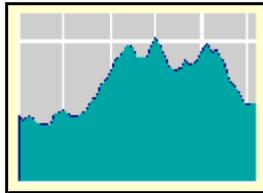




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See also:

 [Homicide trends for States and large cities](#)



## Homicide trends in the United States

by James Alan Fox, The Lipman Family Professor of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University and Marianne W. Zawitz, BJS Statistician

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

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

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

The latest updates and additions: [What's new in Homicide Trends](#)

The source data for this report and an online analysis capability is available at the:

[National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#)

Additional violent crime information:

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

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

Production assistance for this website was provided by Timothy Kearley and Rhonda Keith of BJS. Shannan Catalano, BJS statistician, provided the statistical review.

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*Homicide trends in the U.S.*

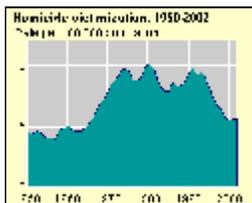
## Overview

This overview summarizes the primary findings for each topic and lists the charts presented in *Homicide Trends in the United States*. Link within this overview to the primary findings and small versions or thumbnails of the charts by selecting one of the following:

- [Long term trends](#)
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- [Clearances](#)
- [Justifiable homicides \*\*Just added!\*\*](#)
- [Additional information about the data](#)

Full size versions of the graphics, additional findings, and links to the data are available on the topical pages. To link to topical pages, select the links below.

### Long term trends

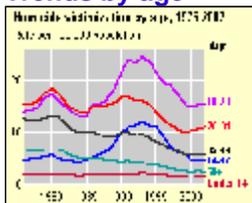


Homicide rates recently declined to levels last seen in the late 1960's

- [Homicide victimization rates, 1950-2002](#)

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### Trends by age



The rise in teen involvement in homicide as both victims and offenders beginning in the mid-1980's was dramatic

- [Homicide victimization rates by age, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicide offending rates by age, 1976-2002](#)
- [Average age of homicide victims and offenders, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicide victimization rates by age, 1980-99, an animation](#)
- [Homicide offending rates by age, 1980-99, an animation](#)
- [Percent of homicides in which the offender](#)

was known to the victim, 1976-2002  
aggregate

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### Trends by gender



Most victims and perpetrators in homicides are male

- Homicide victimization rates by gender, 1976-2002
- Homicide offending rates by gender, 1976-2002

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### Trends by race



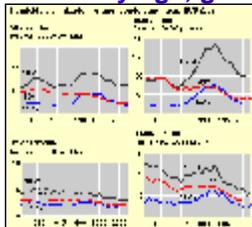
Racial differences exist, with blacks disproportionately represented among homicide victims and offenders

- Homicide victimization rates by race, 1976-2002
- Homicide offending rates by race, 1976-2002
- Homicides by race of victim and offender, 1976-2002
- Stranger and acquaintance homicides by race of victim and offender, 1976-2002

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### Trends by age, gender, and race



Dramatic increases in both homicide victimization and offending rates were experienced by young males, particularly young black males, in the late 1980's and early 1990's

- Homicide victimization rates by age, gender, and race, 1976-2002
- Homicide offending rates by age, gender, and race, 1976-2002
- Young males as a proportion of the population, homicide victims, and homicide offenders by race, 1976-2002

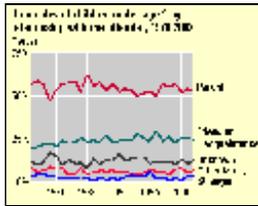
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### Infanticide

The number of homicides of children under age 5 increased over the past two decades but declined recently

- The number of homicides of children under age 5 by race, 1976-2002



- Homicide victimization rates for children under age 5 by race, 1976-2002
- The number of homicides of children under age 5 by age of victim, 1976-2002
- Homicides of children under age 5 by relationship to the offender, 1976-2002
- Homicides of children under age 5 by gender of victim and offender, 1976-2002

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### Eldercide



The number of homicides of persons age 65 or older has been decreasing

- Homicides of persons age 65 and older by gender of victim, 1976-2002
- Homicide victimization and offending rates for persons age 65 and older, 1976-2002
- Percent of homicides committed during a felony by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate

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### Intimates



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

- Homicides of intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2002
- Homicides of intimates by gender and race of victim, 1976-2002
- Proportion of all homicides involving intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2002
- Number of homicides of intimates by relationship of the victim to the offender, 1976-2002
- Intimate homicide rates by race, gender and relationship, 1976-2002
- Intimate homicides by type of weapon and gender of victim, 1976-2002

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### Law enforcement officers



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

- Law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty, 1973-2002
- Law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty by weapon type, 1973-2002

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### Multiple victims and offenders

Few homicides involve multiple offenders and



fewer involve multiple victims

- Percent of homicides involving multiple offenders or multiple victims, 1976-2002
- Percent of homicides involving multiple victims by number of victims, 1976-2002
- Percent of homicides involving multiple offenders by age of offender, 1976-2002
- Percent of homicides involving guns by number of victims, 1976-2002

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### Circumstances



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

- Number of homicides by circumstance, 1976-2002
- Percent of homicides involving guns by circumstance, 1976-2002

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### Weapons trends

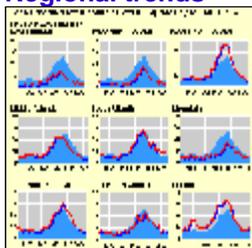


Homicides are most often committed with guns, especially handguns

- Homicides by weapon type, 1976-2002
- Homicide offending by weapon type and age of offender, 1976-2002
- Percent of homicides involving guns by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate

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### Regional trends

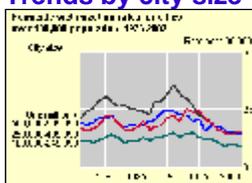


The southern regions historically have had higher homicide rates than other regions

- Homicide victimization rates by region, 1976-2002
- Gun homicide victimization rates by region, 1976-2002
- Teen homicide offending rates by region, 1976-2002

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### Trends by city size



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

- Number of homicides in urban, suburban, and rural areas, 1976-2002
- Homicide victimization rates by size of city,

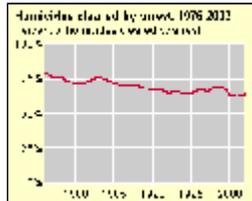
1976-2002

- Homicide offending rates by size of city, 1976-2002
- Percent of all homicides involving intimates by urban, suburban, and rural area, 1976-2002

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### Clearances



The percentage of homicides cleared by arrest has been declining

- Percent of homicides cleared by arrest, 1976-2002
- Percent of homicides cleared by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate

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### Justifiable homicides



The number of justifiable homicides has been declining

- Number of justifiable homicides by police and citizens, 1976-2002
- Number of justifiable homicides by police and citizens by circumstance, 1976-2002
- Percent of justifiable homicides by police and citizens by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate

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### Additional information about the data

Data sources, methodology, and related sites

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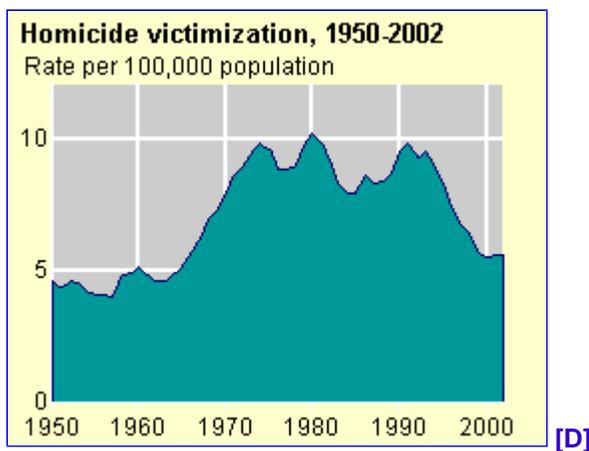
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## Homicide rates recently declined to levels last seen in the late 1960's

- The homicide rate nearly doubled from the mid 1960's to the late 1970's.
- In 1980, it peaked at 10.2 per 100,000 population and subsequently fell off to 8.0 per 100,000 in 1984.
- It rose again in the late 1980's and early 1990's to another peak in 1991 of 9.8 per 100,000.
- From 1992 to 2000, the rate declined sharply. Since then, the rate has been stable.

To view data, click on the chart.



Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 1950-2002

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

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

Based on data for the years 1976-2002 -

- Blacks are disproportionately represented as both homicide victims and offenders. In terms of rates per 100,000, blacks are 6 times more likely to be victimized and 7 times more likely to commit homicide than are whites.
- Males represent three-quarters of homicide victims and nearly 90% of offenders. In terms of rates per 100,000, males are 3 times more likely to be killed, and almost 8 times more likely to commit homicide than are females.

- Approximately one-third of murder victims and almost half the offenders are under the age of 25. For both victims and offenders, the rate per 100,000 peaks in the 18-24 year-old age group.

### Victims and Offenders by Demographic Group, 1976-2002

	Percent of -			Rate per 100,000 population	
	Victims	Offenders	Population	Victims	Offenders
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	8.1	9.0
<b>Age</b>					
<b>Under 14</b>	4.7%	.5%	20.6%	1.8	.2
<b>14-17</b>	5.1%	10.6%	6.1%	6.7	15.6
<b>18-24</b>	23.7%	36.2%	11.0%	17.2	29.7
<b>25-34</b>	29.0%	28.7%	16.0%	14.5	16.1
<b>35-49</b>	22.7%	17.2%	20.2%	9.0	7.7
<b>50-64</b>	9.3%	5.2%	13.9%	5.4	3.3
<b>65+</b>	5.4%	1.7%	12.2%	3.5	1.3
<b>Gender</b>					
<b>Male</b>	76.4%	88.6%	48.8%	12.7	16.4
<b>Female</b>	23.6%	11.4%	51.2%	3.7	2.0
<b>Race</b>					
<b>White</b>	51.1%	45.9%	84.0%	4.9	4.9
<b>Black</b>	46.8%	52.1%	12.2%	30.9	38.5
<b>Other</b>	2.1%	2.0%	3.8%	4.4	4.7

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

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**Homicide victimization, 1950-2002**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Homicide rate per 100,000 population</b>	<b>Estimated number of homicides</b>
1950	4.6	7,020
1951	4.4	6,820
1952	4.6	7,210
1953	4.5	7,210
1954	4.2	6,850
1955	4.1	6,850
1956	4.1	6,970
1957	4.0	8,060
1958	4.8	8,220
1959	4.9	8,580
1960	5.1	9,110
1961	4.8	8,740
1962	4.6	8,530
1963	4.6	8,640
1964	4.9	9,360
1965	5.1	9,960
1966	5.6	11,040
1967	6.2	12,240
1968	6.9	13,800
1969	7.3	14,760
1970	7.9	16,000
1971	8.6	17,780
1972	9.0	18,670
1973	9.4	19,640
1974	9.8	20,710
1975	9.6	20,510
1976	8.8	18,780
1977	8.8	19,120
1978	9.0	19,560
1979	9.7	21,460
1980	10.2	23,040
1981	9.8	22,520
1982	9.1	21,010

<b>1983</b>	8.3	19,308
<b>1984</b>	7.9	18,692
<b>1985</b>	8.0	18,976
<b>1986</b>	8.6	20,613
<b>1987</b>	8.3	20,096
<b>1988</b>	8.5	20,675
<b>1989</b>	8.7	21,500
<b>1990</b>	9.4	23,438
<b>1991</b>	9.8	24,703
<b>1992</b>	9.3	23,760
<b>1993</b>	9.5	24,526
<b>1994</b>	9.0	23,326
<b>1995</b>	8.2	21,606
<b>1996</b>	7.4	19,645
<b>1997</b>	6.8	18,208
<b>1998</b>	6.3	16,974
<b>1999</b>	5.7	15,522
<b>2000</b>	5.5	15,586
<b>2001</b>	5.6	16,037
<b>2002</b>	5.6	16,204

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 1950-2002

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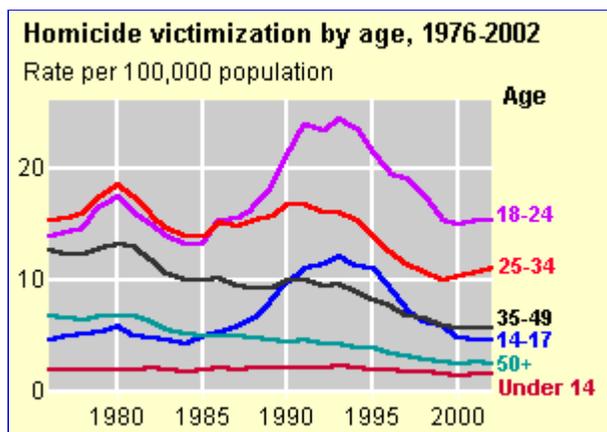
*Homicide trends in the U.S.*  
**Age trends**

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

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

- Homicide victimization rates for children under age 14 have declined recently and remain low relative to older groups.
- The homicide victimization rate for 14-17 year-olds increased almost 170% from 1985 to 1993. Since 1993 the victimization rates for young teens have declined to levels similar to those experienced from 1976-85.
- 18-24 year-olds experienced the highest homicide victimization rates, a change from the late 1970's when 25-34 year-olds had the highest rates.
- The homicide victimization rates have generally declined for adults ages 35-49 and 50 and older.
- Since 1993 homicide victimization rates for older teens and young adults have declined but still remain higher than the levels of the mid-1980's.
- 25-34 year-olds are the only group to experience an increase in homicide victimization rates since the late 1990's.

To view data, [click on the chart.](#)



[D]

View an [animation of homicide victimization rates by age from 1980 to 2002.](#)

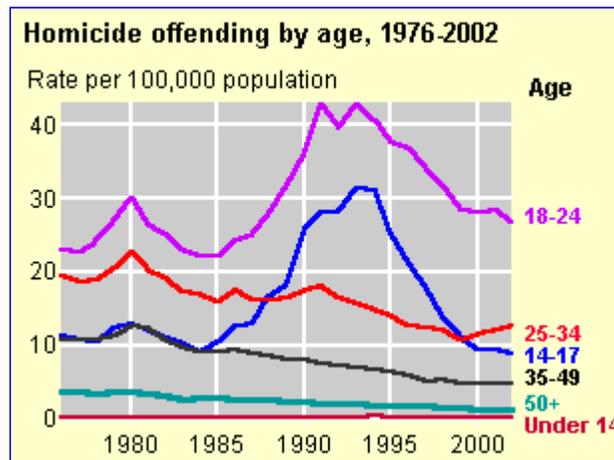
Additional detail is available about homicides of children under age 5, **infanticide**, and homicides of persons age 65 and older, **eldercide**.

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

### Homicide offending rates followed a similar pattern

- Offending rates for teenagers and young adults increased dramatically in the late 1980's while rates for older age groups declined.
- Offending rates for children under age 14 increased in the late 1980's and early 1990's, but have recently fallen to the lowest levels recorded.
- 18-24 year-olds have historically had the highest offending rates and their rates nearly doubled from 1985 to 1993. Since 1993 offending rates for 18-24 year-olds have declined but remain higher than levels prior to the mid 1980's.
- Offending rates of 14-17 year-olds increased rapidly after 1985, surpassing the rates of 25-34 year-olds and 35-49 year-olds. Recently, the offending rates for 14-17 year-olds reached the lowest levels recorded and have fallen below those for 25-34 year-olds.
- Offending rates for 25-34 year-olds fell from 1980 through 1999 but have increased since then.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

View an [animation of homicide offending rates by age from 1980 to 2002](#).

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

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

The average age of --

- victims is greater than that of offenders and fell from 36 years in 1976 to 32.3 years in 1993
- offenders fell from about 30.3 years in 1976 to 26.4 years in 1994

- both offenders and victims has increased slightly in recent years yet remains lower than it was prior to the mid-1980's

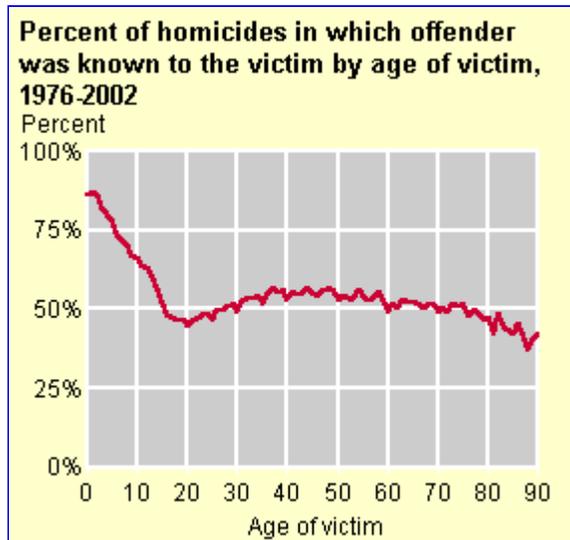
To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

### Young victims were more likely to know the offender than older victims

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

For the years 1976-2002 combined -

- Over one-quarter of the victims of gang-related killings are under the age of 18. Juveniles are also unusually involved as victims of family members, sex-related homicides, and homicide by arson or poison.

- Felony-murder, workplace murder, arson, and poison homicides claim a relatively large percentage of older victims.
- Juveniles are especially implicated as offenders in homicides that involve multiple perpetrators or are gang-related.

<b>Homicide Type by Age, 1976-2002</b>								
	<b>Victims</b>				<b>Offenders</b>			
	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18-34</b>	<b>35-49</b>	<b>50+</b>	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18-34</b>	<b>35-49</b>	<b>50+</b>
<b>All homicides</b>	9.8%	52.7%	22.7%	14.8%	11.1%	64.8%	17.2%	6.9%
<b>Victim/offender relationship</b>								
<b>Intimate</b>	2.3%	46.9%	33.6%	17.2%	1.1%	47.1%	34.3%	17.6%
<b>Family</b>	19.2%	32.6%	26.5%	21.7%	6.1%	49.5%	27.8%	16.6%
<b>Infanticide</b>	100.0%				8.3%	81.3%	9.4%	1.1%
<b>Eldercide</b>				100.0%	10.5%	50.2%	18.3%	20.9%
<b>Circumstances</b>								
<b>Felony murder</b>	7.7%	46.5%	21.6%	24.2%	15.1%	72.9%	10.1%	2.0%
<b>Sex related</b>	19.8%	45.2%	16.2%	18.8%	10.8%	74.1%	13.0%	2.1%
<b>Drug related</b>	5.5%	71.8%	19.6%	3.2%	10.9%	76.6%	11.2%	1.2%
<b>Gang related</b>	25.4%	67.4%	5.9%	1.3%	30.4%	67.7%	1.6%	.3%
<b>Argument</b>	5.4%	56.4%	26.1%	12.0%	6.9%	60.2%	23.1%	9.7%
<b>Workplace</b>	2.1%	28.6%	30.7%	38.5%	5.0%	53.3%	26.6%	15.1%
<b>Weapon</b>								
<b>Gun homicide</b>	7.5%	59.0%	22.5%	11.0%	12.1%	64.1%	16.1%	7.7%
<b>Arson</b>	28.4%	27.2%	18.9%	25.4%	11.7%	58.4%	22.8%	7.1%
<b>Poison</b>	26.5%	24.2%	16.7%	32.6%	4.9%	50.9%	26.1%	18.1%
<b>Multiple victims or offenders</b>								
<b>Multiple victims</b>	18.6%	45.9%	19.0%	16.4%	9.7%	65.9%	18.6%	5.9%
<b>Multiple offenders</b>	11.3%	55.2%	19.7%	13.7%	18.7%	72.8%	7.3%	1.2%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional Information about the Data](#).

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

#### Related charts on this site

- [Percent of homicides committed during a felony by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving multiple offenders by age of offender, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicide offending by weapon type and age of offender, 1976-2002](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving guns by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate](#)
- [Teen homicide offending rates by region, 1976-2002](#)
- [Percent of homicides cleared by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate](#)



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**Age Trends**

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**Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000  
 Population by Age**

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

<b>2001</b>	1.5	4.6	15.4	10.7	5.6	2.6
<b>2002</b>	1.5	4.5	15.3	11.0	5.7	2.5

### Homicide Victims by Age

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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**Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000  
 Population by Age**

	<b>Under 14</b>	<b>14-17</b>	<b>18-24</b>	<b>25-34</b>	<b>35-49</b>	<b>50+</b>
<b>1976</b>	.2	11.4	22.9	19.4	10.7	3.7
<b>1977</b>	.2	10.7	22.8	18.6	10.9	3.7
<b>1978</b>	.3	10.5	24.0	18.9	10.9	3.5
<b>1979</b>	.2	12.3	26.8	20.4	11.3	3.7
<b>1980</b>	.2	12.9	30.0	22.6	12.8	3.6
<b>1981</b>	.2	12.1	26.6	20.2	12.3	3.5
<b>1982</b>	.2	11.1	25.1	19.1	10.9	3.1
<b>1983</b>	.2	10.2	23.0	17.4	9.8	2.7
<b>1984</b>	.2	9.1	22.2	16.9	9.1	2.8
<b>1985</b>	.2	10.5	22.2	16.0	9.1	2.8
<b>1986</b>	.2	12.7	24.4	17.5	9.4	2.7
<b>1987</b>	.2	12.9	25.2	16.3	8.9	2.7
<b>1988</b>	.2	16.8	27.9	16.3	8.6	2.6
<b>1989</b>	.3	18.5	31.6	16.5	8.0	2.3
<b>1990</b>	.2	25.7	36.1	17.5	8.2	2.3
<b>1991</b>	.3	28.1	42.7	18.0	7.5	2.1
<b>1992</b>	.3	28.0	39.5	16.5	7.2	2.1
<b>1993</b>	.3	31.3	42.8	15.6	7.0	2.2
<b>1994</b>	.4	31.1	40.7	14.9	6.8	1.8
<b>1995</b>	.3	25.1	37.7	13.9	6.4	1.8
<b>1996</b>	.2	21.0	36.8	12.8	5.8	1.7
<b>1997</b>	.2	17.5	33.9	12.3	5.2	1.7
<b>1998</b>	.2	13.7	31.7	12.0	5.3	1.5
<b>1999</b>	.2	11.1	28.4	10.9	4.8	1.5
<b>2000</b>	.1	9.5	28.0	11.6	4.8	1.4

<b>2001</b>	.1	9.3	28.4	12.1	4.8	1.3
<b>2002</b>	.1	9.0	26.8	12.8	4.9	1.4

### Homicide Offenders by Age

	<b>Under 14</b>	<b>14- 17</b>	<b>18-24</b>	<b>25-34</b>	<b>35-49</b>	<b>50+</b>
<b>1976</b>	106	1,904	6,383	6,207	3,709	2,043
<b>1977</b>	104	1,773	6,465	6,141	3,828	2,078
<b>1978</b>	125	1,712	6,878	6,389	3,904	1,974
<b>1979</b>	95	1,995	7,753	7,117	4,107	2,119
<b>1980</b>	111	2,084	8,841	8,353	4,722	2,090
<b>1981</b>	86	1,939	7,945	7,842	4,595	2,068
<b>1982</b>	94	1,730	7,433	7,531	4,237	1,854
<b>1983</b>	84	1,557	6,753	7,005	3,981	1,628
<b>1984</b>	73	1,358	6,458	6,929	3,809	1,710
<b>1985</b>	97	1,545	6,382	6,684	3,948	1,715
<b>1986</b>	98	1,849	6,907	7,426	4,228	1,670
<b>1987</b>	118	1,865	6,966	6,966	4,118	1,671
<b>1988</b>	106	2,416	7,540	7,027	4,127	1,615
<b>1989</b>	129	2,629	8,372	7,120	4,008	1,450
<b>1990</b>	100	3,421	9,678	7,533	4,250	1,483
<b>1991</b>	141	3,769	11,234	7,726	4,016	1,381
<b>1992</b>	151	3,820	10,228	6,989	3,969	1,392
<b>1993</b>	167	4,315	11,168	6,663	3,899	1,425
<b>1994</b>	209	4,377	10,509	6,302	3,881	1,211
<b>1995</b>	150	3,650	9,582	5,795	3,777	1,256
<b>1996</b>	99	3,118	9,225	5,265	3,535	1,167
<b>1997</b>	105	2,676	8,387	5,005	3,265	1,166
<b>1998</b>	105	2,124	7,866	4,796	3,336	1,093
<b>1999</b>	91	1,732	7,184	4,262	3,029	1,105
<b>2000</b>	74	1,527	7,392	4,500	3,161	1,088
<b>2001</b>	53	1,511	7,688	4,661	3,208	1,045
<b>2002</b>	66	1,476	7,431	4,878	3,299	1,099

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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**Mean Age of Victims and Offenders**

	<b>Victims</b>	<b>Offenders</b>
<b>1976</b>	36.0 yrs.	30.3 yrs.
<b>1977</b>	35.5	30.5
<b>1978</b>	35.2	30.2
<b>1979</b>	35.5	29.9
<b>1980</b>	35.2	29.6
<b>1981</b>	35.6	30.0
<b>1982</b>	35.4	29.9
<b>1983</b>	35.3	29.9
<b>1984</b>	35.7	30.3
<b>1985</b>	35.5	30.2
<b>1986</b>	35.1	29.8
<b>1987</b>	34.8	29.8
<b>1988</b>	34.1	29.1
<b>1989</b>	33.4	28.3
<b>1990</b>	33.1	27.7
<b>1991</b>	32.8	26.9
<b>1992</b>	32.6	27.0
<b>1993</b>	32.3	26.6
<b>1994</b>	32.4	26.4
<b>1995</b>	32.8	27.0
<b>1996</b>	32.6	27.0
<b>1997</b>	33.2	27.3
<b>1998</b>	33.2	27.7
<b>1999</b>	33.1	28.1
<b>2000</b>	33.6	28.3
<b>2001</b>	33.4	28.1
<b>2002</b>	33.6	28.4

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Victims who knew the offender by victim age**

Age	Known		Stranger/Unsolved	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	5,835	85.9%	958	14.1%
1	3,392	86.7%	522	13.3%
2	2,714	85.9%	445	14.1%
3	1,598	81.6%	361	18.4%
4	1,088	79.0%	289	21.0%
5	810	77.8%	231	22.2%
6	615	73.0%	227	27.0%
7	564	72.0%	219	28.0%
8	526	70.6%	219	29.4%
9	482	66.4%	244	33.6%
10	470	66.0%	243	34.0%
11	470	63.2%	274	36.8%
12	665	62.9%	392	37.1%
13	903	59.1%	626	40.9%
14	1,568	56.0%	1,234	44.0%
15	2,475	50.8%	2,396	49.2%
16	3,794	48.0%	4,112	52.0%
17	5,494	47.4%	6,107	52.6%
18	6,884	46.3%	7,972	53.7%
19	8,293	46.2%	9,648	53.8%
20	8,461	44.7%	10,458	55.3%
21	8,857	46.8%	10,079	53.2%
22	9,027	47.2%	10,115	52.8%
23	9,152	48.5%	9,705	51.5%
24	8,887	48.6%	9,412	51.4%
25	9,188	46.3%	10,636	53.7%

<b>26</b>	8,798	49.7%	8,910	50.3%
<b>27</b>	8,375	49.6%	8,495	50.4%
<b>28</b>	8,164	51.1%	7,801	48.9%
<b>29</b>	8,098	51.4%	7,647	48.6%
<b>30</b>	8,302	49.3%	8,541	50.7%
<b>31</b>	7,190	52.8%	6,428	47.2%
<b>32</b>	7,367	53.2%	6,483	46.8%
<b>33</b>	6,652	53.2%	5,846	46.8%
<b>34</b>	6,735	54.2%	5,698	45.8%
<b>35</b>	6,614	51.8%	6,162	48.2%
<b>36</b>	5,887	54.0%	5,010	46.0%
<b>37</b>	5,786	56.3%	4,500	43.7%
<b>38</b>	5,558	55.6%	4,441	44.4%
<b>39</b>	5,242	55.7%	4,163	44.3%
<b>40</b>	5,200	53.0%	4,618	47.0%
<b>41</b>	4,488	55.4%	3,611	44.6%
<b>42</b>	4,568	55.0%	3,732	45.0%
<b>43</b>	3,967	55.5%	3,186	44.5%
<b>44</b>	3,734	56.8%	2,844	43.2%
<b>45</b>	3,683	54.6%	3,065	45.4%
<b>46</b>	3,215	54.3%	2,701	45.7%
<b>47</b>	3,170	55.7%	2,524	44.3%
<b>48</b>	2,855	56.6%	2,189	43.4%
<b>49</b>	2,761	55.8%	2,189	44.2%
<b>50</b>	2,855	53.1%	2,525	46.9%
<b>51</b>	2,252	53.8%	1,932	46.2%
<b>52</b>	2,315	53.4%	2,017	46.6%
<b>53</b>	2,079	53.0%	1,842	47.0%
<b>54</b>	2,113	55.9%	1,670	44.1%
<b>55</b>	2,001	54.0%	1,705	46.0%
<b>56</b>	1,778	52.7%	1,599	47.3%
<b>57</b>	1,717	53.5%	1,494	46.5%
<b>58</b>	1,551	55.3%	1,254	44.7%
<b>59</b>	1,443	52.8%	1,289	47.2%
<b>60</b>	1,452	49.3%	1,495	50.7%

61	1,292	51.6%	1,211	48.4%
62	1,364	50.4%	1,341	49.6%
63	1,244	52.6%	1,121	47.4%
64	1,070	52.3%	976	47.7%
65	1,236	52.0%	1,143	48.0%
66	890	51.6%	833	48.4%
67	964	50.5%	943	49.5%
68	889	51.4%	840	48.6%
69	825	51.8%	769	48.2%
70	852	49.0%	886	51.0%
71	725	50.4%	713	49.6%
72	780	48.9%	816	51.1%
73	679	51.8%	632	48.2%
74	662	50.6%	646	49.4%
75	674	51.7%	629	48.3%
76	549	48.0%	595	52.0%
77	518	49.4%	530	50.6%
78	483	48.7%	509	51.3%
79	454	46.4%	524	53.6%
80	445	46.9%	504	53.1%
81	343	42.2%	469	57.8%
82	380	48.7%	399	51.3%
83	294	44.1%	372	55.9%
84	257	43.5%	334	56.5%
85	227	42.0%	315	58.0%
86	236	45.5%	282	54.5%
87	164	41.1%	235	58.9%
88	122	37.3%	205	62.7%
89	101	41.0%	146	59.0%
90	107	42.1%	147	57.9%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

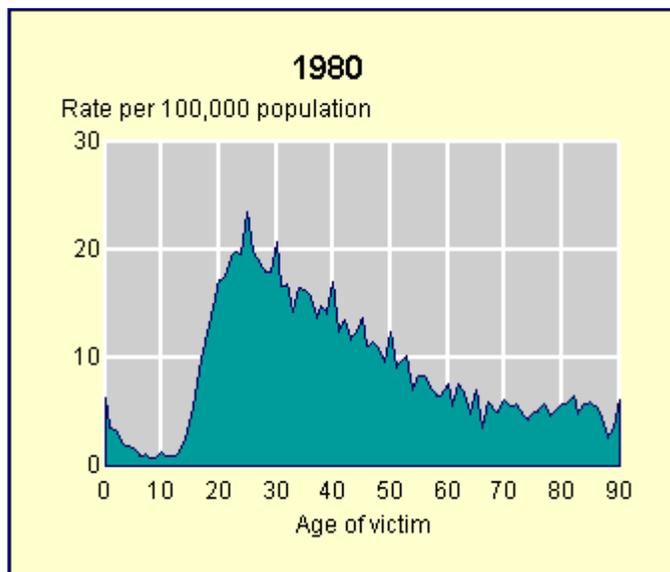
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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

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In general -

- homicide victimization rates are higher for very young children than older children who have the lowest rates of all age groups
- older teens and young adults have the highest rates of victimization
- after age 25, victimization rates decline with age

In the mid 1980's, the pattern in homicide victimization rates by age changed as the rates for teens and young adults increased rapidly. By 1991, the rates for older teens and those in their early 20's greatly exceeded those for all other age groups. Since 1993, victimization rates have shown a similar pattern by age despite declines in the rates.

