



Homicide Victimization in the United States, 2025

Lizabeth Remrey, PhD, *BJS Statistician*

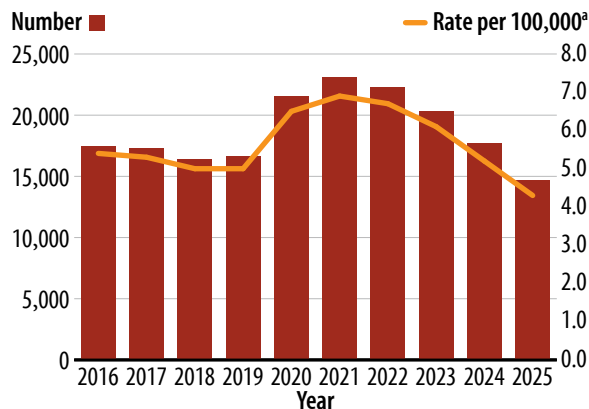
In 2025, there were an estimated 14,660 homicide victimizations in the United States, a rate of 4.3 homicides per 100,000 persons (**figure 1**). This rate constituted a 17% decrease from 2024 (5.2 per 100,000) and a 30% decrease from 2023 (6.1 per 100,000).¹ (See appendix table 1 for state estimates.) Homicide refers to the offenses of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter and is defined as “the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.”²

Findings in this report are based on the Bureau of Justice Statistics’ and FBI’s National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Estimation Program and the FBI’s Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR).

¹The 2024 NIBRS Estimation Program estimates were updated to reflect data transmitted to the FBI after the 2024 cutoff date. See *Methodology*.

²See NIBRS User Manual, <https://le.fbi.gov/informational-tools/ucr/ucr-technical-specifications-user-manuals-and-data-tools>.

FIGURE 1
Number and rate of homicide victimizations, 2016–2025



Note: See appendix table 2 for estimates and root mean square errors.

^aRates are calculated per 100,000 U.S. residents.

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2016–2020; U.S. Census Bureau Population, 2016–2020; and Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2021–2025.

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2025:

- The rate of homicide victimization was 4.3 per 100,000 persons. This marks a 17% decrease from the rate of 5.2 per 100,000 in 2024 (**figure 1**).
- The male homicide victimization rate (6.6 per 100,000 persons) was more than 3 times greater than the homicide victimization rate for females (2.0 per 100,000) (**table 1**).
- The homicide victimization rate for black persons (14.6 per 100,000 persons) was more than 7 times the rate for white persons (2.0 per 100,000) (**table 1**).
- The largest percentage of homicide victimizations (42%) was committed by someone outside the family but known to the victim (**table 2**).
- Females (0.8 per 100,000 persons) experienced a higher rate of intimate partner homicide than males (0.5 per 100,000) (**table 3**).
- Most homicide incidents (93%) involved one victim (**table 4**).
- The percentage of homicide victimizations involving a firearm was 76%, compared to 73% in 2016 (**figure 2**).
- Fifty-four percent of homicide victimizations were cleared by arrest and 41% were not cleared (**table 6**).

List of tables

TABLE 1. Number, percent, and rate of homicide victimizations, by victim demographic characteristics, 2025

TABLE 2. Percent of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

TABLE 3. Rate of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

TABLE 4. Percent of homicide incidents, by number of victims, 2025

TABLE 5. Percent of homicide victimizations, by weapon type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

TABLE 6. Percent of homicide victimizations, by clearance type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

List of figures

FIGURE 1. Number and rate of homicide victimizations, 2016–2025

FIGURE 2. Percent of homicide victimizations involving a firearm, 2016–2025

FIGURE 3. Percent of homicide offenses, by clearance, 2016–2025

List of appendix tables

APPENDIX TABLE 1. Estimates and root mean square errors for number and rate of homicide victimizations, by state, 2025

APPENDIX TABLE 2. Estimates and root mean square errors for figure 1: Number and rate of homicide victimizations, 2016–2025

APPENDIX TABLE 3. Root mean square errors for table 1: Number, percent, and rate of homicide victimizations, by victim demographic characteristics, 2025

APPENDIX TABLE 4. Root mean square errors for table 2: Percent of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

APPENDIX TABLE 5. Root mean square errors for table 3: Rate of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

APPENDIX TABLE 6. Root mean square errors for table 4: Percent of homicide incidents, by number of victims, 2025

APPENDIX TABLE 7. Estimates and root mean square errors for figure 2: Percent of homicide victimizations involving a firearm, 2016–2025

APPENDIX TABLE 8. Root mean square errors for table 5: Percent of homicide victimizations, by weapon type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

APPENDIX TABLE 9. Estimates and root mean square errors for figure 3: Percent of homicide offenses, by clearance, 2016–2025

APPENDIX TABLE 10. Root mean square errors for table 6: Percent of homicide victimizations, by clearance type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

NIBRS collects detailed information on homicide victimizations reported to state and local law enforcement in the United States, including victim and suspected offender demographic characteristics, the type of weapon(s) present, and the number of victims killed during the incident. NIBRS estimates use imputation and weighting procedures to account for nonresponse and missing data. In this report, homicide incident and victimization information from 2021 to 2025 comes from NIBRS estimates. Information on homicides prior to 2021 was collected through the SHR. See *Methodology* for more information.

In 2025, black persons experienced the highest homicide victimization rate compared to persons of all other racial or Hispanic origin groups

Males represented the majority (76%) of homicide victims in 2025 and experienced a homicide victimization rate of 6.6 per 100,000 persons (table 1).³ By comparison, the female homicide victimization rate (2.0 per 100,000) was lower.

³In this report, statistical significance is reported at the 95% confidence level. All comparisons made in text are statistically significant unless otherwise stated. See figures and tables for testing on select findings.

