# When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 1996 Homicide Data 

## Summary of States Data

Alabama<br>55 females were murdered by males in Alabama in 1996<br>The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Alabama was 2.48 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 7th highest in the United States

## Age

Four female homicide victims (seven percent) were less than 18 years old, and four victims (seven percent) were 65 years of age or older.

Race
Thirty-six female murder victims were black and 19 were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (46 cases), two thirds of all female homicide victims ( 31 victims or 67 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nine out of 10 of these gun victims ( 28 victims) were killed with handguns. There were 12 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments and three females killed by bodily force.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 50 cases), all but one female victim were murdered by someone they knew. Only one victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, nearly two thirds (31 victims or 63 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 31 female intimates murdered, 65 percent ( 20 victims) were killed with guns; 95 percent of these gun victims ( 19 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (42 cases), 83 percent ( 35 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, more than eight out of 10 ( 29 cases or 83 percent) involved arguments between the victim and offender.


#### Abstract

Alaska

Four females were murdered by males in Alaska in 1996 The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Alaska was 1.39 per 100,000 in 1996

Ranked 29th highest in the United States

\section*{Race}

Two female murder victims were Asian or Pacific Islanders, one was white, and one was American Indian or Alaskan native.

\section*{Most Common Weapons}

Three of the four female homicide victims were shot and killed with guns. Two of these gun victims were shot and killed with handguns. There was one female killed by bodily force.

\section*{Victim/Offender Relationship}

In cases in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified (three cases), every victim was murdered by someone she knew.

\section*{Circumstance}

In the one case in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified, the murder was not related to the commission of another felony.


## Arizona

35 females were murdered by males in Arizona in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Arizona was 1.57 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 21st highest in the United States

Age
Five female homicide victims ( 14 percent) were less than 18 years old, and six victims (17 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Thirty-one female murder victims were white, two were black, and two were American Indian or Alaskan natives.

## Most Common Weapons

Nearly seven out of 10 female homicide victims ( 24 victims or 69 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly nine out of 10 of these gun victims ( 21 victims or 88 percent) were killed with handguns. There were seven females killed by bodily force and two females killed with knives or other cutting instruments. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

Nearly nine out of 10 female victims ( 30 victims or 86 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only five victims ( 14 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, nearly half ( 14 victims or 47 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 14 female intimates murdered, 86 percent ( 12 victims) were killed with guns; 92 percent of these gun victims (11 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (33 cases), 85 percent ( 28 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 39 percent ( 11 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Arkansas

## 27 females were murdered by males in Arkansas in 1996 <br> The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Arkansas was 2.08 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 12th highest in the United States

## Age

Four female homicide victims (15 percent) were less than 18 years old, and seven victims ( 26 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Nineteen female murder victims were white and eight were black.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified ( 25 cases), more than half of all female homicide victims ( 14 victims or 56 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than seven out of 10 gun victims ( 10 victims or 71 percent) were killed with handguns. There were five females killed by bodily force and three females killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All but one female victim (26 victims or 96 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, half (13 victims or 50 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 13 female intimates murdered, all but one ( 12 victims or 92 percent) were killed with guns; 75 percent of these gun victims (nine victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (22 cases), 64 percent ( 14 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 57 percent (eight cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.
California

282 females were murdered by males in California in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in California was 1.77 per 100,000 in 1996

Ranked 17th highest in the United States

## Age

Forty-two female homicide victims ( 15 percent) were less than 18 years old, and 30 victims ( 11 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Female murder victims in which race was identified (275 victims) included: 191 white females, 68 black females, and 16 Asian or Pacific Islanders.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified ( 275 victims), more than half of all female homicide victims ( 150 victims or 55 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly nine out of 10 gun victims ( 131 victims or 87 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 46 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 32 females killed by bodily force, 19 females killed by strangulation, and 17 females killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

Nearly nine out of 10 female victims ( 247 victims or 88 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only 35 female victims ( 12 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, six out of 10 (148 victims or 60 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 148 female intimates murdered, two thirds ( 98 victims or 66 percent) were killed with guns; 88 percent of these gun victims ( 86 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (280 cases), 88 percent ( 246 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 77 percent ( 189 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Colorado

## 28 females were murdered by males in Colorado in 1996 <br> The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Colorado was 1.45 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 25th highest in the United States

## Age

Four female homicide victims (14 percent) were less than 18 years old.

