

NEW YORK CITY
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
FATALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT • 2008



Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor

**Mayor's Office to
Combat Domestic
Violence**

Yolanda B. Jimenez
Commissioner



YOLANDA B. JIMENEZ
COMMISSIONER

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December 2008

Dear Colleagues:

Enclosed please find the third Annual Report of the New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee. This report is being provided to you pursuant to Local Law 61.

One of the most remarkable findings from this year's analysis is the 51% reduction in intimate partner homicides, a sub-category of all family-related homicides, since 2002. In addition, the report illustrates that over the last five years, all family-related homicides have decreased by 37%. Despite the overall reduction in family-related homicides, there still remain several neighborhoods with high concentrations of family-related homicides. During the past year, the Committee has developed and implemented a community level assessment that will assist the Committee in understanding factors that contribute to the concentration of family-related homicides in five Community Districts in the Bronx. This assessment will inform the Committee on additional steps that can be taken to create an environment that promotes the disclosure of domestic violence by victims so that earlier interventions may be possible.

Since 2006, the Committee has focused on the challenge of developing an environment of disclosure of violence and victimization by victims to City agencies and contract organizations in order to further reduce these tragedies. During this past year, for example, the Department of Homeless Services, Sanctuary for Families, and the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence developed a domestic violence awareness and referral training program for employees who work with the general homeless population in shelters. This program has been implemented in specific communities in the Bronx which have high incidences of family-related violence and the training will be expanded to additional Brooklyn communities next year.

I look forward to our continued collaboration in implementing the community assessment and training. Our partnership in these endeavors will provide early assessment and intervention to decrease violence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yolanda B. Jimenez". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Yolanda B. Jimenez

The Fatality Review Committee Members

Yolanda B. Jimenez, Chairperson, Commissioner, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

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Designee: Yolanda L. Rudich, Bureau Chief, Sex Crimes/Special Victims Bureau

Robert Doar, Administrator/Commissioner, Human Resources Administration
Designee: Marie B. Philip, Executive Director

Catherine J. Douglass, Esq., Executive Director, inMotion, Mayoral Appointee representing a legal service agency

Laurel W. Eisner, JD, MSW, Executive Director, Sanctuary for Families, Mayoral Appointee representing a social service agency

Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH, Commissioner, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Designee: Catherine Stayton, DrPH, MPH, Director, Injury Epidemiology Unit, Bureau of Epidemiology Services

Robert V. Hess, Commissioner, Department of Homeless Services
Designee: Dova Marder, MD, Agency Medical Director

Tino Hernandez, Chairman, New York City Housing Authority
Designee: Nora Reissig-Lazzaro, Director, Social Services Department

Robert T. Johnson, District Attorney, Bronx County
Designee: Penny Santana, Chief, Domestic Violence Bureau

Raymond W. Kelly, Commissioner, New York City Police Department
Designees: Kathy Ryan, Deputy Chief, Domestic Violence Unit and Daniel Murphy, Deputy Inspector, Central Investigation and Resource Division

John B. Mattingly, Commissioner, Administration for Children's Services
Designee: Elizabeth Roberts, Deputy Commissioner

Theresa McIntosh, Mayoral Appointee representing the voice of victims

Erin M. Correale, Esq., Mayoral Appointee representing the voice of victims

Edwin Mendez-Santiago, Commissioner, Department for the Aging
Designee: Jane Fiffer, Deputy Assistant Commissioner

Edward Hill, Fatality Review Coordinator, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

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Key Findings

For this third Annual Report, the New York City Fatality Review Committee (“FRC”) reviewed data on family-related homicides that occurred from 2002 through 2007 and victim and perpetrator contact with City agencies and contract organizations for family-related homicides that occurred in 2005 and 2006.¹

From 2002 through 2007, there were noteworthy reductions in family-related homicides. Specifically, data show:

- 1. Family-related homicides declined 37% since 2002 – from 76 in 2002 to 48 in 2007.**
- 2. Intimate partner homicides, a sub-set of family-related homicides, declined by 51% since 2002 – from 41 in 2002 to 20 in 2007.²**
- 3. The number of Hispanic victims declined by 60% since 2002 – from 25 in 2002 to 10 in 2007.**

