

**FAMILY &
INTIMATE
PARTNER
VIOLENCE
HOMICIDE**

VIRGINIA 2002

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER
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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

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INTRODUCTION

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner initiated surveillance of Family and Intimate Partner Violence Homicide in 1999. The surveillance system is designed to provide accurate, timely and complete information about intimate partner homicide, intimate partner associated homicide, child homicide by caretaker, elder homicide by caretaker and other homicides between family members. Unlike nonfatal injuries, deaths due to intimate partner and family violence can be measured and tracked over time with precision. The data in this report are meant to be used for prevention and public health planning, and policy development and change.

The data that follow include homicides of Virginia residents and non-residents who were fatally injured in the State, and exclude death by legal execution. As a result, homicide data presented in this report differs slightly from mortality data published by the Center for Health Statistics.

The report begins with an overview of all homicide and intimate partner homicide in Virginia in 2002, followed by more limited information on child homicide by caretaker and homicide-suicide events. The latter part of the report consists of summary tables providing 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 data for all homicide, intimate partner homicide, child homicide by caretaker, other family homicide, homicide-suicide and other homicide in Virginia.

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this report, homicide victims have been placed into one of six groups based on the relationship between the victim and alleged offender. The following groups were developed for analysis purposes and are treated as mutually exclusive in the report's tables and graphs.

- **Intimate Partner** includes the following relationships between victim and alleged offender, regardless of whether the individual lived with the alleged offender: spouse (married or separated); former spouse; current or former girlfriend, boyfriend or same-sex partner; dating partners; and perceived relationship (one of the parties has pursued a relationship or perceived that they had a relationship with the other where at least one of the following was historically noted: rejection, threats, harassment, stalking, possessiveness or protective order).
- **Intimate Partner Associated** includes victims who died as a result of a violent relationship between intimate partners. Victims can include alleged abusers killed by law enforcement or others who intervened; or friends, co-workers, neighbors and relatives caught in the crossfire of an intimate partner relationship.
- **Child (by Caretaker)** includes victims under the age of 18 killed by a caretaker.
- **Elder (by Caretaker)** includes victims 55 and older killed by a caretaker.
- **Other Family** includes all other homicide victims related by blood or marriage to the alleged offender, such as [step] siblings, [step] parents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, grandparents, grandchildren, in-laws and adult children.
- **Other Homicide** includes all other homicide victims who do not fall into one of the above groups.

Adult refers to individuals 18 and older.

Fatal Agency refers to the means of injury which led to the death of the victim: firearm (handgun, rifle or shotgun), instrument (blunt or sharp), personal weapon (hand, foot, head, leg, arm, or other parts of the body) and other means (motor vehicle, poison, fire, strangulation, drowning or smothering).

HOMICIDE

Table 1. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 2002

	No.	%	Rate*
SEX			
Female	101	23.8	2.8
Male	324	76.2	9.3
RACE/ETHNICITY			
White	142	33.4	2.9
Black	262	61.7	19.0
Hispanic	14	3.3	4.2
Other	7	1.6	1.7
AGE			
0-4	20	4.7	4.3
5-14	9	2.1	0.9
15-24	121	28.5	12.5
25-34	116	27.3	11.2
35-44	81	19.1	6.7
45-54	38	8.9	3.8
55-64	15	3.5	2.4
>64	25	5.9	3.2
FATAL AGENCY			
Firearm	309	72.7	--
Sharp Instrument	30	7.1	--
Blunt Instrument	27	6.4	--
Personal Weapon	18	4.2	--
Strangulation	23	5.4	--
Other	18	4.2	--
OCME DISTRICT			
Central	175	41.2	9.4
Northern	49	11.5	2.3
Tidewater	106	24.9	7.0
Western	95	22.4	6.1
TYPE OF HOMICIDE			
Intimate Partner	63	14.8	1.2
Intimate Partner Associated	20	4.7	0.3
Child by Caretaker	24	5.6	1.4
Elder by Caretaker	1	0.2	0.1
Other Family	16	3.8	0.2
Other Homicide	301	70.9	4.3
TOTAL	425	100	6.0

*Rates were calculated using 2000 Census figures. Source: United States Bureau of the Census, *2000 Census of Population and Housing*. Prepared by the University of Virginia's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service. Rates for this report are calculated per 100,000 persons in each specified population (e.g. female, male, White, Black). According to the 2000 Census, Virginia's total population in 2000 was 7,078,515.

