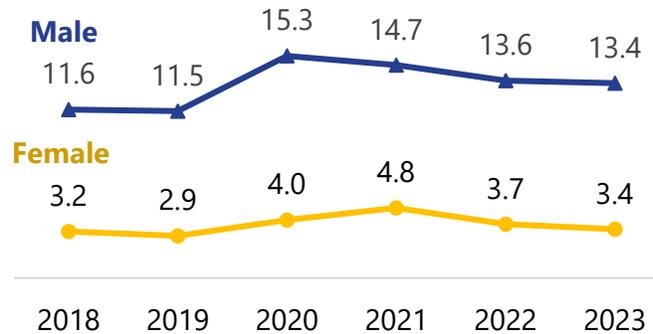


# Indiana Homicide Trends By Sex 2018-2023



Violent deaths, including homicides, are among the leading causes of death for young people in Indiana. In 2023, homicide was the fifth leading cause of death among Hoosiers ages 1 to 44. Understanding how different groups are affected by violent death, and the circumstances surrounding violent deaths, are important for informing homicide and violence prevention. This report includes 2,318 male and 677 female deaths from the Indiana Violent Death Reporting System.<sup>1</sup>

**Figure 1.** Age-Adjusted Rate of Homicides for Indiana Residents, 2018-2023 (per 100,000)



## Homicide Trends by Sex

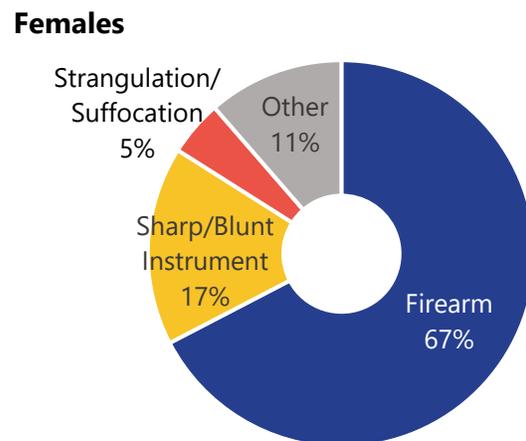
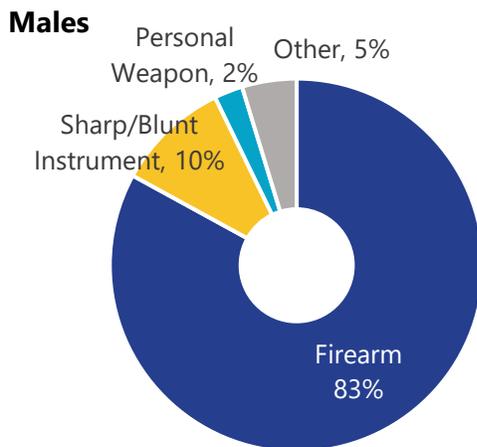
On average, male Hoosiers experience homicide deaths four times more than female Hoosiers. Both male and female homicide mortality rates continue to decline over the last several years.

## Means of Death

Firearms were the leading means of homicide for both males (83%) and females (67%). Handguns were involved in 89% of firearm homicide deaths in which the firearm type was known. Sharp Instruments were the second leading means for homicide for both males (10%) and females (17%). However, strangulation/suffocation was the third leading means for females (5%) while personal weapons, such as hands or feet, were the third-leading means for males (2%).