The FRC mapped family-related homicides to identify vulnerable communities. Data from 2004 to 2007 show the following:

- 1. Almost 70% (176 out of 254) of the family-related homicides from 2004 through 2007 occurred in communities with 20% of the population living below the poverty level.³**
- 2. Since 2004, 66% (47 out of 71) of the family-related homicides in the Bronx were concentrated in five of the borough’s 12 Community Districts (Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9).**
- 3. These five Bronx Community Districts (4, 5, 6, 7 and 9) accounted for almost 20% (47 out of 254) of the family-related homicides that occurred in New York City from 2004 to 2007.**

The FRC examined characteristics of family-related homicides, including weapon use and the co-occurrence of homicide and suicide. Data show:

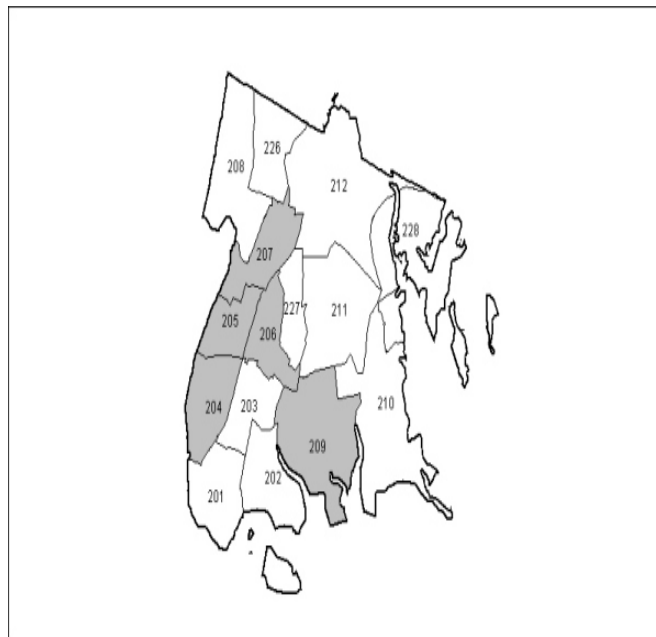
- 1. From 2002 through 2006, knives and other cutting instruments were the most commonly used weapon, accounting for 31% (126 out of 404) of family-related homicides. During that same time period, firearms accounted for 27% (108 out of 404) of family-related homicides. Given the marked increase in firearm use from 2006 to 2007, firearms were the most commonly used weapon in 2007, accounting for 37% (18 out of 48) of family-related homicides.**
- 2. Between 2002 and 2007, 15% (62 out of 404) of family-related homicide cases involved perpetrator suicide after the homicide was committed.**

3. Firearms were used in 60% (37 out of 62) of the family-related homicides involving the suicide of the perpetrator, while they were used in only 20% (68 out of 342) of all family-related homicides not involving the subsequent suicide of the perpetrator.

Bronx Community District Map

Given the high concentration of family-related homicides in the above-mentioned Bronx Community Districts, the FRC initiated a community assessment in these neighborhoods (shaded in the map at right). Work on the community assessment has produced achievements that include substantial community buy-in to address domestic violence at the neighborhood level.

Note: The Community Districts reflected in the map on the right include the borough designation for the Bronx, which is 2, followed by the two-digit Community District number. For example, 204 represents Community District 4 in the Bronx.



1. From July 2008 through November 2008, the FRC Coordinator and other Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence staff, on behalf of the FRC, conducted individual and group meetings with over 40 community based and contract organizations within the target Bronx Districts.

2. During the same time period, the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence staff has conducted four small group meetings with survivors of domestic violence within the target area in the Bronx.

Introduction

The FRC was established in 2005 through Local Law 61, which requires the FRC to examine aggregate information relating to family-related fatalities and to develop recommendations regarding the coordination and improvement of services for domestic violence victims in New York City.⁴ This is the third annual report issued by the Committee. For this report, the FRC reviewed data on family-related homicide from 2002 through 2007.⁵

Defining “Family-Related Homicides”

As stipulated by Local Law 61 of 2005 and defined by the New York City Police Department (“NYPD”), a domestic violence fatality is defined as a death of a family or household member resulting from an act or acts of violence by another family or household member. “Family or household member” refers to the following individuals:

- persons related by marriage;
- persons related by blood;
- persons legally married to one another;
- persons formerly married to one another regardless of whether they still reside in the same household;
- persons who have a child in common regardless of whether such persons have been married or have lived together at any time;
- persons not legally married, but currently living together in a family type relationship; and
- persons not legally married, but who have formerly lived together in a family type relationship.