HOMICIDE ~ CONTINUED

In 2002, there were 425 *homicides* in Virginia. Looking at all homicides, we find:

- 3 of every 4 victims were male.
- A firearm was used in 72.7% of homicides.
- Blacks were killed about four-and-a-half times the rate of Hispanics and about six-and-a-half times the rate of Whites (19 per 100,000 compared to 4.2 for Hispanics and 2.9 for Whites).
- 15 – 24-year-olds had the highest homicide rate at 12.5 per 100,000, followed closely by 25—34-year-olds at a rate of 11.2.
- The OCME Central District (which includes the City of Richmond) had the highest homicide rate (9.4 per 100,000). The Northern District (which includes suburbs of Washington, DC) had the lowest rate (2.3 per 100,000).
- 29.2% of all homicides were family or intimate partner related. This includes intimate partner homicide (63), intimate partner associated homicide (20), child and elder homicide by caretaker (24 and 1), and other family homicide (16).
- Of all adult homicide victims (381), 16.5% were killed by intimate partners.
- 54.7% (47 of 86) of all adult female homicide victims were killed by intimate partners.

Table 2. Homicide Victims in Virginia by Race and Sex: 2002

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White	41	40.6	101	31.2	142	33.4
Black	54	53.5	208	64.2	262	61.7
Other	6	5.9	15	4.6	21	4.9
Total	101	100	324	100	425	100

Table 3. Homicide Victims in Virginia by Age and Race: 2002

	White		Black		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0-4	8	5.6	12	4.6	0	0.0	20	4.7
5-14	1	0.7	6	2.3	2	9.5	9	2.1
15-24	24	16.9	91	34.7	6	28.6	121	28.5
25-34	32	22.5	76	29.0	8	38.0	116	27.3
35-44	33	23.2	45	17.2	3	14.3	81	19.1
45-54	17	12.0	20	7.6	1	4.8	38	8.9
55-64	12	8.5	2	0.8	1	4.8	15	3.5
>64	15	10.6	10	3.8	0	0.0	25	5.9
Total	142	100	262	100	21	100	425	100

Table 4. Homicide Victims in Virginia by Fatal Agency and Sex: 2002

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Firearm	56	55.5	253	78.1	309	72.7
Sharp Instrument	8	7.9	22	6.8	30	7.1
Blunt Instrument	10	9.9	17	5.2	27	6.4
Personal Weapon	5	5.0	13	4.0	18	4.2
Strangulation	16	15.8	7	2.2	23	5.4
Other	6	5.9	12	3.7	18	4.2
Total	101	100	324	100	425	100

INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE

Turning to the **63 intimate partner** homicides in Virginia in 2002:

- 3 of every 4 victims were women.
- Blacks were killed at about four-and-a-half times the rate of Whites (3.2 per 100,000 compared to 0.7).
- Almost half (47.6%) of the victims lived with the perpetrator at the time of the homicide.
- 26 (41.3%) victims were killed by their spouse.
- 14 (29.8%) victims were killed in homicide-suicide events. All of these victims were female.
- A firearm was used in 61.9% of these homicides.
- In 2002, 54 children saw, heard or found the victim of a *family or intimate partner related* homicide. This includes intimate partner homicide, intimate partner associated homicide, child and elder homicide by caretaker, and other family homicide.

Table 5. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia by Race and Sex: 2002

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White	19	40.4	9	56.2	28	44.4
Black	24	51.1	7	43.8	31	49.3
Other	4	8.5	0	0.0	4	6.3
Total	47	100	16	100	63	100

Table 6. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia by Age and Sex: 2002

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	16	34.0	2	12.5	18	28.6
25-34	9	19.1	3	18.8	12	19.0
35-44	13	27.7	8	49.9	21	33.3
45-54	4	8.5	2	12.5	6	9.5
55-64	3	6.4	0	0.0	3	4.8
>64	2	4.3	1	6.3	3	4.8
Total	47	100	16	100	63	100

Table 7. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia by Fatal Agency and Sex: 2002

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Firearm	29	61.8	10	62.5	39	61.9
Sharp Instrument	4	8.5	6	37.5	5	7.9
Blunt Instrument	5	10.6	0	0.0	10	15.9
Strangulation	8	17.0	0	0.0	8	12.7
Other	1	2.1	0	0.0	1	1.6
Total	47	100	16	100	63	100

INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE ~ CONTINUED

Figure 1. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims by OCME District, N=63