## Race

Female murder victims in which race was identified (27 victims) were all white females.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (27 cases), more than six out of 10 female homicide victims ( 17 victims or 63 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than seven out of 10 gun victims ( 12 victims or 71 percent) were killed with handguns. There were six females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and three females killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other nonfirearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 26 cases), nearly nine out of 10 female victims ( 23 victims or 88 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three victims ( 12 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, more than half ( 12 victims or 52 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 12 female intimates murdered, more than eight out of 10 ( 10 victims or 83 percent) were killed with guns; 80 percent of these gun victims (eight victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (24 cases), 75 percent ( 18 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 33 percent (six cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Connecticut

## 22 females were murdered by males in Connecticut in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Connecticut was 1.31 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 32nd highest in the United States

Age
Five female homicide victims ( 23 percent) were less than 18 years old, and one victim was 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Eighteen female murder victims were white and four were black.

## Most Common Weapons

More than four out of 10 female homicide victims (nine victims or 41 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than half of these gun victims (five victims or 56 percent) were killed with handguns. There were four females killed by bodily force and three females killed with knives or other cutting instruments. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All but one female victim ( 21 victims or 95 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one female victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, more than half ( 12 victims or 57 percent) were wives, common law wives, exwives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 12 female intimates murdered, 58 percent (seven victims) were killed with guns; 57 percent of these gun victims (four victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (17 cases), 88 percent ( 15 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, one-third (five cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Delaware

## 12 females were murdered by males in Delaware in 1996 The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Delaware was 3.23 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 2nd highest in the United States

## Age

One victim was less than 18 years old, and three victims ( 25 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Seven female murder victims were white and five were black.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (11 cases), more than half (six victims or 55 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Half of all gun victims (three victims or 50 percent) were killed with handguns. There were four females killed by bodily force and one female killed with a blunt object.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All female victims were murdered by someone they knew. Half of the victims (six victims or 50 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the six female intimates murdered, 83 percent (five victims) were killed with guns; 60 percent of these gun victims (three victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (six cases), two
thirds (four cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 75 percent (three cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Florida

## 43 females were murdered by males in Florida in 1996 <br> The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Florida was 0.58 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 46th highest in the United States

Age
Six female homicide victims (14 percent) were less than 18 years old, and five victims ( 12 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty-nine female murder victims were white and 14 were black.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (37 cases), more than six out of 10 female homicide victims ( 23 victims or 62 percent) were shot and killed with guns. There were eight females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and six females killed by bodily force.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified (38 cases), all of the victims were murdered by someone they knew. Seven of these victims (18 percent) were wives of the offenders. Among these seven victims, more than half (four victims or 57 percent) were killed with guns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (35 cases), none were related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 40 percent ( 14 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Georgia

93 females were murdered by males in Georgia in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Georgia was 2.47 per 100,000 in 1996Ranked 8th highest in the United States

## Age

Ten female homicide victims (11 percent) were less than 18 years old, and six victims (six percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Female murder victims in which race was identified ( 91 victims) included: 51 black females, 39 white females, and one Asian or Pacific Islander.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (91 cases), nearly three quarters of all female homicide victims ( 67 victims or 74 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Three quarters of these gun victims ( 50 victims or 75 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 10 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, seven females killed by bodily force, and five females killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 90 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 83 victims or 92 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only seven female victims (eight percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, more than half ( 44 victims or 53 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 44 female intimates murdered, 75 percent ( 33 victims) were killed with guns; 70 percent of these gun victims ( 23 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (72 cases), 85 percent ( 61 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 67 percent ( 41 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Hawaii

10 females were murdered by males in Hawaii in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Hawaii was 1.71 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 19th highest in the United States

## Age

Two female homicide victims (20 percent) were less than 18 years old.

## Race

Five female murder victims were white and five were Asian or Pacific Islanders.

## Most Common Weapons

One female homicide victim was shot and killed with a handgun. There were four females killed by bodily force, and three females killed with knives or other cutting instruments. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

Seven victims ( 70 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Three victims (30 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 30 percent (three
victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offender. Among the three female intimates murdered, one victim was killed with a handgun.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (eight cases), 88 percent (seven cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 71 percent (five cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Idaho

Seven females were murdered by males in Idaho in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Idaho was 1.18 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 34th highest in the United States

## Age

One victim was 65 years of age or older.
Race
All seven females murdered were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (six cases), half of all female homicide victims (three victims or 50 percent) were shot and killed with guns. There were two females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and one female killed with a blunt object.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified (six cases), all of the victims were murdered by someone they knew. Each of the six victims was a wife, common law wife, ex-wife, or girlfriend of the offender. Among the six victims, half (three victims) were killed with guns.

