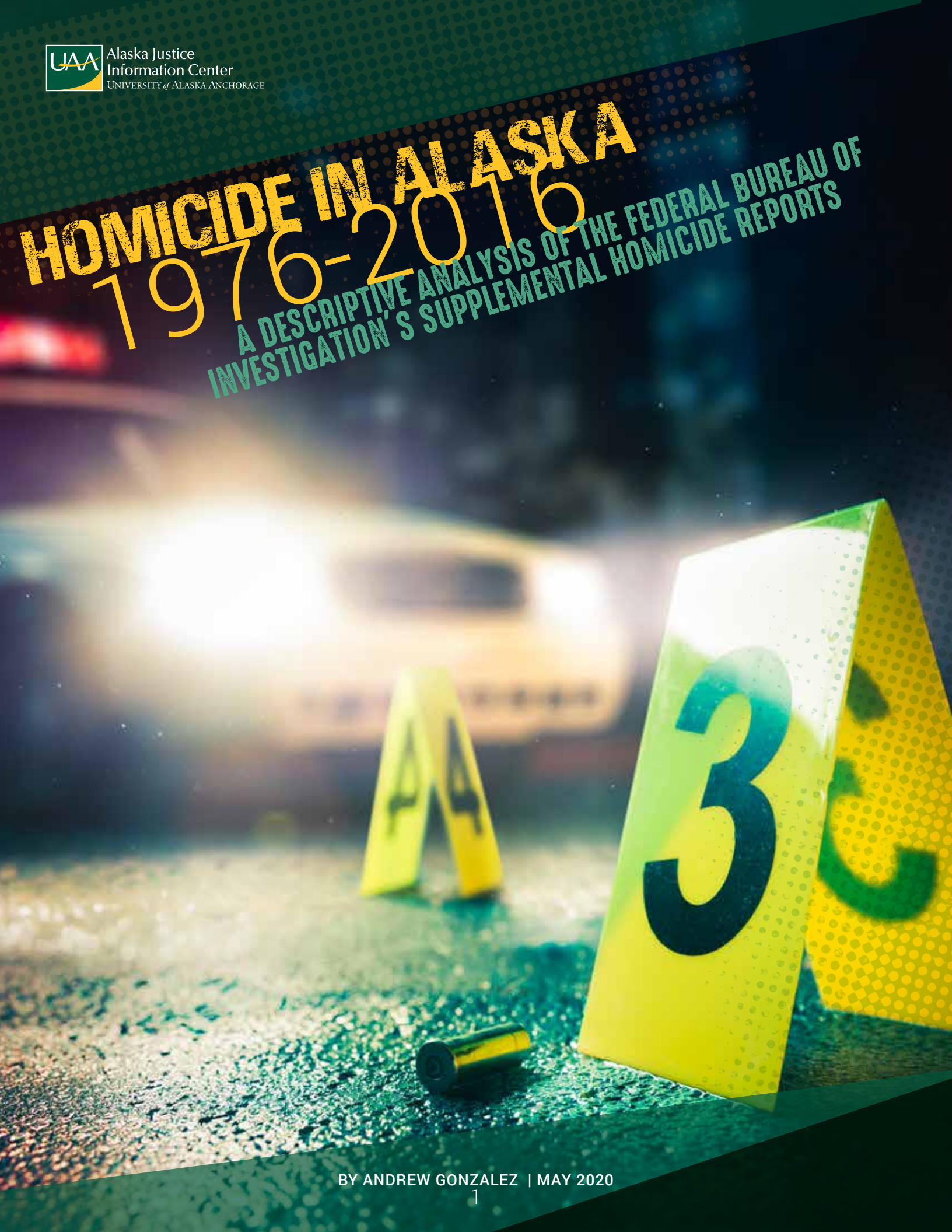




Alaska Justice
Information Center
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

HOMICIDE IN ALASKA 1976-2016

A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF
INVESTIGATION'S SUPPLEMENTAL HOMICIDE REPORTS



BY ANDREW GONZALEZ | MAY 2020

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project examined the characteristics of homicide in Alaska as reported by law enforcement agencies to the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR). It was particularly interested in the qualities of homicide committed against American Indian or Alaska Native female victims among different victim groups. The SHR reported details of the homicide including relationship between victim and suspect, weapons used, and circumstance. The study utilized 41 years of data beginning in 1976 and ending in 2016. It included a total of 1,709 incidents of homicide, 1,943 suspects, and 1,856 victims. This descriptive analysis documented the characteristics of these incidents, suspects, and victims, then examined characteristics based on the race and sex of the victim involved. For additional context an examination of Alaska population was compared to the representation of victims in this study. Key results are summarized below.

Incident Characteristics

There were 1,709 homicide incidents reported by law enforcement agencies to the SHR between 1976 and 2016. On average there were 42 incidents reported per year. The last two years in the study – 2015 and 2016 – included the highest number of homicide incidents during the study period. Slightly more than 40 percent of homicide incidents were reported to the SHR by the Anchorage Police Department (n=712; 41.7%), and another forty percent were reported by the Alaska State Troopers (n=685; 40.1%). Firearms were used in six out of ten homicides (n=1,001; 58.6%). Handguns were used in one-third of homicides (n=567; 33.2%). One-third of homicide incidents were reported as the result of interpersonal conflict (n=309; 35.7%). More than 90 percent of homicide incidents involved only a single victim (n=1,600; 93.9%).

Suspect Characteristics

There were 1,943 suspects reported between 1976 and 2016. Nearly three-quarters of all suspects were male (n=1,405; 72.2%). Suspect sex was unknown in approximately 18 percent of the Alaska homicide incidents examined. The average age of homicide suspects was 30.2 years old. Most suspects were adults (n=1,439; 74.1%). Approximately 4 in 10 suspects were White (n=829; 42.7%), over 20 percent were American Indian or Alaska Native (n=430; 22.1%), and 1 in 10 suspects were Black or African American (n=211; 10.9%). Six out of 10 suspects knew their victim (n=1,189; 61.2%). One-third of suspects were a friend or acquaintance (n=715; 36.8%), 13 percent were an intimate partner (n=252), and a little over one-tenth of suspects were family members (n=222; 11.4%). Suspects were strangers to victims slightly less than one-fifth of the time (n=333; 17.1%).

Victim Characteristics

There were 1,856 victims reported between 1976 and 2016. Seven out of 10 victims were male (n=1,314; 70.8%). Twelve percent of victims were juveniles (n=227; 12.2%). The average age of homicide victims was 32.6 years old. The youngest victim was a newborn less than 6 days old, and the oldest was 85 years old. Half of the victims were White (n=974; 52.5%). Slightly less than a third of victims were American Indian or Alaska Native (546; 29.4%). Ten percent of victims were Black or African American (n=184; 9.9%).

Victim Proportionality to Population

American Indian or Alaska Native victims were over-represented in Alaska homicide (30.5%) compared to their population (16.3%). Black or African American victims were also over-represented in Alaska homicide, making up one in 10 homicide victims (10.3%) compared to only being four percent of the Alaska population (4.0%). White victims were under-represented (54.4%) compared to their presence in the population (71.9%). Males were over-represented in Alaska homicide incidents. Although female victims as a whole were under-represented in homicide compared to their population, combining race and sex revealed that American Indian or Alaska Native female victims and Black or African American female victims were over-represented in Alaska homicides. Across all race-sex groups Black or African American male victims were the most over-represented victim race-sex group.

Incident Characteristics based on Victim Race/Sex

American Indian or Alaska Native victims of both sexes were reported more often by law enforcement agencies other than APD and AST. Firearms killed more male victims of every race group compared to female victims. Black or African American male victims were killed the most often by firearms (78.0%), and American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed the least (36.3%). Among victim racial groups, knives were used most often in the killing of American Indian or Alaska Native male victims (23.4%), followed by American Indian or Alaska Native female victims (18.7%). Overall, more male victims were reported in homicides involving either interpersonal conflict or homicides in the commission of another crime, compared to female victims who were more often reported in homicides with “other” circumstances.

Suspect Characteristics based on Victim Race/Sex

For all homicide victims the homicide suspect was most likely of the same race. Six out of ten American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed by suspects who were also American Indian or Alaska Native (62.2%). When the suspect was not of the same race as the victim, the suspect was most likely to be White. American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed by a White suspect 18.4% of the time. All victim race-sex groups were more likely than not to know their suspect. Male victims were more often reported as being killed by a Friend or Acquaintance than female victims. Female victims were far more often killed by an intimate partner across all racial groups compared to male victims. Compared to other race groups, Native American or Alaska Native male (19.7%) and female victims (14.5%) were killed more often by a family member. Black or African American male victims were killed the least often by a family member (5.4%). Strangers killed male victims more often than female victims. Strangers were reported killing American Indian or Alaska Native female (2.6%) and male (8.7%) victims less often than other victim racial groups.

American Indian or Alaska Native Female Victimization

Analyses revealed that American Indian or Alaska Native females differed from other victim race-sex groups by the weapon used in their killing. Firearms killed American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims the least often among all victim race-sex groups in the study (36.3%). The proportion of American Indian or Alaska Native women killed with a knife or cutting instrument was the second largest across race-sex groups (18.7%) –highest were American Indian or Alaska Native male victims. Other traits impacting American Indian or Alaska Native females were not specific to their race-sex group, but to their race and their sex separately.

OVERVIEW OF REPORT

Background

Recent national media coverage has highlighted the problem of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG) in the United States. In its 2018 report, *Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls: A Snapshot of Data from 71 Urban Cities in the United States*, the Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI) declared “a nationwide data crisis” (pg. 2)¹. The UIHI came to this conclusion after reviewing law enforcement records, state and national missing persons databases, searching media archives and publicly available social media, and contacting family and community members who shared information about missing or murdered indigenous women and girls. One of the primary conclusions of the UIHI’s report is that the magnitude of the violence committed against American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls is woefully underestimated, dramatically under-reported, and consequently not well understood. Alaska and the Federal government have responded with the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP) Initiative, a national program aiming to improve processes surrounding missing persons and data collection, especially concerning American Indian or Alaska Native women². The goal is for the program to partner with rural Alaska communities to “provide justice for families mourning a murder victim or assistance to communities searching for a missing friend or neighbor.”

Recent increases in rates of violent crime in Alaska – including increases in the overall homicide rate – have generated a great deal of concern, prompting further questions about the characteristics of homicide incidents, as well as the circumstances surrounding them, and the people involved. This report addresses both the overall nature of homicide in Alaska, and the enumeration of the prevalence of homicides involving American Indian or Alaska Native female (women and girls) victims. Using publicly available data, this report provides a detailed analysis of what is currently known about homicide in Alaska. It presents an overall picture of homicides in the state, within which the findings pertaining to American Indian and Alaska Native female homicides can be contextualized and understood. We hope this contextualization will contribute to improved understanding of the MMIWG crisis. The Alaska Justice Information Center (AJIC) acknowledges that the work presented here is only a small step forward in addressing the MMIWG data challenge. We nevertheless hope it is a meaningful one.

Supplementary Homicide Reports

The descriptive analyses presented in this report are derived from 41 years of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR), one of the supplementary reporting systems of the FBI’s Uniform Crime reporting (UCR) program³. The SHRs are the most detailed publicly available data source regarding homicide incidents in the United States. Law enforcement agencies voluntarily report the number of homicide incidents and their characteristics to the FBI using the SHR every month⁴. Monthly SHR reports are compiled and made available for analysis.

¹ See Urban Indian Health Institute’s report “Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls” (Lucchesi & Echo-Hawk, 2018) <https://www.uihi.org/resources/missing-and-murdered-indigenous-women-girls/>.

² See <https://www.justice.gov/usao-ak/pr/us-attorney-and-fbi-announce-missing-and-murdered-indigenous-persons-initiative>.

³ For more information about the UCR program, see: <https://www.fbi.gov/services/cjis/ucr>.

⁴ Monthly SHR reports from police agencies are sent to the FBI and prepared for researchers by the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) and stored in the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD).

The FBI's definition of criminal homicide includes both murder and manslaughter by negligence⁵. A homicide incident, as defined in the SHR, refers to an act of homicide involving any number of victims and suspects⁶. The SHR records the demographic characteristics of homicide victims and suspects, the weapon used, a description of circumstances surrounding the homicide⁷, and the relationship of the suspect to the victim. Within each incident characteristics of victims and suspects can be connected. An important note on the data collection: the information provided by law enforcement in the SHR reflects what agencies knew during initial investigation; the data are not updated based on further investigation⁸. Therefore, the data used for the analyses presented in this report reflect the characteristics of homicide incidents and the people involved in them at the time the report was submitted. The SHR data used are publicly available from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD)⁹.