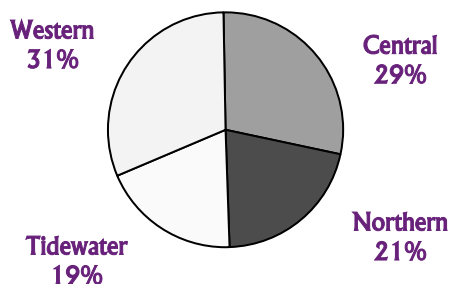
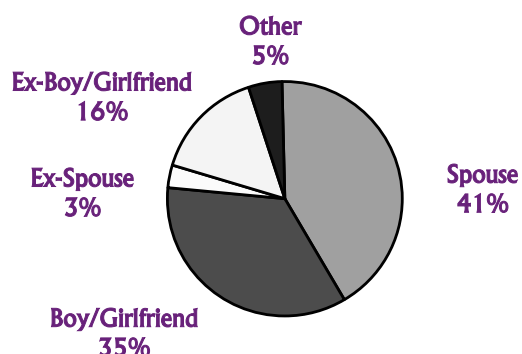


Figure 2. Victim's Relationship to Alleged Offender, Intimate Partner Homicide, N=63



The following information regarding previous violence by intimate partner homicide victims, protective orders, previous arrests, immigrant status and risk factors is gathered during the course of a death investigation. It is likely that the information available at the time of death is incomplete; and for some homicides, the medical examiner has not received records from other agencies that may have such information. Therefore, readers should interpret this information cautiously as it is probably underreported.

- 6 (9.5%) homicide victims had perpetrated physical violence toward the alleged offender. All six victims were men.
- 10 (15.9%) homicide victims had obtained protective orders against the alleged offenders. Nine of these victims were women and one was a man.
- 10 (15.9%) alleged offenders had previously been arrested for crimes against the victim.
- 2 (3.2%) victims were immigrants to the U.S.
- The following risk factors typically associated with lethal intimate partner violence were present in 43 homicides (some homicides had more than one risk factor present).

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Relationship ended or ending: 28 (2 divorces, 7 separations, 10 break-ups, 9 cases in which the victim intended to end the relationship) · Reports of previous violence: 30 · Excessive jealousy: 24 · Threats: 23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 911 calls: 10 · Property destruction: 8 · Stalking: 7 · Threat of suicide: 6 · Hostage taking: 5 · Home invasion: 3
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CHILD HOMICIDE BY CARETAKER

In 2002 there were 44 homicide victims under the age of 18. Of these children, 24 (54.5%) were killed by caretakers. Focusing on *children killed by caretakers*:

- Black children were killed at a rate 5 times that of White children (3.5 per 100,000 compared to 0.7).
- 10 (41.6%) children were less than a year old.
- The overwhelming majority (91.6%) were killed by a biological parent.
- Over half (54.1%) of child homicides by caretaker occurred in the OCME Tidewater District.
- The means of injury in nearly a third (29.2%) of child homicide by caretaker was a personal weapon such as a hand (used to punch, smack or shake) or foot (used to kick or stomp).

HOMICIDE-SUICIDE

A **homicide - suicide** event is homicide followed within one week by the perpetrator's suicide. In 2002, there were 25 homicide - suicide events in Virginia, which accounted for 31 homicide victims. Looking at these 25 events:

- 36.0% occurred in the OCME Western District.
- Almost half (45.2%) of the victims were intimate partners.
- Over a third (35.5%) of the victims were children of the perpetrator.
- 64.5% of the victims were female and 80.0% of perpetrators were male.
- A firearm was used in the majority (77.4%) of homicide-suicide events.

In addition to the 25 homicide-suicide events above, there were 9 **attempted homicide - suicide** events (either the victim or perpetrator survived).

- In 5 of these 9 cases, the suicide was completed but the homicide was not. In 4 of the cases, the homicide was completed but the suicide was not.
- All 5 cases in which the suicide was completed involved intimate partners.
- Of the 4 cases in which the homicide was completed, 2 of the homicide victims were intimate partners of the perpetrator and 2 were children of the perpetrator.

Figure 3. Homicide Victim's Relationship to Perpetrator, Homicide - Suicide Events, N=31

