

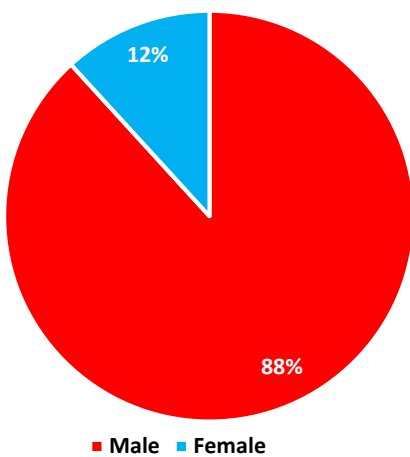
BACKGROUND

Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania is an urban county with a population of approximately 1.58 million people (748,000 males and 833,000 females). In 2017, Philadelphia had 331 homicide deaths (292 males and 39 females) at a rate of 19.7 homicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Philadelphia County Medical Examiner’s Office and the Philadelphia Police Department to gather detailed information about each violent death. Below are some results of that collaboration.

In Philadelphia County, more than 6 homicide deaths occurred every week.

Characteristics of Homicide Victims

Sex of Victims:

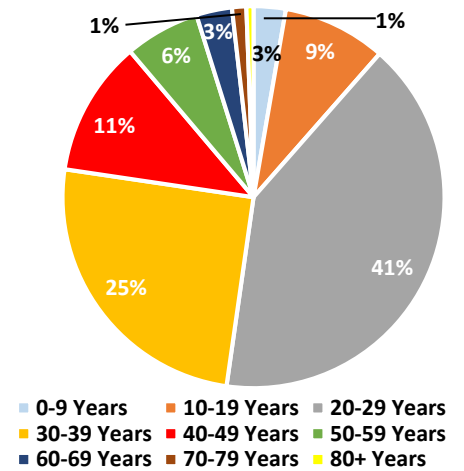


- Data showed that males were about 8 times more likely to die by homicide than females.
- Overall, homicide rates in Philadelphia County were much higher than the state average:

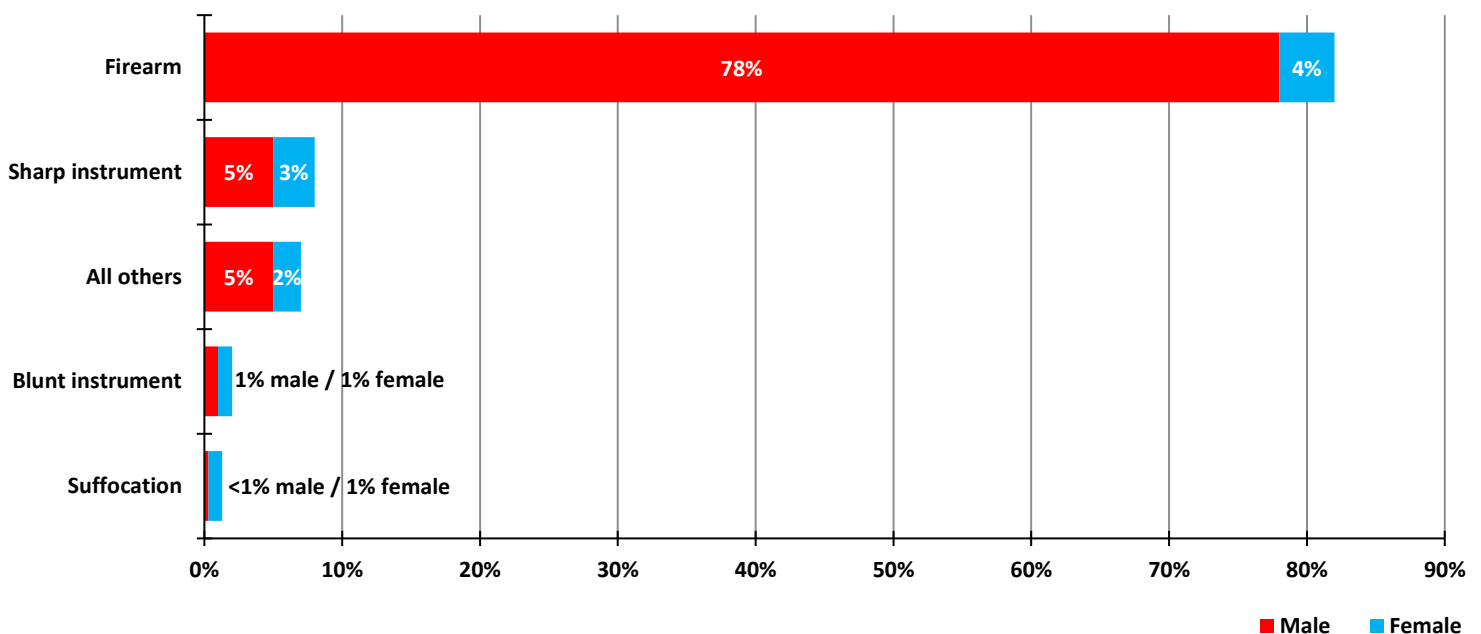
Philadelphia Rates: 19.7 deaths per 100,000 residents (males 36.0; females 4.6).

