

FY13 HOMICIDE REPORT



ILLINOIS COALITION --- AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE REPORT JULY 2012-JUNE 2013

In fiscal year 2013, July 2012 through June 2013, 58 domestic violence (dv) homicide incidents took the lives of 80 individuals 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 Homicide Victims

In fiscal year 2013 there were nine victims under the age of 18. The age of the child victims ranged from infant to 17 years old, five were under the age of six. Means of death and ages for the child victims:

- (3) Stabbing—5, 7, and 17 year old.
- (3) Firearms—1, 5, and 16 year old.
- (1) Physical assault without a weapon—8 months old,
- (1) Arson—4 year old.
- (1) Blunt force trauma with a weapon—1 year old.

Adult Homicide Victims

In fiscal year 2013 there were 59 adult victims, 37 were female and 22 were male. The victims ranged in age from 19 to 86 years old. Firearms accounted for 21 of the 59 adult victim homicides. The second highest means of death was caused by stabbing which accounted for 15 of the adult homicides. The chart titled “Means of Death-Homicides” provides a full list of all homicides.

Perpetrator Suicides

In fiscal year 2013 there were 12 perpetrators (all males) who committed suicide after committing homicide(s). These deaths are included in the grand total for fiscal year 2013 as they are domestic violence related. Firearms accounted for eight of the 12 suicides. The chart titled “Means of Death-Suicides” provides a full list of all suicides.

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

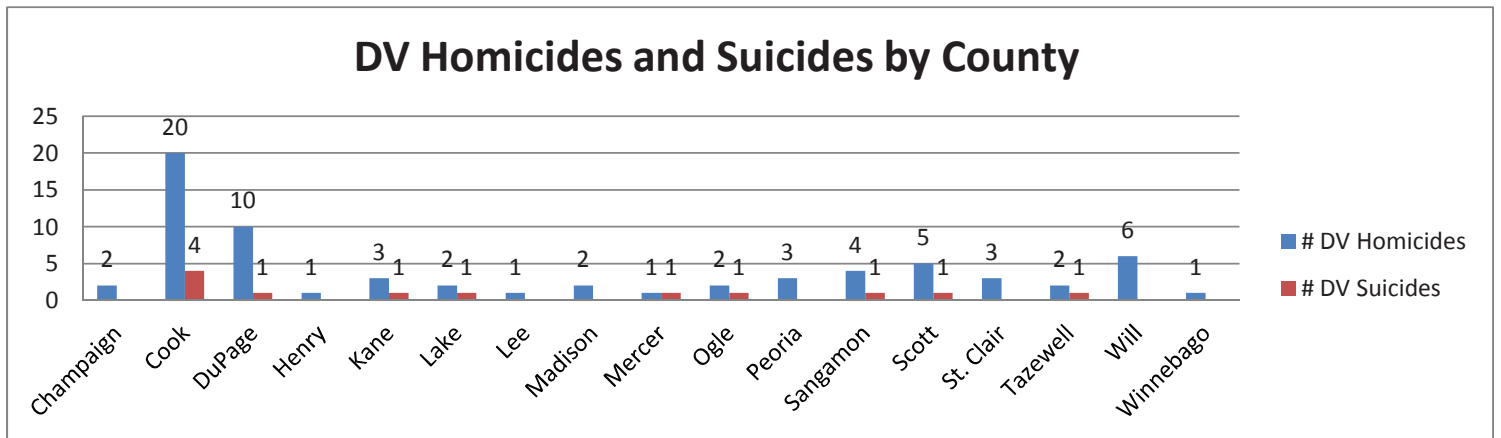
Illinois Statewide Domestic Violence Help Line
(877) TO END DV (877-863-6338)
(877) 863-6339 TTY