A study of homicide using the SHR can be conducted in many ways, but this report focuses on how the qualities of homicide vary based on the race/ethnicity (hereafter "race") and sex/gender (hereafter "sex") of homicide victims. The report begins with a description of all incidents of homicide in Alaska. The analysis then shifts to an examination of homicide suspects and homicide victims. Finally, the analysis focuses on homicide characteristics by combined race and sex groupings and provides information on the characteristics of homicides involving American Indian or Alaska Native female victims in comparative context.

AJiC's aim for this study is to establish an empirical foundation for understanding the murder of American Indian or Alaska Native women and girls. This foundational understanding can then be used by practitioners, service providers, policymakers, and the public to develop homicide intervention and prevention strategies to decrease the frequency with which homicides occur in Alaska, improve the criminal justice systems response to homicide, and support families and communities.

⁵ FBI UCR definition of criminal homicide: a) murder and nonnegligent manslaughter: the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another. Deaths caused by negligence, attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, and accidental deaths are excluded, and b) manslaughter by negligence: the killing of another person through gross negligence. Deaths of persons due to their own negligence, accidental deaths not resulting from gross negligence, and traffic fatalities are not included in the category manslaughter by negligence. Full User Manual available at <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/ucr/ucr-srs-user-manual-v1.pdf/view>, see pages 28-31.

⁶ A homicide incident may include: a single victim and a single perpetrator, a single victim and multiple perpetrators, multiple victims and a single perpetrator, or multiple victims and multiple perpetrators.

⁷ The SHR codes weapon and circumstance to every suspect, but this report will analyze them as incident level variables because nearly all homicides in this study had uniform weapon and circumstance across incident (99.7% of incidents).

⁸ See "The Nation's two Measures of Homicide" (Regoezi, 2014).

⁹ See NACJD index at <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/content/NACJD/index.html>. Forty-one annual SHR datasets were combined and manipulated by AJiC for this analysis.



PART ONE

HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1976-2016



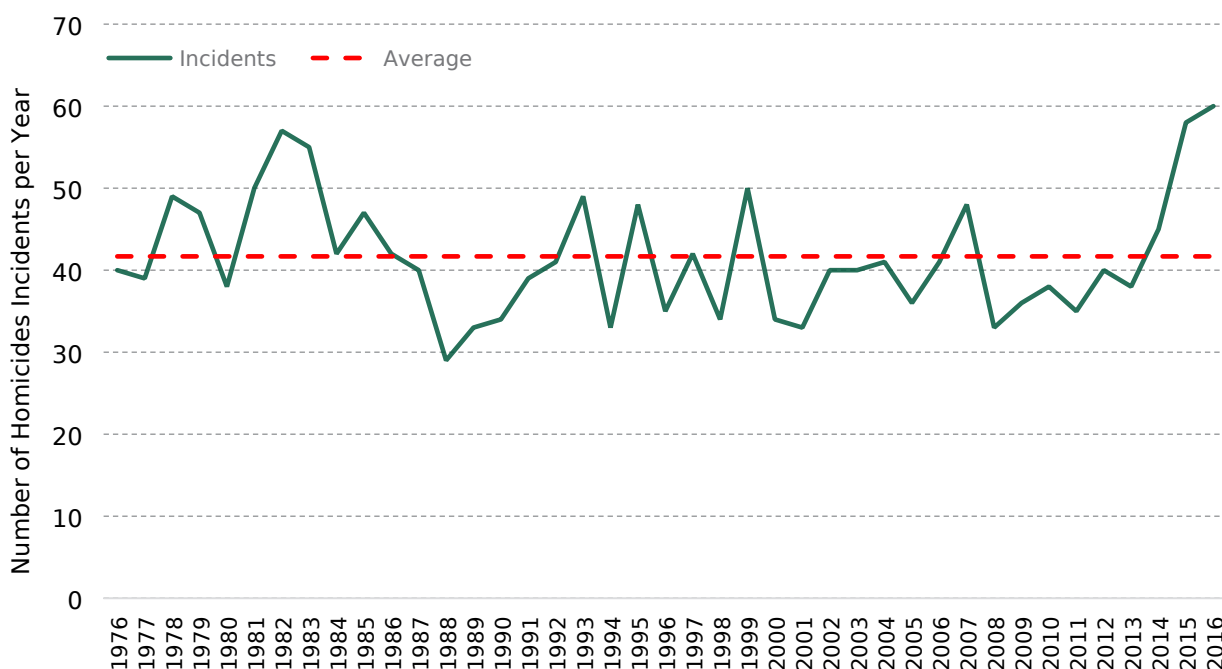
PART ONE

HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS: 1976-2016

Annual Homicide Incidents

Between 1976 and 2016 a total of 1,709 homicide incidents were reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies. The solid line in Figure 1 shows the total number of homicide incidents reported each year to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies¹⁰.

Figure 1. The total number of homicide incidents^b reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies per year: 1976-2016 (n=1,709)



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016.

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects.

The average number of Alaska homicide incidents reported to the FBI each year from 1976 through 2016 was 42 per year (s.d.=7.5); the median number of homicide incidents was 40 per year. The data presented in Figure 1 reveal the three highest years for homicide incidents as 1982 (n=57), 2015 (n=58), and 2016 (n=60).

Monthly Incidents

Every month law enforcement agencies report the number of homicide incidents to the SHR. Table 1 presents the total number of homicide incidents reported to the SHR, by month, between 1976 and 2016.

¹⁰ See Appendix Table A 1 for homicide counts each year used in Figure 1.

Table 1. The number of homicide incidents^b reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by month (n=1,709)

MONTH	NUMBER	PERCENT
January	135	7.9
February	133	7.8
March	157	9.2
April	119	7.0
May	144	8.4
June	115	6.7
July	137	8.0
August	160	9.4
September	158	9.3
October	146	8.5
November	133	7.8
December	172	10.1

NOTES

- a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016.
b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects.
c. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

The month with the largest percentage of homicide incidents reported was December (n=172; 10.1%); the month with the lowest percentage of homicide incidents reported was June (n=115; 6.7%). While there was month-to-month variability in the number of homicides reported over the study period there was no evidence of seasonal patterns of homicide prevalence.

Law Enforcement Agency

Table 2 shows the total number of homicide incidents reported to the SHR by each Alaska law enforcement agency between 1976 and 2016¹¹. Law enforcement agencies that did not report any homicide incidents to the SHR during the study period are not shown¹². Alaska law enforcement agencies listed in Table 2 are presented in descending order, with agencies reporting the highest number of homicide incidents reported at the top of the table.

More than 80 percent (n=1,397; 81.8%) of the homicide incidents between 1976 and 2016 were reported by the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and the Anchorage Police Department (APD). Among all other Alaska agencies, the Fairbanks Police Department reported the most homicide incidents (n=112; 6.6%) during the study period. The remaining 27 agencies combined reported the remaining 12 percent of homicide incidents (n=200; 11.8%).

¹¹ The SHR records incidents by the law enforcement agency reporting the homicide to the FBI. The agency that is reporting the homicide does not necessarily indicate geographically where the actual homicide took place.

¹² There is a possibility that a law enforcement agency may report a homicide on UCR return form A, but not in the SHR.

Table 2. The number of homicide incidents^b reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by agency (n=1,709)

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Anchorage Police Department	712	41.7
Alaska State Troopers	685	40.1
All Other Alaska Agencies:		
Fairbanks Police Department	112	6.6
Bethel Police Department	28	1.6
Juneau Police Department	27	1.6
North Slope Borough Police Department	23	1.4
Ketchikan Police Department	17	1.0
Nome Police Department	15	0.9
Kotzebue Police Department	12	0.7
Dillingham Police Department	11	0.6
Kodiak Police Department	11	0.6
Wasilla Police Department	8	0.5
Kenai Police Department	7	0.4
Sitka Police Department	5	0.3
Seward Police Department	4	0.2
Soldotna Police Department	4	0.2
Wrangell Police Department	4	0.2
Bristol Bay Borough Police Department	3	0.2
Unalaska Police Department	3	0.2
Valdez Police Department	3	0.2
Homer Police Department	2	0.1
Palmer Police Department	2	0.1
Petersburg Police Department	2	0.1
St. Paul Police Department	2	0.1
Univ of AK-Fairbanks Police Department	2	0.1
Cordova Police Department	1	0.1
Craig Police Department	1	0.1
Haines Police Department	1	0.1
Nenana Police Department	1	0.1
Skagway Police Department	1	0.1

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

Weapon

The SHR reported the weapon used/method of killing for every incident of criminal homicide. Table 3 shows the total number of homicide incidents reported to the SHR by Alaska police agencies for the period between 1976 and 2016 by the weapon used in each incident. Each weapon is listed by frequency of use in descending order by type of weapon. Weapons are presented in four groups: Firearms, Knife or Cutting Instrument, All Other Weapons, and Unknown.

Table 3. The number of homicide incidents^b reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by weapon (n=1,709)

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE ^c
Firearms		
Handgun – pistol, revolver, etc.	567	33.2
Rifle	178	10.4
Firearm, type not stated	167	9.8
Shotgun	85	5.0
Other gun	4	0.2
Knife or cutting instrument	268	15.7
All Other Weapons		
Personal weapons, includes beating	136	8.0
Blunt instrument/club	88	5.2
Strangulation – hanging	32	1.9
Asphyxiation – includes gas	23	1.4
Fire	21	1.2
Narcotics or drugs, sleeping pills	9	0.5
Drowning	6	0.4
Explosives	3	0.2
Pushed or thrown out window	2	0.1
Poison – does not include gas	2	0.1
Unknown		
Missing	63	3.7
Other or type unknown	55	3.2

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Columns may not add up to 100.0 due to rounding error

Firearms were identified as the primary method of killing in nearly 6 out of 10 Alaska homicide incidents (n=1,001; 58.6%) between 1976 and 2016. The most common type of firearm was handgun (n=567; 33.2%), followed by rifle (n=178; 10.4%), firearm, type not stated (n=167; 9.8%), and shotgun (n=85; 5.0%).

Among non-firearm homicide incidents, the most commonly recorded weapon was a knife or cutting instrument (n=268; 15.7%), followed by the use of personal weapons (n=136; 8.0%) and blunt instrument/club (n=88; 5.2%). In the aggregate, all other means by which homicides were committed totaled six percent of all homicide incidents (n=98). A determination of weapon use either could not be determined by investigating agencies or was not recorded by investigating agencies for approximately seven percent of homicide incidents (n=118; 6.9%).

Circumstance

Law enforcement agencies record the circumstances¹³ surrounding homicide incidents in the SHR. Table 4 presents homicide incidents by circumstance, organized into 10 categories: conflict, instrumental felony, property felony, drugs, gangs, other felony, other, reverse felony, unknown, and negligence.

Interpersonal conflict was the most frequently coded circumstance (n=609; 35.7%). The majority of these conflicts were reported as other arguments (n=422; 24.7%), and approximately one in six conflicts were reported as being influenced by alcohol (n=108; 6.3% of total).

Nearly 10 percent of homicide incidents were associated with another felony crime (n=162; 9.5%). These homicides are separated into three categories: a felon committing violence against another person, instrumental felony (n=114; 6.7%), a felony related to theft with homicide being an unintended outcome, property felony (n=13; 0.8%), or an undefined other felony (n=35; 2.1%). The most common felony involved with a homicide over the study period was robbery (n=86; 5.0%).

Law enforcement agencies have a separate designation for homicides involving a crime related to drugs or gangs. In Alaska, drugs were involved in 4.2 percent of homicide incidents (n=71) and gangs less than one percent of incidents (n=11; 0.6%).

Over one-fifth of all homicide circumstances were reported as other (n=356; 20.8%). Other homicides contained circumstances where law enforcement agencies did not report further information, in addition to a few miscellaneous crimes (e.g., prostitution and gambling). Reverse felony included homicides where a felon was killed by either a police officer or private citizen (n=66; 3.9%). Negligence included some form of negligent manslaughter (n=78; 4.6). Finally, circumstances could not be determined by investigating agencies, or was not recorded by investigating agencies, for one-fifth of homicide incidents (n=356; 20.8%) at the time data was reported to the SHR.

¹³ The analysis of circumstance in the SHR has known limitations, including: 1) the SHR is not updated as police investigations progress, 2) there are high rates of missing/unknown circumstances in the SHR, 3) when circumstance is reported there is often a discrepancy to police records (Loftin, 1986; Maxfield, 1989; Pizarro & Zeoli, 2013).