Pennsylvania Rates: 6.2 deaths per 100,000 residents (males 10.1; females 2.3).

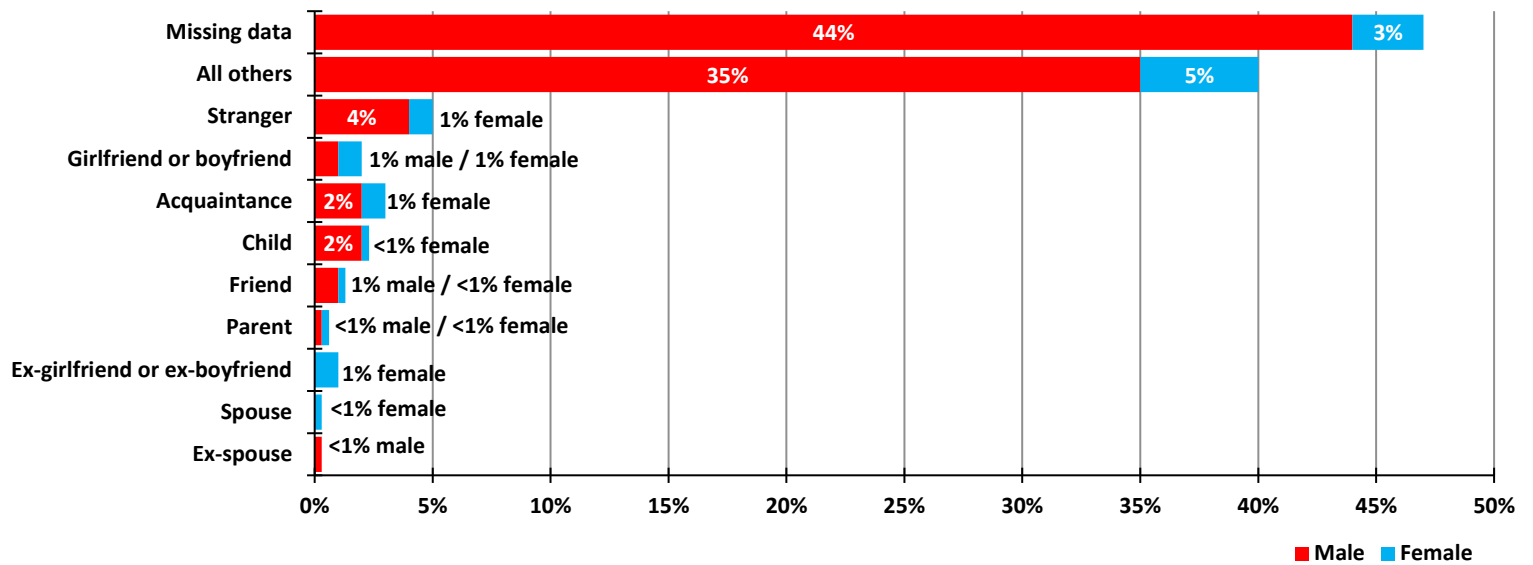
Age of Victims:



