

Injury Data Highlight: Homicides in Ohio, 2012

Get the facts....

There were 609 homicides among Ohio residents in 2012. Men were more likely than women to be victims of homicides. (Figure 1)

The overall homicide rate in 2012 was 5.5 per 100,000 persons. Homicide rates for black, non-Hispanic males were six times higher than homicide rates for black, non-Hispanic females and 13 times higher than rates for white, non-Hispanic males. (Figure 2)

This injury data highlight presents data on homicides in Ohio in 2012. The data were obtained from the Ohio Violent Death Reporting System (OH-VDRS), a surveillance system focused on capturing data on the characteristics and circumstances associated with violent deaths in Ohio.

Figure 1. Homicides by Sex and Age, Ohio, 2012¹

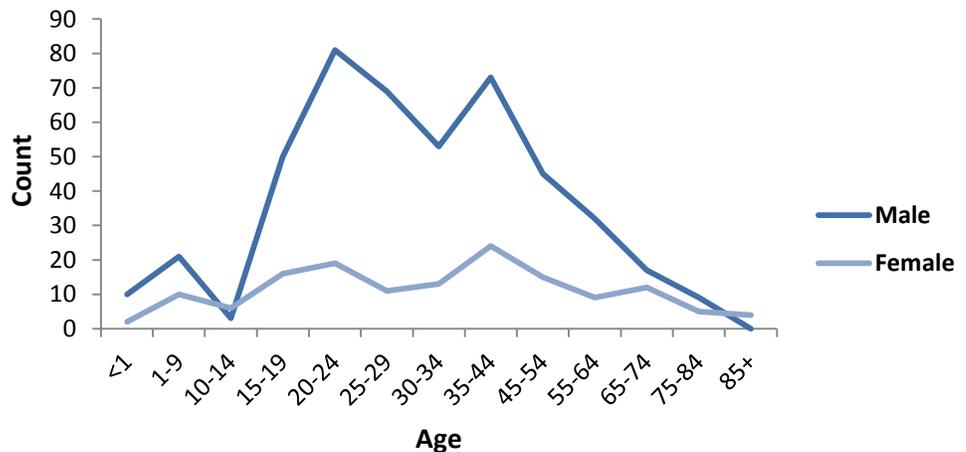
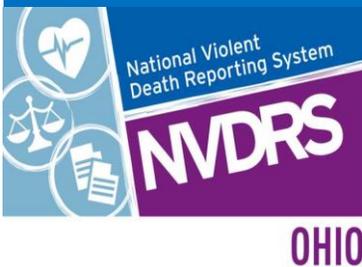
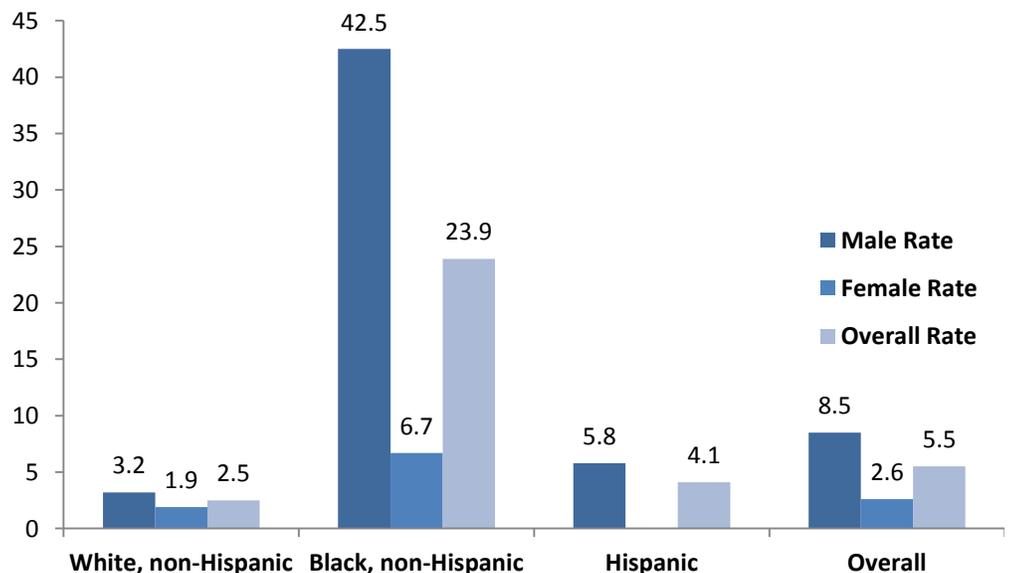


