

# 2015 Homicide in Connecticut: A FACT SHEET

CONNECTICUT VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM, OFFICE OF INJURY PREVENTION • March 2017

## Homicide in Connecticut

In 2015, homicides were a major cause of intentional injury death in Connecticut. Through a CDC-funded project called the Connecticut Violent Death Reporting System (CTVDRS), the Office of Injury Prevention actively tracks homicides and circumstances related to homicide to better understand the problem in our state.

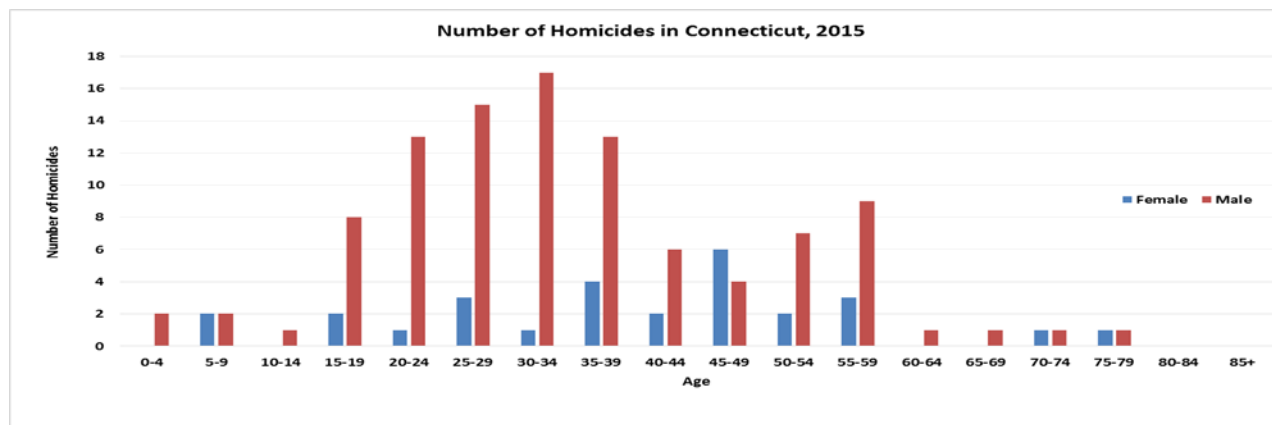
According to 2015 homicide data where the circumstances of the incident are known, an argument or dispute and commission of another crime, such as robbery or an assault, were top contributing factors in homicides in Connecticut.

## Characteristics of Homicide Victims

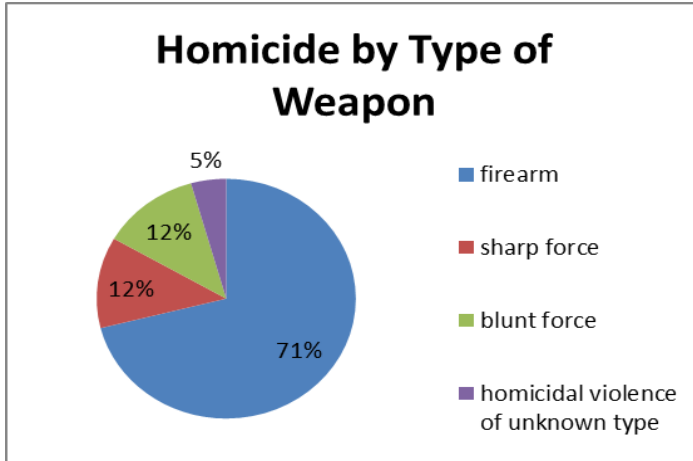
- 78% of the 129 victims that died from homicide were men
- Of the male victims, 49% were Black, non-Hispanic followed by 41% White, non-Hispanic, and 11% Hispanic
- Ages ranged from less than 1 year old to 79 years old, mean age of 36 years old, and 47% were 25 to 44 years old
- 8 (29%) of the 28 women that died from homicide, were victims of intimate partner violence; age range (39 - 71 yrs.); mean age 51 yrs
- 11 victims under the age of 17 died by homicide; the parents were suspects in 55% of these incidents
- Where circumstances were known (65%), the most frequent circumstances were: (1) argument/ dispute, (2) precipitated by another crime (e.g. assault, robbery) and (3) drug trade/involvement

### KEY POINTS:

- 129 homicides occurred in Connecticut in 2015
- Age-adjusted rate: 4.8 homicides per 100,000 population versus 4.7 in US (2013)
- 78% were male: 49% were Black, non-Hispanic and 41% White, non-Hispanic
- Most frequent circumstances noted:
  - Argument/dispute;
  - Precipitated by another crime;
  - Drug trade/involvement



## Means of Homicide



- Firearm was the leading type of weapon among both men and women and persons under 17 yrs. old

## Violence Prevention

### *Intimate Partner Homicides*

25% of the women who died by homicide were victims of intimate partner violence. Intimate partner homicides are predictable and preventable. The Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) is CT's leading voice for victims of domestic violence and those agencies that serve them. To prevent future intimate partner homicides, the CCADV partnered with law enforcement to adopt the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP). For more information about domestic violence and LAP, please go to <http://www.ctcadv.org>.

### *Gun Violence Reduction*

Project Longevity is a focused deterrence gun violence reduction strategy in which law enforcement, social service providers, and community members conduct meetings with members of violent street groups to deliver a unified message: that gun violence must stop, there is help for those who want it, but those who choose to continue the acts of violence will meet with swift legal consequences. For information please see: <http://www.project-longevity.org/>.

For more information about CTVDRS, please visit us at [www.ct.gov/dph/ctvdrs](http://www.ct.gov/dph/ctvdrs).

### Contact Information

Office of Injury Prevention

Community, Family Health and Prevention Section

Connecticut Department of Public Health

Phone: 860-509-8251

Injury Office Webpages: [www.ct.gov/dph/injuryprevention](http://www.ct.gov/dph/injuryprevention) and [www.ct.gov/dph/ctvdrs](http://www.ct.gov/dph/ctvdrs)