## Circumstance

None of the cases were related to the commission of another felony. Four cases (57 percent) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Illinois

54 females were murdered by males in Illinois in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Illinois was 0.89 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 41st highest in the United States

## Age

Ten female homicide victims (19 percent) were less than 18 years old, and four victims (seven percent) were 65 years of age or older.

Race
Thirty-eight female murder victims were black, 15 were white, and one was American Indian or Alaskan native.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (51 cases), nearly half of all female homicide victims ( 25 victims or 49 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than nine out of 10 gun victims ( 24 victims or 96 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 12 females killed by bodily force, nine females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and four females killed by strangulation. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 51 cases), more than eight out of 10 female victims ( 42 victims or 82 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only nine female victims ( 18 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, half ( 21 victims or 50 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 21 female intimates murdered, 38 percent (eight victims) were killed with guns; 88 percent of these gun victims (seven victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (53 cases), 75 percent ( 40 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 65 percent ( 26 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Indiana

## 46 females were murdered by males in Indiana in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Indiana was 1.54 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 23rd highest in the United States

Age
Ten female homicide victims ( 22 percent) were less than 18 years old.

## Race

Thirty-two female murder victims were white and 14 were black.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (45 cases), six out
of 10 female homicide victims ( 27 victims or 60 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly three quarters of these gun victims ( 20 victims or 74 percent) were killed with handguns. There were nine females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and five females killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All but one of the female victims ( 45 victims or 98 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one female victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, six out of 10 ( 27 victims or 60 percent) were wives, common law wives, exwives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 27 female intimates murdered, 74 percent ( 20 victims) were killed with guns; 70 percent of these gun victims (14 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (40 cases), 93 percent ( 37 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 46 percent ( 17 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Iowa

## 11 females were murdered by males in lowa in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in lowa was 0.75 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 42nd highest in the United States

## Age

Two female homicide victims (18 percent) were less than 18 years old.

## Race

Ten female murder victims were white and one was black.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (10 cases), six of the 10 female homicide victims were shot and killed with guns. Two thirds of these gun victims (four victims or 67 percent) were killed with handguns. There were three females killed by bodily force and one female killed with a knife or other cutting instrument.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All of the female victims were murdered by someone they knew. Nearly half (five victims or 45 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the five female intimates murdered, 80 percent (four victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (six cases), none of the cases were related to the commission of another felony. Half (three cases)
involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Kentucky

44 females were murdered by males in Kentucky in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Kentucky was $\mathbf{2 . 2 0}$ per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 9th highest in the United States

Age
Six female homicide victims (14 percent) were less than 18 years old, and two victims (five percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Thirty-five female murder victims were white and nine were black.

## Most Common Weapons

Nearly six out of 10 female homicide victims ( 25 victims or 57 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Six out of 10 of these gun victims ( 15 victims or 60 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 10 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and four females killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other nonfirearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 40 cases), all but one of the female victims ( 39 victims or 98 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one female victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, two thirds ( 26 victims or 67 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 26 female intimates murdered, 77 percent ( 20 victims) were killed with guns; 60 percent of these gun victims ( 12 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (37 cases), 81 percent ( 30 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 47 percent ( 14 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Louisiana

66 females were murdered by males in Louisiana in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Louisiana was 2.93 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 4th highest in the United States

## Age

Seven female homicide victims (eleven percent) were less than 18 years old, and one victim was 65 years of age or older.

Race
Forty female murder victims were black and 26 were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (64 cases), nearly six out of 10 female homicide victims ( 36 victims or 56 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than six out of 10 of these gun victims ( 23 victims or 64 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 10 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and nine females killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other nonfirearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 61 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 57 victims or 93 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only four female victims (seven percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 44 percent ( 25 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 25 female intimates murdered, 64 percent ( 16 victims) were killed with guns; 50 percent of these gun victims (eight victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (57 cases), 75 percent ( 43 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 53 percent ( 23 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Maine

10 females were murdered by males in Maine in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Maine was 1.57 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 21st highest in the United States

## Age

One female homicide victim was less than 18 years old, and two victims (20 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

All 10 female murder victims were white.

