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Violence Policy Center

Black Homicide Victimization in the United States

An Analysis of 2019 Homicide Data

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THE EPIDEMIC OF BLACK HOMICIDE VICTIMIZATION

The devastation homicide inflicts on Black teens and adults is an ongoing national crisis, yet it is all too often ignored outside of affected communities.

This study examines the issue of Black homicide victimization at the state level by analyzing unpublished Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR) data for Black homicide victimization submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).¹ The information used for this report is for the year 2019 and is the most recent data available. This is the first analysis of the 2019 data on Black homicide victims to offer breakdowns of cases in the 10 states with the highest Black homicide victimization rates and the first to rank the states by the rate of Black homicide victims.

It is important to note that the SHR data used in this report comes from law enforcement reporting at the local level. While there are coding guidelines followed by the law enforcement agencies, the amount of information submitted to the SHR system, and the interpretation of how to categorize information submitted (for example, gang involvement), will vary from agency to agency. While this study utilizes the best and most recent data available, it is limited by the quantity and degree of detail in the information submitted.²

The FBI has made changes in the way it collects and reports crime data that in the short term will drastically reduce the availability of state and local data and deprive researchers access to detailed information that can help prevent gun violence and other crime. In 2021 the FBI stopped collecting detailed crime data from police agencies that are not ready to participate in the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), an updated and expanded version of the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) system. While full implementation of NIBRS would be an improvement on the current UCR system, as of March 2021, only 62.6 percent of law enforcement agencies that formerly participated in the UCR program were now submitting their information through the new system.³ Instead of allowing local agencies who missed the deadline to continue to report crime data via the UCR, the FBI is partnering with the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to create national estimates to account for the missing information. For the immediate future these changes will severely hobble ongoing efforts, like this VPC series of studies, to understand and prevent gun violence, domestic violence, homicide, and, in fact, all types of violent crime.

- 1 The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program collects basic information on serious crimes from participating police agencies and records supplementary information about the circumstances of homicides in its unpublished Supplementary Homicide Report (SHR). Submitted monthly, supplementary data consists of: the age, sex, race, and ethnicity of both victims and offenders; the types of weapons used; the relationship of victims to offenders; and, the circumstances of the homicides. According to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program, supplementary data are provided on only a subset of homicide cases. Additionally, SHR data are updated throughout the year as homicide reports are forwarded by state UCR programs.
- 2 In 2019, as in years past, the state of Florida did not submit any data to the FBI Supplementary Homicide Report. Also in 2019, data from Alabama was not available from the FBI. Data from Florida and Alabama were not requested individually because the difference in collection techniques would create a bias in the study results.
- 3 "Thousands of Police Agencies Stop Reporting Crime Data to the FBI," *Newsy*, March 31, 2022 (<https://www.newsy.com/stories/thousands-of-police-depts-stop-reporting-crime-data-to-fbi/>).

NATIONAL DATA

According to the FBI SHR data, in 2019 there were 7,441 Black homicide victims in the United States. The homicide rate among Black victims in the United States was 18.08 per 100,000. For that year, the overall national homicide rate was 4.79 per 100,000. For whites, the national homicide rate was 2.69 per 100,000. The Black homicide victimization rate was nearly four times the overall homicide victimization rate (18.08 per 100,000 compared to 4.79 per 100,000) and nearly seven times the white homicide victimization rate (18.08 per 100,000 compared to 2.69 per 100,000). Additional information contained in the FBI SHR data on Black homicide victimization is below.

SEX

Of the 7,441 Black homicide victims, 6,454 (87 percent) were male, 986 (13 percent) were female, and one was of unknown sex (less than one percent). The homicide rate for Black male victims was more than four times the overall rate for male homicide victims (32.49 per 100,000 compared to 7.68 per 100,000) and more than eight times the rate for white male homicide victims (32.49 per 100,000 compared to 3.88 per 100,000). The homicide rate for Black female victims was more than twice the overall rate for female homicide victims (4.60 per 100,000 compared to 1.95 per 100,000) and three times the rate for white female homicide victims (4.60 per 100,000 compared to 1.52 per 100,000).

The Black male homicide victimization rate was seven times the Black female homicide victimization rate (32.49 per 100,000 compared to 4.60 per 100,000).

