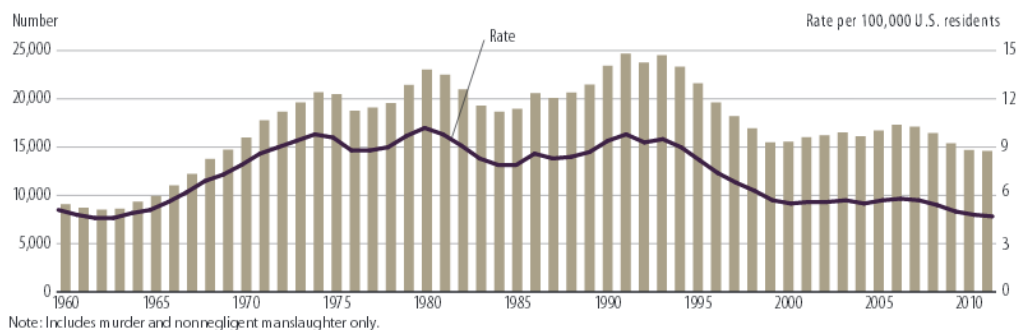


Up In Arms: Homicide in America

- In 2011, homicide accounted for a death rate of 4.7 per 100,000 people for all injuries, regardless of age, sex, or race.¹
 - This represents a 49% decline from 1992.
- In 2011, 14,610 people were victims of homicide.¹
 - This is the lowest number of homicide victims since 1968.
- Homicide rates are highest for young adults between the ages of 18 and 24.¹
- Homicides are most commonly committed with guns.¹
- The following chart shows fluctuating homicide numbers and rates in the U.S. between 1960 and 2010¹:

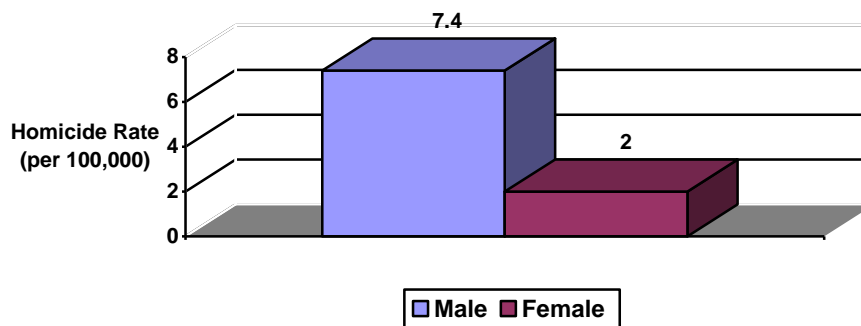
Number and rate of homicides in the U.S., 1960-2011



Homicide by sex and race...

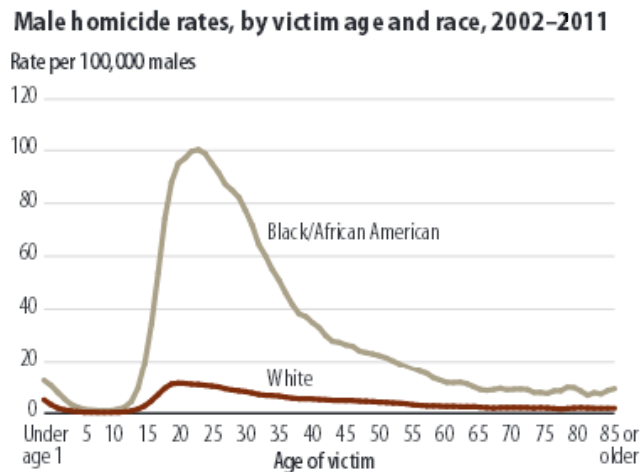
- In 2011, the homicide rate was highest among males, African-Americans, and young adults.¹
- In 2008, males were 7 times more likely to commit murder than females.⁴
- The homicide rate for males was nearly 4 times higher than the rate for females.⁴

Homicide Death Rates, by Sex: 2011¹



- The highest murder rate for black males was nearly 9 times higher than the highest murder rate for white males.¹
- Of all homicides reported in 2011, nearly 78% were males.¹
 - The victimization rate for males was 3 times higher than that of females.⁴

- While females are more likely to be murdered by close friends or family members, males are more likely to be killed by strangers or acquaintances.⁴
- African American males are disproportionately affected by homicide at almost every age.⁴
 - Blacks are 6 times more likely to be victimized and 7 times more likely to commit homicide than whites.⁴
- Among males, homicide is the fifth leading cause of death for African Americans, the seventh leading cause of death for Hispanics, and the ninth leading cause of death for American Indians/Alaska Natives.²



Youth Violence: an antecedent to homicide...

- Homicide is the second leading cause of death among young people aged 15 to 24 years old.³
- In 2013, 17.9% of students in the U.S. reported carrying a weapon (e.g., a gun, knife, or club) at least once in the prior 30 days.⁵
 - More male students (28.1%) had carried a weapon than female students (7.9%).
- Nationwide, 8.1% of U.S. high school students had been in a physical fight on school property during the 12 months prior to the 2013 data collection, and 7.1% had not gone to school at least once in the preceding 30 days because they felt unsafe either at school or on their way to/from school.⁵
 - More male students (10.7%) were involved in a physical fight on school property than female students (5.6%).
 - However, more female students (8.7%) did not go to school because of safety concerns than male students (5.4%).
- Youth involved in violence across America are overwhelmingly males.³

¹U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs. *Homicide in the U.S. Known to Law Enforcement, 2011* [online]. Bureau of Justice Statistics. Available at: <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/hus11.pdf>

²Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Leading Causes of Death by Age Group, Race/Ethnicity Males, United States, 2010* [online]. Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/men/lcod/2010/LCODrace_ethnicityMen2010.pdf

³Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Youth Violence: Facts at a Glance* [online]. 2012. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ViolencePrevention/pdf/yv-datasheet-a.pdf>

⁴U.S. Department of Justice: Office of Justice Programs. *Homicide Trends in the United States, 1980-2008* [online]. Bureau of Justice Statistics. Available at: <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/htus8008.pdf>

⁵Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System 2013*. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6304.pdf>