Table 4. Number of homicide incidents^b reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by circumstance code (n=1,709)

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE ^c
Interpersonal Conflict		
Other arguments	422	24.7
Brawl due to influence of alcohol	108	6.3
Lovers triangle	36	2.1
Argument over money or property	35	2.1
Children killed by babysitting	8	0.5
Instrumental Felony		
Robbery	86	5.0
Rape	22	1.3
Other sex offense	6	0.4
Property Felony		
Burglary	6	0.4
Larceny	4	0.2
Motor vehicle theft	3	0.2
Drugs		
Narcotic drug laws	60	3.5
Brawl due to influence of narcotics	11	0.6
Gangs		
Juvenile gang killings	8	0.5
Gangland killings	3	0.2
Other Felony		
All suspected felony type	25	1.5
Arson	7	0.4
Sniper attack	3	0.2
Other		
Other	315	18.4
Other – not specified	33	1.9
Prostitution and commercialized vice	4	0.2
Institutional killings	3	0.2
Gambling	2	0.1
Reverse Felony		
Felon killed by police	39	2.3
Felon killed by private citizen	27	1.6
Unknown		
Unknown	218	12.8
Circumstances undetermined	137	8.0
Negligence		
All of manslaughter by negligence	45	2.6
Other negligent handling of gun	20	1.2
Children playing with gun	8	0.5
Gun-cleaning death – other than self	4	0.2

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

Situation

Law enforcement agencies assign every homicide incident a situation code categorizing the number of victims and the number of suspects involved in the incident. Each incident was categorized as single victim/single suspect, single victim/multiple suspects, single victim/unknown suspect(s), multiple victims/single suspect, multiple victims/multiple suspects, or multiple victims/unknown suspect(s). Table 5 presents all incidents of homicide reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016, by situation code.

Table 5. Number of homicide incidents^b reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016, by situation code (n=1,709)

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE ^c
Single Victim Incidents		
Single Victim / Single Suspect	1,166	68.2
Single Victim / Multiple Suspects	136	8.0
Single Victim / Unknown Suspect(s)	298	17.4
Multiple Victim Incidents		
Multiple Victims / Single Suspect	78	4.6
Multiple Victims / Multiple Suspects	8	0.5
Multiple Victims / Unknown Suspect(s)	23	1.4

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 due to rounding error

The vast majority of homicide incidents in Alaska involved a single victim (n=1,600; 93.6%). More than two-thirds of all homicide incidents involved a single victim and a single suspect (n=1,166; 68.2%), and an additional eight percent involved a single victim and multiple suspects (n=136; 8.0%). Homicide incidents involving multiple victims were relatively rare, representing just over five percent of homicides reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016 (n=109; 6.4%). Nearly three-fourths of multiple victim homicides involved only a single suspect (n=78; 71.6% of multiple victim homicides). Fewer than 10 incidents involved both multiple victims and multiple offenders (n=8; 0.5%). Situation codes also mark the number of incidents involving an unknown suspect. Nearly 20 percent of incidents involved a suspect(s) who was unknown to law enforcement at the time of reporting to the SHR (n=321; 18.8%).

Summary: Homicide Incidents

In this section of the report, data were presented describing all homicide incidents reported by Alaska law enforcement agencies to the SHR for the period 1976 through 2016. Information was presented on the number of homicide incidents per year, the reporting law enforcement agencies, the weapons

used, the circumstances, and numbers of suspects and victims involved in homicide incidents. This analysis lays the foundation for understanding characteristics of homicide based on the demographic characteristics of the victim. The key findings for Alaska homicide incidents are presented below:

- There are on average 42 homicide incidents per year reported by Alaska law enforcement agencies, and out of the 41 years included in this study, the total number of homicides was exceptionally high in three years: 1982, 2015, and 2016.
- Two Alaska law enforcement agencies – the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and the Anchorage Police Department (APD) – reported more than 80 percent of all Alaska homicide incidents.
- Firearms were identified by Alaska law enforcement agencies as the primary method of killing in nearly six out of ten Alaska homicide incidents (58.6%).
- Interpersonal conflict accounted for the largest percentage of homicide circumstances (35.7%).
- The vast majority of Alaska homicides – more than 90% – involved a single victim; two-thirds involved a single victim and a single suspect.

PART TWO

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMICIDE SUSPECTS AND VICTIMS



PART TWO

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMICIDE SUSPECTS AND VICTIMS

Demographic Characteristics of Homicide Suspects

Demographic characteristics of suspects are reported in the SHR. Table 6 presents the frequency distributions for suspect sex, suspect age, and suspect race. In all incidents of homicide reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016 there were at least 1,943 suspects¹⁴.

Table 6. Demographic characteristics of Alaska homicide suspects reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=1,943)

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE ^b
Sex/gender		
Female	196	10.1
Male	1,402	72.2
Unknown	345	17.8
Age group		
0 to 17 years	154	7.9
18 to 24 years	482	24.8
25 to 34 years	474	24.4
35 to 44 years	268	13.8
45 to 54 years	142	7.3
55 to 64 years	54	2.8
65 years and older	19	1.0
Unknown	350	18.0
Race/ethnicity		
White	829	42.7
American Indian or Alaska Native	430	22.1
Black or African American	211	10.9
Asian or Pacific Islander	79	4.1
Unknown	394	20.3

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

Table 6 shows that nearly three-quarters of all homicide suspects were male (n=1,402; 72.2%). One-tenth of suspects were female (n=196; 10.1%). The remaining suspects' genders were unknown to law enforcement at the time of reporting to the SHR (n=345; 17.8%).

¹⁴ In incidents where the suspect(s) were unknown to law enforcement agencies, only a single suspect is recorded in the SHR.

Among homicide suspects for whom age was recorded, the average age was 30.2 years old (1,593 suspects). The youngest suspect was 5 years of age; the oldest suspect was 84 years old¹⁵. A large majority of suspects were adults (n=1,439; 74.1%). Nearly half of suspects were between 18 and 34 years old (n=956; 49.2%). A little less than one-fifth of suspects did not have an age recorded by law enforcement (n=350; 18.0%).

Approximately 4 out of 10 suspects reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement were White (n=829; 42.7%). The second largest group was American Indian or Alaska Native (n=430; 22.1%), followed by Black or African American (n=211; 10.9%). Less than five percent of suspects were Asian or Pacific Islander (n=79; 4.1%). Suspect race was unknown or unavailable to law enforcement at the time of reporting to the SHR for one-fifth of suspects (n=394; 20.3%).

Homicide Suspect–Homicide Victim Relationships

The relationship between homicide suspects and homicide victims is recorded in the SHR. Specifically, the SHR records the relationship of the first victim identified by law enforcement in the SHR to every suspect in a homicide incident¹⁶. In multiple victim homicide incidents, additional suspect–victim relationships beyond the first victim are not recorded¹⁷. Table 7 presents suspect–victim relationships between each identified suspect and the first identified victim in each homicide incident. This analysis organizes suspect–victim relationships into five categories: intimate partner, family member, friend or acquaintance, stranger, and relation not reported.

Six out of ten suspects knew their victim (n=1,189; 61.2%): 13.0 percent (n=252) were intimate partners, 11.4 percent (n=222) were family members, and 36.8 percent were friends or acquaintances (n=715). The suspect was a stranger to the victim less than one-fifth of the time (n=333; 17.1%). The relationship between homicide suspects and homicide victims was either undetermined or not recorded by law enforcement in one-fifth of all instances (n=421; 21.7%).

¹⁵ See Appendix Figure A 1 for a visual representation of all suspects by age between 1976 and 2016.

¹⁶ There are known limitations to this SHR's ability to analyze the relationship of suspects and victims. See (Fox, 2004; Loftin, 1986; Pampel & Williams, 2000; Shai, 2010).

¹⁷ In the Alaska SHR homicide data, 109 out of 1,709 (6.4%) incidents involved multiple victims.

Table 7. The number of Alaska homicide suspects by their relationship to the first identified victim^b as reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=1,943)

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE ^c
Intimate Partner		
Wife	87	4.5
Girlfriend	72	3.7
Boyfriend	34	1.8
Husband	32	1.7
Common-law husband	8	0.4
Ex-husband	6	0.3
Ex-wife	6	0.3
Common-law wife	4	0.2
Homosexual relationship	3	0.2
Family Member		
Other family	43	2.2
Brother	40	2.1
Son	38	2.0
Daughter	33	1.7
Father	26	1.3
Mother	15	0.8
In-law	7	0.4
Sister	7	0.4
Stepfather	6	0.3
Stepmother	3	0.2
Stepson	2	0.1
Stepdaughter	2	0.1
Friend or Acquaintance		
Acquaintance	476	24.5
Friend	126	6.5
Other – known to victim	80	4.1
Neighbor	24	1.2
Employer	7	0.4
Employee	2	0.1
Stranger	333	17.1
Relation not reported	421	21.7

NOTES

- a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- b. Relationships are coded for the first homicide victim identified by law enforcement agencies to every suspect.
- c. Columns may not total to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Demographic Characteristics of Homicide Victims

Table 8 presents the frequency distributions for victim sex, victim age, and victim race. In all incidents of homicide reported to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies between 1976 and 2016 there were 1,856 victims.

Table 8. Demographic characteristics of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=1,856)

	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE ^b
Sex/gender		
Female	540	29.1
Male	1,314	70.8
Unknown	2	0.1
Age group		
0 to 17 years	227	12.2
18 to 24 years	359	19.3
25 to 34 years	474	25.5
35 to 44 years	384	20.7
45 to 54 years	231	12.5
55 to 64 years	86	4.6
65 years and older	65	3.5
Unknown	30	1.6
Race/ethnicity		
White	974	52.5
American Indian or Alaska Native	546	29.4
Black or African American	184	9.9
Asian or Pacific Islander	86	4.6
Unknown	66	3.6

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Total may not sum to 100.0% due to rounding error.

A majority of Alaska homicide victims were male (n=1,314; 70.8%). The remaining victims were female (n=540; 29.1%) with very few victims without a recorded sex (n=2; 0.1%).

More than three quarters of Alaska homicide victims were adults (n=1,599; 86.2%), and just over ten percent were juveniles (n=227; 12.2%). Among homicide victims whose age was reported by law enforcement (1,826 victims), the average age was 32.6 years old¹⁸. The youngest homicide victim was

¹⁸ See Appendix Figure A 2 for a visual representation of all victims by age between 1976 and 2016.

a newborn less than 6 days old¹⁹; the oldest homicide victim was 85 years old. Less than two percent of victims were recorded as an unknown age by Alaska law enforcement agencies at the time of reporting to the SHR (n=30; 1.6%).

More than half of the homicide victims in Alaska were White (n=974; 52.5%). Nearly a third of victims were American Indian or Alaska Native (n=546; 29.4%). Approximately 10 percent were Black or African American (n=184; 9.9%). Less than five percent were identified as Asian or Pacific Islander (n=86; 4.6%). Even fewer victims had their race either undetermined or not reported by law enforcement (n=66; 3.6%).

Summary: Homicide Suspects and Victims

In this section of the report, data were presented describing the demographic characteristics of homicide victims, as well as the documented relationships between homicide suspects and homicide victims. The key findings for Alaska homicide suspects and victims are presented below:

- Males made up a majority of Alaska homicide suspects (72.2%) and victims (70.8%).
- Six out of 10 Alaska homicide suspects knew their victims (61.2%).
- The average age of a suspect (30.2 years old) was slightly lower than the average age of a victim (32.6 years old).
- More suspects were reported with unknown demographics by law enforcement compared to victims.
- 42% of suspects were White, 22% American Indian or Alaska Native, 11% Black or African American, and 4% Asian or Pacific Islander.
- 52% of victims were White, 29% American Indian or Alaska Native, 10% Black or African American, and 4% were Asian or Pacific Islander.

¹⁹ The SHR reports "NB" for newborns less than six days old and "BB" for infants 7 to 364 days old. There were 2 victims classified as NB (0.1%) and 35 victims as BB (1.9%). For analysis NB and BB were recoded to one year old.