Compared to the homicide victimization rate for white persons (2.0 per 100,000) in 2025, the homicide rate was higher for black persons (14.6 per 100,000), American Indian or Alaska Native persons (6.4 per 100,000), Hispanic persons (4.8 per 100,000), and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander persons (3.5 per 100,000). Asian persons had the lowest homicide victimization rate in 2025 (0.8 per 100,000). Overall, the homicide victimization rate experienced by black persons was higher than the rate for victims in each of the other race or Hispanic origin categories.

In 2025, the highest homicide rate by age group was experienced by persons ages 18 to 24 at 9.2 per 100,000 persons, followed by persons ages 25 to 34 at 7.2 per 100,000.

TABLE 1
Number, percent, and rate of homicide victimizations, by victim demographic characteristics, 2025

Victim demographic characteristic	Number	Percent	Rate per 100,000 ^a
U.S. total	14,660	100%	4.3
Sex			
Male*	11,130	75.9%	6.6
Female	3,530 †	24.1 †	2.0 †
Race/Hispanic origin			
White* ^b	3,990	27.2%	2.0
Black ^b	7,360 †	50.2 †	14.6 †
Hispanic	2,900 †	19.8 †	4.8 †
Asian ^b	210 †	1.4 †	0.8 †
American Indian or Alaska Native ^b	170 †	1.2 †	6.4 †
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ^b	20 †	0.2 †	3.5 †
Age			
11 or younger	480 †	3.3% †	1.0 †
12 to 17	1,000 †	6.8 †	3.7 †
18 to 24*	2,860	19.5	9.2
25 to 34	3,370 †	23.0 †	7.2 †
35 to 64	5,870 †	40.0 †	4.5 †
65 or older	1,070 †	7.3 †	1.8 †

Note: See appendix table 3 for root mean square errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aRates are calculated per 100,000 U.S. residents.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

The largest percentage of homicide victimizations was committed by someone outside the family but known to the victim

In 2025, 42% of homicide victimizations were perpetrated by someone outside the family but known to the victim (table 2). Among homicides of males, 48% were perpetrated by someone outside the family but known to the victim. Among homicides of females, 41% were committed by an intimate partner (i.e., current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend). Overall, homicides of females were more likely than homicides of males to be perpetrated by a family member (a current or former intimate partner or other family member). Perpetrators of homicides against males were more likely than perpetrators of homicides against females to be non-family (outside of family but known to victim, stranger, or unknown).

Homicide victimizations of white persons (21%) were more likely to be perpetrated by an intimate partner than those of Hispanic (15%), black (12%), or American Indian or Alaska Native (10%) persons. Asian persons had a larger share of homicide victimizations perpetrated by an intimate partner (25%) than white persons. Asian and Hispanic persons were more likely than white, black American Indian or Alaska Native, or Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander persons to experience homicide victimization from a stranger.

For victims in each age group from 12 to 64, the homicide was more likely to involve a perpetrator who was outside the family but known to the victim than any other victim-offender relationship. Among victims age 11 or younger (88%) and 65 or older (34%), the most common victim-offender relationship was the category other family member.

TABLE 2
Percent of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

Victim demographic characteristic	Victim-offender relationship				
	Intimate partner ^a	Other family ^b	Outside family but known ^c	Stranger	Unknown
U.S. total	15.2%	15.9%	42.1%	22.2%	24.7%
Sex					
Male*	6.9%	14.0%	47.6%	26.2%	28.3%
Female	41.3 †	21.9 †	24.8 †	9.9 †	13.4 †
Race/Hispanic origin					
White* ^d	20.6%	22.0%	41.1%	19.0%	12.9%
Black ^d	12.1 †	12.5 †	42.9	20.6 †	30.5 †
Hispanic	15.2 †	15.6 †	41.4	30.9 †	27.2 †
Asian ^d	24.5 †	23.4	26.3 †	31.4 †	10.6 †
American Indian or Alaska Native ^d	10.4 †	18.3 †	56.7 †	11.9 †	32.1 †
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ^d	31.7	8.8 †	54.3 †	8.8 †	4.4 †
Age					
11 or younger	0.9% †	87.7% †	23.0% †	10.8% †	13.9% †
12 to 17	8.5 †	14.0 †	55.6	33.4 †	38.2
18 to 24*	11.6	8.3	53.4	26.7	36.0
25 to 34	15.5 †	9.1 †	41.5 †	22.8 †	27.6 †
35 to 64	18.5 †	14.7 †	38.6 †	19.7 †	19.4 †
65 or older	18.4 †	33.8 †	28.2 †	17.3 †	7.1 †

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because there can be more than one offender in an incident. See *Methodology* for additional information on relationship types. See appendix table 4 for root mean square errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

^bExcludes intimate partners.

^cIncludes friends and anyone else known to the victim.

^dExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

Females had a higher rate of intimate partner homicide than males

The overall rate of homicide victimization perpetrated by an intimate partner was 0.7 per 100,000 persons in 2025 (table 3). Females had a higher rate of intimate partner homicide (0.8 per 100,000) than males (0.5 per 100,000). For all other victim-offender relationship types, males experienced higher rates of homicide victimization than females.

In 2025, black persons (1.8 per 100,000) experienced the highest rate of intimate partner homicide compared to persons in each of the other race or Hispanic origin

categories. Black persons also had the highest rate of homicide victimization for the victim-offender relationship outside of family but known to the victim at 6.3 per 100,000. This was more than seven times the rate for white persons (0.8 per 100,000) and three times the rate for Hispanic persons (2.0 per 100,000).

The rate of homicide victimization for individuals ages 18 to 24 (4.9 per 100,000) was highest when the offender was outside the family but known to the victim. Among those age 11 or younger (0.9 per 100,000), the highest rate of homicide victimization involved an offender who was a family member.

