

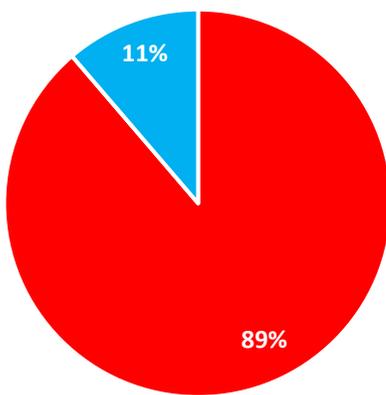
**BACKGROUND**

Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania is an urban county with a total combined population of over 4.7 million people (2.2 million males and 2.5 million females) from 2016-2018. During those three years, Philadelphia County had 994 homicide deaths (882 males and 112 females) at a rate of 21.0 homicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, the Philadelphia Medical Examiner’s Office, and the Philadelphia Police Department to gather detailed information about each violent death. Below are some results of those collaborations.

**Philadelphia County averaged 28 homicide deaths every month during 2016-2018.**

**Characteristics of Homicide Victims**

**Sex of Victims:**



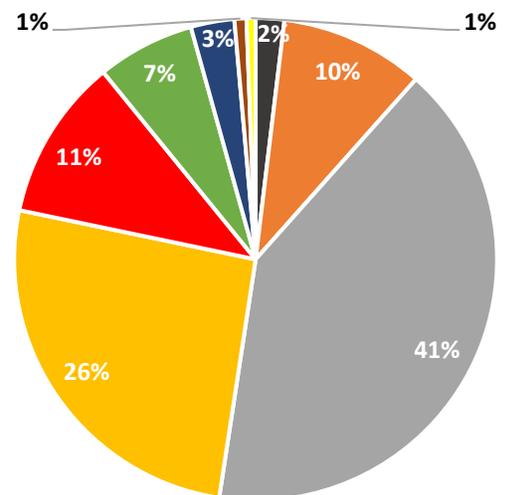
■ Male ■ Female

- In Philadelphia County, males were over 4½ times more likely to die by homicide than females in 2016-2018.
- Philadelphia County residents, ages 40-49 were almost 4 times more likely to die by homicide than Pennsylvanians ages 40-49 in 2016-2018.
- Overall, homicide rates in Philadelphia County were much higher than the state average during 2016-2018:

**Philadelphia Crude Rates:** 21.0 deaths per 100,000 residents (males 39.4 and females 4.5).

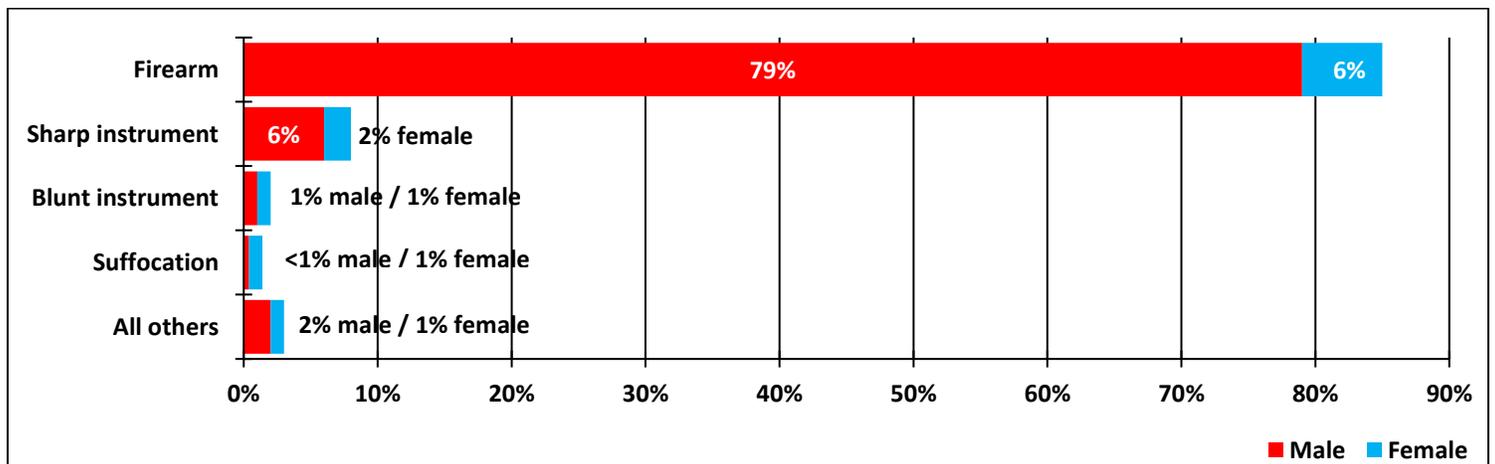
**Pennsylvania Crude Rates:** 5.6 deaths per 100,000 residents (males 9.4 and females 2.01).

