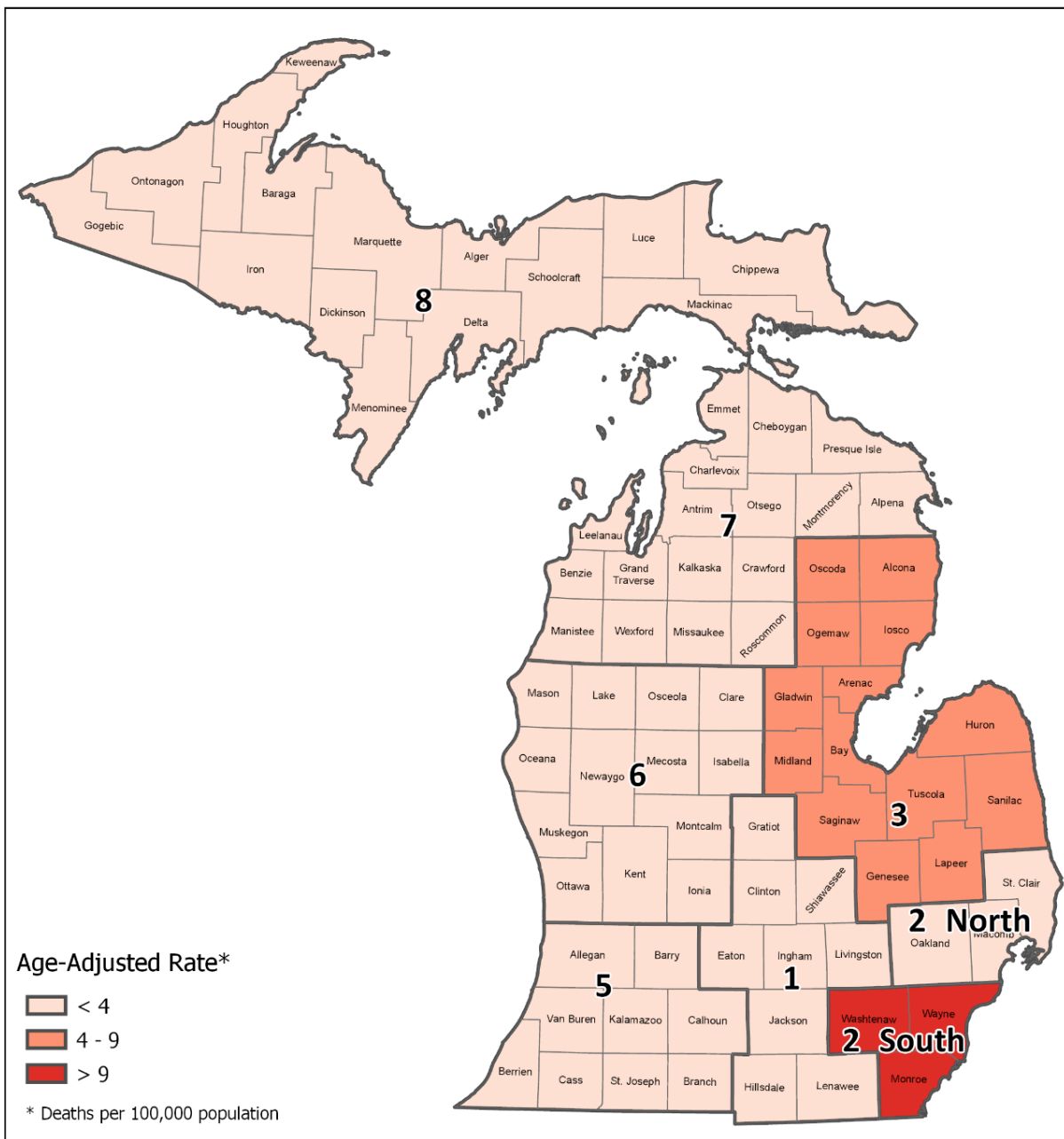


# Homicide Deaths in Michigan, 2014–17

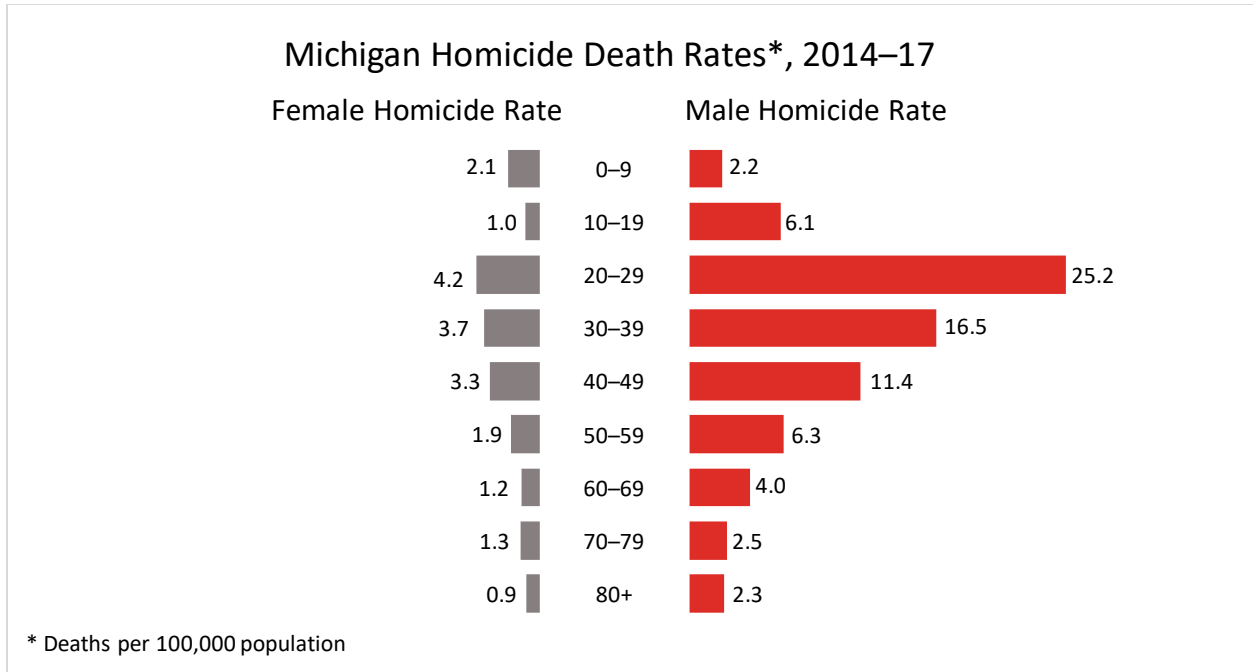
Over 19,000 people die annually in the United States from homicide; almost 600 of these homicide deaths are in Michigan.

The Michigan Violent Death Reporting System (MiVDRS)<sup>1</sup> collects and links data from multiple