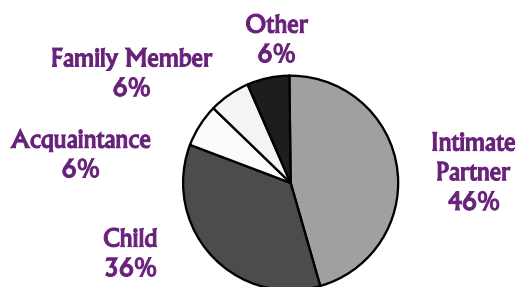


Figure 4. Homicide - Suicide Events by OCME District, N=25

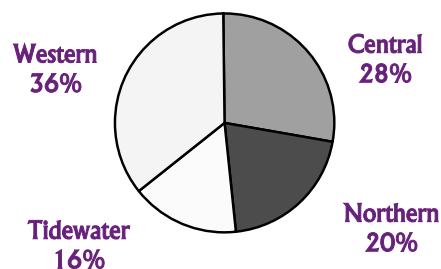


Table 8. Victims and Perpetrators of Homicide-Suicide Events in Virginia: 2002

	Victim		Perpetrator	
	No.	%	No.	%
GENDER				
Female	20	64.5	5	20.0
Male	11	35.5	20	80.0
RACE/ETHNICITY				
White	14	45.2	13	52.0
Black	12	38.7	8	32.0
Other	5	16.1	4	16.0
AGE				
0-4	5	16.1	0	
5-14	5	16.1	0	0.0
15-24	6	19.3	4	16.0
25-34	2	6.5	8	32.0
35-44	5	16.1	4	16.0
45-54	2	6.5	2	8.0
55-64	3	9.7	3	12.0
> 64	3	9.7	4	16.0
TOTAL	31	100	25	100

SUMMARY TABLES: 1999—2002

Table 9. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002

	1999			2000			2001			2002		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
SEX												
Female	117	27.0	3.2	125	27.5	3.5	112	26.2	3.1	101	23.8	2.8
Male	317	73.0	9.1	329	72.5	9.5	315	73.8	9.1	324	76.2	9.3
RACE/ETHNICITY												
White	160	36.9	3.2	166	36.6	3.2	159	37.2	3.2	142	33.4	2.9
Black	251	57.8	18.2	255	56.2	18.5	240	56.3	17.4	262	61.7	19.0
Hispanic	14	3.2	4.2	21	4.6	6.4	16	3.7	4.9	14	3.3	4.2
Other	9	2.1	2.7	12	2.6	3.6	11	2.6	2.7	7	1.6	1.7
Unknown	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--	1	0.2	--	0	0.0	--
AGE												
0-4	25	5.8	5.4	18	4.0	3.9	23	5.4	5.0	20	4.7	4.3
5-14	6	1.4	0.6	13	2.9	1.3	8	1.9	0.8	9	2.1	0.9
15-24	117	26.9	12.1	115	25.3	11.9	132	30.9	13.7	121	28.5	12.5
25-34	105	24.2	10.1	113	24.9	10.9	111	26.0	10.7	116	27.3	11.2
35-44	90	20.7	7.5	92	20.3	7.7	77	18.0	6.4	81	19.1	6.7
45-54	45	10.4	4.5	51	11.2	5.1	33	7.7	3.3	38	8.9	3.8
55-64	17	3.9	2.7	22	4.8	3.5	15	3.5	2.4	15	3.5	2.4
>64	29	6.7	3.7	30	6.6	3.8	28	6.6	3.5	25	5.9	3.2
FATAL AGENCY												
Firearm	289	66.6	--	309	68.1	--	292	68.3	--	309	72.7	--
Sharp Instrument	58	13.4	--	60	13.2	--	46	10.8	--	30	7.1	--
Blunt Instrument	23	5.3	--	24	5.3	--	24	5.6	--	27	6.4	--
Personal Weapon	29	6.7	--	26	5.7	--	34	8.0	--	18	4.2	--
Strangulation	11	2.5	--	15	3.3	--	11	2.6	--	23	5.4	--
Other	24	5.5	--	20	4.4	--	18	4.2	--	18	4.2	--
Unknown	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--	2	0.5	--	0	0.0	--
OCME DISTRICT												
Central	169	38.9	9.1	170	37.4	9.2	160	37.5	8.6	175	41.2	9.4
Northern	58	13.4	2.7	49	10.8	2.3	54	12.6	2.5	49	11.5	2.3
Tidewater	139	32.0	9.1	136	30.0	8.9	136	31.9	8.9	106	24.9	7.0
Western	68	15.7	4.3	99	21.8	6.3	77	18.0	4.9	95	22.4	6.1
TYPE OF HOMICIDE												
Intimate Partner	72	16.6	1.3	85	18.7	1.6	68	15.9	1.3	63	14.8	1.2
Intimate Partner Associated	15	3.5	0.2	14	3.1	0.2	18	4.2	0.3	20	4.7	0.3
Child by Caretaker	30	6.9	1.7	24	5.3	1.4	25	5.9	1.4	24	5.6	1.4
Elder by Caretaker	1	0.2	0.1	3	0.7	0.2	0	0.0	0.0	1	0.2	0.1
Other Family	27	6.2	0.4	22	4.8	0.3	18	4.2	0.3	16	3.8	0.2
Other Homicide	289	66.6	4.1	306	67.4	4.3	298	69.8	4.2	301	70.9	4.3
TOTAL	434	100	6.1	454	100	6.4	427	100	6.0	425	100	6.0