**Age of Victims:**



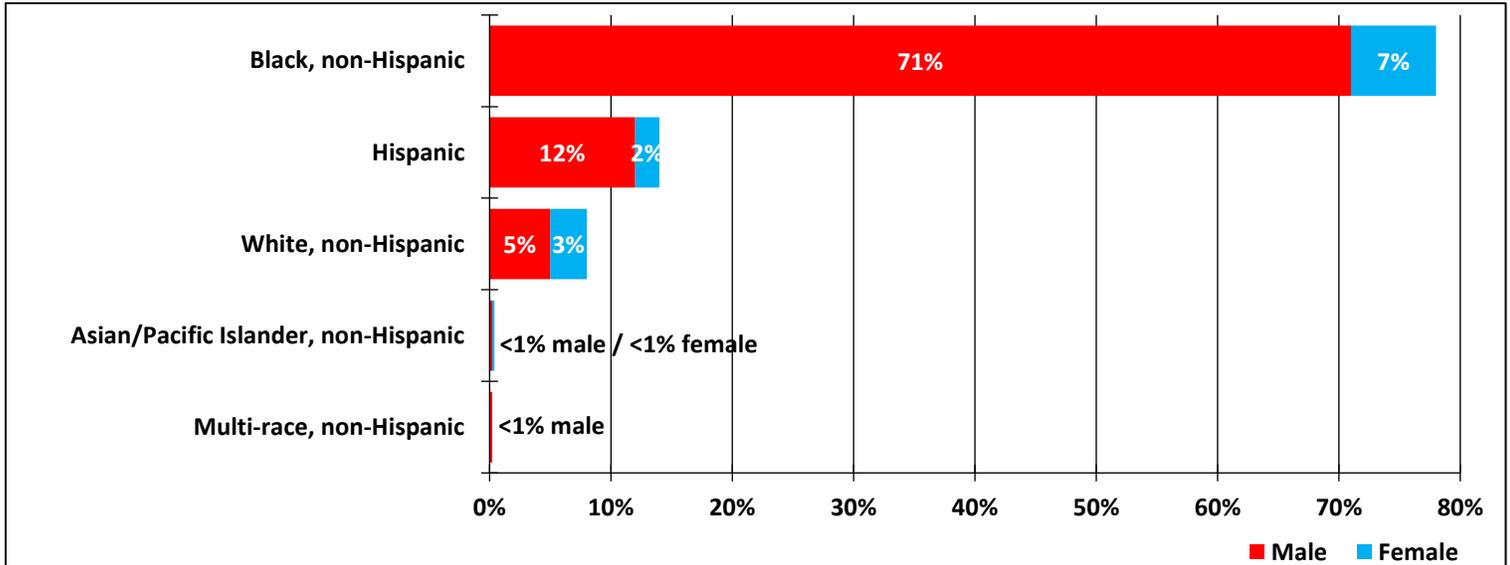
■ 0-9 ■ 10-19 ■ 20-29 ■ 30-39 ■ 40-49  
■ 50-59 ■ 60-69 ■ 70-79 ■ 80+

