

FAMILY AND
INTIMATE
PARTNER
VIOLENCE
HOMICIDE

VIRGINIA: 2001

Virginia Department of Health
Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
January 2003

INTRODUCTION

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner initiated surveillance of Family and Intimate Partner Homicide in 1999. The surveillance system is designed to provide accurate, timely and complete information about intimate partner homicide, child homicide, elder homicide 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 greater precision. The data in this report are meant to be used for prevention, public health planning and policy change.

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

The first three sections of the report describe all homicide, intimate partner homicide and homicide-suicide in Virginia in 2001. The next section highlights data regarding child homicide by caretaker. The final section consists of summary tables providing 1999, 2000 and 2001 data for all homicide, intimate partner homicide, child homicide by caretaker, other family homicide, homicide-suicide and other homicide (see definitions below) in Virginia.

DEFINITIONS

Family and intimate partner homicide is characterized by a familial or intimate partner relationship between the victim and alleged offender. For purposes of this report, homicide victims have been categorized in one of six categories. The following six categories 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** includes victims under the age of 18 killed by a caretaker.
- **Elder** includes victims over the age of 55 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 categories.

Fatal Agency is the mechanism 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 mechanisms (motor vehicle, poison, fire, strangulation, drowning or smothering).

HOMICIDE

Table 1. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 2001

	No.	%	Rate¹
TOTAL	427	100	6.0
SEX			
Female	112	26.2	3.1
Male	315	73.8	9.1
RACE/ETHNICITY			
White	159	37.2	3.2
Black	240	56.3	17.4
Hispanic	16	3.7	4.9
Other	11	2.6	2.7
Unknown	1	0.2	--
AGE			
<5	23	5.4	5.0
5-14	8	1.9	0.8
15-24	132	30.9	13.7
25-34	111	26.0	10.7
35-44	77	18.0	6.4
45-54	33	7.7	3.3
55-64	15	3.5	2.4
>64	28	6.6	3.5
FATAL AGENCY			
Firearm	292	68.3	--
Sharp Instrument	46	10.8	--
Blunt Instrument	24	5.6	--
Personal Weapon	34	8.0	--
Strangulation	11	2.6	--
Other	18	4.2	--
Unknown	2	0.5	--
OCME DISTRICT²			
Central	160	37.5	8.6
Northern	54	12.6	2.5
Tidewater	136	31.9	8.9
Western	77	18.0	4.9
TYPE OF HOMICIDE			
Intimate Partner	68	15.9	1.3
Intimate Partner Associated	18	4.2	0.3
Child	25	5.9	1.4
Elder	0	0.0	0.0
Other Family	18	4.2	0.3
Other Homicide	298	69.8	4.2

Highlights of homicide in Virginia:

- 73.8% of homicide victims were male; 26.2% were female.
- Males were killed at a rate about three times that of females (9.1 per 100,000 compared to 3.1).
- 68.3% of homicide victims were killed with a firearm.
- The majority (56.3%) of homicide victims were Black.
- Blacks were killed nearly three-and-a-half times the rate of Hispanics and about five-and-a-half times the rate of Whites (17.4 per 100,000 compared to 4.9 for Hispanics and 3.2 for Whites).
- 15 – 24-year-olds had the highest homicide rate at 13.7 per 100,000.
- The OCME Tidewater District (which includes the cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach) had the highest homicide rate (8.9 per 100,000) and the Northern District (which includes suburbs of Washington, DC) had the lowest rate (2.5 per 100,000).
- Nearly one-third (129 of 427) of all homicides were family or intimate partner associated (includes Intimate Partner, Intimate Partner Associated, Child and Other Family).

Table 2. Homicide Victims in Virginia by Fatal Agency and Sex: 2001

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Firearm	63	56.2	229	72.8	292	68.3
Sharp Instrument	15	13.4	31	9.8	46	10.8
Blunt Instrument	7	6.3	17	5.4	24	5.6
Strangulation	11	9.8	0	0.0	11	2.6
Personal Weapon	10	8.9	24	7.6	34	8.0
Other	4	3.6	14	4.4	18	4.2
Unknown	2	1.8	0	0.0	2	0.5
Total	112	100	315	100	427	100

Table 3. Homicide Victims in Virginia by Age and Race: 2001

	White		Black		Other		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
<5	9	5.7	12	5.0	2	7.1	23	5.4
5-14	5	3.1	3	1.3	0	0.0	8	1.9
15-24	28	17.7	93	38.6	11*	39.3	132	30.9
25-34	36	22.6	66	27.5	9	32.1	111	26.0
35-44	26	16.4	47	19.6	4	14.3	77	18.0
45-54	25	15.7	7	2.9	1	3.6	33	7.7
55-64	12	7.5	3	1.3	0	0.0	15	3.5
>64	18	11.3	9	3.8	1	3.6	28	6.6
Total	159	100	240	100	28	100	427	100

*This number includes a victim between the ages of 15 and 24 whose race was unknown.