TABLE 3
Rate of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

Victim demographic characteristic	Victim-offender relationship				
	Intimate partner ^a	Other family ^b	Outside family but known ^c	Stranger	Unknown
U.S. total	0.7	0.7	1.8	1.0	1.1
Sex					
Male*	0.5	0.9	3.1	1.7	1.9
Female	0.8 †	0.4 †	0.5 †	0.2 †	0.3 †
Race/Hispanic origin					
White ^d	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3
Black ^d	1.8 †	1.8 †	6.3 †	3.0 †	4.4 †
Hispanic	0.7 †	0.8 †	2.0 †	1.5 †	1.3 †
Asian ^d	0.2 †	0.2 †	0.2 †	0.2 †	0.1 †
American Indian or Alaska Native ^d	0.7 †	1.2 †	3.6 †	0.8 †	2.1 †
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ^d	1.1 †	0.3 †	1.9 †	0.3 †	0.2 †
Age					
11 or younger	0.0 †	0.9 †	0.2 †	0.1 †	0.1 †
12 to 17	0.3 †	0.5 †	2.1 †	1.2 †	1.4 †
18 to 24*	1.1	0.8	4.9	2.4	3.3
25 to 34	1.1	0.7 †	3.0 †	1.6 †	2.0 †
35 to 64	0.8 †	0.7 †	1.7 †	0.9 †	0.9 †
65 or older	0.3 †	0.6 †	0.5 †	0.3 †	0.1 †

Note: Rates are calculated per 100,000 U.S. residents. See *Methodology* for additional information on relationship types. See appendix table 5 for root mean square errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aIncludes current or former spouses, boyfriends, or girlfriends.

^bExcludes intimate partners.

^cIncludes friends and anyone else known to the victim.

^dExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

More than 90% of homicide incidents involved one victim

In 2025, 93% of homicide incidents involved one victim, accounting for 12,670 of the 14,660 total homicide victims (table 4). An estimated 6% of homicide incidents involved two victims, and fewer than 2% of homicide incidents involved three or more victims.

TABLE 4
Percent of homicide incidents, by number of victims, 2025

Number of victims in incident	Number of victims	Number of incidents	Percent of incidents
U.S. total	14,660	13,570	100%
1 victim*	12,670	12,670	93.4
2 victims	1,500	750	5.5 †
3 victims	330	110	0.8 †
4 or more victims	160	30	0.3 †

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding. See appendix table 6 for root mean square errors.

*Comparison group.

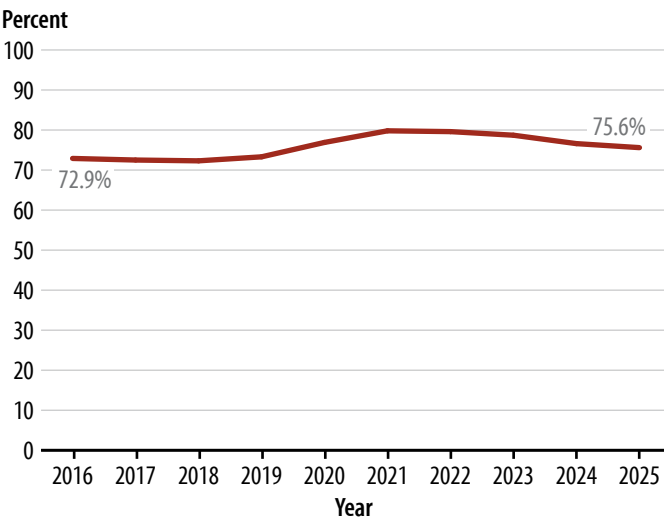
†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

The percentage of homicide victimizations involving a firearm decreased between 2022 and 2025

The percentage of homicide victimizations involving a firearm was 73% in 2016 and 76% in 2025 (figure 2). Between 2022 and 2025, the percentage of firearm-involved homicides declined from 80% to 76%.

FIGURE 2
Percent of homicide victimizations involving a firearm, 2016–2025



Note: See appendix table 7 for estimates and root mean square errors.
Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2016–2020; U.S. Census Bureau Population, 2016–2020; and Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2021–2025.

Firearms were the most common type of weapon involved in homicides

In 2025, 76% of homicide victimizations involved the use of a firearm (table 5). Knives, blunt instruments, personal weapons, and other non-personal weapons were each involved in fewer than 15% of homicide victimizations.

Firearms were involved in more than 6 in 10 homicide victimizations for persons who were white, black,

Hispanic origin, or Asian. The largest percentage of firearm-involved homicides by race or Hispanic origin was among black homicide victims (86%).

More than 70% of homicide victimizations in age groups 12 to 64 involved firearms. Fewer than half of homicide victimizations among persons age 65 or older involved a firearm (43%). Three in 10 homicide victimizations among persons age 11 or younger involved a firearm (29%) or personal weapon (33%).

TABLE 5

Percent of homicide victimizations, by weapon type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

Victim demographic characteristic	Weapon type					
	Firearm	Knife	Blunt instrument	Personal weapon	Other non-personal weapon ^a	Unknown
U.S. total	75.6%	11.6%	2.5%	6.0%	6.2%	4.0%
Sex						
Male*	80.2%	10.7%	2.0%	4.4%	5.1%	3.4%
Female	61.1 †	14.7 †	4.0 †	11.0 †	9.9 †	5.8 †
Race/Hispanic origin						
White* ^b	60.8%	15.0%	4.6%	9.2%	11.4%	5.4%
Black ^b	86.2 †	8.1 †	1.2 †	3.5 †	3.3 †	3.1 †
Hispanic	72.0 †	14.5	2.5 †	6.9 †	6.2 †	4.2 †
Asian ^b	61.0	20.2 †	4.3	14.6 †	8.1 †	1.4 †
American Indian or Alaska Native ^b	48.0 †	22.5 †	5.3	9.8	8.2 †	10.9 †
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ^b	45.6 †	26.5 †	8.8 †	:	19.1	:
Age						
11 or younger	29.2% †	5.6%	2.4% †	32.8% †	17.5% †	17.5% †
12 to 17	89.9 †	6.1	0.7 †	1.5 †	4.4 †	3.5
18 to 24*	92.4	6.0	0.4	2.3	3.4	2.7
25 to 34	82.6 †	10.4 †	0.9 †	3.2 †	5.8 †	2.5
35 to 64	70.7 †	14.5 †	3.6 †	6.1 †	6.7 †	3.9 †
65 or older	43.1 †	22.9 †	9.0 †	15.9 †	9.4 †	7.0 †

Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because there can be more than one weapon in an incident. See *Methodology* for definitions of weapon types. See appendix table 8 for root mean square errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

:Not shown. Estimate did not meet statistical reliability criteria. See *Methodology*.