**Leading Cause of Homicide Deaths by Sex:**

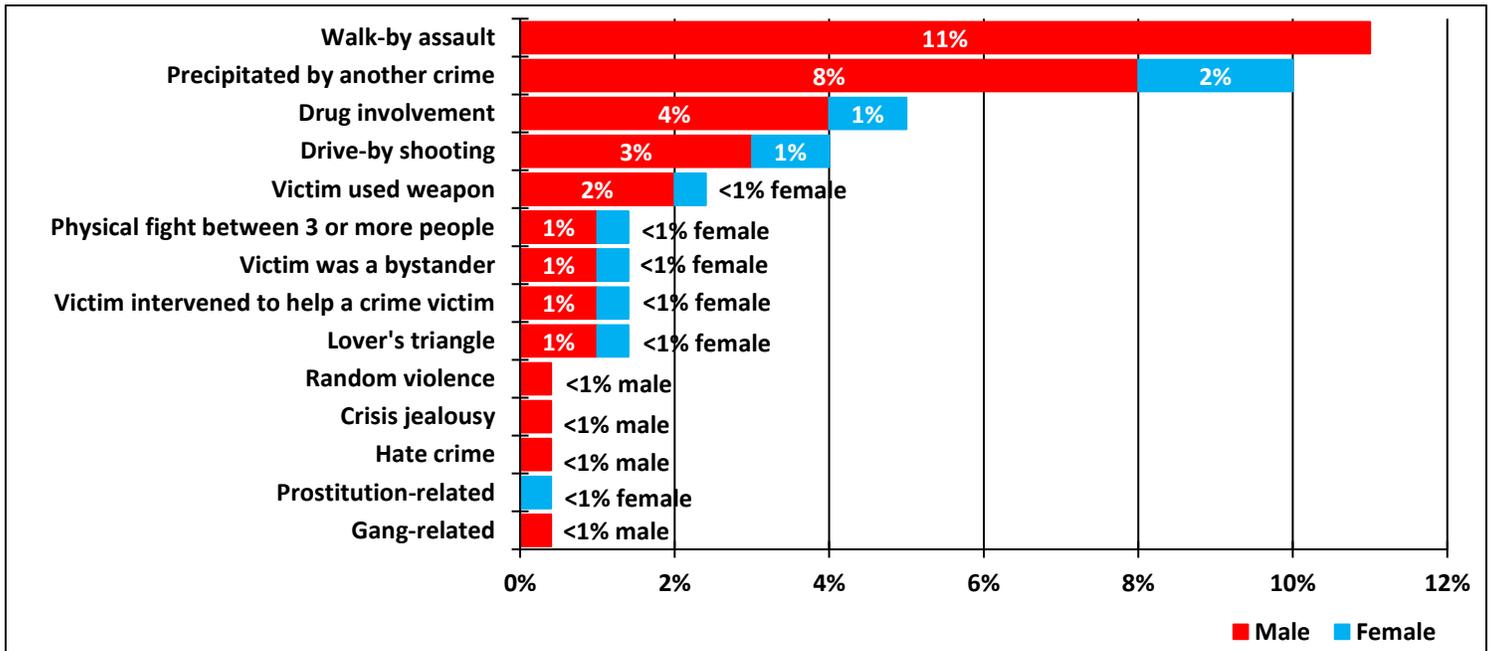


■ Male ■ Female

**Characteristics of Homicide Victims by Race/Ethnicity and Sex:**



**Most Common Precipitating Circumstances:**



Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

The PAVDRS program is a state level surveillance system funded and overseen by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The program is part of the larger National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). The PAVDRS program collects data on suicides, homicides, deaths of undetermined intent and accidental firearm deaths. The program is required to collect data directly from death certificates, coroners/medical examiners, and law enforcement. These three sources contribute comprehensive understanding of each violent death. PAVDRS/NVDRS data is used for research, policymaking, and ultimately to develop violence prevention programs and strategies that will enhance community safety. For more information about the PAVDRS program, please call 717-787-5900 or email [RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov](mailto:RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov)

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