seeking behaviors and reduce the challenges linking victims to essential services.

Key Findings and Activities

For this report the FRC reviewed data on family-related homicides that occurred from 2002 through 2010, and victim and perpetrator contact with City agencies and contract organizations for family-related homicides that occurred from 2005 through 2009.³⁸

The definition of family-related homicides was expanded in 2009 to include homicides by boyfriends/girlfriends. Fourteen of the 77 family-related homicides recorded in 2010 were included as a result of the new expanded definition. Change in homicide counts over time must be viewed in light of that definitional change.

- 1. In 2002, there were 76 family-related homicides; in 2010, there were 77 family-related homicides. Family-related homicides as defined in years prior to 2009 decreased notably, from 76 in 2002 to 63 in 2010. Between 2002 and 2010, the number of family-related homicides fluctuated.**
- 2. Intimate partner homicides³⁹ declined by 17% from 41 in 2002 to 34 in 2010, with 14 of those recorded in 2010 attributable to the new definition. Comparing intimate partner homicides as defined before 2009, the decrease was more dramatic: from 41 in 2002 to 20 in 2010. Furthermore, the data suggest a steady level of decline in the intervening years.**

The FRC examined circumstances of family-related homicides, including weapon use and perpetrator characteristics. Data show:

- 1. From 2002 through 2010, knives and other cutting instruments were the most commonly used category of weapons, accounting for 35% (215 of 621) of family-related homicides. During that same time period, firearms accounted for 24% (151 of 621) of family-related homicides.**
- 2. From 2002 through 2010, 49% (318 of 651) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were the intimate partner of their victims.**
- 3. Since 2002, 10% of family-related homicide victims were 60 years of age and older, and one-third (20 of 60) of these victims died at the hands of their son.**
- 4. In 2010 there were 25 child victims of family-related homicides compared to 8 in 2009.⁴⁰ Since 2002, children have accounted for 25% (157 of 621) of the family-related homicide victims. In 2010, the percentage of homicides involving a child victim increased to 32% (25 of 77).**

The FRC examined the locations of family-related homicides and mapped them to identify vulnerable communities. Data from 2004 to 2010 show the following:

- 1. From 2004 through 2010, 40% (184 of 458) of family-related homicides occurred in neighborhoods with the lowest SES. In contrast, neighborhoods with high SES accounted for 19% (88 of 458) of the family-related homicides during these years.⁴¹**
- 2. Since 2004, 27% (123 of 458) of the family-related homicides were concentrated in a small number of community districts: five Bronx community districts (4, 5, 6, 7, and 9) and three Brooklyn community districts (3, 8 and 16).**

Given the high concentration of family-related homicides in the above-mentioned Bronx and Brooklyn community districts, the FRC initiated a community assessment in these neighborhoods. The FRC has completed the community assessment in the Bronx, and the results of this assessment were presented in last year's annual report. During the past year, the following actions were taken in the Bronx to increase the community's understanding of domestic violence and ways to seek help, and to maximize the linkages between victims and existing domestic violence services.

- 1. Conducting an informational meeting at the New York City Family Justice Center, Bronx, to deliver the community assessment findings to the community. The meeting was attended by almost 60 individuals representing domestic violence service providers, community board leaders, community-based organizations, and health care professionals.**
- 2. Launching the Domestic Violence Public Education Response Initiative to coordinate targeted outreach among City agencies and community organizations in neighborhoods experiencing a high level of domestic violence or experiencing recent family-related homicides.**
- 3. Expanding the “*Domestic Violence Awareness Everyday Campaign*” to reach 80 retail locations (e.g., Petland Discount, CVS and C-Town Supermarkets) in the Bronx and an additional 200 locations throughout the City.**

The Brooklyn community assessment was launched in February 2011, with the same methods used in the Bronx assessment. We continue to meet with community representatives, organizations and service providers to discuss the objectives of the assessment and to administer surveys investigating community perception of domestic violence in their community and the availability of services for victims.

