



ILLINOIS COALITION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

FY12 HOMICIDE REPORT



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE REPORT JULY 2011-JUNE 2012

In state fiscal year 2012, July 2011 through June 2012, 52 domestic violence homicide incidents took the lives of 74 victims in Illinois. This report summarizes what the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) learned about these incidents where a domestic violence situation became fatal.

Child Victims

In fiscal year 2012 there were 13 victims under the age of 18. The age of the child victims ranged from infant to 17 years old, eight were under the age of six.

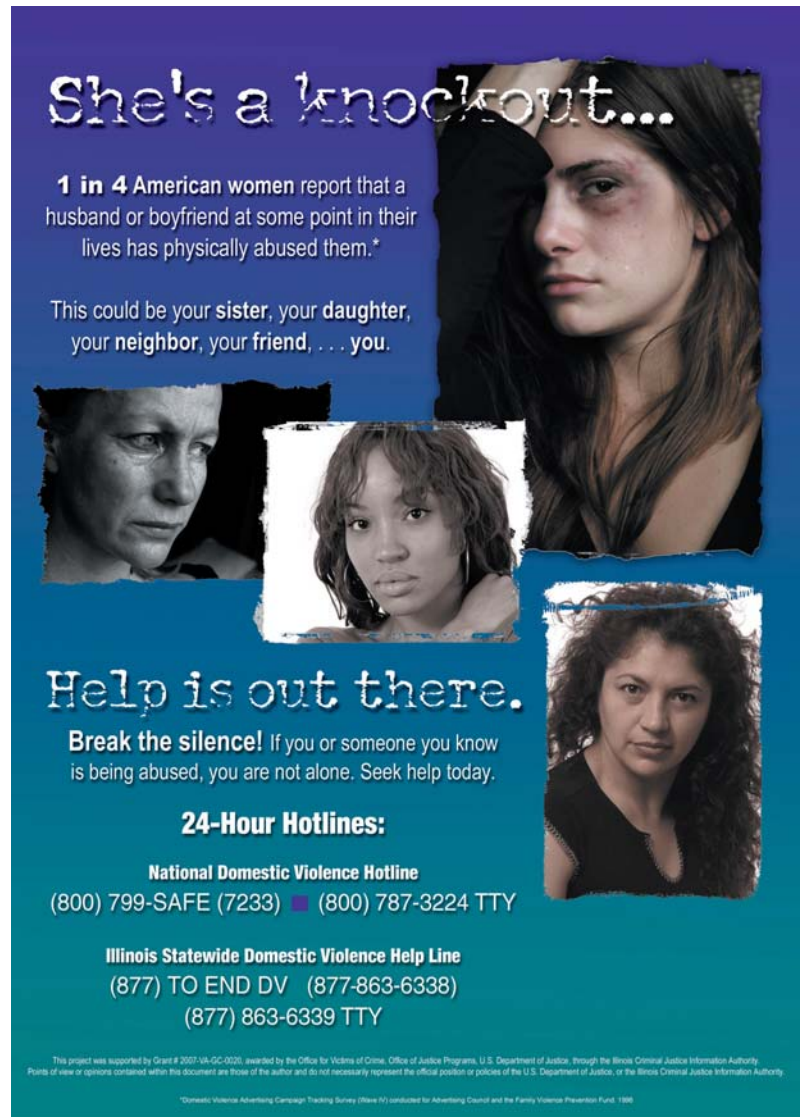
- Seven were shot to death--a 10 Month old--a 4, 5, 7, 8, 13 and 16 year old.
- Two were stabbed to death--a 2 and 3 year old.
- One suffered blunt force trauma with a weapon--a 4 year old.
- Two died from physical assault without a weapon--a 2 Month old and 1 year old.
- One died from suffocation--an 8 year old.

Adult Victims

In fiscal year 2012 there were 47 adult victims, 36 were female and 11 were male. The victims ranged in age from 18 to 84 years old. Firearms accounted for 19 out of the 47 adult victims lives taken. The second highest means of death was caused by stabbing which accounted for 13 of the 47 adult homicides committed. See "Means of Death" report for a full disclosure of all methods used regarding domestic violence deaths for fiscal year 2012.

Perpetrators

In fiscal year 2012 there were 14 perpetrators who committed suicide after committing homicide(s). These deaths are included in the grand total for fiscal year 2012 as they are domestic violence related. Thirteen suicides were committed by males and one by a female.



