

MASSACHUSETTS VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM 2021

Total Violent Deaths in MA¹

Count= 848
Rate = 12.1/100,000

HOMICIDE

Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
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SUICIDE

Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
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UNDETERMINED²

Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
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SEX³

	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
Male	113	74.3	3.3	453	76.0	13.3	59	67.0	1.7
Female	39	25.7	1.1	143	24.0	4.0	29	33.0	0.8
Total	152	100.0	2.2	596	100.0	8.5	88	100.0	1.3

RACE/ETHNICITY⁴

	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
White, non-Hispanic	48	31.6	1.0	492	82.6	10.2	68	77.3	1.4
Black, non-Hispanic	58	38.2	12.2	28	4.7	5.9	9	10.2	1.9
Asian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	5	3.3	--	28	4.7	5.5	0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	39	25.7	4.4	42	7.0	4.8	10	11.4	1.1
Other race/ethnicity	2	1.3	--	6	1.0	--	1	1.1	--
Total	152	100.0	2.2	596	100.0	8.5	88	100.0	1.3

AGE GROUP

	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
0-14	6	3.9	0.5	6	1.0	0.5	3	3.4	--
15-24	33	21.7	3.5	71	11.9	7.5	3	3.4	--
25-34	48	31.6	4.7	108	18.1	10.6	14	15.9	1.4
35-44	26	17.1	3.0	89	14.9	10.3	18	20.5	2.1
45-54	12	7.9	1.3	86	14.4	9.4	16	18.2	1.7
55-64	7	4.6	0.7	110	18.5	11.4	15	17.0	1.5
65-74	16	10.5	2.3	73	12.2	10.6	12	13.6	1.7
75-84	3	2.0	--	32	5.4	9.3	5	5.7	--
85+	1	0.7	--	21	3.5	12.8	2	2.3	--
Total	152	100.0	2.2	596	100.0	8.5	88	100.0	1.3

MARITAL STATUS (Ages 15+)

	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
Married	22	15.1	0.8	165	28.0	5.8	15	17.6	0.5
Never Married	104	71.2	4.7	292	49.5	13.3	46	54.1	2.1
Widowed	6	4.1	--	30	5.1	9.9	3	3.5	--
Divorced	14	9.6	2.6	100	16.9	18.5	20	23.5	3.7
Unknown	0	0.0	0.0	3	0.5	--	1	1.2	--
Total	146	100.0	2.5	590	100.0	10.0	85	100.0	1.4

YEARS OF EDUCATION (Ages 25+)

	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000	Count	Percent	Rate per 100,000
8th grade or less	3	2.7	--	8	1.5	3.9	2	2.4	--
9-12th grade, high school diploma, or GED	77	68.1	5.7	260	50.1	19.1	46	56.1	3.4
Some college, Associates, or Bachelor's degree	29	25.7	1.2	186	35.8	8.0	24	29.3	1.0
Master's, Doctorate, or Professional degree	3	2.7	--	57	11.0	5.7	6	7.3	0.6
Unknown	1	0.9	--	8	1.5	--	4	4.9	--
Total	113	100.0	2.3	519	100.0	10.6	82	100.0	1.7

TOTAL **152 100.0 2.2 596 100.0 8.5 88 100.0 1.3**

Source: Massachusetts Violent Death Reporting System, Injury Surveillance Program, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

- Data were extracted and compiled by the Injury Surveillance Program, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, MDPH, August 2023.
- Analysis is based on a calendar year (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2021) and analyzed by ICD-10 code (X60-X99, Y00-Y34, Y35.0-Y35.4, Y35.6-Y35.7, Y86 (firearms only), Y87.0-Y87.2, Y89.0, Y89.9, W32-W34, U01-U03). Percents may not add to 100 due to rounding.
- Data is for occurrent deaths only; Massachusetts residents who died out-of-state are excluded from this analysis.
- Rates are crude rates and were not calculated on counts of less than six and where population data is unavailable. Rates based on counts less than 20 may be unstable.
- Population data used to calculate rates are based on 2020 population estimates (as a proxy for 2021) generated by the UMass Donahue Institute and the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2017-2021 five year estimates.

¹ Total violent deaths include 12 legal intervention deaths that are not included in the table.

² Undetermined manner is defined as evidence indicating one manner of death is no more compelling than the evidence indicating another manner of death.

³ Sex is collected on the death certificate as male, female, unknown. There were no "unknown" violent deaths in the examined time period.

⁴ Other race/ethnicity includes persons who have more than one race or unknown race.