PART THREE

HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX



PART THREE

HOMICIDE INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

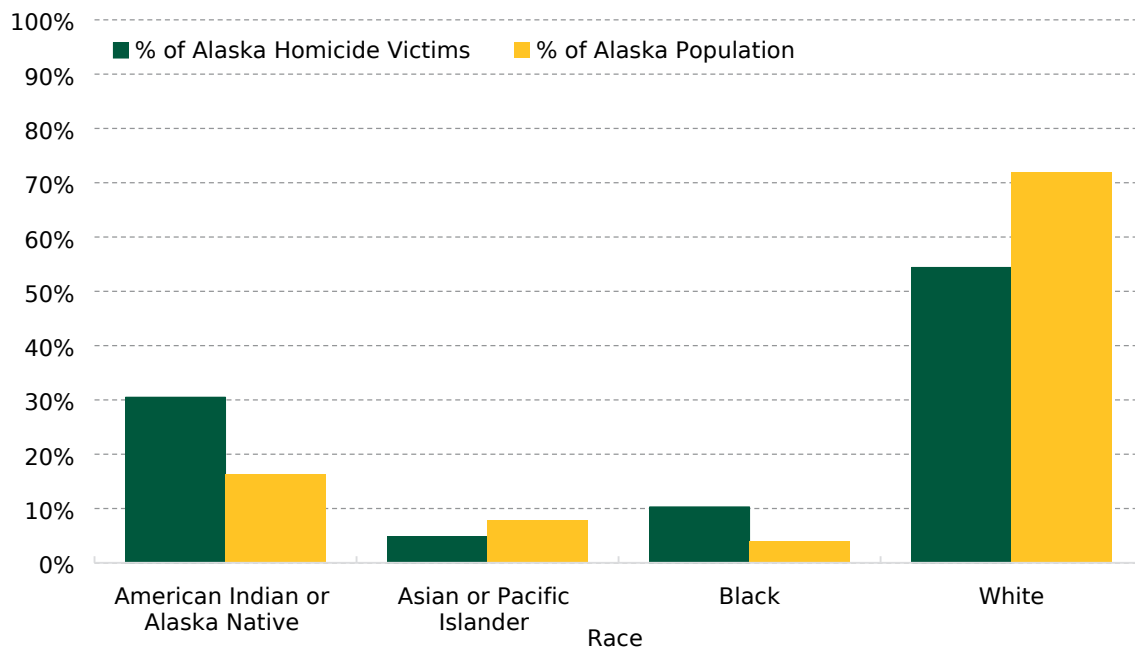
Race and Gender Differences in Homicide Victimization

In this section Alaska homicide data are presented alongside Alaska population data obtained from the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Statistics publication Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report²⁰. The objective in presenting both Alaska homicide and population data is to explore the extent to which certain groups suffer homicide disproportionately. Figure 2 compares the racial group composition of Alaska homicides with the racial group composition of the Alaska population. Figure 3 compares the sex composition of Alaska homicides with the sex composition of the Alaska population. Finally, Figure 4 combines the data shown in Figure 2 and Figure 3 to compare the race-sex composition of Alaska homicides with the race-sex composition of the Alaska population. (Note: it is important to note that while the Alaska homicide data span 1976-2016, the Alaska population data used in this report only spans 2012 to 2016. Annual estimations of Alaska's population by race, sex, and race-sex are calculated based on a five-year average of residents who selected only a single race category alone²¹. To the extent that Alaska's race, sex, and race-sex group compositions differed from those captured between 2012 and 2016, the disparities depicted in Figure 2 through Figure 4 may be under- or over-estimated.)

²⁰ To read full report see <http://live.laborstats.alaska.gov/pop/estimates/pub/16popover.pdf>. This report compiled the following tables: Table 1.17 (p28), Table 1.19 (p30), Table 1.21 (p32), Table 1.23 (p34), and Table 1.25 (p36).

²¹ Approximately 7 percent of Alaska residents classified themselves as "Two or more races". These residents are excluded from percent calculations. Race groups are defined as a "race alone", not "race in combination with other races".

Figure 2. Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)



NOTES

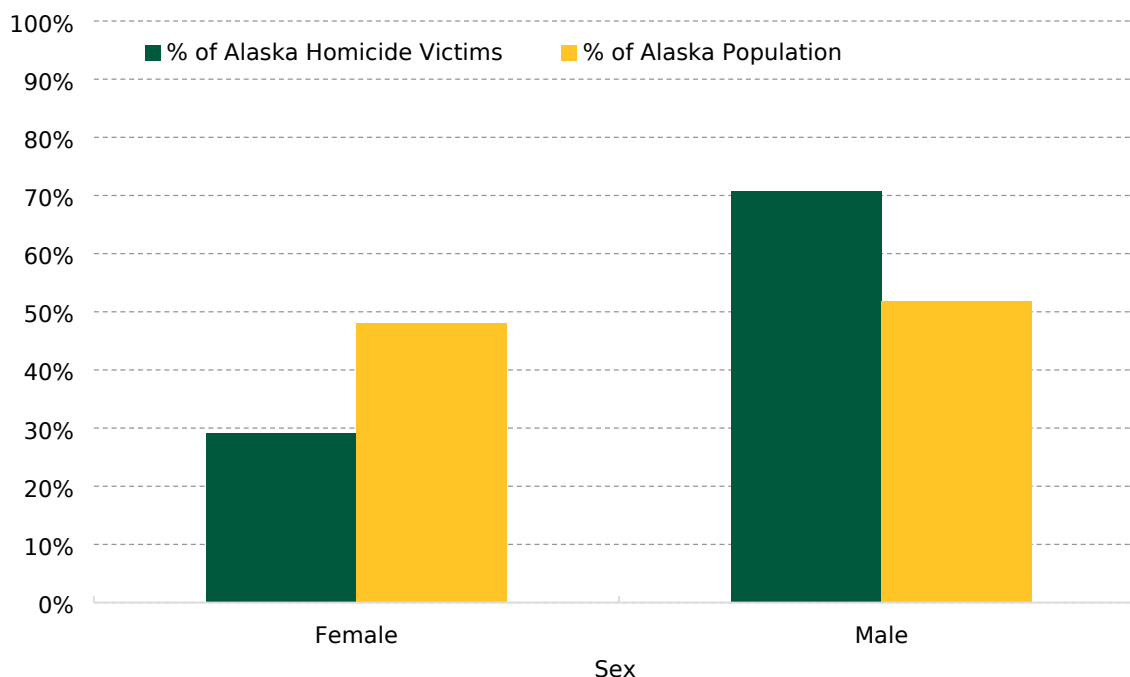
- a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.

Figure 2 presents the proportion of homicide victims by race in comparison to the proportion of Alaska population by race. Alaska populations by race are estimated based on a five year average between 2012 and 2016 from Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report, published by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The dark green bars denote the percent of total homicide victims from 1976 through 2016 by victim race, and the yellow bars represent the racial group composition of the Alaska population 2012-2016²².

The data presented in Figure 2 show that homicide victimization in Alaska is disproportionately distributed according to race. American Indian or Alaska Native victims and Black or African American victims were over-represented among Alaska's homicide victims. Nearly one in seven (16.3%) of Alaska's population identified as American Indian or Alaska Native, yet American Indian or Alaska Native victims comprised 30 percent of all Alaska homicide victims (30.5%). Black or African Americans made up four percent of Alaska's total population yet were 10 percent of all Alaska homicide victims (10.3%). Conversely, White and Asian or Pacific Islander victims were under-represented among Alaska's homicide victims.

²² See Appendix Table A 2 for population counts and homicide counts used in Figure 2.

Figure 3. Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by sex (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by sex according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)



NOTES

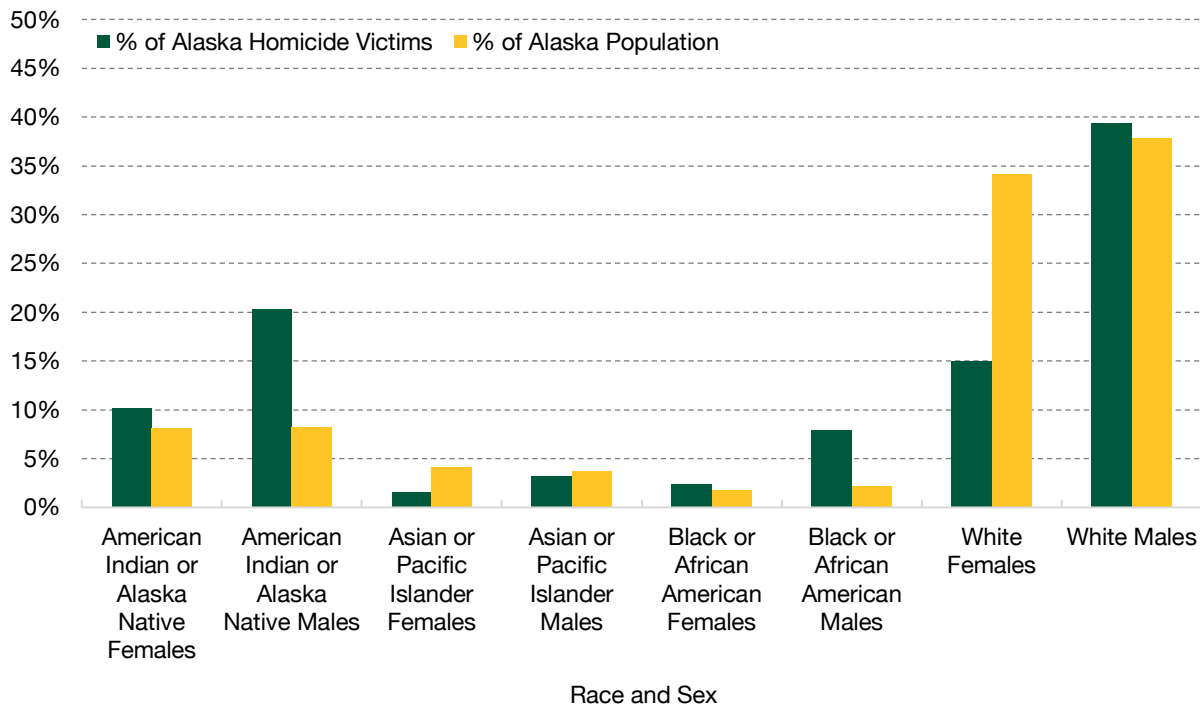
- Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.

Figure 3 presents the proportion of homicide victims by sex in comparison to the proportion of Alaska population by sex. Alaska populations by race are estimated based on a five-year average between 2012 and 2016 from Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report, published by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development. The dark green bars denote the percent of total homicide victims from 1976 through 2016 by victim sex, and the brighter yellow bars represent the percentage each sex makes up in the total Alaska population 2012-2016²³.

The data presented in Figure 3 show that homicide victimization in Alaska is disproportionately distributed according to sex. Male victims are over-represented among Alaska's homicide victims. Approximately 50 percent of Alaska's population is male (51.9%), yet male victims make up 70.8 percent of homicide victims. Conversely, female victims are under-represented compared to the population. While an estimated 48% of Alaska's population is female, less than one-third of homicide victims were female (29.2%).

²³ See appendix Table A 3 for population counts and homicide counts used in Figure 3.

Figure 4. Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race and sex (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race and sex according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)



NOTES

- Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.

Figure 4²⁴ compares the race-sex composition of Alaska homicide victims to the race-sex composition of the Alaska population. Five of the eight race-sex groups examined experienced disproportionately high rates of homicide victimization: American Indian or Alaska Native females, American Indian or Alaska Native males, Black or African American males, Black or African American females, and White males. Among these five groups, Black or African males had the highest level of disproportionality (7.9% of victims, 2.2% of population), followed by American Indian or Alaska Native males (20.3% of victims, 8.2% of population), Black or African American females (2.4% of victims, 1.8% of population), American Indian or Alaska Native females (10.2% of victims, 8.1% of population), and finally White males (39.4% of victims, 37.8% of population).

Data shows that while homicide victimization is, in general, a male phenomenon, it especially impacts American Indian or Alaska Native and Black or African American males. White males are impacted by homicide very close to the proportion to which they are in the population. Two groups of female victims are over-represented in the homicide data compared to their composition in the Alaska population:

²⁴ See appendix Table A 4 for population counts and homicide counts used in Figure 4.

American Indian or Alaska Native women make up 10.2 percent of homicide victims and 8.1 percent of the population; Black or African American female victims make up 2.4 percent of homicides, and 1.8 percent of Alaska's population. White female and Asian or Pacific Islander females are under-represented in Alaska homicide.