The definition includes same sex partners.

Data and Methods

This report describes, in the aggregate, family-related homicides that occurred between 2002 and 2007.⁶ The FRC examines these homicides by factors such as age, gender, race, and the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.

The following outlines the multiple data sources in this report.

Family-Related Homicides: The NYPD maintains information on family-related homicides and provides the FRC with basic demographic information including: (1) age of victim and perpetrator; (2) sex of victim and perpetrator; (3) race of victim; (4) weapon utilized to commit the homicide; (5) familial relationship of the perpetrator to the victim; and (6) location of the crime. The FRC analyzed information on all family-related homicides that occurred in New York City during 2002 through 2007 for inclusion in this year's report. Data from prior years' reports have been updated and the most recent year of data has been added.⁷ All homicide counts for 2002 through 2007 are presented in the report's findings sections or in the appendix.

Percent change in family-related homicides from 2002 through 2007 is computed. Frequencies of homicides across key sub-groups (e.g., age groups, gender, borough) are examined. Since annual counts are relatively small, these frequencies are based on data pooled from 2002 through 2007. Frequencies for 2007 are also examined among sub-groups when marked decline is seen from 2006 to 2007.

Contact with City Agencies and the Representative Contract Agencies (2006 family-related homicides): The FRC provided each FRC member agency with identifiers (name, date of birth, and address) for the victims and perpetrators of family-related homicides that occurred in 2006, the most recent year for which contact information on these homicides was available from City agencies and representative contract agencies (inMotion, Safe Horizon and Sanctuary for Families). Representative contract agencies are organizations that provide domestic violence related services under contract with New York City. The agencies independently cross-referenced that list with agency files, and the agencies reported contact at any point in time that they had with the victims and/or perpetrators, including years prior to the homicide occurrence. This information was matched by the FRC to determine if and individual victim had contact with one or more agencies and the result of that data match is reported in aggregate form herein.⁸ The agencies were also able to provide aggregate data regarding the timeframe during which the contact occurred relative to the homicide.⁹

United States Census Population Estimates: The population, poverty, unemployment and educational attainment data utilized in this report were obtained from the United States Census and the New York City Department of City Planning and reflect 2000 Census figures.

Findings presented in this report must be interpreted with caution. While data in the report show declines from 2002 through 2007, increases or decreases of family-related homicides overall or in a particular population from one year to the next could signal random variation rather than a trend. Additionally, this report contains descriptive summaries only. Data have not been subject to statistical testing. Any differences reported in homicides across subgroups must not be interpreted as statements about causation. Lastly, the socioeconomic data are presented at the community level only. The relationship between individual socioeconomic status and family-homicide risk cannot be determined.

All percentages of the data presented in this report have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Therefore, charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent.

Family-Related Homicide Findings in New York City

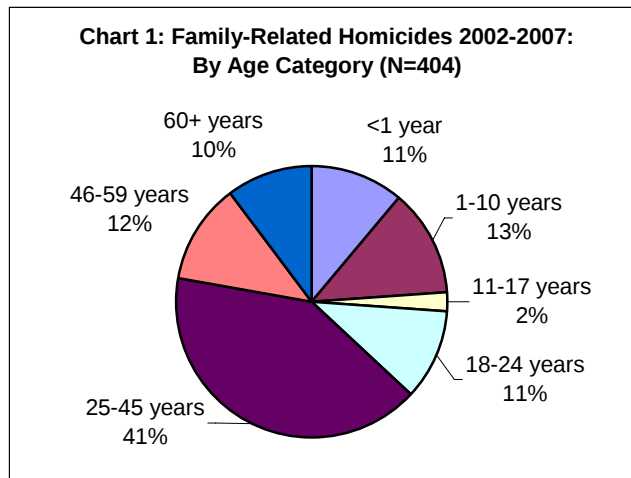
Victims

Family-related homicides have declined 37% since 2002, from 76 in 2002 to 48 in 2007. Family-related homicides fluctuate in the intervening years.