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002

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**Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Age and Year**

Age	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
0	6.25	5.67	6.75	6.23	5.58	5.59	7.58	7.04	7.32	7.47	7.66	8.84	6.72	7.31	7.04	7.17	8.14	7.36	7.08	6.85	7.02	6.83	5.51
1	3.5	3.6	3.46	3.6	3.39	3.64	3.94	3.19	3.65	3.79	4.45	4.47	4.95	5.41	4.58	4.58	5.15	4.24	4.05	3.31	3.35	4.61	4.34
2	3.22	3.29	3.76	3.23	3.68	3.02	3.53	3.08	3.58	2.77	2.8	3.6	2.96	3.48	3.76	3.47	3.14	2.55	2.83	3.01	3.09	2.66	2.89
3	2.05	2.1	2.18	1.78	1.72	2.09	2.51	2.01	2.03	2.15	1.49	1.9	1.59	2.19	2.62	1.91	2.47	1.74	2.23	2.03	1.46	1.69	1.71
4	1.79	1.58	1.73	1.67	1.35	1.24	1.6	1.36	1.26	1.82	1.16	1.26	1.44	1.18	1.63	1.61	1.27	1.14	1.13	1.02	1	1.15	1.21
5	1.56	1.22	1.32	1.29	1.05	1.11	0.9	1.02	1.33	1.05	1.1	0.68	0.93	1.18	0.87	0.9	1.09	1.09	1.24	0.95	0.54	1.03	0.65
6	0.88	1.55	0.93	0.76	0.82	1.34	0.67	0.78	0.8	0.81	0.68	1.02	0.57	1.03	0.7	0.66	1.07	0.8	0.65	0.73	0.9	0.7	0.76
7	0.97	1.14	1.03	0.85	1.11	0.84	0.9	0.6	1.06	1	0.67	0.73	0.79	0.6	0.79	0.65	0.45	0.66	0.79	0.77	0.65	0.61	0.46
8	0.57	0.75	1.02	0.6	1.02	0.85	0.83	0.58	1.08	1.12	0.66	0.78	0.7	1.22	0.53	0.68	0.45	0.77	0.68	0.58	0.57	0.56	0.75
9	0.71	0.88	1.03	0.84	0.53	0.74	0.7	0.95	0.72	1.06	0.66	0.39	0.72	0.92	0.97	0.39	0.72	0.73	0.48	0.6	0.39	0.65	0.63
10	1.19	0.86	0.83	0.75	0.6	0.82	0.26	0.76	0.91	0.77	0.97	0.74	0.77	1	0.57	0.42	0.45	0.62	0.82	0.62	0.31	0.48	0.54
11	0.76	0.73	0.86	0.66	0.99	0.75	1.05	1.05	1.13	0.97	0.86	0.96	0.8	0.79	0.62	0.75	0.58	0.66	0.75	0.52	0.32	0.6	0.62
12	0.84	1.22	0.88	0.94	1.04	1.16	1.18	1.1	1.33	1.35	1.44	1.05	1.37	1.18	1.21	1.36	1.04	0.94	1.03	0.62	0.81	0.79	0.7
13	1.22	1.58	1.49	1.34	1.03	1.34	1.56	1.26	1.79	1.97	2.15	2.1	2.4	2.79	2.27	2.16	1.46	1.41	1.33	1.41	0.81	0.71	0.95
14	2.33	2.22	1.9	1.82	2.27	2.56	2.33	2.98	2.82	3.37	3.87	4.77	5.06	5.43	4.28	4.35	3.05	2.24	2.69	2.33	2.34	1.67	1.47
15	4.56	3.86	3.31	2.96	3.33	4.06	4.13	3.78	5.1	6.23	6.85	7.15	8.47	8.59	8.8	7.64	6.83	4.56	4.11	3.87	3.13	3.55	3.46
16	6.42	5.67	5.27	5.53	5.16	5.38	6.22	6.14	7.63	9.7	10.7	13.56	13.5	14.65	12.29	13.36	10.7	9.24	6.73	6.5	5.14	5.41	5.22
17	9.75	8.21	8.81	7.93	6.38	7.35	7.6	9.56	10.29	13.57	17.15	18.74	17.9	19.51	18.47	18.04	15.18	12.67	11.24	10.48	8.81	8.38	8
18	12.21	12.33	10.06	9.25	9.86	8.67	11.29	12.06	12.92	15.35	20.24	25.38	22.28	23.65	25	20.82	18.1	17.63	16.44	13.01	12.87	12.79	11.73
19	14.54	12.55	12.7	11.68	10.84	13.12	13.94	14.34	15.56	16.29	21.09	24.08	25.19	27.24	25.7	24.68	21.89	18.89	17.26	15.45	14.2	14.1	14.07
20	17.07	15.79	15.42	13.69	11.79	13.32	16.35	15.85	16.06	18.49	20.17	25.19	25.89	27.2	26.38	22.9	21.85	20.13	17.37	14.52	15.49	15.76	15.46
21	17.49	17.21	14.95	13.08	13.83	12.69	15.78	16.52	16.56	18.77	20.08	23.36	23.27	25.44	25.97	23.07	20.36	19.93	17.09	15.84	16.65	17.77	16.92
22	19.2	16.96	15.78	15.2	14.61	14.28	17.05	16.67	18	18.55	21.68	24.98	23.03	24.45	24.2	22.44	20.02	18.47	19.21	15.96	15.7	17.03	17.13
23	19.79	17.98	17.11	15.99	15.11	14.77	15.98	16.21	17.16	18.53	22.35	23.89	22.83	24.71	21.79	20.56	18.3	18.98	16.53	15.12	15.67	16.84	17.69
24	19.49	17.51	16.77	15.35	14.76	14.44	16.47	16.4	17.18	18.71	21.87	20.69	20.63	20.62	19.74	18.02	17.07	18.27	15.11	15.02	14.93	14.7	16.08
25	23.39	21.22	17.26	16.87	16.56	16.94	18.67	20	22.99	22.38	21.98	21.99	22.31	23.13	20.28	19.07	17.47	16.26	15.89	12.72	14.88	15.03	15.58

26 19.64 18.37 16.21 15.27 14.49 13.83 16.96 16.55 16.92 16.52 19.38 18.87 19.72 18.96 20.18 16.02 15.91 14.2 14.37 13.84 14.02 16.4 15.26  
27 18.81 18.62 16.21 14.98 14.59 13.64 16.19 15.56 16.67 16.66 18.71 18.57 17.4 17.99 17.57 16.36 13.38 13.61 12.1 11.57 11.9 13.4 13.33  
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29 17.81 16.26 16.07 14.37 14.38 14.62 15.47 13.47 14.56 15.06 16.27 15.45 15.09 16.27 14.52 13.44 11.88 10.46 10.79 10.15 10.06 10.66 11.79  
30 20.69 20.69 16.8 15.34 14.17 14.21 16.53 15.57 15.99 15.88 18.67 18.83 17.41 17.04 17.81 14.86 12.9 12.39 10.64 10.29 10.66 10.69 11.29  
31 16.5 17.15 14.83 12.61 12.68 12.52 13.01 13.01 13.2 13.26 13.97 15.62 14.13 14.59 13.53 12.02 11.8 10.09 9.29 8.01 9.58 9.35 9.21  
32 16.67 16.63 15.6 14.56 12.56 13.72 14.57 12.94 13.54 13.75 14.12 14.18 14.07 14.95 12.83 13.78 11.41 9.96 8.89 8.43 9.15 8.64 9.46  
33 14.09 14.18 12.81 13.58 11.94 12.07 13.58 12.76 11.98 12.65 13.58 12.93 13.37 13.44 12.96 11.06 9.99 9.68 8.57 8.02 8.4 8.66 9.21  
34 16.45 13.67 13.56 11.58 11.67 12.09 11.26 10.97 11.59 13.48 13.46 13.31 13.09 13.29 12.64 10.88 8.64 9.2 8.21 7.89 8.16 7.82 8.28  
35 16.2 16.25 13.59 12.91 12.78 13.55 14.09 12.83 12.87 13.74 13.97 14.16 13.14 12.82 11.38 10.82 10.68 9.2 8.88 8 7.12 7.49 8.49  
36 15.41 13.73 14.91 9.36 10.44 11.1 11.52 11.35 11.19 10.4 11.79 12.27 11.63 10.97 10.71 10.3 10.45 8.34 7.95 7.36 7.45 7.59 7.52  
37 13.52 14.14 12.26 13.42 10.67 10.77 10.61 10.94 10.15 10.75 11.5 11.33 10.05 11.46 10.15 8.57 8.76 8 7.39 6.02 6.62 7.53 7.36  
38 14.7 12.79 13 11.69 11.49 9.51 11.43 10.36 11.89 11.64 12.31 12.18 10.68 11.94 11.32 8.76 8.85 8.68 7.92 7.12 6.56 7.34 7.01  
39 14.02 13.6 10.76 11.92 10.9 10.05 9.35 9.35 9.15 9.37 10.33 10.01 10 9.47 10.52 9.11 7.39 6.04 6.52 6.68 6.18 6.34 6.33  
40 16.9 15.55 13.47 11.37 10.39 11.31 11.73 9.51 10.05 9.65 10.69 11.27 10.82 10.73 9.92 9.32 8.03 6.87 6.6 6.8 6.99 7.04 6.19  
41 12.36 14.05 12 10.19 8.57 10.88 9.97 8.98 8.74 7.93 10.34 9.9 9.03 9.48 8.23 7.56 8.04 7.05 6.62 4.96 6.19 5.26 6.32  
42 13.38 13.2 13.88 12.08 11.16 10.28 10.66 9.88 9.25 9.19 8.91 9.2 10.76 8.58 8.96 8.33 6.92 6.83 7.04 6.41 5.59 5.28 6.2  
43 11.6 10.68 10.58 10.45 10.44 8.57 8.96 8.39 8.41 8.82 8.06 8.86 8.28 8.39 7.44 8.4 6.73 6.2 5.77 5.47 5.59 5.25 5.47  
44 12.23 11.56 10.18 7.92 9.39 8.21 8.17 7.52 8.23 6.85 7.9 6.82 7.16 7.19 7.18 6.56 6.2 5.6 6.14 5.74 5.99 4.96 4.51  
45 13.69 12.26 11.6 9.64 9.26 9.46 9.49 8.61 6.96 8.53 7.93 10.17 7.71 7.11 6.99 7.1 6.96 6.17 5.53 5.12 5 4.62 4.91  
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47 11.35 11.63 10.3 9.35 7.74 8.09 8.42 8.38 7.77 6.72 7.09 7.44 6.97 8.35 6.25 5.9 5.31 5.44 4.69 3.87 4.67 3.97 5.14  
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50 12.28 12.41 10.82 9.83 9.64 7.91 7.48 7.95 5.97 6.71 7.61 7.71 7.51 6.54 5.77 6.35 5.49 4.17 4.1 3.82 3.83 4.34 3.96  
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53 10.01 8.94 9 6.9 5.9 6.3 7.09 6.41 6.01 6.23 5.7 6.45 4.83 5.73 4.89 4.49 4.14 4.2 3.81 3.06 2.73 3.42 3.2  
54 6.86 9.62 7.24 6.64 6.64 5.74 7.14 5.43 4.77 6.84 5.53 5.59 6.19 4.64 5.68 5.26 4.97 3.32 3.2 3.62 3.62 2.96 3.19  
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56 8.16 9.31 8.19 6.15 5.69 6.83 6.43 5.44 4.27 4.99 4.88 4.93 4.8 3.9 3.57 5.26 4 3.82 2.79 3.05 3.21 3.19 3.2  
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61	5.41	5.8	5.36	4.56	5.43	5.18	4.66	3.98	4.57	4.32	4.86	4.72	4.23	4.65	3.95	3.7	3.26	3.17	3.04	3.22	2.43	3.46	2.12
62	7.48	6.38	7.08	6.41	5.74	4.67	5.12	4.87	4.55	5.1	4.21	4.88	4.72	4.52	3.98	4.13	3.2	3.43	2.48	2.58	2.21	2.73	2.48
63	6.53	6.56	5.63	4.61	4.68	3.79	3.91	4.36	5.12	3.67	4.6	4.62	3.47	3.5	3.23	3.36	3.94	3.05	2.33	2.47	2.44	2.72	2.88
64	4.77	5.02	4.75	4.37	3.78	5.18	3.61	3.47	3.33	4.37	3.7	3.47	4.14	3.01	2.99	3.62	2.84	2.92	2.32	1.66	1.95	2.15	2.51
65	6.87	5.01	6.04	4.36	4.88	5.2	5.92	4.78	5.35	3.88	4.1	4.57	4.12	3.69	3.44	4.03	3.23	2.65	2.79	2.62	1.91	2.78	1.69
66	3.36	4.24	3.88	3.36	3.6	4.36	4.76	3.35	4.16	3.16	2.92	3.59	3.05	3.43	2.76	2.82	2.01	2.42	1.94	2.6	1.71	2.01	1.8
67	5.78	4.83	4.96	4.85	3.78	3.86	3.1	4.66	4.93	3.56	2.72	3.66	2.98	3.62	2.85	3.3	2.69	2.66	2.06	2.48	2.55	1.92	2.26
68	5.31	5.92	4.75	4	3.31	3.89	3.83	3.97	3.81	4.37	3.54	3.11	3.41	3.44	3.34	3.13	2.68	2.31	2.51	1.97	1.71	2.51	2.2
69	4.85	3.58	3.7	4.35	3.08	3.56	3.79	2.95	3.62	2.81	3.1	3.37	2.85	2.74	2.67	2.65	3.09	2.36	1.89	2.13	1.95	2.42	2.05
70	6.01	4.32	5.15	4.29	4.77	4.14	4.07	4.21	4.23	4.31	3.7	3.57	3.35	4.34	3.22	3.06	2.45	2.66	2.08	2.13	1.79	2.43	1.56
71	5.53	5.53	5.13	3.08	3.59	3.2	3.55	4.53	3.69	2.68	2.74	3.82	3.08	3.37	2.64	2.58	1.58	3.02	2.18	1.36	2.31	2.35	1.92
72	5.58	4.8	5.95	4.97	4.69	3.98	4.34	3.93	3.73	3.8	3.96	3.46	3.77	3.25	3.03	2.91	3.18	2.18	2.72	1.88	2.55	1.43	2.45
73	4.65	4.75	3.48	3.8	4.75	3.66	4.39	4.47	3.23	3.78	2.16	3	2.55	4.1	2.81	2.5	1.81	2.32	1.97	2.73	1.69	1.94	2.26
74	4.16	3.33	3.96	3.48	4.53	3.71	4.13	4.41	3.85	4.32	4.39	2.81	3.53	2.65	3.12	2.71	2.91	2.83	2.03	2.02	2.62	1.95	2.11
75	4.96	4.95	3.9	5.26	3.9	3.63	4.4	5.5	3.71	3.86	3.8	4.22	3.1	3.68	3.08	3.88	2.89	2.27	2.04	2.09	1.97	1.81	1.57
76	4.85	5.35	6.08	4.4	2.91	3.39	3.8	4.52	2.83	3.72	2.85	3.33	3.35	3.36	2.46	2.73	2.32	2.03	2.47	2.29	1.85	2.14	2.11
77	5.69	4.54	4.44	3.06	3.32	3.83	2.37	3.38	4.56	3.75	4.41	3.57	3.19	2.47	2.61	2.35	2.83	2.65	2.51	2.72	1.95	2.32	2.22
78	4.52	4.58	3.7	4.09	3.84	4.6	3.93	4.53	4.12	3.36	4.32	2.84	2.83	2.96	3.28	2.53	1.89	2.35	2.2	1.41	1.94	1.68	1.42
79	5.18	6.07	4.67	4.81	4.65	4.05	4.8	4.32	5.24	4.26	3.36	3.66	3.67	2.57	2.76	2.69	2.5	2.17	1.71	2.49	2.07	2.3	1.93
80	5.65	4.83	4.38	3.96	4.16	5.08	4.89	5.09	5.89	4.42	4.88	4.35	4.01	2.75	4.43	3.27	2.56	2	2.25	1.77	3.01	1.74	1.89
81	5.88	7.65	4.45	4.44	4.98	5.1	2.93	4.51	3.94	3.64	4.55	3.87	3.59	3.43	3.61	3.27	2.76	2.5	2.45	1.84	2.43	1.87	2.04
82	6.47	4.41	5.89	6.31	4.21	2.94	3.43	5.64	4.98	3.11	3.81	3.84	4.08	4.17	3.33	3.57	1.91	3.2	2.29	2.13	2.32	1.72	2.33
83	4.76	3.52	4.84	4.89	4.81	3.95	4.69	3.86	4.02	4.33	3.93	2.93	3.2	4.96	4.3	2.12	3.44	2.7	2.31	1.75	1.06	2.39	2.19
84	5.71	6.64	4.29	4.01	5.11	4.59	3.26	3.73	3.32	4.28	4.79	4.41	3.41	4.63	2.41	3.57	2.05	1.49	2.14	2.96	1.31	1.54	2.87
85	5.78	4.8	6.22	3.94	3.29	3.42	6.15	4.89	5.14	5.29	3.37	2.31	4.32	3.09	3.57	3.7	3.92	3.26	2.33	1.76	2.38	1.47	2.57
86	5.44	5.44	8.66	6.46	6.58	3.18	5.87	6.24	4.43	2.51	4.66	4.59	3.21	4.42	4.62	2.99	4.44	4.3	3.53	2.57	1.55	1.63	1.08
87	4.36	5.57	3.63	4.1	3.85	4.36	5.35	8.15	4.25	3.78	6.92	2.43	3.53	5.8	2.35	2.72	2.42	2.58	2.61	1.62	2.85	1.25	1.81
88	2.41	5.8	5.04	4.43	2.72	4.53	7.63	5.12	7	6.05	2.82	3.52	3.35	3.49	2.72	2.41	1.66	3.79	1.09	2.13	1.3	2.87	2.58
89	3.42	3.46	7.72	3.36	3.47	2.16	4.93	2.88	4.03	4.22	4.22	3.17	5.36	2.25	2.45	0.94	4.3	2.82	1.6	1.86	1.21	2.29	2.7
90	6.08	7.44	2.84	7.4	3.79	5.97	4.34	4.4	6.03	3.62	3.95	4.8	6.3	1.17	2.6	3.21	3.53	2.27	2.25	2.2	2.16	2.36	1.31

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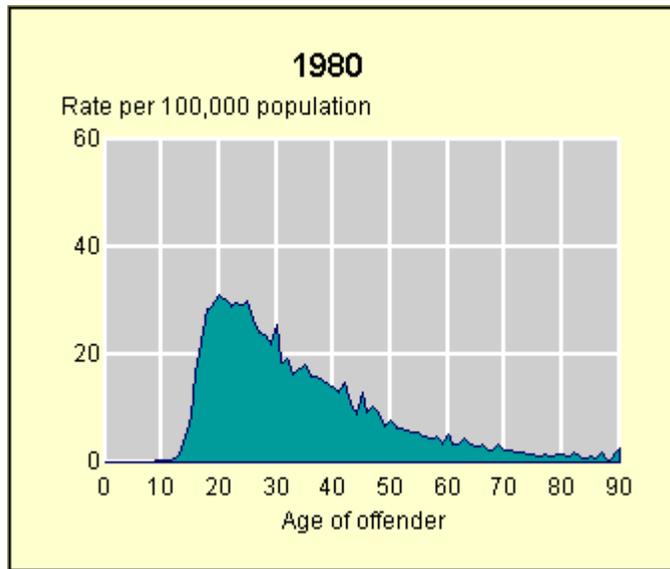
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### *Homicide trends in the U.S.*

#### Age trends - offending rates animation

To view this animation again, select reload or refresh on your browser.

To view the data click on the chart.



[D]

In general -

- older teens have the highest offending rates of all age groups
- after the teenage years, the rates decline with age

In the mid 1980's the rates for teens and young adults increased rapidly until after 1993 when the rates began to decline. Throughout the entire period, the rates for older teens and young adults have been the highest of all ages.

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002

See also [Additional information about the data](#) for details on weighting and imputation.

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Offending rates trends by age**

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**Homicide Offending Rates per 100,000 Population by Age and Year**

Age	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0.09	0.13	0	0.07	0.07	0.27	0	0	0	0.12	0	0.04	0	0	0.07	0.11	0.04	0.03	0.03	0	0
8	0	0	0	0.04	0.09	0.09	0.05	0.17	0	0.24	0.11	0	0.06	0.04	0.04	0	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.07	0	0.04
9	0.1	0.08	0.08	0.07	0	0	0.19	0.07	0	0.1	0	0.03	0	0	0.11	0.12	0	0	0.07	0.03	0.04	0	0
10	0.34	0.14	0.24	0.03	0	0.15	0.11	0.34	0.05	0.32	0.03	0	0.2	0.11	0.15	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.15	0.1	0.1	0.06	0.28
11	0.36	0.16	0.19	0.38	0.37	0.12	0.37	0.49	0.26	0.33	0.3	0.44	0.27	0.26	0.33	0.12	0.07	0.28	0.28	0.3	0.15	0.09	0.09
12	0.73	0.61	0.7	0.61	0.69	0.61	0.46	0.53	0.81	0.6	0.78	0.38	1	1.02	0.93	0.95	0.41	0.61	0.18	0.4	0.27	0.38	0.46
13	1.38	1.38	1.31	1.03	0.85	1.68	1.69	1.68	1.95	2.14	1.68	3.05	2.64	3.03	4.06	2.65	1.92	1.66	1.84	1.21	1.11	0.77	0.66
14	4.17	3.72	3.11	3.53	2.9	3.45	4.06	5.28	6.22	6.98	6.61	8.18	7.98	10.18	9.07	8.03	6.28	3.96	3.38	3.31	2.46	3.16	2.54
15	8.2	9.57	7.53	7.67	6.76	7.96	9.2	8.21	12.15	14.58	19.01	21.49	19.32	22.61	21.88	17.04	14.05	10.29	8.31	7.34	5.96	6.32	5.9
16	16.09	14	14.22	13.55	10.91	12.75	14.79	15.51	20.57	24.28	31.84	33.73	35.62	38.93	37.59	32.33	24.8	21.46	15.32	12.71	10.69	11.25	10.69
17	21.99	21.11	20.02	17.14	16.35	17.67	21.39	21.02	27.61	30.61	44.34	48.8	48.84	52.57	53.46	42	37.26	33.1	27.3	20.48	19.51	17.42	17.45
18	28.47	26.77	23.85	23.58	18.67	19.49	24.45	26.22	29.5	36.89	49.34	61.35	57.01	60.9	61.65	50.22	47.97	41.77	35	32.24	29.34	32.63	24.79
19	29.05	26.89	24.05	22.17	22.03	24.13	25.02	25.66	27.64	36.47	44.11	50.91	50.48	56.44	51.44	47.42	46.57	39.74	36.59	32.51	31.23	29.02	26.34
20	31	27.07	26.6	25.44	24.6	24.93	30	30.92	39.25	39.13	41.17	53.22	50.87	55.74	51.91	47.28	44.8	40.44	39.56	33.75	35.39	36.78	35.08
21	30.04	27.7	25.36	21.55	20.11	22.51	25.37	23.38	25.53	27.14	32.17	39.06	36.18	39.2	39.46	36.24	33.72	31.62	30.05	26.08	29.22	29	30.63
22	28.72	24.14	25.39	23.29	22.03	20.95	24.05	25.73	26.15	28.02	30.5	36.5	32.9	37.09	33.02	33.58	32.82	29.11	27.9	26.51	26.23	26.17	26.64
23	29.35	26.9	23.4	21.95	23.88	21.5	23.82	22.78	23.37	25.75	29.22	32.8	27.36	31.92	29.76	27.8	30.22	27.65	23.68	22.07	24.01	25.28	24.03
24	28.91	24.39	23.8	20.07	21.7	20.96	19.19	21.97	22.32	22.28	25.62	25.36	23.26	25.84	25.92	25.55	23.04	22.83	21.07	17.64	19.57	19.91	22.44

25 29.72 26.38 25.62 23.13 22.04 23.22 24.57 22.65 24.76 26.69 29.11 32.79 28.18 27.36 26.69 23.92 21.92 20.69 21.82 19.24 22.43 24.1 23.81  
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28 23.47 22.25 20.96 18.36 18.6 17.42 18.93 18.88 18 19.16 19.26 20.74 18.08 19.73 17.26 17.87 15.63 13.13 14.12 13.17 13.02 14.41 15.04  
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30 25.39 21.51 19.91 18.27 18.35 16.82 20.38 18.81 18.46 18.1 20.22 19.59 17.23 16.22 15.47 14.98 13.5 12.75 11.76 12.44 11.15 11.31 12.78  
31 18.33 18.18 17.1 15.27 13.41 14.2 14.19 12.91 12.84 14.08 13.04 16.42 11.87 12.77 12.29 12.07 11.7 10.57 9.2 8.59 8.06 9.12 10.32  
32 19.15 18.85 17.44 14.96 14.8 12.53 13.75 13.41 13.85 12.64 13.24 14.83 12.36 12.68 11.25 11.01 11.05 9.41 9.9 8.29 8.55 9.04 10.06  
33 16.1 15.98 14.9 14.66 13.84 13.27 12.62 13.17 12.17 12.19 11.78 12.28 11.74 10.95 11.39 10.14 8.83 9.35 8.44 7.06 8.47 8.62 7.84  
34 17.06 12.45 12.66 13 12.04 11.56 11.38 12.52 11.15 10.13 12.4 12.44 9.57 8.8 9.22 9.24 7.41 7.71 7.86 8.09 7.11 7.57 8.61  
35 18.11 18.28 13.02 12.47 12.93 13.05 14.12 12.37 13.19 12.4 13.14 11.93 11.08 10.37 11.09 9.25 8.77 7.44 7.13 6.38 6.77 7.4 8.15  
36 15.88 15.24 14.24 10.41 11.26 9.98 11.28 11.13 9.11 9.4 10.61 9.5 8.88 9.07 8.21 8.76 7.67 6.83 7.76 6.21 6.59 7.15 7.54  
37 15.68 13.92 13.78 11.96 8.86 10.52 11.7 10.27 9.88 9.51 9.08 9.28 9.45 8.61 8.38 7.46 6.93 6.25 6.76 6.07 5.78 7.23 6.67  
38 15.23 13.02 12.64 12.27 12.4 9.52 10.65 10.73 11.17 9.72 10.08 8.59 8 8.06 7.74 7.81 6.73 6.45 6.15 6.77 5.81 6.37 6.36  
39 14.7 12.48 11.3 10.6 10.05 10.97 8.99 8.7 9.29 8.2 8.19 7.76 7.45 7.29 6.72 6.41 7.27 6.32 5.31 4.97 5.87 5.45 6.05  
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41 12.91 13.17 11 9.49 7.85 9.29 9.52 9.39 7.9 8.15 7.62 7.22 7.29 6.73 5.56 6.64 6.08 4.75 4.86 4.53 5.68 4.62 5.68  
42 14.76 12.85 12.63 9.43 7.33 8.27 7.33 8.56 8.66 7.46 7.45 7.37 6.93 6.87 6.07 6.1 5.69 4.74 5.28 4.76 4.75 4.47 4.77  
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44 8.63 10.81 7.99 9.57 8.57 9.71 8.64 7.22 6 6.83 7.14 4.54 4.9 5.65 5.26 5 3.53 4.3 4.96 3.85 3.56 3.59 3.78  
45 12.94 10.58 9.06 8.7 6.96 8.19 7.09 8.41 6.31 6.12 7.59 7.35 5.82 5.21 5.83 5.24 4.68 4.83 4.22 3.66 4.54 4.04 4.26  
46 9.18 9.42 8.47 7.81 6.82 5.47 6.75 7.06 5.83 4.86 6.82 5.85 5.72 4.04 5.35 4.35 3.76 4.43 4.5 2.65 3.13 3.61 3.7  
47 10.15 9.58 7.39 7.86 6.83 7.19 6.2 6.41 7.07 5.54 4.94 4.78 5.97 5.81 4.06 4.07 4.21 3.88 3.1 3.43 3.83 3.89 3.69  
48 8.74 9.52 6.56 8.04 7.03 5.68 8.38 6.93 6.35 6.5 5.8 4.19 5.91 5.32 5.27 3.92 4.2 3.69 3.91 3.39 2.92 3.58 3.93  
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50 7.59 7.73 6.05 5.62 6.38 7.76 6.32 5.98 4.9 5.24 5.31 4.15 4.69 4.09 3.79 2.53 3.86 2.97 3.06 3.18 3.36 2.86 2.94  
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52 6.25 5.76 5.68 4.41 4.8 5.4 5.31 4.92 4.17 3.89 3.37 5.02 4.27 4.39 4.03 4.06 2.53 3.13 3.58 2.16 2.63 1.83 2.9  
53 5.72 5.04 4.97 5.11 5.06 5.15 4.71 4.02 4.29 3.74 4.33 4.01 3.86 3.37 2.87 2.46 2.58 2.67 2.71 2.24 1.7 2.37 3  
54 5.3 5.35 4.43 4.09 4.17 3.08 4.56 4.77 4.37 3.12 3.68 3.33 2.55 3.02 2.78 3.51 2.92 2.62 1.86 2.41 2.4 2.16 2.07  
55 5.41 5.34 5.56 5.06 3.87 4.36 4.48 4.24 4.82 3.41 2.43 3.43 4.03 3.25 3.05 2.85 2.7 1.92 2.56 2.05 1.9 2.21 1.78  
56 4.62 5.67 4.34 3.79 3.54 3.53 3.56 4.62 3.12 3.67 3.26 3.49 4.14 2.5 2.42 2.98 2.96 2.77 2.01 1.91 2.02 1.29 2  
57 4.18 4.59 3.49 3.69 3.01 2.92 3.17 2.93 3.52 2.8 2.96 1.9 2.65 3.57 2.4 2.48 1.67 2.15 2.04 2.49 1.74 1.74 1.87  
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59 3.28 4.8 4.5 2.82 3.78 3.99 3.07 2.65 3.02 2.28 2.09 2.4 1.82 2.6 1.62 1.82 2.17 2.34 1.82 2.08 1.36 1.47 1.13