^aIncludes poison, explosives, fire, drugs, asphyxiation, and other weapon types. See *Methodology*.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

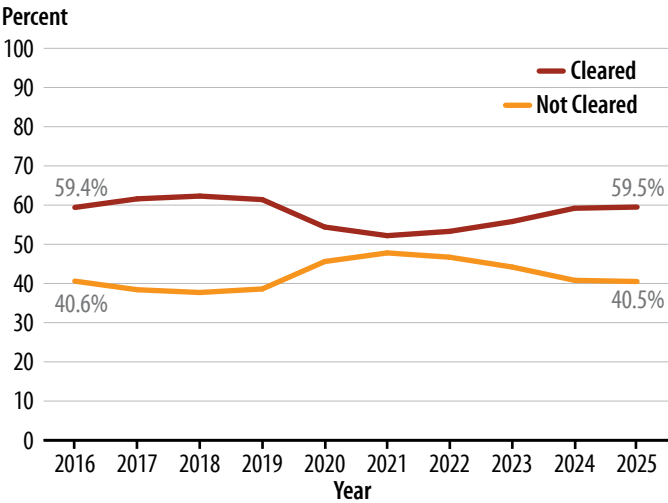
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

Over half of homicide incidents in 2025 resulted in case clearance

In 2025, the percentage of homicide incidents cleared by arrest or exceptional means was 59% (figure 3).⁴ This was similar to the percent cleared in 2024 (59%) but larger than the percent cleared in 2023 (56%) and 2022 (53%). In 2016, 59% of homicide incidents were cleared.

⁴Law enforcement agencies clear an incident when at least one person is arrested, charged, and turned over to the court for prosecution. Law enforcement agencies may also clear an incident by exceptional means, indicating that they have identified the offender and have gathered enough evidence to support that offender's arrest and prosecution, but they have encountered a circumstance outside the control of law enforcement that prohibits the agency from arresting, charging, and prosecuting the offender. See *Methodology*.

FIGURE 3
Percent of homicide offenses, by clearance, 2016–2025



Note: Percent cleared includes cleared by arrest and exceptional clearance; clearance data before 2021 did not distinguish nature of clearance. Exceptional clearance includes crimes cleared because the offender died, the prosecution was declined, the victim refused to cooperate, extradition of the offender was denied by another jurisdiction, or the offender was a juvenile but no referral was made to the juvenile court as a matter of accepted law enforcement policy. An incident cannot be cleared by exceptional means if it was previously or concurrently reported as cleared by arrest. See *Methodology*. See appendix table 9 for estimates and root mean square errors.

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 2016–2020; and Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2021–2025.

Exceptional clearance was more than three times as common for females than for males

In 2025, 54% of homicide victimizations were cleared through arrest and 41% were not cleared (table 6). Fewer than half of male homicide victimizations were not cleared (42%), which was larger than the percentage of female homicide victimizations that were not cleared (35%). Fifty-seven percent of homicide victimizations of white persons were cleared through arrest, while 33% were not cleared. Compared to homicide victimizations of white persons, homicide victimizations of black and Hispanic persons were less likely to be cleared through arrest (51% and 55%) and more likely to not be cleared (45% and 39%). Half (51%) of homicide victimizations of persons ages 18 to 24 were cleared through arrest, which was less than the percentage cleared for those in age groups 17 or younger and 35 or older.

Homicide victimizations of females (12%) were more likely to be cleared by exceptional means than those of males (3%). White persons (10%) had a higher percentage of exceptional clearance than persons who were Asian (7%), Hispanic (5%), black (3%), or American Indian or Alaska Native (1%). Persons age 65 or older (11%) had the highest percentage of exceptional clearance compared to all other age categories (i.e., cleared because the offender died, the prosecution was declined, the victim refused to cooperate, extradition of the offender was denied by another jurisdiction, or the offender was a juvenile but no referral was made to the juvenile court as a matter of accepted law enforcement policy).

TABLE 6
Percent of homicide victimizations, by clearance type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

Victim demographic characteristic	Clearance type		
	Cleared through arrest	Exceptional clearance ^a	Not cleared
U.S. total	54.0%	5.5%	40.5%
Sex			
Male*	54.2%	3.4%	42.4%
Female	53.1 †	12.3 †	34.6 †
Race/Hispanic origin			
White ^{*b}	57.2%	9.6%	33.2%
Black ^b	51.4 †	3.4 †	45.2 †
Hispanic	55.1 †	5.4 †	39.5 †
Asian ^b	58.2	7.2 †	34.6
American Indian or Alaska Native ^b	61.4 †	0.7 †	37.9 †
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ^b	59.7	8.8	31.5
Age			
11 or younger	56.9% †	7.4% †	35.7% †
12 to 17	54.9 †	3.6	41.5 †
18 to 24*	50.7	3.9	45.5
25 to 34	50.6	4.7 †	44.8
35 to 64	56.2 †	6.1 †	37.7 †
65 or older	58.9 †	10.6 †	30.5 †

Note: Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding. See *Methodology* for definitions of clearance types. See appendix table 10 for root mean square errors.

*Comparison group.