- 1. A survey of community attitudes about domestic violence and knowledge of community resources available is being conducted in the target area Brooklyn. As of December 2011, 225 community members have participated in this street-intercept survey. By July 2012, we aim to reach the targeted sample size of 300 community members.**
- 2. In August 2011, the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene provided training to 50 Brooklyn medical providers and their staff to strengthen capacity to screen, identify and refer domestic violence cases during health care encounters.**

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Appendix A: Family-Related Homicides Data by Year (2002-2010)

Years/Characteristics	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Total Family-Related Homicides	76	74	67	68	73	52	71	63	77	621
Victims by Gender										
Child Female	8	11	5	4	18	9	6	1	16	78
Adult Female	43	40	37	38	32	25	30	34	36	315
Child Male	9	6	8	13	9	8	10	7	9	79
Adult Male	16	17	17	13	14	10	25	21	16	149
Victims by Age										
<1	8	9	7	6	5	11	8	4	8	66
1-10	8	8	5	9	17	5	5	3	13	73
11-17	1	0	1	2	5	1	3	1	4	18
18-24	8	11	8	11	3	2	7	6	4	60
25-45	37	28	31	25	27	20	31	25	25	249
46-59	5	10	8	12	7	7	10	21	15	95
60+	9	8	7	3	9	6	7	3	8	60
Victims by Race										
Black	41	38	32	28	30	26	29	29	49	302
Hispanic	25	18	20	22	35	10	24	21	12	187
White	3	10	9	9	6	12	15	8	12	84
Asian/Indian	7	7	5	9	2	4	3	5	4	46
Other/Unknown	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Perpetrators by Age										
<1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11-17	2	2	1	1	7	3	2	0	2	20
18-24	14	17	13	12	12	13	14	11	14	120
25-45	52	43	44	43	49	31	48	37	43	390
46-59	5	10	4	11	10	8	13	11	14	86
60+	3	4	4	3	1	2	3	6	2	28
Unknown	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	7
Perpetrator to Victim Relationship										
<i>Intimate Partner</i>										
Spouse/Live-In	17	14	19	16	9	13	16	11	9	124
Common Law	17	14	15	14	11	8	10	6	4	99
Child in Common	7	7	7	6	4	2	9	9	6	57
Boyfriends/Girlfriend	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16	14	30
Same Sex	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	1	1	8
<i>Other</i>										
Parent	17	20	15	17	27	21	15	8	21	161
Child	8	4	6	3	11	7	7	3	9	58
Other Family	10	15	5	14	16	6	20	11	11	108
Other/Unknown	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	6

**Appendix A: Family-Related Homicides Data by Year (2002-2010)
(Continued)**

Years/Characteristics	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Total
Total Family-Related Homicides	76	74	67	68	73	52	71	63	77	621
Total Family-Related by Borough										
Brooklyn	37	28	24	19	27	18	25	19	28	225
Bronx	15	10	18	23	23	9	18	11	18	145
Manhattan	9	12	10	12	12	4	7	10	8	84
Queens	15	23	13	10	8	15	18	20	15	137
Staten Island	0	1	2	4	3	6	3	3	8	30
Homicide Method/Weapon										
Cutting/Knife	26	19	23	19	31	6	32	29	30	215
Firearm	22	16	20	21	13	19	13	18	9	151
Blunt Trauma	11	9	9	10	11	16	13	9	18	106
Asphyxiation/Strangulation	9	13	9	10	6	5	6	5	11	74
Other/Known	8	17	6	8	12	6	7	2	9	75

Appendix B: Comparing Family-Related Homicides 2009-2010 under Previous and Expanded Definitions