60	5.09	3.93	3.11	3.09	3.07	3.33	3.42	2.37	3.27	3.63	3.53	2.77	2.22	2.47	1.59	2.18	2.15	1.55	0.83	1.55	2.04	1.78	1.22
61	3	2.81	3.14	2.7	2.56	2.36	2.1	2.91	2.38	2.86	2.06	1.65	2.04	2.31	1.76	2.11	2.22	1.62	2.27	1.3	1.16	1.35	1.3
62	3.26	2.52	3.76	2.73	2.92	2.9	3.26	2.61	1.82	2.28	2.35	2.04	2.42	2.89	1.66	2.05	1.55	1.83	1.37	1.27	1.17	0.82	0.91
63	4.14	2.32	2.15	2.8	1.91	1.89	2.02	1.98	1.94	2.38	2.56	1.57	1.53	1.48	1.65	1.74	1.6	1.07	1.45	1.31	0.79	1.34	1.27
64	3.28	2.7	2.39	2.48	1.94	2.46	1.73	1.83	2.14	2.07	1.91	1.96	2.23	2.36	2.14	1.88	1.24	1.46	1.29	0.94	1.07	1.15	0.92
65	2.91	2.67	3.28	2.17	2.31	2.6	2.05	2.03	2.28	1.91	1.71	1.64	1.59	1.76	1.46	1.75	1.06	0.88	0.98	0.54	0.82	1.24	0.94
66	3.32	2.43	1.45	1.82	2.21	1.48	2.21	2.82	1.92	1.52	1.23	1.05	1.87	1.54	1.37	0.75	1.37	1.14	1.24	1.47	1.31	0.78	1.28
67	2.1	3.03	1.86	1.68	2	1.77	1.33	2.81	2.42	1.3	1.76	1.67	1.79	1.77	1.18	1.64	1.32	1.51	0.69	1.12	0.79	1.2	0.48
68	2.2	2.51	2.37	1.48	2.24	2.02	1.61	0.93	1.76	1.98	1.06	1.64	1.65	1.49	2.15	1.32	0.76	1.2	1.4	1.62	0.57	1.19	0.66
69	3.29	2.3	1.79	0.9	2.24	1.57	1.55	2.2	2.52	1.43	1.94	1.39	1.21	0.76	0.95	1.05	0.94	1.05	0.67	0.89	1.15	0.63	0.59
70	1.93	1.72	2.08	1.83	2.63	1.64	1.57	1.51	1.82	1.23	2.61	1.26	1.38	0.53	1.02	0.59	0.87	1.3	0.95	0.67	0.95	0.52	0.95
71	2.22	1.99	0.82	1.92	2.23	1.67	1.59	2.27	1.85	1.91	0.85	1.28	1.15	1.37	0.87	1.13	0.66	1.21	0.51	1.07	0.88	0.7	0.93
72	1.84	1.73	2.3	1.33	1.74	2.01	1.44	1.81	1.32	1.01	1.36	0.85	1.34	1.36	1.78	1.43	1.04	0.97	0.9	0.91	0.47	0.61	0.46
73	1.63	1.72	1.75	1.69	1.47	1.27	2	1.18	1.5	1.73	0.93	1.34	0.95	0.99	0.74	1.01	0.87	0.89	0.34	0.67	0.77	0.61	0.76
74	1.16	1.41	2.11	0.94	1.28	1.68	1.54	0.95	1.02	1.23	0.85	1.14	0.36	1.22	0.86	1.11	0.55	0.43	0.69	0.36	0.9	0.76	0.54
75	1.23	2.4	2.56	1.91	1.85	1.36	1.33	0.97	1.08	1.3	0.97	0.99	0.39	1.04	0.66	0.61	0.72	0.93	0.82	1.35	0.55	0.61	0.72
76	0.99	1.51	1.27	0.79	0.95	0.72	1.34	1.63	1.49	0.95	1.5	0.8	0.61	1.04	0.6	1.1	1	0.64	0.72	1.2	1.14	0.6	0.74
77	1.23	1.63	1.25	0.53	0.65	1.23	1.48	1.66	1.75	0.99	1.13	0.78	1.41	0.58	0.57	1.34	0.78	0.59	1.52	0.81	0.89	1	0.72
78	1.06	1.47	0.11	0.99	1.34	0.45	1.87	1.68	1.24	1.32	1.1	1.08	0.58	0.58	0.94	0.82	1.08	0.1	1.15	0.63	0.87	0.26	0.71
79	1.14	0.76	0.13	1.24	0.97	1.25	1.41	1.59	1.05	0.73	1.5	0.68	1.77	1.53	0.11	0.96	0.76	0.85	0.34	0.96	0.66	0.35	0.54
80	1.3	1.05	1.25	0.31	1.32	1.74	1.69	1.59	1.13	1.82	0.71	0.84	0.8	0.92	0.48	0.81	0.86	0.36	0.74	0	0.65	0.33	0.2
81	0.94	1.69	1.4	0.53	0.85	0.97	1.13	1.04	0.87	0.94	0.43	1.17	1.56	0.38	0.13	0.49	1.05	0.89	1.01	0.51	1.15	0.82	0.34
82	1.76	0.86	0.74	1.18	1.04	1.19	1.37	1.31	0.41	0.8	2.07	1.12	1.19	1.45	0.73	0.4	0.27	1.22	0.58	1.17	0.69	0.64	0.96
83	1.27	0.65	0.2	1.37	0.56	0.83	1.29	1.77	2.07	0.81	1.01	0.86	0.77	2	1.02	0.29	0.17	1.01	0.31	0.15	0.6	0.83	0.42
84	0.51	1.01	0.22	0.22	1.54	1.97	0	0.63	1.42	0	1.1	0.19	1.15	0.75	0.93	0.34	1.23	0.76	0.39	0.49	0.67	0	0.2
85	1.04	0.54	0.99	0.55	0.26	2.1	1.55	1.11	1.29	1.84	0.76	2.07	0.99	0.96	0.83	0.4	0.87	0.93	0.19	0.6	0.5	0.55	0.18
86	0.38	1.37	0.36	0.95	0.39	0.31	0.4	0.28	0.37	0.78	0.54	1.54	0.56	0.52	0.95	0.26	0.45	0.23	0	0.68	0.72	0.56	1.16
87	1.58	0.75	1.4	0.95	0.34	0.31	0	2.35	1.36	0.55	1.92	1.16	1.25	1.63	0.55	0.51	1.91	1.49	0.96	1.13	0.5	0.64	0.22
88	0	2.94	0.83	0.41	0.93	1.97	1.45	2.25	1.25	0.37	0.81	0.88	1.09	0.29	0.62	0.33	0.8	0	1.01	0.3	0	0	0.48
89	0.84	0	1.7	1.33	0.46	0.51	0.84	0.44	1.54	0	0.59	1.82	0	0.76	0.74	0.33	0	0.35	0.34	0.75	0.31	0.66	0
90	2.26	0	1.91	0	1.37	0.6	1.38	0	1.39	1.13	1.09	0.45	0	0.5	0.85	0.77	1.26	0	0.42	0	0.81	0.89	0

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## *Homicide trends in the U.S.*

### Trends by gender

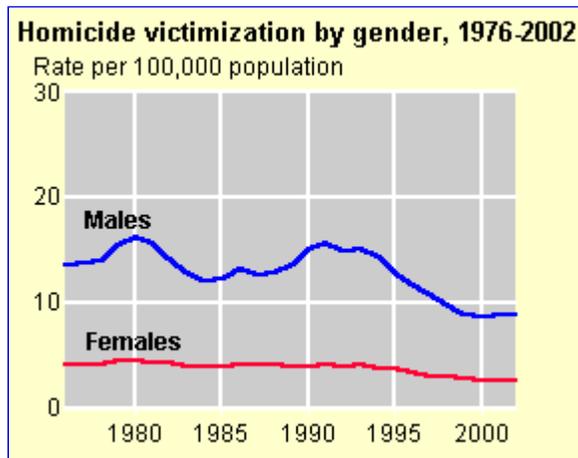
## Most victims and perpetrators in homicides are male

Male offender/Male victim	65.1%
Male offender/Female victim	22.6%
Female offender/Male victim	9.9%
Female offender/Female victim	2.4%

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

- Males were 3.4 times more likely than females to be murdered in 2002
- In 2000 rates for females reached their lowest point in more than two decades and stabilized through 2002; rates for males increased slightly from the low point recorded in 2000.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

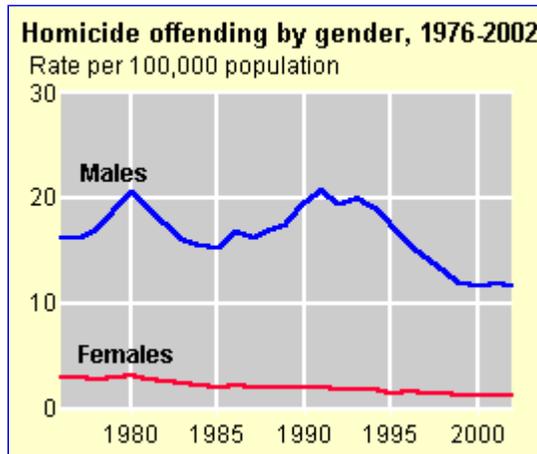
For more information about gender patterns in violent victimization see [Key Facts at a Glance](#).

## Offending rates for both males and females followed the same pattern as victimization rates

- Males were almost 10 times more likely than females to commit murder in 2002.
- Both male and female offenders are more likely to target male victims than female victims.
- The offending rates for females declined since the early 1980's while those for males peaked in the early 1990's and have fallen considerably since

then.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

For the years 1976-2002 combined -

- Among all homicide victims, women are particularly at risk for intimate killings, sex-related homicides, and murder by arson or poison.
- Among homicide offenders generally, women are more likely to commit murder as a result of an argument or murder by poison.

#### Homicide Type by Gender, 1976-2002

	Victims		Offenders	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
All homicides	76.4%	23.6%	88.6%	11.4%
<b>Victim/offender relationship</b>				
Intimate	37.2%	62.8%	64.8%	35.2%
Family	52.0%	48.0%	70.3%	29.7%
Infanticide	54.5%	45.5%	61.6%	38.4%
Eldercide	58.2%	41.8%	85.4%	14.6%
<b>Circumstances</b>				
Felony murder	78.0%	22.0%	93.3%	6.7%
Sex related	18.9%	81.1%	93.6%	6.4%
Drug related	90.1%	9.9%	95.7%	4.3%
Gang related	94.5%	5.5%	98.4%	1.6%
Argument	78.1%	21.9%	85.3%	14.7%
Workplace	78.6%	21.4%	91.4%	8.6%
<b>Weapon</b>				
Gun homicide	82.5%	17.5%	91.0%	9.0%
Arson	56.5%	43.5%	79.5%	20.5%
Poison	54.4%	45.6%	62.9%	37.1%
<b>Multiple victims or offenders</b>				
Multiple victims	62.8%	37.2%	93.5%	6.5%
Multiple offenders	85.5%	14.5%	91.8%	8.2%

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

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

### Victim Offender Relationship by Victim Gender, 1976-2002

Victim/Offender relationship	Percent of homicide victims by gender	
	Male	Female
Total	100.0%	100.0%
<b>Intimate</b>	5.5%	30.1%
Spouse	3.3	18.6
Ex-spouse	0.2	1.4
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	2.0	10.1
<b>Other family</b>	6.7%	11.4%
Parent	1.3	2.7
Child	2.1	5.4
Sibling	1.2	0.9
Other family	2.1	2.5
<b>Acquaintance/Known</b>	35.9%	21.9%
Neighbor	1.2	1.3
Employee/er	0.2	0.1
Friend/Acquaintance	30.1	17.2
Other Known	4.5	3.2
<b>Stranger</b>	15.5%	8.9%
<b>Undetermined</b>	36.3%	27.7%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

### Related charts on this site

- [Homicides of children under age 5 by gender of victim and offender, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicides of persons age 65 and older by gender of victim, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicides of intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicides of intimates by gender and race of victim, 1976-2002](#)
- [Proportion of all homicides involving intimates by gender of victim, 1976-2002](#)
- [Intimate homicide rates by race, gender and relationship, 1976-2002](#)
- [Intimate homicides by type of weapon and gender of victim, 1976-2002](#)



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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Trends by gender**

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**Homicide Victimization  
Rates per 100,000  
Population by Gender**

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

<b>2001</b>	8.8	2.6
<b>2002</b>	8.8	2.6

**Homicide Victims by  
Gender**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

See also **Additional Information About the Data** for details about weighting and imputation.



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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Trends by gender**

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**Homicide Offending  
Rates per 100,000  
Population by Gender**

	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>1976</b>	16.3	3.0
<b>1977</b>	16.3	2.9
<b>1978</b>	16.9	2.7
<b>1979</b>	18.6	2.9
<b>1980</b>	20.6	3.1
<b>1981</b>	19.0	2.8
<b>1982</b>	17.6	2.6
<b>1983</b>	16.0	2.4
<b>1984</b>	15.4	2.2
<b>1985</b>	15.3	2.1
<b>1986</b>	16.7	2.2
<b>1987</b>	16.2	2.1
<b>1988</b>	17.0	2.0
<b>1989</b>	17.6	2.0
<b>1990</b>	19.6	2.0
<b>1991</b>	20.8	2.1
<b>1992</b>	19.4	1.8
<b>1993</b>	20.0	1.9
<b>1994</b>	19.0	1.8
<b>1995</b>	17.3	1.5
<b>1996</b>	15.6	1.6
<b>1997</b>	14.3	1.4
<b>1998</b>	13.1	1.4
<b>1999</b>	11.8	1.2
<b>2000</b>	11.6	1.2

<b>2001</b>	11.8	1.2
<b>2002</b>	11.7	1.2

**Homicide Offenders by Gender**

	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>1976</b>	17,056	3,296
<b>1977</b>	17,164	3,225
<b>1978</b>	17,907	3,075
<b>1979</b>	19,954	3,232
<b>1980</b>	22,602	3,599
<b>1981</b>	21,205	3,271
<b>1982</b>	19,762	3,118
<b>1983</b>	18,137	2,871
<b>1984</b>	17,640	2,697
<b>1985</b>	17,757	2,614
<b>1986</b>	19,458	2,719
<b>1987</b>	19,109	2,594
<b>1988</b>	20,280	2,552
<b>1989</b>	21,122	2,586
<b>1990</b>	23,856	2,608
<b>1991</b>	25,612	2,656
<b>1992</b>	24,182	2,366
<b>1993</b>	25,192	2,445
<b>1994</b>	24,141	2,349
<b>1995</b>	22,227	1,984
<b>1996</b>	20,263	2,147
<b>1997</b>	18,653	1,951
<b>1998</b>	17,372	1,949
<b>1999</b>	15,671	1,731
<b>2000</b>	16,024	1,716
<b>2001</b>	16,456	1,709
<b>2002</b>	16,538	1,711

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

See also **Additional Information About the Data** for details about weighting and imputation.



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**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
Trends by race

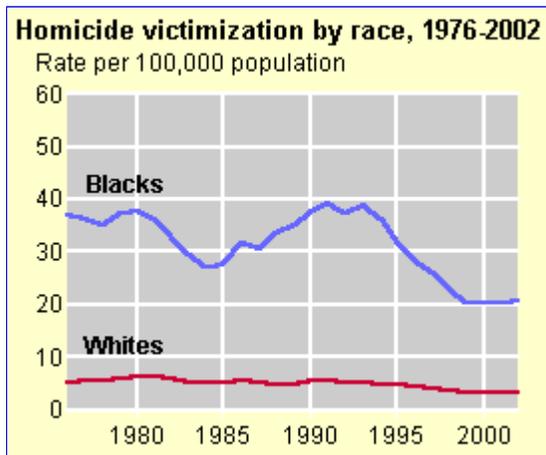
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## Racial differences exist, with blacks disproportionately represented among homicide victims and offenders

### Blacks were 6 times more likely than whites to be murdered in 2002

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To view data, click on the chart.

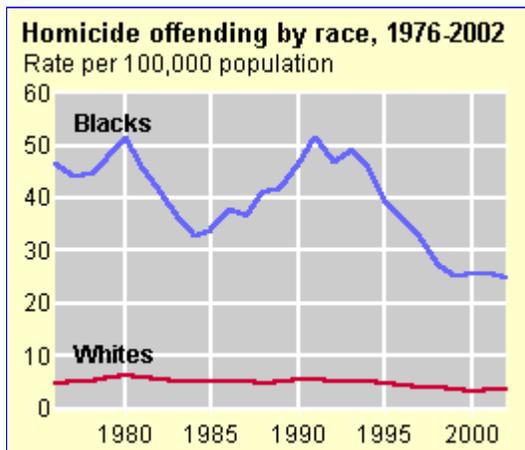


[D]

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

### Blacks were 7 times more likely than whites to commit homicide in 2002

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

For the years 1976-2002 combined -

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

### Homicide Type by Race, 1976-2002

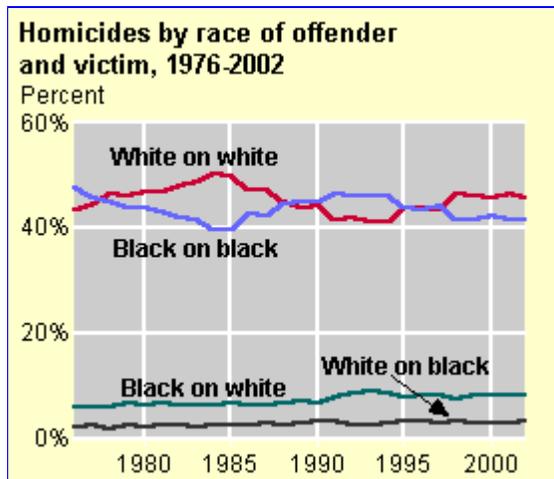
	Victims			Offenders		
	White	Black	Other	White	Black	Other
<b>All homicides</b>	51.1%	46.8%	2.1%	45.9%	52.1%	2.0%
<b>Victim/offender relationship</b>						
Intimate	56.2%	41.7%	2.2%	54.0%	43.9%	2.1%
Family	60.2%	37.4%	2.3%	58.8%	38.9%	2.2%
Infanticide	55.6%	41.9%	2.5%	55.0%	42.5%	2.5%
Eldercide	68.9%	29.6%	1.5%	53.9%	44.6%	1.6%
<b>Circumstances</b>						
Felony murder	55.0%	42.4%	2.5%	39.2%	59.2%	1.6%
Sex related	67.1%	30.5%	2.4%	55.2%	42.9%	1.9%
Drug related	37.0%	62.1%	.9%	33.5%	65.5%	1.1%
Gang related	57.9%	38.7%	3.4%	54.3%	41.5%	4.2%
Argument	48.3%	49.7%	2.0%	46.5%	51.4%	2.1%
Workplace	85.2%	11.6%	3.2%	69.7%	27.3%	3.0%
<b>Weapon</b>						
Gun homicide	47.6%	50.6%	1.8%	42.3%	56.0%	1.7%
Arson	59.3%	37.8%	2.9%	55.5%	42.3%	2.2%
Poison	80.6%	17.1%	2.4%	78.8%	19.3%	1.9%
<b>Multiple victims or offenders</b>						
Multiple victims	64.1%	32.5%	3.3%	56.6%	40.1%	3.3%
Multiple offenders	55.3%	42.0%	2.7%	45.0%	52.6%	2.3%

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

From 1976 to 2002 --

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

To view data, click on the chart.



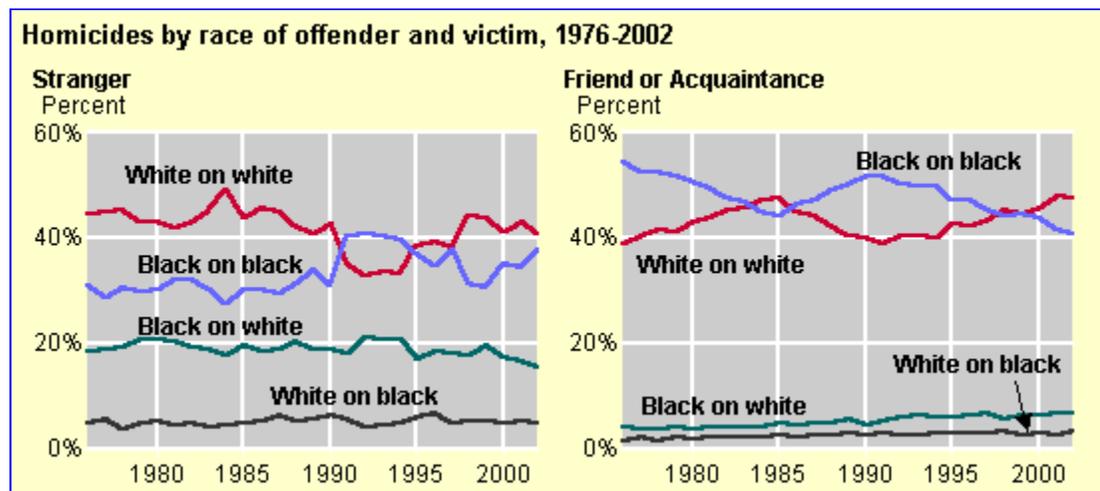
[D]

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

For homicides committed by --

- a friend or acquaintance of the victim, 1 in 10 is interracial
- a stranger to the victim, almost 3 in 10 are interracial

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional information about the data.](#)

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

#### Related charts on this site

- [The number of homicides of children under age 5 by race, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicide victimization rates for children under age 5 by race, 1976-2002](#)
- [Homicides of intimates by gender and race of victim, 1976-2002](#)
- [Intimate homicide rates by race, gender and relationship, 1976-2002](#)

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
Trends by race

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**Homicide Victimization  
Rates per 100,000  
Population by Race**

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

<b>2001</b>	3.4	20.4	2.8
<b>2002</b>	3.3	20.8	2.7

### Homicide Victims by Race

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
Trends by race

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**Homicide Offending Rates  
per 100,000 Population by  
Race**

	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>1976</b>	4.9	46.5	4.6
<b>1977</b>	5.1	44.3	4.9
<b>1978</b>	5.3	44.5	3.8
<b>1979</b>	5.8	47.6	5.0
<b>1980</b>	6.5	51.4	6.9
<b>1981</b>	6.0	45.8	6.4
<b>1982</b>	5.6	41.1	6.4
<b>1983</b>	5.3	36.2	6.2
<b>1984</b>	5.3	33.0	5.3
<b>1985</b>	5.1	33.9	5.8
<b>1986</b>	5.3	37.8	6.0
<b>1987</b>	5.2	36.5	5.0
<b>1988</b>	5.0	41.2	4.5
<b>1989</b>	5.1	42.0	4.7
<b>1990</b>	5.7	46.5	4.2
<b>1991</b>	5.6	51.3	5.4
<b>1992</b>	5.2	46.9	5.7
<b>1993</b>	5.2	49.2	5.6
<b>1994</b>	5.1	45.4	5.1
<b>1995</b>	4.9	39.3	5.3
<b>1996</b>	4.5	35.8	4.8
<b>1997</b>	4.1	32.1	4.5
<b>1998</b>	4.2	27.7	3.9
<b>1999</b>	3.6	25.3	3.9
<b>2000</b>	3.5	25.5	3.3

<b>2001</b>	3.6	25.6	3.0
<b>2002</b>	3.6	24.9	2.9

### Homicide Offenders by Race

	<b>White</b>	<b>Black</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>1976</b>	9,184	10,942	226
<b>1977</b>	9,538	10,607	244
<b>1978</b>	9,936	10,853	194
<b>1979</b>	11,101	11,818	266
<b>1980</b>	12,519	13,287	394
<b>1981</b>	11,715	12,398	363
<b>1982</b>	11,180	11,307	393
<b>1983</b>	10,519	10,088	401
<b>1984</b>	10,654	9,319	364
<b>1985</b>	10,255	9,693	423
<b>1986</b>	10,765	10,945	468
<b>1987</b>	10,589	10,703	412
<b>1988</b>	10,209	12,237	386
<b>1989</b>	10,629	12,653	426
<b>1990</b>	11,848	14,212	405
<b>1991</b>	11,775	15,949	544
<b>1992</b>	11,100	14,846	602
<b>1993</b>	11,222	15,803	613
<b>1994</b>	11,113	14,790	586
<b>1995</b>	10,598	12,974	639
<b>1996</b>	9,825	11,982	602
<b>1997</b>	9,117	10,908	579
<b>1998</b>	9,253	9,549	519
<b>1999</b>	8,022	8,837	543
<b>2000</b>	8,030	9,221	490
<b>2001</b>	8,291	9,412	463
<b>2002</b>	8,490	9,297	462

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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

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

**Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders**

	White on White	Black on White	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	6,279	862	44	290	6,855	2	29	12	59
1977	6,299	828	52	346	6,469	7	36	10	71

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
**Trends by race**

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**Acquaintance Homicides**

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

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

	White on White	Black on Black	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	39.0%	4.1%	.2%	1.5%	54.4%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.4%
1977	40.4%	3.7%	.3%	2.3%	52.4%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1978	41.4%	3.7%	.3%	1.5%	52.5%	.1%	.1%	.0%	.4%
1979	41.1%	3.9%	.3%	2.1%	51.9%	.0%	.2%	.0%	.5%
1980	42.9%	3.7%	.2%	1.8%	50.7%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.5%
1981	43.7%	3.9%	.2%	2.2%	49.5%	.0%	.2%	.0%	.3%
1982	45.2%	3.9%	.3%	2.1%	47.5%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.6%
1983	45.8%	4.1%	.2%	2.0%	46.9%	.0%	.2%	.1%	.6%
1984	47.3%	4.2%	.4%	2.3%	44.8%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.6%
1985	47.4%	4.9%	.3%	2.7%	44.1%	.1%	.1%	.1%	.3%
1986	45.1%	4.6%	.5%	2.2%	46.5%	.1%	.4%	.1%	.6%
1987	44.2%	4.7%	.5%	2.6%	47.0%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.6%
1988	42.2%	4.8%	.6%	2.4%	49.1%	.1%	.4%	.0%	.5%
1989	40.2%	5.4%	.4%	2.9%	50.2%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.6%
1990	40.1%	4.4%	.3%	2.5%	51.8%	.0%	.4%	.0%	.5%
1991	38.7%	5.3%	.5%	2.9%	51.8%	.0%	.4%	.1%	.4%
1992	40.3%	5.8%	.3%	2.6%	50.2%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.5%
1993	40.2%	6.3%	.3%	2.6%	49.8%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.4%
1994	40.1%	5.9%	.4%	2.9%	50.0%	.0%	.3%	.0%	.3%
1995	42.5%	5.8%	.4%	3.1%	47.1%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.7%
1996	42.2%	6.3%	.5%	2.8%	47.2%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.4%
1997	43.5%	6.6%	.4%	2.8%	45.4%	.1%	.2%	.2%	.8%
1998	45.3%	5.7%	.3%	3.3%	44.3%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.6%
1999	44.4%	6.3%	.5%	2.7%	44.6%	.0%	.4%	.1%	1.0%
2000	45.6%	6.5%	.4%	2.8%	43.6%	.0%	.3%	.1%	.7%
2001	47.8%	6.8%	.5%	2.7%	41.4%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.5%
2002	47.4%	6.7%	.6%	3.2%	40.8%	.1%	.3%	.1%	.7%