†Difference with comparison group is significant at the 95% confidence level.

^aExceptional clearance includes crimes cleared because the offender died, the prosecution was declined, the victim refused to cooperate, extradition of the offender was denied by another jurisdiction, or the offender was a juvenile but no referral was made to the juvenile court as a matter of accepted law enforcement policy. An incident cannot be cleared by exceptional means if it was previously or concurrently reported as cleared by arrest.

^bExcludes persons of Hispanic origin (e.g., “white” refers to non-Hispanic white persons and “black” refers to non-Hispanic black persons).

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

Methodology

Homicide data in this report come from the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) for 2016 to 2020, and from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Estimation Program for 2021 to 2025. SHR data are the source of national homicide estimates from 2016 to 2020 since relying upon NIBRS data to generate national estimates of homicide was not possible until 2021. NIBRS and SHR use the same definition for homicide, making these two data sources comparable.

Supplementary Homicide Reports data

The SHR are collected by the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. The SHR data provide detailed information on homicide incidents, including data on the reporting agency and its resident population; the sex, age, and race of victims and offenders; and the victim-offender relationship, weapon use, location, and circumstance of the crime. The analyses presented in this report exclude deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; attempts to murder; and murders of U.S. residents that occurred outside the United States.

The data included in the SHR are for homicides known to law enforcement. The determination that a crime was a homicide was made solely based on police investigation rather than the decision of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other non-law enforcement entity.

The SHR data were weighted to compensate for the average annual 10% of homicides that were not reported to the SHR from 2016 to 2020. The annual weights are calculated using a three-step process. For details on the weighting process, see the *Methodology in Homicide in the U.S. Known to Law Enforcement, 2011* ⁵ (NCJ 243035, BJS, December 2013).

National Incident-Based Reporting System data

NIBRS is a data collection system designed and maintained by the FBI, which compiles data on crimes recorded by participating law enforcement agencies. NIBRS captures detailed information from federal, state, local, tribal, and university agencies on 52 different offenses that can occur within a crime incident and collects arrest-only information for an additional 10 offenses.⁵ Estimates in this report do not include data from federal agencies. For more information about the

NIBRS data structure and details about the data elements included in the collection, see BJS's [National Incident-Based Reporting System webpage](#) ⁶ and the FBI's [Crime Data Explorer](#) ⁷.

Calculating national estimates of crime

Beginning with the 2021 data year, the FBI began publishing national estimates of crime reported to law enforcement based on NIBRS data. To calculate these estimates, BJS and the FBI, in partnership with RTI International, established a new set of statistical procedures to account for the NIBRS data structure and for agencies that did not report data to the system. In October 2022, the FBI published the first set of national estimates derived from the new methodology. The data tables for the NIBRS estimates are available through the FBI's Crime Data Explorer on the [NIBRS Estimates webpage](#) ⁶. The NIBRS national estimates for 2022 to 2025 can also be accessed through the [BJS NIBRS National Estimates API](#) ⁸. For additional information on the NIBRS estimation methodology, see *NIBRS Estimation and Extract File Creation Methodology Report* ⁹ (NCJ 310516, BJS, December 2025).

Annual NIBRS estimates are based on data reported to law enforcement, which typically reflect the incident date. That means 2025 data include all incidents in 2025 that were reported to law enforcement by the time data were transmitted to the FBI or aggregated elsewhere. NIBRS data that are transmitted to the FBI after the cutoff date are still considered part of that year's data, but they are not published until the data release the following year. For example, 2024 data that did not make the cutoff date were not included in the original 2024 estimates but were included in the updated 2024 estimates that were published with the original 2025 estimates. For this reason, prior year estimates will slightly differ from previously published estimates.

Unit nonresponse

For the NIBRS Estimation Program, nonreporting agencies are those law enforcement agencies that do not report at least 1 month of crime incident data to the FBI. The number of nonreporting agencies has decreased annually, as additional law enforcement agencies complete their transitions to NIBRS reporting. The percentage of eligible law enforcement agencies that were nonreporting agencies was about 23% in 2025.

⁵Federal agencies submitting NIBRS data to the FBI may report an additional 19 offense types and 3 arrest-only offense types that are exclusive to federal crime incidents.

⁶See NIBRS Estimation Tables on the FBI's CDE Documents and Downloads page at <https://cde.ucr.cjis.gov/LATEST/webapp/#/pages/downloads> ⁷.

About 77% of law enforcement agencies (N = 15,106) reported at least 1 month of NIBRS data to the FBI in 2025, representing 90% of the U.S. population.

To account for nonreporting agencies, a unit nonresponse weight was applied to the reporting agencies that submit 3 or more months of NIBRS data in the year. The purpose of the NIBRS unit nonresponse weighting adjustment is for reporting agencies to represent both their own crime data and the crime data from those nonreporting agencies with similar agency characteristics, such as agency size and agency type.

Because the distribution of nonreporting agencies throughout the United States varies by state and region, additional statistical weights were created for different geographic levels of estimation. Specifically, a weight was created for estimation at each of the geographic levels for which estimates were produced: (1) national, (2) state, (3) judicial district, and (4) tribal agencies. Having separate weights for different geographic areas helps ensure that the weights accurately reflect the geographic area being estimated.

For more information about the weighting procedures used for NIBRS estimation, see *Primer on Weighting on the FBI's NIBRS Estimates webpage* [🔗](#).

Significance testing

BJS conducted statistical tests to determine whether differences in estimated counts, percentages, and rates in this report were statistically significant. Findings described in this report as increases or decreases passed significance testing at the 0.05 level (95% confidence level).

Two significance testing procedures were used:

1. For comparing estimates between 2 subsequent years (e.g., comparing the change in rate from 2024 to 2025), the primary test procedure was a correlated samples t-test.
2. When comparing estimates within the same year or across more than 2 years, the primary test procedure was a t-test that incorporates the root mean square error (RMSE).