## Most Common Weapons

Four of the 10 female homicide victims ( 40 percent) were shot and killed with guns. One of these gun victims was killed with a handgun. There were three females killed with knives or other cutting instruments. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All 10 female victims were murdered by someone they knew. Half of the victims (five victims or 50 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the five female intimates murdered, 60 percent (three victims) were killed with guns; one of these gun victims was shot and killed with a handgun.

## Circumstance

Eight of the ten cases ( 80 percent) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 88 percent (seven cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Maryland

## 54 females were murdered by males in Maryland in 1996 The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Maryland was 2.08 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 12th highest in the United States

## Age

Seven female homicide victims (13 percent) were less than 18 years old, and four victims (seven percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty-seven female murder victims were white, 26 were black, and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (53 cases), six out of 10 of all female homicide victims ( 32 victims or 60 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than eight out of 10 of these gun victims ( 27 victims or 84 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 13 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, four females killed with blunt objects, and three females killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 44 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 42 victims or 95 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only two female victims (five percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, nearly two thirds (27 victims or 64 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 27 female intimates murdered, 59 percent ( 16 victims) were killed with guns; 81 percent of these ( 13 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (30 cases), 87 percent ( 26 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 58 percent ( 15 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Massachusetts

## 19 females were murdered by males in Massachusetts in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Massachusetts was $\mathbf{0 . 6 0}$ per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 45th highest in the United States

## Age

Three female homicide victims (sixteen percent) were less than 18 years old, and two victims ( 11 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Fourteen female murder victims were white and five were black.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (18 cases), two female homicide victims (11 percent) were shot and killed with guns; one of the gun victims was killed with a handgun. There were nine females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and three females killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified (16 cases), more than eight out of 10 female victims (13 victims or 81 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three female victims (19 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 54 percent (seven victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (16 cases), 56 percent (nine cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 67 percent (six cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Michigan

86 females were murdered by males in Michigan in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Michigan was 1.75 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 18th highest in the United States

## Age

Nine female homicide victims (10 percent) were less than 18 years old, and 11 victims (13 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Fifty-three female murder victims were black and 33 were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (79 cases), nearly six out of 10 female homicide victims ( 44 victims or 56 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than six out of 10 of these gun victims ( 27 victims or 61 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 14 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 10 females killed by bodily force, and six killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 74 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 71 victims or 96 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three female victims (four percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 44 percent ( 31 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 31 female intimates murdered, 52 percent ( 16 victims) were killed with guns; 69 percent of these ( 11 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (67 cases), 72 percent ( 48 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 58 percent ( 28 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Minnesota

34 females were murdered by males in Minnesota in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Minnesota was 1.44 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 26th highest in the United States

## Age

Seven female homicide victims (21 percent) were less than 18 years old, and three victims (nine percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Nineteen female murder victims were white, 14 were black, and one was American Indian or Alaskan native.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (33 cases), nearly half the female homicide victims ( 15 victims or 45 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Two thirds of these gun victims ( 10 victims or 67 percent) were killed with handguns. There were six females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, five females killed by bodily force, and four killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 32 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 29 victims or 91 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three female victims (nine percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 52 percent ( 15 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 15 female intimates murdered, 53 percent (eight victims) were killed with guns; 63 percent of these (five victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (23 cases), 83 percent ( 19 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 68 percent ( 13 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Mississippi

20 females were murdered by males in Mississippi in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Mississippi was 1.42 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 27th highest in the United States

## Age

Four female homicide victims ( 20 percent) were less than 18 years old, and one victim was 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Thirteen female murder victims were black and seven were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (19 cases), more than half of the female homicide victims ( 10 victims or 53 percent) were shot and killed with handguns. There were five females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and two killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

More than eight out of 10 female victims ( 17 victims or 85 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three female victims ( 15 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 53 percent (nine victims) were wives, common law
wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the nine female intimates murdered, 56 percent (five victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (16 cases), 81 percent ( 13 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 77 percent (10 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Missouri

51 females were murdered by males in Missouri in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Missouri was 1.85 per 100,000 in 1996

Ranked 16th highest in the United States

## Age

Ten female homicide victims (20 percent) were less than 18 years old, and five victims (10 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty-seven female murder victims were white and 24 were black.