SUMMARY TABLES: 1999—2002

Table 10. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002

	1999			2000			2001			2002		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
SEX												
Female	53	73.6	1.9	60	70.6	2.2	55	80.9	2.0	47	74.6	1.7
Male	19	26.4	0.7	25	29.4	1.0	13	19.1	0.5	16	25.4	0.6
RACE/ETHNICITY												
White	36	50.0	0.9	51	60.0	1.3	42	61.8	1.1	28	44.4	0.7
Black	32	44.4	3.3	29	34.1	3.0	24	35.3	2.5	31	49.3	3.2
Other	4	5.6	0.8	5	5.9	1.0	2	2.9	0.4	4	6.3	0.8
AGE												
15-24	7	9.7	0.7	11	12.9	1.1	12	17.6	1.2	18	28.6	1.9
25-34	20	27.8	1.9	23	27.1	2.2	17	25.0	1.6	12	19.0	1.2
35-44	26	36.1	2.2	24	28.2	2.0	20	29.5	1.7	21	33.3	1.7
45-54	9	12.5	0.9	16	18.8	1.6	10	14.7	1.0	6	9.5	0.6
55-64	4	5.6	0.6	6	7.1	0.9	2	2.9	0.3	3	4.8	0.5
>64	6	8.3	0.8	5	5.9	0.6	7	10.3	0.9	3	4.8	0.4
FATAL AGENCY												
Firearm	42	58.3	--	51	60.0	--	45	66.2	--	39	61.9	--
Sharp Instrument	19	26.4	--	18	21.1	--	6	8.8	--	10	15.9	--
Blunt Instrument	3	4.2	--	2	2.4	--	5	7.4	--	5	7.9	--
Strangulation	5	6.9	--	4	4.7	--	6	8.8	--	8	12.7	--
Other	3	4.2	--	10	11.8	--	6	8.8	--	1	1.6	--
OCME DISTRICT												
Central	25	34.7	1.8	33	38.9	2.4	24	35.3	1.7	18	28.6	1.3
Northern	12	16.7	0.7	17	20.0	1.1	11	16.2	0.7	13	20.6	0.8
Tidewater	14	19.4	1.3	15	17.6	1.3	14	20.6	1.3	12	19.0	1.1
Western	21	29.2	1.7	20	23.5	1.6	19	27.9	1.6	20	31.8	1.6
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER												
Spouse	30	41.6	--	31	36.5	--	32	47.1	--	26	41.2	--
Ex-Spouse	2	2.8	--	5	5.9	--	1	1.5	--	2	3.2	--
Boy/Girlfriend*	29	36.1	--	40	47.0	--	23	33.8	--	22	34.9	--
Ex-Boy/Girlfriend*	8	15.3	--	7	8.2	--	12	17.6	--	10	15.9	--
Other	3	4.2	--	2	2.4	--	0	0.0	--	3	4.8	--
TOTAL	72	100	1.3	85	100	1.6	68	100	1.3	63	100	1.2

* Same-sex relationships are included. In 1999, there were 3 same-sex relationships among Boy/Girlfriends. In 2000, there were 2 same-sex relationships among Boy/Girlfriends and 2 among Ex-Boy/Girlfriends. There were no known same-sex relationships in 2001 and 2002.