**79%** of homicide deaths involved a firearm.

**Figure 2.** Means of Homicide Death by Sex, 2018-2023

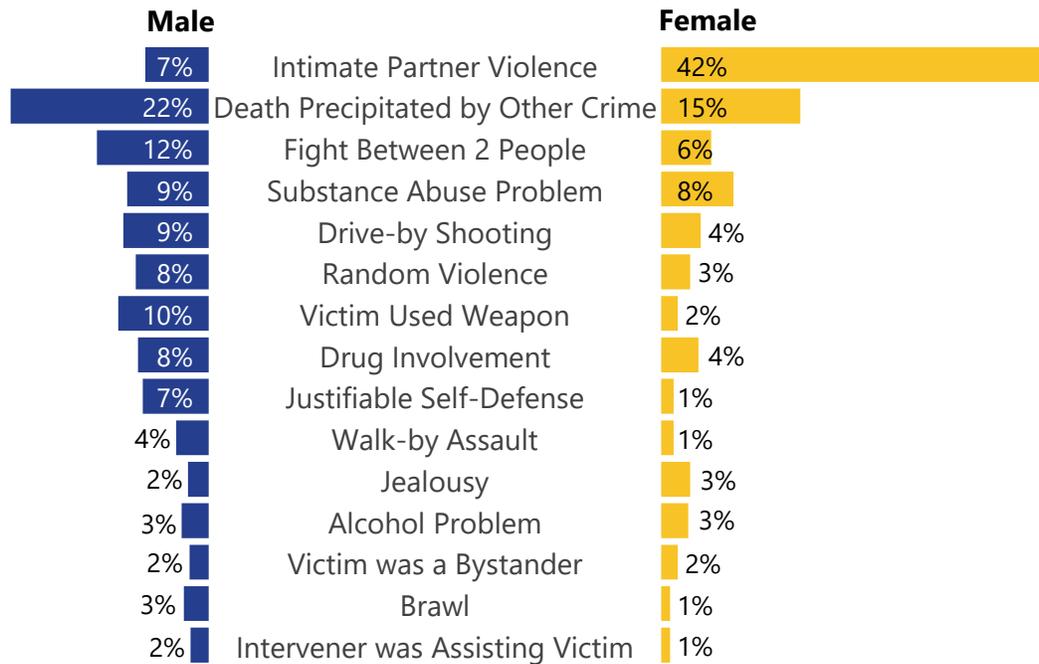


<sup>1</sup> INVDRS is a CDC-funded surveillance system that collects detailed information on violent deaths that occur in Indiana, using information from death certificates, medical examiner reports, and law enforcement reports. These rates may be slightly different than rates based on vital records for Indiana residents

## Key Circumstances in Homicide Deaths

From 2018-2023, intimate partner violence accounted for the largest circumstance in female homicide deaths (42%). Death precipitated by other crime accounted for the largest circumstance in male homicide deaths (22%). The most common place for female homicide deaths was the home (63%) while male homicides were most common in a public place (43%).<sup>2</sup>

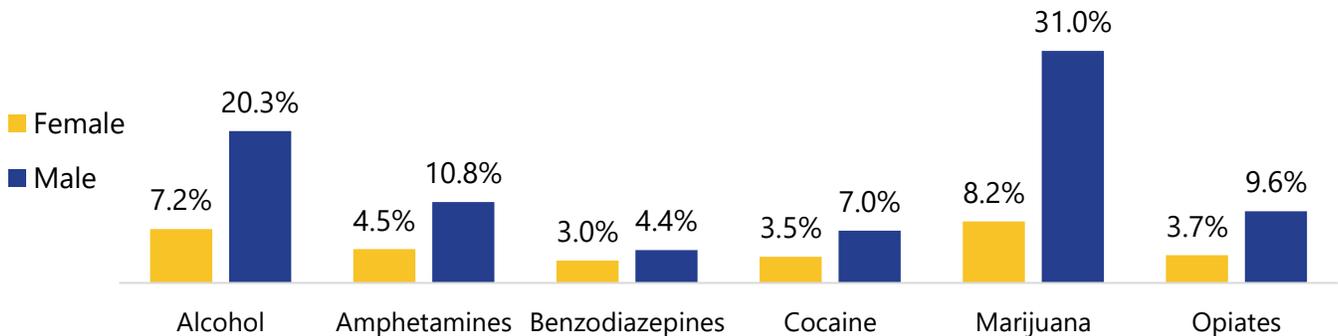
**Figure 2.** Homicide Death Circumstances, 2018-2023



## Toxicology

In toxicology results for homicide victims, detection of most substances was slightly higher among males than females. Marijuana was the leading substance found in males (31.0%) and females (8.2%) while alcohol was the second leading substance found in males (20.3%) and females (7.2%).

**Figure 5.** Toxicology Results by Sex, 2018-2023



<sup>2</sup> Among homicide deaths in INVDRS, 30.1% had law enforcement report circumstances and 45.4% had coroner report circumstances available for reporting. Prevalence of circumstances is calculated among only cases with at least a law enforcement or coroner report available.