For more information on significance testing procedures, see “Significance testing” in *Crime Known to Law Enforcement, 2023* [🔗](#) (NCJ 310188, BJS, November 2025).

Estimate reliability

The reliability of NIBRS-based crime estimates is affected by several factors, including agency coverage rates and the rareness of the event or phenomenon being measured (e.g., bias or hate crime), among other factors. Consistent with standard principles and practices, statistically unreliable estimates (those with a level of statistical uncertainty above an established threshold) are not included in the published data because they may lead to erroneous conclusions or interpretations. Decisions about which estimates to withhold were based on a set of specific and consistent criteria developed as part of the estimation procedures. For more information about the reliability criteria applied, see “Estimate reliability” in *Homicide Victimization in the United States, 2023* [🔗](#) (NCJ 309889, BJS, May 2025).

NIBRS definitions

Homicide is composed of the two categories of murder and nonnegligent manslaughter. Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter are defined as “The willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.” Attempted murder is coded as aggravated assault in NIBRS. Other fatalities such as accidental deaths, suicides, and traffic-related are not included. In addition, “felony murder” or situations where a victim dies of another cause (such as a heart attack) because of a crime being committed against them is not classified as a murder.

The **presence and type of weapon** are based on the NIBRS *Type Weapon/Force Involved* data element, which includes 15 different weapon or force types, as well as categories for unknown weapon type and no weapon involved. For this analysis, weapons and physical force were grouped into seven aggregate categories:

- **Firearms**—includes the weapon types of firearm, handgun, rifle, shotgun and other firearm.
- **Knives and other cutting instruments**—includes knives, razors, hatchets, axes, cleavers, scissors, glass, broken bottles, ice picks, etc.
- **Blunt instruments**—includes baseball bats, butt of handgun, clubs, bricks, jack handles, tire irons, bottles, etc.
- **Personal weapons**—includes physical force exerted using hands, fist, feet, arms, teeth, etc.

- **Other non-personal weapons**—includes poison, explosives, fire, drugs, asphyxiation, other weapon types (such as BB guns, tasers, pepper spray, etc.).
- **Unknown**—unknown weapon type.
- **No weapon or force used.**

The **relationship of the victim to the alleged offender(s)** is based on the NIBRS *Relationship(s) of Victim to Offender(s)* data element, which includes 26 distinct relationship types. For this analysis, the relationship types were aggregated into six categories and are detailed below.

■ **Intimate partner:**

- Victim was boyfriend or girlfriend
- Victim was common-law spouse
- Victim was spouse
- Victim was ex-relationship (ex-boyfriend or ex-girlfriend)
- Victim was ex-spouse.

■ **Other family:**

- Victim was child
- Victim was grandchild
- Victim was grandparent
- Victim was in-law
- Victim was other family member
- Victim was parent
- Victim was sibling
- Victim was stepchild
- Victim was stepparent
- Victim was stepsibling.

■ **Outside family but known to victim:**

- Victim was acquaintance
- Victim was the baby or child in the care of a babysitter
- Victim was child of boyfriend or girlfriend
- Victim was employee
- Victim was employer
- Victim was friend
- Victim was neighbor
- Victim was otherwise known.

■ **Stranger:**

- Victim was stranger.

- **Victim was offender:** Includes Victim was offender; this relationship type is used to denote when a participant in a crime incident was both a victim and an offender, such as domestic disputes or bar fights where two or more persons were identified as participating. This relationship category is not included in this report. Less than 2% of murders and nonnegligent manslaughters in 2025 were estimated to include this type of relationship.

■ **Unknown relationship:**

- The relationship between the victim and offender has not been established.

There are three ways incident clearance can be reported by law enforcement agencies:

- **Cleared through arrest:** Includes any on-view arrest that occurs absent a warrant or previous incident report, arrests where an offender is taken into custody based on a warrant or previously submitted incident report, and incidents for which an offender is issued a summons to appear in court but not taken into police custody.
- **Exceptional clearance:** Occurs when an incident is cleared without an arrest due to circumstances outside of the control of law enforcement. To clear an offense by exceptional means, agencies must meet the following criteria: an investigation must have clearly established the identity of a least one offender; there must be sufficient probable cause to support the arrest, charging, and prosecution of the offender; law enforcement must know the exact location of the offender so that an arrest could be made had circumstances not prevented the arrest; and there must be a reason outside the control of law enforcement that prevents law enforcement from making an arrest and charging the offender. Exceptional clearance includes:
 - the death of the offender (e.g., suicide or justifiably killed by law enforcement or citizen)
 - the prosecutor's decision to decline prosecution of the case after it was referred from law enforcement
 - the victim's refusal to cooperate with the prosecution after the offender had been identified
 - the denial of extradition because the offender had committed a crime in another jurisdiction and is being prosecuted for that offense
 - the offender was a juvenile and not taken into police custody.

An incident cannot be cleared by exceptional means if it was previously or concurrently reported as cleared by arrest.

- ***Not cleared:*** A crime incident that is not reported in NIBRS as cleared by an arrest or exceptional means is considered not cleared.

Incidents that are administratively closed do not necessarily meet the criteria to be reported as cleared. NIBRS does not record information on administrative case closures.

These definitions come from the NIBRS User Manual. For more information, see the manual at <https://le.fbi.gov/informational-tools/ucr/ucr-technical-specifications-user-manuals-and-data-tools> .