**Acquaintance Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders**

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

## Stranger Homicides

Percentages | Numbers

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

	White on White	Black on Black	Other on Other	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
1976	44.6%	18.5%	.9%	4.7%	30.8%		.3%	.1%	.2%
1977	45.1%	18.9%	.6%	5.6%	28.8%	.0%	.3%	.2%	.3%
1978	45.4%	19.1%	.5%	3.6%	30.6%		.6%	.0%	.2%
1979	43.2%	20.6%	.7%	4.9%	29.7%		.3%	.2%	.4%
1980	43.0%	20.7%	.5%	5.1%	30.2%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.2%
1981	41.9%	20.5%	.5%	4.6%	31.9%	.1%	.2%	.2%	.1%
1982	42.9%	19.1%	.5%	5.0%	31.9%		.4%	.2%	.1%

<b>1983</b>	45.4%	19.0%	.7%	4.1%	30.0%		.6%	.1%	.1%
<b>1984</b>	48.9%	17.7%	.3%	4.5%	27.6%		.5%	.1%	.3%
<b>1985</b>	43.6%	19.7%	.6%	4.9%	30.1%	.1%	.5%	.3%	.4%
<b>1986</b>	45.6%	18.3%	.3%	5.1%	30.1%	.1%	.4%	.1%	.2%
<b>1987</b>	44.9%	18.7%	.3%	6.2%	29.5%		.2%	.2%	.1%
<b>1988</b>	42.3%	20.2%	.6%	5.1%	31.4%		.1%	.2%	.1%
<b>1989</b>	40.6%	19.0%	.4%	5.4%	33.9%		.5%		.1%
<b>1990</b>	42.6%	18.9%	.5%	6.4%	31.0%		.2%	.2%	.1%
<b>1991</b>	35.1%	17.9%	.3%	5.4%	40.5%	.0%	.4%	.2%	.2%
<b>1992</b>	32.9%	21.1%	.5%	4.0%	40.9%	.0%	.3%	.2%	.1%
<b>1993</b>	33.6%	20.8%	.4%	4.4%	40.2%	.1%	.2%	.1%	.1%
<b>1994</b>	33.3%	20.9%	.6%	4.9%	39.5%		.4%	.3%	.2%
<b>1995</b>	38.6%	17.1%	.6%	5.8%	36.9%	.1%	.5%	.3%	.1%
<b>1996</b>	39.2%	18.5%	.1%	6.6%	34.7%	.1%	.4%	.2%	.1%
<b>1997</b>	38.2%	18.0%	.2%	4.9%	37.7%		.5%	.3%	.2%
<b>1998</b>	44.2%	17.5%	.6%	5.3%	31.3%		.4%	.3%	.3%
<b>1999</b>	43.8%	19.6%	.4%	5.1%	30.5%		.2%	.1%	.1%
<b>2000</b>	41.2%	17.4%	.4%	5.0%	35.0%	.1%	.3%	.2%	.3%
<b>2001</b>	42.9%	16.4%	.6%	5.1%	34.2%	.1%	.4%	.2%	.1%
<b>2002</b>	40.7%	15.4%	.4%	4.8%	37.6%	.1%	.4%	.5%	.1%

#### Stranger Homicides by Racial Composition of Victims and Offenders

	White on White	Black on Black	Other on White	White on Black	Black on Black	Other on Black	White on Other	Black on Other	Other on Other
<b>1976</b>	992	413	19	105	685		7	1	3
<b>1977</b>	1,001	420	14	125	639	1	7	4	7
<b>1978</b>	1,055	443	10	84	711		15	1	4
<b>1979</b>	1,029	491	18	118	707		6	4	8
<b>1980</b>	1,104	531	13	131	775	2	4	2	6
<b>1981</b>	1,201	588	13	133	916	3	6	6	2
<b>1982</b>	1,128	504	12	133	839		10	5	2
<b>1983</b>	988	414	14	89	654		13	2	2
<b>1984</b>	1,075	389	8	100	606		11	2	6
<b>1985</b>	917	413	13	103	632	1	10	5	8
<b>1986</b>	953	383	5	106	629	1	7	1	4
<b>1987</b>	883	367	6	122	580		4	3	1
<b>1988</b>	881	421	12	106	654		2	5	2
<b>1989</b>	967	452	10	128	805		12		3
<b>1990</b>	1,201	534	14	182	873		7	6	3
<b>1991</b>	1,120	572	9	171	1,293	1	14	7	6
<b>1992</b>	897	574	14	110	1,116	1	7	5	2
<b>1993</b>	1,020	632	13	133	1,220	3	5	3	4
<b>1994</b>	892	559	15	131	1,056		12	8	4
<b>1995</b>	1,077	476	16	162	1,028	2	14	9	3
<b>1996</b>	915	432	3	153	808	2	9	6	2
<b>1997</b>	770	363	5	98	759		9	6	5

<b>1998</b>	840	333	12	100	595		8	6	6
<b>1999</b>	727	324	7	85	506		4	2	2
<b>2000</b>	783	330	8	94	666	2	6	5	6
<b>2001</b>	830	318	13	98	662	2	8	3	2
<b>2002</b>	864	326	9	102	798	1	9	10	2

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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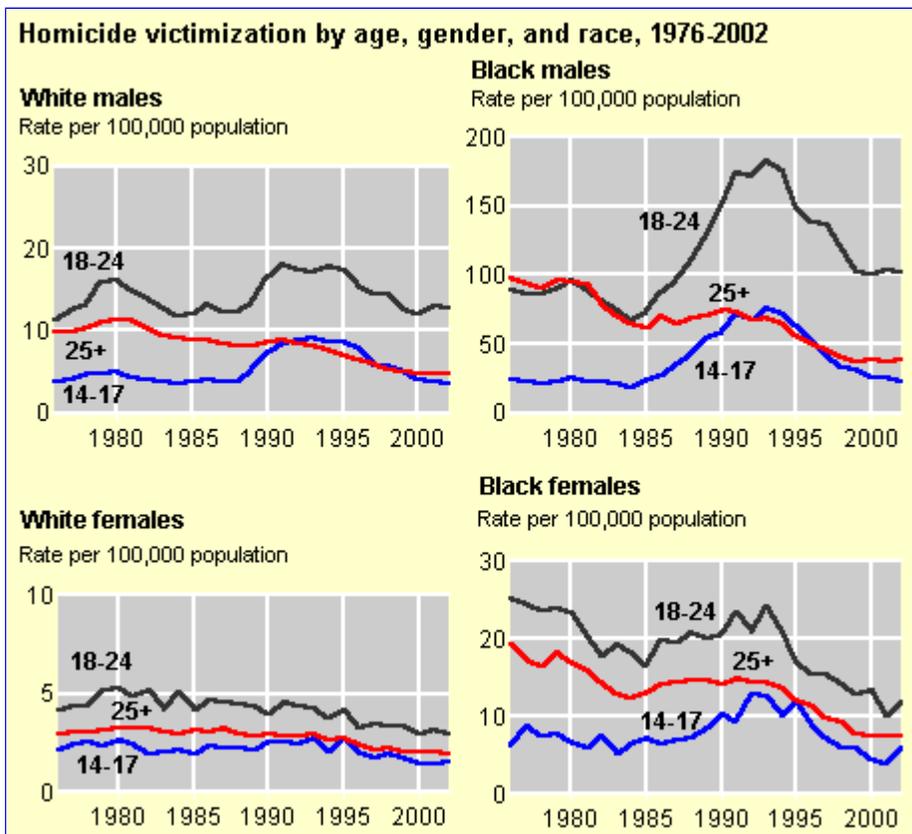


**Dramatic increases in both homicide victimization and offending rates were experienced by young males, particularly young black males, in the late 1980's and early 1990's**

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

- Black males 18-24 years old have the highest homicide victimization rates. Compared to the next highest rates, their rates are more than double the rates for black males age 25 and older and 4 times the rates for black males 14-17 years old.
- After increases in the early 1990's, 14-17 year olds in all groups experienced homicide victimization rates in 2002 that were below the levels recorded in 1976.
- Although much lower than the rates experienced in the late 1980's and early 1990's, rates for black and white males ages 18-24 remain higher in 2002 than in earlier periods.
- In 2002 except for the 18-24 year old age group, black females experienced higher homicide victimization rates than white males of similar age.

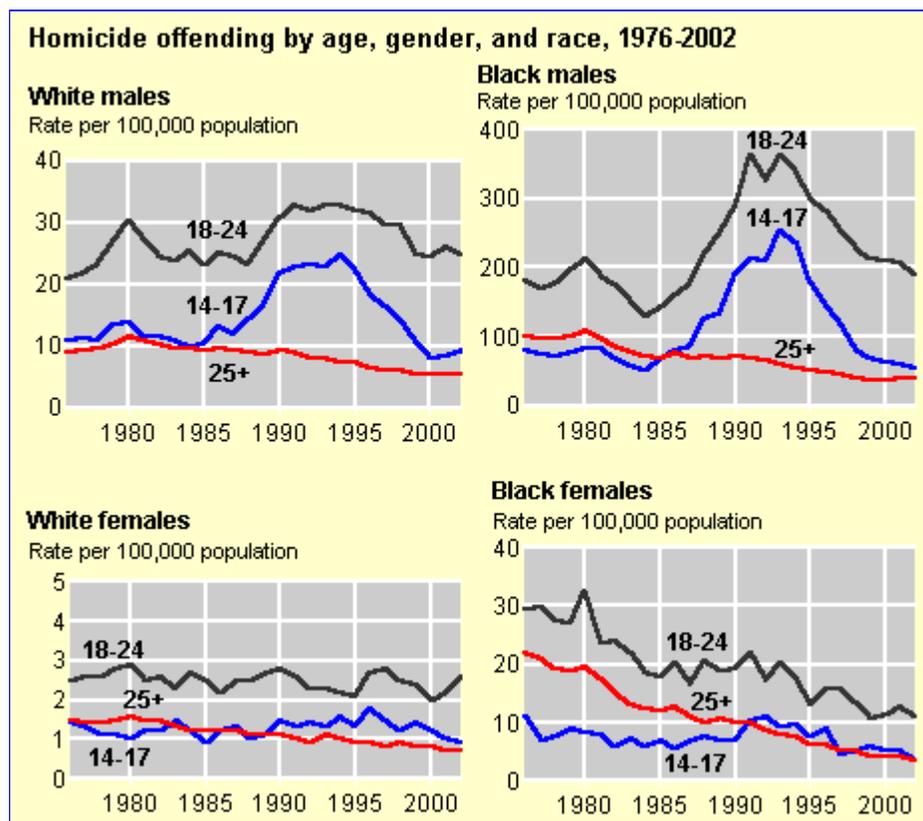
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## Homicide offending patterns are similar to victimization patterns

- Black males 18-24 years old have the highest homicide offending rates. Compared to the next highest rates, their rates are more than 3 times the rates of black males 14-17 years old and 4 times the rates of black males age 25 and older.
- Young adults (18-24 years old) have the highest offending rates in each racial and gender group.
- Offending rates for black male teens and young adults continue to decline although at a slower pace than in the mid 1990's.
- For white male teens and young adults, offending rates peaked in the early 1990's, fell to lows in 2000, and increased slightly through 2002.
- For black females of all age groups, offending rates declined since the early 1990's.
- White females of all age groups experience the lowest offending rates.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

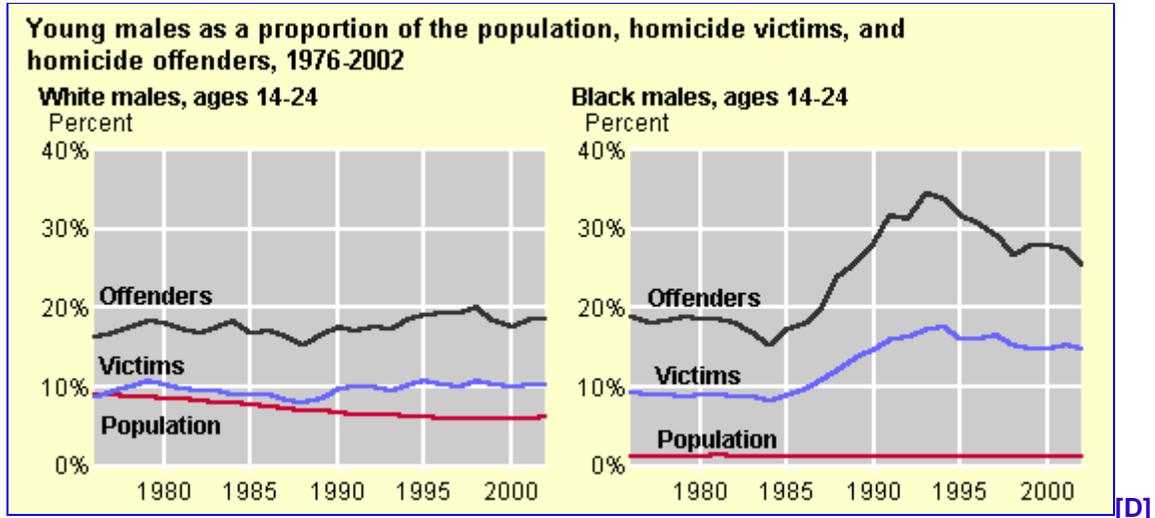
## Young males, particularly young black males, are disproportionately involved in homicide compared to their share of the population

The proportion of the population represented by --

- young white males has declined, while the proportions of homicide victims and offenders who were young white males have been increasing

- young black males has remained at about 1%, while the proportions of homicide victims and offenders who were young black males have increased dramatically from the mid 1980's to the early 1990's but have declined recently

To view data, click on the chart.



Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional information about the data.](#)

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

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**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
**Age, gender, and race trends**

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

	White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	3.7	11.3	9.8	24.2	89.8	97.2	2.1	4.2	3.0	6.3	25.1	19.3
1977	4.1	12.5	9.9	22.4	86.9	94.1	2.4	4.4	3.1	8.7	24.5	17.2
1978	4.7	13.3	10.4	21.9	86.4	90.3	2.5	4.4	3.1	7.6	23.7	16.5
1979	4.9	16.0	11.0	23.2	90.9	95.7	2.3	5.2	3.2	7.8	24.0	18.2
1980	5.1	16.2	11.4	26.3	96.7	94.8	2.6	5.3	3.3	6.8	23.5	17.1
1981	4.3	14.9	11.3	23.0	89.7	93.2	2.4	4.9	3.3	6.0	20.4	16.0
1982	4.0	13.9	10.4	22.3	82.6	79.5	1.9	5.2	3.3	7.5	17.7	14.4
1983	3.8	12.7	9.4	21.4	75.0	70.7	2.0	4.2	3.1	5.2	19.4	13.0
1984	3.5	11.9	9.1	18.4	68.0	64.6	2.1	5.1	3.0	6.4	18.2	12.4
1985	3.9	12.1	8.9	23.7	73.3	62.4	1.9	4.2	3.2	7.3	16.5	13.2
1986	4.1	13.3	9.0	26.8	87.9	70.2	2.3	4.7	3.1	6.5	19.7	14.1
1987	3.7	12.3	8.5	36.2	96.4	64.0	2.2	4.6	3.3	7.1	19.6	14.4
1988	3.9	12.3	8.1	43.3	109.5	69.2	2.2	4.5	3.0	7.2	20.8	14.8
1989	5.3	13.4	8.2	54.3	128.3	70.5	2.1	4.4	2.8	8.6	20.0	14.7
1990	7.5	16.7	8.7	59.0	151.0	74.4	2.5	4.0	2.9	10.3	20.5	14.3
1991	8.5	18.2	8.8	71.9	173.7	72.7	2.5	4.6	2.8	9.4	23.4	15.0
1992	9.0	17.4	8.4	67.3	171.8	67.6	2.4	4.4	2.8	12.8	20.8	14.4
1993	9.1	17.2	8.1	76.4	183.5	68.3	2.7	4.3	3.0	12.7	24.1	14.5
1994	8.7	17.8	7.7	71.6	176.2	64.3	2.0	3.8	2.6	10.0	20.7	13.7
1995	8.6	17.3	6.9	63.2	148.9	56.4	2.7	4.2	2.7	11.9	17.1	12.2
1996	7.9	15.4	6.5	52.2	138.2	50.0	2.0	3.3	2.4	8.9	15.4	11.3
1997	5.7	14.5	5.9	42.0	136.5	45.5	1.7	3.5	2.1	7.2	15.4	9.9
1998	5.7	14.5	5.3	32.8	117.4	40.6	1.9	3.4	2.2	5.9	14.3	9.3
1999	5.1	12.5	5.0	31.0	102.4	36.5	1.7	3.4	2.0	5.9	12.9	7.9
2000	4.1	12.1	4.7	25.8	100.6	38.1	1.4	2.9	2.0	4.5	13.5	7.6
2001	3.8	12.9	4.8	26.3	104.0	37.5	1.4	3.2	2.0	3.9	10.1	7.6
2002	3.6	12.7	4.7	22.6	102.3	39.0	1.5	2.9	1.9	6.1	11.8	7.4

**Homicide Victims by Age, Race and Gender**

White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Age, gender, and race trends**

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

	White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	10.9	21.0	9.0	80.3	180.6	100.6	1.4	2.5	1.5	11.2	29.4	22.1
1977	11.2	21.8	9.2	73.8	169.7	96.1	1.3	2.6	1.4	7.0	29.8	20.9
1978	11.0	23.6	9.5	70.1	178.1	96.0	1.1	2.6	1.4	7.7	27.3	19.2
1979	13.5	26.8	10.2	78.4	197.3	101.4	1.1	2.8	1.5	9.0	27.0	18.8
1980	13.9	30.2	11.4	83.5	212.0	108.6	1.0	2.9	1.6	8.2	32.5	19.5
1981	11.6	27.2	10.9	82.6	185.6	96.4	1.2	2.5	1.5	8.1	23.8	17.6
1982	11.6	24.5	10.4	69.0	174.4	84.9	1.2	2.6	1.5	5.9	24.1	15.1
1983	11.0	23.9	9.5	57.3	149.8	76.1	1.5	2.3	1.3	7.2	21.9	13.1
1984	10.0	25.3	9.6	52.6	129.6	71.3	1.2	2.7	1.2	6.0	18.5	12.3
1985	10.4	23.2	9.3	68.9	143.1	68.7	.9	2.5	1.2	7.1	18.0	12.0
1986	13.0	25.1	9.5	79.8	161.6	76.9	1.2	2.2	1.2	5.7	20.2	12.6
1987	11.8	24.4	9.3	87.3	177.1	69.2	1.3	2.5	1.2	6.8	16.5	11.1
1988	14.6	23.3	8.8	125.1	218.6	72.6	1.0	2.5	1.1	7.5	20.6	10.2
1989	16.7	26.9	8.6	135.0	249.7	67.8	1.1	2.7	1.1	6.9	19.0	10.8
1990	22.0	30.9	9.2	194.0	290.0	70.3	1.5	2.8	1.1	6.9	19.1	10.1
1991	22.8	32.9	8.8	213.6	364.1	68.8	1.3	2.6	1.0	10.5	22.0	10.2
1992	23.3	31.8	8.0	208.5	325.3	65.6	1.4	2.3	.9	11.2	17.2	8.8
1993	22.8	32.7	7.9	253.0	361.6	60.7	1.3	2.3	1.1	9.2	20.1	8.1
1994	24.8	32.7	7.5	235.1	337.5	55.1	1.6	2.2	1.0	9.6	17.7	7.8
1995	22.0	32.0	7.2	178.6	300.3	51.2	1.3	2.1	.9	7.6	13.0	6.3
1996	18.3	31.6	6.4	142.8	281.5	47.1	1.8	2.7	.9	8.9	15.7	6.2
1997	16.3	29.5	5.9	116.7	251.9	45.1	1.5	2.8	.8	4.5	15.9	5.3
1998	14.1	29.7	6.1	80.2	226.2	39.6	1.2	2.5	.9	5.3	13.3	5.1
1999	10.5	24.8	5.4	68.3	212.1	36.3	1.4	2.4	.8	6.1	10.7	4.3
2000	8.0	24.6	5.4	63.2	210.3	38.1	1.2	2.0	.8	5.3	11.5	4.1
2001	8.2	26.0	5.4	60.8	206.6	38.8	1.0	2.2	.7	5.2	12.6	4.2
2002	9.2	24.9	5.5	54.5	191.1	40.9	.9	2.6	.7	3.7	11.0	3.7

**Homicide Offenders by Age, Race and Gender**

	White Male			Black Male			White Female			Black Female		
	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	782	2,533	4,574	874	2,958	5,054	99	295	854	123	519	1,356
1977	795	2,655	4,789	805	2,865	4,957	86	313	836	77	541	1,322
1978	765	2,909	5,021	767	3,084	5,098	75	309	792	85	508	1,251

1979	934	3,320	5,499	860	3,491	5,545	75	340	890	99	511	1,264
1980	949	3,793	6,303	937	3,903	6,275	67	363	989	92	639	1,385
1981	785	3,454	6,122	959	3,588	5,908	81	309	913	94	488	1,327
1982	765	3,088	5,959	792	3,383	5,354	76	323	926	68	495	1,169
1983	699	2,979	5,550	647	2,910	4,921	94	280	872	80	449	1,043
1984	621	3,108	5,703	583	2,517	4,732	70	325	793	66	376	1,008
1985	635	2,816	5,641	752	2,774	4,670	50	290	782	76	363	1,000
1986	789	2,987	5,831	869	3,128	5,360	69	254	784	61	405	1,082
1987	712	2,832	5,825	951	3,391	4,936	76	281	804	73	326	969
1988	870	2,630	5,581	1,363	4,128	5,292	59	269	750	80	401	916
1989	985	2,971	5,528	1,466	4,649	5,050	59	282	742	74	363	987
1990	1,207	3,458	5,962	2,020	5,427	5,337	80	295	791	70	368	944
1991	1,257	3,594	5,807	2,244	6,759	5,348	69	274	738	107	421	970
1992	1,306	3,402	5,336	2,233	6,031	5,211	74	233	681	116	327	850
1993	1,288	3,519	5,273	2,754	6,780	4,887	69	231	777	97	385	801
1994	1,427	3,461	5,117	2,623	6,295	4,512	85	224	730	104	338	783
1995	1,306	3,326	4,966	2,072	5,577	4,264	73	210	657	85	247	641
1996	1,110	3,225	4,422	1,688	5,215	3,991	102	264	655	101	297	641
1997	1,012	2,961	4,124	1,414	4,630	3,885	90	272	626	53	298	555
1998	892	2,989	4,306	984	4,179	3,465	74	240	712	62	250	546
1999	665	2,542	3,855	835	4,001	3,224	83	238	593	72	206	463
2000	523	2,623	3,942	800	4,136	3,502	74	201	625	64	230	457
2001	539	2,852	4,032	780	4,174	3,629	62	230	543	64	260	485
2002	612	2,780	4,134	711	3,950	3,888	57	276	605	46	232	429

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Age, gender, and race trends**

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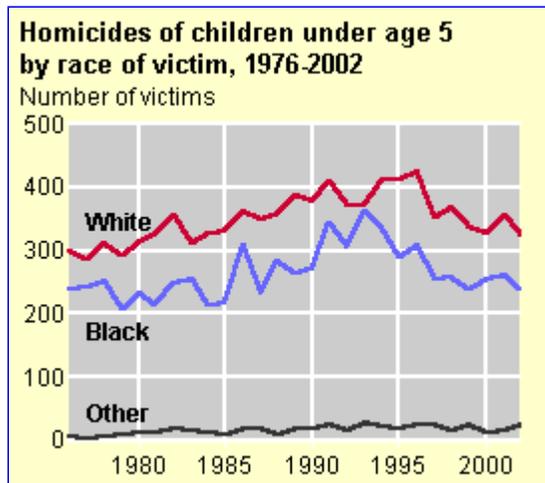
	Proportion of Population, Victims, and Offenders by Demographic Group								
	White Males, Ages 14-24			Black Males, Ages 14-24			All Others		
	Population	Victims	Offenders	Population	Victims	Offenders	Population	Victims	Offe
1976	8.9%	8.7%	16.3%	1.3%	9.2%	18.8%	89.8%	82.1%	
1977	8.9%	9.5%	16.9%	1.3%	9.0%	18.0%	89.8%	81.6%	
1978	8.8%	10.1%	17.5%	1.3%	8.9%	18.4%	89.9%	81.1%	
1979	8.8%	10.8%	18.3%	1.3%	8.7%	18.8%	89.9%	80.5%	
1980	8.6%	10.4%	18.1%	1.3%	9.0%	18.5%	90.1%	80.6%	
1981	8.5%	9.7%	17.3%	1.4%	8.9%	18.6%	90.2%	81.4%	
1982	8.3%	9.6%	16.8%	1.3%	8.8%	18.2%	90.4%	81.6%	
1983	8.1%	9.5%	17.5%	1.3%	8.8%	16.9%	90.6%	81.7%	
1984	7.9%	9.0%	18.3%	1.3%	8.2%	15.2%	90.9%	82.8%	
1985	7.7%	9.0%	16.9%	1.3%	8.9%	17.3%	91.1%	82.2%	
1986	7.5%	8.9%	17.0%	1.3%	9.7%	18.0%	91.3%	81.4%	
1987	7.3%	8.2%	16.3%	1.2%	11.1%	20.0%	91.5%	80.6%	
1988	7.1%	7.9%	15.3%	1.2%	12.3%	24.1%	91.7%	79.9%	
1989	6.9%	8.4%	16.7%	1.2%	13.9%	25.8%	91.9%	77.8%	
1990	6.7%	9.8%	17.6%	1.2%	14.7%	28.1%	92.1%	75.6%	
1991	6.5%	10.0%	17.2%	1.2%	16.1%	31.8%	92.3%	73.9%	
1992	6.4%	10.0%	17.7%	1.1%	16.4%	31.1%	92.5%	73.6%	
1993	6.4%	9.6%	17.4%	1.1%	17.4%	34.5%	92.5%	73.0%	
1994	6.3%	10.2%	18.5%	1.1%	17.5%	33.7%	92.6%	72.3%	
1995	6.2%	10.7%	19.1%	1.1%	16.2%	31.6%	92.6%	73.1%	
1996	6.1%	10.4%	19.3%	1.1%	16.2%	30.8%	92.7%	73.4%	
1997	6.1%	10.0%	19.3%	1.1%	16.6%	29.3%	92.8%	73.5%	
1998	6.1%	10.7%	20.1%	1.1%	15.2%	26.7%	92.8%	74.1%	
1999	6.1%	10.4%	18.4%	1.1%	14.9%	27.8%	92.8%	74.8%	
2000	6.1%	10.0%	17.7%	1.1%	14.8%	27.8%	92.7%	75.2%	
2001	6.1%	10.3%	18.7%	1.2%	15.2%	27.3%	92.7%	74.5%	
2002	6.2%	10.3%	18.6%	1.2%	14.9%	25.5%	92.7%	74.9%	

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
 See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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[Next](#)**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
Infanticide**The number of homicides of children under age 5 increased over the past two decades but declined recently**

To view data, click on the chart.



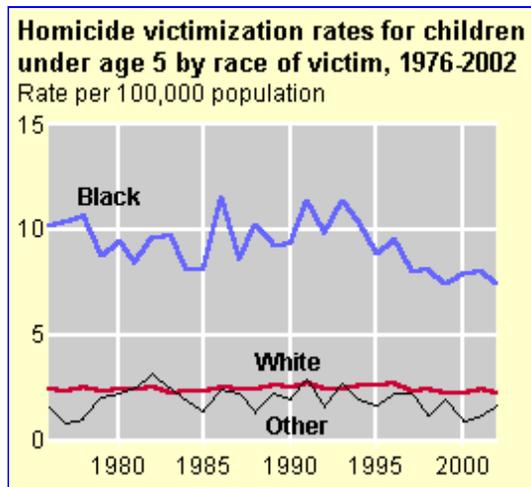
[D]

**While the incidence of infanticide has increased, the rates have remained fairly stable**

Infanticide rates for --

- black children have recently declined, reaching the lowest level recorded in 2002
- white children have remained stable
- children of other racial groups have remained stable

To view data, click on the chart.

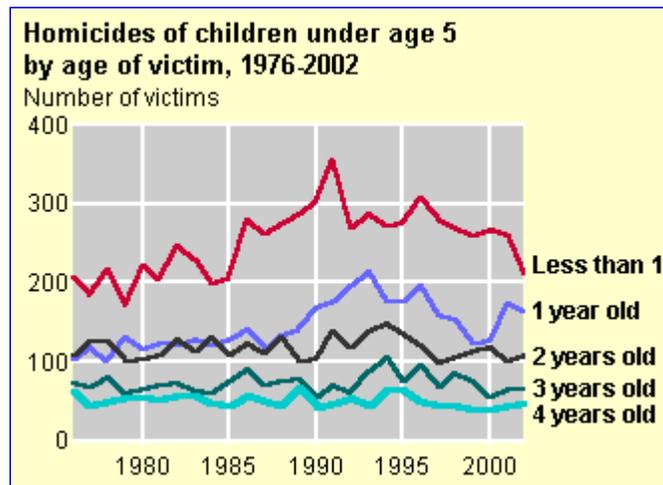


[D]

### The younger the child, the greater the risk for infanticide

Through the early 1990's, the number of infanticides of children age 1 and younger has increased while the number for older children has remained relatively constant. The number of infanticides of children younger than age 1 declined in the early 1990's and then stabilized.