Race	Male Homicide Rate	Female Homicide Rate	Both Sexes Homicide Rate
Black	32.49	4.60	18.08
White	3.88	1.52	2.69
Overall	7.68	1.95	4.79

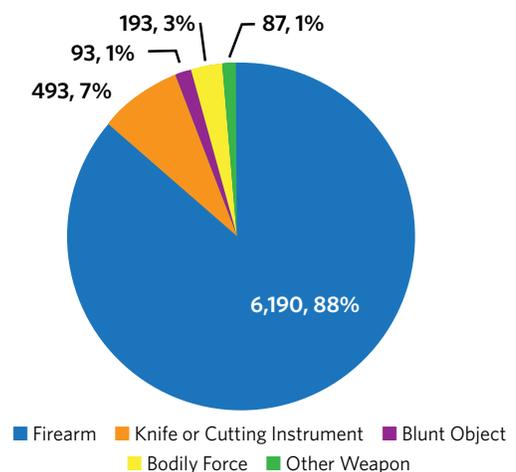
AGE

Five hundred forty-six Black homicide victims (seven percent) were less than 18 years old and 153 Black homicide victims (two percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 31 years old.

MOST COMMON WEAPONS

For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 88 percent of Black victims (6,190 out of 7,056) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 64 percent (3,935 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 493 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 193 victims killed by bodily force, and 93 victims killed by a blunt object. In comparison, 67 percent of white victims and 78 percent of victims of all races were killed with guns.

Weapons Used in Homicides Involving Black Victims



SPOTLIGHT ON MISSOURI

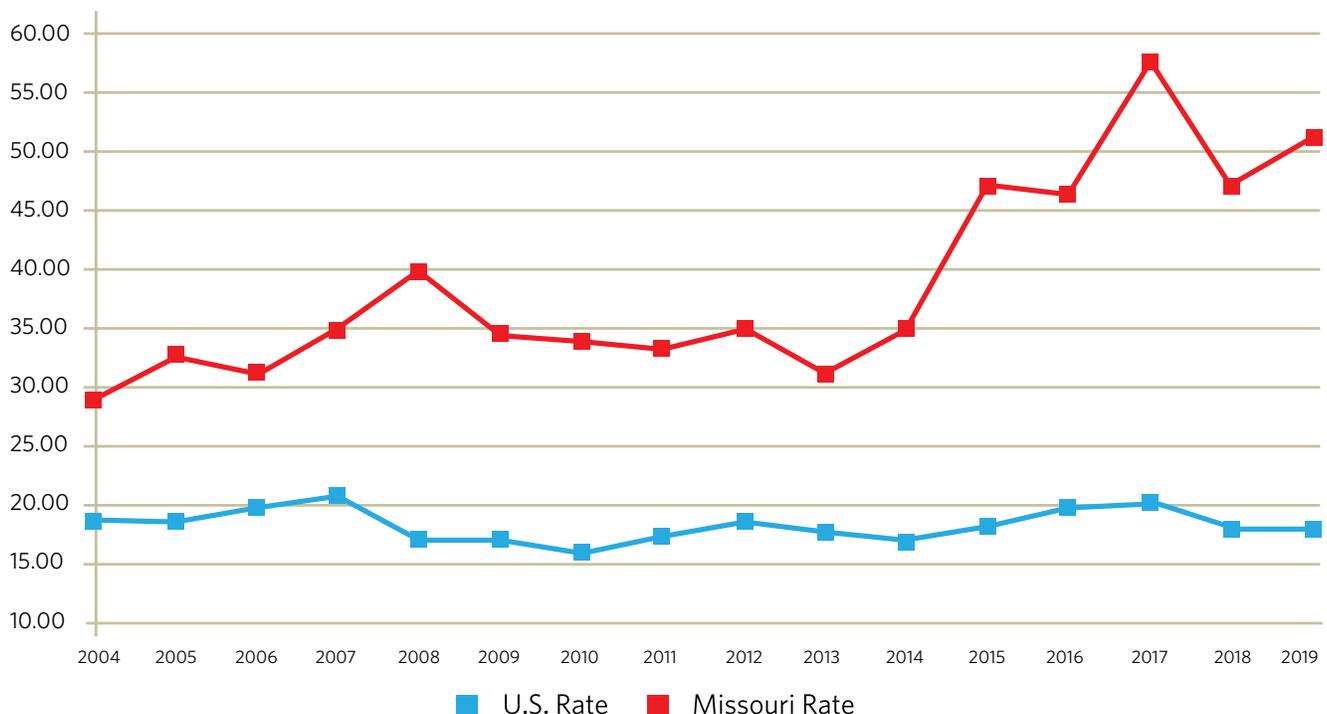
In 2019, Missouri had the highest Black homicide victimization rate in the nation for the sixth year in a row. Missouri has ranked either first or second in the nation for Black homicide victimization 13 years in a row.