Table 4. Homicide Victims in Virginia by Race and Sex: 2001

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White	62	55.3	97	30.8	159	37.2
Black	45	40.2	195	61.9	240	56.3
Other	4	3.6	23	7.3	27	6.3
Unknown	1	0.9	0	0.0	1	0.2
Total	112	100	315	100	427	100

INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE

Highlights of intimate partner homicide in Virginia:

- In 2001, 68 (18%) adult homicide victims were killed by intimate partners.
- 55 (55%) of all adult female homicide victims were killed by intimate partners.
- Of the 68 intimate partner homicide victims, 55 (80.9%) were women and 13 (19.1%) were men.
- 21 (38.2%) female intimate partner homicide victims were killed in homicide-suicide events.
- One-third of female victims were between the ages of 35 and 44; nearly half of male victims were between the ages of 25 and 34.
- Over one-third of intimate partner homicides occurred in the OCME Central District.
- 66.2% of all victims were killed with a firearm.
- 37 (54.4%) intimate partner homicide victims lived with the perpetrator at the time of the homicide.

Table 5. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia by Age and Sex: 2001

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
15-24	11	20.0	1	7.7	12	17.6
25-34	11	20.0	6	46.1	17	25.0
35-44	18	32.8	2	15.4	20	29.5
45-54	8	14.5	2	15.4	10	14.7
55-64	1	1.8	1	7.7	2	2.9
>64	6	10.9	1	7.7	7	10.3
Total	55	100	13	100	68	100

Table 6. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia by Fatal Agency and Sex: 2001

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Firearm	37	67.3	8	61.5	45	66.2
Blunt Instrument	5	9.1	0	0.0	5	7.4
Sharp Instrument	3	5.5	3	23.1	6	8.8
Strangulation	6	10.9	0	0.0	6	8.8
Other	4	7.2	2	15.4	6	8.8
Total	55	100	13	100	68	100

Table 7. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia by Race and Sex: 2001

	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
White	35	63.7	7	53.8	42	61.8
Black	18	32.7	6	46.2	24	35.3
Other	2	3.6	0	0.0	2	2.9
Total	55	100	13	100	68	100

Figure 1. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims by OCME District, N=68

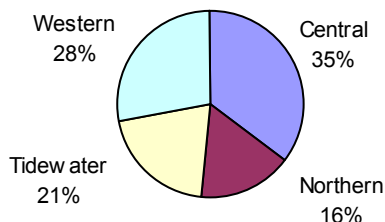
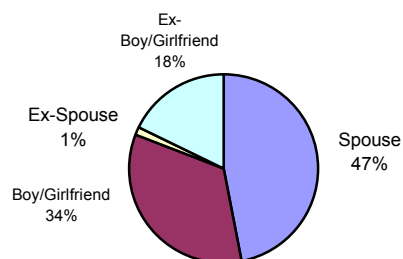


Figure 2. Victim's Relationship to Alleged Offender, Intimate Partner Homicide N=68



Additional highlights of intimate partner homicide in Virginia³:

- Of the 68 intimate partner homicide victims, 9 (13.2%) had perpetrated violence toward the alleged offender. Of the 9, 2 were women and 7 were men.
- 13 (23.6%) of the 55 female intimate partner homicide victims had obtained protective orders against the alleged offenders.
- 17 (25%) alleged offenders of intimate partner homicide had previously been arrested for crimes against the victim.
- 6 (8.8%) intimate partner homicide victims were immigrants to the U.S. (4 women and 2 men).
- 65 children witnessed 32 family or intimate partner associated homicides in Virginia in 2001.
- Medical Examiner records revealed the presence of risk factors typically associated with lethal intimate partner violence in 53 homicides (some homicides had more than one risk factor present).
 - Reports of previous violence: 44
 - Relationship ended or ending: 37 (1 divorce, 14 separations, 16 break-ups, 6 cases in which the victim intended to end the relationship)
 - Threats: 22
 - Excessive jealousy: 16
 - 911 calls: 13
 - Non-biological children living in the home: 10
 - Property destruction: 9
 - Stalking: 5
 - Home invasion: 5
 - Hostage taking: 2

HOMICIDE-SUICIDE

A Homicide-Suicide Event is homicide followed within one week by the perpetrator's suicide.

