South Carolina Domestic Violence Fatality Report

Silent Witness Statistical Report on Victims of Domestic Murder from 2022

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This year's ceremony will mark the twenty-sixth anniversary of Silent Witness.

In 2022, there were a total of 36 people murdered by a household member, according to the South Carolina[12] definition. Of those 36 people, 29 were women, constituting 81 percent of the total, and 7 were men, constituting 19 percent of the total.

The demographics of the victims were as follows: 46 percent were White; 48 percent were African American, and 6 percent of victims identified as Hispanic/Latino. The average age of these victims was 42 years old.

The Office of the Attorney General, through its VAWA program, collected the data by contacting every sheriff's office, coroner's office, police department and solicitor's office in the state. Those offices were provided with a victim information sheet to complete and asked to provide any incident reports related to domestic homicide victims. As always, these offices were gracious and provided this Office with an abundance of information. In addition, all information was cross-checked for accuracy with the records of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

Twenty-five counties reported one or more domestic homicides for 2022.

Guns were the primary weapon used in these homicides. In 82 percent of the cases, a gunshot wound was listed as the primary cause of death. Knives were used in 12 percent of the cases; 3 percent from striking by or against a fist or object; and 3 percent were from strangulation. Trial is pending for murder in 19 cases, 16 suspects died by suicide, 1 defendant pled guilty to murder.

Following this summary are county-by-county statistics and statewide graphs depicting the statistics mentioned in this report.

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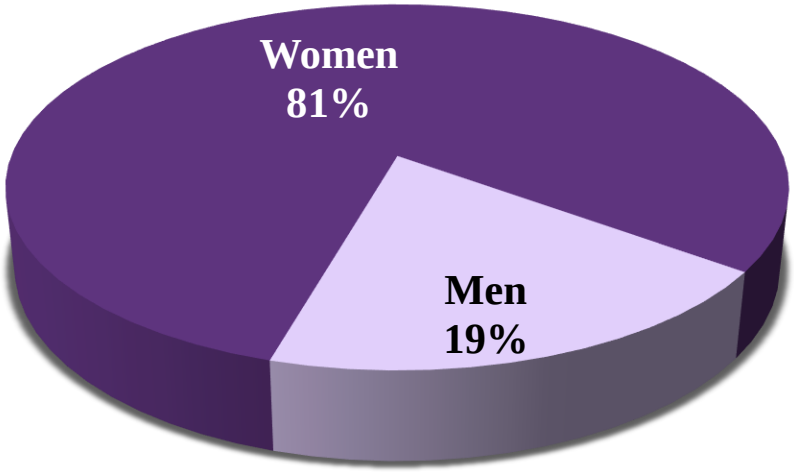
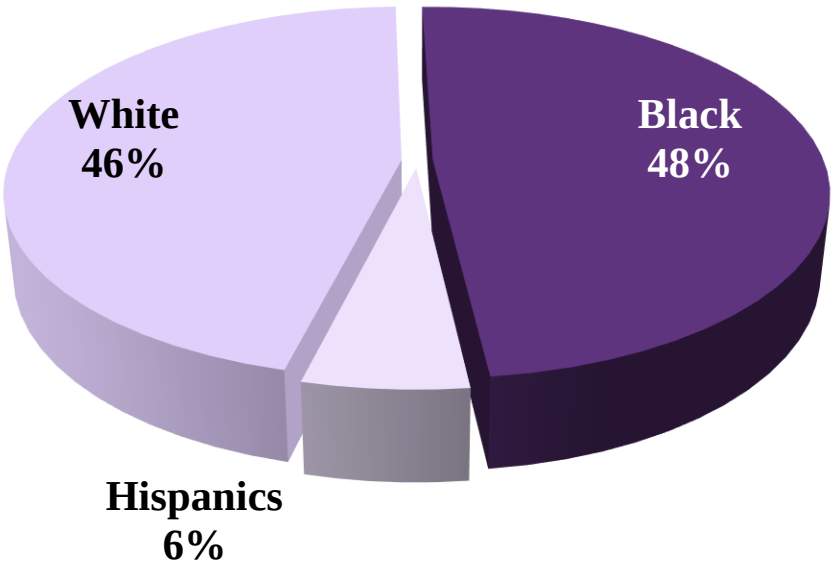
12 S.C. Code §16-25-10 defines "household members" as spouses, former spouses, persons who have a child in common, or a male and female who are cohabiting or formerly have cohabited.