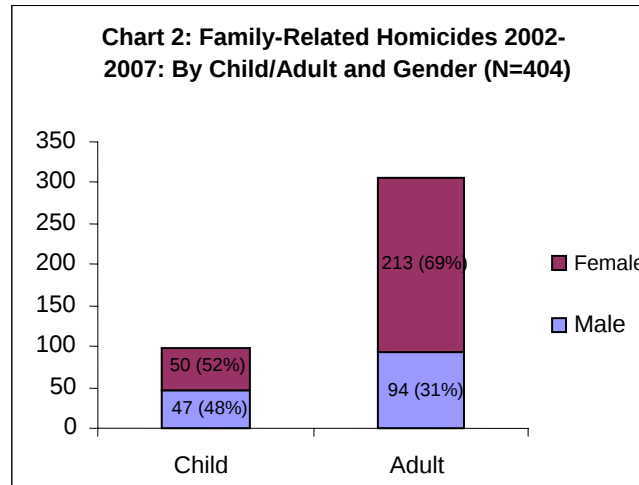
Table 1: 2002-2007 Homicides in New York City

Year	NYC Homicides ¹⁰	NYC Family-Related Homicides	Percentage Family-Related Homicides
2002	586	76	13%
2003	598	74	12%
2004	572	67	12%
2005	540	68	13%
2006	594	71	12%
2007	496	48	10%
Total	3386	404	12%

The age category with the greatest number of victims is 25 to 45 year olds; victims under the age of 11 years comprise the age category with the second greatest number of victims. Over forty percent (41%, 165 out of 404) of family-related homicide victims between 2002 and 2007 were between the ages of 25 and 45. Just under a quarter of the victims (24%, 96 out of 404) were children under the age of 11.



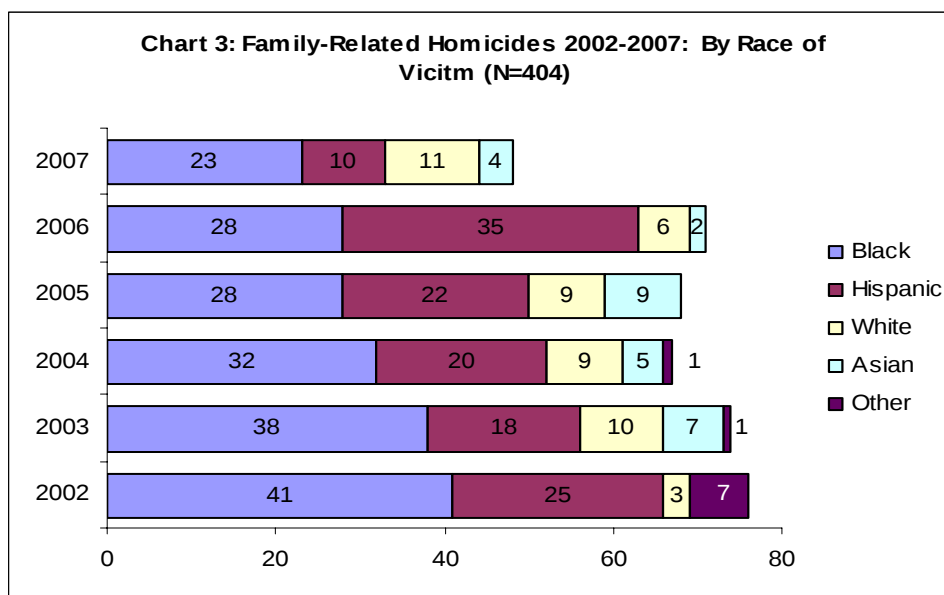
Over 60% of family-related homicide victims are female. From 2002 through 2007, females accounted for 65% (263 out of 404) of the family-related homicide victims. For adult victims (age 18 and older), 69% (213 out of 307) were female and 31% (94 out of 307) were male. For child victims (age 17 and under), 51% (50 out of 97) were female and 49% (47 out of 97) were male. A larger percentage of adult victims of intimate partner homicides (a category of family-related homicides described in more detail on page 13) were female.¹¹ Eighty-four percent (168 out of 199) of victims killed by an intimate partner were female.