Homicide Incident Characteristics, by Victim Race and Sex

In this final section of this report, characteristics of homicide incidents are presented according to the combined sex and race of homicide victims. Homicide incident characteristics (month²⁵, agency, weapon, circumstance, and situation), and suspect characteristics (demographics, relationship to victim) are documented based on the race-sex group of the victim.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Table 9 presents the percentage of homicide victims reported by each law enforcement agency for each victim race-sex combination²⁶. Alaska law enforcement agencies were organized into three groups: The Alaska State Troopers (AST), the Anchorage Police Department (APD), and Other Agencies. Each column represents the total number of homicide victims within each race-sex group. Columns sum 100 percent. A comparison of the proportion of victims reported by each agency can be made by going across the table.

Results suggest an impact by the victim race but not victim sex, or victim race-sex. Homicides including American Indian or Alaska Native victims were most often reported to the FBI by the AST. In contrast, majorities of homicides involving Asian or Pacific Islander and Black or African American victims were to the FBI by APD. Homicides involving White victims were equally likely to be reported to the FBI by AST and APD. Importantly, within each racial group there were no substantial female-male differences with respect to the agency that investigated/reported homicides to the FBI.

WEAPON

Table 10 presents the percentage of homicide victims killed with firearms, knives or other cutting instruments, other weapons, and unknown weapon for each race-sex group²⁷. These analyses reveal substantial variation across race, sex, and race-sex groups with respect to the weapon used in Alaska homicides. For example, while firearms were the most common homicide weapon overall, American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were less likely than any of the other race-sex groups to be killed with a firearm (36.3%). In fact, American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims were noticeably less likely than their American Indian or Alaska Native male counterparts to be killed with a firearm (36.3% vs. 49.5%, respectively). Furthermore, American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims – both female and male – were less likely to be killed with a firearm than Asian or Pacific Islander, Black or African American, and White homicide victims. Finally, the data also show that within every racial group, males were more likely than females to be killed with a firearm.

²⁵ Analysis revealed that the race and sex of the victim did not have an impact on the pattern of monthly victims. Data for the monthly count of victims by race and sex can be found in Appendix Table A 5 and Table A 6.

²⁶ See appendix Table A 7 for the counts of homicide victims by law enforcement agency group.

²⁷ See Appendix Table A 8 for the counts of homicide victims by weapon.

Table 9. The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the Alaska law enforcement agency which reported their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^c), by victim race and victim sex reported to the SHR

REPORTING AGENCY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Alaska State Troopers	46.2	51.4	24.1	10.5	7.0	14.9	43.7	42.6
Anchorage Police Department	25.8	24.2	65.5	70.2	79.1	72.3	42.2	42.0
Other Agencies ^d	28.0	24.5	10.3	19.3	14.0	12.8	14.2	15.5

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Columns may not add up to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

c. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

d. Other Agencies includes: Bethel PD, Bristol Bay Borough PD, Cordova PD, Craig PD, Dillingham PD, Fairbanks PD, Haines PD, Homer PD, Juneau PD, Kenai PD, Ketchikan PD, Kodiak PD, Kotzebue PD, Nenana PD, Nome PD, North Slope Borough PD, Palmer PD, Petersburg PD, Seward PD, Sitka PD, Skagway PD, Soldotna PD, St. Paul PD, Unalaska PD, University of Alaska Fairbanks PD, Valdez PD, Wasilla PD, and Wrangell PD.

Similarly complex patterns were observed for other homicide weapons. For example, American Indian or Alaska Native male and female victims were more likely than any other race-sex group to be killed with a knife or cutting instrument, with American Indian or Alaska Native males more likely to be killed with a knife or other cutting instrument than American Indian or Alaska Native females. In contrast, White males (12.6%) and White females (11.6%) were equally likely to be killed with a knife or other cutting instrument. Among Asian or Pacific Islander homicide victims, females (17.2%) were more likely to be killed with a knife or other cutting instrument than males (5.3%), while the opposite was true for Black or African American victims.

In general, female homicide victims were more likely than male homicide victims to be killed with a weapon other than a firearm or knife/cutting instrument, but this pattern did not hold for Asian or Pacific Islander victims. Among Black or African American homicide victims, females were more likely to be

killed by such means (25.6%). Overall, American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims were most likely to be killed by weapons other than firearms or cutting instruments (34.1%). American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were also most likely to be killed by unknown means/weapons (11.0%).

In sum, the data presented in Table 10 demonstrate both the independent effects of race and sex on homicide weapon use, as well as the interaction effects between these two variables. All three impacted homicide weapon use: (1) victim race, (2) victim sex, and (3) victim race and sex combined.

Table 10. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the weapon used in their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex reported to the SHR*

WEAPON GROUPS ^d	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Firearms	36.3	49.5	62.1	66.7	62.8	78.0	54.9	70.4
Knife	18.7	23.4	17.2	5.3	7.0	10.6	11.6	12.6
All other weapons	34.1	21.7	13.8	24.6	25.6	8.5	24.3	11.2
Unknown	11.0	5.5	6.9	3.5	4.7	2.8	9.3	5.8

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

d. Weapon Group definitions: Firearms contains Firearm, type not stated, Handgun – pistol, revolver, etc, Rifle, Shotgun and Other gun; Knife was categorized as Knife or cutting instrument; All other weapons contains Blunt Object – hammer, club, etc., Personal weapons, includes beating, Poison – does not include gas, Pushed or thrown out window, Explosives, Fire, Narcotics or drugs, sleeping pills, Drowning, Strangulation – hanging, Asphyxiation – includes death by gas.

CIRCUMSTANCE

Table 11 presents the percentage of homicide victims killed based on the circumstances surrounding their homicide for each victim race-sex combination²⁸. Circumstances were organized into five groups: Interpersonal Conflict, Crime-related²⁹, Other, Negligence, and Unknown.

The data presented reveal primarily sex-based differences. In general, male homicide victims were more likely to be killed in circumstances involving Interpersonal Conflict and Crime than female homicide victims. Conversely, female homicide victims were more likely than males to be killed in Other circumstances. Two notable exceptions to these overall patterns did emerge, however, suggesting some specific race-sex interactions. American Indian or Alaska Native males were less likely to be killed in circumstances that included crime than all other male and nearly all female victim groups. Conversely, American Indian or Alaska Native males were not only more likely to be killed in circumstances involving interpersonal conflict than American Indian or Alaska Native females, they were more likely to be murdered in such circumstances than every other race-sex group – by a substantial margin.

While the findings discussed in the preceding paragraph are suggestive, the limitations of the SHR data presented in Table 11 are also apparent. Approximately 1 out of 5 homicide victims of every race-sex group were reported by law enforcement as having an unknown circumstance at the time of reporting to the SHR. Consequently, caution must be applied when drawing conclusions about the contexts in which Alaska homicides occur and the extent to which they vary according to race-sex group³⁰.

²⁸ See Appendix Table A 9 for the counts of homicide victims by circumstance.

²⁹ Crime-related circumstances include circumstances that were previously categorized as Instrumental Felonies, Property Felonies, Drugs, Gangs, Other Felonies, and Reverse Felonies.

³⁰ For reading on the interpretation of circumstance in the SHR, see Loftin 1986 and Maxfield 1989.

Table 11. The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the circumstance surrounding their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex when the race and sex of the victim was known and reported to the SHR

CIRCUMSTANCE GROUP ^d	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Interpersonal conflict	33.0	45.3	31.0	21.1	25.6	39.0	25.4	33.5
Crime-related	10.4	9.6	13.8	28.1	7.0	21.3	14.2	22.6
Other	26.9	15.4	34.5	21.1	32.6	18.4	32.8	20.6
Negligence	5.5	5.5	6.9	8.8	4.7	4.3	2.2	4.4
Unknown	24.2	24.2	13.8	21.1	30.2	17.0	25.4	19.0

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

d. Circumstance Group definitions: Interpersonal Conflict contains Other Arguments, Brawl due to influence of Alcohol, Lovers triangle, Argument over money or property, and Child killed by babysitter; Crime-related contains Brawl due to influence of narcotics, Juvenile gang killings, Gangland killings, Motor vehicle theft, Sniper attack, Robbery, Narcotic drug laws; Felon killed by police, Felon killed by private citizen, Burglary, All suspected felony type, Rape, Arson, Larceny, and Other sex offense; Other contains Other, Other – not specified, Institutional killings, Prostitution and commercialized vice, and Gambling; Negligence contains All other manslaughter by negligence, Other negligent handling of gun, Children playing with gun, Victim shot in hunting accident, and Gun-cleaning death – other than self; Unknown contains Circumstances undetermined and Unknown.

SITUATION

Table 12 presents the percentage of homicide victims by situation code for each victim race-sex combination³¹. When it came to homicide situations – that is, the number of victims and the number of suspects involved in homicide incidents – single victim incidents were found to be associated with victim sex, but not victim race, and there were no readily apparent race-sex interactions. With few exceptions, male victims were more likely than female victims to be killed in single victim homicide homicides, while female victims were more likely than male victims to be killed in multiple victim homicides. This latter finding was especially pronounced for Asian or Pacific Islander and Black or African American females. It is important to emphasize, however, that majorities of both female and male homicide victims were killed in single victim homicides, and single victim/single suspect homicides in particular.

³¹ See Appendix Table A 10 for the counts of homicide victims by situation code.

Table 12. The percent of Alaska homicide victims by the homicide situation code reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex

SITUATION CODE	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Single Victim Incidents								
Single Victim/ Single Suspect	68.1	69.5	62.1	56.1	53.5	62.4	56.7	61.4
Single Victim/ Multiple Suspects	2.2	7.1	6.9	8.8	4.7	10.6	3.7	10.1
Single Victim/ Unknown Suspect(s)	15.4	12.6	10.3	17.5	11.6	16.3	17.2	17.6
Multiple Victim Incidents								
Multiple Victims/ Single Suspect	12.1	8.2	20.7	12.3	25.6	7.8	15.3	6.8
Multiple Victims/ Multiple Suspects	0.0	0.3	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.7	1.9	1.1
Multiple Victims/ Unknown Suspect(s)	2.2	2.2	0.0	1.8	4.7	2.1	5.2	3.0

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Homicide Victims by Suspect Characteristics

A key benefit to using the SHR is the ability to connect suspect and victim information for each homicide incident. Table 13 through Table 15 cross-tabulate homicide suspects' and homicide victims' demographic characteristics. Table 13 presents the percentage of victims killed by suspect sex; Table 14 presents the percentage of victims killed by suspect age group; and, Table 15 presents the percentage of victims killed by suspect race. The percentages presented in each column reflect the percentage of homicide victims killed by suspects with each demographic characteristic. The data presented in Table 13 through Table 15 are limited to single-victim, single-suspect homicide incidents in order to eliminate double counting of suspects³². (Note: readers should exercise caution when interpreting the results presented in Tables 13-15 due to the frequency with which homicide suspect demographic information was unknown when the data were submitted to the FBI by Alaska law enforcement agencies, and the limitation of single-victim single-suspect incidents.)

SUSPECT SEX BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 13 presents the percentage of victims³³ killed by female suspects, male suspects, and suspects of unknown sex³⁴. The data show that a majority of Alaska homicide victims (between two-thirds and three-quarters) were killed by male suspects, with little variation according to victim race, victim sex, or victim race-sex combination. Overall, female homicide victims of all races were only slightly more likely than males to be killed by male suspects.

Table 13. *The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect sex/gender characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408^b), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides*

SUSPECT SEX/GENDER	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Female	8.6	16.4	4.8	7.1	10.7	9.0	3.0	12.2
Male	73.0	68.2	81.0	69.1	71.4	70.3	73.7	65.5
Unknown	18.4	15.4	14.3	23.8	17.9	20.7	23.2	22.3

NOTES

- Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.
- Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

³² 1,408 out of the 1,789 victims with a known race and sex in this dataset are assessed in Table 13 through Table 15. Although not reported here, an identical analysis was conducted using all victims with a known race and sex (n=1,789) and results were nearly identical.

³³ Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.

³⁴ See Appendix Table A 11 for the counts of homicide victims by sex/gender of the suspect.

SUSPECT AGE BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 14 presents the percentage of victims³⁵ killed by suspects in each of eight age groups: Less than 18 years, 18 to 24 years, 25 to 34 years, 35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, 55 to 64 years, 65 years and older, and Unknown, for each victim race-sex combination³⁶. Results show that juvenile homicide suspects were rarely observed in the data: homicide perpetration in Alaska is almost exclusively an adult phenomenon. Moreover, a majority of homicides are committed by adults between the ages of 18 and 44 for every victim race, sex, and race-sex grouping. Overall, African American victims (both sexes) tended to be killed by suspects between 18 and 44 years of age (approximately 70%) more frequently than homicide victims of other racial groups. The average age of suspects³⁷ was slightly higher when the victim was female compared to when the victim was male for all race groups. The average age of suspects was the highest when there was an Asian or Pacific Islander victim (average=39.4), followed by White female victim (average=34.5), Asian or Pacific Islander male victim (average=32.8), White male victim (average=32.1), American Indian or Alaska Native female victim (average=32.0), Black or African American female victim (average=29.7), American Indian or Alaska Native male victim (average=29.0), and the youngest suspects were identified in homicides with a Black or African American male victim (average=27.2). Combining victim race groups, suspects were generally older for Asian or Pacific Islander victims and White victims, and younger for Black or African American and American Indian or Alaska Native victims. The likelihood that homicide suspects were 45 years of age or older was much lower than the likelihood that homicide suspects were between 18 and 44 years of age, but more likely than being a juvenile.