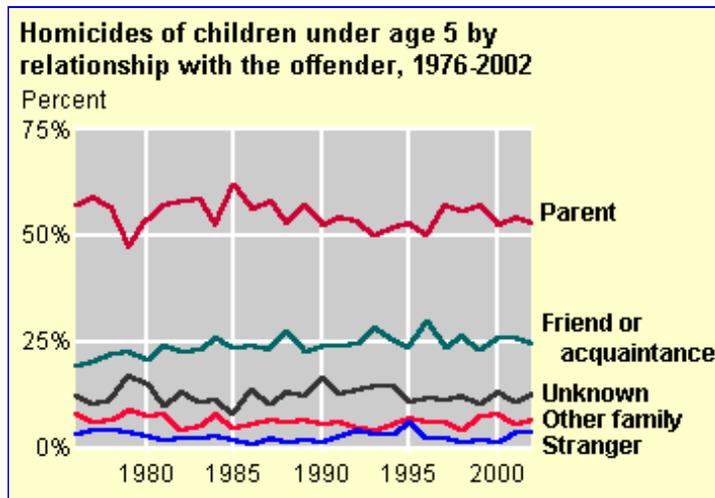
To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Note: Parents includes stepparents.

Of all children under age 5 murdered from 1976-2002 --

- 31% were killed by fathers
- 30% were killed by mothers
- 23% were killed by male acquaintances
- 6% were killed by other relatives
- 3% were killed by strangers

Of those children killed by someone other than their parent, 82% were killed by males.

#### Relationship, 1976-2002

Gender of offender	Parent	Other family	Friend/ Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown
Male	4,727	675	3,484	404	284
Female	4,563	360	630	22	88

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

To view data, click on the chart.





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**Homicides of Children under Age 5  
by Race of Victim**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Infanticide Rates per  
 100,000 Population by  
 Race of Victim**

	White	Black	Other
1976	2.4	10.2	1.6
1977	2.3	10.4	.8
1978	2.5	10.7	1.0
1979	2.3	8.8	2.1
1980	2.4	9.4	2.2
1981	2.4	8.4	2.5
1982	2.5	9.6	3.2
1983	2.2	9.7	2.5
1984	2.3	8.1	2.0
1985	2.3	8.1	1.4
1986	2.5	11.5	2.4
1987	2.4	8.6	2.2
1988	2.4	10.2	1.3
1989	2.6	9.2	2.2
1990	2.5	9.3	2.0
1991	2.7	11.3	2.9
1992	2.4	9.8	1.6
1993	2.4	11.3	2.7
1994	2.6	10.2	2.0
1995	2.6	8.9	1.7
1996	2.7	9.5	2.2
1997	2.3	8.0	2.2
1998	2.4	8.1	1.2
1999	2.2	7.4	2.0
2000	2.2	7.9	.9
2001	2.4	8.0	1.2
2002	2.2	7.4	1.7

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Infanticide by Victim Age**

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

**Infanticide by Victim Age**

	Age of Victim					Total
	Less than 1	1 year old	2 years old	3 years old	4 years old	

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

	Parent	Other family	Friend/ acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown	Total
<b>1976</b>	57.3%	7.8%	19.5%	3.3%	12.1%	100.0%
<b>1977</b>	59.1%	6.1%	20.2%	4.1%	10.4%	100.0%
<b>1978</b>	56.6%	6.4%	21.9%	4.0%	11.1%	100.0%
<b>1979</b>	47.3%	9.0%	22.8%	3.8%	17.0%	100.0%
<b>1980</b>	54.0%	7.5%	20.7%	2.8%	15.0%	100.0%
<b>1981</b>	57.1%	7.7%	24.0%	1.6%	9.7%	100.0%
<b>1982</b>	57.8%	4.3%	22.4%	2.4%	13.1%	100.0%
<b>1983</b>	58.7%	5.3%	22.9%	2.3%	10.8%	100.0%
<b>1984</b>	52.4%	7.8%	26.0%	2.7%	11.1%	100.0%
<b>1985</b>	61.8%	4.7%	23.6%	1.7%	8.1%	100.0%
<b>1986</b>	56.1%	5.6%	24.0%	.9%	13.4%	100.0%
<b>1987</b>	57.9%	6.3%	23.2%	2.2%	10.3%	100.0%
<b>1988</b>	52.8%	5.8%	27.4%	1.1%	13.0%	100.0%
<b>1989</b>	57.1%	6.6%	22.4%	2.0%	12.0%	100.0%
<b>1990</b>	52.2%	5.7%	24.1%	1.5%	16.4%	100.0%
<b>1991</b>	54.4%	6.2%	24.1%	2.6%	12.6%	100.0%
<b>1992</b>	53.3%	4.5%	24.6%	4.1%	13.5%	100.0%
<b>1993</b>	49.9%	4.3%	28.3%	3.0%	14.6%	100.0%
<b>1994</b>	51.9%	5.5%	25.2%	3.0%	14.4%	100.0%
<b>1995</b>	52.9%	6.8%	23.6%	5.9%	10.8%	100.0%
<b>1996</b>	50.2%	6.0%	29.8%	2.4%	11.6%	100.0%
<b>1997</b>	56.9%	6.2%	23.5%	2.3%	11.1%	100.0%
<b>1998</b>	55.7%	4.2%	26.5%	1.3%	12.4%	100.0%
<b>1999</b>	57.2%	7.6%	23.0%	1.9%	10.3%	100.0%
<b>2000</b>	52.3%	7.8%	25.8%	1.2%	12.9%	100.0%
<b>2001</b>	54.4%	5.5%	25.9%	3.6%	10.7%	100.0%
<b>2002</b>	52.6%	6.3%	24.7%	3.6%	12.8%	100.0%

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

**Other      Friend/**

	Parent	family	Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown	Total
1976	316	43	107	18	67	551
1977	319	33	109	22	56	540
1978	324	37	125	23	64	573
1979	246	47	119	20	89	520
1980	305	42	117	16	84	564
1981	318	43	134	9	54	557
1982	362	27	140	15	82	626
1983	344	31	134	13	63	586
1984	292	43	145	15	62	558
1985	345	26	132	10	45	558
1986	389	39	166	6	93	692
1987	351	38	141	13	63	606
1988	346	38	180	7	85	656
1989	385	44	151	14	81	674
1990	353	38	163	10	111	675
1991	427	49	189	21	99	785
1992	371	31	172	28	94	697
1993	384	33	218	23	112	770
1994	398	42	193	23	111	768
1995	383	49	171	43	78	724
1996	386	46	229	19	89	769
1997	367	40	152	15	71	645
1998	364	27	173	8	81	654
1999	351	47	141	12	63	613
2000	316	47	156	7	78	603
2001	349	35	166	23	68	641
2002	312	37	146	22	76	594

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Infanticide**

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**Infanticide by Gender of Victim and Offender**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

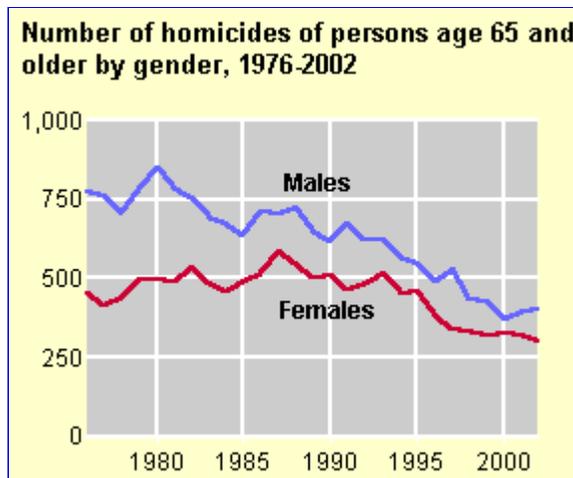
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.



## The number of homicides of persons age 65 or older has been decreasing

- About 5% of all homicides were of persons age 65 or older
- Males age 65 or older were slightly more likely than females of the same age to be homicide victims

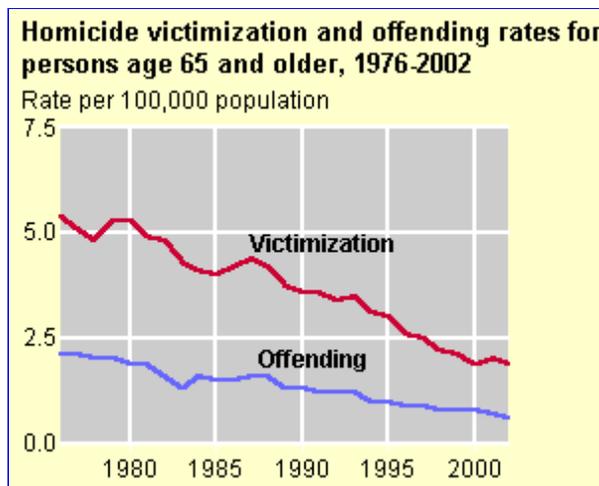
To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

## The homicide victimization rates and offending rates for persons age 65 or older have been declining

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

For additional statistical information on this topic, see the BJS publication [Crimes against persons age 65 or older, 1992-97](#).

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional information about the data](#).

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

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**Homicides of Persons  
65 and Older by  
Gender of Victim**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

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

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

	<b>Victims</b>	<b>Offenders</b>
<b>1976</b>	1,226	473
<b>1977</b>	1,179	482

<b>1978</b>	1,145	465
<b>1979</b>	1,279	486
<b>1980</b>	1,345	472
<b>1981</b>	1,276	488
<b>1982</b>	1,286	432
<b>1983</b>	1,174	363
<b>1984</b>	1,132	457
<b>1985</b>	1,133	428
<b>1986</b>	1,229	439
<b>1987</b>	1,292	488
<b>1988</b>	1,269	484
<b>1989</b>	1,149	398
<b>1990</b>	1,127	417
<b>1991</b>	1,137	370
<b>1992</b>	1,105	374
<b>1993</b>	1,138	377
<b>1994</b>	1,019	336
<b>1995</b>	1,006	326
<b>1996</b>	876	300
<b>1997</b>	866	302
<b>1998</b>	769	268
<b>1999</b>	746	292
<b>2000</b>	699	284
<b>2001</b>	714	242
<b>2002</b>	704	232

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Victim age by circumstance**

Age of victim	Felony		Other	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	680	11.5%	5,248	88.5%
1	454	13.0%	3,035	87.0%
2	458	16.4%	2,333	83.6%
3	347	20.1%	1,376	79.9%
4	280	23.8%	897	76.2%
5	238	26.8%	651	73.2%
6	196	27.7%	513	72.3%
7	200	31.3%	439	68.7%
8	196	31.7%	422	68.3%
9	207	35.0%	385	65.0%
10	174	31.2%	384	68.8%
11	210	35.7%	378	64.3%
12	248	29.4%	596	70.6%
13	310	27.2%	831	72.8%
14	462	21.6%	1,677	78.4%
15	760	20.4%	2,975	79.6%
16	1,274	21.2%	4,748	78.8%
17	1,869	21.3%	6,927	78.7%
18	2,560	22.9%	8,639	77.1%
19	3,260	24.2%	10,238	75.8%
20	3,613	26.0%	10,299	74.0%
21	3,615	25.1%	10,786	74.9%
22	3,664	25.5%	10,713	74.5%
23	3,560	24.9%	10,731	75.1%
24	3,516	25.6%	10,234	74.4%
25	3,670	25.7%	10,597	74.3%
26	3,405	25.5%	9,968	74.5%
27	3,190	25.1%	9,514	74.9%
28	3,001	24.8%	9,088	75.2%
29	3,032	25.5%	8,868	74.5%
30	3,256	26.4%	9,065	73.6%
31	2,596	25.1%	7,762	74.9%
32	2,588	24.5%	7,990	75.5%
33	2,321	24.6%	7,123	75.4%
34	2,298	24.3%	7,166	75.7%
35	2,474	25.9%	7,065	74.1%
36	2,142	25.7%	6,194	74.3%

37	1,880	23.8%	6,033	76.2%
38	1,821	23.7%	5,852	76.3%
39	1,760	24.5%	5,435	75.5%
40	1,930	26.1%	5,449	73.9%
41	1,609	25.8%	4,640	74.2%
42	1,682	26.2%	4,746	73.8%
43	1,419	25.6%	4,117	74.4%
44	1,325	25.8%	3,814	74.2%
45	1,371	26.4%	3,829	73.6%
46	1,262	27.3%	3,353	72.7%
47	1,255	28.1%	3,219	71.9%
48	1,068	27.0%	2,881	73.0%
49	1,122	28.8%	2,772	71.2%
50	1,261	30.5%	2,873	69.5%
51	1,028	31.1%	2,276	68.9%
52	1,117	32.7%	2,294	67.3%
53	991	32.1%	2,099	67.9%
54	942	31.5%	2,048	68.5%
55	1,006	34.8%	1,888	65.2%
56	896	34.3%	1,718	65.7%
57	910	36.0%	1,619	64.0%
58	821	36.6%	1,421	63.4%
59	839	38.5%	1,337	61.5%
60	941	41.4%	1,332	58.6%
61	797	39.6%	1,214	60.4%
62	883	41.5%	1,245	58.5%
63	763	41.1%	1,093	58.9%
64	716	43.3%	940	56.7%
65	819	42.7%	1,097	57.3%
66	598	43.9%	765	56.1%
67	654	44.5%	817	55.5%
68	665	47.6%	733	52.4%
69	643	49.9%	646	50.1%
70	690	50.3%	681	49.7%
71	573	50.6%	560	49.4%
72	647	51.0%	622	49.0%
73	555	52.3%	506	47.7%
74	547	52.9%	487	47.1%
75	550	52.8%	491	47.2%
76	498	55.3%	403	44.7%
77	462	55.9%	365	44.1%
78	463	57.0%	349	43.0%
79	461	58.9%	322	41.1%
80	421	57.5%	312	42.5%
81	390	61.5%	244	38.5%
82	374	59.8%	252	40.2%
83	319	59.9%	214	40.1%

84	281	58.6%	198	41.4%
85	273	62.4%	165	37.6%
86	271	64.4%	150	35.6%
87	237	71.2%	96	28.8%
88	174	66.4%	88	33.6%
89	121	62.5%	72	37.5%
90	123	63.1%	72	36.9%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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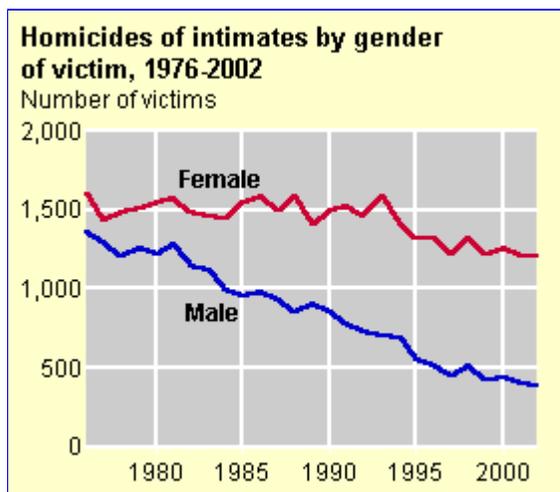


## There has been a decline in homicide of intimates, especially male victims

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

- The number of men murdered by intimates dropped by 71% since 1976.
- The number of women killed by intimates was stable for two decades. After 1993, the number declined reaching the lowest level recorded in 2001 and remained there in 2002.

To view data, click on the chart.



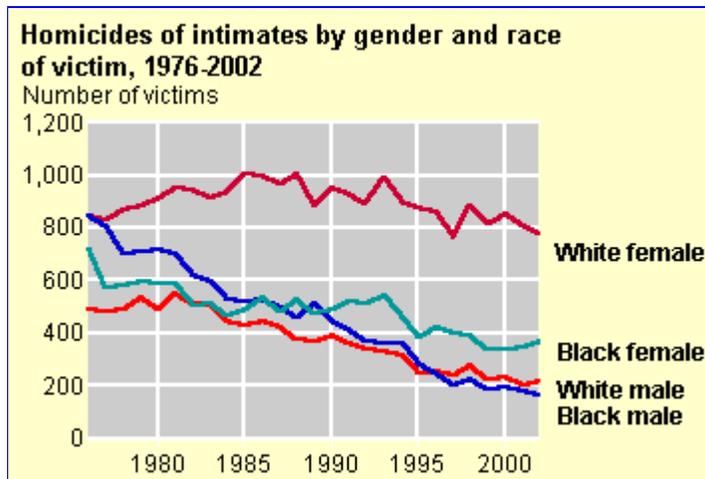
[D]

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

Between 1976 and 2002 --

- the number of white females killed by intimates rose in the mid-1980's, then declined after 1993 reaching the lowest recorded in 2002, a 9% decline from the 1976 number.
- the number of intimate homicides for all other race and gender groups declined over the period; the number of black males killed by intimates dropped by 81%, white males by 56% and black females by 49%.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

Most murder victims were familiar with their assailants.

- Spouses and family members made up about 15% of all victims.
- About one-third of the victims were acquaintances of the assailant.
- In 14% of all murders, the victim and the offender were strangers.
- The victim/offender relationship was undetermined in about one-third of homicides.

**Victim/Offender Relationship, 1976-2002**

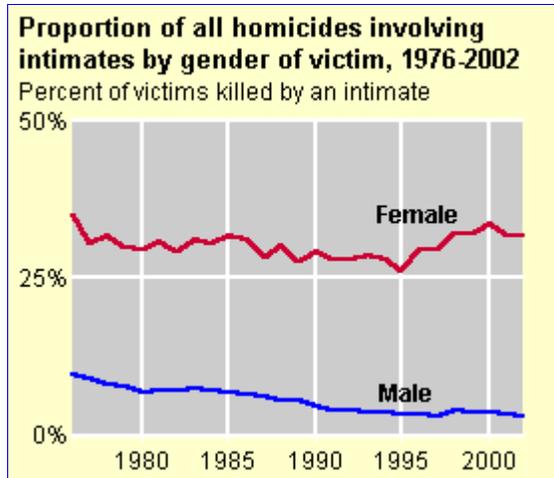
	All homicides, 1976-2002	
	Percent	Number
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	544,909
Intimate	11.3%	61,605
Non-intimate	54.3%	296,110
Undetermined	34.4%	187,194
<b>Total</b>	100.0%	544,909
Stranger	13.9%	75,978
Nonstranger		
Spouse	6.9%	37,792
Other family	7.8%	42,614
Boyfriend/Girlfriend	4.4%	23,812
Other Acquaintance	32.6%	177,518
Relationship undetermined	34.4%	187,194

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

In recent years -

- About one third of female murder victims were killed by an intimate.
- About 3-4% of male murder victims were killed by an intimate.
- Of all female murder victims, the proportion killed by an intimate was relatively stable until 1995 when the proportion began increasing, although it has stabilized recently.
- Of male murder victims, the proportion killed by an intimate has dropped.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

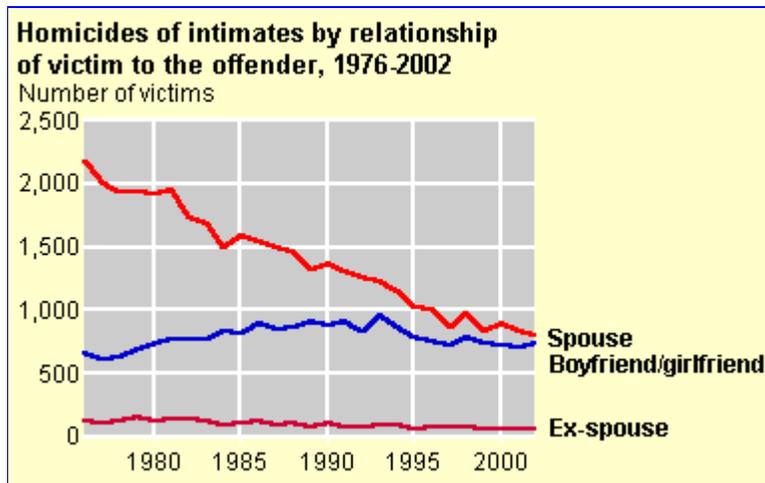
For every age group female murder victims are more likely than male victims to have been killed by an intimate

**Percent of all murders by intimates, 1976-2002**  
**Male victims    Female victims**

Age Group	Male victims (%)	Female victims (%)
Under 18	1	6
18-24	2	29
25-29	5	37
30-34	7	41
35-39	8	43
40-44	10	41
45-49	10	40
50-59	10	32
60+	7	20

**Most victims of intimate homicide are killed by their spouses, although much less so in recent years**

To view data, click on the chart.



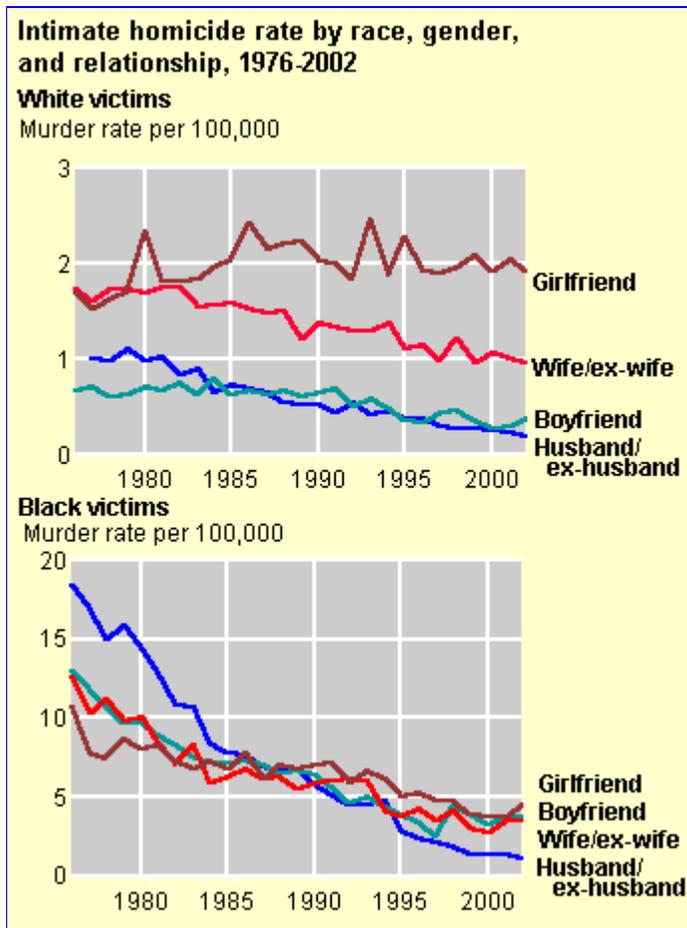
[D]

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

The intimate homicide rate --

- for white girlfriends was about the same in 2002 as it was in 1976
- for white wives and ex-wives has declined but not as much as that for white husbands and ex-husbands
- for black husbands and ex-husbands was 16 times greater in 1976 than it was in 2002
- is higher for black girlfriends than any other group in 2002, although it has declined 58% since 1976

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

**The number of male and female intimate victims killed with guns has fallen. For female victims the number of victims killed by other weapons has remained stable.**

To view data, click on the chart.



In general, guns are most often used in intimate homicide but weapon type varies by relationship. From 1990 to 2002 --

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

#### Homicides by relationship and weapon type, 1990-2002

Relationship of victim to offender	Total	Gun	Knife	Blunt object	Force	Other weapon
Husband	100%	70%	26%	2%	1%	2%
Ex-husband	100	87	9	1	0	2
Wife	100	68	14	5	9	4
Ex-wife	100	78	12	2	6	2
Boyfriend	100	46	45	3	3	3
Girlfriend	100	57	19	5	14	5

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional information about the data](#).

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

See also: [Intimate Partner Violence](#)

#### Related charts on this site

- [Percent of all homicides involving intimates by urban, suburban, and rural area, 1976-2002](#)
- [Victim offender relationship by victim gender, 1976-2002](#)

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Intimate homicide**

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**Intimate Homicide  
Victims by Gender**

	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
<b>1976</b>	1,357	1,600
<b>1977</b>	1,294	1,437
<b>1978</b>	1,202	1,482
<b>1979</b>	1,262	1,506
<b>1980</b>	1,221	1,549
<b>1981</b>	1,278	1,572
<b>1982</b>	1,141	1,480
<b>1983</b>	1,113	1,462
<b>1984</b>	989	1,442
<b>1985</b>	957	1,546
<b>1986</b>	985	1,586
<b>1987</b>	933	1,494
<b>1988</b>	854	1,582
<b>1989</b>	903	1,415
<b>1990</b>	859	1,501
<b>1991</b>	779	1,518
<b>1992</b>	722	1,455
<b>1993</b>	708	1,581
<b>1994</b>	692	1,405
<b>1995</b>	546	1,317
<b>1996</b>	515	1,324
<b>1997</b>	451	1,217
<b>1998</b>	515	1,323
<b>1999</b>	426	1,218
<b>2000</b>	442	1,252
<b>2001</b>	399	1,202
<b>2002</b>	388	1,202

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Intimate Homicide Victims by Race and Gender**

	White		Black		Other	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>1976</b>	493	849	846	714	12	20
<b>1977</b>	479	831	804	570	5	17
<b>1978</b>	490	868	703	583	7	14
<b>1979</b>	535	883	712	594	10	13
<b>1980</b>	493	913	718	588	5	34
<b>1981</b>	554	952	703	591	18	27
<b>1982</b>	510	946	619	504	10	29
<b>1983</b>	508	910	594	513	10	37
<b>1984</b>	443	938	530	467	15	34
<b>1985</b>	427	1,005	518	492	12	48
<b>1986</b>	448	1,000	529	532	5	52
<b>1987</b>	424	968	498	486	8	35
<b>1988</b>	376	1,007	459	527	15	36
<b>1989</b>	371	883	512	474	11	42
<b>1990</b>	393	952	441	490	18	45
<b>1991</b>	359	931	413	520	7	55
<b>1992</b>	337	890	369	509	10	48
<b>1993</b>	330	989	362	542	12	43
<b>1994</b>	318	900	359	463	11	35
<b>1995</b>	251	872	285	387	9	50
<b>1996</b>	259	862	248	422	8	28
<b>1997</b>	239	761	202	401	9	40
<b>1998</b>	275	881	225	394	12	38
<b>1999</b>	223	814	190	338	11	61
<b>2000</b>	230	855	193	335	18	49
<b>2001</b>	206	804	181	343	11	50
<b>2002</b>	215	775	163	366	8	52

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Intimate Homicide Victims by Race and Gender**

	White		Black		Other	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>1976</b>	493	849	846	714	12	20
<b>1977</b>	479	831	804	570	5	17
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<b>1982</b>	510	946	619	504	10	29
<b>1983</b>	508	910	594	513	10	37
<b>1984</b>	443	938	530	467	15	34
<b>1985</b>	427	1,005	518	492	12	48
<b>1986</b>	448	1,000	529	532	5	52
<b>1987</b>	424	968	498	486	8	35
<b>1988</b>	376	1,007	459	527	15	36
<b>1989</b>	371	883	512	474	11	42
<b>1990</b>	393	952	441	490	18	45
<b>1991</b>	359	931	413	520	7	55
<b>1992</b>	337	890	369	509	10	48
<b>1993</b>	330	989	362	542	12	43
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<b>1995</b>	251	872	285	387	9	50
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<b>1999</b>	223	814	190	338	11	61
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<b>2002</b>	215	775	163	366	8	52

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Percent Intimate Homicide Victims by Gender**

	Male			Female		
	Intimate	Non-intimate or Unknown	Total	Intimate	Non-intimate or Unknown	Total
1976	9.6%	90.4%	100.0%	34.9%	65.1%	100.0%
1977	9.0%	91.0%	100.0%	30.5%	69.5%	100.0%
1978	8.1%	91.9%	100.0%	31.9%	68.1%	100.0%
1979	7.7%	92.3%	100.0%	30.0%	70.0%	100.0%
1980	6.9%	93.1%	100.0%	29.6%	70.4%	100.0%
1981	7.3%	92.7%	100.0%	30.9%	69.1%	100.0%
1982	7.2%	92.8%	100.0%	29.1%	70.9%	100.0%
1983	7.6%	92.4%	100.0%	31.1%	68.9%	100.0%
1984	7.1%	92.9%	100.0%	30.4%	69.6%	100.0%
1985	6.8%	93.2%	100.0%	31.7%	68.3%	100.0%
1986	6.4%	93.6%	100.0%	31.0%	69.0%	100.0%
1987	6.3%	93.7%	100.0%	28.4%	71.6%	100.0%
1988	5.5%	94.5%	100.0%	30.2%	69.8%	100.0%
1989	5.5%	94.5%	100.0%	27.8%	72.2%	100.0%
1990	4.7%	95.3%	100.0%	29.3%	70.7%	100.0%
1991	4.0%	96.0%	100.0%	28.1%	71.9%	100.0%
1992	3.9%	96.1%	100.0%	27.9%	72.1%	100.0%
1993	3.7%	96.3%	100.0%	28.5%	71.5%	100.0%
1994	3.8%	96.2%	100.0%	28.1%	71.9%	100.0%
1995	3.3%	96.7%	100.0%	26.2%	73.8%	100.0%
1996	3.4%	96.6%	100.0%	29.6%	70.4%	100.0%
1997	3.2%	96.8%	100.0%	29.5%	70.5%	100.0%
1998	4.0%	96.0%	100.0%	32.0%	68.0%	100.0%
1999	3.6%	96.4%	100.0%	32.1%	67.9%	100.0%
2000	3.7%	96.3%	100.0%	33.5%	66.5%	100.0%
2001	3.3%	96.7%	100.0%	31.8%	68.2%	100.0%
2002	3.1%	96.9%	100.0%	31.9%	68.1%	100.0%