She's a knockout...

1 in 4 American women report that a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives has physically abused them.*

This could be your **sister**, your **daughter**, your **neighbor**, your **friend**, . . . **you**.

Help is out there.

Break the silence! If you or someone you know is being abused, you are not alone. Seek help today.

24-Hour Hotlines:

National Domestic Violence Hotline
(800) 799-SAFE (7233) ■ (800) 787-3224 TTY

Illinois Statewide Domestic Violence Help Line
(877) TO END DV (877-863-6338)
(877) 863-6339 TTY

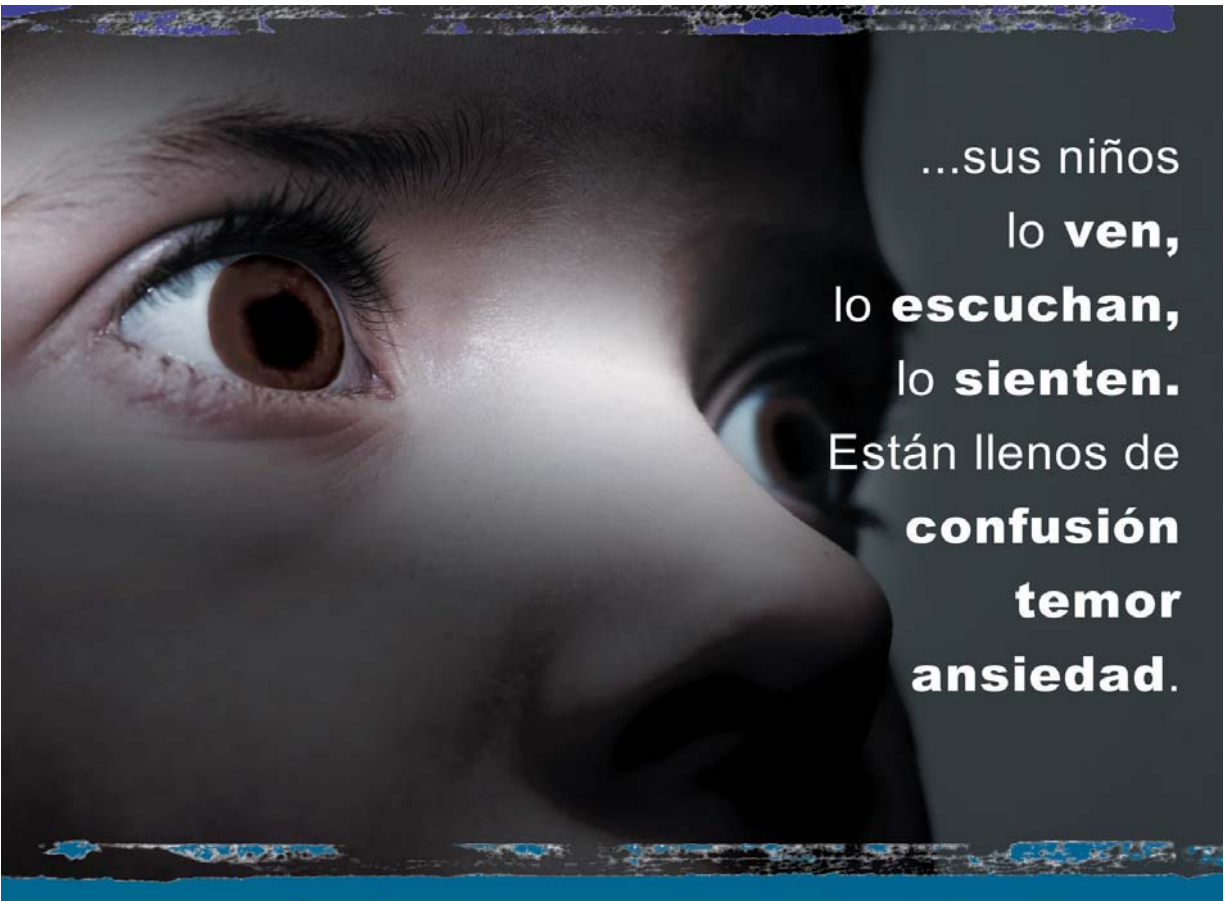
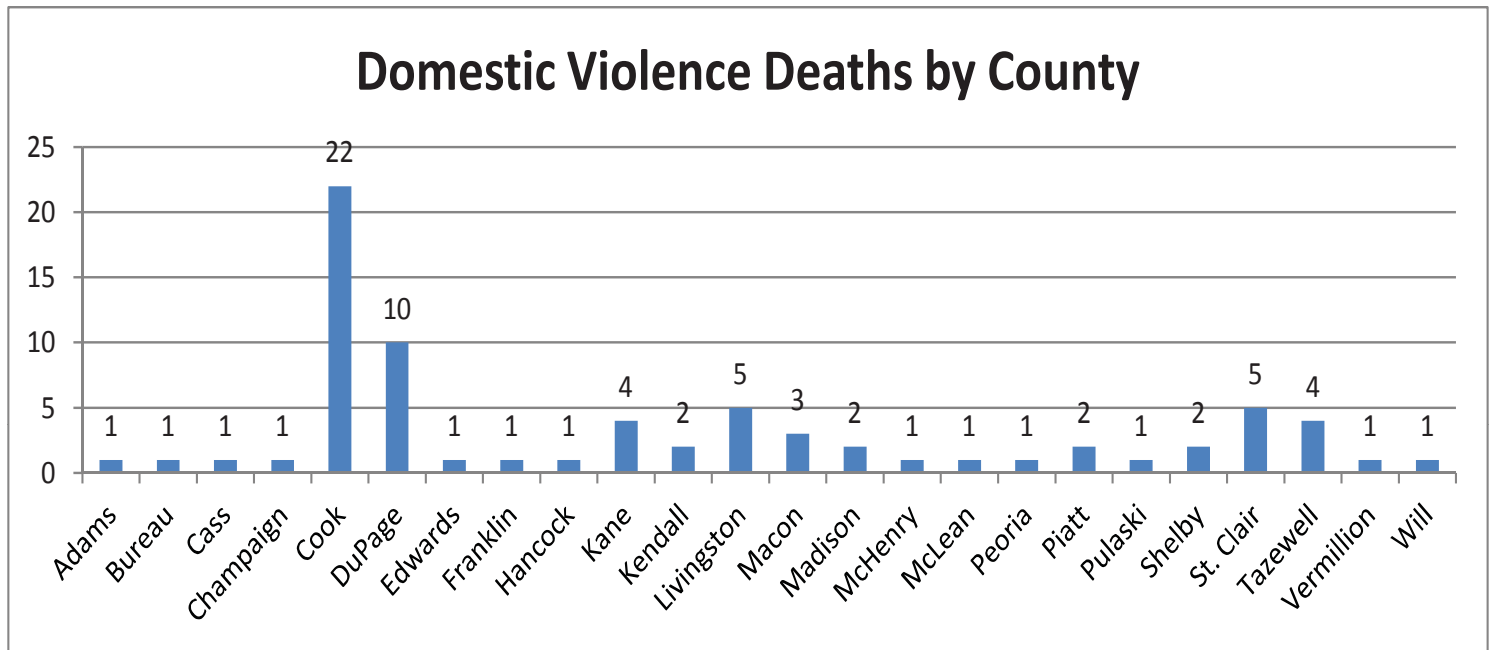
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*Domestic Violence Advertising Campaign Tracking Survey (Wave IV) conducted by Advertising Council and the Family Violence Prevention Fund, 1998

