

MASSACHUSETTS VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM

HOMICIDE 2021

| | MALE ¹ | | | FEMALE ¹ | | | TOTAL | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|------------|--------------|------------------|
| | Count | Percent | Rate per 100,000 | Count | Percent | Rate per 100,000 | Count | Percent | Rate per 100,000 |
| AGE GROUP | | | | | | | | | |
| 0-14 | 4 | 3.5 | -- | 2 | 5.1 | -- | 6 | 3.9 | 0.5 |
| 15-24 | 27 | 23.9 | 5.7 | 6 | 15.4 | 1.3 | 33 | 21.7 | 3.5 |
| 25-34 | 39 | 34.5 | 7.6 | 9 | 23.1 | 1.8 | 48 | 31.6 | 4.7 |
| 35-44 | 21 | 18.6 | 4.9 | 5 | 12.8 | -- | 26 | 17.1 | 3.0 |
| 45-54 | 7 | 6.2 | 1.6 | 5 | 12.8 | -- | 12 | 7.9 | 1.3 |
| 55-64 | 4 | 3.5 | -- | 3 | 7.7 | -- | 7 | 4.6 | 0.7 |
| 65-74 | 9 | 8.0 | 2.8 | 7 | 17.9 | 1.9 | 16 | 10.5 | 2.3 |
| 75-84 | 2 | 1.8 | -- | 1 | 2.6 | -- | 3 | 2.0 | -- |
| 85+ | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1 | 2.6 | -- | 1 | 0.7 | -- |
| Total | 113 | 100.0 | 3.3 | 39 | 100.0 | 1.1 | 152 | 100.0 | 2.2 |
| RACE/ETHNICITY | | | | | | | | | |
| White, non-Hispanic | 31 | 27.4 | 1.3 | 17 | 43.6 | 0.7 | 48 | 31.6 | 1.0 |
| Black, non-Hispanic | 48 | 42.5 | 20.7 | 10 | 25.6 | 4.1 | 58 | 38.2 | 12.2 |
| Asian, non-Hispanic | 3 | 2.7 | -- | 2 | 5.1 | -- | 5 | 3.3 | -- |
| Hispanic | 30 | 26.5 | 6.8 | 9 | 23.1 | 2.0 | 39 | 25.7 | 4.4 |
| Other/unknown race/ethnicity | 1 | 0.9 | -- | 1 | 2.6 | -- | 2 | 1.3 | -- |
| Total | 113 | 100.0 | 3.3 | 39 | 100.0 | 1.1 | 152 | 100.0 | 2.2 |
| CIRCUMSTANCES² | | | | | | | | | |
| Argument | 30 | 26.5 | -- | 10 | 25.6 | -- | 40 | 26.3 | -- |
| Alcohol and/or Substance Abuse Problem | 30 | 26.5 | -- | <6 | -- | -- | 32-36 | -- | -- |
| Gang-related | 26 | 23.0 | -- | <6 | -- | -- | 27-31 | -- | -- |
| Drug Involvement | 23 | 20.4 | -- | <6 | -- | -- | 24-28 | -- | -- |
| Precipitated by Another Crime | 18 | 15.9 | -- | <6 | -- | -- | 19-23 | -- | -- |
| Intimate Partner Violence-related | <6 | -- | -- | 15 | 38.5 | -- | 16-22 | -- | -- |
| METHOD | | | | | | | | | |
| Firearm | 75 | 66.4 | 2.2 | 17 | 43.6 | 0.5 | 92 | 60.5 | 1.3 |
| Sharp instrument | 21 | 18.6 | 0.6 | 11 | 28.2 | 0.3 | 32 | 21.1 | 0.5 |
| Personal weapons | 8 | 7.1 | 0.2 | 1 | 2.6 | -- | 9 | 5.9 | 0.1 |
| Blunt instrument | 3 | 2.7 | -- | 4 | 10.3 | -- | 7 | 4.6 | 0.1 |
| Strangulation/Suffocation | 3 | 2.7 | -- | 3 | 7.7 | -- | 6 | 3.9 | 0.1 |
| Other/unknown method | 3 | 2.7 | -- | 3 | 7.7 | -- | 6 | 3.9 | 0.1 |
| Total | 113 | 100.0 | 3.3 | 39 | 100.0 | 1.1 | 152 | 100.0 | 2.2 |
| TOTAL | 113 | 100.0 | 3.3 | 39 | 100.0 | 1.1 | 152 | 100.0 | 2.2 |