**Intimate Homicide Victims by Gender**

**Male**

**Female**

	Non-intimate or			Non-intimate or		
	Intimate	Unknown	Total	Intimate	Unknown	Total
1976	1,357	12,814	14,171	1,600	2,989	4,590
1977	1,294	13,104	14,397	1,437	3,273	4,710
1978	1,202	13,693	14,895	1,482	3,160	4,642
1979	1,262	15,166	16,428	1,506	3,511	5,017
1980	1,221	16,568	17,788	1,549	3,683	5,232
1981	1,278	16,127	17,405	1,572	3,524	5,096
1982	1,141	14,761	15,902	1,480	3,612	5,093
1983	1,113	13,476	14,588	1,462	3,241	4,703
1984	989	12,922	13,910	1,442	3,298	4,741
1985	957	13,122	14,079	1,546	3,334	4,880
1986	985	14,486	15,471	1,586	3,523	5,109
1987	933	13,877	14,811	1,494	3,774	5,268
1988	854	14,560	15,414	1,582	3,656	5,238
1989	903	15,504	16,407	1,415	3,670	5,085
1990	859	17,445	18,304	1,501	3,614	5,115
1991	779	18,491	19,270	1,518	3,877	5,394
1992	722	17,792	18,513	1,455	3,762	5,217
1993	708	18,229	18,937	1,581	3,969	5,550
1994	692	17,602	18,294	1,405	3,602	5,007
1995	546	16,007	16,552	1,317	3,705	5,022
1996	515	14,638	15,153	1,324	3,145	4,469
1997	451	13,606	14,057	1,217	2,908	4,125
1998	515	12,238	12,753	1,323	2,816	4,139
1999	426	11,279	11,704	1,218	2,582	3,800
2000	442	11,377	11,818	1,252	2,481	3,733
2001	399	11,833	12,232	1,202	2,573	3,775
2002	388	12,022	12,410	1,202	2,562	3,764

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Intimate Homicide Victims by Relationship**

	<b>Spouse</b>	<b>Ex-Spouse</b>	<b>Boyfriend/ Girlfriend</b>
<b>1976</b>	2,174	123	662
<b>1977</b>	2,017	110	603
<b>1978</b>	1,940	116	629
<b>1979</b>	1,940	146	683
<b>1980</b>	1,911	115	744
<b>1981</b>	1,946	136	768
<b>1982</b>	1,722	136	763
<b>1983</b>	1,676	128	770
<b>1984</b>	1,501	97	833
<b>1985</b>	1,580	111	811
<b>1986</b>	1,542	127	901
<b>1987</b>	1,489	96	841
<b>1988</b>	1,467	100	869
<b>1989</b>	1,326	78	913
<b>1990</b>	1,371	110	879
<b>1991</b>	1,297	82	918
<b>1992</b>	1,262	81	834
<b>1993</b>	1,232	94	964
<b>1994</b>	1,145	91	861
<b>1995</b>	1,023	60	780
<b>1996</b>	1,008	73	759
<b>1997</b>	867	72	728
<b>1998</b>	975	76	787
<b>1999</b>	839	62	743
<b>2000</b>	902	67	725
<b>2001</b>	836	56	711
<b>2002</b>	804	57	731

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Intimate Homicide Rates per 100,000 Population by Victim Race, Gender, and Relationship**

	Spouse or Ex-spouse				Boyfriend/Girlfriend			
	White		Black		White		Black	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>1976</b>	0.97	1.73	18.42	12.61	.68	1.70	12.96	10.69
<b>1977</b>	1.01	1.62	16.92	10.26	.72	1.53	11.68	7.83
<b>1978</b>	0.98	1.73	14.98	11.21	.61	1.64	10.63	7.46
<b>1979</b>	1.11	1.73	15.88	9.74	.63	1.72	9.63	8.66
<b>1980</b>	0.99	1.69	14.35	10.05	.72	2.33	9.62	8.01
<b>1981</b>	1.02	1.76	12.88	8.47	.67	1.83	8.87	8.28
<b>1982</b>	.84	1.76	10.80	7.07	.76	1.81	8.34	7.30
<b>1983</b>	.91	1.54	10.70	8.23	.63	1.84	7.49	6.84
<b>1984</b>	.65	1.56	8.37	5.90	.79	1.97	7.11	7.25
<b>1985</b>	.73	1.60	7.73	6.30	.64	2.05	7.17	6.79
<b>1986</b>	.70	1.53	7.72	6.75	.68	2.42	7.34	7.80
<b>1987</b>	.66	1.48	6.85	6.10	.64	2.16	6.97	6.09
<b>1988</b>	.55	1.51	6.69	6.21	.68	2.22	6.53	7.06
<b>1989</b>	.53	1.21	6.74	5.57	.62	2.24	6.66	6.73
<b>1990</b>	.54	1.39	5.77	5.84	.66	2.03	6.40	7.06
<b>1991</b>	.45	1.35	5.08	6.05	.69	2.01	5.62	7.16
<b>1992</b>	.56	1.29	4.54	6.09	.51	1.84	4.65	5.92
<b>1993</b>	.43	1.29	4.52	6.04	.60	2.46	4.96	6.70
<b>1994</b>	.46	1.39	4.75	4.13	.48	1.89	4.36	6.09
<b>1995</b>	.38	1.12	2.87	3.71	.36	2.27	3.87	5.00
<b>1996</b>	.39	1.15	2.38	4.26	.34	1.92	3.35	5.30
<b>1997</b>	.31	0.99	2.08	3.45	.44	1.91	2.50	4.75
<b>1998</b>	.28	1.21	1.84	4.10	.46	1.96	4.43	4.73
<b>1999</b>	.27	0.96	1.35	3.03	.36	2.10	3.92	3.89
<b>2000</b>	.26	1.08	1.37	2.80	.29	1.93	3.28	3.80
<b>2001</b>	.23	1.01	1.40	3.49	.30	2.04	3.71	3.77
<b>2002</b>	.19	0.97	1.12	3.48	.38	1.93	3.70	4.45

\*Note: The homicide and population data are for persons ages 20-44. The number of married or divorced persons is the population base used to calculate spouse and ex-spouse rates and the number of never married or widowed persons is the population base used to calculate boyfriend/girlfriend rates.

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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**Intimate Homicide Victims by  
 Weapon and Gender**

	Gun		Nongun	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
<b>1976</b>	973	1,120	385	481
<b>1977</b>	911	990	383	446
<b>1978</b>	832	1,013	370	469
<b>1979</b>	913	1,071	349	435
<b>1980</b>	841	1,074	379	475
<b>1981</b>	845	1,064	433	509
<b>1982</b>	716	1,006	425	474
<b>1983</b>	702	941	411	521
<b>1984</b>	607	954	381	488
<b>1985</b>	598	1,023	359	523
<b>1986</b>	630	1,019	354	567
<b>1987</b>	561	995	373	499
<b>1988</b>	479	1,017	375	565
<b>1989</b>	517	908	386	507
<b>1990</b>	483	968	376	533
<b>1991</b>	424	944	356	574
<b>1992</b>	402	939	320	516
<b>1993</b>	414	1,042	294	539
<b>1994</b>	397	916	295	489
<b>1995</b>	313	818	233	499
<b>1996</b>	284	843	232	481
<b>1997</b>	259	757	192	460
<b>1998</b>	262	811	253	512
<b>1999</b>	228	740	198	478
<b>2000</b>	227	739	214	514
<b>2001</b>	205	686	194	516
<b>2002</b>	175	700	213	502

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

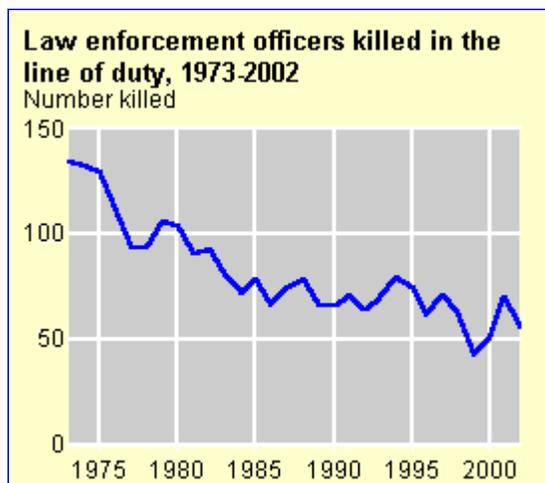
Between 1993 and 2002, of the 636 officers killed --

- 32% were in arrest situations
- 17% were investigating suspicious persons/circumstances
- 15% were on disturbance calls
- 15% were making traffic pursuits/stops
- 15% were in ambush situations
- 5% were in other situations

Of the 785 assailants identified in the killing of law enforcement officers from 1993-2002 --

- almost half had a prior conviction
- one-fifth were on probation or parole at the time

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

**Most law enforcement officers are killed with firearms, particularly handguns**

The greatest proportion of the recent decline in such murders is attributable to the decline in handgun murders.

To view data, click on the chart.





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**Law Enforcement Officers  
Feloniously Killed**

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

\* The 72 deaths that resulted from the events of September 11, 2001 are not included in this total.

Source: FBI, Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted, 1973-2002

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

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***

**Trends in law enforcement officers killed by weapon type**

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**Law Enforcement Officers Feloniously Killed**

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

\* The 72 deaths that resulted from the events of September 11, 2001 are not included in these totals

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

See also **Additional Information About the Data** for details about weighting and imputation.



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**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
**Multiple victims and offenders**

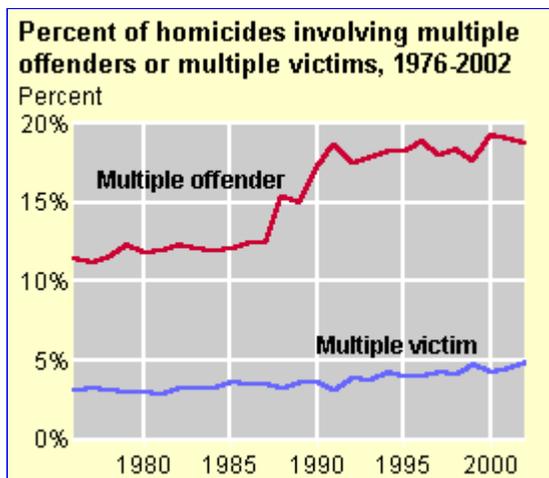
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**Few homicides involve multiple offenders and fewer involve multiple victims**

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- Homicides are more likely to involve multiple offenders than multiple victims.
- The proportion of homicides involving multiple offenders rose dramatically in the late 1980's and early 1990's, increasing from 11.5% in 1976 to 18.8% in 2002.
- The proportion of homicides involving multiple victims increased gradually during the last two decades from 3% of all homicides in 1976 to 4.9% in 2002.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

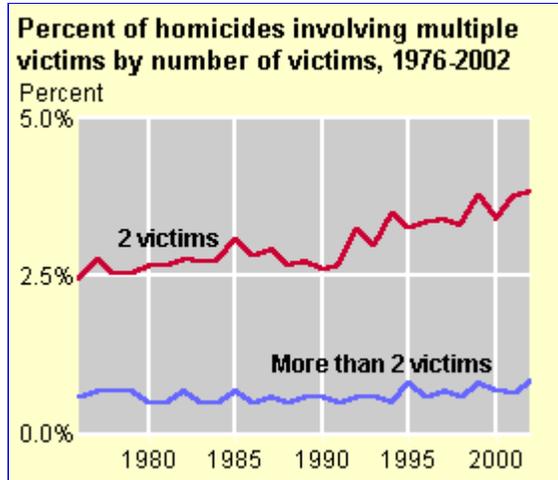
Victims	Offenders		
	Single	Multiple	Unknown
Single	58%	10%	29%
Multiple	2%	1%	1%

**The proportion of homicides involving two victims has increased but the proportion involving more than two has not changed**

In 2002, of all homicide incidents--

- 4% involved 2 victims
- .6% involved 3 victims
- .2% involved 4 victims
- .07% involved 5 or more victims

To view data, click on the chart.



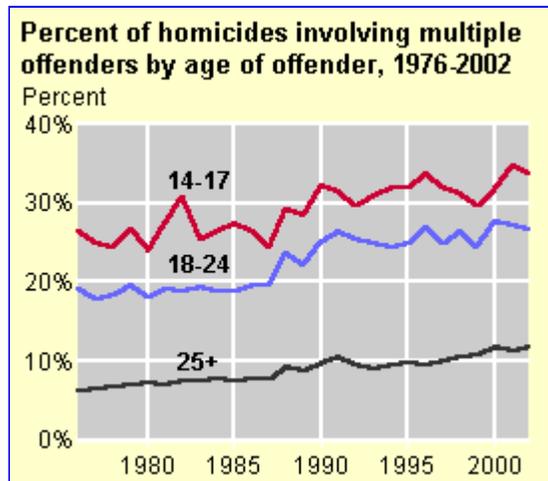
[D]

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

In 2002 homicides involving multiple offenders represented --

- 34% of the homicides committed by offenders 14-17 years old
- 27% of the homicides committed by offenders 18-24 years old
- 12% of the homicides committed by offenders age 25 or older

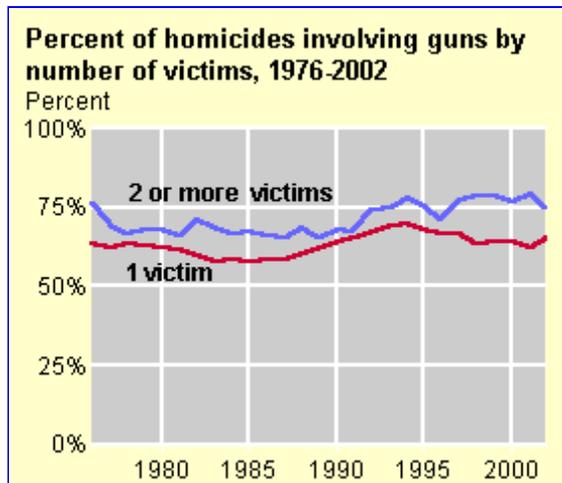
To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Uniform Crime Reports, 1976-2002

**Additional information** about the data used in *Homicide trends in the U.S.*

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**Percent of Homicides  
with Multiple Offenders  
and Victims**

	<b>Offenders</b>	<b>Victims</b>
<b>1976</b>	11.5	3.1
<b>1977</b>	11.2	3.3
<b>1978</b>	11.6	3.1
<b>1979</b>	12.3	3.0
<b>1980</b>	11.8	3.0
<b>1981</b>	11.9	2.9
<b>1982</b>	12.3	3.2
<b>1983</b>	12.1	3.2
<b>1984</b>	12.0	3.2
<b>1985</b>	12.1	3.6
<b>1986</b>	12.4	3.5
<b>1987</b>	12.5	3.5
<b>1988</b>	15.4	3.3
<b>1989</b>	15.0	3.6
<b>1990</b>	17.3	3.6
<b>1991</b>	18.6	3.1
<b>1992</b>	17.5	3.9
<b>1993</b>	17.9	3.8
<b>1994</b>	18.3	4.2
<b>1995</b>	18.2	4.0
<b>1996</b>	18.9	4.0
<b>1997</b>	18.0	4.3
<b>1998</b>	18.4	4.1
<b>1999</b>	17.6	4.7
<b>2000</b>	19.2	4.3
<b>2001</b>	19.0	4.5
<b>2002</b>	18.8	4.9

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Victims per Homicide Incident**

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

**Victims per Homicide Incident**

	Number of Victims in Offense				
	1	2	3	4	5+
1976	17,492	442	67	24	16
1977	17,695	505	78	33	8

<b>1978</b>	18,166	481	89	21	13
<b>1979</b>	19,936	521	80	34	18
<b>1980</b>	21,426	593	70	30	17
<b>1981</b>	20,970	579	71	18	18
<b>1982</b>	19,392	557	79	30	22
<b>1983</b>	17,963	511	63	22	8
<b>1984</b>	17,373	488	53	13	19
<b>1985</b>	17,457	556	94	15	12
<b>1986</b>	19,157	562	63	18	11
<b>1987</b>	18,575	563	91	10	13
<b>1988</b>	19,250	528	63	26	14
<b>1989</b>	19,940	564	86	31	8
<b>1990</b>	21,773	590	84	28	15
<b>1991</b>	23,026	634	73	30	11
<b>1992</b>	21,828	735	94	28	13
<b>1993</b>	22,618	705	102	30	13
<b>1994</b>	21,390	776	90	19	7
<b>1995</b>	19,637	669	101	22	29
<b>1996</b>	18,022	635	86	16	7
<b>1997</b>	16,592	591	92	21	13
<b>1998</b>	15,552	535	78	17	8
<b>1999</b>	14,007	554	74	21	17
<b>2000</b>	14,236	505	72	18	9
<b>2001</b>	14,549	576	81	15	6
<b>2002</b>	14,587	587	94	24	11

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Percent of Homicides with Multiple Offenders by Offender Age**

	Offender Age		
	14-17	18-24	25+
1976	26.4	19.2	6.2
1977	25.0	17.9	6.5
1978	24.5	18.4	6.7
1979	26.6	19.5	7.0
1980	23.8	18.2	7.2
1981	27.1	19.2	6.9
1982	30.6	18.8	7.4
1983	25.3	19.3	7.5
1984	26.3	18.8	7.7
1985	27.3	18.9	7.6
1986	26.5	19.6	7.7
1987	24.4	19.5	7.8
1988	29.1	23.6	9.3
1989	28.5	22.1	8.8
1990	32.2	25.1	9.8
1991	31.5	26.3	10.5
1992	29.6	25.4	9.5
1993	30.9	24.9	9.1
1994	31.9	24.5	9.5
1995	31.9	24.8	9.8
1996	33.8	26.8	9.6
1997	31.9	24.9	10.0
1998	31.1	26.4	10.6
1999	29.6	24.3	10.9
2000	31.6	27.7	11.7
2001	34.8	27.2	11.3
2002	33.8	26.6	11.7

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Percent of Homicides by Victim Count and Gun Involvement**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



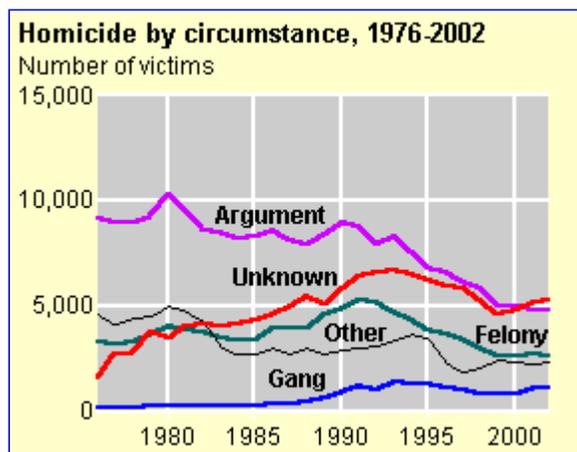
**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
**Homicide circumstances**

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

The number of homicides --

- in which the circumstances were unknown has tripled since 1976
- resulting from arguments has declined but remains the most frequently cited circumstance of the known circumstances
- that occurred during the commission of another felony like a robbery or burglary has declined since 1991
- involving adult or juvenile gang violence has increased more than 8 fold since 1976

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

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

Gang homicides include gangland killings and juvenile gang killings.

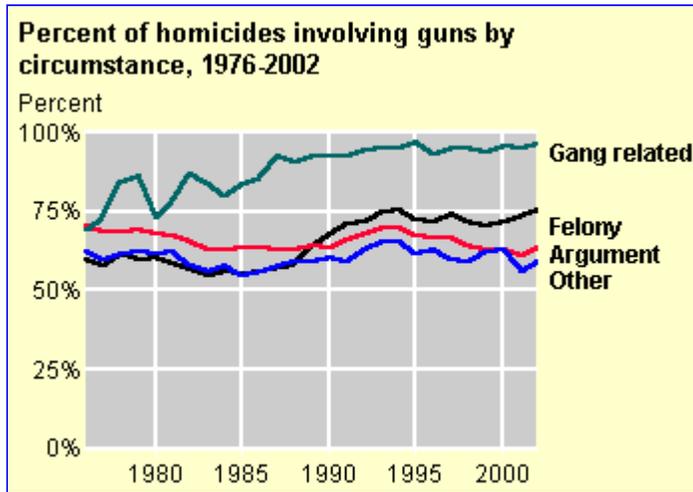
**The proportion of homicides involving guns differs by circumstance**

Gun involvement --

- in gang related homicides increased after 1980

- in homicides that occurred during the commission of a felony increased dramatically after 1985
- in homicides resulting from arguments declined to the lowest levels recorded recently
- in homicides resulting from other circumstances remained relatively constant

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional information about the data](#).

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

#### Related charts on this site

- [Percent of homicides committed during a felony by age of victim, 1976-2002 aggregate](#)

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**Homicide Victims by Circumstance**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Percent Gun Use by Circumstance Type**

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

**Trends in Weapon and Circumstance Type**

Felony		Argument		Gang		Other		Unknown	
Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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*Homicide trends in the U.S.*  
**Weapons used**

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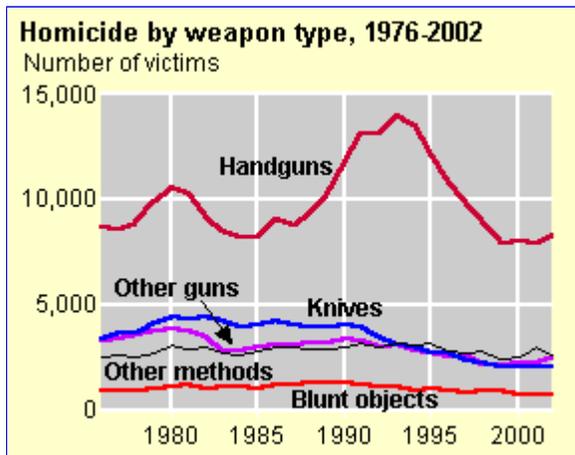
**Homicides are most often committed with guns, especially handguns**

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**Like the homicide rate generally, gun-involved incidents increased sharply in the late 1980's before falling through the 1990's. The number of gun-involved homicides has increased some recently.**

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

To view data, click on the chart.

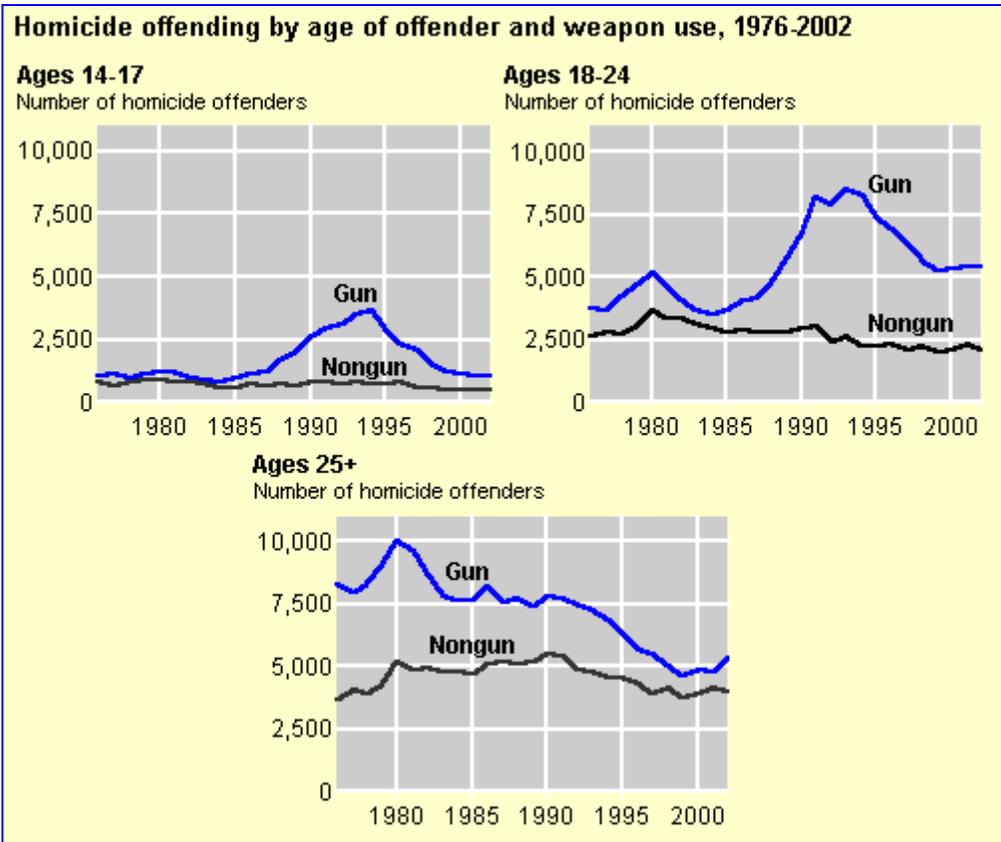


[D]

**Gun homicides by teens and young adults rose sharply beginning with the mid-1980's and fell in the early 1990's**

- The trend in nongun homicides shows little change, declining or fluctuating slightly for all age groups.
- Gun homicides by adults 25 and older reflect a general downward trend, although they increased slightly in recent years.
- The sharp increase in homicides in the late 1980's and much of the subsequent decline is attributable to gun violence by juveniles and young adults.

To view data, click on the chart.

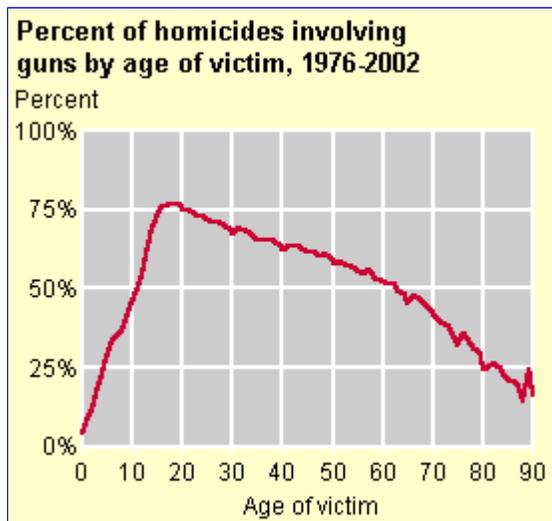


[D]

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

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

#### Related charts on this site

- [Intimate homicides by type of weapon and gender of victim, 1976-2002](#)
- [Law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty by weapon type, 1973-2002](#)
- [Percent of homicides involving guns by circumstance, 1976-2002](#)
- [Gun homicide victimization rates by region, 1976-2002](#)

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**Homicides by Weapon Type**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Homicides by Weapon and Age of Offender**

	Under 14		14-17		18-24		25+	
	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun	Gun	Nongun
<b>1976</b>	56	50	1,067	837	3,758	2,625	8,242	3,717
<b>1977</b>	52	52	1,094	679	3,685	2,780	7,978	4,068
<b>1978</b>	83	41	933	779	4,212	2,666	8,312	3,956
<b>1979</b>	49	46	1,149	846	4,700	3,054	9,048	4,295
<b>1980</b>	55	56	1,204	881	5,191	3,650	9,990	5,174
<b>1981</b>	53	33	1,173	766	4,615	3,330	9,629	4,877
<b>1982</b>	35	59	957	774	4,055	3,378	8,666	4,956
<b>1983</b>	41	42	858	699	3,651	3,102	7,840	4,774
<b>1984</b>	37	36	791	567	3,533	2,925	7,632	4,815
<b>1985</b>	57	40	952	592	3,633	2,749	7,621	4,726
<b>1986</b>	64	34	1,099	750	4,015	2,893	8,183	5,140
<b>1987</b>	58	61	1,207	657	4,171	2,794	7,590	5,165
<b>1988</b>	56	50	1,669	748	4,794	2,745	7,691	5,078
<b>1989</b>	82	47	1,963	665	5,624	2,749	7,418	5,160
<b>1990</b>	57	43	2,603	818	6,703	2,975	7,792	5,473
<b>1991</b>	101	41	2,936	833	8,211	3,022	7,720	5,403
<b>1992</b>	97	54	3,101	719	7,825	2,403	7,448	4,902
<b>1993</b>	123	44	3,531	784	8,528	2,640	7,225	4,763
<b>1994</b>	159	50	3,617	760	8,253	2,257	6,850	4,544
<b>1995</b>	107	43	2,898	753	7,365	2,217	6,282	4,547
<b>1996</b>	64	35	2,334	784	6,942	2,283	5,688	4,279
<b>1997</b>	49	56	2,087	589	6,310	2,077	5,481	3,955
<b>1998</b>	62	42	1,543	581	5,604	2,262	5,038	4,187
<b>1999</b>	47	44	1,229	502	5,218	1,966	4,636	3,760
<b>2000</b>	30	43	1,079	449	5,340	2,052	4,831	3,917
<b>2001</b>	19	33	1,015	496	5,418	2,270	4,766	4,149
<b>2002</b>	37	29	1,018	459	5,393	2,037	5,315	3,961

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Percent of Homicides  
Involving Guns by  
Victim Age**

<b>Age of Victim</b>	<b>Gun</b>	<b>Nongun</b>
0	4.0%	96.0%
1	7.8%	92.2%
2	11.8%	88.2%
3	17.0%	83.0%
4	23.3%	76.7%
5	28.3%	71.7%
6	34.1%	65.9%
7	35.0%	65.0%
8	37.3%	62.7%
9	40.7%	59.3%
10	45.7%	54.3%
11	49.2%	50.8%
12	54.7%	45.3%
13	61.2%	38.8%
14	69.0%	31.0%
15	73.3%	26.7%
16	75.9%	24.1%
17	76.9%	23.1%
18	76.6%	23.4%
19	76.5%	23.5%
20	74.6%	25.4%
21	74.8%	25.2%
22	74.2%	25.8%
23	73.1%	26.9%
24	72.8%	27.2%
25	72.0%	28.0%
26	71.2%	28.8%
27	70.8%	29.2%
28	70.4%	29.6%
29	69.1%	30.9%
30	67.6%	32.4%
31	69.2%	30.8%
32	68.3%	31.7%
33	67.9%	32.1%
34	66.6%	33.4%