data sources to help stakeholders develop public health prevention strategies to reduce deaths and injuries due to interpersonal and self-directed violence. From 2014–2017, over 2,300 residents died by homicide in Michigan.

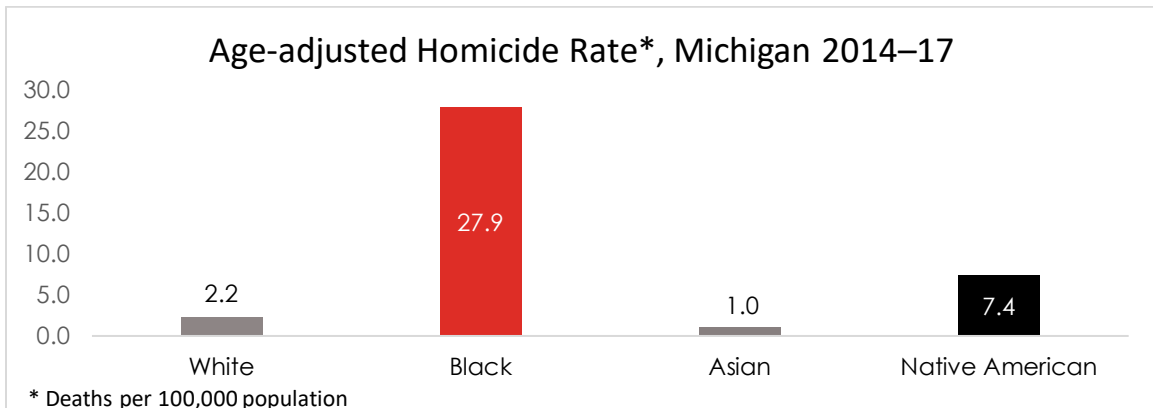
## Age-adjusted Annual Homicide Death Rates by State Police District, 2014–2017