Even these grim statistics do not reveal the true scope of the problem in Missouri. Despite already having the highest Black homicide victimization rate in the country in 2014, **from 2014 to 2019 the Black homicide victimization rate in Missouri increased by 45 percent.** Missouri's 2019 Black homicide victimization rate of 50.64 is nearly three times the national Black homicide victimization rate, and nearly 19 times the national homicide victimization rate for white victims.

Missouri's Black homicide victimization rates in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 are the five highest rates in the 16-year history of this study.

The epidemic of Black homicide victimization in Missouri remains a crisis that should be a top priority for lawmakers in the state, and in 2020 it became an area of focus of the state's news media. That year, a new collaborative reporting project, "Gun Violence in Missouri—Seeking Solutions," was initiated. The ongoing project involves the *Kansas City Star*, *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and *Springfield News-Leader*.

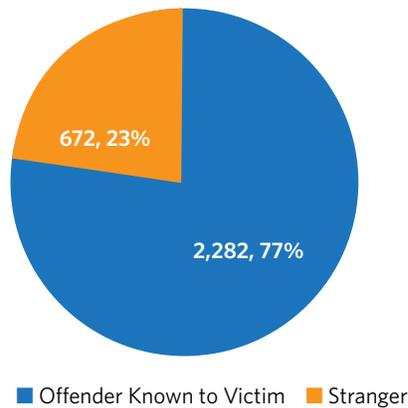
Black Homicide Victimization Rate in Missouri and the United States 2004 - 2019



VICTIM/OFFENDER RELATIONSHIP

For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 77 percent of Black victims (2,282 out of 2,954) were killed by someone they knew. Six hundred seventy-two victims were killed by strangers.

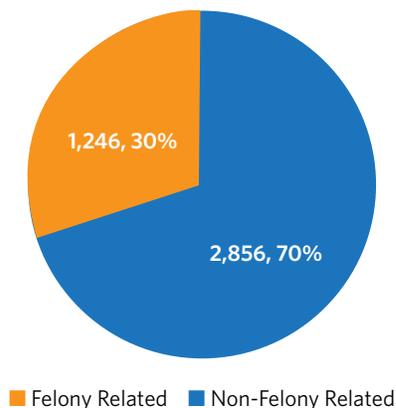
Victim/Offender Relationship



CIRCUMSTANCE

For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 70 percent (2,856 out of 4,102) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 56 percent (1,591 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender, and 10 percent (292 homicides) were reported to be gang-related.

Circumstance



There were 95 incidents reported as justifiable homicides of Black victims killed by law enforcement in 2019. The SHR does not specifically identify killings by law enforcement that are not ruled justifiable. In the wake of controversial incidents of Black citizens killed by police, media reports have focused on the lack of reliable statistics on lethal incidents involving law enforcement. In December 2015, the FBI announced that it would dramatically expand its data collection on violent police encounters by 2017.⁴ In October 2016, the U.S.

4 "FBI to sharply expand system for tracking fatal police shootings," *The Washington Post*, December 8, 2015 (https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/fbi-to-sharply-expand-system-for-tracking-fatal-police-shootings/2015/12/08/a60fbc16-9dd4-11e5-bce4-708fe33e3288_story.html).