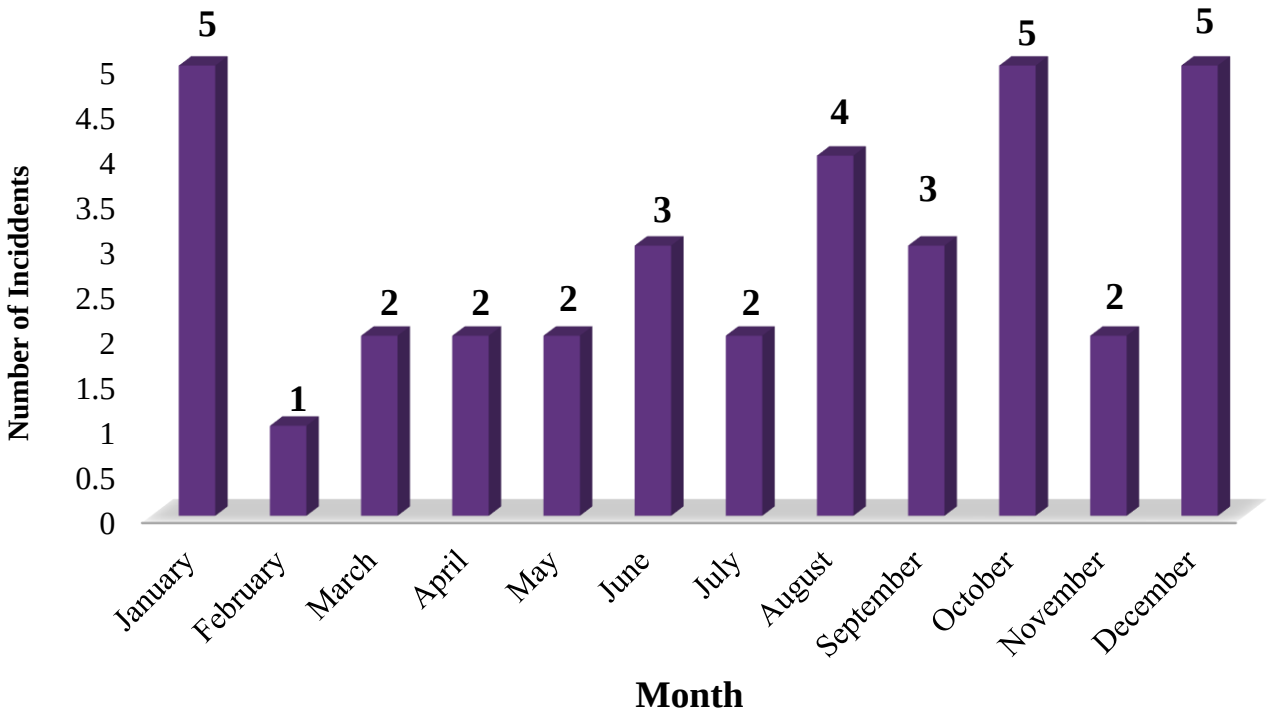
2022 Domestic Violence Homicides
State of South Carolina
Gender Differential



