NEW YORK CITY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Bill de Blasio
Mayor

Mayor’s Office to
End Domestic and
Gender-Based Violence

Cecile Noel
Commissioner
Preface: The Public Health Crises: Intimate Partner Violence, Racism and Bias

Since the first New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee Annual Report (FRC) was published in 2006, it has documented a greater risk of intimate partner homicides for Black females than any other segment of New York City’s population. This report continues to highlight the disproportionate burden among Black females, who account for 13% of New York City’s (NYC) population, but 30.3% of the intimate partner homicides since 2010. This long documented increased risk for Black females requires us to examine how historic inequities in access to resources and opportunities, for Black women and other marginalized groups, may be contributing to persistent disparities seen in intimate partner homicides.

While intimate partner violence (IPV) is a long-established public health issue, racism has not historically been afforded the same designation. In recent months, COVID-19 with its disproportionate impacts on people of color, and police violence against people of color call attention to structural racism as a critical contributor to these deadly outcomes. Leading public health organizations such as the American Public Health Association (APHA) and medical organizations such as the American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, and the American Academy of Pediatrics have declared racism a public health “crisis.”

It is important to acknowledge that our institutions - through policies, practices and procedures - contribute to prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against minority or marginalized groups on the bases of race, ethnicity, sex, immigration status, or social or economic status. Redlining, the gendered pay gap, discriminatory healthcare systems, and unlivable minimum wage are documented inequities that are the result of and reinforce unjust policies and process. Along with these inequities, the inequitable distribution of economic resources and supportive services across NYC can both increase strain within relationships and homes and serve as obstacles to accessing survivor services. Furthermore, a national history of race-based policing practices has led to a disproportionate number of people of color being arrested and detained and has fostered a distrust of the criminal justice system among people of color. This distrust has been associated with intimate partner survivors not seeking help from the criminal justice system, thus exacerbating the strain on people of color also caught in cycles of interpersonal and intimate partner violence. While NYC, including the NYC Police Department (NYPD), has undertaken criminal justice and policing reforms to reduce the criminal justice burden on people of color and increase community trust, FRC data indicates that since 2017, 55% (17 of 31) of Black intimate partner homicide victims had no prior contact with the NYPD. This long-term exposure to racism (as well as classism and patriarchy) and IPV impedes the ability of Black persons, other minorities and marginalized groups from living a healthy life. Thus, the overlapping systems of oppression compound the risk and severity of IPV for individuals with multiple marginalized identities.

Undoing racism is an essential part of intimate partner violence homicide prevention. Uncovering the racial disparities in intimate partner homicide and work to explain the structural and historic policies and practices that drive them is the first essential step in the undoing of racism.
Our annual analyses of NYC’s intimate partner homicides make clear that communities of color are disproportionately affected, with Black females being particularly adversely impacted. Furthermore, communities of color enduring economic strain (e.g., high unemployment, low median household income, etc.) experience a disproportionate impact: low-income neighborhoods account for just over 20% of the City’s population but 40% of NYC’s intimate partner homicides. These disparities have persisted in NYC, signaling the deep, structural roots of racism. To reduce IPV’s impact, interventions must be developed and implemented to address these roots.

Programs and policies that chip away at some of IPV’s entrenched root causes (patriarchy, racism and classism) can mitigate the interpersonal and intergenerational stressors that make individuals vulnerable to violence, while also addressing the limited economic and social opportunities current survivors face. The Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV), with the members of the FRC, is committed to exploring survivor-informed initiatives that address the root causes of violence, including housing stability, economic empowerment, non-criminal and restorative justice programs for survivors. ENDGBV has begun to implement services addressing these root causes:

• **Microgrants Program**: ENDGBV partnered with the Mayor’s Fund and Sanctuary for Families to launch a pilot program to deliver micro-grants to survivors. The first-of-its-kind initiative helps mitigate safety, economic, and housing challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic that disproportionately affect undocumented, low-income and survivors of color.

• **Criminalized Survivors Program**: Black, transgender, queer and low-income survivors face not only increased risk of intimate partner fatality but also criminalization of their survival strategies. ENDGBV has specialized caseworkers at New York City Family Justice Centers to provide supports specific to the challenge faced by survivor defendants who are disproportionately made up of historically marginalized communities.

