

Table 3.117.2012

Percent distribution of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters known to police

By type of weapon used, United States, 1964-2012

| | Number of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters | Type of weapon used | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| | | Total ^a | Firearm | Knife or other cutting instrument | Blunt object (club, hammer, etc.) | Personal weapons (hands, fists, feet, etc.) ^b | Non-personal weapons ^c | Other weapon or 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 | 14,210 | 100 | 66 | 13 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 6 |
| 2005 | 14,965 | 100 | 68 | 13 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 6 |
| 2006 | 15,087 | 100 | 68 | 12 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 2007 | 14,916 | 100 | 68 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 7 |
| 2008 | 14,224 | 100 | 67 | 13 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 7 |
| 2009 | 13,752 | 100 | 67 | 13 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 2010 | 13,164 | 100 | 67 | 13 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 2011 | 12,795 | 100 | 68 | 13 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 7 |
| 2012 | 12,765 | 100 | 69 | 12 | 4 | 6 | 2 | 6 |

Note: These data were compiled by the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. 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 manslaughters 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 12,795 of the estimated total of 14,827 murders and nonnegligent manslaughters known to police in 2012.

^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 manslaughters 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; 2008, Expanded Homicide Data Table 8; 2012, Expanded Homicide Data Table 8. Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.