Department of Justice outlined a plan to improve the collection of law enforcement use of force data.⁵ The FBI has begun to release online very limited information on law enforcement use of force incidents. In addition, the agency notes that in 2021 only 7,559 out of 18,514 federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies throughout the nation participated and provided use of force data. The officers employed by these agencies represent 54 percent of federal, state, local, and tribal sworn officers in the nation.⁶

STATE RANKINGS

In 2019, the national Black homicide victimization rate was 18.08 per 100,000. For that year, Missouri ranked first as the state with the highest Black homicide victimization rate. Its rate of 50.64 per 100,000 was nearly three times the national average for Black homicide victimization. The 10 states with the highest Black homicide victimization rates are listed in the following chart. In order to ensure rankings contain stable rates, states with 10 or fewer Black homicide victims were not included in the state rankings for 2019. These victims are included in the U.S. total and rate. While not ranked, the number of deaths and corresponding Black homicide victimization rate for these states are included in Appendix Two.

Additional information for each of the states ranked in the top 10 can be found in Appendix One, including: age and sex of victims; most common weapons used; relationship of victim to offender; and, the circumstances of the homicides. According to the SHR data, for states with more than 10 victims, 15 states had a Black homicide victimization rate higher than the national per capita rate of 18.08 per 100,000.

For an alphabetical listing of all states that submitted data to the FBI, please see Appendix Two.

NUMBER OF BLACK HOMICIDE VICTIMS AND RATES BY STATE IN 2019, RANKED BY RATE

Ranking	State	Number of Homicides	Homicide Rate per 100,000
1	Missouri	392	50.64
2	Illinois	565	29.21
3	Indiana	210	28.92
4	Wisconsin	117	27.24
5	Tennessee	329	27.21
6	Louisiana	421	27.05
7	Kentucky	110	26.92
8	Arkansas	132	26.88
9	Michigan	389	25.98
10	Oklahoma	88	24.75

5 “Justice Department Outlines Plan to Enable Nationwide Collection of Use of Force Data,” Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, October 13, 2016 (<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-outlines-plan-enable-nationwide-collection-use-force-data>).

6 Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime Data Explorer, Law Enforcement Collections (<https://crime-data-explorer.app.cloud.gov/pages/le/uof>).

CONCLUSION

Black Americans are disproportionately affected by homicide. For the year 2019, Black Americans represented 14 percent of the nation's population, yet accounted for 52 percent of all homicide victims.⁷

The devastation homicide inflicts on Black teens and adults is a national crisis that should be a top priority for policymakers to address. An important part of ending our nation's gun violence epidemic will involve reducing homicides in the Black community.

At the same time, the firearms industry, looking to expand beyond its shrinking base of white male gun owners, has increased its marketing efforts targeting Black and Latino Americans.⁸ Such efforts can only increase gun death and injury in these communities.

In addition, individuals living in communities where violence is prevalent are at increased risk for a broad range of negative health and behavior outcomes. An increased understanding of how trauma resulting from community violence influences development, health, and behavior can lead to improvements in the way many social services are delivered as well as policy changes at the local and federal levels.⁹

For Black victims of homicide, like all victims of homicide, guns — usually handguns — are far and away the number-one murder tool. Successful efforts to reduce America's Black homicide toll, like America's homicide toll as a whole, must put a focus on reducing access and exposure to firearms.

7 FBI Supplementary Homicide Report 2019, U.S. Census Bureau population estimates.

8 For more information, see *How the Firearms Industry and NRA Market Guns to Communities of Color*, Violence Policy Center, January 2021 (<https://vpc.org/how-the-firearms-industry-and-nra-market-guns-to-communities-of-color-contents/>).

9 For more information on trauma and community violence, see the July 2017 Violence Policy Center study *The Relationship Between Community Violence and Trauma: How Violence Affects Learning, Health, and Behavior* (<http://www.vpc.org/studies/trauma17.pdf>).

Appendix One: Additional Information for the 10 States with the Highest Rates of Black Homicide Victimization

Missouri

There were 392 Black homicide victims in Missouri in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Missouri was 50.64 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 1st in the United States

Age	Thirty-five homicide victims (9 percent) were less than 18 years old and 6 victims (2 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 31 years old.
Sex	Out of 392 homicide victims, 337 were male and 55 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 95 percent of victims (365 out of 386) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 52 percent (191 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 154 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 13 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 3 victims killed by bodily force, and 3 victims killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 74 percent of victims (99 out of 133) were killed by someone they knew. Thirty-four victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 65 percent (102 out of 158) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 77 percent (79 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender

Illinois

There were 565 Black homicide victims in Illinois in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Illinois was 29.21 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 2nd in the United States