Blacks account for almost half of all family-related homicide victims. Despite an almost 50% decline in family-related homicides involving Black victims from 2002 through 2007 (from 41 to 23), Blacks accounted for almost half (47%) of all victims during this period. Blacks were disproportionately affected by family-related homicides, as they comprise 24% of New York City's population.¹²

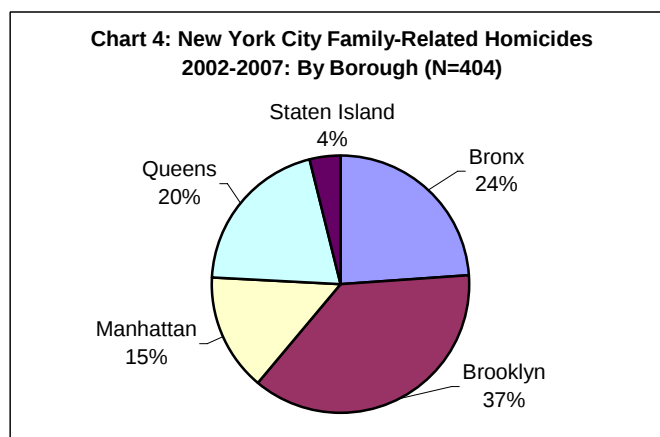
Whites and Asians account for 35% and 10% respectively of New York City's population, but accounted for 12% (48 out of 404) and 8% (32 out of 404) of the family-related homicide victims, respectively, from 2002 through 2007.¹³ Twenty-three percent (11 out of 48) of family-related homicides victims in 2007 were White.

Hispanics accounted for 32% (130 out of 404) of the family-related homicide victims from 2002 through 2007. Between 2006 and 2007, the number of Hispanic victims declined by 71% (from 35 to 10). Given this sharp decline, Hispanics accounted for a smaller proportion of the family-related homicides in 2007 - 21% (10 out of 48). It is typical to observe year-to-year fluctuations in each sub-group of fatalities.



Compared to New York City's other boroughs, Brooklyn has the largest percentage decline in family-related homicides. In Brooklyn, family-related homicides dropped 57%, from 37 in 2002 to 16 in 2007. In Manhattan, family-related homicides decreased 55% from 9 in 2002 to 4 in 2007. They declined 47% (from 15 to 8) in the Bronx and 6% (from 15 to 14) in Queens during this period. Family-related homicides increased from zero to six in Staten Island. In all five boroughs, the number of family-related homicides fluctuated in the intervening years.

Just less than half of the City's population resides in the Bronx and Brooklyn, yet over 60% of the family-related homicides occurred in these boroughs. Specifically, 17% of the City's population resides in the Bronx, while 24% (97 out of 404) of the family-related homicides occurred there. Thirty percent of the City's population resides in Brooklyn, while 37% (150 out of 404) of the family-related homicides occurred there.¹⁴



Most family-related homicides occur at the victim's residence: From 2002 through 2007, 83% (334 out of 404) of the family-related homicides occurred at the victim's residence.

Family-Related Homicides Involving Elders

Prior FRC reports indicate that elder adult victims over the age of 60 had limited contact with City agencies prior to the homicide.¹⁵ Thus, for this year's report, the FRC continued to examine homicides in this vulnerable population.

The annual number of elder family-related homicide victims is relatively constant. From 2002 through 2007, there were 41 family-related homicides involving victims aged 60 and over. The average age of the victim was 71.

Table 2: 2002-2007 Elder (60+) Family-Related Homicide Victims (N=41)

Number	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
Elder Victims	9	8	7	3	8	6	41

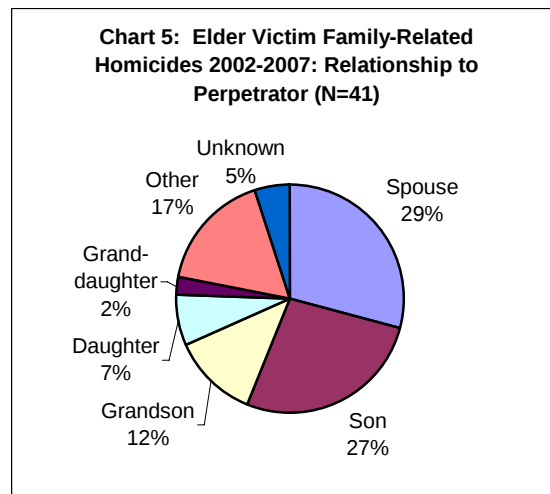
The majority of elder family-related victims are female. From 2002 through 2007, the gender distribution seen with other age groups held for elder victims. The majority of elder family-related homicide victims (59%, 24 out of 41) were female.