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

MASSACHUSETTS VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM

HOMICIDE 2021 *(continued)*

| | MALE ¹ | | | FEMALE ¹ | | | TOTAL | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|------------|--------------|------------------|
| | Count | Percent | Rate per 100,000 | Count | Percent | Rate per 100,000 | Count | Percent | Rate per 100,000 |
| COUNTY OF INJURY | | | | | | | | | |
| Barnstable | 2 | 1.8 | -- | 1 | 2.9 | -- | 3 | 2.1 | -- |
| Berkshire | 3 | 2.7 | -- | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3 | 2.1 | -- |
| Bristol | 10 | 9.0 | 3.6 | 1 | 2.9 | -- | 11 | 7.5 | 1.9 |
| Dukes | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Essex | 9 | 8.1 | 2.3 | 4 | 11.4 | -- | 13 | 8.9 | 1.6 |
| Franklin | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Hampden | 20 | 18.0 | 8.9 | 5 | 14.3 | -- | 25 | 17.1 | 5.4 |
| Hampshire | 1 | 0.9 | -- | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1 | 0.7 | -- |
| Middlesex | 13 | 11.7 | 1.6 | 5 | 14.3 | -- | 18 | 12.3 | 1.1 |
| Nantucket | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Norfolk | 4 | 3.6 | -- | 1 | 2.9 | -- | 5 | 3.4 | -- |
| Plymouth | 11 | 9.9 | 4.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 11 | 7.5 | 2.1 |
| Suffolk | 32 | 28.8 | 8.3 | 14 | 40.0 | 3.4 | 46 | 31.5 | 5.8 |
| Worcester | 6 | 5.4 | 1.4 | 4 | 11.4 | -- | 10 | 6.8 | 1.2 |
| Total Known MA Injury County | 111 | 100.0 | 3.3 | 35 | 100.0 | 1.0 | 146 | 100.0 | 2.1 |
| Out of State Injury/Unknown Injury | 2 | -- | -- | 4 | -- | -- | 6 | -- | -- |
| MARITAL STATUS (Ages 15+) | | | | | | | | | |
| Married | 15 | 13.8 | 1.1 | 7 | 18.9 | 0.5 | 22 | 15.1 | 0.8 |
| Never Married | 84 | 77.1 | 7.5 | 20 | 54.1 | 1.9 | 104 | 71.2 | 4.8 |
| Widowed | 1 | 0.9 | -- | 5 | 13.5 | -- | 6 | 4.1 | 2.0 |
| Divorced | 9 | 8.3 | 4.0 | 5 | 13.5 | -- | 14 | 9.6 | 2.5 |
| Total | 109 | 100.0 | 3.8 | 37 | 100.0 | 1.2 | 146 | 100.0 | 2.5 |
| EDUCATION LEVEL (Ages 25+) | | | | | | | | | |
| 8th grade or less | 3 | 3.7 | -- | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3 | 2.7 | -- |
| 9-12th grade, high school diploma, or GED | 59 | 72.0 | 8.3 | 18 | 58.1 | 2.7 | 77 | 68.1 | 5.7 |
| Some college, Associate or Bachelor's degree | 20 | 24.4 | 1.8 | 9 | 29.0 | 0.7 | 29 | 25.7 | 1.2 |
| Master's, Doctorate, or Professional degree | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3 | 9.7 | -- | 3 | 2.7 | -- |
| Unknown | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1 | 3.2 | -- | 1 | 0.9 | -- |
| Total | 82 | 100.0 | 3.5 | 31 | 100.0 | 1.2 | 113 | 100.0 | 2.3 |
| TOTAL | 113 | 100.0 | 3.3 | 39 | 100.0 | 1.1 | 152 | 100.0 | 2.2 |

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

¹ Sex is collected on the death certificate as male, female, unknown. There were no "unknown" violent deaths in the examined time period.

² Multiple circumstances may be selected for each decedent. Counts less than 6 and any complementary cells may be suppressed for confidentiality purposes. Rates are not calculated due to undefined denominators.

• Data were extracted and compiled by the Injury Surveillance Program, BCHAP, MDPH, August 2023

• Analysis is based on a calendar year (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2021) and analyzed by ICD-10 code.

• 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. Rates that are based on counts less than twenty may be unstable.

• Population data used to calculate rates are based on 2020 population estimates (2021 population estimates are not yet released)