## Most Common Weapons

Nearly two thirds of female homicide victims ( 33 victims or 65 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Two thirds of these gun victims ( 22 victims or 67 percent) were killed with handguns. There were eight females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and five killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 47 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 45 victims or 96 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only two female victims (four percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 51 percent ( 23 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 23 female intimates murdered, 74 percent ( 17 victims) were killed with guns; 65 percent of these ( 11 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (39 cases), 87 percent ( 34 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 59 percent ( 20 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Nebraska

Three females were murdered by males in Nebraska in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Nebraska was 0.36 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 47th highest in the United States

Race
All three females murdered in Nebraska were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In the two cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified, both female homicide victims were shot and killed with handguns.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All three of the female victims were murdered by someone they knew. Two of the victims were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. One of these two was shot and killed with a handgun.

## Circumstance

None of the three cases was related to the commission of another felony.

## Nevada

27 females were murdered by males in Nevada in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Nevada was 3.44 per 100,000 in 1996

Ranked 1st in the United States

## Age

Six female homicide victims (22 percent) were less than 18 years old, and one victim was 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty female murder victims were white, six were black, and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

Most Common Weapons
In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (25 cases), nearly
six out of 10 female homicide victims ( 14 victims or 56 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly eight out of 10 of these gun victims ( 11 victims or 79 percent) were killed with handguns. There were six females killed with knives or other cutting instruments and four killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 26 cases), nearly nine out of 10 female victims ( 23 victims or 88 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three female victims ( 12 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 48 percent ( 11 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 11 female intimates murdered, 64 percent (seven victims) were killed with guns; 71 percent of these (five victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (20 cases), 80 percent ( 16 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 25 percent (four cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## New Hampshire

Four females were murdered by males in New Hampshire in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in New Hampshire was 0.68 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 43rd highest in the United States

## Age

One female victim was 65 years of age or older.

## Race

All four females murdered in New Hampshire were white.

## Most Common Weapons

All four female homicide victims were shot and killed with guns; two of the four were killed with handguns.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All of the female victims were murdered by someone they knew. Three of the victims were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. All of these three were shot and killed with guns; two of them were killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

The circumstance of the homicide could be identified in two cases; neither was related to the commission of another felony.

## New Jersey

## 51 females were murdered by males in New Jersey in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in New Jersey was 1.24 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 33rd highest in the United States

## Age

Four female homicide victims (eight percent) were less than 18 years old, and six victims (12 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty-eight female murder victims were white, 21 were black, and two were Asian or Pacific Islanders.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (50 cases), nearly four out of 10 female homicide victims ( 19 victims or 38 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly nine out of 10 of these gun victims ( 17 victims or 89 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 12 females killed by bodily force and 11 killed with knives or other cutting instruments. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 43 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 41 victims or 95 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only two female victims (five percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 41 percent ( 17 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 17 female intimates murdered, 29 percent (five victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (39 cases), 79 percent ( 31 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 74 percent ( 23 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## New Mexico

13 females were murdered by males in New Mexico in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in New Mexico was 1.50 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 24th highest in the United States

## Age

One victim was less than 18 years old, and two victims (15 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

Race
Eleven female murder victims were white, one was black, and one was American Indian or Alaskan native.

## Most Common Weapons

More than eight out of 10 female homicide victims ( 11 victims or 85 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than eight out of 10 of these gun victims (nine victims or 82 percent) were killed with handguns. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

More than eight out of 10 female victims ( 11 victims or 85 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only two female victims ( 15 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 82 percent (nine victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the nine female intimates murdered, 89 percent ( 8 victims) were killed with guns; 88 percent of these gun victims (seven victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (10 cases), 80 percent (eight cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 63 percent (five cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## New York

104 females were murdered by males in New York in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in New York was 1.10 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 37th highest in the United States

Age
Eleven female homicide victims (11 percent) were less than 18 years old, and eight victims (eight percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Female murder victims in which race was identified ( 98 victims) included: 55 white females, 39 black females, and four Asian or Pacific Islanders.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (102 cases), nearly four out of 10 female homicide victims ( 40 victims or 39 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than eight out of 10 of these gun victims ( 33 victims or 83 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 35 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 17 females killed by bodily force, and seven females killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 83 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 77 victims or 93 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only six female victims (seven percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, two thirds (51 victims or 66 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 51 female intimates murdered, nearly half ( 25 victims or 49 percent) were killed with guns; 88 percent of these gun victims ( 22 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (78 cases), 88 percent ( 69 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 80 percent ( 55 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## North Carolina

100 females were murdered by males in North Carolina in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in North Carolina was 2.66 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 5th highest in the United States