Figure 2. Homicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2012¹



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Although black, non-Hispanics represent 13 percent of Ohio's population, they accounted for nearly 60 percent of homicides in 2012. (Figure 3)

Firearms were the most commonly used method for homicides, for both male and female victims. (Figure 4)

The use of sharp instruments, blunt instruments and strangulation was more commonly observed in female homicide victims than in male homicide victims. (Figure 4)

Figure 3. Distribution of Population and Homicides by Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2012¹

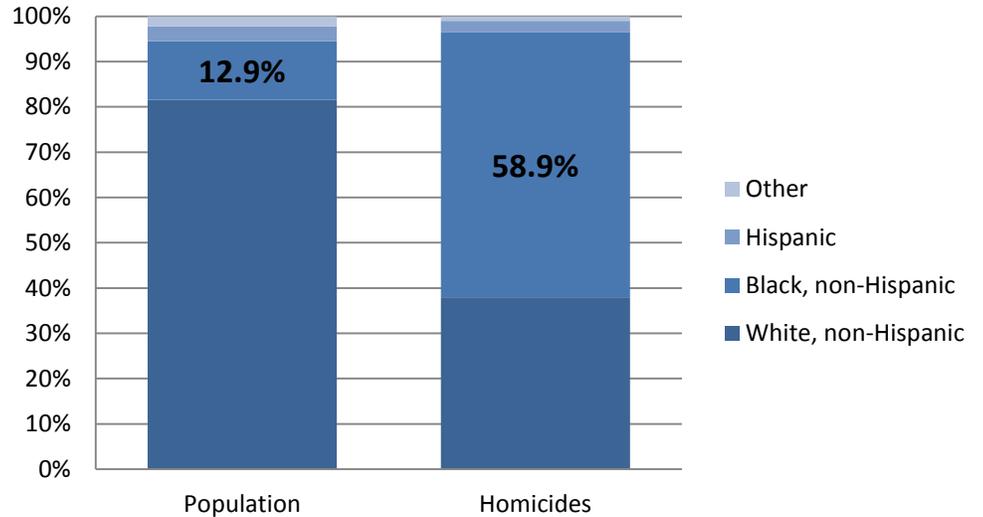
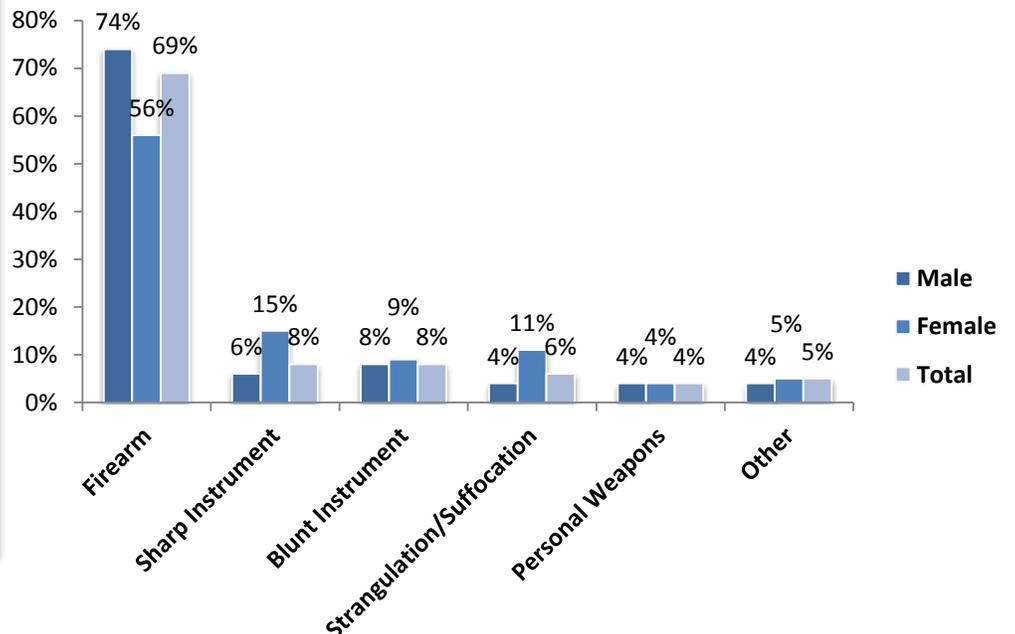


