

Table 310. Murder Victims—Circumstances and Weapons Used or Cause of Death: 2000 to 2009

[For year ending December 31. The FBI's 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, or other judicial body. The UCR Program does not include the following situations in this offense classification: deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder, which are scored as aggravated assaults]

| Characteristic | 2000 | 2005 | 2008 | 2009 | Characteristic | 2000 | 2005 | 2008 | 2009 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| Murders, total | 13,230 | 14,965 | 14,299 | 13,756 | Gangland killings | 65 | 96 | 133 | 177 |
| CIRCUMSTANCES | | | | | Juvenile gang killings | 653 | 756 | 711 | 715 |
| Felonies, total | 2,229 | 2,189 | 2,101 | 2,051 | Institutional killings | 10 | 12 | 15 | 12 |
| Rape | 58 | 45 | 23 | 24 | Sniper attack | 8 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Robbery | 1,077 | 930 | 924 | 858 | Other—not specified | 1,901 | 1,938 | 2,014 | 1,996 |
| Burglary | 76 | 91 | 87 | 110 | Unknown | 4,070 | 5,635 | 5,000 | 4,846 |
| Larceny-theft | 23 | 12 | 16 | 13 | TYPE OF WEAPON OR CAUSE OF DEATH | | | | |
| Motor vehicle theft | 25 | 32 | 19 | 23 | Total firearms | 8,661 | 10,158 | 9,484 | 9,203 |
| Arson | 81 | 39 | 26 | 38 | Handguns | 6,778 | 7,565 | 6,755 | 6,503 |
| Prostitution and commercialized vice | 6 | 13 | 7 | 6 | Rifles | 411 | 445 | 375 | 352 |
| Other sex offenses | 10 | 9 | 11 | 10 | Shotguns | 485 | 522 | 444 | 424 |
| Narcotic drug laws | 589 | 597 | 501 | 495 | Other not specified or type unknown | 53 | 138 | 79 | 96 |
| Gambling | 12 | 2 | 10 | 5 | Firearms, type not stated | 934 | 1,488 | 1,831 | 1,828 |
| Other—not specified | 272 | 419 | 477 | 469 | Knives or cutting instruments | 1,782 | 1,920 | 1,897 | 1,836 |
| Suspected felony type | 60 | 45 | 104 | 56 | Blunt objects ¹ | 617 | 608 | 614 | 623 |
| Other ¹ than felony total | 6,871 | 7,096 | 7,014 | 6,803 | Personal weapons ² | 927 | 905 | 861 | 815 |
| Romantic triangle | 122 | 118 | 104 | 89 | Poison | 8 | 9 | 10 | 7 |
| Child killed by babysitter | 30 | 26 | 51 | 29 | Explosives | 9 | 2 | 10 | 2 |
| Brawl due to influence of alcohol | 188 | 123 | 125 | 117 | Fire | 134 | 125 | 86 | 98 |
| Brawl due to influence of narcotics | 99 | 97 | 68 | 94 | Narcotics | 20 | 46 | 33 | 52 |
| Argument over money or property | 206 | 210 | 192 | 205 | Drowning | 15 | 20 | 15 | 8 |
| Other arguments | 3,589 | 3,718 | 3,586 | 3,368 | Strangulation | 166 | 118 | 88 | 122 |
| | | | | | Asphyxiation | 92 | 96 | 89 | 84 |
| | | | | | All other ³ | 799 | 958 | 993 | 905 |

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

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program, Return A Master Files.

Table 311. Murder Victims by Age, Sex, and Race: 2008

[See headnote, Table 310]

| Age | Total | Sex | | | Race | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| | | Male | Female | Unknown | White | Black | Other | Unknown |
| Murders, total | 13,756 | 10,582 | 3,158 | 16 | 6,655 | 6,587 | 365 | 149 |
| Percent of total | 100.0 | 76.9 | 23.1 | 0.1 | 48.4 | 47.9 | 2.7 | 1.1 |
| Under 18 years old ¹ | 1,363 | 921 | 442 | — | 669 | 640 | 44 | 10 |
| 18 years old and over ¹ | 12,393 | 9,661 | 2,716 | 16 | 5,986 | 5,947 | 321 | 139 |
| Infant (under 1 year old) | 201 | 106 | 95 | — | 113 | 74 | 9 | 5 |
| 1 to 4 years old | 305 | 163 | 142 | — | 164 | 131 | 9 | 1 |
| 5 to 8 years old | 74 | 35 | 39 | — | 42 | 27 | 4 | 1 |
| 9 to 12 years old | 70 | 35 | 35 | — | 44 | 21 | 5 | — |
| 13 to 16 years old | 398 | 317 | 81 | — | 189 | 198 | 9 | 2 |
| 17 to 19 years old | 1,250 | 1,072 | 178 | — | 477 | 742 | 22 | 9 |
| 20 to 24 years old | 2,432 | 2,087 | 344 | 1 | 934 | 1,409 | 65 | 24 |
| 25 to 29 years old | 1,955 | 1,616 | 338 | 1 | 799 | 1,101 | 39 | 16 |
| 30 to 34 years old | 1,545 | 1,221 | 324 | — | 654 | 848 | 25 | 18 |
| 35 to 39 years old | 1,221 | 963 | 258 | — | 581 | 588 | 41 | 12 |
| 40 to 44 years old | 1,016 | 741 | 274 | 1 | 552 | 419 | 35 | 10 |
| 45 to 49 years old | 941 | 655 | 286 | — | 571 | 340 | 23 | 7 |
| 50 to 54 years old | 708 | 526 | 181 | 1 | 425 | 247 | 27 | 9 |
| 55 to 59 years old | 466 | 314 | 152 | — | 293 | 147 | 22 | 4 |
| 60 to 64 years old | 321 | 224 | 97 | — | 216 | 90 | 12 | 3 |
| 65 to 69 years old | 231 | 153 | 78 | — | 169 | 57 | 4 | 1 |
| 70 to 74 years old | 135 | 86 | 49 | — | 105 | 26 | 1 | 3 |
| 75 years old and over | 294 | 144 | 150 | — | 231 | 53 | 10 | — |
| Age unknown | 193 | 124 | 57 | 12 | 96 | 69 | 3 | 24 |

— Represents zero. ¹ Does not include unknown ages.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Program Return A Master Files.