<b>35</b>	65.3%	34.7%
<b>36</b>	65.5%	34.5%
<b>37</b>	65.3%	34.7%
<b>38</b>	65.2%	34.8%
<b>39</b>	64.3%	35.7%
<b>40</b>	62.1%	37.9%
<b>41</b>	63.5%	36.5%
<b>42</b>	63.2%	36.8%
<b>43</b>	63.5%	36.5%
<b>44</b>	62.5%	37.5%
<b>45</b>	61.7%	38.3%
<b>46</b>	61.6%	38.4%
<b>47</b>	60.3%	39.7%
<b>48</b>	60.8%	39.2%
<b>49</b>	60.1%	39.9%
<b>50</b>	57.8%	42.2%
<b>51</b>	58.3%	41.7%
<b>52</b>	57.7%	42.3%
<b>53</b>	57.3%	42.7%
<b>54</b>	56.4%	43.6%
<b>55</b>	55.3%	44.7%
<b>56</b>	54.4%	45.6%
<b>57</b>	56.2%	43.8%
<b>58</b>	53.7%	46.3%
<b>59</b>	52.9%	47.1%
<b>60</b>	52.4%	47.6%
<b>61</b>	51.3%	48.7%
<b>62</b>	51.3%	48.7%
<b>63</b>	49.0%	51.0%
<b>64</b>	48.3%	51.7%
<b>65</b>	45.0%	55.0%
<b>66</b>	47.5%	52.5%
<b>67</b>	47.4%	52.6%
<b>68</b>	45.3%	54.7%
<b>69</b>	44.1%	55.9%
<b>70</b>	41.2%	58.8%
<b>71</b>	40.0%	60.0%
<b>72</b>	39.0%	61.0%
<b>73</b>	38.6%	61.4%
<b>74</b>	34.6%	65.4%
<b>75</b>	32.3%	67.7%
<b>76</b>	35.5%	64.5%
<b>77</b>	32.9%	67.1%
<b>78</b>	30.8%	69.2%
<b>79</b>	30.3%	69.7%
<b>80</b>	24.6%	75.4%
<b>81</b>	25.5%	74.5%

<b>82</b>	26.2%	73.8%
<b>83</b>	25.3%	74.7%
<b>84</b>	22.4%	77.6%
<b>85</b>	20.7%	79.3%
<b>86</b>	20.7%	79.3%
<b>87</b>	18.0%	82.0%
<b>88</b>	14.2%	85.8%
<b>89</b>	24.2%	75.8%
<b>90</b>	16.5%	83.5%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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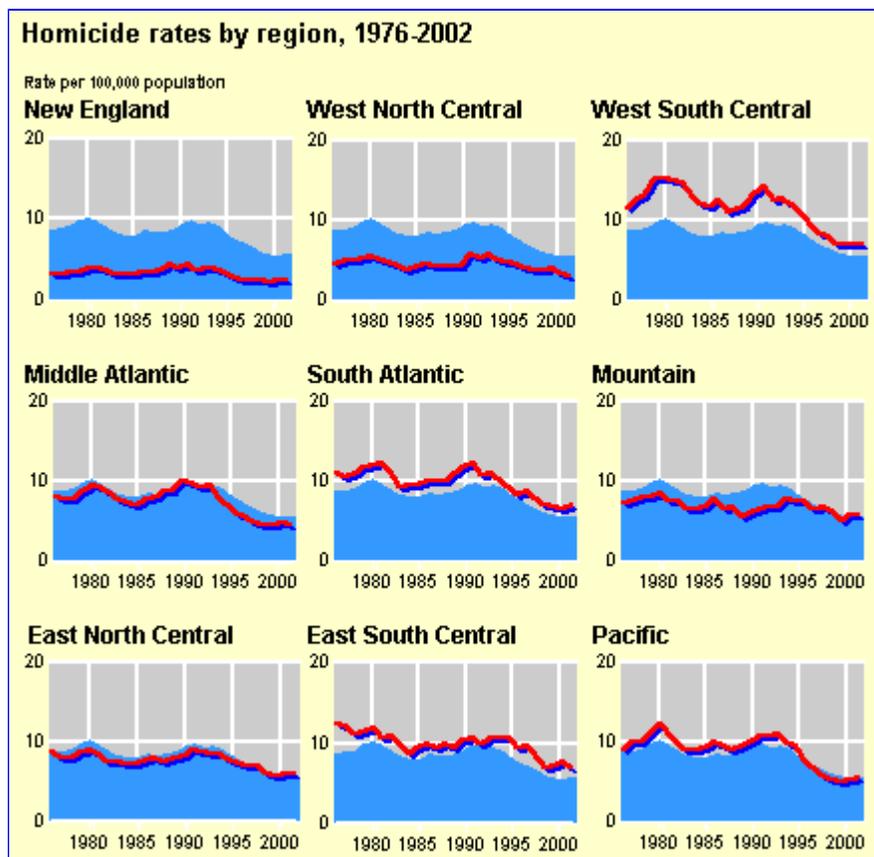
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## Homicide trends in the U.S. Regional trends

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

- Rates of murder, and especially those involving guns, are higher in southern regions of the United States--in the **East South Central**, **West South Central**, and the **South Atlantic** regions.
- For over 20 years, the rates in the **Pacific** region were above average; in 1998 they fell below the national norm.
- About average rates are also found in other urbanized regions, specifically the **Middle Atlantic** and **East North Central** regions.
- Relatively low rates exist in the **New England**, **Mountain**, and **West North Central** regions.

To view data, click on the chart.

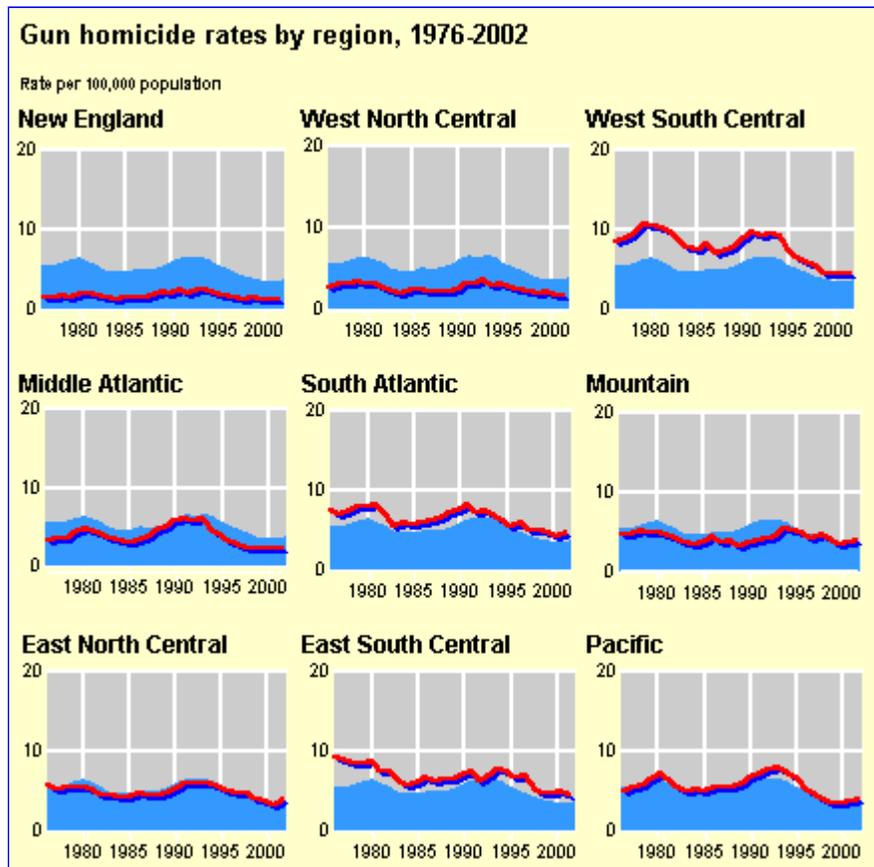


[D]

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

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

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

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

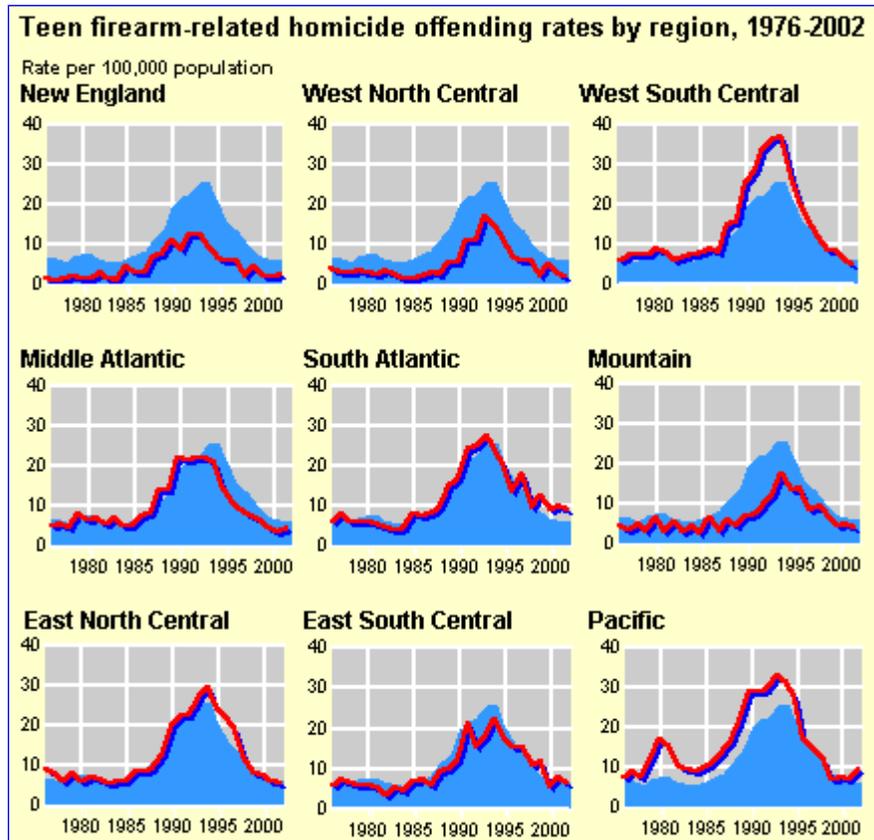
Teen offending rates started their steep ascents --

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

Firearms-related homicide offending rates for teens peaked in all regions in the early

1990's. Recently, they declined to levels experienced before the upsurge.

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

States in the regions listed above:

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

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**Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Region**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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**Gun Homicide Victimization Rates per 100,000 Population by Region**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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

	NE	MA	ENC	WNC	SA	ESC	WSC	MT	PA	US Total
<b>1976</b>	1.3	5.4	9.4	4.3	5.9	5.5	5.5	4.1	7.7	6.4
<b>1977</b>	1.1	5.6	8.1	3.3	7.7	6.8	7.3	3.1	9.0	6.6
<b>1978</b>	1.4	5.0	6.5	3.1	5.7	5.8	7.3	5.0	7.6	5.7
<b>1979</b>	1.8	8.3	8.2	3.7	5.8	5.1	7.2	2.8	11.5	7.1
<b>1980</b>	1.7	6.9	6.3	3.2	5.8	5.4	8.5	6.1	17.0	7.5
<b>1981</b>	1.5	7.5	7.2	2.8	5.3	4.8	7.8	2.6	15.5	7.3
<b>1982</b>	3.2	6.0	6.8	3.7	4.3	2.9	5.8	5.2	10.4	6.1
<b>1983</b>	1.6	7.1	5.7	2.9	3.6	4.6	6.4	2.6	9.5	5.6
<b>1984</b>	1.2	5.3	6.3	2.0	4.1	4.0	7.4	4.5	8.9	5.3
<b>1985</b>	4.3	5.4	6.2	1.8	7.8	6.4	7.9	2.3	9.8	6.5
<b>1986</b>	2.8	7.9	8.6	2.4	7.2	6.6	8.6	6.1	11.3	7.5
<b>1987</b>	2.8	9.0	9.0	3.3	8.3	5.3	7.6	2.7	14.0	8.3
<b>1988</b>	7.0	14.4	10.0	2.6	9.6	8.8	15.1	5.6	16.5	11.6
<b>1989</b>	8.0	14.2	13.3	5.8	15.1	9.9	15.9	4.1	22.4	13.8
<b>1990</b>	11.2	22.1	19.6	5.9	17.0	11.9	25.2	6.7	29.1	19.6
<b>1991</b>	8.3	21.9	22.9	11.3	24.4	20.9	28.8	7.1	29.0	21.9
<b>1992</b>	12.7	22.3	22.8	11.3	24.7	15.0	34.6	9.3	29.5	22.7
<b>1993</b>	12.3	22.1	27.5	17.4	27.5	18.0	37.0	12.5	32.8	25.6
<b>1994</b>	9.3	21.1	29.7	14.9	24.0	21.8	37.7	17.4	31.4	25.7
<b>1995</b>	6.5	14.4	24.2	12.0	19.2	17.0	27.4	13.2	27.2	19.9
<b>1996</b>	5.9	11.5	22.2	7.2	13.4	15.0	20.7	13.7	17.1	15.7
<b>1997</b>	6.2	9.2	18.8	6.5	18.0	14.8	15.5	8.4	14.6	13.7
<b>1998</b>	1.8	8.0	11.4	6.2	9.3	10.5	11.8	9.5	11.8	9.9
<b>1999</b>	4.4	6.8	8.2	2.4	12.3	11.3	8.2	6.8	7.1	7.9
<b>2000</b>	2.1	4.6	7.8	5.2	8.7	4.6	8.4	4.2	7.5	6.7
<b>2001</b>	2.2	3.9	6.1	3.0	9.7	7.3	5.8	4.7	6.9	6.2
<b>2002</b>	2.3	4.6	6.0	2.4	8.8	6.0	4.7	3.9	9.4	6.2

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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## *Homicide trends in the U.S.*

### Trends by city size

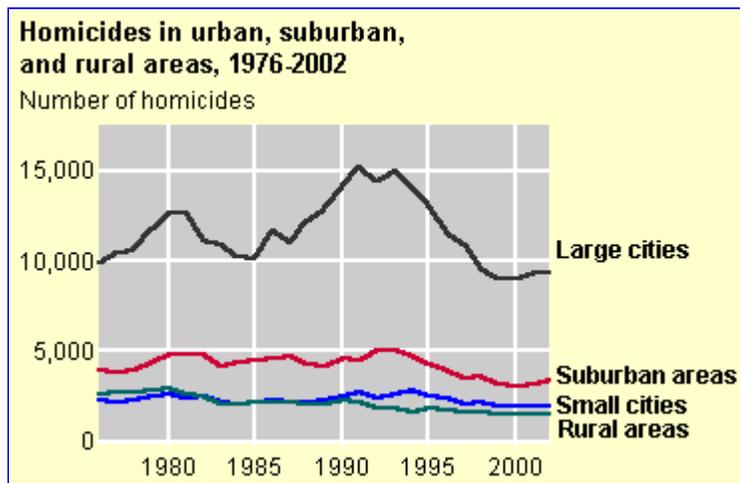
## Changes in homicide trends have been driven by changes in the number of homicides in large American cities

From 1976-2002 --

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

[▶ To large city data](#)

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

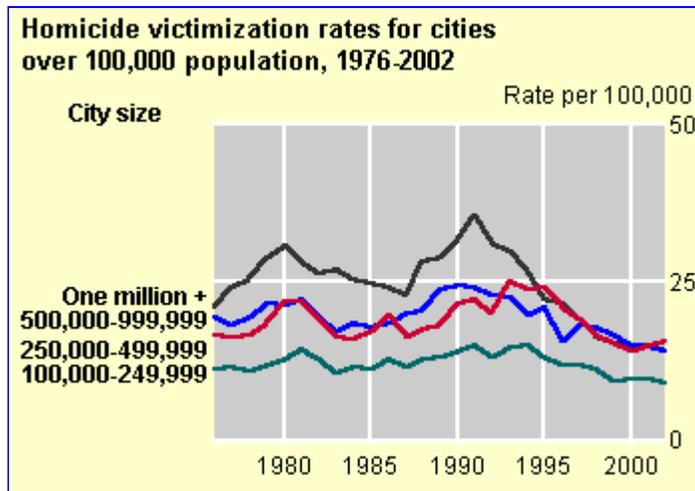
## Until recently, homicide rates for large American cities varied by size

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

- one million or more have plummeted, reaching the lowest level in the past two decades
- 100,000 to 249,000 are the lowest rates among large cities

In the late 1990's, the rates of homicide for cities in all groups of more than 250,000 population were about the same.

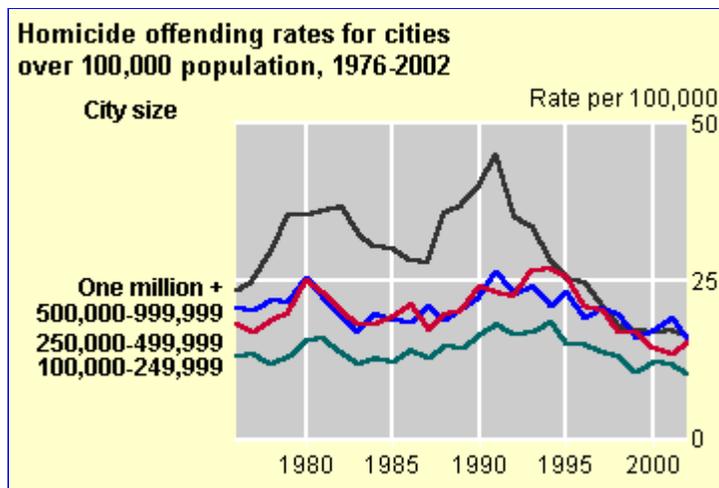
To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

### Certain homicide types vary by size of place

For the years 1976-2002 combined, large cities are -

- much more commonly the site of drug-related and gang-related killings
- relatively less likely to be the location of family-related and work-related homicides

#### Homicide Type by Urbanicity, 1976-2002

Victim/offender relationship	Percent of all homicides			
	Large city	Small city	Suburban	Rural
All homicides	57.3%	11.4%	20.9%	10.4%

Intimate	40.9%	14.5%	27.6%	17.0%
Family	38.9%	13.1%	28.8%	19.3%
Infanticide	48.0%	15.0%	25.4%	11.6%
Eldercide	47.5%	13.4%	23.7%	15.4%
<b>Circumstance</b>				
Felony murder	61.3%	11.0%	20.1%	7.7%
Sex related	48.4%	12.1%	27.3%	12.3%
Drug related	68.0%	9.7%	18.0%	4.4%
Gang related	69.7%	12.9%	16.6%	0.8%
Argument	53.4%	12.6%	20.8%	13.1%
Workplace	32.0%	13.8%	37.2%	17.1%
<b>Weapon</b>				
Gun homicide	59.1%	10.5%	19.7%	10.7%
Arson	55.2%	13.0%	21.7%	10.2%
Poison	39.6%	15.0%	28.5%	16.9%
<b>Multiple victims or offenders</b>				
Multiple victims	47.3%	11.7%	27.1%	13.9%
Multiple offenders	62.2%	9.9%	18.9%	9.0%

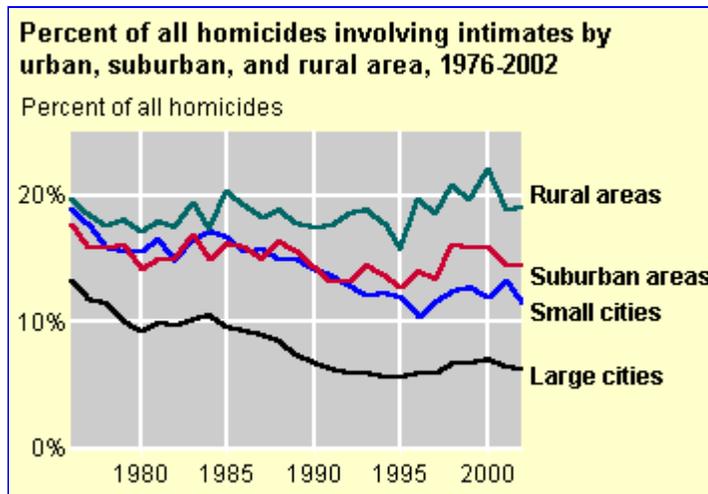
## The proportion of homicides that are intimate homicides differs by type of area

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

Intimate homicides declined in all types of places. From 1976 to 2002, the number of intimate murders --

- in large cities fell by more than half, while nonintimate murders increased by 2%
- in small cities dropped by 53%, although nonintimate homicides showed little change
- in rural areas dropped by 56%, exceeding the 42% drop in nonintimate homicides
- in suburban areas declined by 38%, exceeding the 8% drop in nonintimate homicides

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional information about the data.](#)

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

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**Homicides by Location Type**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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

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

**Homicide Victimization Rates for Cities over 100,000**

## Population by Population Group

### One Million

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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

	<b>One Million and over</b>	<b>500K - 999K</b>	<b>250K - 499K</b>	<b>100K - 249K</b>
<b>1976</b>	23.5	20.6	18.2	13.1
<b>1977</b>	25.2	20.5	16.9	13.5
<b>1978</b>	29.6	21.9	18.8	12.0
<b>1979</b>	35.6	21.6	20.0	13.3
<b>1980</b>	35.5	25.3	25.2	15.7
<b>1981</b>	36.1	22.4	23.2	16.0
<b>1982</b>	36.9	19.6	20.3	13.8
<b>1983</b>	32.5	16.9	18.1	12.0
<b>1984</b>	30.5	19.7	18.2	12.8
<b>1985</b>	30.1	18.8	19.6	12.1
<b>1986</b>	28.4	18.6	21.3	14.2
<b>1987</b>	27.9	20.9	17.4	12.7
<b>1988</b>	35.9	18.8	19.8	14.8
<b>1989</b>	37.1	20.8	20.5	14.5
<b>1990</b>	40.2	22.7	24.1	16.6
<b>1991</b>	44.9	26.5	23.3	18.2
<b>1992</b>	35.3	23.0	22.6	16.5
<b>1993</b>	33.5	24.2	26.7	17.1
<b>1994</b>	28.2	21.1	27.0	18.4
<b>1995</b>	25.6	23.4	25.8	15.0
<b>1996</b>	24.8	19.3	20.9	15.1
<b>1997</b>	20.9	20.7	20.3	13.7
<b>1998</b>	17.8	19.8	16.8	13.2
<b>1999</b>	17.3	15.9	17.0	10.5
<b>2000</b>	16.8	17.3	14.3	12.1
<b>2001</b>	17.3	19.0	13.5	12.0
<b>2002</b>	16.2	15.6	15.3	10.4

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

**One Million    500K -    250K -    100K -**

	<b>and over</b>	<b>999K</b>	<b>499K</b>	<b>249K</b>
<b>1976</b>	4,263	2,557	2,158	1,957
<b>1977</b>	4,576	2,638	1,877	2,133
<b>1978</b>	5,268	2,600	2,198	1,935
<b>1979</b>	6,293	2,686	2,317	2,089
<b>1980</b>	6,178	2,938	3,056	2,478
<b>1981</b>	6,357	2,725	2,756	2,614
<b>1982</b>	5,941	2,420	2,493	2,242
<b>1983</b>	5,805	2,120	2,303	2,022
<b>1984</b>	4,548	2,359	2,453	2,167
<b>1985</b>	4,463	2,259	2,645	2,093
<b>1986</b>	5,682	1,990	2,852	2,389
<b>1987</b>	5,626	2,224	2,350	2,215
<b>1988</b>	7,279	2,192	2,323	2,329
<b>1989</b>	7,160	2,530	2,571	2,362
<b>1990</b>	8,026	2,320	3,160	2,726
<b>1991</b>	9,057	2,885	3,036	3,005
<b>1992</b>	7,181	2,812	3,139	3,043
<b>1993</b>	7,105	2,696	3,567	3,232
<b>1994</b>	6,014	2,599	3,468	3,503
<b>1995</b>	5,137	3,004	3,341	2,913
<b>1996</b>	5,523	2,011	2,744	2,906
<b>1997</b>	4,700	2,145	2,481	2,502
<b>1998</b>	3,846	2,169	2,060	2,404
<b>1999</b>	3,785	1,923	2,019	1,914
<b>2000</b>	4,036	2,172	1,726	2,330
<b>2001</b>	4,208	2,518	1,612	2,348
<b>2002</b>	4,004	2,093	1,894	2,218

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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**Percent Intimate Homicide Victims by Location**

	Large city		Small city		Suburban		Rural	
	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown	Intimate	Nonintimate or Unknown
<b>1976</b>	13.2%	86.8%	18.8%	81.2%	17.6%	82.4%	19.7%	80.3%
<b>1977</b>	11.8%	88.2%	17.8%	82.2%	15.9%	84.1%	18.5%	81.5%
<b>1978</b>	11.4%	88.6%	15.9%	84.1%	15.9%	84.1%	17.6%	82.4%
<b>1979</b>	10.0%	90.0%	15.5%	84.5%	16.1%	83.9%	18.1%	81.9%
<b>1980</b>	9.3%	90.7%	15.5%	84.5%	14.1%	85.9%	17.1%	82.9%
<b>1981</b>	9.9%	90.1%	16.5%	83.5%	15.0%	85.0%	17.9%	82.1%
<b>1982</b>	9.7%	90.3%	14.8%	85.2%	14.9%	85.1%	17.4%	82.6%
<b>1983</b>	10.2%	89.8%	16.5%	83.5%	16.8%	83.2%	19.3%	80.7%
<b>1984</b>	10.5%	89.5%	17.2%	82.8%	14.9%	85.1%	17.3%	82.7%
<b>1985</b>	9.6%	90.4%	16.6%	83.4%	16.2%	83.8%	20.3%	79.7%
<b>1986</b>	9.3%	90.7%	15.5%	84.5%	15.8%	84.2%	19.2%	80.8%
<b>1987</b>	8.9%	91.1%	15.7%	84.3%	15.0%	85.0%	18.3%	81.7%
<b>1988</b>	8.5%	91.5%	14.9%	85.1%	16.3%	83.7%	18.8%	81.2%
<b>1989</b>	7.3%	92.7%	14.9%	85.1%	15.6%	84.4%	17.8%	82.2%
<b>1990</b>	6.8%	93.2%	14.2%	85.8%	14.3%	85.7%	17.5%	82.5%
<b>1991</b>	6.2%	93.8%	13.7%	86.3%	13.2%	86.8%	17.6%	82.4%
<b>1992</b>	5.9%	94.1%	12.9%	87.1%	13.2%	86.8%	18.5%	81.5%
<b>1993</b>	6.0%	94.0%	12.1%	87.9%	14.4%	85.6%	18.8%	81.3%
<b>1994</b>	5.7%	94.3%	12.2%	87.8%	13.6%	86.4%	17.8%	82.2%
<b>1995</b>	5.7%	94.3%	11.9%	88.1%	12.7%	87.3%	15.7%	84.3%
<b>1996</b>	6.0%	94.0%	10.3%	89.7%	14.0%	86.0%	19.7%	80.3%
<b>1997</b>	5.9%	94.1%	11.7%	88.3%	13.3%	86.7%	18.6%	81.4%
<b>1998</b>	6.8%	93.2%	12.4%	87.6%	16.1%	83.9%	20.8%	79.2%
<b>1999</b>	6.8%	93.2%	12.8%	87.2%	15.8%	84.2%	19.6%	80.4%
<b>2000</b>	7.1%	92.9%	11.9%	88.1%	15.9%	84.1%	22.0%	78.0%
<b>2001</b>	6.4%	93.6%	13.2%	86.8%	14.5%	85.5%	18.8%	81.2%
<b>2002</b>	6.3%	93.7%	11.4%	88.6%	14.5%	85.5%	19.1%	80.9%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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

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[Next](#)**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
**Clearances****The percentage of homicides cleared by arrest has been declining**

- In 2002, 64% of all homicides were cleared compared to 79% in 1976
- Homicide has the highest clearance rate of all serious crimes

To view data, click on the chart.

**[D]**

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

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
 See also [Additional information about the data](#).