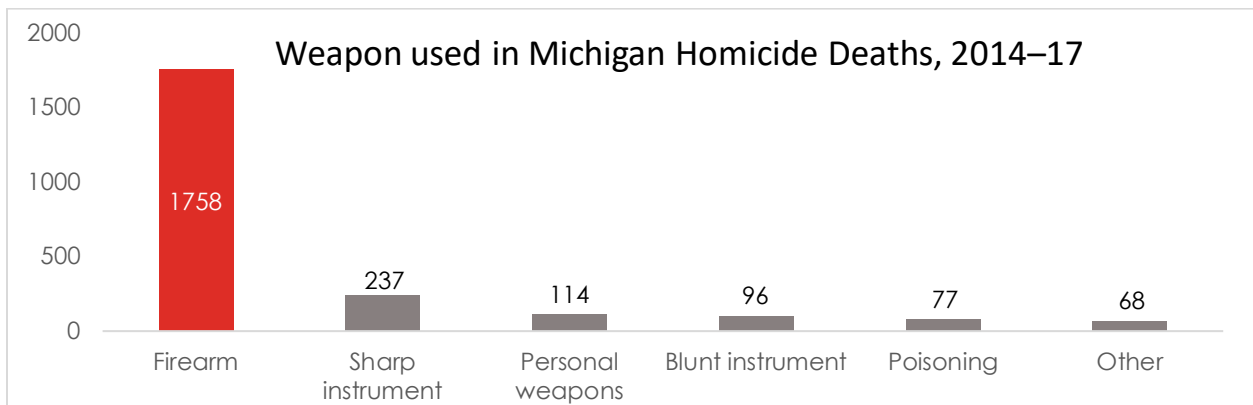
At every age, men were more likely than women to die by homicide in 2014–17. Young adults 20–29 years of age were most likely to die by homicide.