Highlights of homicide-suicide in Virginia:

- In 2001, there were 23 homicide-suicide events in Virginia, resulting in 26 homicide victims.
- 11 of 23 (48%) homicide-suicide events occurred in the OCME Central District.
- 21 of 26 (80%) homicide-suicide victims were intimate partners.
- 88.5% of victims were female and 95.7% of perpetrators were male.
- The majority of homicide-suicide victims (73.1%) and perpetrators (60.9%) were White.
- 92.3% of homicide-suicide events were committed with a firearm.

Figure 3. Victim's Relationship to Perpetrator, Homicide-Suicide, N=26

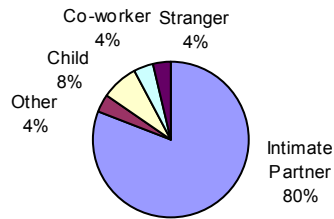


Figure 4. Homicide-Suicide Events by OCME District, N=23

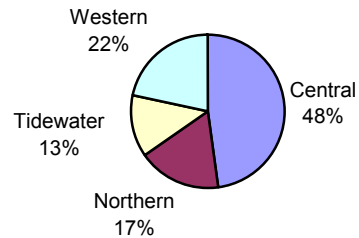


Table 8. Victims and Perpetrators of Homicide-Suicide Events in Virginia: 2001

	Victim		Perpetrator	
	No.	%	No.	%
TOTAL	26	100	23	100
GENDER				
Female	23	88.5	1	4.3
Male	3	11.5	22	95.7
RACE/ETHNICITY				
White	19	73.1	14	60.9
Black	5	19.2	7	30.4
Other	2	7.7	2	8.7
AGE				
5-14	2	7.7	0	0.0
15-24	4	15.4	4	17.5
25-34	6	23.1	5	21.7
35-44	8	30.7	5	21.7
45-54	4	15.4	5	21.7
55-64	0	0.0	2	8.7
>64	2	7.7	2	8.7

CHILD HOMICIDE BY CARETAKER

- In 2001, there were 48 homicide victims under the age of 18. Of these children, 25 (52.1%) were killed by a caretaker.
- Boys were killed by caretakers at a rate approximately 5 times that of girls (2.4 per 100,000 compared to .5).
- Black children were killed by caretakers at a rate 3 times that of White children (3.0 per 100,000 compared to 1.0).
- 11 (44%) children killed by caretakers were less than a year old and 9 (36%) were between the ages of 1 and 4.
- Over half (52%) of children killed by caretakers were killed by a biological parent.

SUMMARY TABLES: 1999 - 2001

Rates were calculated using 2000 Census figures (see Technical Notes).

Table 9. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

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

Table 10. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

	1999			2000			2001		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
TOTAL	72	100	1.3	85	100	1.6	68	100	1.3
SEX									
Female	53	73.6	1.9	60	70.6	2.2	55	80.9	2.0
Male	19	26.4	0.7	25	29.4	1.0	13	19.1	0.5
RACE/ETHNICITY									
White	36	50.0	0.9	51	60.0	1.3	42	61.8	1.1
Black	32	44.4	3.3	29	34.1	3.0	24	35.3	2.5
Other	4	5.6	0.8	5	5.9	1.0	2	2.9	0.4
AGE									
15-24	7	9.7	0.7	11	12.9	1.1	12	17.6	1.2
25-34	20	27.8	1.9	23	27.1	2.2	17	25.0	1.6
35-44	26	36.1	2.2	24	28.2	2.0	20	29.5	1.7
45-54	9	12.5	0.9	16	18.8	1.6	10	14.7	1.0
55-64	4	5.6	0.6	6	7.1	0.9	2	2.9	0.3
>64	6	8.3	0.8	5	5.9	0.6	7	10.3	0.9
FATAL AGENCY									
Firearm	42	58.3	--	51	60.0	--	45	66.2	--
Sharp Instrument	19	26.4	--	18	21.2	--	6	8.8	--
Blunt Instrument	3	4.2	--	2	2.4	--	5	7.4	--
Other	8	11.1	--	14	16.5	--	12	17.6	--
OCME DISTRICT									
Central	25	34.7	1.8	33	38.8	2.4	24	35.3	1.7
Northern	12	16.7	0.7	17	20.0	1.1	11	16.2	0.7
Tidewater	14	19.4	1.3	15	17.6	1.3	14	20.6	1.3
Western	21	29.2	1.7	20	23.5	1.6	19	27.9	1.6
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER									
Spouse	30	41.7	--	33	38.8	--	32	47.1	--
Ex-Spouse	2	2.8	--	5	5.9	--	1	1.5	--
Boy/Girlfriend	26	36.1	--	38	44.7	--	23	33.8	--
Ex-Boy/Girlfriend	8	11.1	--	5	5.9	--	12	17.6	--
Same-Sex Relationship/Ex	3	4.2	--	4	4.7	--	0	0.0	--
Unrequited	3	4.2	--	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--

