



Quick Facts: Homicide in Tennessee | 2020

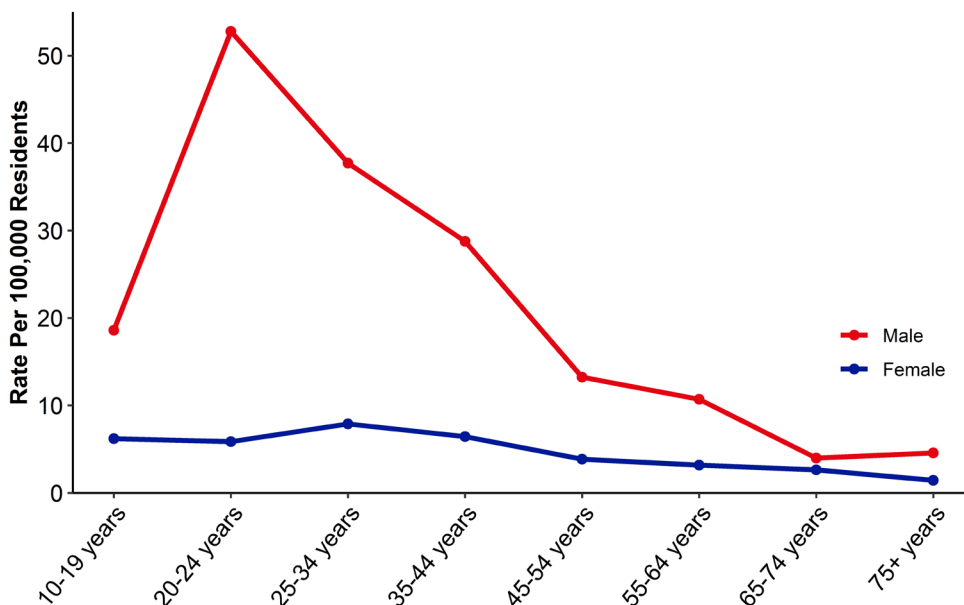
The Tennessee Violent Death Reporting System (TNVDRS) helps state and local officials understand why violent deaths occur by linking data from medical examiner, law enforcement, and vital statistics records. It is the only data system for homicide and suicide that pools data on violent deaths and their circumstances from multiple sources into one anonymous database. TNVDRS collects over 600 unique data elements to provide context on violent deaths occurring in our state including: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths of undetermined intent. For more information or to request additional data, please contact us at TN.VDRS@tn.gov

Homicide Rates by County of Injury | TNVDRS, 2020



Of the 2,209 violent deaths in TN in 2020, 777 were deaths due to homicide (35.2%). Counties not shaded had fewer than 10 violent deaths included in TNVDRS for this year. This count does not include incidents classified as legal intervention or unintentional firearm-related deaths.

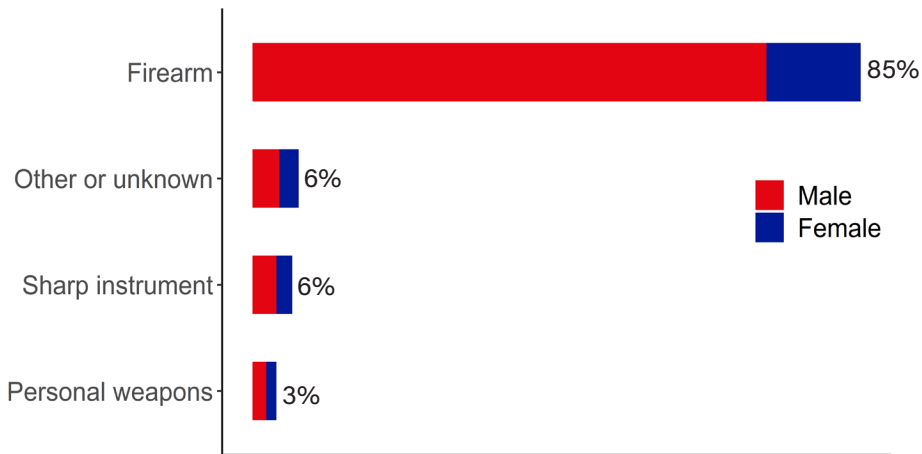
Sex-Specific Rates by Age | TNVDRS, 2020



Males had a higher homicide rate than females, regardless of age. The highest rate for males was 52.8 per 100,000 among males between the ages of 20 and 24. The highest rate for females was 7.9 per 100,000 among females between the ages of 25 and 34.