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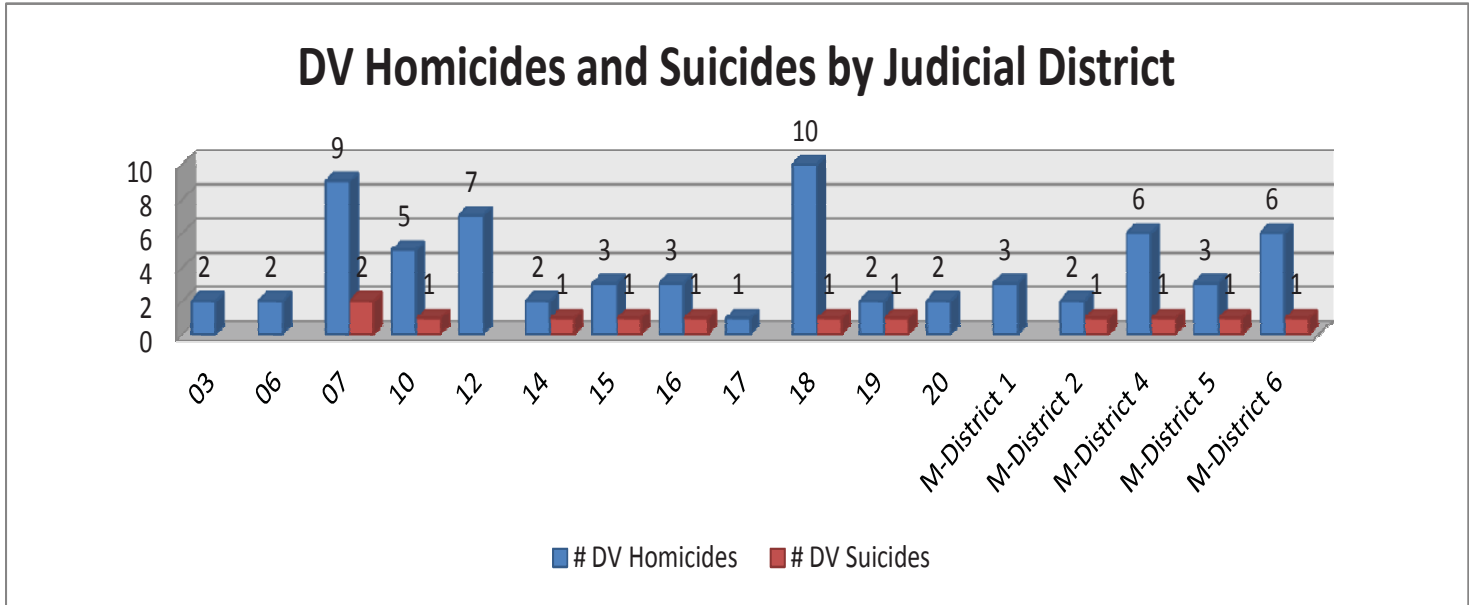
Homicides and Suicides by County

There are 102 counties in Illinois, but there were only 17 counties in which homicides occurred. Cook County had the most homicides, totaling 20. DuPage County ranks second, with 10 homicide victims. The chart below reflects the number of homicide victims and perpetrator suicides by county.



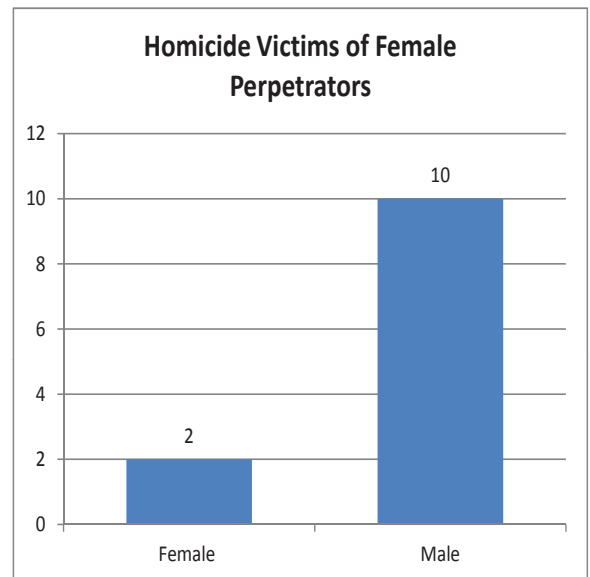
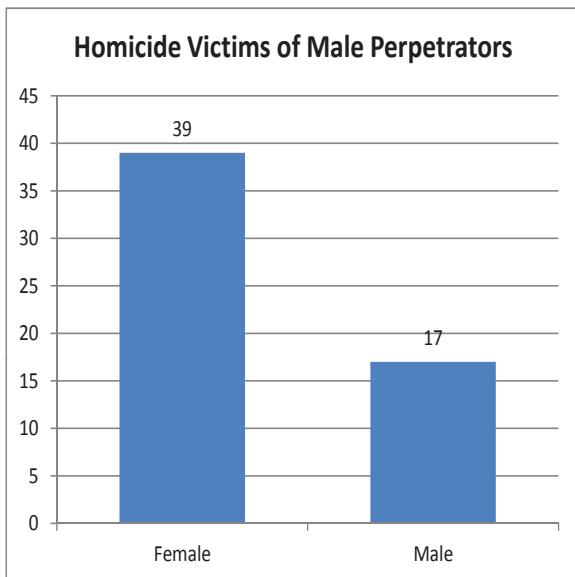
Homicides and Suicides by Judicial Circuit