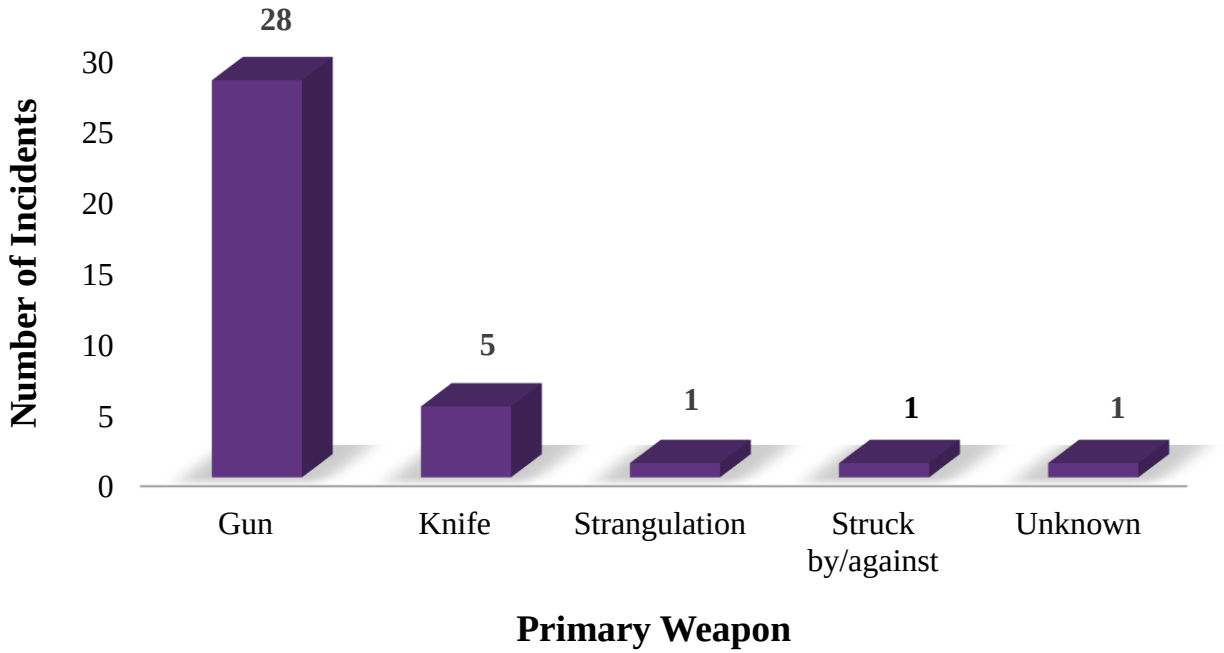
2022 Domestic Violence Homicides
State of South Carolina
Race Differential