SUMMARY TABLES: 1999—2002

Table 11. Child Homicide Victims Killed by Caretakers in Virginia: 1999 - 2002*

	1999			2000			2001			2002		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
SEX												
Female	16	53.3	1.9	12	50.0	1.4	4	16.0	0.5	12	50.0	1.4
Male	14	46.7	1.6	12	50.0	1.3	21	84.0	2.4	12	50.0	1.3
RACE/ETHNICITY												
White	14	46.7	1.3	9	37.5	0.8	11	44.0	1.0	8	33.3	0.7
Black	13	43.3	3.2	14	58.3	3.5	12	48.0	3.0	14	58.4	3.5
Other	3	10.0	1.3	1	4.2	0.4	2	8.0	0.9	2	8.3	0.9
AGE												
< 1	12	40.0	12.9	10	41.7	10.8	11	44.0	11.9	10	41.6	10.8
1-4	13	43.3	3.5	8	33.3	2.2	9	36.0	2.4	7	29.2	1.9
5-14	3	10.0	0.3	5	20.8	0.5	5	20.0	0.5	7	29.2	0.7
15-17	2	6.7	0.7	1	4.2	0.4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
FATAL AGENCY												
Firearm	4	13.3	--	6	25.0	--	2	8.0	--	6	25.0	--
Personal Weapon	16	53.4	--	16	66.7	--	18	72.0	--	7	29.2	--
Drowning	3	10.0	--	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--	5	20.8	--
Other	7	23.3	--	2	8.3	--	5	20.0	--	6	25.0	--
OCME DISTRICT												
Central	13	43.4	2.8	9	37.5	2.0	8	32.0	1.7	7	29.2	1.5
Northern	4	13.3	0.7	4	16.7	0.7	3	12.0	0.6	3	12.5	0.6
Tidewater	9	30.0	2.2	9	37.5	2.2	6	24.0	1.5	13	54.1	3.2
Western	4	13.3	1.2	2	8.3	0.6	8	32.0	2.3	1	4.2	0.3
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER												
Child	17	56.7	--	15	62.5	--	13	52.0	--	22	91.6	--
Stepchild	3	10.0	--	3	12.5	--	2	8.0	--	0	0.0	--
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	6	20.0	--	5	20.8	--	4	16.0	--	0	0.0	--
Other	4	13.3	--	1	4.2	--	5	20.0	--	1	4.2	--
Unknown	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--	1	4.0	--	1	4.2	--
TOTAL	30	100	1.7	24	100	1.4	25	100	1.4	24	100	1.4

* The victims are children under the age of 18 who were killed by a caretaker. The data do not include children under 18 killed by someone other than a caretaker or adult children killed by a parent.

SUMMARY TABLES: 1999—2002

Table 12. Other Family Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002

	1999			2000			2001			2002		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
SEX												
Female	12	44.4	0.3	5	22.7	0.1	5	27.8	0.1	4	25.0	0.1
Male	15	55.6	0.4	17	77.3	0.5	13	72.2	0.4	12	75.0	0.3
RACE/ETHNICITY												
White	16	59.3	0.3	10	45.5	0.2	8	44.4	0.2	8	50.0	0.2
Black	9	33.3	0.7	11	50.0	0.8	9	50.0	0.7	6	37.5	0.4
Other	2	7.4	0.3	1	4.5	0.1	1	5.6	0.1	2	12.5	0.3
AGE												
0-4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	5.6	0.2	0	0.0	0.0
5-14	2	7.4	0.2	1	4.5	0.1	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
15-24	2	7.4	0.2	4	18.2	0.4	4	22.2	0.4	1	6.3	0.1
25-34	4	14.8	0.4	3	13.6	0.3	4	22.2	0.4	4	24.9	0.4
35-44	4	14.8	0.3	5	22.7	0.4	2	11.1	0.2	6	37.4	0.5
45-54	2	7.4	0.2	6	27.4	0.6	2	11.1	0.2	1	6.3	0.1
55-64	5	18.5	0.8	1	4.5	0.2	1	5.6	0.2	1	6.3	0.2
>64	8	29.7	1.0	2	9.1	0.3	4	22.2	0.5	3	18.8	0.4
FATAL AGENCY												
Firearm	16	59.3	--	17	77.3	--	7	38.9	--	9	56.2	--
Sharp Instrument	6	22.2	--	3	13.6	--	7	38.9	--	2	12.5	--
Other	5	18.5	--	2	9.1	--	4	22.2	--	5	31.3	--
OCME DISTRICT												
Central	7	25.9	0.4	4	18.2	0.2	4	22.2	0.2	4	25.0	0.2
Northern	8	29.7	0.4	1	4.5	0.0	4	22.2	0.2	3	18.8	0.1
Tidewater	7	25.9	0.5	2	9.1	0.1	3	16.7	0.2	2	12.5	0.1
Western	5	18.5	0.3	15	68.2	1.0	7	38.9	0.4	7	43.7	0.4
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER												
Adult Child	3	11.1	--	1	4.5	--	1	5.6	--	2	12.5	--
Parent	8	29.6	--	5	22.7	--	4	22.2	--	3	18.7	--
Grandparent	4	14.9	--	0	0.0	--	1	5.6	--	1	6.3	--
Sibling	2	7.4	--	9	41.0	--	3	16.7	--	4	25.0	--
Cousin	2	7.4	--	3	13.6	--	3	16.7	--	2	12.5	--
Other Family	8	29.6	--	4	18.2	--	6	33.2	--	4	25.0	--
TOTAL	27	100	0.4	22	100	0.3	18	100	0.3	16	100	0.2

SUMMARY TABLES: 1999—2002

Table 13. Homicide Victims Resulting from Homicide-Suicide Events in Virginia: 1999 - 2002

