

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.