## Age

Nine female homicide victims (nine percent) were less than 18 years old, and five victims (five percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Fifty-seven female murder victims were black and 43 were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (82 cases), nearly two thirds of all female homicide victims ( 53 victims or 65 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than seven out of 10 of these gun victims ( 38 victims or 72 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 13 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and eight females killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 93 cases), more than nine out of 10 victims ( 89 victims or 96 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only four female victims (four percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, nearly two thirds (55 victims or 62 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 55 female intimates murdered, six out of 10 ( 33 victims or 60 percent) were killed with guns; 67 percent of these gun victims ( 22 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (78 cases), 86 percent ( 67 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 45 percent ( 30 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## North Dakota

Three females were murdered by males in North Dakota in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in North Dakota was 0.93 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 40th highest in the United States

Race
All three females murdered in North Dakota were white.

## Most Common Weapons

Two victims were shot and killed with guns and one was killed with a knife or other cutting instrument.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All three female victims were murdered by someone they knew. Two victims were wives of the offender and the third was the girlfriend of the offender. Two of these female intimates were shot and killed with guns.

## Circumstance

In the one case in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified, it was not related to the commission of another felony. It involved an argument between the victim and the offender.

## Ohio

54 females were murdered by males in Ohio in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Ohio was 0.94 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 39th highest in the United States

## Age

Fourteen female homicide victims (26 percent) were less than 18 years old, and five victims (nine percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Thirty-four female murder victims were white and 20 were black.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (52 cases), half of the female homicide victims ( 26 victims or 50 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly nine out of 10 of these gun victims ( 23 victims or 88 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 12 females killed by bodily force and six killed with knives or other cutting instruments. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

Nearly nine out of 10 female victims ( 47 victims or 87 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only seven female victims ( 13 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 53 percent ( 25 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 25 female intimates murdered, 68 percent ( 17 victims) were killed with guns; 82 percent of these gun victims ( 14 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (32 cases), 88 percent ( 28 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 25 percent (seven cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Oklahoma

## 34 females were murdered by males in Oklahoma in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Oklahoma was 2.02 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 14th highest in the United States

## Age

Five female homicide victims ( 15 percent) were less than 18 years old, and one victim was 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty-six female murder victims were white, five were black, and three were American Indian or Alaskan natives.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (32 cases), nearly
two thirds of the female homicide victims ( 20 victims or 63 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly two thirds of these gun victims ( 13 victims or 65 percent) were killed with handguns. There were six females killed by bodily force and three killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

More than nine out of 10 female victims ( 33 victims or 97 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one female victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, 70 percent ( 23 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 23 female intimates murdered, 65 percent ( 15 victims) were killed with guns; 60 percent of these gun victims (nine victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

Ninety-four percent (32 cases) of the homicides were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 41 percent ( 13 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Oregon

## 22 females were murdered by males in Oregon in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Oregon was 1.36 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 31st highest in the United States

## Age

Five victims (23 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Eighteen female murder victims were white, three were Asian or Pacific Islanders, and one was black.

## Most Common Weapons

More than half of the female homicide victims ( 12 victims or 55 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than nine out of 10 of these gun victims (11 victims or 92 percent) were killed with handguns. There were five females killed by strangulation and three killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

More than nine out of 10 female victims ( 21 victims or 95 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one female victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, 76 percent ( 16 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 16 female intimates murdered, 63 percent ( 10 victims) were killed with guns; 90 percent of these gun victims (nine victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (19 cases), 79 percent ( 15 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 40 percent (six cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Pennsylvania

## 71 females were murdered by males in Pennsylvania in 1996 The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Pennsylvania was 1.14 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 36th highest in the United States

## Age

Five female homicide victims (seven percent) were less than 18 years old, and six victims (eight percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Forty-one female murder victims were white, 29 were black, and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (64 cases), nearly half of all female homicide victims ( 31 victims or 48 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than three quarters of these gun victims ( 24 victims or 77 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 14 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, eight females killed by bodily force, five females killed by strangulation, and three females killed with blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other nonfirearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

More than nine out of 10 female victims ( 67 victims or 94 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only four female victims (six percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, six out of 10 ( 41 victims or 61 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 41 female intimates murdered, nearly half ( 20 victims or 49 percent) were killed with guns; 85 percent of these gun victims ( 17 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (61 cases), 93 percent ( 57 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 61 percent ( 35 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Rhode Island

Five females were murdered by males in Rhode Island in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Rhode Island was 0.97 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 38th highest in the United States

Age
One female homicide victim was less than 18 years old, and one victim was 65 years of age or older.