³⁵ Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.

³⁶ See Appendix Table A 12 for the counts of homicide victims by the age group of the suspect.

³⁷ Only includes suspects involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and single suspect. Data not shown.

Table 14. The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect age group reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408^b), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides

SUSPECT AGE GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Less than 18 years	2.6	8.4	0.0	11.9	3.6	7.2	6.1	5.8
18 to 24 years	22.4	28.1	9.5	9.5	21.4	31.5	15.7	18.1
25 to 34 years	27.0	25.8	28.6	21.4	39.3	24.3	19.7	26.6
35 to 44 years	15.8	12.4	14.3	19.1	14.3	11.7	16.7	13.5
45 to 54 years	9.9	6.0	19.1	7.1	0.0	3.6	12.6	8.3
55 to 64 years	4.0	3.0	9.5	4.8	3.6	0.9	3.5	2.9
65 years and older	0.0	0.3	4.8	2.4	0.0	0.0	2.0	1.6
Unknown	18.4	16.1	14.3	23.8	17.9	20.7	23.7	23.3

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program

Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

SUSPECT RACE BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 15 presents the percentage of victims³⁸ killed according to the race of the suspect³⁹. For all victim race-sex groups the suspect was most likely to match the race of the victim. Approximately 60 percent of American Indian or Alaska Native female (62.2%) and male (58.6%) victims were involved in a homicide committed by an American or Alaska Native suspect. Nearly half of Asian or Pacific Islander female (52.4%) and male (47.6%) victims were killed by a suspect who was also Asian or Pacific Islander. Three-quarters of Black or African American female victims were killed by a Black or African American suspect (75.0%). Black or African American male victims were killed by a Black or African American suspect approximately half of the time (49.6%). And, approximately 60 percent of White female victims (66.2%) and male victims (57.8%) were killed by a suspect who was also White. The largest victim within-race sex difference was for Black or African American victims – African American females were much more likely than African American males to be killed by an African American suspect. The smallest within-race sex difference was for American Indian or Alaska Native victims, with American Indian or Alaska Native males slightly more likely than American Indian or Alaska Native females to be killed by an American Indian or Alaska Native suspect.

Approximately 4 out of 10 victims were not killed by a suspect of the same race. When a victim was killed by a suspect who was not the same race, the race of the suspect was most likely White. Finally, the race of the suspect was unknown to law enforcement for approximately 20 percent of homicide victims. The largest proportion of white female victims were reported as being killed by a suspect of an unknown race across race-sex groups (24.2%).

³⁸ Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.

³⁹ See Appendix Table A 13 for the counts of homicide victims by the race/ethnicity of the suspect.

Table 15. The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect race/ethnicity characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408^b), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides

SUSPECT RACE/ETHNICITY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	58.6	62.2	4.8	2.4	3.6	4.5	4.0	9.0
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.3	0.3	52.4	47.6	0.0	3.6	0.0	2.2
Black or African American	2.6	2.7	9.5	4.8	75.0	49.6	5.6	7.7
White	18.4	18.4	19.1	21.4	3.6	21.6	66.2	57.8
Unknown	19.1	16.4	14.3	23.8	17.9	20.7	24.2	23.3

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

SUSPECT–VICTIM RELATIONSHIPS, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Table 16 presents the percentage of victims⁴⁰ killed according to suspects' relationships to victims⁴¹. The data presented in Table 16 suggest that a majority of Alaska homicides were committed by suspects known to victims; homicides committed by strangers were rarely observed in the data. The data also reveal that the types of relationships between homicide suspects and victims varied according to victim race, victim sex, and victim race-sex.

Higher percentages of American Indian or Alaska Native and Asian or Pacific Islander victims were killed by intimate partners than Black or African American and White homicide victims. American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims were much more likely than homicide victims of other races to be killed by a family member. American Indian or Alaska Native victims were in general less likely than members of other racial groups to be killed by a stranger.

The data presented in Table 16 also reveal important sex-based differences as well – differences that transcend race. For example, female homicide victims were much more likely than male homicide victims to be killed by a current or former intimate partner or spouse, irrespective of victim race. In fact, without exception, female homicide victims of every racial group were more likely to be killed by a current or former intimate partner or spouse than a family member, friend/acquaintance, or stranger. Conversely, and again without exception, male homicide victims of every racial group were most often killed by a friend or acquaintance.

Finally, the data show some differences according to both victim race and victim sex. For example, Asian or Pacific Islander female victims were more likely than homicide victims in every other race-sex group to be killed by an intimate partner, American Indian or Alaska Native males were more likely to be killed by a family member, and Black or African American females were least likely to be killed by a stranger.

⁴⁰ Only includes victims involved in homicide incidents with a single victim and a single suspect.

⁴¹ See Appendix Table A 14 for the counts of homicide victims by the relationship the suspect had to the victim.

Table 16. The percent of Alaska homicide victims by suspect relationship to the victim^b: 1976-2016
(n=1,408^c), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides

SUSPECT RELATIONSHIP ^e	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^d							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Intimate Partner	40.1	8.7	52.4	2.4	35.7	6.3	37.9	7.7
Family Member	14.5	19.7	4.8	11.9	14.3	5.4	9.6	8.6
Friend or Acquaintance	21.7	42.5	23.8	38.1	25.0	46.0	19.7	43.6
Stranger	2.6	8.7	4.8	21.4	0.0	14.4	8.6	13.5
Unknown	21.1	20.4	14.3	26.2	25.0	27.9	24.2	26.6

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Relationship to the first victim

c. 1,408 homicide victims had a known race and known sex when in one victim / one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

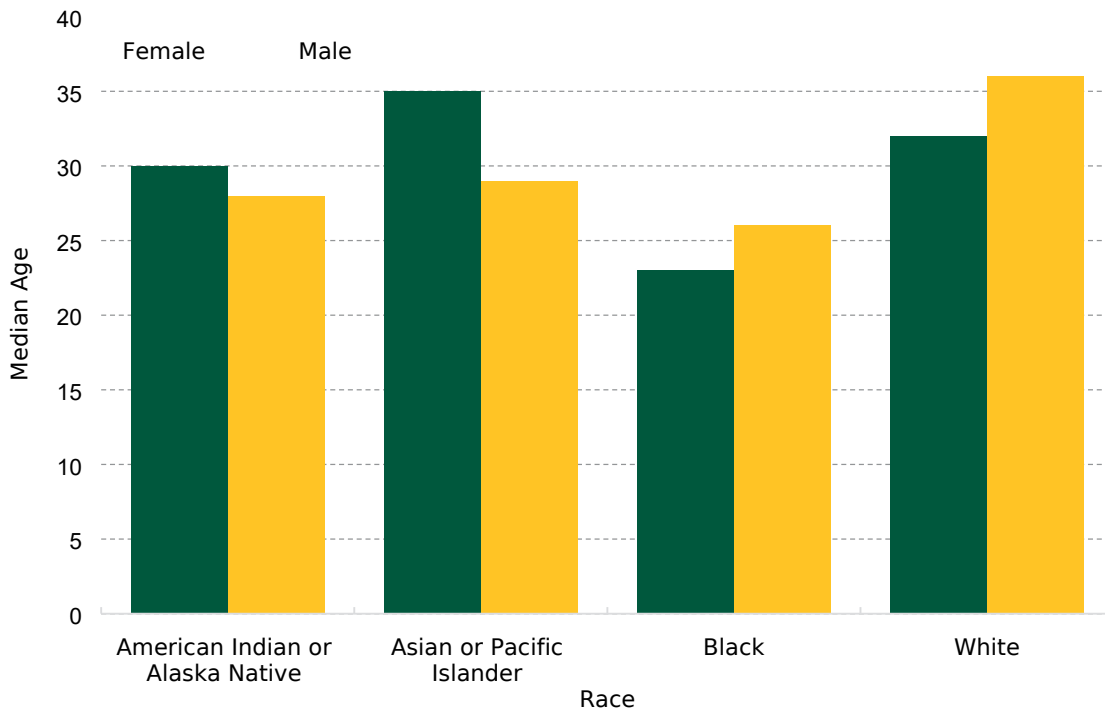
d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

e. Relationship Group Definitions: Intimate Partner included Wife, Girlfriend, Boyfriend, Husband, Common-law husband, Ex-husband, Common-law wife, and Homosexual relationship; Family Member included Other family, Brother, Son, Daughter, Father, Mother, In-law, Sister, Stepfather, Stepson, and Stepdaughter; Friend or Acquaintance included Acquaintance, Friend, Other- known to victim, Neighbor, Employee, and Employer; Stranger included Stranger; Relation not determined included Missing and Relationship not determined.

VICTIM AGE, BY VICTIM RACE AND SEX

Figure 5 presents the median victim age for each of the eight race-sex groups examined. For each racial group, green bars depict the median age for female victims and yellow bars depict the median age for male victims. Overall, the median age of Black or African American female victims (23 years) and Black or African American male victims (26 years) was lower than those for other racial groups. White males had the highest median age of any race-sex group (36 years).

Figure 5. The median age of female and male Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR: 1976-2016, by homicide victim race and sex (n=1,789) when the race and sex of the victim was known



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims

The age gap between the race-sex group with the lowest median age (black females) and the race-sex group with the highest median age (white males) is substantial: 13 years. The widest within-race age gap between males and females (6 years) was for Asian or Pacific Islander homicide victims (males younger than females). The narrowest within-race age gap between males and females (2 years) was for American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims (males younger than females).

Summary: Victims by Race & Sex

In this third section of the report, Alaska homicide data for the period 1976-2016 were presented according to two victim characteristics: victim race and victim sex. This approach provided a framework with which to compare patterns of homicide victimization across racial groups (e.g., American Indian or Alaska Native vs. White), between sexes within racial groups (e.g., White males vs. White females), and between each of eight race-sex groups (e.g., Black or African American females vs. American Indian or Alaska Native females). Within this framework, data were presented on: homicide incident characteristics, homicide suspect demographics, the relationships between homicide suspects and homicide victims, and finally the demographic characteristics of homicide victims. The key findings of these descriptive analyses are presented below:

- A comparison of the composition of Alaska homicide victims and the Alaska population revealed that Black male homicide victims were the most over-represented homicide victim race-sex group.
- Male homicide victims were over-represented in Alaska homicide compared to their population, and American Indian or Alaska Native female victims and Black or African American female victims were over-represented.
- American Indian or Alaska Native male and female homicide victims were more likely to be reported by law enforcement agencies other than the APD⁴².
- Comparing weapon use across race-sex groups showed that male victims were killed more often by firearms than female victims, unless the victim was Asian or Pacific Islander.
- Firearms killed the smallest proportion of male and female American Indian or Alaska Native homicide victims; Black or African American male victims were killed the most often of all race-sex groups by a firearm.
- Comparing the circumstances by victim race and sex showed that male victims were reported more often as being killed during interpersonal conflict and crime-related homicides than female victims.
- The preponderance of homicide victims was killed by a suspect who was the same race for all victim racial groups with little variation by sex.
- The proportion of female victims killed by an intimate partner was approximately five times larger than the proportion of male victims across all victim racial groups.
- Conversely, the proportion of male homicide victims killed by a stranger was twice as large as the proportion of female victims across all victim racial groups.
- American Indian or Alaska Native male and female victims were killed more often by a family member than other victim racial groups.

⁴² See Table 2 for full list of Alaska law enforcement agencies within Other Agencies group.

American Indian or Alaska Native Female Victims

At the beginning of this report we presented the problem of data on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and girls (MMIWG) and aimed to provide preliminary analyses of homicide incidents in which American Indian or Alaska Native women and girls were victims using data from the SHR. Presenting a foundation in homicide characteristics for all eight race–sex victim groups, we have compiled characteristics of homicides involving American Indian or Alaska Native female victims in Alaska between 1976 and 2016.