	Previous Family-Related Definition	Expanded Family-Related Definition
Total Family-Related Homicides	110	140
Victims by Gender		
Child Female	17	17
Child Male	15	15
Adult Female	45	70
Adult Male	33	38
Total:	110	140
Victim by Age		
<1	12	12
1-10	16	16
11-17	5	5
18-24	6	10
25-45	31	50
46-59	29	36
60+	11	11
Total:	110	140
Victim by Race		
Black	64	78
Hispanic	24	33
White	15	20
Asian/Indian	7	9
Unknown	0	0
Total:	110	140
Borough of Occurrence		
Brooklyn	33	47
Bronx	23	29
Queens	28	35
Manhattan	15	18
Staten Island	11	11
Total	110	140
Weapon/Method		
Cutting/Knife	48	59
Firearm	20	27
Blunt Trauma	19	27
Asphyxiation/Strangulation	12	16
Other/Unknown	11	11
Total	110	140
By Relationship		
<i>Intimate Partner</i>		
Spouse/Live-In/Common Law	30	30
Child in Common	15	15
Same Sex	2	2
Boyfriends/Girlfriend	0	30
Total	47	77
<i>Other Family Relations</i>		
Parent	29	29
Child	12	12
Other Family Members	22	22
Unknown	3	3
Total	66	66

**Appendix C: Family-Related Homicides (2004-2010) in New York City by Community District
Ranked by SES Index**

Community District			SES Index Rankings				
Borough	District #	# Homicides	Education Attainment	Poverty	Median Income	Unemployment	SES Composite
Bronx	1&2	9	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	3&6	25	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	4	16	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	5	19	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Bronx	7	11	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Brooklyn	16	18	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Manhattan	11	9	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Manhattan	12	5	VL	VL	VL	VL	VL
Brooklyn	3	20	L	VL	VL	VL	VL
Manhattan	10	9	L	VL	VL	VL	VL
Brooklyn	4	4	VL	VL	VL	M	VL
Brooklyn	5	22	L	VL	VL	L	VL
Bronx	9	17	VL	L	L	L	VL
Bronx	11	8	L	L	L	L	VL
Brooklyn	8	10	M	L	L	VL	VL
Brooklyn	9	13	M	L	L	VL	VL
Brooklyn	12	4	L	L	VL	M	VL
Queens	4	4	VL	L	L	L	VL
Queens	1	4	L	L	M	L	L
Bronx	12	11	L	M	M	VL	L
Brooklyn	1	1	L	VL	L	H	L
Brooklyn	7	4	VL	L	L	H	L
Brooklyn	13	6	M	L	VL	M	L
Manhattan	9	10	L	L	L	M	L
Brooklyn	11	6	VL	M	L	H	L
Brooklyn	17	7	M	M	L	L	L
Manhattan	3	6	H	L	VL	L	L
Queens	3	3	VL	M	M	M	L
Queens	12	17	L	M	H	VL	L
Queens	14	8	L	L	M	M	L
Queens	7	6	M	M	M	L	M
Bronx	8	5	H	M	M	L	M
Bronx	10	7	M	H	M	L	M
Brooklyn	2	6	M	L	H	M	M
Brooklyn	10	1	M	M	M	M	M
Brooklyn	14	9	M	L	H	M	M
Queens	9	5	H	M	H	VL	M
Queens	10	5	L	H	M	L	M
Queens	13	16	M	H	L	M	M
Brooklyn	15	10	M	M	L	H	M
Queens	2	5	H	M	M	M	M
Queens	8	5	M	H	M	M	M
Brooklyn	6	4	M	M	H	H	H
Manhattan	4&5	6	H	M	H	M	H
Queens	5	9	L	H	H	H	H
Staten Isl.	1	15	H	M	J	M	H
Brooklyn	18	11	M	H	H	H	H
Queens	6	3	H	H	M	H	H
Queens	11	0	H	H	M	H	H
Manhattan	1&2	3	H	H	H	H	H
Manhattan	6	1	H	H	H	H	H
Manhattan	7	5	H	H	H	H	H
Manhattan	8	3	H	H	H	H	H
Staten Isl.	2	7	H	H	H	H	H
Staten Isl.	3	6	H	H	H	H	H

Endnotes

¹ For the purposes of this report, “family-related homicide” is defined as a homicide involving persons related by marriage; persons related by blood; persons legally married to one another; persons formerly married to one another regardless of whether or not they still reside in the same household; persons who have a child in common regardless of whether or not such persons have been married or have lived together at any time; persons not legally married, but living together in a family-type relationship; persons not legally married, but who have formerly lived together in a family-style relationship; and persons who are not related by blood or marriage and who are or have been in an intimate relationship regardless of whether such persons have lived together at any time. This definition includes same sex partners.