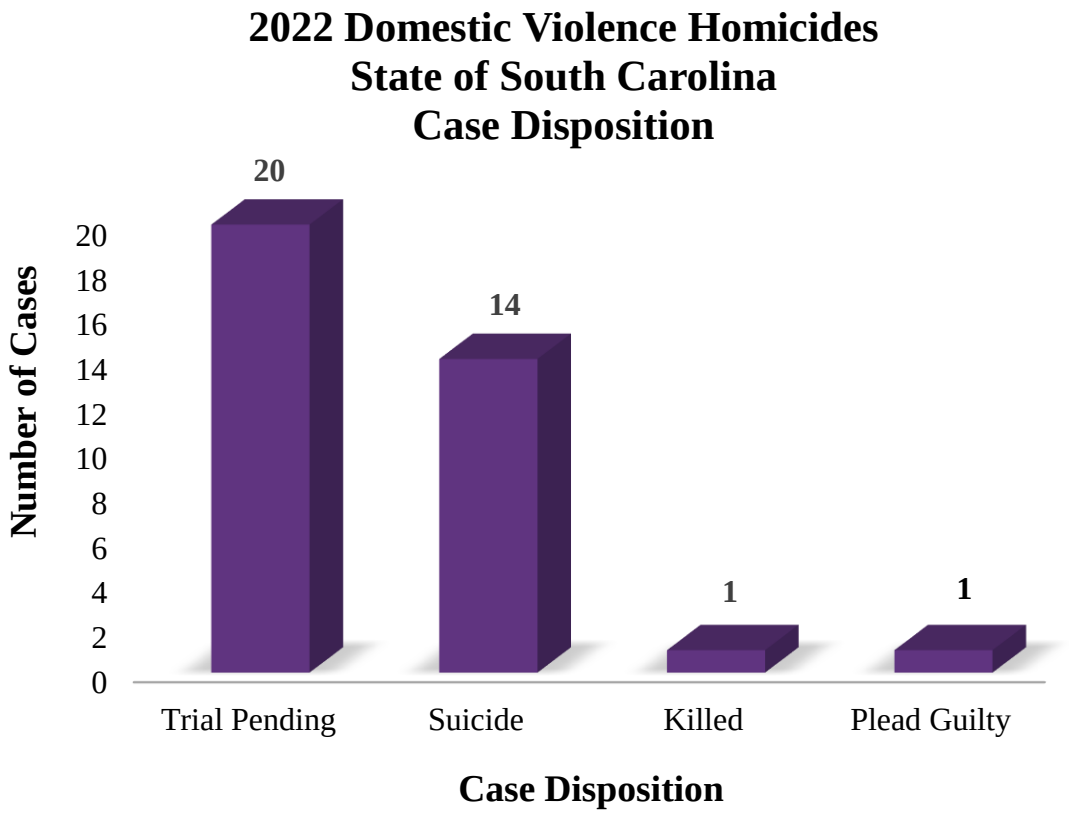


2022 Domestic Violence Homicides
State of South Carolina
Month Differential



2022 Domestic Violence Homicides
State of South Carolina
Primary Weapon Differential




2022 Domestic Violence Homicides
State of South Carolina
Case Disposition
Number of Cases
0
2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
20
14
1
1
Trial Pending
Suicide
Killed
Plead Guilty
Case Disposition

County Statistics

Abbeville

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:		Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				

Aiken

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	33.5
Whites:	1	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	2	Knife:		Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: 2 suicides			

Allendale

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Anderson

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	59.5
Whites:	2	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	2	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0	Disposition: Guilty to V. Manslaughter, one charged with murder			

Bamberg

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Barnwell

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		

Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Beaufort

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	22
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Killed during incident			

Berkeley

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	21
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Committed suicide			

Calhoun

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Charleston

Women:	3	Men:	1	Total:	3	Avg Age:	37
Whites:	2	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	3	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: 1 Murder Charge, 2 Committed suicide			

Cherokee

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				

Chester

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Chesterfield

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

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Clarendon

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

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Colleton

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	52
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Charged with murder			

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Darlington

Women:	0	Men:	1	Total:	1	Avg Age:	69
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	1	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Pending Murder			

Dillon

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Dorchester

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	75
Whites:	1	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Charged with murder			

Edgefield

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Fairfield

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Florence

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	38
Whites:	0	Blacks:	2	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	2	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	1	Disposition: 1 Suicide, 1 Pending murder			

Georgetown

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	37
Whites:	1	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	2	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0	Disposition: 1 Pending murder, 1 Suicide			

Greenville

Women:	2	Men:	1	Total:	3	Avg Age:	41.6
Whites:	2	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	1		
Strangulation:	1	Other:	0	Disposition: 3 Murder Charges			

Greenwood

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	60
Whites:	1	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Suicide			

Hampton

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Horry

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	23.5
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	1		
Gun:	2	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0	Disposition: 1 Pending Murder, 1 Suicide			

Jasper

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Kershaw

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Lancaster

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	34
Whites:	1	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0	Disposition: Pending Murder			

Laurens

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	49
Whites:	1	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0	Disposition:1 Pending Murder			

Lee

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Lexington

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	34
Whites:	1	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Suicide			

Marion

Women:	0	Men:	1	Total:	1	Avg Age:	43
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	1	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: 1 Pending Murder			

Marlboro

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	54
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0	Disposition: Committed Suicide			

McCormick

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Newberry

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Oconee

Women:	0	Men:	1	Total:	1	Avg Age:	43
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	1	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				

Disposition: Pending Murder

Orangeburg

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	0
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				

Pickens

Women:	0	Men:	1	Total:	1	Avg Age:	42
Whites:	1	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Disposition: 1 Pending Murder

Richland

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	61.5
Whites:	1	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	2	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Disposition: 2 Suicides

Saluda

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	49
Whites:	1	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

Disposition: Suicide

Spartanburg

Women:	1	Men:	1	Total:	2	Avg Age:	31.5
Whites:	1	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	1	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0	Disposition: 2 Pending Murders			

Sumter

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	47
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0	Disposition: Pending Murder			

Union

Women:	0	Men:	1	Total:	0	Avg Age:	33
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	1	Disposition: Pending Murder			

Williamsburg

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				

York

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	N/A
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:		Other:	0				