DEFINITION

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting program has defined Murder as *the willful 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. Deaths caused by negligence, suicide, accident, or justifiable homicide are not included in this offense category.

ANALYSIS

VOLUME

The reported number of murders committed in Michigan in 2014 was 532. This was a 16 percent decrease in murders from 2013 and a four percent decrease from 2010. More persons were murdered during the month of July, while fewer murders occurred in the month of March. Murders occurred most often on Sundays and least often on Fridays.

CRIME RATE

The murder rate in 2014 was five murders for every 100,000 persons, a decrease of 17 percent from 2013.

CLEARANCES

In 2014, 51 percent of all murders were cleared by an arrest or exceptional means. Exceptional clearances can be reported when one of the following circumstances has occurred: Death of Offender, Prosecution Declined, In Custody of Other Jurisdiction, Victim Refused to Cooperate, or Juvenile/No Custody.

NATURE

Of the 532 murders, 68 percent were committed by the use of a firearm. Of the murders in which a firearm was used, Handguns accounted for 59 percent of that weapon type. Knife/Cutting Instrument was the weapon of choice in 11 percent of the reported cases and Personal Weapon in five percent of the cases.
**Age, Sex, and Race Analysis**

Twenty-one (21) percent of the victims were between the ages of 20 - 24. In 2013, this age group reported 17 percent of the victims.

Fifty-four (54) percent of the Female victims were Black and 44 percent were White. Thirteen (13) percent of Female victims fell into the 20 - 24 age group.

Seventy-five (75) percent of the Male victims were Black and 23 percent were White. Twenty-four (24) percent of Male victims fell into the 20 - 24 age group.

**Murder Circumstances**

Victim circumstance is defined as something that occurs to the victim which is out of their control. In these murders, 55 percent of the time the detectives could not determine the victim circumstance. In 21 percent of the cases, it was determined that the murder happened due to an Argument. Other Circumstances occurred in 16 percent of the murders, while Drug Dealings and Lover’s Quarrels were reported in five percent of the cases when combined.

**Location of Murders**

Fifty-two (52) percent of these murders occurred in a Residence/Home. Twenty-seven (27) percent were reported to occur on a Highway/Road/Alley. Three (3) percent of the murders occurred in a Field/Woods.
2014 Murder Non-Negligent Manslaughter

Circumstance of Murders

- Argument: 112
- Drug Dealing: 15
- Gangland: 6
- Juvenile Gang: 2
- Lover’s Quarrel: 12
- Other Circumstances: 83
- Other Felony Involved: 8
- Unknown Circumstances: 294

Location of Murders

- Bar/Night Club: 6
- Commercial/Office Buildings: 5
- Convenience Store: 4
- Department/Discount Store: 1
- Drug Store/Doctor’s Office/Hospital: 2
- Field/Woods: 146
- Highway/Road/Aley: 14
- Hotel/More/etc.: 4
- Jail/Prison: 1
- Lake/Waterway: 1
- Liquor Store: 4
- Other: 7
- Park/Playground: 13
- Parking Lot/Garage: 2
- Rent: 279
- Residence/Home: 2
- Restaurant: 2
- School Elementary/Secondary: 2
- Service/Bus Station: 9
- Shopping Mall: 4
- Unknown: 1

Crimes Against Persons

2014 Crime in Michigan
### 2014 Murder Non-Negligent Manslaughter

**Weapon Used Against Victim**

- **Asphyxiation**: 8 (1.50%)
- **Automatic Firearm**: 12 (2.26%)
- **Automatic Handgun**: 19 (3.57%)
- **Automatic Other Firearm**: 2 (0.38%)
- **Automatic Rifle**: 1 (0.19%)
- **Blunt Object**: 20 (3.76%)
- **Drugs/Narcotics/Sleeping Pills**: 2 (0.38%)
- **Fire/Incendiary Devices**: 4 (0.75%)
- **Firearm**: 109 (20.49%)
- **Handgun**: 194 (36.47%)
- **Knife/Cutting Instrument**: 60 (11.28%)
- **Motor Vehicle**: 5 (0.94%)
- **Other**: 13 (2.44%)
- **Other Firearm**: 1 (0.19%)
- **Personal Weapon**: 28 (5.26%)
- **Rifle**: 6 (1.13%)
- **Shotgun**: 4 (0.75%)
- **Unknown**: 44 (8.27%)

**Total**: 532 (100.00%)

### Victim to Offender Relationship

- **Acquaintance**: 83
- **Baby (the baby)**: 15
- **Child in Common**: 2
- **Child of Boyfriend/Girlfriend**: 2
- **Common-Law Spouse**: 2
- **Dating (Boyfriend/Girlfriend)**: 25
- **Ex-Spouse**: 5
- **Friend**: 18
- **Grandchild**: 1
- **Homosexual Relationship**: 1
- **In-Law**: 3
- **In-Law**: 3
- **Neighbor**: 10
- **None Reported**: 134
- **Other Family Member**: 10
- **Other Known**: 29
- **Parent**: 13
- **Resident (Boyfriend/Girlfriend)**: 7
- **Sibling**: 14
- **Spouse**: 2
- **Step Child**: 2
- **Step-Parent**: 52
- **Stranger**: 204
- **Unknown**: 52

VOR totals will not match the victim totals due to some incidents having multiple offenders but only one victim.
## 2014 Murder Non-Negligent Manslaughter Arrests

**Arrests By Age, Sex, and Race**

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<th>Male by Race</th>
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