Brooklyn has the largest number of elder family-related homicide victims. From 2002 through 2007, 44% (18 out of 41) of the family-related homicides involving an elder victim occurred in Brooklyn, 34% (14 out of 41) occurred in Queens, 12% (5 out of 41) in Manhattan, 7% (3 out of 41) in the Bronx, and 2% (1 out of 41) in Staten Island. The elder of Brooklyn are disproportionately affected. While 30% of the City's elder population resides in Brooklyn, 44% of the City's family-related homicides involving an elder victim occurred in that borough.

Table 3: 2002-2007 Percentage of Elder Family-Related Homicide Victims and Percentage of Citywide Elder Population (N=41)

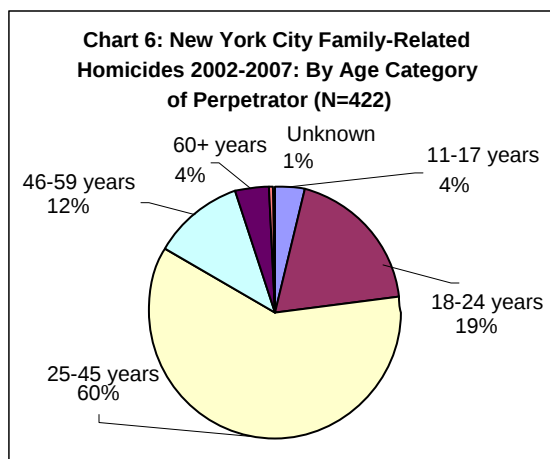
Borough	Number of Elder Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Elder Family-Related Homicides	Percentage of Citywide Elder Population
Brooklyn	18	44%	30%
Queens	14	34%	30%
Manhattan	5	12%	21%
Bronx	3	7%	14%
Staten Island	1	2%	6%

Over 40% of elder family-related homicide victims die at the hands of their son or grandson. From 2002 through 2007, the perpetrator was the victim's adult son or grandson in 39% (16 out of 41) of the elder family-related homicide cases. In contrast, only 7% (3 out of 41) of elder family-related victims were killed by their daughter and only one (2%) victim was killed by their granddaughter. Another 29% (12 out of 41) were killed by their spouse or former spouse.



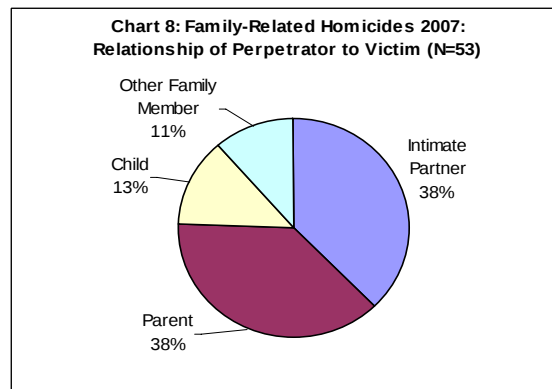
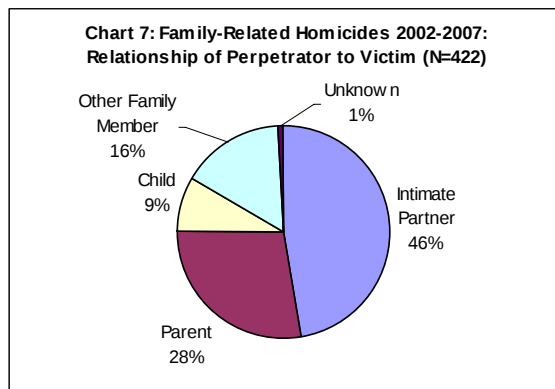
Characteristics of Perpetrators of Family-Related Homicides ¹⁶