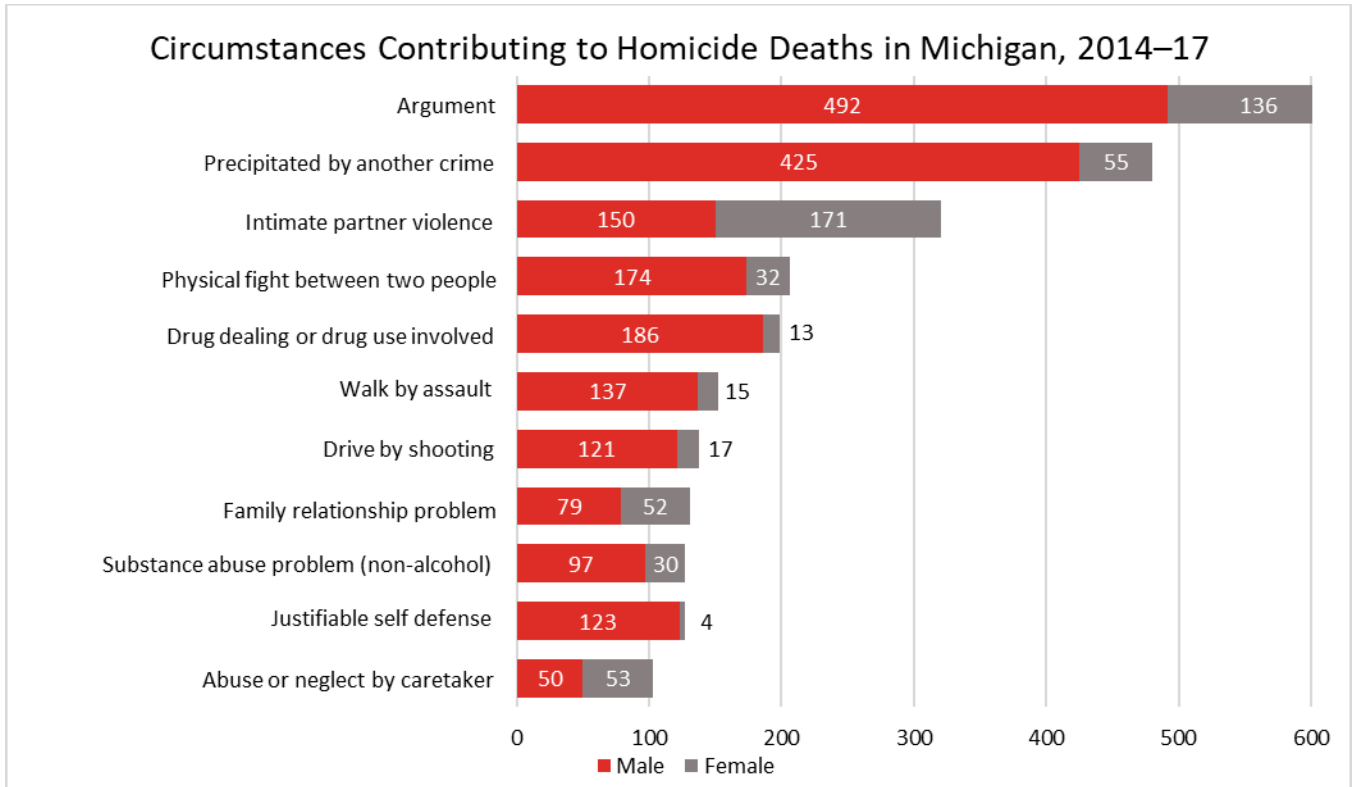
The Michigan age-adjusted homicide rate was 6.3 in 2014–17, but the rates varied by race, ranging from 1.0 for Asian Americans to 27.9 for Black Americans.



Eighty percent of male homicide victims were killed with a firearm while 50% of female victims of homicide were killed with a firearm.



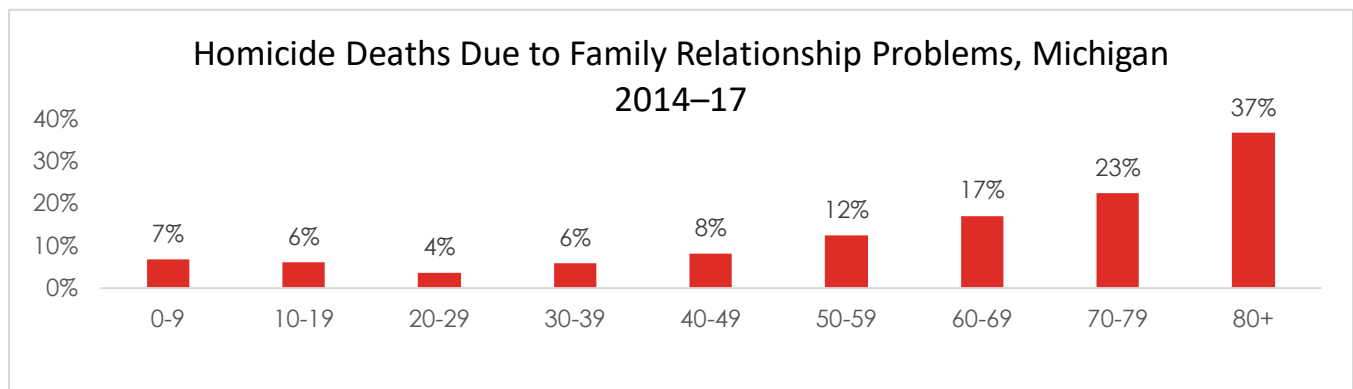
**Intimate partner violence was a known factor for 36 percent of all female homicide victims. Seventy-two (70 percent) of the victims of abuse or neglect were under the age of five.**



*\* There may be more than one known circumstance for each death, or no known circumstance.*