	1999			2000			2001			2002		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
SEX												
Female	33	86.8	0.9	27	75.0	0.7	23	88.5	0.6	20	64.5	0.6
Male	5	13.2	0.1	9	25.0	0.3	3	11.5	0.1	11	35.5	0.3
RACE/ETHNICITY												
White	24	63.1	0.5	22	61.1	0.4	19	73.1	0.4	14	45.2	0.3
Black	12	31.6	0.9	12	33.3	0.9	5	19.2	0.4	12	38.7	0.9
Other	2	5.3	0.3	2	5.6	0.3	2	7.7	0.3	5	16.1	0.7
AGE												
0-4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	5	16.1	1.1
5-14	2	5.3	0.2	5	13.9	0.5	2	7.7	0.2	5	16.1	0.5
15-24	6	15.8	0.6	1	2.8	0.1	4	15.4	0.4	6	19.3	0.6
25-34	10	26.3	1.0	9	25.0	0.9	6	23.1	0.6	2	6.5	0.2
35-44	12	31.5	1.0	8	22.2	0.7	8	30.7	0.7	5	16.1	0.4
45-54	2	5.3	0.2	5	13.9	0.5	4	15.4	0.4	2	6.5	0.2
55-64	2	5.3	0.3	4	11.1	0.6	0	0.0	0.0	3	9.7	0.5
>64	4	10.5	0.5	4	11.1	0.5	2	7.7	0.3	3	9.7	0.4
FATAL AGENCY												
Firearm	38	100.0	--	33	91.7	--	24	92.3	--	24	77.4	--
Other	0	0.0	--	3	8.3	--	2	7.7	--	7	22.6	--
OCME DISTRICT												
Central	17	44.8	0.9	11	30.6	0.6	12	46.2	0.6	7	22.6	0.4
Northern	7	18.4	0.3	9	24.9	0.4	5	19.2	0.2	6	19.4	0.3
Tidewater	7	18.4	0.5	5	13.9	0.3	4	15.4	0.3	7	22.6	0.5
Western	7	18.4	0.4	11	30.6	0.7	5	19.2	0.3	11	35.4	0.7
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER												
Spouse	17	44.6	--	11	30.6	--	16	61.6	--	6	19.4	--
Ex-Spouse	0	0.0	--	2	5.6	--	0	0.0	--	1	3.2	--
Boy/Girlfriend	3	7.9	--	9	25.0	--	3	11.5	--	3	9.7	--
Ex-Boy/Girlfriend	6	15.8	--	3	8.3	--	2	7.7	--	4	12.9	--
Child	5	13.2	--	4	11.1	--	2	7.7	--	11	35.4	--
Family	2	5.3	--	4	11.1	--	0	0.0	--	2	6.5	--
Other	5	13.2	--	3	8.3	--	3	11.5	--	4	12.9	--
TOTAL	38	100	0.5	36	100	0.5	26	100	0.4	31	100	0.4

SUMMARY TABLES: 1999—2002

Table 14. Other Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002*

	1999			2000			2001			2002		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
SEX												
Female	33	11.4	0.9	43	14.1	1.2	45	15.1	1.2	36	12.0	1.0
Male	256	88.6	7.4	263	85.9	7.6	253	84.9	7.3	265	88.0	7.6
RACE/ETHNICITY												
White	83	28.7	1.7	88	28.8	1.8	87	29.2	1.8	90	29.9	1.8
Black	193	66.8	14.0	194	63.4	14.1	188	63.1	13.7	200	66.4	14.5
Hispanic	8	2.8	2.4	16	5.2	4.9	13	4.4	3.9	8	2.7	2.4
Other	3	1.0	0.7	8	2.6	2.0	9	3.0	2.2	3	1.0	0.7
Unknown	2	0.7	--	0	0.0	--	1	0.3	--	0	0.0	--
AGE												
0-4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	2	0.7	0.4	3	1.0	0.6
5-14	1	0.3	0.1	7	2.3	0.7	3	1.0	0.3	2	0.7	0.2
15-24	104	36.0	10.8	97	31.6	10.1	115	38.6	11.9	97	32.3	10.1
25-34	74	25.7	7.1	84	27.4	8.1	85	28.5	8.2	92	30.6	8.9
35-44	55	19.0	4.6	58	19.0	4.8	48	16.1	4.0	51	16.9	4.2
45-54	33	11.4	3.3	28	9.2	2.8	17	5.7	1.7	29	9.6	2.9
55-64	8	2.8	1.3	14	4.6	2.2	11	3.7	1.7	10	3.3	1.6
>64	14	4.8	1.8	18	5.9	2.3	17	5.7	2.1	17	5.6	2.1
FATAL AGENCY												
Firearm	215	74.5	--	221	72.1	--	225	75.5	--	239	79.4	--
Sharp Instrument	29	10.0	--	38	12.4	--	28	9.4	--	16	5.3	--
Blunt Instrument	14	4.8	--	21	6.9	--	18	6.0	--	16	5.3	--
Personal Weapon	12	4.2	--	6	2.0	--	13	4.4	--	11	3.7	--
Strangulation	5	1.7	--	11	3.6	--	5	1.7	--	13	4.3	--
Other	9	3.1	--	7	2.3	--	7	2.3	--	6	2.0	--
Unknown	5	1.7	--	2	0.7	--	2	0.7	--	0	0.0	--
OCME DISTRICT												
Central	117	40.5	6.3	120	39.2	6.5	118	39.6	6.4	141	46.8	7.6
Northern	32	11.1	1.5	24	7.8	1.1	34	11.4	1.6	27	9.0	1.3
Tidewater	105	36.3	6.9	107	35.0	7.0	108	36.2	7.1	72	23.9	4.7
Western	35	12.1	2.2	55	18.0	3.5	38	12.8	2.4	61	20.3	3.9
TOTAL	289	100	4.1	306	100	4.3	298	100	4.2	301	100	4.3