The majority of perpetrators of family-related homicides are males and over half are between the ages of 25 and 45. From 2002 through 2007, 81% (343 out of 422) of the perpetrators of family-related homicides were male. Sixty percent (255 out of 422) were between the ages of 25 and 45 years, 20% (81 out of 422) were between the ages of 18 and 24, and 4% (16 out of 422) of the perpetrators were below the age of 18. Perpetrators in the age groups 18 to 24 and 25 to 45 are disproportionately represented. They account for 10% and 34% of New York City's population, respectively, but accounted for 20% and 60% of the perpetrators, respectively, during 2002 through 2007.¹⁷

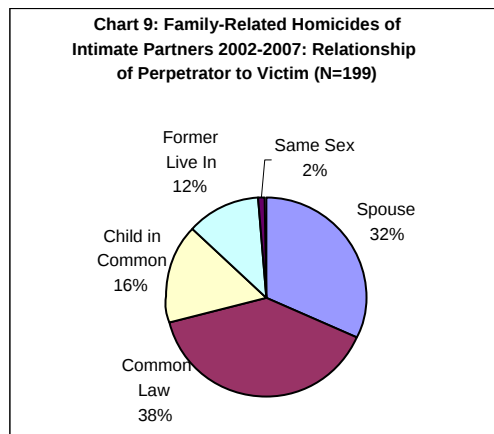


Family-related homicides involving perpetrators who were the “intimate partner”¹⁸ of their victims are declining. Intimate partner homicides have declined by 51% from 41 in 2002 to 20 in 2007. In other relationship categories, the number of family-related homicides fluctuates in the intervening years. For instance, while homicides involving perpetrators who were parents increased 59% from 2005 (17) to 2006 (27), there were only 20 family-related homicides perpetrated by parents in 2007. The decline in the number of family-related homicides committed by parents was greatest for Hispanic perpetrators, as these cases declined 58%, from 12 in 2006 to 5 in 2007.

Almost half of family-related homicides involve perpetrators who were the “intimate partner” of the victim. From 2002 through 2007, 46% (199 out of 422) of the family-related homicides involved perpetrators who were the intimate partner of their victims. Also, twenty-eight percent (117 out of 422) involved parents who were perpetrators; 16% (67 out of 422) involved an “other family member” (e.g., uncle, aunt, cousin, brother, sister, etc.) and 9% (36 out of 422) involved a perpetrator who was the child of the victim. Given the above-mentioned decline in intimate partner homicides from 2006 to 2007, the distribution of homicides by perpetrator relationship to the victim is different in 2007 and is reflected in the graphs below.

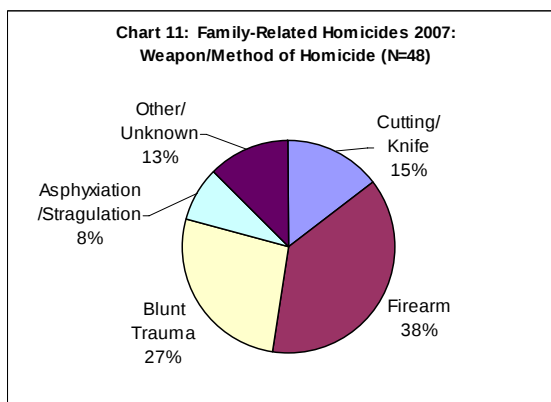
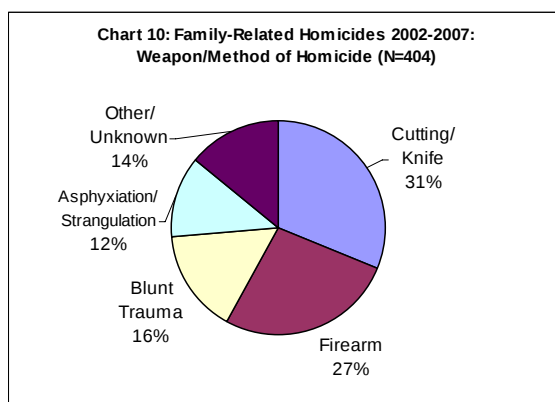


Almost three quarters of intimate partner¹⁹ homicides involve a perpetrator who was a spouse or a common-law partner of the victim. From 2002 through 2007, 70% (141 out of 199) of the family-related homicides committed by an intimate partner were committed by a spouse or common law partner of the victim. Another 16% (32 out of 199) were committed by a perpetrator who had a child in common with the victim. Twelve percent (23 out of 199) were committed by a perpetrator who formerly resided with the victim.