First, this report revealed that American Indian or Alaska Native females were over-represented among homicides compared to their population in the state. American Indian or Alaska Native females make up 10.2 percent of Alaska homicide victims, but only 8.1 percent of Alaska’s total population – a 25 percent larger proportion of victims compared to population. In context, Black or African American females were the only other female victim group to be over-represented in Alaska homicide: they made up 2.4 percent of homicide victims, and 1.8 percent of the population – a 33 percent larger proportion of victims compared to population. Contrast this with White female victims, who made up 15.0 percent of victims and 34.2 percent of the population – a 56 percent smaller proportion of victims compared to the population.

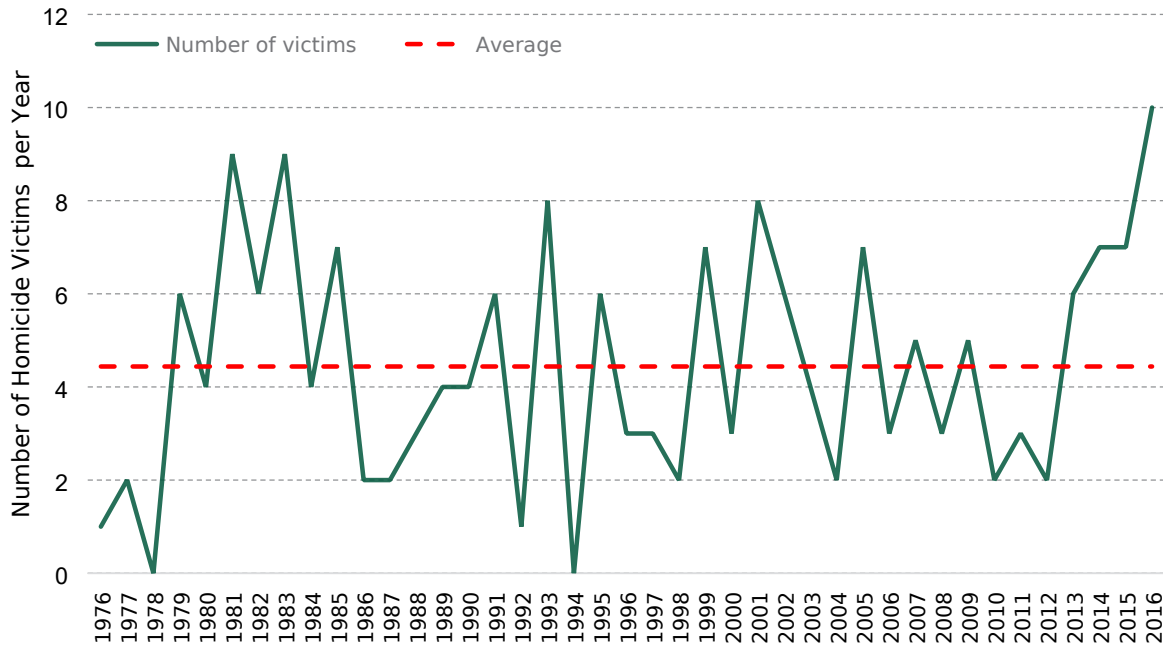
Second, the analysis of homicide victim race and sex revealed a homicide characteristic found specifically for American Indian or Alaska Native female victims: the weapons used in their killing. American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were the least likely of all victim race-sex groups to be killed with a firearm (36.3%). American Indian or Alaska Native females were killed with a weapon classified as all other weapons more often than any other victim race-sex group (34.1%)⁴³. American Indian or Alaska Native women were killed by a knife or cutting instrument (18.7%) more than almost any other victim race-sex group, only reporting a smaller proportion than American Indian or Alaska Native male victims. Finally, the largest proportion of American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were killed by a weapon unknown to law enforcement compared to other victim race-sex groups. (Note: a number of homicide characteristics apply to all American Indian or Alaska Native victims, and other characteristics apply to all female victims, but not specifically to American Indian or Alaska Native female victims. Those characteristics by victim race alone and victim sex alone are summarized in the previous section.)

Finally, Figure 6 presents the number of American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims reported in the SHR per year⁴⁴. In 2016, the most recent year included in the study, more American Indian or Alaska Native women were reported as victims of homicide than any other year in the study.

⁴³ See Table 10 for a full list of weapons included in All other weapons

⁴⁴ See Appendix Table A 15 for counts.

Figure 6. The number of American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=182), by year



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this report was to provide a foundation of knowledge on the characteristics of homicide in Alaska, especially as it pertained to the murder of indigenous women and girls. This was a response to the MMIWG crisis in the United States, along with the recent increases in violent crime in Alaska. Although this analysis of homicide using the SHR has its limitations, we hope the analytic ability to connect victims and suspects, and to have a record of the circumstances surrounding the homicide is valuable to the reader. Over the course of this analysis the murder of 1,856 Alaska residents over a period of 41 years has been presented. Many significant findings have emerged as to how victims, based on their race and sex, are murdered in Alaska.

Most homicides were committed with a firearm

Firearms were reported as the method of killing in a majority of Alaska homicides. Black or African American male victims were the most impacted by firearm homicide across all victims – 78% percent killed by a firearm. When men were killed it more was likely to be with a firearm in comparison to women, although specific male-female differences varied by racial group. Notably, victims who were American Indian or Alaska Native were killed with firearms at a lower rate than any other victim race-sex group. American Indian or Alaska Native female victims were the group least likely to be killed by a firearm (36.3%).

Women were at exceptionally high risk of being killed by intimate partners

An alarming finding over the 41 years of the study is that female victims were killed by intimate partners nearly 40 percent of the time. This is far more than the risk of that female victims will be killed by family members (~14%), friends (~20%), or strangers (~6%). Men were far less likely to be killed by an intimate partner (<10%), and they were more likely to be killed by a friend (~40%) or stranger (~13%). The difference between male and female victims was consistent across all racial groups. The study also found that American Indian or Alaska Native victims of both races were more often reported as being killed by a family member (~17%) compared to other victim groups.

American Indian or Alaska Native Female Victims

This report aimed to provide data to policymakers and the public on how American Indian or Alaska Native women were being killed in Alaska. How are the killings of American Indian or Alaska Native women different compared to other Alaska victims? An analysis of 41 years of data found that American Indian or Alaska Native female homicides demonstrate some distinct characteristics, some of which are specific to American Indian or Alaska Native females, some of which pertain to females more generally, and still others that pertain to American Indians and Alaska Natives more generally. To fully understand the murder of American Indian or Alaska Native females, one must understand all of these dimensions. Distinct to their race and sex combined, American Indian or Alaska Native women were killed far less often by a firearm than other victim race-sex groups. Distinct to their sex, they are more killed by intimate partners, and less often killed by strangers, in comparison to male victims. Distinct to their race, they are killed by a family member more often than other racial groups.

Homicide Victimization was Disproportionate

In addition to the details surrounding homicide, this report shows that certain Alaska residents are more impacted by homicide than other Alaskans. Specifically, residents who are American Indian or Alaska Native or Black or African American are killed far more often than would be expected given their overall representation in Alaska's population. Black or African American males were the most disproportionately impacted race-sex group in the study. This report does not speculate why this pattern was observed, but the 41 years of homicide data presented here provides a firm empirical foundation for further research.

We hope that this knowledge of Alaska homicide will serve to inform the public, aid policy makers, and improve criminal justice practitioners in reducing future Alaskan homicides and supporting the communities surrounding homicide victims.

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APPENDIX

Table A1 The number of homicide incidents^b reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies:
1976-2016 (n=1,709)

YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT ^c		YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT ^c
1976	40	2.3		2001	33	1.9
1977	39	2.3		2002	40	2.3
1978	49	2.9		2003	40	2.3
1979	47	2.8		2004	41	2.4
1980	38	2.2		2005	36	2.1
1981	50	2.9		2006	41	2.4
1982	57	3.3		2007	48	2.8
1983	55	3.2		2008	33	1.9
1984	42	2.5		2009	36	2.1
1985	47	2.8		2010	38	2.2
1986	42	2.5		2011	35	2.1
1987	40	2.3		2012	40	2.3
1988	29	1.7		2013	38	2.2
1989	33	1.9		2014	45	2.6
1990	34	2.0		2015	58	3.4
1991	39	2.3		2016	60	3.5
1992	41	2.4				
1993	49	2.9				
1994	33	1.9				
1995	48	2.8				
1996	35	2.1				
1997	42	2.5				
1998	34	2.0				
1999	50	2.9				
2000	34	2.0				

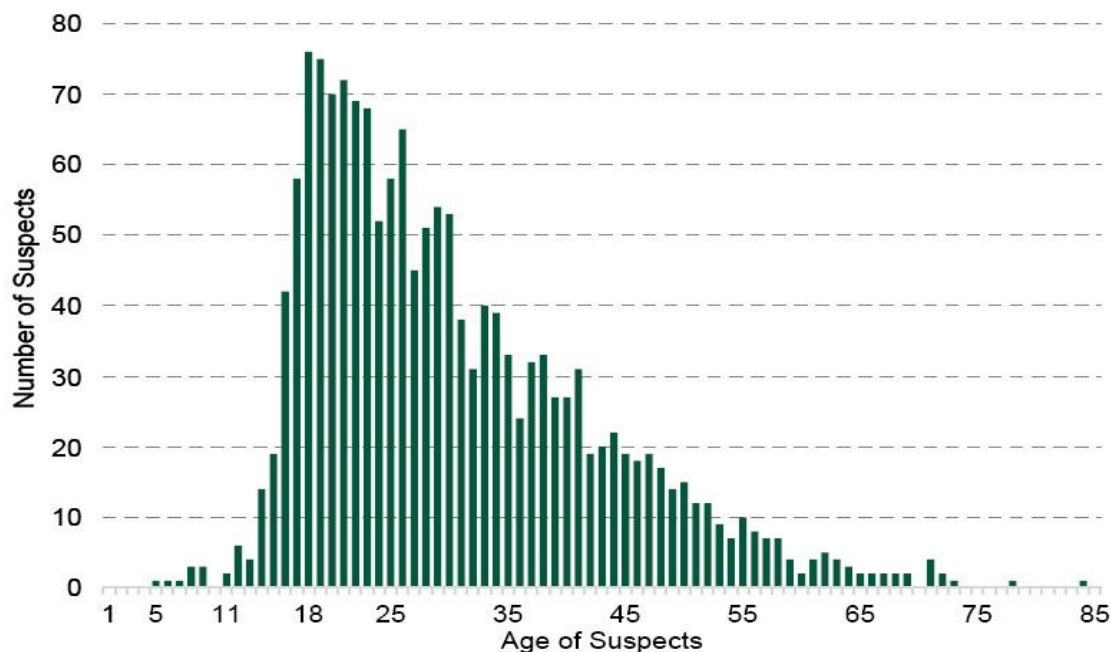
NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. A homicide incident refers to the event of criminal homicide including both victims and suspects

c. Percent may not add up to 100.0 due to rounding error

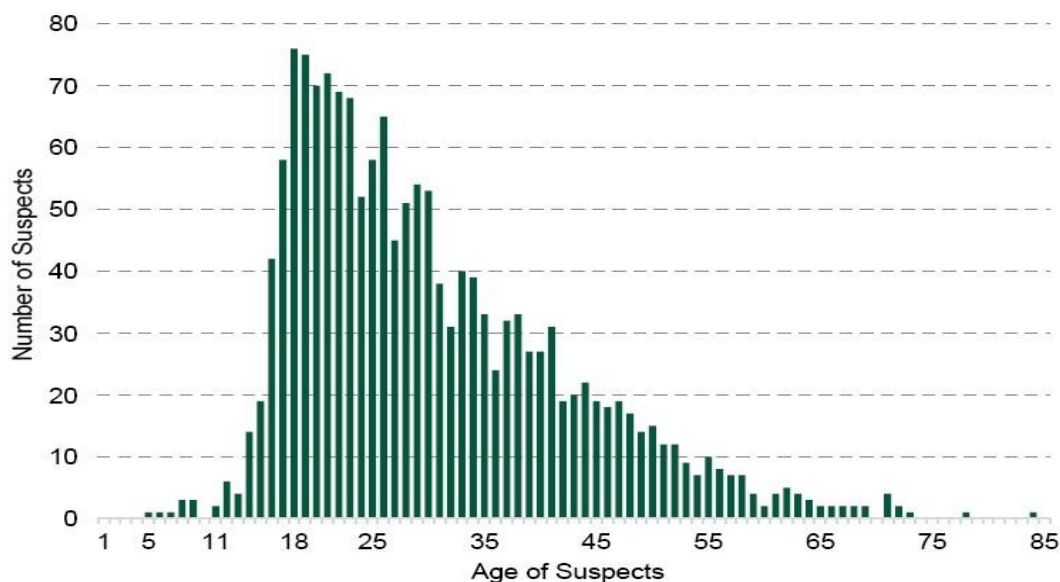
Figure A1. Number of homicide suspects reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies with recorded age, 1976-2016, by age (n=1,593)



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

Figure A2. Number of homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies with recorded age, 1976-2016, by age (n=1,593)



NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Victims recorded as one year old includes all victims who are less than two years old.