APPENDIX TABLE 1

Estimates and root mean square errors for number and rate of homicide victimizations, by state, 2025

State	Number	Root mean square error	Rate per 100,000 ^a	Root mean square error
U.S. total	14,660	309	4.3	0.06
Alabama	450	5	8.6	0.10
Alaska	:	~	:	~
Arizona	360	7	4.7	0.10
Arkansas	190	4	6.3	0.11
California	1,350	112	3.4	0.29
Colorado	210	3	3.6	0.05
Connecticut	70	0	2.0	0.00
Delaware	40	0	4.1	0.00
District of Columbia	120	0	16.7	0.00
Florida	940	158	4.0	0.67
Georgia	630	57	5.6	0.50
Hawaii	20	0	1.2	0.00
Idaho	40	2	2.0	0.08
Illinois	620	35	4.9	0.28
Indiana	280	9	4.0	0.13
Iowa	50	2	1.7	0.06
Kansas	140	2	4.6	0.07
Kentucky	130	1	2.8	0.02
Louisiana	420	62	9.2	1.35
Maine	20	0	1.4	0.03
Maryland	320	0	5.2	0.00
Massachusetts	120	8	1.7	0.12
Michigan	460	6	4.5	0.06
Minnesota	130	1	2.2	0.02
Mississippi	210	18	7.2	0.61
Missouri	450	7	7.2	0.11
Montana	30	0	2.6	0.00
Nebraska	50	3	2.5	0.17
Nevada	160	3	4.8	0.10
New Hampshire	20	2	1.3	0.16
New Jersey	180	30	1.9	0.32
New Mexico	180	2	8.6	0.11
New York	470	68	2.4	0.34
North Carolina	730	16	6.5	0.14
North Dakota	10	1	1.5	0.11
Ohio	550	10	4.6	0.09
Oklahoma	210	3	5.0	0.07
Oregon	130	2	3.1	0.04
Pennsylvania	:	~	:	~
Rhode Island	20	1	1.7	0.09
South Carolina	350	1	6.3	0.01
South Dakota	30	6	3.2	0.66
Tennessee	470	6	6.5	0.08
Texas	1,470	2	4.6	0.00
Utah	90	3	2.5	0.08
Vermont	10	0	1.7	0.00
Virginia	380	4	4.3	0.05
Washington	230	3	2.9	0.04
West Virginia	70	13	4.0	0.74
Wisconsin	240	3	4.0	0.06
Wyoming	20	2	3.0	0.26

Note: Details may not sum to totals due to rounding and omission of estimates that did not meet statistical reliability. See *Methodology*.

:Not shown. Estimate did not meet statistical reliability criteria. See *Methodology*.

~Not applicable.

^aRates are calculated per 100,000 U.S. residents.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 2**Estimates and root mean square errors for figure 1: Number and rate of homicide victimizations, 2016–2025**

Year	Number	Root mean square error	Rate per 100,000	Root mean square error
2016	17,410	~	5.4	~
2017	17,290	~	5.3	~
2018	16,370	~	5.0	~
2019	16,670	~	5.0	~
2020	21,570	~	6.5	~
2021	23,060	3,557	6.9	1.07
2022	22,240	482	6.7	0.14
2023	20,280	741	6.1	0.22
2024	17,720	297	5.2	0.09
2025	14,660	309	4.3	0.06

Note: Root mean square errors are calculated for 2021 to 2025 because estimates are from the National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program. They are not applicable for 2016 to 2020. See *Methodology*.

~Not applicable.

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2016–2020; U.S. Census Bureau Population, 2016–2020; and Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2021–2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 3**Root mean square errors for table 1: Number, percent, and rate of homicide victimizations, by victim demographic characteristics, 2025**

Victim demographic characteristic	Number	Percent	Rate per 100,000
U.S. total	309	~	0.06
Sex			
Male	170	0.47%	0.06
Female	143	0.47	0.07
Race/Hispanic origin			
White	228	0.97%	0.09
Black	56	0.87	0.10
Hispanic	44	0.27	0.07
Asian	6	0.04	0.02
American Indian or Alaska Native	15	0.08	0.29
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3	0.02	0.41
Age			
11 or younger	19	0.08%	0.03
12 to 17	17	0.10	0.09
18 to 24	65	0.12	0.16
25 to 34	44	0.25	0.06
35 to 64	166	0.31	0.08
65 or older	35	0.11	0.05

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 4

Root mean square errors for table 2: Percent of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

Victim demographic characteristic	Victim-offender relationship				
	Intimate partner	Other family	Outside family but known	Stranger	Unknown
U.S. total	0.44%	0.51%	0.78%	0.25%	0.42%
Sex					
Male	0.18%	0.42%	1.16%	0.32%	0.39%
Female	0.78	0.55	0.50	0.41	0.37
Race/Hispanic origin					
White	0.30%	0.35%	0.48%	0.39%	0.33%
Black	0.53	0.57	1.38	0.32	0.52
Hispanic	0.24	0.40	1.39	0.85	0.55
Asian	1.17	1.13	1.58	4.37	1.05
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.12	1.68	3.32	1.01	3.13
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	5.85	1.25	4.51	0.93	0.76
Age					
11 or younger	0.18%	2.06%	2.65%	0.76%	0.97%
12 to 17	0.49	1.15	2.04	1.07	1.44
18 to 24	0.29	0.20	0.75	0.69	1.00
25 to 34	0.76	0.20	0.60	0.45	0.56
35 to 64	0.24	0.32	0.76	0.41	0.46
65 or older	0.74	0.65	0.55	0.67	0.44

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 5

Root mean square errors for table 3: Rate of homicide victimizations, by victim-offender relationship and victim demographic characteristics, 2025

Victim demographic characteristic	Victim-offender relationship				
	Intimate partner	Other family	Outside family but known	Stranger	Unknown
U.S. total	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.02	0.02
Sex					
Male	0.02	0.03	0.13	0.05	0.06
Female	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Race/Hispanic origin					
White	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01
Black	0.14	0.15	0.40	0.13	0.30
Hispanic	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.03	0.05
Asian	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.08	0.12	0.30	0.06	0.20
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.22	0.05	0.18	0.03	0.03
Age					
11 or younger	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.01
12 to 17	0.03	0.04	0.07	0.05	0.04
18 to 24	0.05	0.03	0.13	0.11	0.17
25 to 34	0.06	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.05
35 to 64	0.03	0.04	0.08	0.02	0.02
65 or older	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 6**Root mean square errors for table 4: Percent of homicide incidents, by number of victims, 2025**