• **Respect & Responsibility**: Black, immigrant and LGBTQIA survivors are often justifiably wary of calling the police, and have been advocating for community-based alternatives to support survivor safety for years. Respect and Responsibility, the first City-funded non-mandated program for adults who have caused harm to an intimate partner, meets the needs of these survivors by providing trauma-informed interventions in community-based settings to prevent future violence and support survivor safety outside of the criminal justice system.

While these programs are centered on racial equity, the continued racial disparity in the intimate partner homicide data reinforces the need to advance the analysis and interpretation of data with the twin goals of highlighting and changing these racist institutional policies and practices and promoting racially equitable policies and programs.
INTRODUCTION

From 2010 through 2019, in New York City there were 616 domestic violence homicide incidents involving 663 victims. Domestic violence homicides accounted for 17.8% (663 of 3,730) of homicides that occurred in New York City. During this period, the annual average count of domestic violence homicides was 66. Capturing the most extreme outcome, domestic violence homicides make up only a small fraction of all domestic violence-related offenses.

This report begins with a comparison of 2019 intimate partner homicides with 2018 intimate partner homicides, focusing on their demographic and incident characteristics, including borough and weapon used. This report also pools data from 2010 to 2019 to examine patterns of domestic violence homicide and its sub-types - that is, intimate partner homicide and other family homicide - by summarizing victim and perpetrator age, sex, race/ethnicity as well as incident characteristics.

New York City Police Department (NYPD) data on domestic violence homicide victims’ and perpetrators’ sex and race/ethnicity are collected and reported by the Fatality Review Committee. These demographic data elements do not accurately capture the affected individuals self-identified gender and race/ethnicity. In addition, usual measurement of risk factors do not consider historic inequities in access to resources, gender-based attitudes about power and control and a history of policies that deny resources to people of color. The data are presented without social or contextual interpretation.

**Defining Domestic Violence**

In this report, two types of relationships comprise domestic violence:

*Intimate Partner:* Individuals who are currently or formerly married, divorced, dating, boyfriend/girlfriend or who have a child in common.

*Other Family:* Individuals who are related by marriage or blood, such as parents/children, siblings, grandparents/grandchildren, cousins, and in-laws.

**Figure 1. New York City Domestic Violence Homicides: by Intimate Partner vs. Other Family (2010-2019) (N=663)**

- Domestic violence homicides increased by 16.4% - from 55 in 2018, to 64 in 2019.
- Other family-related homicides increased by 52.0% - from 25 in 2018, to 38 in 2019.
- Intimate partner homicides decreased by 13.3% - from 30 in 2018, to 26 in 2019.
2019 to 2018 Annual Comparison of Intimate Partner Homicides: Demographics and Incident Characteristics

- Intimate partner homicides in Brooklyn decreased by 50.0% - from 8 in 2018, to 4 in 2019.
- Intimate partner homicides involving a Black victim decreased by 38.5% - from 13 in 2018, to 8 in 2019.
- Intimate partner homicides involving a firearm decreased by 50.0% - from 8 in 2018, to 4 in 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intimate Partner Homicides</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th># Change</th>
<th>Annual Average ('10-'19)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sex</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borough</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronx</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manhattan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queens</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staten Island</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/Ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>+3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method/Weapon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutting/Knife</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blunt Trauma</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asphyxiation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Force</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strangulation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ALL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES, 2010-2019**  
**VICTIM DEMOGRAPHICS**

**Sex:** The majority of domestic violence homicide victims were female.

- The majority (60.5%, 401 of 663) of domestic violence homicide victims were female.
- More than 3 out of 4 (77.1%, 259 of 336) intimate partner homicide victims were female.
- Males accounted for a higher percentage (56.3%, 184 of 327) of other family homicide victims compared to intimate partner homicide victims (22.9%, 77 of 336).

**Race/Ethnicity:** A higher proportion of homicide victims were Black, compared to other race/ethnicity groups.

- Black individuals accounted for 49.5% (328 of 663) domestic violence homicides, 41.1% (138 of 336) of intimate partner homicides, and 58.1% (190 of 327) of homicides involving other family members.
- Hispanic individuals accounted for 28.2% (187 of 663) of domestic violence homicides, 34.8% (117 of 336) of intimate partner homicides, and 21.4% (70 of 327) of homicides involving other family members.
While Brooklyn had the highest number of domestic violence homicides of any borough, 197, the Bronx had the highest rate of domestic violence homicides, 1.36 per 100,000 residents.

