

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 3.117.2004

Percent distribution of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters known to police

By type of weapon used, United States, 1964-2004

	Number of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters	Total ^a	Type of weapon used					
			Firearm	Knife or other cutting instrument	Blunt object (club, hammer, etc.)	Personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.) ^b	Non-personal weapons ^c	Other weapon not stated ^d
1964	7,990	100%	55%	24%	5%	10%	3%	2%
1965	8,773	100	57	23	6	10	3	1
1966	9,552	100	59	22	5	9	2	1
1967	11,114	100	63	20	5	9	2	1
1968	12,503	100	65	18	6	8	2	1
1969	13,575	100	65	19	4	8	3	1
1970	13,649	100	66	18	4	8	3	1
1971	16,183	100	66	19	4	8	2	1
1972	15,832	100	66	19	4	8	2	1
1973	17,123	100	66	17	5	8	2	2
1974	18,632	100	67	17	5	8	1	1
1975	18,642	100	65	17	5	9	2	2
1976	16,605	100	64	18	5	8	2	3
1977	18,033	100	62	19	5	8	2	3
1978	18,714	100	64	19	5	8	2	3
1979	20,591	100	63	19	5	8	2	3
1980	21,860	100	62	19	5	8	2	4
1981	20,053	100	62	19	5	7	2	3
1982	19,485	100	60	21	5	8	2	3
1983	18,673	100	58	22	6	9	2	3
1984	16,689	100	59	21	6	8	3	4
1985	17,545	100	59	21	6	8	3	4
1986	19,257	100	59	20	6	9	2	4
1987	17,859	100	59	20	6	8	2	4
1988	18,269	100	61	19	6	8	2	4
1989	18,954	100	62	18	6	7	2	4
1990	20,045	100	64	18	5	7	2	4
1991	21,505	100	66	16	5	7	2	4
1992	22,540	100	68	14	5	6	2	5
1993	23,271	100	70	13	4	6	2	5
1994	22,076	100	70	13	4	7	2	5
1995	20,043	100	68	13	4	7	3	5
1996	15,848	100	68	14	5	7	2	5
1997	15,289	100	68	13	5	8	2	5
1998	14,088	100	65	13	5	8	2	6
1999	12,658	100	65	13	6	8	2	5
2000	12,943	100	66	13	5	8	2	6
2001 ^e	13,752	100	63	13	5	7	3	9
2002	14,054	100	67	13	5	8	2	6
2003	14,408	100	67	13	4	8	2	6
2004	14,121	100	66	13	5	8	2	6

Note: See Note, [table 3.106.2004](#). In trend tables "constructed" or "adapted" by SOURCEBOOK staff from *Crime in the United States*, the data are from the first year in which the data are reported. It should be noted that the number of agencies reporting and the populations represented vary from year to year.

The Uniform Crime Reporting Program requests that supplementary information be transmitted to the FBI when a murder or nonnegligent manslaughter has been committed. The actual number of offenses presented in the tables displaying characteristics of murders and nonnegligent manslaughter known to the police may differ from figures in other tables that reflect data from only the initial report of the offense. For example, supplementary data were provided by contributing agencies for 14,121 of the estimated total of 16,137 murders and nonnegligent manslaughter in 2004 (Source, [2004](#), p. 18).

For information on States supplying incomplete data for selected years, see [Appendix 3](#).

^aBecause of rounding, percents may not add to total.

^bIncludes beatings, strangulations, and "pushed."

^cIncludes poison, explosives, fire, narcotics, and asphyxiation.

^dBeginning in 1991, this category includes drownings.

^eThe murders and nonnegligent manslaughter that occurred as a result of the events of Sept. 11, 2001 are not included in this table.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States*, [1964](#), p. 104, Table 16; [1965](#), p. 106, Table 16; [1966](#), p. 107, Table 20; [1967](#), p. 112, Table 20; [1968](#), p. 108, Table 20; [1969](#), p. 106, Table 21; [1970](#), p. 188, Table 21; [1971](#), p. 114, Table 21; [1972](#), p. 188, Table 24; [1973](#), p. 8; [1974](#), p. 18; [1975](#), p. 18; [1976](#), p. 10; [1977](#), p. 11; [1978](#), p. 12; [1979](#), p. 11; [1980](#), p. 12; [1981](#), p. 11; [1982](#), p. 11; [1983](#), p. 10; [1984](#), p. 10; [1985](#), p. 10; [1986](#), p. 10; [1987](#), p. 10; [1988](#), p. 12; [1989](#), p. 11; [1990](#), p. 12; [1991](#), p. 18; [1992](#), p. 18, Table 2.10; [1993](#), p. 18, Table 2.11; [1994](#), p. 18, Table 2.11; [1995](#), p. 18, Table 2.11; [1996](#), p. 18, Table 2.11; [1997](#), p. 20, Table 2.11; [1998](#), p. 18, Table 2.11; [1999](#), p. 18, Table 2.11; [2000](#), p. 19, Table 2.11; [2001](#), p. 23, Table 2.11; [2002](#), p. 23, Table 2.11; [2003](#), p. 19, Table 2.10; [2004](#), p. 19, Table 2.10 (Washington, DC: USGPO). Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.