Race
All five females murdered in Rhode Island were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (four cases), two female homicide victims were shot and killed with handguns, one was killed with a knife or other cutting instrument, and one was killed with bodily force.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified (four cases), all of the female victims were murdered by someone they knew. Two of the victims were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. One of the female intimates murdered was shot and killed with a handgun.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (three cases), none of the cases were related to the commission of another felony. One of the cases involved an argument between the victim and the offender.

## South Carolina

58 females were murdered by males in South Carolina in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in South Carolina was 3.03 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 3rd highest in the United States

Age
Five female homicide victims (nine percent) were less than 18 years old, and five victims
(nine percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Thirty-six female murder victims were black and 22 were white.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (54 cases), more than two thirds of female homicide victims ( 37 victims or 69 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly six out of 10 of these gun victims ( 22 victims or 59 percent) were killed with handguns. There were eight females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and four killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 56 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 55 victims or 98 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one female victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, 76 percent ( 42 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 42 female intimates murdered, 69 percent ( 29 victims) were killed with guns; 52 percent of these gun victims ( 15 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (56 cases), 86 percent ( 48 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 85 percent ( 41 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## South Dakota

One female was murdered by a male in South Dakota in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in South Dakota was 0.27 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 48th highest in the United States

## Age

The one female homicide victim was 65 years of age or older.

## Race

The female homicide victim was white.

## Most Common Weapons

The female homicide victim was shot and killed with a shotgun.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

The female victim was the mother of the offender.

## Circumstance

The circumstance of the homicide could not be identified.

## Tennessee

53 females were murdered by males in Tennessee in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Tennessee was 1.93 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 15th highest in the United States

## Age

Eight female homicide victims (15 percent) were less than 18 years old, and four victims (eight percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty-eight female murder victims were white, 24 were black, and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

## Most Common Weapons

Nearly two thirds of female homicide victims (34 victims or 64 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly three quarters of these gun victims ( 25 victims or 74 percent) were killed with handguns. There were nine females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and six killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other nonfirearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

More than nine out of 10 female victims ( 48 victims or 91 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only five female victims (nine percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 54 percent ( 26 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 26 female intimates murdered, 69 percent ( 18 victims) were killed with guns; 67 percent of these gun victims ( 12 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (43 cases), 91 percent ( 39 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 72 percent ( 28 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Texas

210 females were murdered by males in Texas in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Texas was 2.17 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 10th highest in the United States

## Age

Thirty female homicide victims (14 percent) were less than 18 years old, and 10 victims (five percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

There were 155 female murder victims who were white, 50 who were black, and five who were Asian or Pacific Islanders.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (204 cases), more than half of all female homicide victims (113 victims or 55 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than seven out of 10 of these gun victims ( 80 victims or 71 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 42 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, 25 females killed by bodily force, 15 females killed by blunt objects, and eight females killed by strangulation. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 203 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 190 victims or 94 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only 13 female victims (six percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, nearly six out of 10 ( 110 victims or 58 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 110 female intimates murdered, more than two thirds ( 75 victims or 68 percent) were killed with guns; 72 percent of these gun victims ( 54 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (176 cases), 84 percent ( 147 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 76 percent ( 111 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Utah

14 females were murdered by males in Utah in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Utah was 1.39 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 29th highest in the United States

One female homicide victim was less than 18 years old, and two victims (14 percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twelve female murder victims were white, one was American Indian or Alaskan native, and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

## Most Common Weapons

More than four out of 10 female homicide victims (six victims or 43 percent) were shot and killed with handguns. There were five females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and two killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other nonfirearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

More than nine out of 10 female victims (13 victims or 93 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only one female victim was killed by a stranger. Of victims who knew their offenders, 62 percent (eight victims) were wives, common law wives, exwives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the eight female intimates murdered, half (four victims or 50 percent) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (nine cases), 78 percent (seven cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 71 percent (five cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Vermont

Two females were murdered by males in Vermont in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Vermont was 0.67 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 44th highest in the United States

Race
One female murder victim was white and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

## Most Common Weapons

Both female homicide victims were shot and killed with guns; in one of these cases, the weapon was a handgun.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

Both of the female victims were murdered by someone they knew.

## Circumstance

Neither of the cases was related to the commission of another felony. One of the cases involved an argument between the victim and the offender.