### Figure 4. New York City Domestic Violence Homicides: by Age Sub Groups Intimate Partner and Other Family (2010-2019) (N=663)

Note: the age is unknown for one 2013 intimate partner homicide

- Almost 1 out of every 5 (20.5%, 136 of 663) domestic violence homicides involved a child age 10 and under. 2 out of every 5 (41.6%, 136 of 327) other family homicides involved a child age 10 and under.
- 1 out of every 4 (26.2%, 174 of 663) domestic homicides and intimate partner homicides (25.0%, 84 of 336) involved a victim age 50 and over.
- The number of intimate partner homicide victims was similar in the 18-29, 30-39 and 40-49 year age categories.
- The average age of the intimate partner victims was 40 years, and the median age was 38 years.

### ALL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES, 2010-2019: Location

Borough: Bronx had the highest rate of domestic violence homicides.

### Figure 5. New York City Domestic Violence Homicides: by Borough Sub Groups Intimate Partner and Other Family (2010-2019) (N=663)

Note: Rates are per 100,000 residents and number of homicides are presented in parantheses.

- While Brooklyn had the highest number of domestic violence homicides of any borough, 197, the Bronx had the highest rate of domestic violence homicides, 1.36 per 100,000 residents.
The following section is focused on the 336 intimate partner homicides from 2010 through 2019. These 336 intimate partner homicides involved 336 victims and 340 perpetrators.

**Victim Sex and Race/Ethnicity:** Black and Hispanic females were disproportionately affected by intimate partner homicides.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Victim</th>
<th>Percent of Intimate Partner Homicides (# of homicides)</th>
<th>% of NYC Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>0.6% (2)</td>
<td>6.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>11.1% (37)</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>8.4% (28)</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>3.0% (10)</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>7.2% (24)</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>30.3% (101)</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>26.4% (88)</td>
<td>14.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>12.9% (43)</td>
<td>18.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:** Race is unknown for 3 intimate partner homicides in 2013.

- Black females were disproportionately affected by intimate partner homicides. Black females accounted for 30.3% of intimate partner homicides, while accounting for 13.0% of the population in New York City.
- Hispanic females accounted for 26.4% of intimate partner homicides, while accounting for 14.6% of the population in New York City.
Females age 18-29 and 40-49 were disproportionately affected by intimate partner homicides. While females age 40-49 account for 8.7% of NYC's population, they accounted for 19.1% of all intimate partner homicides. Similarly, females 30-39 account for 9.6% of the City's residents but 18.2% of intimate partner homicides.

Males, of all age groups, were significantly less likely to be an intimate partner homicide victim when compared to females.

Note: The victim age is unknown for 1 intimate partner homicide in 2013.
There were 4 times as many male perpetrators (274) of intimate partner homicides compared to female perpetrators (64).

The annual average age of an intimate partner homicide perpetrator for males was almost 42 years, which is 8 years higher than the average age for females (34 years).

For males, the age range with the highest percentage of perpetrators was 30-39 (21.3%), followed by 40-49 (18.9%). For females, the age range with the highest percentage of perpetrators was 18-29 (7.7%).

Note: The perpetrator age is unknown for 1 intimate partner homicide in 2013 and perpetrator sex is unknown for 1 intimate partner homicide in 2019.

### INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES, 2010-2019

#### INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Weapon-Method: Knives or cutting instruments were used in half of all intimate partner homicides.

*Figure 6. New York City Intimate Partner Homicides by Weapon Used (2010-2019) (N=336)*

- Half (50.3%, 169 of 336) of intimate partner homicides were committed with a knife or other cutting instrument.
- Firearms were used in 22.9% (77 of 336) of intimate partner homicides.
Perpetrator-Victim Relationship: 4 out of 10 intimate partner homicide victims were the current boyfriend/girlfriend of the perpetrator.\textsuperscript{12}

### Table 4. Intimate Partner Homicides by Perpetrator Relationship (2010-2019) (N=340)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship Type</th>
<th>No. of Intimate Partner Homicides</th>
<th>% of Intimate Partner Homicides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opposite-sex Boyfriend/Girlfriend</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>39.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spouse</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Law</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>11.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child-in-Common</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same-sex Boyfriend/Girlfriend</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex-Boyfriend/Girlfriend</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The majority (69.1%, 235 of 340) of intimate partner homicide perpetrators were the current opposite-sex boyfriend/girlfriend (39.7%, 135 of 340) or spouse (29.4%, 100 of 340) of the victim.