Table 11. Child Homicide Victims Killed by Caretakers in Virginia: 1999 – 2001*

	1999			2000			2001		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
TOTAL	30	100	1.7	24	100	1.4	25	100	1.4
SEX									
Female	16	53.3	1.9	12	50.0	1.4	4	16.0	0.5
Male	14	46.7	1.6	12	50.0	1.3	21	84.0	2.4
RACE/ETHNICITY									
White	14	46.7	1.3	9	37.5	0.8	11	44.0	1.0
Black	13	43.3	3.2	14	58.3	3.5	12	48.0	3.0
Other	3	10.0	1.3	1	4.2	0.4	2	8.0	0.9
AGE									
<1	12	40.0	12.9	10	41.7	10.8	11	44.0	11.9
1-4	13	43.3	3.5	8	33.3	2.2	9	36.0	2.4
5-14	3	10.0	0.3	5	20.8	0.5	5	20.0	0.5
15-17	2	6.7	0.7	1	4.2	0.4	0	0.0	0.0
FATAL AGENCY									
Firearm	4	13.3	--	6	25.0	--	2	8.0	--
Personal Weapon	16	53.3	--	16	66.7	--	18	72.0	--
Other	10	33.3	--	2	8.3	--	5	20.0	--
OCME DISTRICT									
Central	13	43.3	2.8	9	37.5	2.0	8	32.0	1.7
Northern	4	13.3	0.7	4	16.7	0.7	3	12.0	0.6
Tidewater	9	30.0	2.2	9	37.5	2.2	6	24.0	1.5
Western	4	13.3	1.2	2	8.3	0.6	8	32.0	2.3
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER									
Child	17	56.7	--	15	62.5	--	13	52.0	--
Stepchild	3	10.0	--	3	12.5	--	2	8.0	--
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	6	20.0	--	5	20.8	--	4	16.0	--
Babysittee	3	10.0	--	0	0.0	--	1	4.0	--
Other Family	1	3.3	--	1	4.2	--	2	8.0	--
Other	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--	2	8.0	--
Unknown	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--	1	4.0	--

*Child 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.