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 7th and 18th judicial circuit had the most homicides with 19 victims total. The second highest was in Cook Counties 4th and 6th Municipal district with 12 victims total. The chart below provides more information on homicides and suicides by judicial circuit.



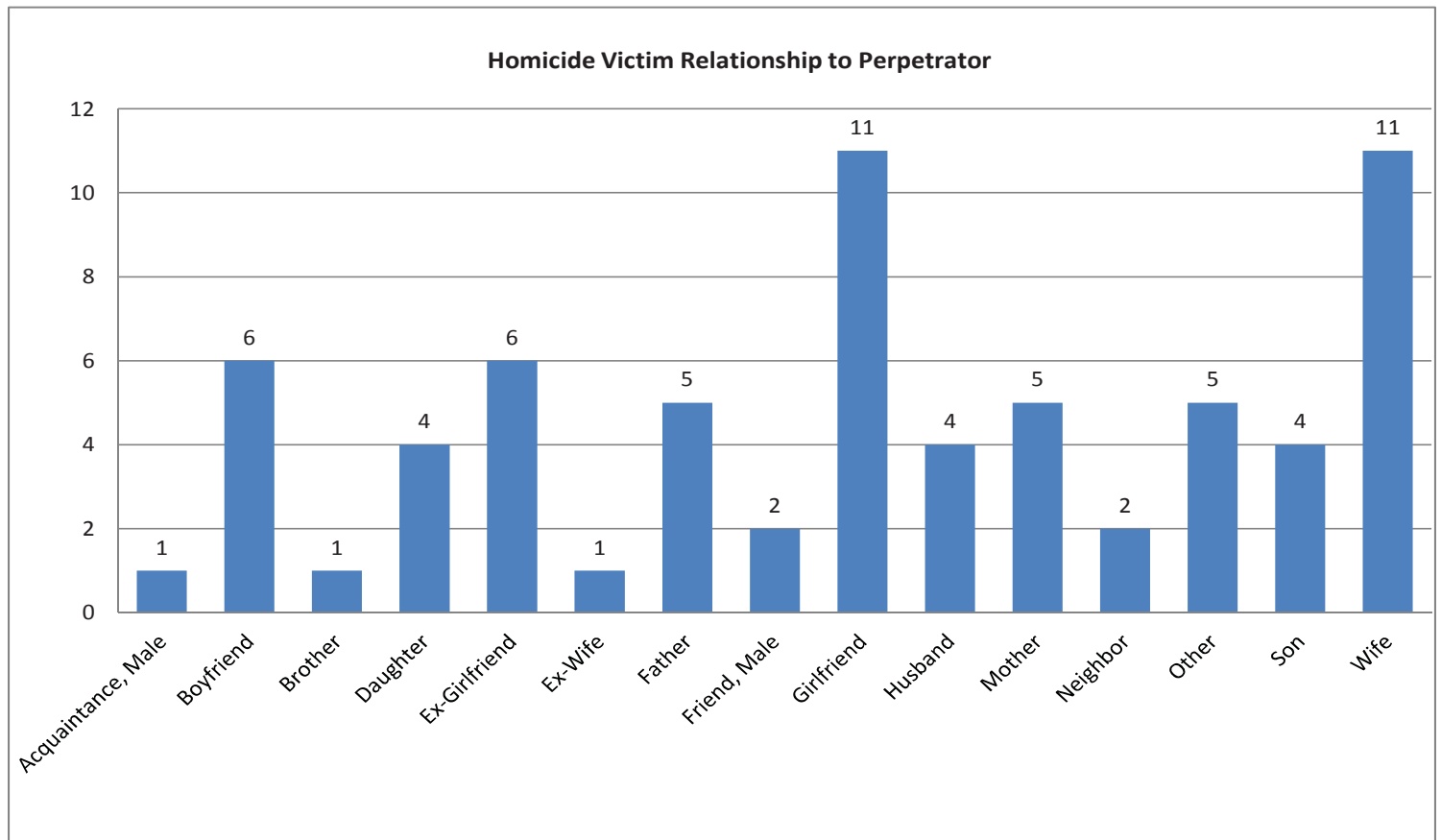
Sex of Perpetrators and Their Victims