HOMICIDE IN ALASKA
1976-2016

Table A2 Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)

RACE	VICTIMS BY RACE (N = 1,789)		POPULATION BY RACE (N = 683,858)	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT ^d
American Indian or Alaska Native	546	30.5	111,282	16.3
Asian or Pacific Islander	86	4.8	53,660	7.9
Black or African American	184	10.3	27,029	4.0
White	973	54.4	491,887	71.9
Total	1,789	100.0	683,858 ^c	100.1

NOTES

- a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.
- c. Total population is the sum of the average race groups
- d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A3 Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by sex (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by sex according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)

SEX	VICTIMS BY SEX (N = 1,789)		POPULATION BY SEX (N = 683,858)	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT ^d
Female	522	29.2	329,002	48.1
Male	1,267	70.8	354,856	51.9
Total	1,789	100.0	683,858	100.0

NOTES

- a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.
- c. Total population is the sum of the average race groups
- d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A4 Percentage of Alaska homicide victims reported to the SHR 1976-2016 by race-sex group (n=1,789), compared to the percentage of Alaska population by race-sex group according to the 2012-2016 Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimate (n=683,858)

VICTIM RACE & SEX	VICTIMS BY RACE AND SEX (N=1,789)		POPULATION BY RACE AND SEX (N=683,858)	
	NUMBER	PERCENT	NUMBER	PERCENT ^d
American Indian or Alaska Native				
Female	182	10.2	55,154	8.1
Male	364	20.3	56,127	8.2
Asian or Pacific Islander				
Female	29	1.6	28,211	4.1
Male	57	3.2	25,449	3.7
Black or African American				
Female	43	2.4	12,048	1.8
Male	141	7.9	14,981	2.2
White				
Female	268	15.0	233,589	34.2
Male	705	39.4	258,298	37.8
Total	1,789	100.0	683,858 ^c	100.1

NOTES

- a. Homicide Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- b. Population Data source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development Alaska Population Overview 2016 Estimates Report. Percentages are calculated by average population between 2012 and 2016 for Alaska residents selecting only a single race, divided by the total number Alaska residents who selected a single race.
- c. Total population is the sum of the average race-sex groups
- d. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A5 The percent of Alaska homicide victims by month reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex

MONTH	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER ^c							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
MONTH	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
January	8.2	8.2	13.8	3.5	16.3	9.9	6.7	8.1
February	8.8	9.1	10.3	3.5	9.3	6.4	7.8	6.4
March	9.9	6.6	0.0	8.8	7.0	7.8	11.9	9.4
April	8.2	6.0	6.9	5.3	7.0	6.4	8.2	7.1
May	6.0	6.6	13.8	7.0	21.0	10.6	10.1	9.9
June	6.6	8.0	3.5	7.0	4.7	6.4	6.0	5.4
July	6.6	9.9	17.2	10.5	4.7	9.9	6.0	7.1
August	10.4	9.1	3.5	5.3	4.7	10.6	7.8	9.4
September	9.3	9.9	10.3	7.0	11.6	9.2	7.5	8.9
October	8.8	6.3	0.0	7.0	2.3	10.6	9.3	9.2
November	5.5	8.0	10.3	15.8	4.7	6.4	9.3	8.2
December	11.5	9.3	10.3	19.3	7.0	5.7	9.3	10.9

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data:

Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Columns may not sum to 100.0 percent due to rounding error

Table A6 The number of Alaska homicide victims by month reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex

MONTH	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
January	15	30	4	2	7	14	18	57
February	16	33	3	2	4	9	21	45
March	18	35	0	5	3	11	32	66
April	15	22	2	3	3	9	22	50
May	11	24	4	4	9	15	27	70
June	12	29	1	4	2	9	16	38
July	12	36	5	6	2	14	16	50
August	19	33	1	3	2	15	21	66
September	17	36	3	4	5	13	20	63
October	16	23	0	4	1	15	25	65
November	10	29	3	9	2	9	25	58
December	21	34	3	11	3	8	25	77

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A7 The number of Alaska homicide victims by the Alaska law enforcement agency which reported their killing: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex reported to the SHR

REPORTING AGENCY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Alaska State Troopers	84	187	7	6	3	21	117	300
Anchorage Police Department	47	88	19	40	34	102	113	296
Other Agencies ^c	51	89	3	11	6	18	38	109

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Other Agencies includes: Bethel PD, Bristol Bay Borough PD, Cordova PD, Craig PD, Dillingham PD, Fairbanks PD, Haines PD, Homer PD, Juneau PD, Kenai PD, Ketchikan PD, Kodiak PD, Kotzebue PD, Nenana PD, Nome PD, North Slope Borough PD, Palmer PD, Petersburg PD, Seward PD, Sitka PD, Skagway PD, Soldotna PD, St. Paul PD, Unalaska PD, University of Alaska Fairbanks PD, Valdez PD, Wasilla PD, and Wrangell PD.

Table A8 The number of Alaska homicide victims by the weapon used in their killing reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex

WEAPON ^c GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Firearms	66	180	18	38	27	110	147	496
Knife	34	85	5	3	3	15	31	89
All other weapons	62	79	4	14	11	12	65	79
Unknown	20	20	2	2	2	4	25	41

NOTES

- a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016
- b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.
- c. Weapon Group definitions: Firearms contains Firearm, type not stated, Handgun – pistol, revolver, etc, Rifle, Shotgun and Other gun; Knife was categorized as Knife or cutting instrument; All other weapons contains Blunt Object – hammer, club, etc., Personal weapons, includes beating, Poison – does not include gas, Pushed or thrown out window, Explosives, Fire, Narcotics or drugs, sleeping pills, Drowning, Strangulation – hanging, Asphyxiation – includes death by gas.

Table A9 The number of Alaska homicide victims by the circumstance surrounding their killing reported the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex when the race and sex of the victim was known

CIRCUMSTANCE ^c GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Interpersonal conflict	60	165	9	12	11	55	68	236
Crime-related	19	35	4	16	3	30	38	159
Other	49	56	10	12	14	26	88	145
Negligence	10	20	2	5	2	6	6	31
Unknown	44	88	4	12	13	24	68	134

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Circumstance Group definitions: Interpersonal Conflict contains Other Arguments, Brawl due to influence of Alcohol, Lovers triangle, Argument over money or property, and Child killed by babysitter; Crime-related contains Brawl due to influence of narcotics, Juvenile gang killings, Gangland killings, Motor vehicle theft, Sniper attack, Robbery, Narcotic drug laws; Felon killed by police, Felon killed by private citizen, Burglary, All suspected felony type, Rape, Arson, Larceny, and Other sex offense; Other contains Other, Other – not specified, Institutional killings, Prostitution and commercialized vice, and Gambling; Negligence contains All other manslaughter by negligence, Other negligent handling of gun, Children playing with gun, Victim shot in hunting accident, and Gun-cleaning death – other than self; Unknown contains Circumstances undetermined and Unknown.

Table A10 The number of Alaska homicide victims by the situation code reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,789^b), by victim race and victim sex

SITUATION	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=182)	MALE (N=364)	FEMALE (N=29)	MALE (N=57)	FEMALE (N=43)	MALE (N=141)	FEMALE (N=268)	MALE (N=705)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Single Victim Incidents								
Single Victim/ Single Suspect	124	253	18	32	23	88	152	433
Single Victim/ Multiple Suspects	4	26	2	5	2	15	10	71
Single Victim/ Unknown Suspect(s)	28	46	3	10	5	23	46	124
Multiple Victim Incidents								
Multiple Victims/ Single Suspect	22	30	6	7	11	11	41	48
Multiple Victims/ Multiple Suspects	0	1	0	2	0	1	5	8
Multiple Victims/ Unknown Suspect(s)	4	8	0	1	2	3	14	21

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,789 homicide victims had a known race and known sex in the SHR, 96.4% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table 11 The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect sex/gender characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408^b), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides

SUSPECT SEX/GENDER	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Female	13	49	1	3	3	10	6	68
Male	111	204	17	29	20	78	146	365
Unknown	28	46	3	10	5	23	46	124

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A12 The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect age group reported to the SHR: 1976-2016
(n=1,408^b), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides

SUSPECT AGE GROUP	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Less than 18 years	4	25	0	5	1	8	12	32
18 to 24 years	34	84	2	4	6	35	31	101
25 to 34 years	41	77	6	9	11	27	39	148
35 to 44 years	24	37	3	8	4	13	33	75
45 to 54 years	15	18	4	3	0	4	25	46
55 to 64 years	6	9	2	2	1	1	7	16
65 years and older	0	1	1	1	0	0	4	9
Unknown	28	48	3	10	5	23	47	130

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A13 The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect race/ethnicity characteristics reported to the SHR: 1976-2016 (n=1,408^b), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides

SUSPECT RACE/ETHNICITY	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
American Indian or Alaska Native	89	186	1	1	1	5	8	50
Asian or Pacific Islander	2	1	11	20	0	4	0	12
Black or African American	4	8	2	2	21	55	11	43
White	28	55	4	9	1	24	131	322
Unknown	29	49	3	10	5	23	48	130

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

Table A14 The number of Alaska homicide victims by suspect relationship to the victim^c: 1976-2016 (n=1,408^b), by victim race and victim sex in single victim/single suspect homicides reported to the SHR

SUSPECT RELATIONSHIP ^d	VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS: RACE/ETHNICITY AND SEX/GENDER							
	AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN		WHITE	
	FEMALE (N=152)	MALE (N=299)	FEMALE (N=21)	MALE (N=42)	FEMALE (N=28)	MALE (N=111)	FEMALE (N=198)	MALE (N=557)
	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM	NUM
Intimate Partner	61	26	11	1	10	7	75	43
Family Member	22	59	1	5	4	6	19	48
Friend or Acquaintance	33	127	5	16	7	51	39	243
Stranger	4	26	1	9	0	16	17	75
Unknown	32	61	3	11	7	31	48	148

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. 1,408 homicide victims has a known race and known sex when in one victim and one suspect homicide incidents in the SHR, 75.9% of the total 1,856 victims.

c. Relationship to the first victim

d. Relationship Group Definitions: Intimate Partner included Wife, Girlfriend, Boyfriend, Husband, Common-law husband, Ex-husband, Common-law wife, and Homosexual relationship; Family Member included Other family, Brother, Son, Daughter, Father, Mother, In-law, Sister, Stepfather, Stepson, and Stepdaughter; Friend or Acquaintance included Acquaintance, Friend, Other-known to victim, Neighbor, Employee, and Employer; Stranger included Stranger; Relation not determined included Missing and Relationship not determined.

Table A15 The number of American Indian or Alaska Native female homicide victims reported to the SHR by Alaska law enforcement agencies: 1976-2016 (n=182)

YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT ^b		YEAR	NUMBER	PERCENT ^b
1976	1	0.6		2001	8	4.4
1977	2	1.1		2002	6	3.3
1978	0	0.0		2003	4	2.2
1979	6	3.3		2004	2	1.1
1980	4	2.2		2005	7	3.9
1981	9	5.0		2006	3	1.7
1982	6	3.3		2007	5	2.8
1983	9	5.0		2008	3	1.7
1984	4	2.2		2009	5	2.8
1985	7	3.9		2010	2	1.1
1986	2	1.1		2011	3	1.7
1987	2	1.1		2012	2	1.1
1988	3	1.7		2013	6	3.3
1989	4	2.2		2014	7	3.9
1990	4	2.2		2015	7	3.9
1991	6	3.3		2016	10	5.5
1992	1	0.6				
1993	8	4.4				
1994	0	0.0				
1995	6	3.3				
1996	3	1.7				
1997	3	1.7				
1998	2	1.1				
1999	7	3.9				
2000	3	1.7				

NOTES

a. Data source: United States Department of Justice. Federal Bureau of Investigation. Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-2016

b. Percent may not add up to 100.0 due to rounding



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