



HOMICIDE DEATHS IN ALLEGHENY COUNTY, 2022

BACKGROUND

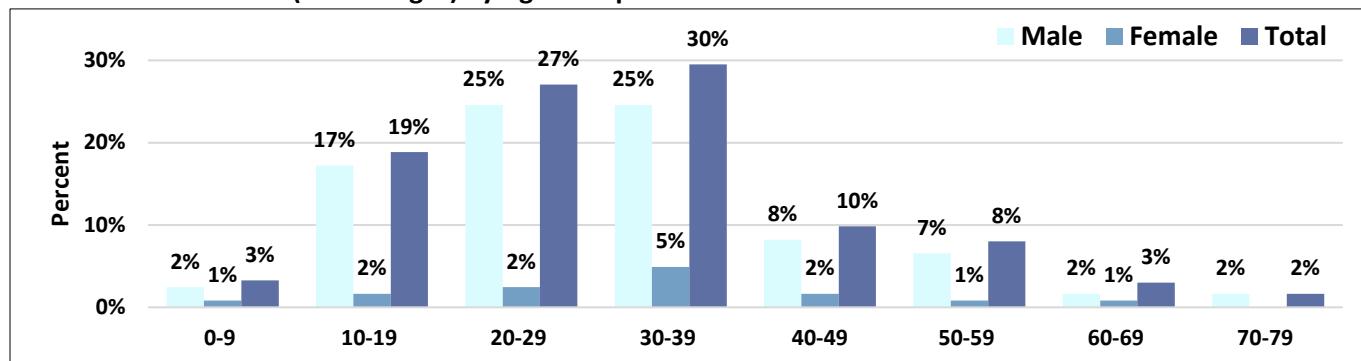
Allegheny County, Pennsylvania is an urban county with a population of approximately 1.2 million people (598,000 males and 627,000 females). In 2022, Allegheny County had 122 homicide deaths (106 males and 16 females) at a rate of 10 homicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, the Allegheny County Office of the Medical Examiner, and Allegheny County law enforcement to gather detailed information about each violent death. Below are some results of those collaborations.

- In 2022, more than two people died by homicide each week in Allegheny County.
- Males are over six times more likely to die by homicide than females.
- Overall, homicide rates in Allegheny County are higher than the state average:

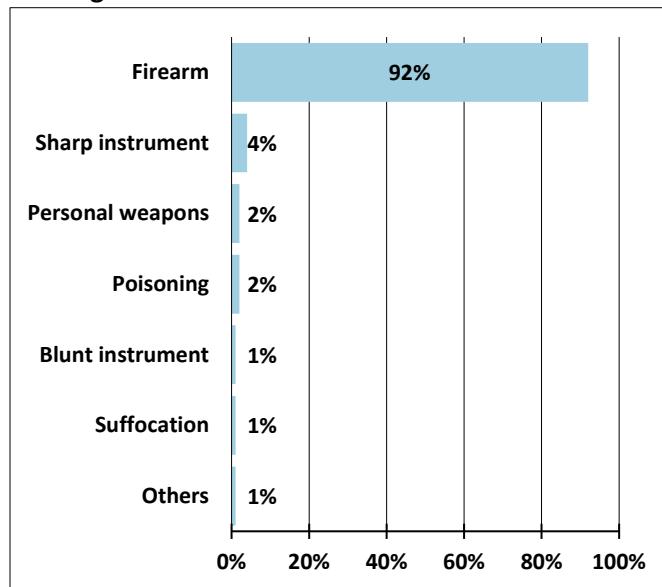
Allegheny County Rates: 10 deaths per 100,000 population (males 18 and females 3)

Pennsylvania Rates: 8 deaths per 100,000 population (males 13 and females 3)

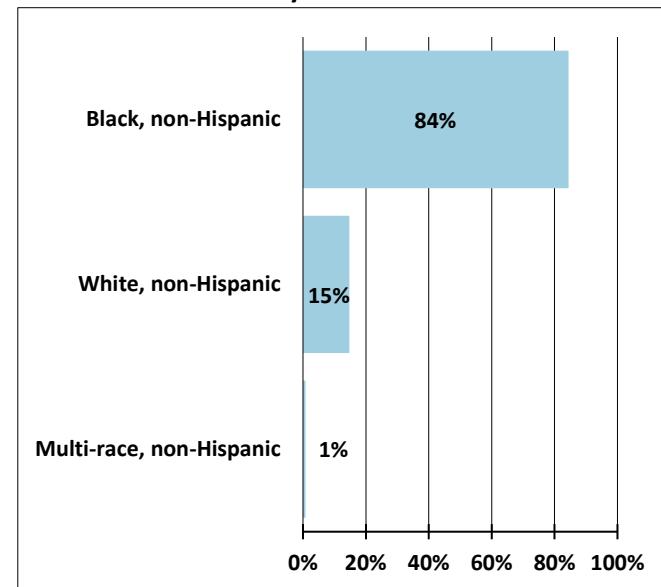
Homicide Death Count (Percentages) by Age Group and Sex



