

Table 299. Murder Victims—Circumstances—Circumstances and Weapons Used or Cause of Death: 2000 to 2007

[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/cius2007/offenses/violentcrime/murderhomicide.html>>]

Characteristic	2000	2005	2006	2007	Characteristic	2000	2005	2006	2007
Murders, total . . .	13,230	14,965	15,087	14,831					
CIRCUMSTANCES ¹					Juvenile gang killings . . .	653	756	864	676
Felonies, total	2,229	2,189	2,472	2,184	Institutional killings . . .	10	12	22	11
Rape	58	45	32	31	Sniper attack	8	2	2	1
Robbery	1,077	930	1,053	924	Other - not specified . . .	1,901	1,938	2,187	2,186
Burglary	76	91	80	86	Unknown	4,070	5,635	5,230	5,475
Larceny-theft	23	12	16	11					
Motor vehicle theft . . .	25	32	16	20	TYPE OF WEAPON OR CAUSE OF DEATH ²				
Arson	81	39	27	58	Total firearms	8,661	10,158	10,225	10,086
Prostitution and commercialized vice . .	6	13	8	11	Handguns	6,778	7,565	7,836	7,361
Other sex offenses . . .	10	9	18	9	Rifles	411	445	438	450
Narcotic drug laws . . .	589	597	806	583	Shotguns	485	522	490	455
Gambling	12	2	4	4	Other not specified or type unknown	53	138	107	115
Other - not specified . .	272	419	412	447	Firearms, type not stated	934	1,488	1,354	1,705
Suspected felony type . .	60	45	57	67	Knives or cutting instruments ³	1,782	1,920	1,830	1,796
Other than felony type total	6,871	7,096	7,328	7,105	Blunt objects ³	617	608	618	647
Romantic triangle . . .	122	118	104	105	Personal weapons ⁴	927	905	841	854
Child killed by babysitter	30	26	27	34	Poison	8	9	12	10
Brawl due to influence of alcohol	188	123	106	117	Explosives	9	2	1	1
Brawl due to influence of narcotics	99	97	53	61	Fire	134	125	117	130
Argument over money or property	206	210	198	192	Narcotics	20	46	48	49
Other arguments	3,589	3,718	3,644	3,645	Drowning	15	20	12	12
Gangland killings	65	96	121	77	Strangulations	166	118	137	134
					Asphyxiations	92	96	106	108
					All other ⁵	799	958	1,140	1,004

¹ Murder total includes other types of circumstances not shown separately. ² Murder total includes other types of weapons or causes of deaths not shown separately. ³ Refers to club, hammer, etc. ⁴ Hands, fists, feet, etc. ⁵ Includes poison, drowning, explosives, narcotics, and unknown.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, "Crime in the United States"; <<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/cius2007/index.html>>.