Table 12. Other Family Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

	1999			2000			2001		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
TOTAL	27	100	0.4	22	100	0.3	18	100	0.3
SEX									
Female	12	44.4	0.3	5	22.7	0.1	5	27.8	0.1
Male	15	55.6	0.4	17	77.3	0.5	13	72.2	0.4
RACE/ETHNICITY									
White	16	59.3	0.3	10	45.5	0.2	8	44.4	0.2
Black	9	33.3	0.7	11	50.0	0.8	9	50.0	0.7
Other	2	7.4	0.3	1	4.5	0.1	1	5.6	0.1
AGE									
<5	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	5.6	0.2
5-14	2	7.4	0.2	1	4.5	0.1	0	0.0	0.0
15-24	2	7.4	0.2	4	18.2	0.4	4	22.2	0.4
25-34	4	14.8	0.4	3	13.6	0.3	4	22.2	0.4
35-44	4	14.8	0.3	5	22.7	0.4	2	11.1	0.2
45-54	2	7.4	0.2	6	27.4	0.6	2	11.1	0.2
55-64	5	18.5	0.8	1	4.5	0.2	1	5.6	0.2
>64	8	29.7	1.0	2	9.1	0.3	4	22.2	0.5
FATAL AGENCY									
Firearm	16	59.3	--	17	77.3	--	7	38.9	--
Sharp Instrument	6	22.2	--	3	13.6	--	7	38.9	--
Other	5	18.5	--	2	9.1	--	4	22.2	--
OCME DISTRICT									
Central	7	25.9	0.4	4	18.2	0.2	4	22.2	0.2
Northern	8	29.6	0.4	1	4.5	0.0	4	22.2	0.2
Tidewater	7	25.9	0.5	2	9.1	0.1	3	16.7	0.2
Western	5	18.5	0.3	15	68.2	1.0	7	38.9	0.4
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER									
Adult Child	3	11.1	--	1	4.5	--	1	5.6	--
Adult Stepchild	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--	1	5.6	--
Child of Boy/Girlfriend	1	3.7	--	0	0.0	--	0	0.0	--
Sibling	2	7.4	--	9	40.9	--	3	16.6	--
Parent	8	29.6	--	5	22.7	--	4	22.2	--
Stepparent	0	0.0	--	1	4.5	--	0	0.0	--
Grandparent	4	14.8	--	0	0.0	--	1	5.6	--
In-Law	4	14.8	--	0	0.0	--	1	5.6	--
Other Family	5	18.5	--	6	27.3	--	7	38.9	--

Table 13. Homicide Victims Resulting from Homicide-Suicide Events in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

	1999			2000			2001		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
TOTAL	38	100	0.5	36	100	0.5	26	100	0.4
SEX									
Female	33	86.8	0.9	27	75.0	0.7	23	88.5	0.6
Male	5	13.2	0.1	9	25.0	0.3	3	11.5	0.1
RACE/ETHNICITY									
White	24	63.2	0.5	22	61.1	0.4	19	73.1	0.4
Black	12	31.6	0.9	12	33.3	0.9	5	19.2	0.4
Other	2	5.3	0.3	2	5.6	0.3	2	7.7	0.3
AGE									
<5	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
5-14	2	5.3	0.2	5	13.9	0.5	2	7.7	0.2
15-24	6	15.8	0.6	1	2.8	0.1	4	15.4	0.4
25-34	10	26.3	1.0	9	25.0	0.9	6	23.1	0.6
35-44	12	31.5	1.0	8	22.2	0.7	8	30.7	0.7
45-54	2	5.3	0.2	5	13.9	0.5	4	15.4	0.4
55-64	2	5.3	0.3	4	11.1	0.6	0	0.0	0.0
>64	4	10.5	0.5	4	11.1	0.5	2	7.7	0.3
FATAL AGENCY									
Firearm	38	100.0	--	33	91.7	--	24	92.3	--
Other	0	0.0	--	3	8.3	--	2	7.7	--
OCME DISTRICT									
Central	17	44.7	0.9	11	30.6	0.6	12	46.2	0.6
Northern	7	18.4	0.3	9	25.0	0.4	5	19.2	0.2
Tidewater	7	18.4	0.5	5	13.9	0.3	4	15.4	0.3
Western	7	18.4	0.4	11	30.6	0.7	5	19.2	0.3
RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO ALLEGED OFFENDER									
Spouse	17	44.7	--	11	30.6	--	16	61.6	--
Ex-Spouse	0	0.0	--	2	5.6	--	0	0.0	--
Boy/Girlfriend	3	7.9	--	9	25.0	--	3	11.5	--
Ex-Boy/Girlfriend	6	15.8	--	3	8.3	--	2	7.7	--
Family	2	5.3	--	4	11.1	--	0	0.0	--
Child	5	13.2	--	4	11.1	--	2	7.7	--
Other	5	13.2	--	3	8.3	--	3	11.5	--