For more information on getting safe, call your local domestic violence program at:

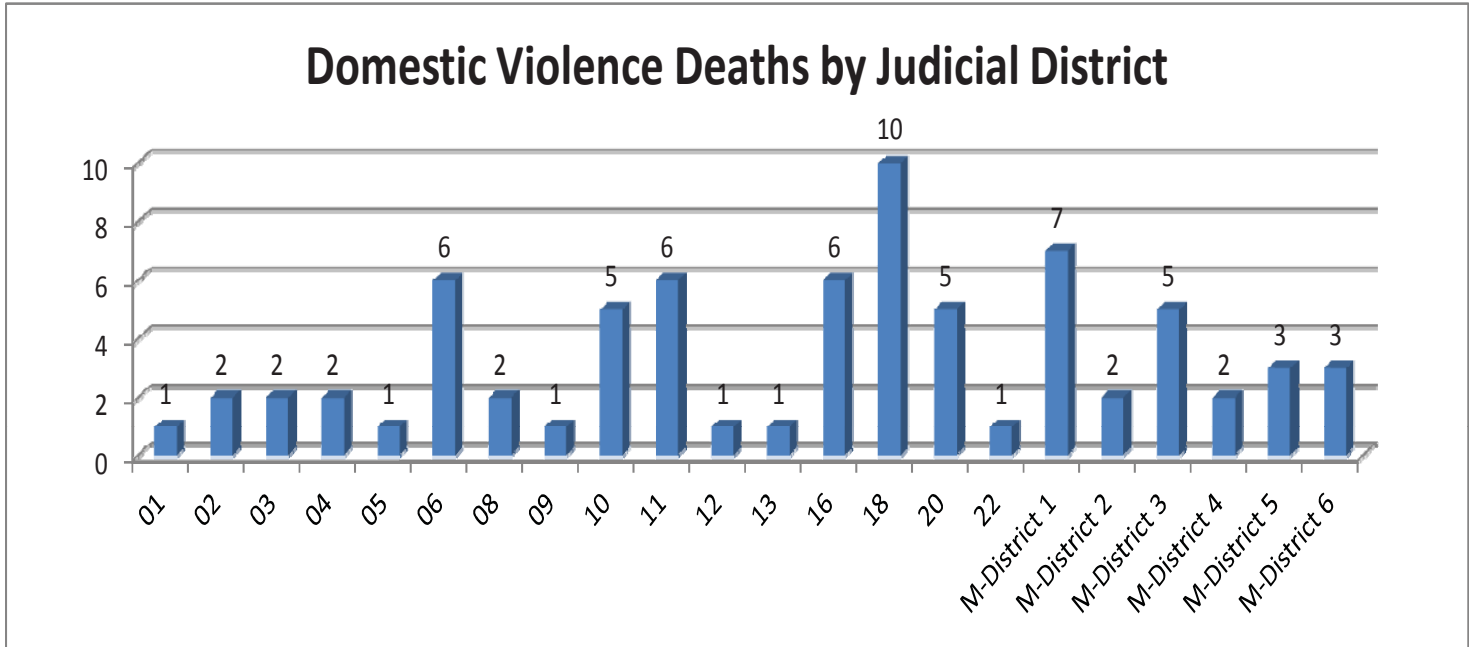
Incidents and Homicides by County

ICADV's homicide report lays out the amount of domestic violence-related homicides in Illinois. There are 102 counties in Illinois, but there were only 24 counties in which homicides occurred. Cook County had the most homicides, totaling 22. DuPage County ranks second, with 10 homicide victims. The chart below reflects the number of homicide victims by county.



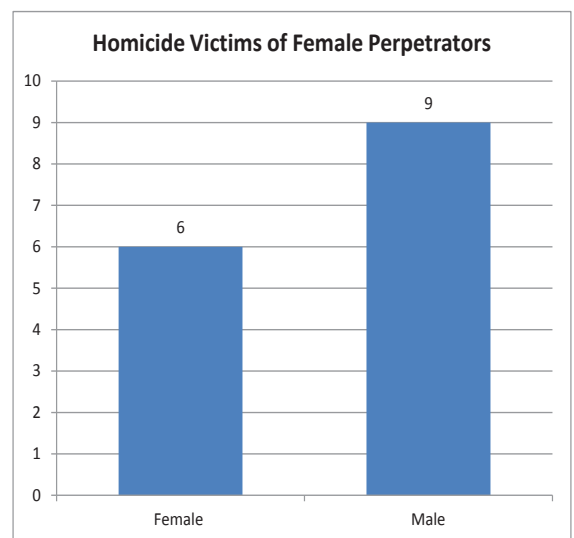
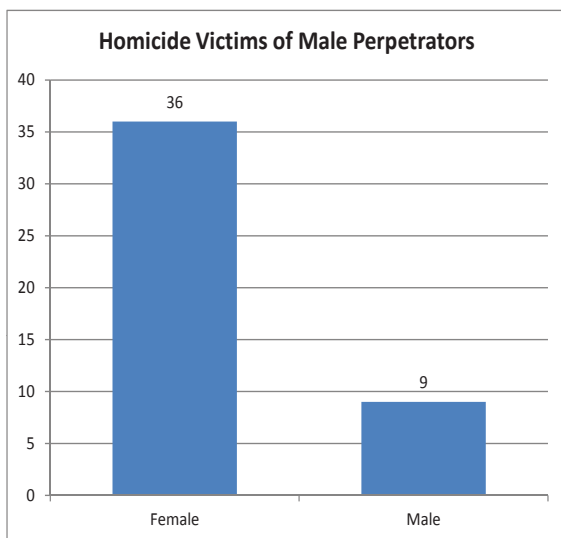
Homicides by Judicial Circuit