Figure 4. Homicide Weapons by Sex, Ohio, 2012¹



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A third of homicides were associated with some type of argument. Although men were more likely to be homicide victims, half of female homicides were associated with intimate partner violence compared to six percent of male homicide victims. (Figure 5)

31 percent of homicides were associated with another crime. Drug involvement was reported in 16 percent of homicides. Gang activity was reported in nearly half of homicides in 2012. (Figure 6)

Figure 5. Arguments and Conflicts Associated with Homicides, by Sex, Ohio, 2012¹

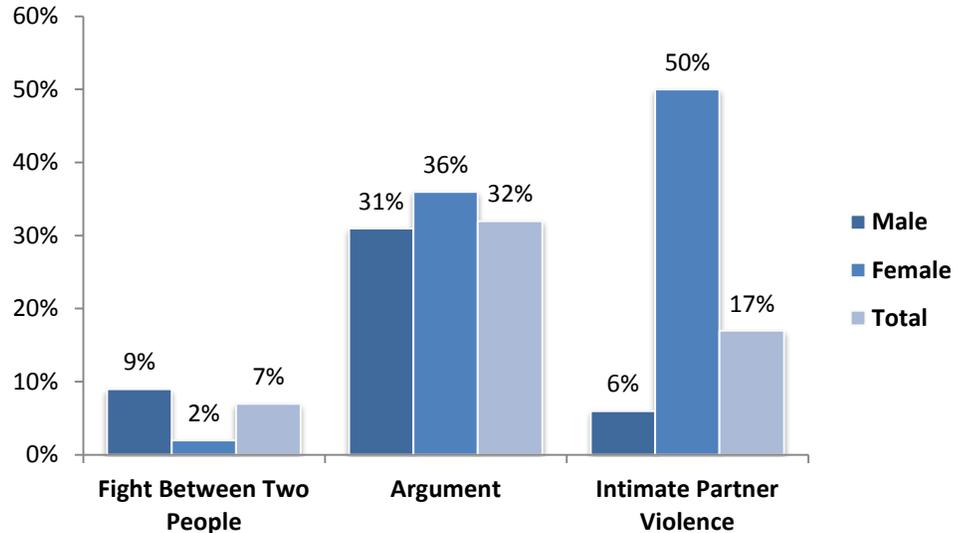
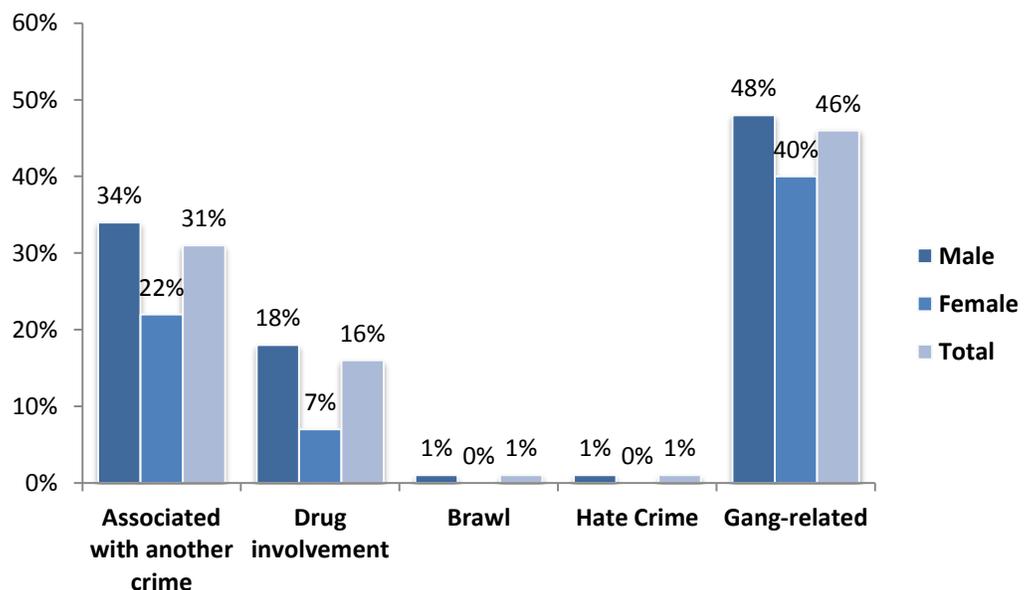


Figure 6. Crime-related Circumstances Associated with Homicides, by Sex, Ohio, 2012¹



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Among homicides associated with a crime, robbery and assault were the most common crimes reported.

