

**Table 306. Murder Victims—Circumstances and Weapons Used or Cause of Death: 2000 to 2008**

[The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program defines murder and nonnegligent manslaughter as the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense is based solely on police investigation as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, other judicial body. For more information on murder, go to <[http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/offenses/violent\\_crime/murder\\_homicide.html/](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/offenses/violent_crime/murder_homicide.html/)>]

Characteristic	2000	2005	2007	2008	Characteristic	2000	2005	2007	2008
<b>Murders, total</b> . . . . .	<b>13,230</b>	<b>14,965</b>	<b>14,916</b>	<b>14,299</b>	Institutional killings . . . . .	10	12	11	15
<b>CIRCUMSTANCES</b>					Sniper attack . . . . .	8	2	1	4
Felonies, total . . . . .	2,229	2,189	2,184	2,101	Other, not specified . . . . .	1,901	1,938	2,187	2,014
Rape . . . . .	58	45	32	23	Unknown . . . . .	4,070	5,635	5,479	5,000
Robbery . . . . .	1,077	930	935	924	<b>TYPE OF WEAPON OR CAUSE OF DEATH</b>				
Burglary . . . . .	76	91	86	87	Total firearms . . . . .	8,661	10,158	10,129	9,484
Larceny/theft . . . . .	23	12	10	16	Handguns . . . . .	6,778	7,565	7,398	6,755
Motor vehicle theft . . . . .	25	32	20	19	Rifles . . . . .	411	445	453	375
Arson . . . . .	81	39	59	26	Shotguns . . . . .	485	522	457	444
Prostitution and commercialized vice . . . . .	6	13	11	7	Other not specified or type unknown . . . . .	53	138	116	79
Other sex offenses . . . . .	10	9	10	11	Firearms, type not stated . . . . .	934	1,488	1,705	1,831
Narcotic drug laws . . . . .	589	597	590	501	Knives or cutting instruments . . . . .	1,782	1,920	1,817	1,897
Gambling . . . . .	12	2	4	10	Blunt objects <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	617	608	647	614
Other, not specified . . . . .	272	419	447	477	Personal weapons <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	927	905	869	861
Suspected felony type . . . . .	60	45	67	104	Poison . . . . .	8	9	10	10
Other than felony type, total . . . . .	6,871	7,096	7,165	7,014	Explosives . . . . .	9	2	1	10
Romantic triangle . . . . .	122	118	105	104	Fire . . . . .	134	125	131	86
Child killed by babysitter . . . . .	30	26	35	51	Narcotics . . . . .	20	46	52	33
Brawl due to influence of alcohol . . . . .	188	123	118	125	Drowning . . . . .	15	20	12	15
Brawl due to influence of narcotics . . . . .	99	97	65	68	Strangulation . . . . .	166	118	134	88
Argument over money or property . . . . .	206	210	192	192	Asphyxiation . . . . .	92	96	109	89
Other arguments . . . . .	3,589	3,718	3,695	3,586	All other <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	799	958	1,005	993
Gangland killings . . . . .	65	96	78	133					
Juvenile gang killings . . . . .	653	756	678	711					

<sup>1</sup> Refers to club, hammer, etc. <sup>2</sup> Hands, fists, feet, pushed, etc. <sup>3</sup> Includes poison, explosives, narcotics, drowning, and unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Uniform Crime Reporting Program Supplementary Homicide Report," <[http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/offenses/violent\\_crime/murder\\_homicide.html](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/offenses/violent_crime/murder_homicide.html)>.

**Table 307. Murder Victims by Age, Sex, and Race: 2008**

[See headnote, Table 306]

Age	Total	Sex			Race			
		Male	Female	Unknown	White	Black	Other	Unknown
<b>Murders, total</b> . . . . .	<b>14,299</b>	<b>11,154</b>	<b>3,103</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>6,907</b>	<b>6,826</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>241</b>
Percent of total . . . . .	100.0	78.0	21.7	0.3	48.3	47.7	2.3	1.7
Under 18 years old <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	1,502	1,044	451	7	736	699	38	28
18 years old and over <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	12,565	9,961	2,598	6	6,077	6,054	282	153
Infant (under 1 year old) . . . . .	223	114	105	4	145	65	7	6
1 to 4 years old . . . . .	346	197	147	2	179	143	15	9
5 to 8 years old . . . . .	71	37	33	1	42	19	5	5
9 to 12 years old . . . . .	72	39	33	—	40	30	3	1
13 to 16 years old . . . . .	448	360	88	—	193	246	7	2
17 to 19 years old . . . . .	1,343	1,164	179	—	540	773	17	12
20 to 24 years old . . . . .	2,457	2,108	348	1	962	1,435	42	18
25 to 29 years old . . . . .	2,163	1,822	341	—	868	1,224	45	26
30 to 34 years old . . . . .	1,624	1,334	290	—	688	866	39	31
35 to 39 years old . . . . .	1,208	941	267	—	595	565	31	17
40 to 44 years old . . . . .	1,030	745	270	6	560	430	24	16
45 to 49 years old . . . . .	971	709	262	—	574	367	18	12
50 to 54 years old . . . . .	694	515	179	—	419	251	17	7
55 to 59 years old . . . . .	491	348	143	—	312	154	20	5
60 to 64 years old . . . . .	291	209	82	—	220	59	8	4
65 to 69 years old . . . . .	206	131	75	—	143	45	13	5
70 to 74 years old . . . . .	146	76	70	—	112	25	7	2
75 years old and over . . . . .	283	146	137	—	220	56	2	2
Age unknown . . . . .	232	149	54	29	94	73	5	60

— Represents zero. <sup>1</sup> Does not include unknown ages.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Uniform Crime Reporting Program Supplementary Homicide Reports." See also <[http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/offenses/violent\\_crime/murder\\_homicide.html](http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2008/offenses/violent_crime/murder_homicide.html)>.