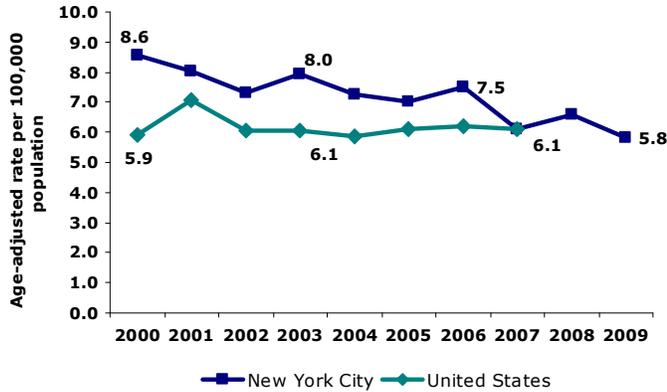


## I. Trends and Burden

Homicides in the US and New York City, 2000 - 2009



- Homicide rates in NYC have decreased steadily since 2000; in 2009 there were 5.8 homicides for every 100,000 people in NYC.
- Before 2007, homicide rates nationwide were lower than NYC rates, and relatively stable.<sup>i</sup>
- Between 2007 and 2009, there were 1,570 homicides in NYC, with an average of 523 deaths per year.

## II. Key Demographic Findings

- Most homicide victims in New York City (NYC) are male (84.4%). The proportion is similar to, though slightly higher than, national counts (79.2%).
- NYC homicide rates are highest among 15 to 24 year olds, followed by 25 to 34 year olds. Nationally, data also suggest that homicide rates are higher among younger age groups than older age groups.
- More than half of NYC homicides occurred among non-Hispanic blacks (58.2%), who have the highest rate for any racial/ethnic group in the city (15.3 per 100,000). Nationally, non-Hispanic blacks also have the highest rates (21.9 per 100,000) of all racial/ethnic groups.
- NYC homicide rates were highest among Bronx (8.8 per 100,000) and Brooklyn (8.0 per 100,000) residents and lowest among Manhattan (3.2 per 100,000) residents.
- More than nine out of ten of NYC homicide victims were city residents (92.7%), while 6.1% were non-residents and 1.3% had an unknown residence.

NYC Homicides, 2007-2009		
	Count (%)	Avg. annual rate per 100,000* [CI]
<b>Male</b>	1325 (84.4%)	10.7 [10.1 - 11.3]
<b>Female</b>	245 (15.6%)	1.9 [1.6 - 2.1]
<b>0-14 yrs</b>	63 (4.0%)	1.3 [1.0 - 1.7]
<b>15-24 yrs</b>	499 (31.8%)	15.0 [13.6 - 16.3]
<b>25-34 yrs</b>	454 (28.9%)	11.6 [10.5 - 12.6]
<b>35-44 yrs</b>	284 (18.1%)	7.3 [6.5 - 8.2]
<b>45-54 yrs</b>	140 (8.9%)	4.0 [3.4 - 4.7]
<b>55-64 yrs</b>	78 (5.0%)	3.0 [2.3 - 3.6]
<b>65+ yrs</b>	52 (3.3%)	1.7 [1.2 - 2.2]
<b>Hispanic</b>	412 (26.2%)	5.6 [5.1 - 6.2]
<b>White (non-Hispanic)</b>	168 (10.7%)	1.9 [1.6 - 2.1]
<b>Black (non-Hispanic)</b>	914 (58.2%)	15.3 [14.3 - 16.3]
<b>Asian</b>	42 (2.7%)	1.4 [0.9 - 1.8]
<b>Other</b>	11 (0.7%)	2.9 [1.2 - 4.6]
<b>Unknown</b>	23 (1.5%)	n/a
<b>Manhattan</b>	161 (10.3%)	3.2 [2.7 - 3.7]
<b>Bronx</b>	370 (23.6%)	8.8 [7.9 - 9.7]
<b>Brooklyn</b>	612 (39.0%)	8.0 [7.3 - 8.6]
<b>Queens</b>	255 (16.2%)	3.7 [3.3 - 4.2]
<b>Staten Island</b>	57 (3.6%)	4.0 [3.0 - 5.0]
<b>Resident</b>	1455 (92.7%)	5.7 [5.4 - 6.0]
<b>Non-resident</b>	95 (6.1%)	n/a

\* All rates, except age-specific, are age-adjusted. Borough refers to decedent's borough of residence. The "n/a" indicates that no denominator was available for rate computation.

### III. Methods of Homicide

NYC Homicides, 2007-2009 Top 10 methods, by residency status			
Method <sup>ii</sup>	NYC overall # (%) n=1530	Resident # (%) n=1417	Non-resident # (%) n=93
1. Firearms	929 (61%)	872 (62%)	49 (53%)
2. Cutting/piercing instrument	294 (19%)	271 (19%)	22 (24%)
3. Hanging/strangulation/suffocation	67 (4%)	58 (4%)	7 (8%)
4. Maltreatment syndrome	13 (1%)	12 (1%)	1 (1%)
5. Fire/flame/hot object	12 (1%)	11 (1%)	1 (1%)
6. Blunt object	11 (1%)	10 (1%)	0 (0%)
7. Crashing motor vehicle	10 (1%)	10 (1%)	0 (0%)
8. Drowning (tie)	3 (0.2%)	3 (0.2%)	0 (0%)
8. Pushing from high place (tie)	3 (0.2%)	3 (0.2%)	0 (0%)
10. Drugs/medicinal substance	2 (0.1%)	2 (0.1%)	0 (0%)

- In NYC, 61% of homicides involved firearms and 19% involved cutting/piercing instruments. In the US, for 2005 – 2007, 69% of homicides involved firearms and 11% involved cutting/piercing instruments. The percentage of homicides by firearms was slightly lower in NYC than in the US.
- Within NYC, data suggest that the rank order of homicide methods for residents and non-residents residence differs only slightly.

<sup>i</sup> The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Bureau of Vital Statistics provides local homicide data, which are analyzed by the Injury Surveillance and Prevention Program. National data are available from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through 2007. Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/>. National data include deaths due to terrorism (thereby explaining the spike in 2001), but NYC data do not.

<sup>ii</sup> Methods of fatal intentional injury (homicide) are categorized according to the International Classification of Disease (ICD)-10 (external cause of death codes X85-Y09, Y87.1). There are 40 deaths due to late effects from 2007 – 2009 which are missing from the table; current ICD-10 coding schemes do not specify the mechanism for deaths from late effects.