Age	Forty-seven homicide victims (8 percent) were less than 18 years old and 5 victims (1 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 29 years old.
Sex	Out of 565 homicide victims, 506 were male and 59 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 91 percent of victims (505 out of 556) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 87 percent (439 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 58 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 36 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 5 victims killed by bodily force, and 1 victim killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 79 percent of victims (80 out of 101) were killed by someone they knew. Twenty-one victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 74 percent (195 out of 262) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 42 percent (82 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Indiana

There were 210 Black homicide victims in Indiana in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Indiana was 28.92 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 3rd in the United States

Age	Nineteen homicide victims (9 percent) were less than 18 years old and 3 victims (1 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 29 years old.
Sex	Out of 210 homicide victims, 183 were male and 27 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 88 percent of victims (137 out of 155) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 61 percent (84 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 50 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 13 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 4 victims killed by bodily force, and 1 victim killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 85 percent of victims (67 out of 79) were killed by someone they knew. Twelve victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 61 percent (77 out of 126) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 40 percent (31 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Wisconsin

There were 117 Black homicide victims in Wisconsin in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Wisconsin was 27.24 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 4th in the United States

Age	Fifteen homicide victims (13 percent) were less than 18 years old and 1 victim (1 percent) was 65 years of age or older. The average age was 32 years old.
Sex	Out of 117 homicide victims, 91 were male and 26 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 84 percent of victims (89 out of 106) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 43 percent (38 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 48 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 9 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and 6 victims killed by bodily force.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 75 percent of victims (51 out of 68) were killed by someone they knew. Seventeen victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 77 percent (61 out of 79) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 51 percent (31 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Tennessee

There were 329 Black homicide victims in Tennessee in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Tennessee was 27.21 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 5th in the United States

Age	Eighteen homicide victims (6 percent) were less than 18 years old and 8 victims (2 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 31 years old.
Sex	Out of 329 homicide victims, 285 were male and 44 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 90 percent of victims (284 out of 314) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 41 percent (117 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 148 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 15 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 7 victims killed by bodily force, and 3 victims killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 68 percent of victims (105 out of 155) were killed by someone they knew. Fifty victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 75 percent (119 out of 158) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 63 percent (75 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Louisiana

There were 421 Black homicide victims in Louisiana in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Louisiana was 27.05 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 6th in the United States

Age	Thirty-seven homicide victims (9 percent) were less than 18 years old and 9 victims (2 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 32 years old.
Sex	Out of 421 homicide victims, 369 were male and 52 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 92 percent of victims (368 out of 401) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 46 percent (170 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 180 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 15 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 9 victims killed by bodily force, and 5 victims killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 86 percent of victims (144 out of 167) were killed by someone they knew. Twenty-three victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 64 percent (154 out of 239) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 59 percent (91 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Kentucky

There were 110 Black homicide victims in Kentucky in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Kentucky was 26.92 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 7th in the United States

Age	Fourteen homicide victims (13 percent) were less than 18 years old and 2 victims (2 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 28 years old.
Sex	Out of 110 homicide victims, 100 were male and 10 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 93 percent of victims (100 out of 107) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 56 percent (56 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 37 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 4 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and 2 victims killed by bodily force.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 58 percent of victims (36 out of 62) were killed by someone they knew. Twenty-six victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 59 percent (29 out of 49) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 48 percent (14 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Arkansas

There were 132 Black homicide victims in Arkansas in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Arkansas was 26.88 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 8th in the United States

Age	Ten homicide victims (8 percent) were less than 18 years old and 2 victims (2 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 32 years old.
Sex	Out of 132 homicide victims, 111 were male and 21 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 92 percent of victims (115 out of 125) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 50 percent (58 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 49 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 6 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and 3 victims killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 90 percent of victims (45 out of 50) were killed by someone they knew. Five victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 77 percent (47 out of 61) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 64 percent (30 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Michigan

There were 389 Black homicide victims in Michigan in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Michigan was 25.98 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 9th in the United States

Age	Twenty-two homicide victims (6 percent) were less than 18 years old and 11 victims (3 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 33 years old.
Sex	Out of 389 homicide victims, 325 were male and 64 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 91 percent of victims (313 out of 344) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 44 percent (138 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 165 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 21 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and 5 victims killed by bodily force.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 85 percent of victims (87 out of 102) were killed by someone they knew. Fifteen victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 79 percent (106 out of 134) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 55 percent (58 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Oklahoma

There were 88 Black homicide victims in Oklahoma in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in Oklahoma was 24.75 per 100,000 in 2019.