Illinois has 22 Judicial Circuits along with 6 Municipal Districts which are located in Cook County. This report summarizes the number of homicides that occurred within each of the judicial circuits and municipal districts in Illinois. Not all are listed in this report because no homicides were reported as domestic violence related in excluded circuits. The 18th judicial circuit had the most homicides with 10 victims. The second highest was in Cook County's 1st Municipal district with 7 victims. The chart below shows more information on homicides by judicial circuit.



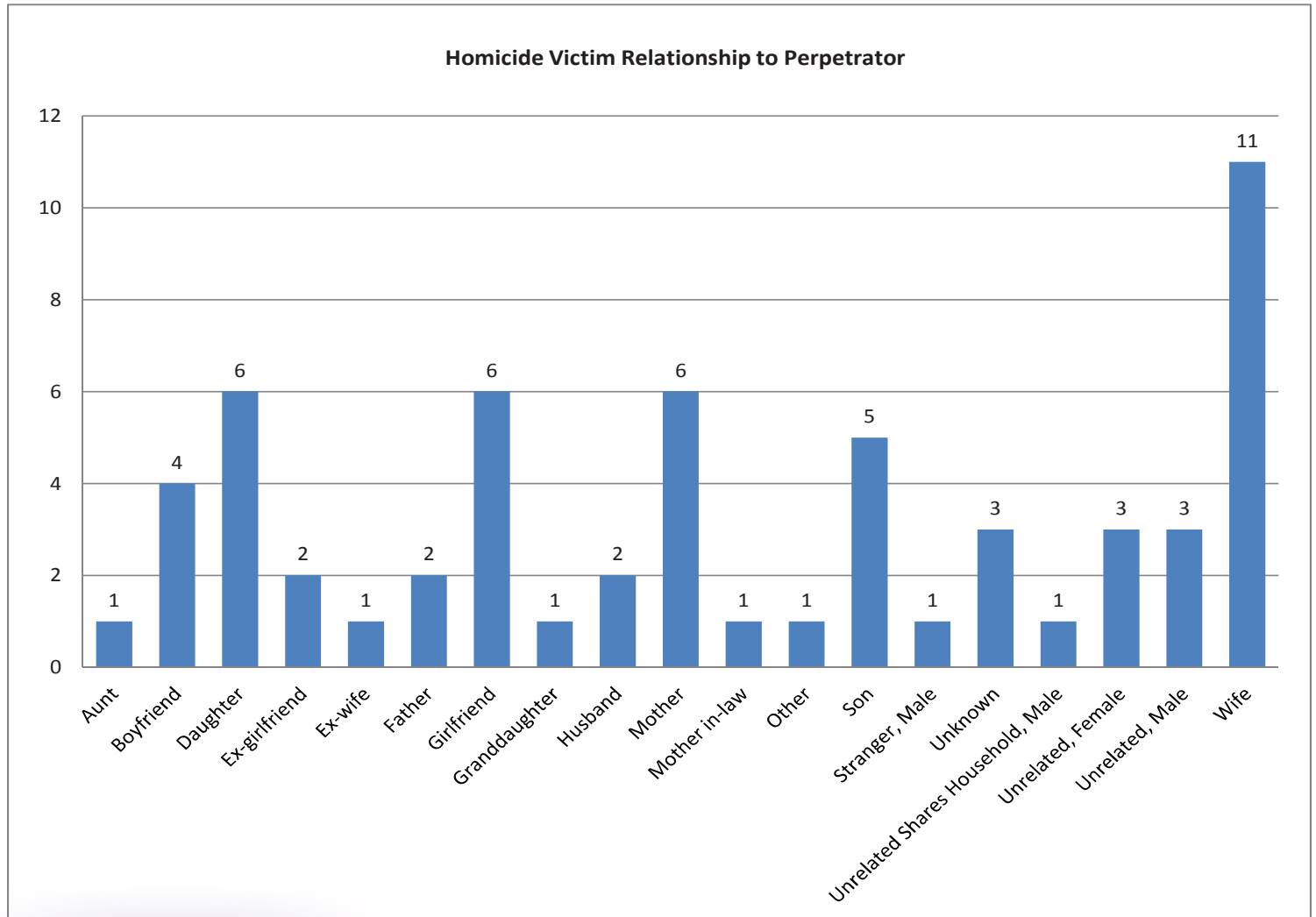
Sex of Perpetrators and Their Victims

This report reviews how many perpetrators were male versus female. Female perpetrators' most common victims were male. Of the 15 victims murdered by female perpetrators, 9 were male. Male perpetrators' most common victims were female. Male perpetrators were responsible for 46 of the 60 domestic violence homicide victims, and 36 of those 46 were female. The remaining 9 victims killed by male perpetrators were male.



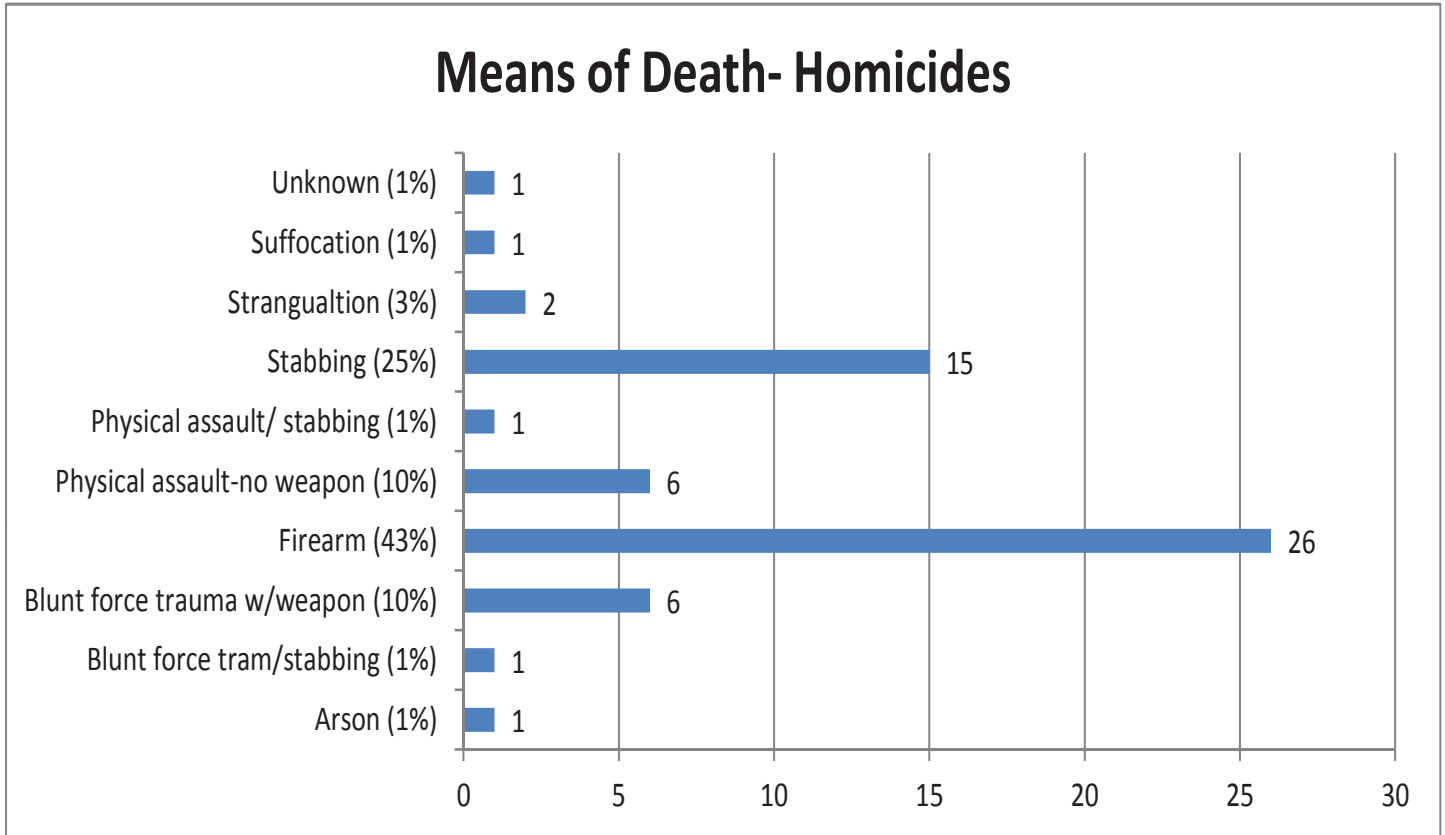
Homicide Victim Relationship to the Perpetrator