The majority of all individuals who died by homicide in 2020 were identified as non-Hispanic (NH) black residents (58.0%). NH black males had higher rates than other racial/ethnic groups in TN (81.5 per 100,000).

Method of Death by Sex | TNVDRS, 2020



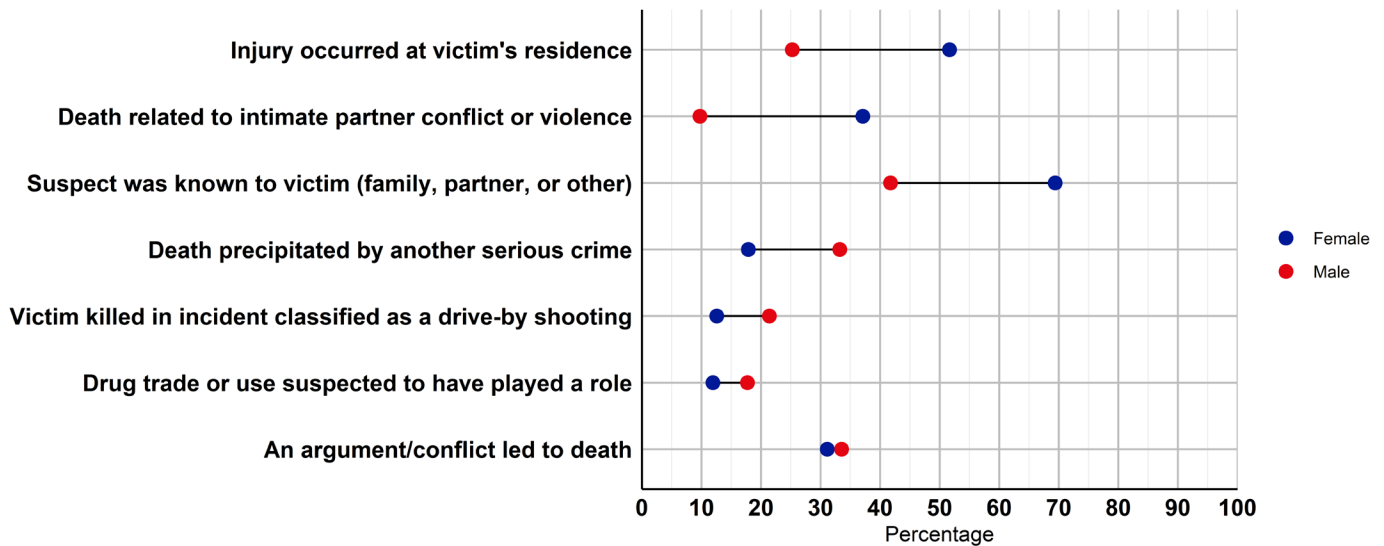
"Other or unknown" includes blunt instruments, poisoning, strangulation, drowning, fire, shaking, motor vehicles, neglect, and unknown

After firearms, sharp instruments and personal weapons were the second and third leading methods of homicide.

The majority of males died by firearm (88.8% of all males who died by homicide in 2020), followed by sharp instruments (4.1%).

The majority of females died by firearm (67.5% of all females who died by homicide in 2020), followed by sharp instruments (11.3%).

Homicide Circumstances by Sex | TNVDRS, 2020



For individuals with sufficient information to collect circumstance variables, injury occurred at the victim's residence for 25.2% of males and 51.7% of females. For 9.7% of males and 37.1% of females, death was related to conflict or violence between current or former intimate partners. Females (69.4%) were also more likely than males (41.7%) to have a relationship with the suspect, either intimate partners, other family members, or relationships such as friendship.

Males (33.2%) were more likely than females (17.9%) to die in an incident precipitated by another serious crime. Males (21.4%) were also more likely than females (12.6%) to die in an incident classified as a drive-by shooting, and males (17.7%) were more likely than females (11.9%) to die in an incident where drug trade or use is suspected to have played a role.

Almost thirty-four percent (33.5%) of males and 31.1% of females had an argument or conflict that led to death. For 83.8% of males and 66.0% of females that had an argument prior to injury, the injury occurred during the argument itself.