* Other homicide victims are those who were not victims of intimate partner homicide, intimate partner associated homicide, child homicide by caretaker, elder homicide by caretaker or family homicide.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Throughout this report, information about homicide is presented using three statistics: (1) the *number of cases* that fit a category; (2) the *percentage of cases* that fit a category; and (3) the *homicide rate* for selected categories. Rates provide a standard unit of measurement for homicide and permit precise comparisons between groups. Rates for this report are calculated per 100,000 persons in the population.

Example: In **Table 1** the homicide rate for females was calculated using Virginia's female population. In 2000, 125 homicide victims were female; Virginia's female population was estimated at 3,606,620. The female homicide rate per 100,000 is calculated by dividing 125 by 3,606,620, and then multiplying that figure by 100,000. The resulting rate is 3.46, or 3.5. Said another way, 3.5 of every 100,000 females in Virginia were homicide victims in 2000.

Listed below are the tables with rates, as well as, the populations used to determine the rates.

Table 1. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 2002

- *All victims* - total population of VA
- *Female and Male victims* - female and male populations of VA
- *White and Black victims* - White and Black populations of VA, excluding persons of Hispanic origin
- *Hispanic victims* - Hispanic population of VA, of any race
- *Other victims (race/ethnicity)* - population of VA not identified as White, Black or Hispanic (as described above)
- *Age* - population of each subgroup in VA
- *Central, Northern, Tidewater, Western* - population of each medical examiner district in VA
- *Intimate Partner* - adult (18 and older) population of VA
- *Intimate Partner Associated* - total population of VA
- *Child* - child (under 18) population of VA
- *Elder* - elder (55 and older) population of VA
- *Other Family* - total population of VA
- *Other Homicide* - total population of VA
- *Fatal Agency; Relationship of Victim to Alleged Offender* - population base cannot be determined with available information.

Table 9. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002
See Table 1 for details

Table 10. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002

- *All victims* - adult (18 and older) population of VA
- *Female and Male victims* - female and male adult (18 and older) populations in VA
- *White and Black victims* - White and Black adult (18 and older) populations of VA, excluding persons of Hispanic origin
- *Other victims (race/ethnicity)* - adult (18 and older) population of VA not identified as White or Black (as described above)
- *Age* - population of each subgroup in VA
- *Central, Northern, Tidewater, Western* - adult (18 and older) population of each medical examiner district in VA
- *Fatal Agency; Relationship of Victim to Alleged Offender* - population base cannot be determined with available information

Table 11. Child Homicide Victims Killed by Caretakers in Virginia: 1999 - 2002

- *All victims* - child (under 18) population of VA
- *Female and Male victims* - female and male child (under 18) populations in VA
- *White and Black victims* - White and Black child (under 18) populations in VA
- *Other victims (race/ethnicity)* - child (under 18) population of VA not identified as White or Black (as described above)
- *Age* - child (under 18) population of each subgroup in VA
- *Central, Northern, Tidewater, Western* - child (under 18) population of each medical examiner district in VA
- *Fatal Agency; Relationship of Victim to Alleged Offender* - population base cannot be determined with available information

Table 12. Other Family Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002
See Table 1 for details

Table 13. Homicide Victims Resulting from Homicide-Suicide Events in Virginia: 1999 - 2002
See Table 1 for details

Table 14. Other Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2002
See Table 1 for details



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