This report looks at the type of relationship that the homicide victim had with the perpetrator. Most often homicide victims were wives (11), girlfriends (6), daughters (6) and mothers (6). Additional homicide victims included friends and family members of the homicide victim. See the chart below for further results.



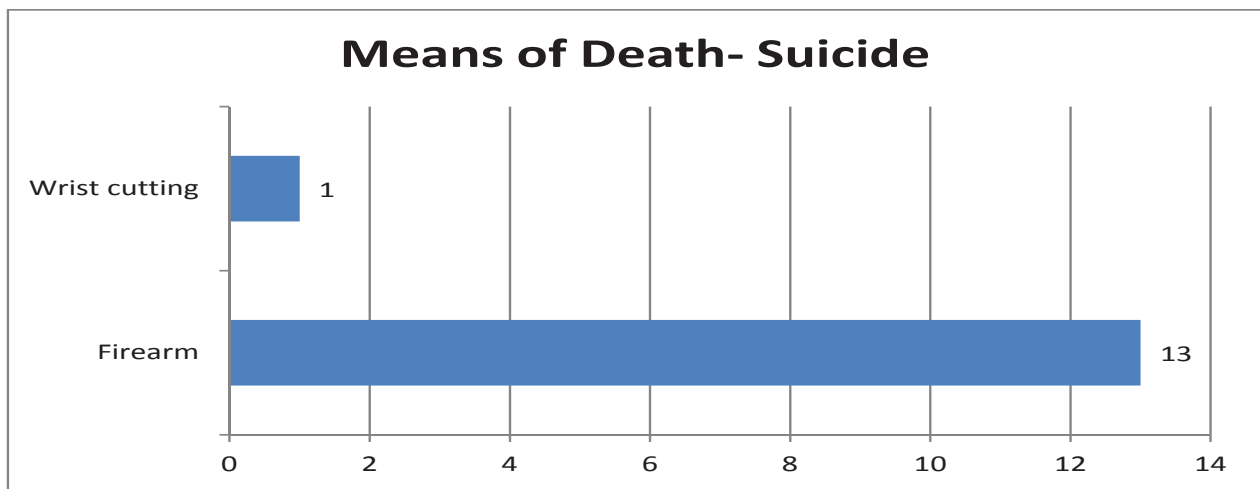
Means of Death by Homicide

Total firearm deaths (26) accounted for 43% and stabbings (15) 25% of all of the homicides in fiscal year 2012. These two methods alone accounted for 68% of all of the domestic violence homicides in Illinois in the past year. For a review of all methods see below.



Means of Death by Suicide

This report reviews the rate of perpetrator suicides after a homicide was committed. Of the 74 victims, 14 were perpetrator suicides. Thirteen suicides were achieved through the use of a firearm. One suicide was committed by wrist cutting.



Next Steps

The Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence will continue to collect homicide data on a regular basis in order to increase comparative data from one year to the next which will enable us to identify possible trends. In year two of this project ICADV began using a news-clipping service to increase efficiency of domestic violence homicide news searches. This led to additional time for in-depth analysis about cases already in the database. The history of orders of protection, as well as information about the disposition of the perpetrators of domestic violence homicide, will continue to be of importance to this research.

Methods of Data Collection

ICADV, with the help of intern Stacey Davis from the University of Illinois at Springfield, gathered the data for this important project throughout the year. Ms. Davis checked the Meltwater online system for articles pertaining to domestic violence homicides in Illinois. Additionally, domestic violence program staff from around the state occasionally email, fax, or mail an article to the ICADV administrative office. Ms. Davis assisted in the writing of this report.

**Today these children
saw something they'll
never forget.**