² “Intimate partner homicides” is defined as all relationships in endnote 1 *supra* except other family members, such as parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, children and grandparents.

³ Six of the 25 child victims of family-related homicides in 2010 were killed in two multiple homicides. Four children were murdered by their mother in Staten Island, while two children were murdered by their step-father in Brooklyn.

⁴ Each community district, based on the New York City Department of City Planning, 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economic Characteristics, was assigned a rank using quartiles to create the socioeconomic index. Each set of the four indicators ((1) the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level; (2) the percentage of residents age 25 and older who has not graduated from high school; (3) the median household income; and (4) the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed) was ranked from one to four based on the quartiles (from high to low). The lower numbers represent lower SES and the higher numbers represent higher SES. These rankings add together to create a SES index for the four indicators. The New York City Department of City Planning reports American Community Survey results by Community District. However, the Census Bureau requires that no American Community Survey area have less than 100,000 people; to meet this requirement, several of the City’s 59 Community Districts are combined for reporting purposes into 55 Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA). Bronx Community District 1 and 2 are combined into one PUMA, as are Bronx Community Districts 3 and 6, Manhattan Community Districts 1 and 2, and Manhattan Community Districts 4 and 5.

⁵ Local Law Number 61 of 2005, Section 2.

⁶ The New York City Fatality Review Committee Annual Reports for 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 can be obtained through the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence website at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/ocdv/html/publications/publications.shtml>.

⁷ Local Law Number 61 of 2005, Section 5. For a definition of “family-related” homicides see endnote 1.

⁸ Both the number of total citywide homicides and homicides designated as family-related homicides were obtained from the NYPD. In compiling annual figures for family-related homicides, the NYPD counts the actual family-related homicides that occurred during that year and any other homicides that have been reclassified as “family-related” homicides from previous years. The NYPD reclassifies homicides as family-related because, on occasion, it is not immediately known to the NYPD that the perpetrator was a person who falls within the definition of “family-related.” Since the FRC is charged with reviewing access by victims to services, the FRC chose to review data on homicides that actually occurred during calendar years 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010.

⁹ Nonprofit agencies contracting with the Human Resources Administration (HRA) to provide domestic violence services include: (1) Anti Violence Project, (2) Barrier Free Living, (3) Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families, (4) FECS Health and Human Services System, (5) HELP Social Services, (6) Jewish Board of Family and Children’s Services, (7) New York Asian Women’s Center, (8) Queens Legal Services Corporation, (9) Safe Horizon, (10) Sanctuary for Families, (11) Seamen’s Society for Children and Families, (12) Urban Justice Center, Legal Services, and (13) Violence Intervention Program.

¹⁰ ACS did not provide the time frame during which the contact occurred relative to the homicide for 2004 through 2008 cases. This information was provided for the 2009 cases.

¹¹ The Bronx community survey received Department of Homeless Services Institutional Review Board approval in April 2009, and the Brooklyn Community survey received approval in March 2011.

¹² Burke, J. O’Campo, P. and Peak, G., *Neighborhood Influence and Intimate Partner Violence: Does Geographic Setting Matter*, Journal of Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine, Vol. 83 (2): 182-194 (March 2006); O’Campo P., Gielen A.C., Faden R.R., Xue X., Kass N., Wang M.C., *Violence by Male Partners Against Women During the Childbearing Years: A Contextual Analysis*, American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 85(8): 1092-1097 (August 1995); O’Campo, P. Burke, J., Peak, G., McDonnell, K. and Gielen, A., *Uncovering Neighborhood Influence on Intimate Partner Violence Using Concept Mapping*, Journal of Epidemiol Community Health, Vol. 59: 603-608 (2005) and Miles-Doan, R., *Violence Between Spouses and Intimates: Does Neighborhood Context Matter?*, Social Forces, December 1, 1998.

¹³ “Intimate partner homicides” is defined as all relationships in endnote, 1 *supra*, except other family members, such as parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, children and grandparents.