This report reviews how many perpetrators were male versus female. Female perpetrators' most common victims were male. Of the 12 homicides committed by female perpetrators, 10 victims were male and two were female. Male perpetrators' most common victims were female. Male perpetrators were responsible for 56 domestic violence homicides, and 39 of those 56 were female. The remaining 17 victims killed by male perpetrators were male.



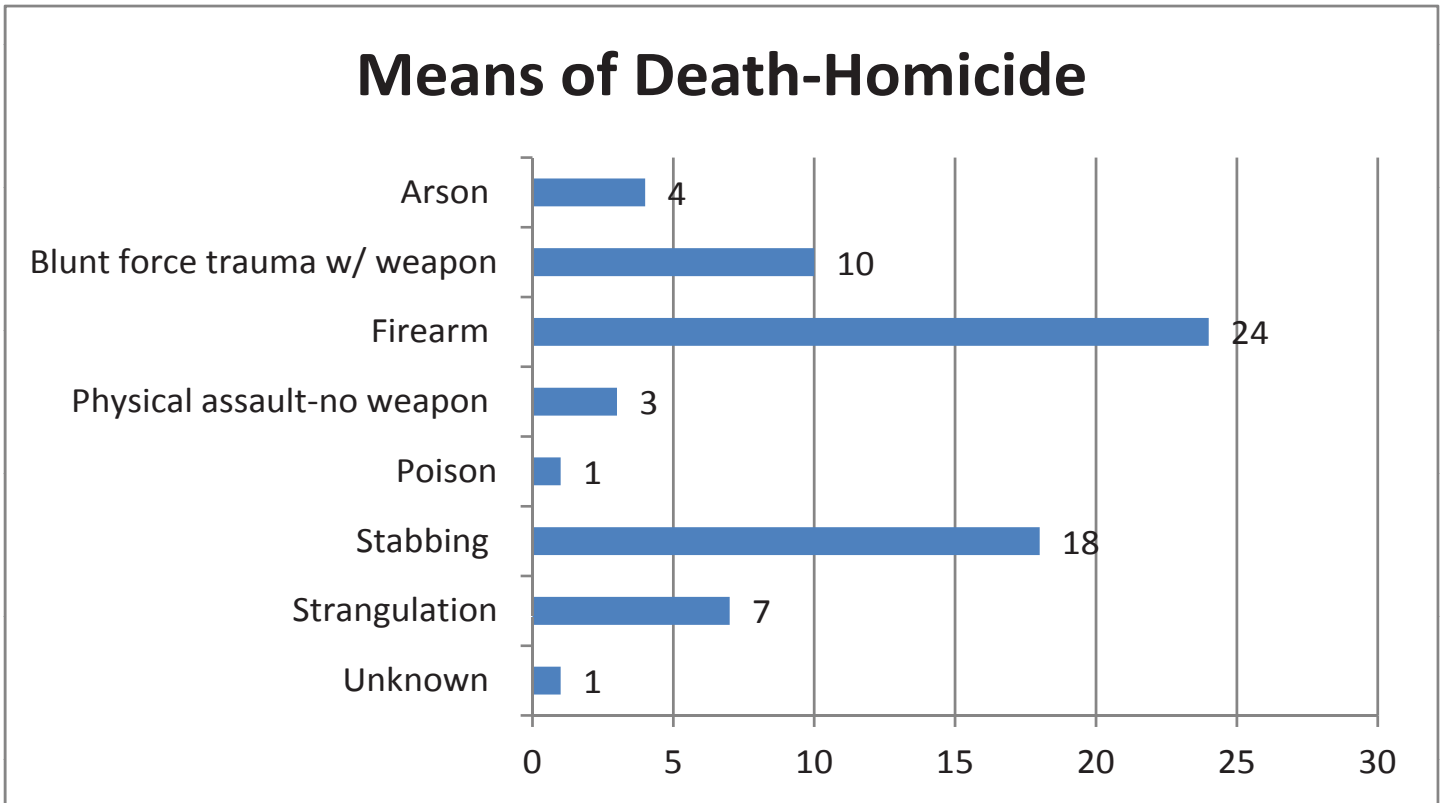
Homicide Victim Relationship to the Perpetrator