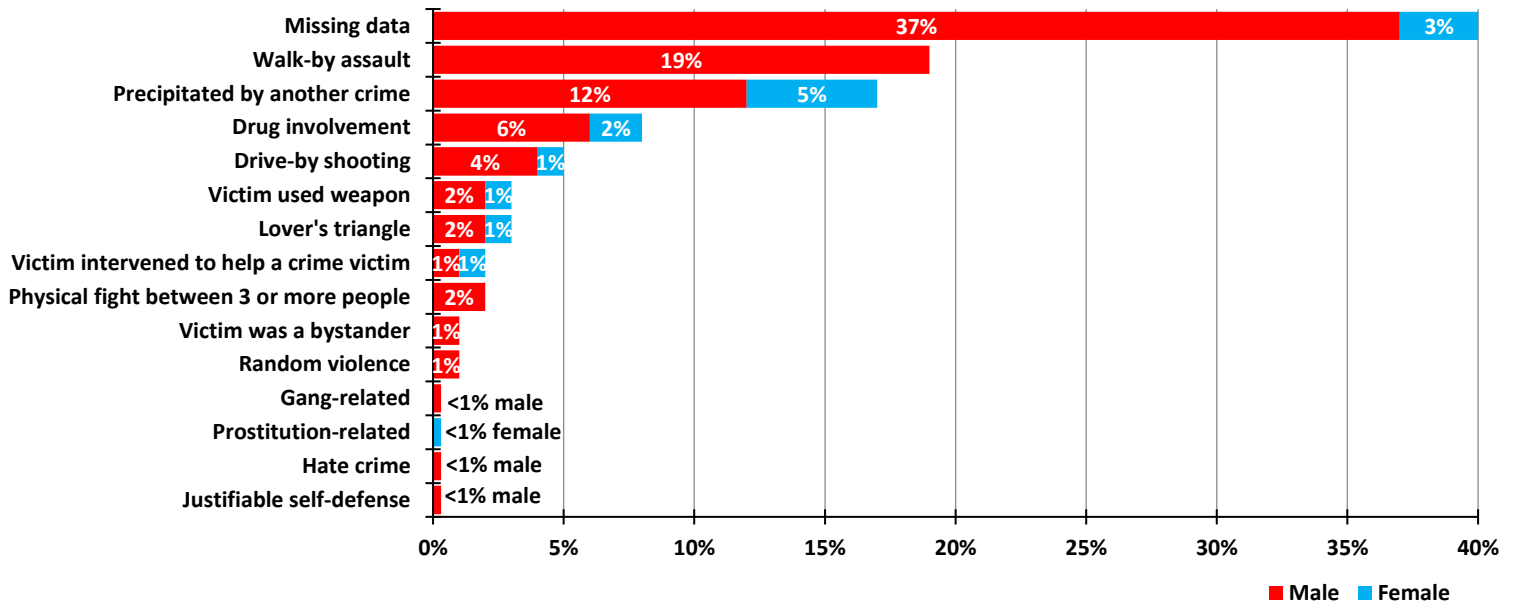
Leading Cause of Homicide Deaths by Sex:



Most Common Relationships Between Victims and Suspects:



Most Common Precipitating Circumstances:



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

PAVDRS 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 (NVDPRS). There is now a Violent Death Reporting System in each of the 50 states and some U.S. territories. PAVDRS collects data on suicides, homicides, and deaths of undetermined intent. PAVDRS is required to collect data directly from death certificates, coroners/medical examiners, and law enforcement. The goal is to use these three sources to develop the most comprehensive understanding possible of each violent death. PAVDRS tries to understand what was going on in the victim's life leading up to their death. PAVDRS/NVDPRS data is used for research, policymaking, and ultimately to develop violence prevention programs and strategies that will enhance community safety. For more information about PAVDRS please call 717-787-5900 or email RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov

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