¹⁴ New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table PL-P2A NYC: Total Population by Mutually Exclusive Race and Hispanic Origin New York City and Boroughs, 1990 to 2010. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/census2010/t_pl_p2a_nyc.pdf http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_demo_06to08_acs.pdf

¹⁵ Ibid.

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- ¹⁶ New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table PL-P1 NYC: Total Population New York City and Boroughs, 2000 and 2010.
- ¹⁷ *New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee: Annual Report 2007*, New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (December 2007).
- ¹⁸ New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table SF1-P3 NYC: Total Population 60 Years of Age and Over by Selected Age Groups, New York City and Boroughs 2010.
- ¹⁹ *See*, endnote 3.
- ²⁰ *See*, endnote 3.
- ²¹ Between 2002 and 2010, there were 651 perpetrators involved in 621 family-related homicides.
- ²² New York City Planning, 2010 Census, Table SF1-P6 NYC: Total Population by Single Years of Age and Sex New York City and Boroughs, 2010.
- ²³ 2005 is the first year for which agency contact data is available.
- ²⁴ For family-related homicides between 2005 and 2008, ACS could not be included because it did not provide information regarding contact that occurred within one year of the homicide and was therefore excluded from the time analysis. ACS provided case specific information for the 2009 family-related homicides and for those cases ACS had contact with 12 families within one year of the homicide.
- ²⁵ *See*, endnote 12, *supra*.
- ²⁶ The Department of City Planning reports American Community Survey results by Community Districts. However, the Census Bureau requires that no American Community Survey area have less than 100,000 people; to meet this requirement, several of the City's 59 Community Districts are combined for reporting purposes into 55 Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMA). Bronx Community District 1 and 2 are combined into one PUMA, as are Bronx Community Districts 3 and 6, Manhattan Community Districts 1 and 2, and Manhattan Community Districts 4 and 5.
- ²⁷ New York City Planning, 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics: Poverty (All People). *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_07to09_acs.pdf.
- ²⁸ Household income includes the income of the householder and all other people 15 years and older in the household, whether or not they are related to the householder. The median household income is the point that divides the household income distribution into halves, one half with income above the median and the other with income below the median. The median is based on the income distribution of all households, including those with no income. For further information, see, *Income, Earnings, and Poverty Data from the 2007 American Community Survey*, United States Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. (August 2008).
- ²⁹ New York City Planning, 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics: Median Household Income. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_07to09_acs.pdf.
- ³⁰ According to the United States Census, "unemployed" includes all civilians 16 years old and over if they were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work." Information was obtained from the New York City Department of City Planning.
- ³¹ New York City Planning, 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Citywide, Selected Economics Characteristics: Employment Status. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_07to09_acs.pdf.
- ³² New York City Planning, 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Selected Economics Characteristics: Education Attainment. http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_07to09_acs.pdf.
- ³³ New York City Planning, 2007-2009 American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, Citywide, Selected Economics Characteristics: Education Attainment. *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/pdf/census/boro_econ_07to09_acs.pdf.
- ³⁴ This analysis excluded thirteen family-related homicides recorded by the New York City Police Department from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2010. Two cases were excluded because the victims' address was not known; seven other cases were excluded because the victims' residences were not within New York City; and four cases were excluded because they occurred in previous years but were reclassified this year by the NYPD as family-related homicides.
- ³⁵ *Ibid*.
- ³⁶ Locations of the family-related fatalities were geocoded using the NYC Department of City Planning's Geosupport software. Point locations were assigned based on the victim's home address. The point locations for each fatality were then aggregated up into a raster density surface using ArcGIS 9.2 and the Spatial Analyst extension. The Spatial Analyst extension calculates a magnitude per unit area based on the concentration of the point locations. Hawth's Analysis Tools 3.17 was then used to create the contours from the density surface. In order to simplify the display of the density surface, family-related homicides occurring in the 0 - 1 break are not symbolized on the maps.
- ³⁷ *See*, endnote 26.
- ³⁸ *See*, endnote 1.
- ³⁹ *See*, endnote 2.
- ⁴⁰ *See*, endnote 3.
- ⁴¹ *See*, endnote 4.

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