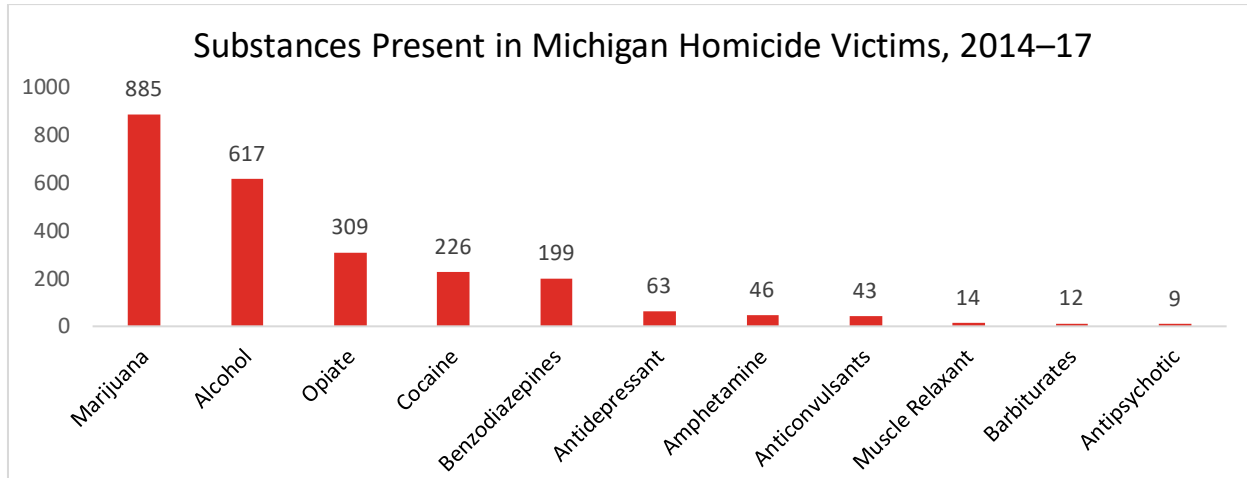
An infant was beaten to death by her father. The father said that she stopped breathing while he was feeding her, and he didn't know what was wrong. Later, when confronted with the extent of her injuries he provided multiple unlikely reasons for the various injuries. The child's mother admitted that the father had been abusing the child, but she was healing on her own, so the mother wasn't that concerned. Also, he promised that he was going to stop drinking and take his medication. Another child was removed from the home and the mother was given supervised visitation. The father was charged with child abuse and murder.

**Circumstances varied by age. The percent of deaths due to family relationship problems increased with age.**



A sleeping woman was shot by her son in the back of her head. The son reportedly killed his mother because she wouldn't let him keep a pet. In the last year the son had dropped out of college and was reported to be tired and depressed. His father reported he refused to go to counseling and most of his friends had moved away. He became socially isolated on his mother's farm and she had recently requested he move out.

**Marijuana was the most commonly found substance in homicide victims, followed by alcohol.**



\* It is unknown how many homicide victims were tested for each substance. Victims could have been found to have more than one substance in their system at the time of death.

Three men were sitting on a porch. Three other men approached, asking who stole their marijuana. An argument ensued and one of the men on the porch tried to run away and was shot. The other two men on the porch were shot at but survived. The victim was being treated for ADHD and used marijuana.

**In over 90 percent of homicide incidents in Michigan there was only one death.**

Michigan Homicide Incident Type, 2014-17	Number	Percent
Single homicide	2046	90.7%
Multiple homicide	84	3.7%
Single legal intervention death	58	2.6%
Single homicide followed by suicide	57	2.5%
Multiple homicide followed by suicide	7	0.3%
Multiple homicide followed by legal intervention death(s)	4	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2256</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

A woman was hanging out at her friend's house when there was a knock at the door. It was the woman's ex-boyfriend. They had dated for four years but broke up several months before. There was a history of domestic violence in their relationship and he had stalked her since the break-up. There were charges pending against him and he had made threats to her family and friends, including suicidal threats. He dragged her out of the house and shot and killed her, and then himself.

i. MiVDRS Website: [https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71548\\_54879-279986--,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71548_54879-279986--,00.html)  
 For more data details contact [SmithP40@michigan.gov](mailto:SmithP40@michigan.gov).