Marijuana and alcohol were the most common substances found in homicide victims. 43 percent of male homicide victims tested positive for marijuana compared to 17 percent of female homicide victims. (Figure 7)

Homicides rates were highest in urban counties. (Figure 8)

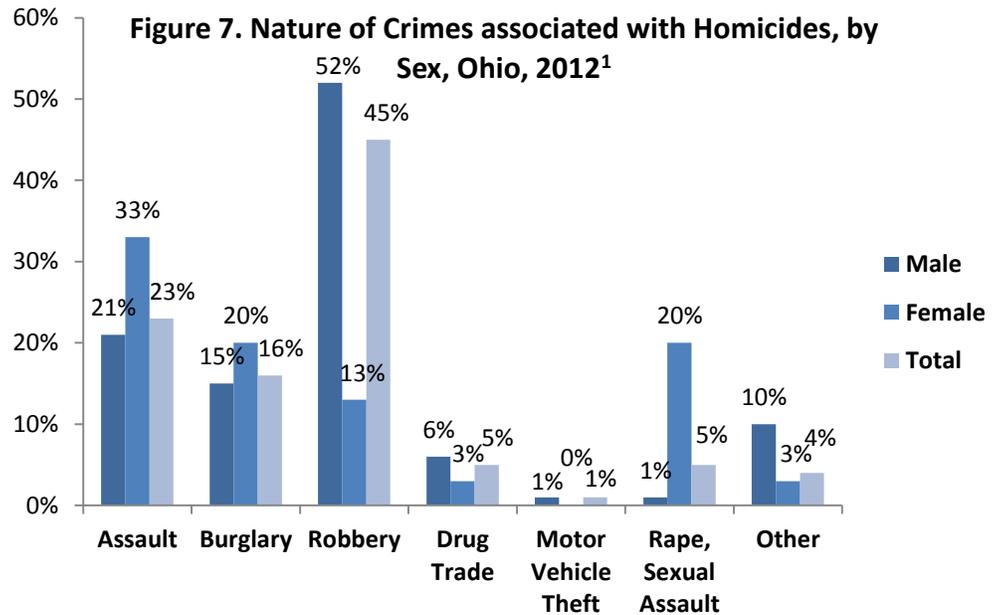
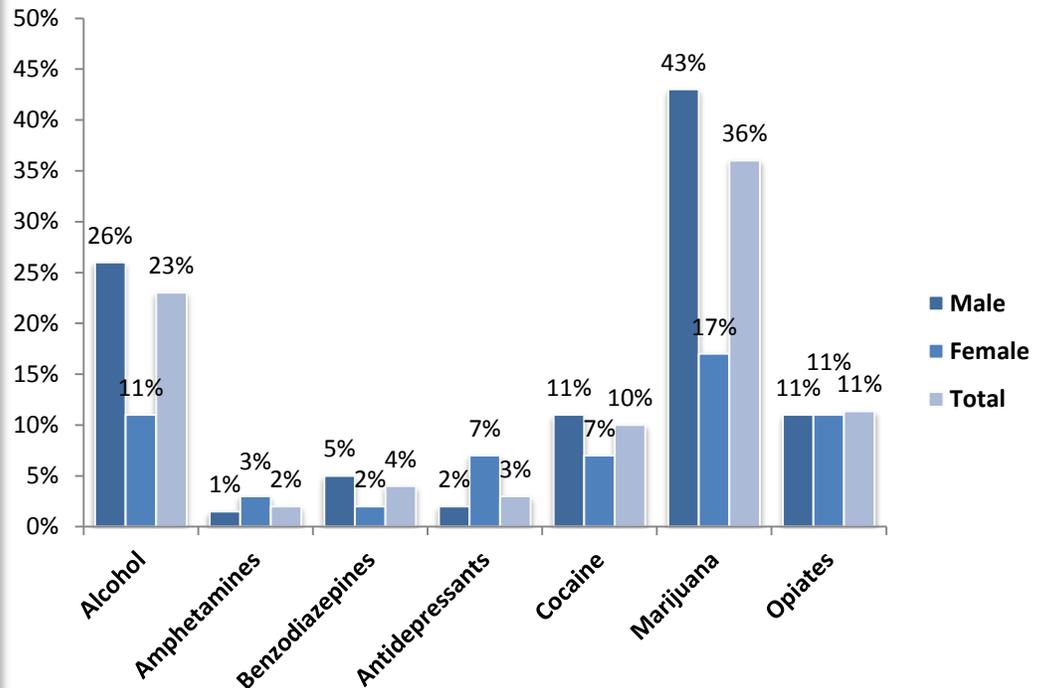
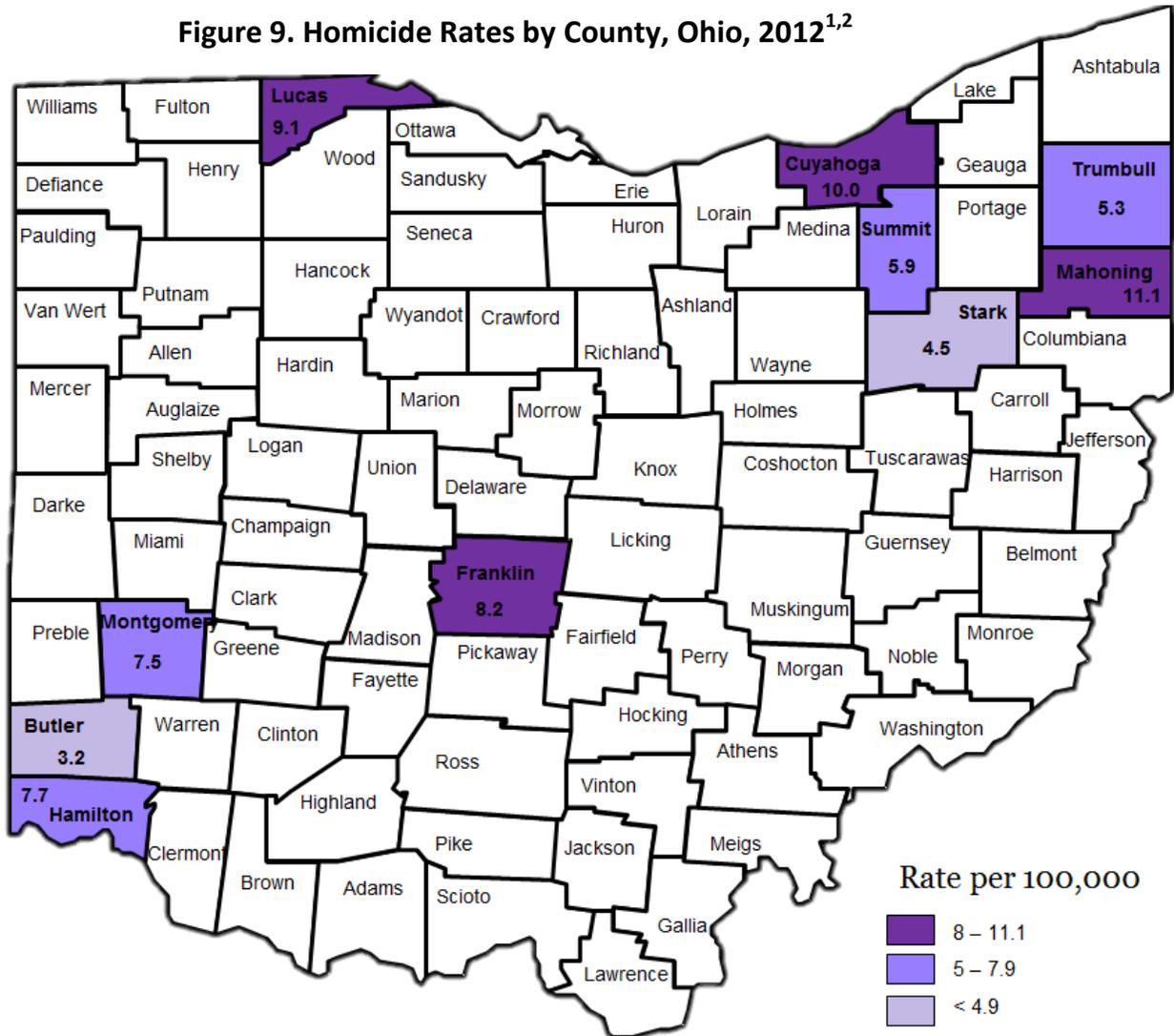


Figure 8. Homicide Toxicology Findings, by Sex, Ohio, 2012¹



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Figure 9. Homicide Rates by County, Ohio, 2012^{1,2}



Notes

¹Data source: Ohio Violent Death Reporting System

²Rates were suppressed for counts less than 10.

Circumstances were not mutually exclusive.

Data were limited to resident deaths that occurred in Ohio. Not all homicide victims underwent toxicology tests.