Location: Almost 4 out of 5 intimate partner homicides occurred in a residence - often the residence of the victim.

### Figure 8. Intimate Partner Homicides by Place of Occurrence (2010-2019) (N=328)

- The highest number of intimate partner homicides occurred in a residence (79.3%, 260 of 328), with 70.7% (232 of 328) occurring in the residence of the victim.
- Only 1 in 10 (11.0%, 36 of 328) occurred in public (sidewalk) while another 2.7% (9) occurred in a car.
INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDES: CONTACT AND REPORTED HISTORY WITH CITY AGENCIES

This section explores the documented pre-incident contacts between City agencies that are members of the New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (FRC) and the 336 victims and 340 perpetrators of intimate partner homicides between 2010 and 2019. For all agencies, except the NYPD and NYC Probation Department, the contact referenced below occurred within the 12 months prior to the homicide. For NYPD, contact refers to contact at any time prior that involved a domestic violence incident between the victim and the perpetrator. For New York City Probation Department, contact refers to the victim or the perpetrator being on probation at the time of the homicide and ever having a probation history.

Administration for Children's Services (ACS): Between 2010 and 2019, ACS had contact with 6 victims (1.8%, 6 of 336) and 6 perpetrators (1.8%, 6 of 340) in the 12 months prior to the homicide.

Department for the Aging (DFTA): Between 2010 and 2019, DFTA did not have any contact with victims or perpetrators of intimate partner homicides involving victims age 60 or older in the 12 months prior to the homicide.

Human Resources Administration (HRA): Between 2010 and 2019, HRA had contact with 21 victims (6.3%, 21 of 336) and 6 perpetrators (1.8%, 6 of 340) who had accessed domestic violence services in the 12 months prior to the homicides.\(^{13}\)

In regards to victims and perpetrators of the 2015-2019 intimate partner homicides, HRA had contact with 89 of 146 victims (61.0%) and 90 of 150 (60.0%) perpetrators for services including cash assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance, and Medicaid in the 12 months prior to the homicide.

In 2018 and 2019 intimate partner homicides, HRA had contact with 5 (8.9%, 5 of 56) of the victims and 8 (14.0%, 8 of 57) of the perpetrators for services related to child support in the 12 months prior to the homicide.

New York City Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV): Between 2010 and 2019, the New York City Family Justice Centers, which are operated by ENDGBV, had contact with 18 victims (5.5%, 18 of 336) and 5 perpetrators (1.5%, 5 of 340) in the 12 months prior to the homicide. 10 (55.5%, 10 of 18) of the victims only had contact with the District Attorney's Office, while the other 8 victims (44.4%) only had contact with other non-criminal justice services which included counseling,
case management and civil legal services. Two of the perpetrators (40%, 2 of 5) only had contact with the District Attorney, while the other perpetrator (20%, 1 of 5) met with the District Attorney and received non-criminal justice services which included case management, counseling and civil legal services. The other two perpetrators (40%, 2 of 5) only received non-criminal justice services at the Family Justice Centers.

New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA): Between 2010 and 2019, 36 intimate partner homicides (10.7%, 36 of 336) involved authorized or unauthorized residents of NYCHA. Thirty of the homicide victims and 19 of the homicide perpetrators were residing at NYCHA. Among these, NYCHA had contact with 5 victims (16.7%, 5 of 30) and 2 perpetrators (10.5%, 2 of 19) involved in 6 intimate partner homicides in the 12 months prior to the homicide. In 2019, none of the victims or perpetrators had contact with NYCHA in the 12 months prior to the homicide.

New York City Department of Probation: For 2018 and 2019, the only years for which Probation data are available, none of intimate partner homicide victims or perpetrators were on probation at the time of the homicide or within 12-months of the homicide.