Table 14. Other Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001*

	1999			2000			2001		
	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate	No.	%	Rate
TOTAL	289	100	4.1	306	100	4.3	298	100	4.2
SEX									
Female	33	11.4	0.9	43	14.1	1.2	45	15.1	1.2
Male	256	88.6	7.4	263	85.9	7.6	253	84.9	7.3
RACE/ETHNICITY									
White	83	28.7	1.7	88	28.8	1.8	87	29.2	1.8
Black	193	66.8	14.0	194	63.4	14.1	188	63.1	13.7
Hispanic	8	2.8	2.4	16	5.2	4.9	13	4.4	3.9
Other	3	1.0	0.7	8	2.6	2.0	9	3.0	2.2
Unknown	2	0.7	--	0	0.0	--	1	0.3	--
AGE									
<5	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	2	0.7	0.4
5-14	1	0.3	0.1	7	2.3	0.7	3	1.0	0.3
15-24	104	36.0	10.8	97	31.8	10.1	115	38.6	11.9
25-34	74	25.7	7.1	84	27.4	8.1	85	28.5	8.2
35-44	55	19.0	4.6	58	19.0	4.8	48	16.1	4.0
45-54	33	11.4	3.3	28	9.2	2.8	17	5.7	1.7
55-64	8	2.8	1.3	14	4.6	2.2	11	3.7	1.7
>64	14	4.8	1.8	18	5.9	2.3	17	5.7	2.1
FATAL AGENCY									
Firearm	215	74.5	--	221	72.1	--	225	75.5	--
Sharp Instrument	29	10.0	--	38	12.4	--	28	9.4	--
Blunt Instrument	14	4.8	--	21	6.9	--	18	6.0	--
Personal Weapon	12	4.2	--	6	2.0	--	13	4.4	--
Strangulation	5	1.7	--	11	3.6	--	5	1.7	--
Other	9	3.1	--	7	2.3	--	7	2.3	--
Unknown	5	1.7	--	2	0.7	--	2	0.7	--
OCME DISTRICT									
Central	117	40.5	6.3	120	39.2	6.5	118	39.6	6.4
Northern	32	11.1	1.5	24	7.8	1.1	34	11.4	1.6
Tidewater	105	36.3	6.9	107	35.0	7.0	108	36.2	7.1
Western	35	12.1	2.2	55	18.0	3.5	38	12.8	2.4

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

END NOTES

1. 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 the population.
2. The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has four district offices (Central, Northern, Tidewater, Western). A list of cities and counties within each district is provided on page 14.
3. Information regarding previous violence by homicide victims, protective orders, previous arrests, child witnesses 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. Therefore, readers should interpret this information cautiously as it is probably underreported.

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

Table 1. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 2001;

Table 9. Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001;

Table 12. Other Family Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001; and

Table 13. Homicide Victims Resulting from Homicide-Suicide Events in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

Table 14. Other Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

- *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 10. Intimate Partner Homicide Victims in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

- *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 in Virginia: 1999 - 2001

- *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 (18 and under) 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

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.

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Medical Examiner Districts

CENTRAL Counties of Albemarle, Amelia, Buckingham, Brunswick, Caroline, Charles City, Charlotte, Chesterfield, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Essex, Fluvanna, Greene, Greensville, Gloucester, Goochland, Halifax, Hanover, Henrico, James City, King and Queen, King George, King William, Lancaster, Louisa, Lunenburg, Mathews, Mecklenburg, Middlesex, Nelson, New Kent, Northumberland, Nottoway, Powhatan, Prince George, Prince Edward, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Surry, Sussex, Richmond, and Westmoreland. Cities of Charlottesville, Colonial Heights, Emporia, Fredericksburg, Hopewell, Petersburg, Richmond, South Boston, and Williamsburg.

NORTHERN Counties of Arlington, Clarke, Culpeper, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Madison, Manassas, Manassas Park, Orange, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Shenandoah, and Warren. Cities of Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Falls Church, and Winchester.

TIDEWATER Counties of Accomack, Isle of Wight, Northampton, Southampton, and York. Cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach.

WESTERN Counties of Alleghany, Amherst, Appomattox, Augusta, Bath, Bedford, Bland, Botetourt, Buchanan, Campbell, Carroll, Craig, Dickenson, Franklin, Floyd, Giles, Grayson, Highland, Henry, Lee, Montgomery, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Pulaski, Roanoke, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Russell, Scott, Smyth, Tazewell, Washington, Wise, and Wythe. Cities of Bedford, Bristol, Buena Vista, Covington, Clifton Forge, Danville, Galax, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Lynchburg, Martinsville, Norton, Radford, Roanoke, Salem, Staunton, and Waynesboro.

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<http://www.vdh.state.va.us/medexam/violence.htm>

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This project was supported by Grant No. 1997-WE-VX-0119 supplemental, Awarded by the Violence Against Women Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of the U.S. Department of Justice.