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

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Clearances**

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**Percent of Homicides Cleared by Arrest**

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

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

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



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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Clearances**

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**Percent of Homicides by Victim Age**

Age of Victim	Suspect Identified		Suspect Unknown	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	5,877	86.5%	915	13.5%
1	3,545	90.6%	369	9.4%
2	2,860	90.5%	299	9.5%
3	1,754	89.6%	204	10.4%
4	1,200	87.2%	177	12.8%
5	909	87.3%	132	12.7%
6	732	86.9%	111	13.1%
7	658	84.0%	126	16.0%
8	614	82.4%	131	17.6%
9	595	82.0%	130	18.0%
10	586	82.3%	126	17.7%
11	605	81.3%	139	18.7%
12	854	80.8%	202	19.2%
13	1,159	75.8%	370	24.2%
14	2,109	75.3%	692	24.7%
15	3,480	71.4%	1,391	28.6%
16	5,580	70.6%	2,325	29.4%
17	8,147	70.2%	3,453	29.8%
18	10,258	69.0%	4,598	31.0%
19	12,252	68.3%	5,689	31.7%
20	12,389	65.5%	6,531	34.5%
21	12,962	68.5%	5,974	31.5%
22	13,158	68.7%	5,984	31.3%
23	13,040	69.2%	5,817	30.8%
24	12,572	68.7%	5,728	31.3%
25	13,186	66.5%	6,637	33.5%
26	12,238	69.1%	5,470	30.9%
27	11,603	68.8%	5,266	31.2%
28	11,163	69.9%	4,802	30.1%
29	11,029	70.1%	4,715	29.9%
30	11,415	67.8%	5,428	32.2%

<b>31</b>	9,674	71.0%	3,943	29.0%
<b>32</b>	9,852	71.1%	3,999	28.9%
<b>33</b>	8,826	70.6%	3,672	29.4%
<b>34</b>	8,982	72.2%	3,452	27.8%
<b>35</b>	8,954	70.1%	3,822	29.9%
<b>36</b>	7,829	71.9%	3,067	28.1%
<b>37</b>	7,537	73.3%	2,749	26.7%
<b>38</b>	7,285	72.9%	2,714	27.1%
<b>39</b>	6,899	73.4%	2,506	26.6%
<b>40</b>	6,961	70.9%	2,857	29.1%
<b>41</b>	5,956	73.5%	2,143	26.5%
<b>42</b>	6,037	72.7%	2,263	27.3%
<b>43</b>	5,218	72.9%	1,936	27.1%
<b>44</b>	4,859	73.9%	1,719	26.1%
<b>45</b>	4,895	72.6%	1,852	27.4%
<b>46</b>	4,291	72.5%	1,625	27.5%
<b>47</b>	4,162	73.1%	1,532	26.9%
<b>48</b>	3,754	74.4%	1,291	25.6%
<b>49</b>	3,659	73.9%	1,291	26.1%
<b>50</b>	3,795	70.5%	1,585	29.5%
<b>51</b>	3,035	72.5%	1,149	27.5%
<b>52</b>	3,101	71.6%	1,231	28.4%
<b>53</b>	2,821	71.9%	1,100	28.1%
<b>54</b>	2,749	72.7%	1,034	27.3%
<b>55</b>	2,666	71.9%	1,040	28.1%
<b>56</b>	2,379	70.5%	997	29.5%
<b>57</b>	2,286	71.2%	926	28.8%
<b>58</b>	2,017	71.9%	787	28.1%
<b>59</b>	1,979	72.4%	754	27.6%
<b>60</b>	1,983	67.3%	964	32.7%
<b>61</b>	1,782	71.2%	721	28.8%
<b>62</b>	1,865	68.9%	840	31.1%
<b>63</b>	1,681	71.1%	683	28.9%
<b>64</b>	1,472	71.9%	574	28.1%
<b>65</b>	1,665	70.0%	714	30.0%
<b>66</b>	1,209	70.2%	514	29.8%
<b>67</b>	1,310	68.7%	596	31.3%
<b>68</b>	1,207	69.8%	522	30.2%
<b>69</b>	1,122	70.3%	473	29.7%
<b>70</b>	1,183	68.1%	556	31.9%
<b>71</b>	986	68.6%	451	31.4%
<b>72</b>	1,109	69.5%	487	30.5%

<b>73</b>	933	71.1%	379	28.9%
<b>74</b>	892	68.2%	416	31.8%
<b>75</b>	892	68.5%	411	31.5%
<b>76</b>	765	66.9%	379	33.1%
<b>77</b>	732	69.8%	317	30.2%
<b>78</b>	674	68.0%	318	32.0%
<b>79</b>	668	68.3%	310	31.7%
<b>80</b>	625	65.9%	323	34.1%
<b>81</b>	537	66.2%	275	33.8%
<b>82</b>	540	69.3%	239	30.7%
<b>83</b>	433	65.0%	233	35.0%
<b>84</b>	364	61.6%	227	38.4%
<b>85</b>	356	65.7%	186	34.3%
<b>86</b>	341	65.8%	178	34.2%
<b>87</b>	238	59.5%	162	40.5%
<b>88</b>	214	65.2%	114	34.8%
<b>89</b>	160	64.5%	88	35.5%
<b>90</b>	169	66.4%	85	33.6%

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

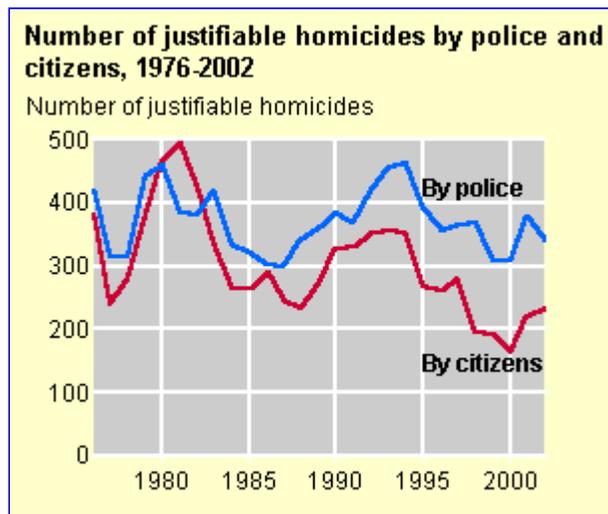
See also [Additional Information About the Data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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**Homicide trends in the U.S.**  
**Justifiable homicides****The number of justifiable homicides has been declining**

- Generally, the number of justifiable homicides committed by police exceeded the number committed by citizens.
- In the last 10 years, the number of justifiable homicides has declined 29%.

To view data, click on the chart.



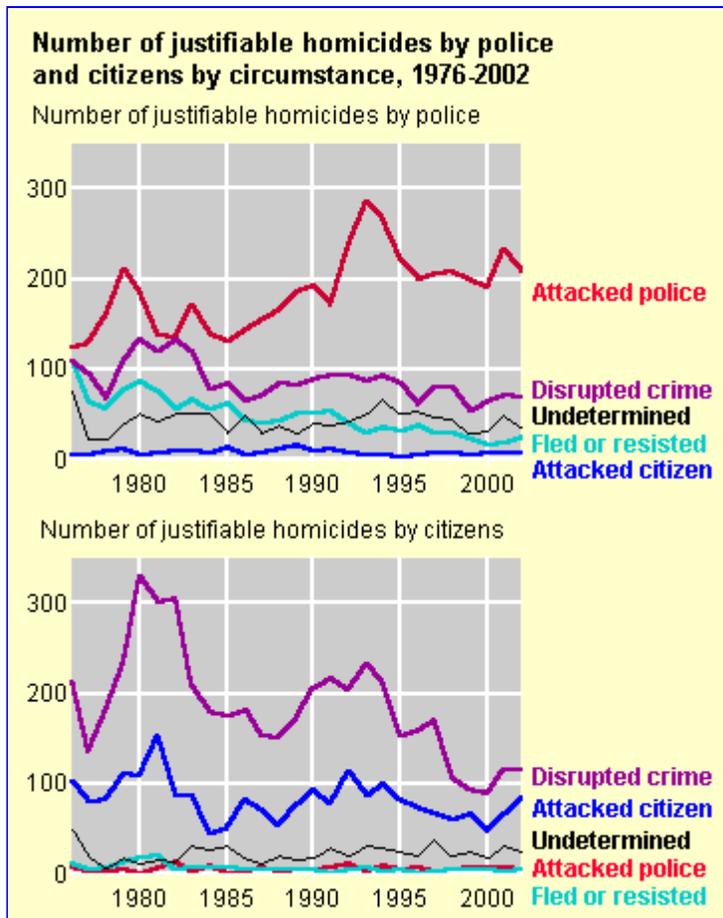
[D]

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

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

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

**Most justifiable homicides are intraracial**

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

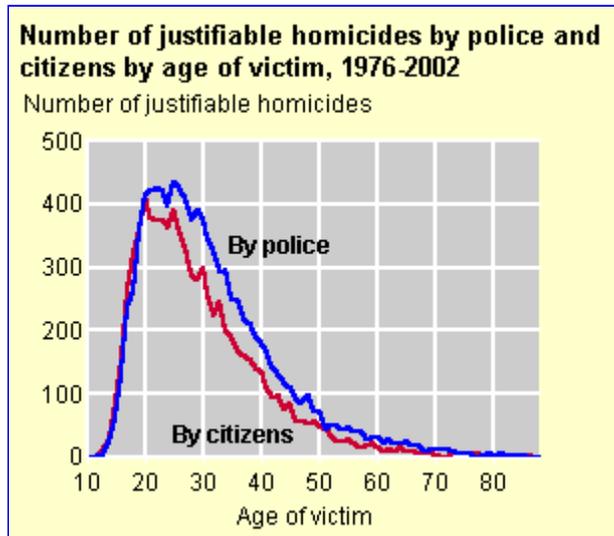
**Percent of justifiable homicides**

Race of citizen who killed felon				
Race of felon	White	Black	Other	Total
White	36 %	3 %	1 %	40 %
Black	17	41	1	59
Other	1	0	1	1
Total	54	43	3	100

Race of officer who killed felon				
Race of felon	White	Black	Other	Total
White	54 %	3 %	1 %	57 %
Black	29	11	0	40
Other	2	0	0	2

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

To view data, click on the chart.



[D]

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.  
See also [Additional information about the data.](#)

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

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Trends in justifiable homicide by police and citizens**

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Year	Number of justifiable homicides	
	By citizens	By police
1976	381	420
1977	240	314
1978	280	314
1979	381	445
1980	467	459
1981	495	383
1982	423	380
1983	334	419
1984	265	333
1985	265	321
1986	289	303
1987	246	300
1988	233	342
1989	273	363
1990	328	385
1991	331	367
1992	351	418
1993	357	455
1994	353	462
1995	268	389
1996	261	356
1997	280	366
1998	196	367
1999	192	308
2000	164	309
2001	221	378
2002	233	341

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

See also [Additional information about the data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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**Homicide trends in the U.S.**

Trends in justifiable homicide by justification reason

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

**Justifiable homicides by citizens**

Year of Offense	Attacked cop	Attacked citizen	Fled or resisted	Disrupted crime	Undetermined
1976	8	101	11	212	49
1977	2	80	4	134	20
1978	2	82	6	182	8
1979	5	111	13	235	17
1980	1	108	17	329	12
1981	6	153	20	300	16
1982	13	87	5	305	13
1983	3	86	6	208	31
1984	9	44	7	178	27
1985	1	52	6	175	31
1986	3	82	5	182	17
1987	7	70	5	152	12
1988	2	54	5	151	21
1989	4	77	4	173	15
1990	5	94	5	206	18
1991	6	78	1	217	29
1992	11	112	5	203	20
1993	2	86	6	232	31
1994	9	100	3	211	30
1995	5	82	4	153	24
1996	6	74	1	159	21
1997	3	66	3	171	37
1998	5	61	4	106	20
1999	6	66	4	92	24
2000	7	46	4	88	19
2001	6	66	2	116	31
2002	5	84	4	115	25

**Justifiable homicides by police**

Year of Offense	Attacked cop	Attacked citizen	Fled or resisted	Disrupted crime	Undetermined
1976	124	4	108	109	75
1977	128	4	65	95	22
1978	159	9	56	67	23
1979	209	11	77	109	39

<b>1980</b>	183	5	87	133	51
<b>1981</b>	138	7	76	120	42
<b>1982</b>	134	9	55	132	50
<b>1983</b>	171	10	66	120	52
<b>1984</b>	140	8	56	77	52
<b>1985</b>	131	14	62	84	30
<b>1986</b>	144	4	43	64	48
<b>1987</b>	154	8	39	70	29
<b>1988</b>	165	12	43	84	38
<b>1989</b>	186	15	52	82	28
<b>1990</b>	193	10	52	89	41
<b>1991</b>	171	11	53	94	38
<b>1992</b>	237	7	40	92	42
<b>1993</b>	285	4	28	86	52
<b>1994</b>	264	4	36	92	66
<b>1995</b>	220	2	32	84	51
<b>1996</b>	199	5	37	61	54
<b>1997</b>	205	6	28	80	47
<b>1998</b>	207	7	29	80	44
<b>1999</b>	199	4	23	53	29
<b>2000</b>	191	6	15	65	32
<b>2001</b>	231	8	18	72	49
<b>2002</b>	207	6	25	68	35

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

See also [Additional information about the data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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***Homicide trends in the U.S.***  
**Justifiable homicide age of felon killed**

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Number of justifiable homicides		
Age of Felon Killed	By Citizens	By Police
11		1
12	2	2
13	11	7
14	29	26
15	86	64
16	154	132
17	263	240
18	321	261
19	359	358
20	413	416
21	377	423
22	373	426
23	376	421
24	363	396
25	391	433
26	351	423
27	327	405
28	285	375
29	280	391
30	300	370
31	256	344
32	223	325
33	246	294
34	197	296
35	184	250
36	166	248
37	161	218
38	153	210
39	138	188
40	135	175
41	110	169
42	95	140
43	96	129
44	76	115
45	83	111
46	56	90

47	57	85
48	54	97
49	57	73
50	48	73
51	43	43
52	33	49
53	26	49
54	25	43
55	27	46
56	20	40
57	14	39
58	17	28
59	20	31
60	16	31
61	9	20
62	11	27
63	9	21
64	15	22
65	9	25
66	8	18
67	6	18
68	5	8
69	5	13
70	4	12
71	1	11
72	1	12
73	5	10
74	5	7
75		6
76	5	6
77	5	1
78	3	4
79	1	7
80	1	3
81		6

Source: FBI, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2002.

See also [Additional information about the data](#) for details about weighting and imputation.

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## Additional information about the data

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### Data Sources

#### The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR)

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

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

#### FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)

Most of the data used here are from the Supplementary Homicide Reports which is a part of the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. Supplemental data about homicide incidents are submitted monthly with detail on location, victim, and offender characteristics. These reports include information on the month and year of an offense, on the reporting agency and its residential population, county and Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) codes, geographic division, and population group, on the age, race, and sex of victims and offenders, and on the victim/offender relationship, weapon use, and circumstance of the crime. For the years 1976-2002, contributing agencies provided supplemental data for 494,729 of the estimated 544,909 murders. Supplemental data were also reported for 548,252 of the estimated 604,112 offenders.

#### Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted (LEOKA)

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

published by the FBI.

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## Methodology

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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## Related sites

## Bureau of Justice Statistics

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

## Federal Bureau of Investigation - Uniform Crime Reports

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

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

## National Archive of Criminal Justice Data

Analyze Homicide Data Online

Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)

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## **Weighting and Imputation Procedures for the 1976-2002 Cumulative Data File**

by James Alan Fox, The Lipman Family Professor  
of Criminal Justice, Northeastern University  
and  
Marianne W. Zawitz, BJS Statistician

Most of the data used in Homicide Trends in the United States are from the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) which provides detailed, incident-level data on nearly all murders and non-negligent manslaughters in the United States. These reports include information on the month and year of an offense, on the reporting agency and its residential population, county and Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) codes, geographic division, and population group, on the age, race, and sex of victims and offenders, and on the victim-offender relationship, weapon use and circumstance of the crime. Except for some slight modification in 1980, the record layout and variable definitions in the SHR data have remained unchanged since 1976 when the reporting format underwent a major revision.

This document describes adjustments used in this analysis for handling missing data in the SHR that result from agency failure to file reports and incomplete records that are missing certain information about the incident, victim or offender.

### **Correcting for Missing Records**

Law enforcement agencies voluntarily report both Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) summary data and SHR incident data to the FBI on a monthly basis. The offense data in the UCR includes counts of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter as well as seven other Index crimes. The number of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters is based on the number of victims. For the most part, each month agencies report a total number of offenses in each Index crime category. In some instances agencies may not report each month or may not report at all which results in missing data when aggregating to the State or national level. After imputing for missing data, the FBI publishes estimates for the Nation as a whole as well as for individual states for all Index offenses, including murder and nonnegligent manslaughter. (For additional information on the imputation methods used by the FBI, see "[Bridging Gaps in Police Crime Data](#)" by Michael Maltz, 10/99, NCJ 176365, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/bgpcd.htm>) These annual UCR State and national estimates of homicide volumes are used as benchmarks for assessing the completeness of the SHR data file and to adjust SHR victim or offender counts as needed.

Not all of the murders and nonnegligent manslaughters reported in the UCR are included in the SHR. The SHR file appears to be just over 90% complete, although, as shown in Table 1, the level of completeness of the SHR has generally diminished in recent years. To correct for missing SHR records for the national and regional numbers used in this analysis, the UCR murder and nonnegligent manslaughter estimates have been used to weight SHR records (that is, State and national weights have been assigned so that tabulations total to the respective estimated counts). This weighting process assumes that the missing records are not systematically different from those available in the file. While the systematic exclusions for certain years of a State like Florida or a city like Washington, D.C. may cause some concern, the fact that missingness occurs in both large and small

jurisdictions lends support for applying these benchmark weights.

**Table 1. SHR Records Pertaining to Incident, Victim, and Offender Counts**

	<b>All Homicides</b>		<b>Murder &amp; Non-Negligent Manslaughter</b>				<b>UCR Benchmark</b>	
	<b>SHR Data File</b>		<b>SHR Data File</b>		<b>UCR Estimated</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Records</b>	<b>Victims</b>	<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Victims</b>	<b>Offenders</b>	<b>Victims</b>	<b>Offenders</b>	<b>Weight</b>
<b>1976</b>	16,744	17,406	15,951	16,605	17,995	18,780	20,352	1.1310
<b>1977</b>	17,825	18,586	17,277	18,032	19,228	19,120	20,388	1.0603
<b>1978</b>	18,546	19,308	17,957	18,714	20,075	19,560	20,983	1.0452
<b>1979</b>	20,576	21,417	19,756	20,591	22,247	21,460	23,186	1.0422
<b>1980</b>	21,911	22,786	21,002	21,860	24,859	23,040	26,201	1.0540
<b>1981</b>	20,152	20,931	19,284	20,053	21,794	22,520	24,475	1.1230
<b>1982</b>	19,413	20,288	18,622	19,485	21,219	21,010	22,880	1.0783
<b>1983</b>	18,690	19,426	17,954	18,673	20,315	19,310	21,008	1.0341
<b>1984</b>	17,168	17,858	16,574	17,260	18,781	18,690	20,337	1.0829
<b>1985</b>	17,348	18,131	16,763	17,545	18,831	18,980	20,371	1.0818
<b>1986</b>	19,089	19,849	18,510	19,257	20,722	20,610	22,178	1.0703
<b>1987</b>	17,747	18,509	17,205	17,963	19,396	20,100	21,703	1.1190
<b>1988</b>	17,846	18,546	17,277	17,971	19,841	20,680	22,832	1.1507
<b>1989</b>	18,812	19,588	18,184	18,952	20,898	21,500	23,708	1.1344
<b>1990</b>	20,404	21,246	19,451	20,273	22,889	23,440	26,465	1.1562
<b>1991</b>	21,817	22,656	20,863	21,676	24,807	24,700	28,268	1.1395
<b>1992</b>	22,753	23,793	21,701	22,716	25,382	23,760	26,549	1.0460
<b>1993</b>	23,320	24,336	22,175	23,180	26,116	24,530	27,637	1.0582
<b>1994</b>	22,231	23,246	21,093	22,084	25,075	23,330	26,490	1.0564
<b>1995</b>	20,099	21,193	19,154	20,232	22,667	21,610	24,211	1.0681
<b>1996</b>	17,053	17,829	16,203	16,967	19,350	19,650	22,410	1.1581
<b>1997</b>	15,929	16,726	15,052	15,836	17,918	18,210	20,604	1.1499
<b>1998</b>	14,313	14,975	13,556	14,209	16,177	16,970	19,320	1.1943
<b>1999</b>	12,792	13,511	12,299	13,011	14,587	15,522	17,402	1.1930
<b>2000</b>	13,220	13,856	12,597	13,230	15,059	15,517	17,662	1.1729
<b>2001</b>	14,239	17,695	13,369	14,080	15,949	15,980	18,101	1.1348
<b>2002</b>	12,309	12,940	11,598	12,217	16,204	13,543	17,963	1.3263
<b>1976-2002</b>	492,346	516,631	471,427	492,672	544,909	545,720	603,826	

### Correcting for Incomplete Records

Even for the 90% of SHR records that are available for analysis, certain variables have non-trivial rates of missingness. At one extreme, characteristics of an agency (e.g., region, population group) are always complete. Victim data, though sometimes missing, are absent at such a low rate that standard approaches for handling missing data (specifically, listwise deletion) hardly biases analyses of patterns and trends in victimization. Specifically, as shown in the top panel of Table 2, victim age is missing in 1.70% of

homicides, race in 1.00% and sex in 0.13%. Overall, 2.45% are missing on at least one of these measures.

At the other extreme, a significant problem in using SHR data to analyze offender characteristics is the sizable and growing number of unsolved homicides contained in the data file. Overall, 26 percent of the SHR offender records describe the perpetrator as unknown (based on situation codes), and this percentage has grown from just under 20 percent in 1976 to nearly 30 percent by the mid-1990s. Even when the offender is known to the police, moreover, the characteristics about the offender may still be unavailable. Table 2 shows specifically that as many as 26.39% of offender records contain no information about the perpetrators, and 31.29% of records are not complete in terms of the assailant's age, race and sex.

**Table 2. Patterns of Missingness in Victim and Offender Data in the Supplementary Homicide File**

		● Data available   ○ Data missing				
		Characteristic				
		Age	Race	Sex	Cases	Percent
<b>Victim File</b>		●	●	●	480,616	97.55%
		●	●	○	43	0.01%
		●	○	●	3,555	0.72%
		●	○	○	60	0.01%
		○	●	●	7,052	1.43%
		○	●	○	12	0.00%
		○	○	●	809	0.16%
		○	○	○	525	0.11%
<b>Total</b>					492,672	100.00%
<hr/>						
<b>Offender File</b>		●	●	●	374,990	68.71%
		●	●	○	33	0.01%
		●	○	●	2,637	0.48%
		●	○	○	161	0.03%
		○	●	●	21,740	3.98%
		○	●	○	120	0.02%
		○	○	●	2,050	0.38%
		○	○	○	143,989	26.39%
<b>Total</b>					545,720	100.00%
<b>With complete victim data</b>		●	●	●	370,350	67.86%
		●	●	○	29	0.01%

● ○ ●	1,352	0.25%
● ○ ○	152	0.03%
○ ● ●	20,885	3.83%
● ● ●	114	0.02%
○ ○ ●	1,882	0.34%
○ ○ ○	137,865	25.26%
<b>With incomplete victim data</b>		
● ● ●	4,640	0.85%
● ● ○	4	0.00%
● ○ ●	1,285	0.24%
● ○ ○	9	0.00%
○ ● ●	855	0.16%
○ ● ○	6	0.00%
○ ○ ●	168	0.03%
○ ○ ○	6,124	1.12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>545,720</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Ignoring unsolved homicides and missing offender data seriously understates calculated rates of offending overall and by particular sub-groups of the population, distorts trends over time among these same sub-groups, and biases observed patterns of offending to the extent that the likelihood of missingness of offender data is associated with offender characteristics.

While it is not possible to determine directly whether case solution and thus missingness in offender data are associated with offender characteristics themselves, some indication about the pattern of missingness can be derived from the examining the extent to which the likelihood of case solution is related to victim and incident variables. As shown in Table 3, case solution rates are lowest for homicides against young adult victims as well as for elderly victims. Solution rates are also lower for incidents involving black or male victims. As expected, solution rates decrease with increasing population size and urbanness. In part as a consequence of urbanness differences, solution rates in the South are much higher than other regions. Finally, whether or not a gun is used to commit the homicide does not appear to impact upon rates of case solution.

**Table 3. Case Solution Rates by Victim, Location, and Incident Characteristics**

Variable	Category	Solved Cases		Unsolved Cases	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Victim Age	<b>0-13</b>	21,751	86.80%	3,314	13.20%
	<b>14-17</b>	19,203	71.10%	7,794	28.90%
	<b>18-24</b>	86,071	68.30%	40,030	31.70%
	<b>25-34</b>	107,268	69.50%	46,964	30.50%
	<b>35-49</b>	87,693	72.60%	33,032	27.40%
	<b>50-64</b>	35,386	71.30%	14,238	28.70%

	<b>65+</b>	19,694	68.30%	9,122	31.70%
<b>Victim Race</b>	<b>White</b>	196,819	72.60%	74,227	27.40%
	<b>Black</b>	172,241	69.10%	77,133	30.90%
	<b>Other</b>	8,007	71.90%	3,134	28.10%
<b>Victim Sex</b>	<b>Male</b>	282,702	69.60%	123,459	30.40%
	<b>Female</b>	94,366	75.30%	31,035	24.70%
<b>Location</b>	<b>Large city</b>	117,284	62.90%	69,093	37.10%
	<b>Medium City</b>	82,682	69.30%	36,668	30.70%
	<b>Small city</b>	47,544	78.10%	13,318	21.90%
	<b>Suburban</b>	81,955	74.40%	28,174	25.60%
	<b>Rural</b>	47,603	86.80%	7,241	13.20%
<b>Region</b>	<b>Northeast</b>	57,342	63.20%	33,440	36.80%
	<b>Midwest</b>	71,408	69.60%	31,148	30.40%
	<b>South</b>	166,179	76.40%	51,357	23.60%
	<b>West</b>	82,139	68.10%	38,548	31.90%
<b>Weapon</b>	<b>Non-gun</b>	136,360	71.60%	54,080	28.40%
	<b>Gun</b>	240,708	70.60%	100,413	29.40%

A weighting strategy based on available information about the victims (age, race and sex) murdered in both solved and unsolved homicides is used to adjust for missing offender data in Homicide Trends in the United States. Through this imputation algorithm, the demographic characteristics of unidentified offenders are inferred on the basis of similar homicide cases--similar in terms of the victim and incident profile--that had been solved. In other words, offender profiles for unsolved crimes are estimated based on the offender profiles in solved cases matched on victim age, sex and race, region, urbanness, weapon and circumstances.

The weighting procedure is accomplished by establishing adjustment groups within a large, multi-directional cross-tabulation. For each cell, we tally the number of offenders ( $N_c$ ) and the number having complete offender data ( $n_c$ ), and use as a weight the inverse proportion of complete cases:

$$w_c = \frac{N_c}{n_c}$$

Next these adjustment cell weights are applied to the offender records based on their cell membership (i.e., based on victim age, race, sex, location type, weapon and circumstances) and whether or not the offender information is complete. That is,

$$w = \begin{cases} w_c & \text{if offender data are complete} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Finally, the weights are adjusted or "raked" post-stratification so that marginal weighted counts by year and State match fixed values.

This weighting approach is applied to the entire offender record so that cases with missing offender age, race or sex are excluded by virtue of their zero case weights. As a consequence, partial offender information is discarded, causing some slight inefficiency in

the approach. While it would be possible to retain partial offender information, this would require separate weights for each offender characteristic. Finally, all non-zero weights are further increased slightly to account for the small percentage of cases unassigned to any adjustment cell because of their being missing on one or more victim characteristic.

In any analysis of weighted data, offenders with incomplete age, race or sex information are dropped due to assigned zero weights. Offenders with complete age, race and sex information all have weights at or above 1.0, and become proxies for excluded cases, matched on victim characteristics, State and year. Thus, for example, an offender with an imputation weight of 2.0 would count in any analysis as if he/she were two offenders. The entire distribution of the weighting variable is shown in Table 4.

**Table 4. Distribution of Imputation Weights**

<b>Weight</b>	<b>Cases</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Exactly 0</b>	175,370	32.10%
<b>1.00 - 1.99</b>	298,864	54.80%
<b>2.00 - 2.99</b>	55,485	10.20%
<b>3.00 - 3.99</b>	11,843	2.20%
<b>4.00 - 4.99</b>	3,296	0.60%
<b>5.00 - 5.99</b>	826	0.20%
<b>6.00 - 6.99</b>	33	0.00%
<b>7.00 - 7.99</b>	2	0.00%
<b>8.00 +</b>	1	0.00%
<b>Total</b>	545,720	100.00%
<b>Mean</b>	1.11	
<b>Standard deviation</b>	0.92	
<b>Median</b>	1.21	
<b>75th %tile</b>	1.6	
<b>90th %tile</b>	2.17	
<b>95th %tile</b>	2.65	
<b>99th %tile</b>	3.79	
<b>Maximum</b>	9.22	

Table 5 demonstrates the impact of applying the imputation weights by comparing the distribution of offender characteristics (age, race and sex) using the adjustment weights with those using listwise deletion of missing data. The approach boosts the abundance of youthful offenders; offenders under the age of 25 represent 47.3% of the imputed distribution, compared to 44.9% for the distribution using listwise deletion. The percentage of black offenders grows to 52.1%, compared to 51.1% without weighting. The sex distribution, which by any measure overwhelmingly favors male perpetrators, shifts slightly from 88.0% to 88.65% (clearly indicating a ceiling effect governing this percentage).

**Table 5. Offender characteristics without and with imputation weights**

<b>Offender Characteristics</b>	<b>Without Imputation</b>		<b>Adjusted Percent</b>	<b>With Imputation Weights</b>	
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>		<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Offender Age</b>					

<b>Under 14</b>	2,099	0.30%	0.50%	2,935	0.50%
<b>14-17</b>	41,241	6.80%	9.90%	63,881	10.60%
<b>18-24</b>	144,193	23.90%	34.50%	218,608	36.20%
<b>25-34</b>	121,156	20.10%	29.00%	173,039	28.70%
<b>35-49</b>	76,815	12.70%	18.40%	103,818	17.20%
<b>50-64</b>	23,982	4.00%	5.70%	31,088	5.10%
<b>65+</b>	8,141	1.30%	1.90%	10,458	1.70%
<b>Missing</b>	186,198	30.80%			
<b>Total</b>	603,826	100.00%	100.00%	603,826	100.00%
<b>Offender Race</b>					
<b>White</b>	205,868	34.10%	46.90%	277,458	46.00%
<b>Black</b>	224,425	37.20%	51.10%	314,318	52.10%
<b>Other</b>	8,658	1.40%	2.00%	12,050	2.00%
<b>Missing</b>	438,951	27.30%			
<b>Total</b>	164,875	100.00%	100.00%	603,826	100.00%
<b>Offender Sex</b>					
<b>Male</b>	390,771	64.70%	88.00%	535,214	88.60%
<b>Female</b>	53,220	8.80%	12.00%	68,612	11.40%
<b>Missing</b>	159,835	26.50%			
<b>Total</b>	603,826	100.00%	100.00%	603,826	100.00%

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