Leading Causes of Homicide Deaths

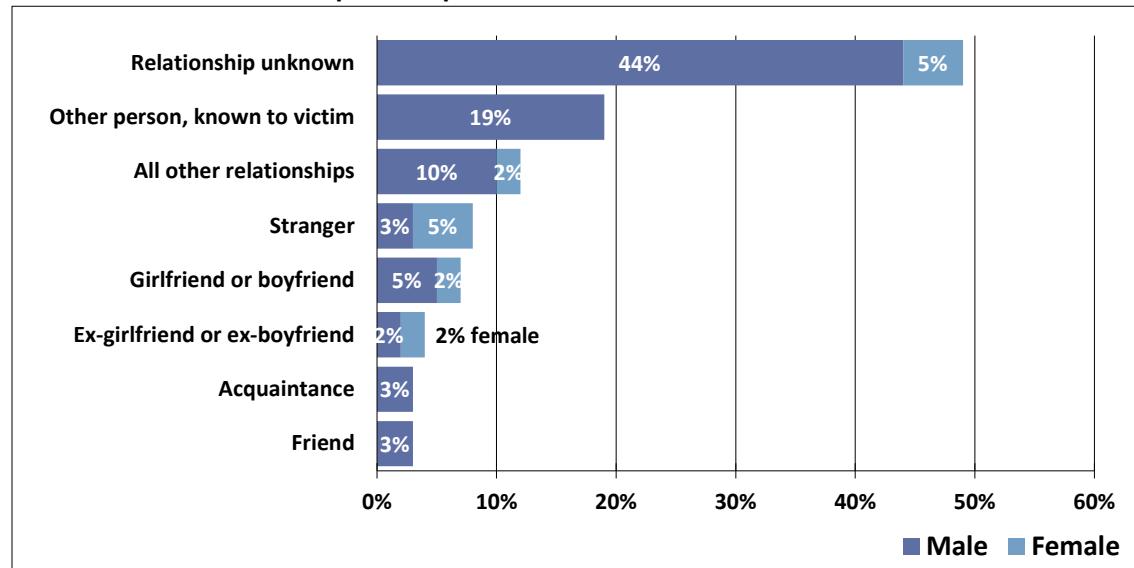


Race and Ethnicity of Homicide Victims





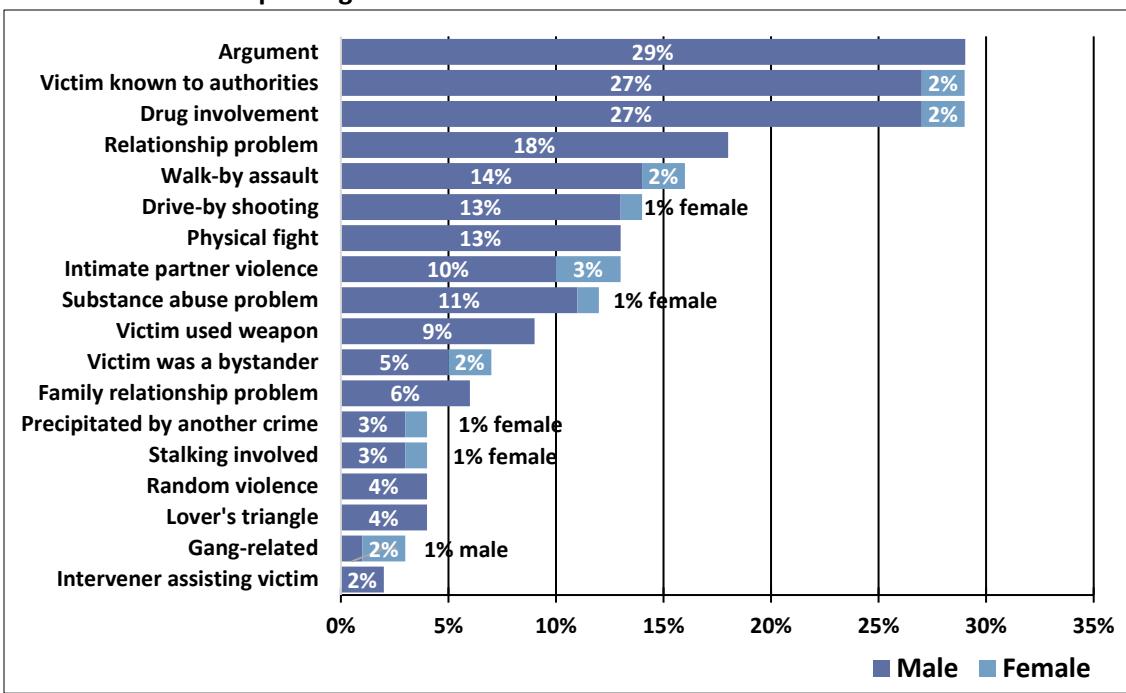
Most Common Relationships of Perpetrators to Victims



* Percentages are based on homicide cases with any suspect information available

- The relationship between victim and perpetrator was unknown or unavailable for 49% of cases.
- At least 11% of homicides in 2022 were perpetrated by a current or former intimate partner.

Most Common Precipitating Circumstances



- At least 29% of homicides in Allegheny County involved drugs (i.e., substance abuse, drug trade, drugs present at the scene).
- About 9% of victims held or brandished a weapon before their death. This includes legal intervention deaths.

Note: The denominator for Most Common Precipitating Circumstances is the sum of records with coroner/medical examiner and law enforcement circumstantial data. Circumstantial information is not available for all deaths. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

The PAVDRS is a state level surveillance system funded and overseen by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and is part of the National Violent Death Reporting System. The PAVDRS collects data on suicides, homicides, deaths of undetermined intent and accidental firearm deaths. The program collects data from death certificates, coroners/medical examiners, and law enforcement. PAVDRS/NVDRS data are used for research, policymaking, and to inform violence prevention programs and strategies to enhance community safety. For more information, please visit the [PAVDRS webpage](#) or email RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov

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