Number of victims in incident	Number of victims	Number of incidents	Percent of incidents
U.S. total	~	266	~
1 victim	~	260	0.08%
2 victims	~	16	0.08
3 victims	~	4	0.03
4 or more victims	~	4	0.02

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 7**Estimates and root mean square errors for figure 2: Percent of homicide victimizations involving a firearm, 2016–2025**

Year	Percent involving a firearm	Root mean square error
2016	72.9%	~
2017	72.5	~
2018	72.3	~
2019	73.3	~
2020	76.9	~
2021	79.8	3.56%
2022	79.6	1.34
2023	78.7	1.28
2024	76.6	0.45
2025	75.6	0.38

Note: Root mean square errors are calculated for 2021 to 2025 because estimates are from the National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program. They are not applicable for 2016 to 2020. See *Methodology*.

~Not applicable.

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Supplementary Homicide Reports, 2016–2020; U.S. Census Bureau Population, 2016–2020; and Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2021–2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 8**Root mean square errors for table 5: Percent of homicide victimizations, by weapon type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025**

Victim demographic characteristic	Weapon type					
	Firearm	Knife	Blunt instrument	Personal weapon	Other non-personal weapon	Unknown
U.S. total	0.38%	0.18%	0.06%	0.21%	0.32%	0.17%
Sex						
Male	0.35%	0.32%	0.07%	0.18%	0.32%	0.08%
Female	0.44	0.25	0.13	0.22	0.32	0.20
Race/Hispanic origin						
White	0.38%	0.30%	0.18%	0.29%	0.58%	0.19%
Black	0.30	0.38	0.07	0.10	0.25	0.28
Hispanic	0.60	0.35	0.17	0.17	0.33	0.23
Asian	2.50	1.67	0.61	1.05	1.00	0.21
American Indian or Alaska Native	2.16	1.95	0.75	1.11	1.04	1.56
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	3.56	4.87	1.45	~	6.85	~
Age						
11 or younger	1.27%	0.36%	0.23%	1.21%	1.38%	1.56%
12 to 17	0.64	0.41	0.23	0.16	0.26	0.70
18 to 24	0.60	0.23	0.22	0.11	0.18	0.30
25 to 34	0.96	0.49	0.06	0.16	0.33	0.22
35 to 64	0.29	0.22	0.10	0.19	0.23	0.11
65 or older	0.62	0.45	0.52	0.44	0.45	0.46

~Not applicable.

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 9**Estimates and root mean square errors for figure 3: Percent of homicide offenses, by clearance, 2016–2025**

Year	Cleared		Not cleared	
	Percent	Root mean square error	Percent	Root mean square error
2016	59.4%	~	40.6%	~
2017	61.6	~	38.4	~
2018	62.3	~	37.7	~
2019	61.4	~	38.6	~
2020	54.4	~	45.6	~
2021	52.2	~	47.8	0.57%
2022	53.3	0.48%	46.7	0.48
2023	55.8	0.93	44.2	0.93
2024	59.2	0.53	40.8	0.53
2025	59.5	0.35	40.5	0.35

Note: Root mean square errors are calculated for 2022 to 2025 because estimates are from the National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program. They are not applicable for 2016 to 2020. Root mean square errors for 2021 were estimated for cleared through arrest and exceptional clearance separately; the combined root mean square error is not available. Percent cleared includes cleared by arrest and exceptional clearance; clearance data before 2021 did not distinguish nature of clearance. Exceptional clearance includes crimes cleared because the offender died, the prosecution was declined, the victim refused to cooperate, extradition of the offender was denied by another jurisdiction, or the offender was a juvenile but no referral was made to the juvenile court as a matter of accepted law enforcement policy. An incident cannot be cleared by exceptional means if it was previously or concurrently reported as cleared by arrest. See *Methodology*.

~Not applicable.

Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation, Crime in the United States, 2016–2020; and Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2021–2025.

APPENDIX TABLE 10**Root mean square errors for table 6: Percent of homicide victimizations, by clearance type and victim demographic characteristics, 2025**

Victim demographic characteristic	Clearance type		
	Cleared through arrest	Exceptional clearance	Not cleared
U.S. total	0.44%	0.13%	0.50%
Sex			
Male	0.59%	0.10%	0.61%
Female	0.54	0.22	0.56
Race/Hispanic origin			
White	0.57%	0.23%	0.51%
Black	1.00	0.12	0.98
Hispanic	0.47	0.24	0.43
Asian	1.92	0.54	2.04
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.76	0.35	1.77
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	6.80	4.12	3.63
Age			
11 or younger	1.16%	0.91%	1.37%
12 to 17	0.96	0.26	0.88
18 to 24	0.63	0.17	0.64
25 to 34	0.51	0.18	0.60
35 to 64	0.34	0.31	0.35
65 or older	0.57	0.38	0.56

Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics and Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Incident-Based Reporting System Estimation Program, 2025.



The Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice is the principal federal agency responsible for measuring crime, criminal victimization, criminal offenders, victims of crime, correlates of crime, and the operation of criminal and civil justice systems at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels. BJS collects, analyzes, and disseminates reliable statistics on crime and justice systems in the United States, supports improvements to state and local criminal justice information systems, and participates with national and international organizations to develop and recommend national standards for justice statistics. Kevin M. Scott, PhD, is the acting director.

This report was written by Lizabeth Remrey, PhD. Andrea M. Gardner verified the report.

Richard Killmon edited the report. Jeffrey Link produced the report.

October 2026, NCJ 312197



NCJ 312197

Office of Justice Programs
Building Solutions • Supporting Communities • Advancing Justice
www.ojp.gov