Ranked 10th in the United States

Age	Four homicide victims (5 percent) were less than 18 years old and 1 victim (1 percent) was 65 years of age or older. The average age was 32 years old.
Sex	Out of 88 homicide victims, 78 were male and 10 were female.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 89 percent of victims (77 out of 87) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 77 percent (59 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 13 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 6 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 2 victims killed by bodily force, and 2 victims killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 77 percent of victims (46 out of 60) were killed by someone they knew. Fourteen victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 79 percent (52 out of 66) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 46 percent (24 homicides) involved an argument between the victim and the offender.

United States

There were 7,441 Black homicide victims in the United States in 2019.

The homicide rate among Black victims in the United States was 18.08 per 100,000 in 2019.

Age	Five hundred forty-six homicide victims (7 percent) were less than 18 years old and 153 victims (2 percent) were 65 years of age or older. The average age was 31 years old.
Sex	Out of 7,441 homicide victims, 6,454 were male, 986 were female, and 1 was of unknown sex.
Most Common Weapons	For homicides in which the weapon used could be identified, 88 percent of victims (6,190 out of 7,056) were shot and killed with guns. Of these, 64 percent (3,935 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 2,020 victims killed with firearms, type not stated. There were 493 victims killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 193 victims killed by bodily force, and 93 victims killed by a blunt object.
Victim/Offender Relationship	For homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 77 percent of victims (2,282 out of 2,954) were killed by someone they knew. Six hundred seventy-two victims were killed by strangers.
Circumstance	For homicides in which the circumstances could be identified, 70 percent (2,856 out of 4,102) were not related to the commission of any other felony. Of these, 56 percent (1,591 homicides) involved arguments between the victim and the offender.

Appendix Two: Number of Black Homicide Victims and Rates by State in 2019

State Ranking by Rate	State	Number of Homicides	Homicide Rate per 100,000
	Alabama	N/A	N/A
*	Alaska	9	25.03
17	Arizona	71	16.57
8	Arkansas	132	26.88
16	California	486	17.03
18	Colorado	51	16.50
33	Connecticut	49	10.53
22	Delaware	35	14.78
	Florida	N/A	N/A
34	Georgia	358	10.09
*	Hawaii	0	0.00
*	Idaho	2	8.64
2	Illinois	565	29.21
3	Indiana	210	28.92
31	Iowa	18	11.94
24	Kansas	30	14.44
7	Kentucky	110	26.92
6	Louisiana	421	27.05
*	Maine	2	7.26
11	Maryland	453	23.29
36	Massachusetts	46	6.81
9	Michigan	389	25.98
19	Minnesota	69	15.70
27	Mississippi	154	13.49
1	Missouri	392	50.64
*	Montana	1	9.41
23	Nebraska	17	14.69
29	Nevada	47	13.29
*	New Hampshire	1	3.40
30	New Jersey	169	12.03
15	New Mexico	12	18.12
35	New York	336	9.30

* In order to ensure rankings contain stable rates, states with 10 or fewer Black homicide victims were not included in the state rankings for 2019. These victims are included in the U.S. total and rate.

State Ranking by Rate	State	Number of Homicides	Homicide Rate per 100,000
21	North Carolina	360	14.87
*	North Dakota	1	3.37
14	Ohio	319	19.44
10	Oklahoma	88	24.75
26	Oregon	17	13.82
12	Pennsylvania	368	22.39
*	Rhode Island	7	6.86
13	South Carolina	298	20.87
*	South Dakota	3	12.06
5	Tennessee	329	27.21
20	Texas	582	15.03
*	Utah	6	9.86
*	Vermont	2	17.47
25	Virginia	255	14.31
32	Washington	44	10.60
28	West Virginia	10	13.39
4	Wisconsin	117	27.24
*	Wyoming	0	0.00
U.S. Total		7,441	18.08

* In order to ensure rankings contain stable rates, states with 10 or fewer Black homicide victims were not included in the state rankings for 2019. These victims are included in the U.S. total and rate.



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