## Virginia

## 87 females were murdered by males in Virginia in 1996 <br> The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Virginia was 2.56 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 6th highest in the United States

## Age

Ten female homicide victims (11 percent) were less than 18 years old, and four victims (five percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Forty-six female murder victims were black, 39 were white, and two were Asian or Pacific Islanders.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (83 cases), nearly two thirds of the female homicide victims ( 55 victims or 66 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than seven out of 10 of these gun victims ( 39 victims or 71 percent) were killed with handguns. There were 15 females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, and seven killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 83 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 80 victims or 96 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three female victims (four percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 58 percent ( 46 victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 46 female intimates murdered, 72 percent ( 33 victims) were killed with guns; 67 percent of these gun victims ( 22 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (82 cases), 80 percent ( 66 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 82 percent ( 54 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Washington

## 47 females were murdered by males in Washington in 1996 <br> The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Washington was 1.69 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 20th highest in the United States

## Age

Six female homicide victims (13 percent) were less than 18 years old, and two victims (four percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Thirty-nine female murder victims were white, seven were black, and one was Asian or Pacific Islander.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (45 cases), nearly half of all female homicide victims ( 21 victims or 47 percent) were shot and killed with guns. More than eight out of 10 of these gun victims ( 17 victims or 81 percent) were killed with handguns. There were six females killed with knives or other cutting instruments, six females killed by strangulation, five females killed by bodily force, and three females killed by blunt objects. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

In cases in which the relationship between the victim and the offender could be identified ( 46 cases), more than nine out of 10 female victims ( 43 victims or 93 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Only three female victims (seven percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, two thirds (29 victims or 67 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the 29 female intimates murdered, more than half ( 15 victims or 52 percent) were killed with guns; 80 percent of these gun victims ( 12 victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (44 cases), 77 percent ( 34 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 44 percent ( 15 cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## West Virginia

11 females were murdered by males in West Virginia in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in West Virginia was 1.16 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 35th highest in the United States

## Age

One female homicide victim was less than 18 years old, and one victim was 65 years of age or older.

Race
Ten female murder victims were white and one was black.

## Most Common Weapons

Nearly two thirds of female homicide victims (seven victims or 64 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly six out of 10 of these gun victims (four victims or 57 percent) were killed with handguns. There were three females killed by bodily force and one killed with a knife or other cutting instrument.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All 11 victims were murdered by someone they knew. Six victims ( 55 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the six female intimates murdered, 83 percent (five victims) were killed with guns; 60 percent of these gun victims (three victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (nine cases), none of the murders were related to the commission of another felony. Eight cases (89 percent) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Wisconsin

## 37 females were murdered by males in Wisconsin in 1996

The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Wisconsin was 1.41 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 28th highest in the United States

Age
Six female homicide victims (16 percent) were less than 18 years old, and 10 victims (27
percent) were 65 years of age or older.

## Race

Twenty-seven female murder victims were white, nine were black, and one was American Indian or Alaskan native.

## Most Common Weapons

In cases in which the weapon used in the homicide could be identified (30 cases), more than half of the female homicide victims ( 16 victims or 53 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Nearly nine out of 10 of these gun victims ( 14 victims or 88 percent) were killed with handguns. There were six females killed with knives or other cutting instruments and five females killed by bodily force. The remainder of cases involved other non-firearm weapons.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

Nearly eight out of 10 female victims ( 29 victims or 78 percent) were murdered by someone they knew. Eight female victims ( 22 percent) were killed by strangers. Of victims who knew their offenders, 21 percent (six victims) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offenders. Among the six female intimates murdered, 33 percent (two victims) were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (34 cases), 88 percent ( 30 cases) were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, 23 percent (seven cases) involved arguments between the victim and offender.

## Wyoming

Five females were murdered by males in Wyoming in 1996
The homicide rate among females murdered by males in Wyoming was 2.09 per 100,000 in 1996

## Ranked 11th highest in the United States

## Race

All five females murdered were white.

## Most Common Weapons

Four of the five female homicide victims ( 80 percent) were shot and killed with guns. Three of these four ( 75 percent) were shot and killed with handguns. There was one female killed with a knife or other cutting instrument.

## Victim/Offender Relationship

All five victims were murdered by someone they knew. Three victims ( 60 percent) were wives, common law wives, ex-wives, or girlfriends of the offender. All three of these female intimates were shot and killed with handguns.

## Circumstance

In cases in which the circumstance of the homicide could be identified (four cases), two were not related to the commission of another felony. Of these cases, one involved an argument between the victim and offender.