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



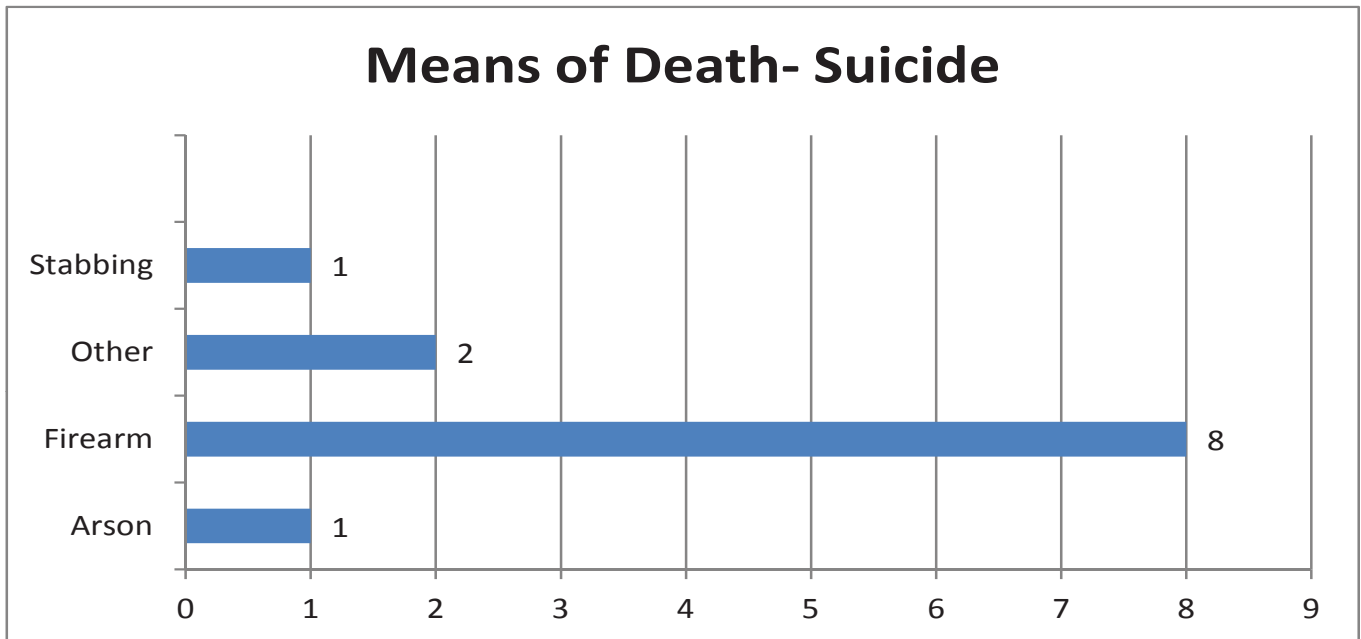
Means of Death by Homicide

Total firearm deaths (24) accounted for 35% and stabbings (18) accounted for 26% of all of the domestic violence homicides in fiscal year 2013.



Means of Death by Suicide

This report reviews the rate of suicides after the altercation. Of the 80 total domestic violence deaths, 12 were suicides. Suicides were committed through the use of firearms (eight), arson, (one), stabbing (one), and other means (two).



Next Steps

The Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence will continue to collect homicide data on a regular basis to continue increasing comparative data from one year to the next which will enable them 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 has lead to additional time for some 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 Interns Stacey Davis and Christopher Nava from the University of Illinois at Springfield, gathered data for this important project throughout the year. Both checked the Meltwater News 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. Many thanks to Mr. Nava, who assisted in the writing of this report.