New York City Police Department (NYPD): Between 2010 and 2019, the NYPD had a reported history with the victims and perpetrators in 38.7% (130 of 336) of the intimate partner homicides. In 28.5% (37 of 130) of the reported histories, the NYPD filed only a domestic incident report (DIR), while in the other 71.5% (93 of 130) there was a DIR and police complaint report (also referred to as a "61 report") filed. According to NYPD records, in 12.8% (43 of 336) of intimate partner homicides there was an active order of protection at the time of the incident.
RECOMMENDATIONS

Prevention and Intervention

- The Fatality Review Committee members will continue to analyze the intimate partner homicide data and work to identify racially equitable policies, procedures and programs that can reduce intimate partner homicides for all New Yorkers.
- Focus attention on the persistence of intimate partner violence and the need to work with community members and service providers to examine how historic inequities in access to resources and opportunities, by gender identity, race/ethnicity, and sexual orientation, may be contributing to geographic disparities seen in intimate partner homicides. In the next year, ENDGBV will:
  1. Release a report that highlights the race and gender inequities in intimate partner victimization in New York City.
  2. Release a summary report of the research on the effects of institutional racism and systemic prejudice on domestic and gender-based violence.

Public Education

- Continue to amplify intervention and prevention activities in NYC neighborhoods with the highest reported rates of intimate partner homicides.
- Increase outreach and public education activities to raise awareness about the availability of community-based and remote intimate partner violence services, as well as resources such as the NYC HOPE resource portal (nyc.gov/nychope), the New York City Domestic Violence Hotline: (212) 621-HOPE; TTY: 1-866-604-5350 and the New York City Department for the Aging, Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center at (212) 442-3103.
DATA SOURCES

New York City Police Department (NYPD): The NYPD maintains information on domestic violence homicides and provides the NYC Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (FRC) with the location of each homicide and demographic information related to each victim and perpetrator. The NYPD determined the relationship between the perpetrator and victim and classified the relationship by intimate partner or other family member.

Contact with City Agencies: The FRC provided each agency member with identifiers (name, date of birth, address) for each victim and perpetrator of intimate partner homicides that occurred from 2010 through 2019, and the agencies independently cross-referenced that list with agency files and reported if the victims and/or perpetrators had any contact with the agency during the 12 months prior to the homicide.

United States Census and Population Estimates: The population data used in this report were obtained from the New York City Department of City Planning and are from the 2010 United States Census and the American Community Survey (ACS) multi-year estimates for 2012 to 2016, the most current data available. Population counts for intimate partner homicide rate computations include individuals 15 years of age and older.

New York City Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME): Using the list of intimate partner homicides provided by the NYPD, OCME records were accessed through the UVIS Case Management System. A search based on victims’ first and last name, date of death, and borough was conducted for each homicide. Death Certificates and investigative reports were analyzed to determine month, day, time and location of each homicide.

Interpreting Report Findings: Comparison of homicide counts over time and between subgroups must be interpreted with caution. While noteworthy changes from 2010 to 2019 are highlighted in the report, not all changes are statistically significant. Fluctuations in the intervening years reflect no discernible upward or downward trend. Statements about variation in the relative rate of domestic homicide across subgroups indicate only observed associations that cannot be interpreted causally.
END NOTES


2 New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene data indicates that Blacks and Hispanics have the highest rates of COVID related hospitalizations (736.5 and 740.2 per 100,000 residents respectively) and deaths (249.6 and 268.1 per 100,000 residents respectively) in New York City. These rates are at least 2 times higher than for White and Asian New York City Residents. From https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data.page, accessed on November 4, 2020.


The American Community Survey, Demographic and Housing Estimates, 5-Year Estimates 2012-2016, reflect that Blacks or African Americans account for 22.2% of New York City’s population, while Whites account for 32.3%, Hispanics 29.0%, Asians 13.6% and Other 2.9%.

The youngest victim of an intimate partner homicide was 15, and therefore, the population rates for intimate partner homicides were calculated utilizing the population age 15 and older. For all domestic violence and other family homicides all age groups were used in the calculation. Population data was obtained from the New York City Department of Planning website accessing table DPO5: ACS Demographic Estimates 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.

Perpetrator/victim relationship is defined by the New York City Police Department and falls within the following mutually exclusive categories: Boyfriend/girlfriend, Child in common; Common law; Spouse; Same sex and Other. All categories except ‘Same Sex’ include opposite-sex relationships only. Additionally, ‘Child in common’ is only used for perpetrator-victim pairings who have a child in common and are not married.

The HRA data reflects that 6 perpetrators had sought domestic violence related services within 12 months of the homicide. This is an indication that some of the perpetrators might be domestic violence victims who ultimately killed their abusive partner.

Between 2010-2019, there was one victim and two perpetrators that were unauthorized residents at NYCHA at the time of the homicide. An unauthorized resident is someone that is not on the lease and is unknown to NYCHA management.