A small proportion of homicides involve multiple victims. From 2002 through 2007, 6% (23 out of 378) of family-related homicide cases involved two or more victims. Fifty-three percent (12 out of 23) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved at least one victim under the age of 18, and most (92%) of these victims were under the age of ten. Fifty-three percent (12 out of 23) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved a perpetrator who was the intimate partner of one of the victims. Fifty-seven percent (13 out of 23) of the multiple victim family-related homicide cases involved a perpetrator who was the parent or step-parent of one of the victims. Twenty-six percent (6 out of 23) involved at least one victim that was an intimate partner and at least one other victim that was a parent or step-parent of the victim.

A knife or other cutting instrument is commonly used in family-related homicides. From 2002 to 2007, a knife or other cutting instrument was the most commonly used weapon in family-related homicides (31%, 126 out of 404). Perpetrators used firearms in 27% (108 out of 404) of the family-related homicides that occurred during this period. Firearms accounted for a larger percentage (38%, 18 out of 48) of family-related homicides in 2007.



A Closer Look: 2002-2007 Homicide-Suicide Cases

Between 2002 and 2007, 15% (62 out of 404) of the family-related homicide cases involved perpetrator suicide after the homicide was committed. Data suggest these cases are different from homicide-only cases.

Perpetrators of homicide-suicide cases were slightly older – 67% are in the 25 to 45 year age category, while 59% of the family-related homicides-only cases involved perpetrators in this age group. Blacks were less likely to be perpetrators in homicide-suicide cases (39%) compared to family-related homicide-only cases (51%).

Almost 80% (49 out of 62) of the homicide-suicide cases from 2002 through 2007 involved perpetrators who were the intimate partner of the victim compared to 44% (150 out of 342) of homicide-only cases. Most of the intimate partner homicide-suicide cases (71%, 35 out of 49) involved perpetrators who were the spouses or common-law partners of the victim. Perpetrators who were not the spouse or common-law partner, but who formerly resided with the victim, accounted for 16% (8 out of 49) of the homicide-suicide cases involving intimate partners.

Firearms were used in 60% (37 out of 62) of the family-related homicides involving the suicide of the perpetrator, whereas firearms were used in 20% (68 out of 342) of all family-related homicides not involving the subsequent suicide of the perpetrator. In comparison, a knife or other cutting instrument was utilized in only 18% (11 out of 63) of all family-related homicides involving suicide of the perpetrator, compared to 34% (115 out of 342) of homicide-only cases. The FRC's finding that firearms are the most common weapon in New York City's homicide-suicide cases is consistent with findings from other jurisdictions.²⁰

Table 4: 2002-2007 Homicide-Suicide Cases and Homicide-Only Cases by Characteristics

Characteristics	Homicide-Suicide Cases (N=62)	Family-Related Homicides Not Involving Subsequent Suicide of Perpetrator (N=342)
Perpetrator's Age		
<1	0%	0%
1 to 10	0%	0%
11 to 17	0%	4%
18 to 24	11%	21%
25 to 45	67%	59%
46 to 59	17%	11%
60+	4%	4%
Perpetrator's Race/Ethnicity		
Black	39%	51%
Hispanic	35%	32%
White	11%	11%
Asian/Indian	15%	7%
Other	0%	1%
Relationship		
Intimate Partner	79%	42%
Parent	11%	31%
Child	6%	9%
Other Family Member	3%	18%
Unknown	0%	1%
Weapon/Method		
Firearm	60%	20%
Cutting/Knife	18%	34%
Blunt Trauma	10%	16%
Asphyxiation/Strangulation	6%	18%
Other/Unknown	6%	12%

The FRC does not currently have access to the mental health history of the perpetrators. Several studies suggest that a history of depression, personality disorder and alcohol abuse by the perpetrator are factors in a significant number of homicide-suicide cases.²¹ The FRC intends to explore gaining access to mental health histories of the perpetrators.

Identifying Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Homicides – A Review of Bronx Homicides, 2004-2006

A national study, *Risk Factors in Abusive Relationships: Results from a Multisite Case Control Study*, in which the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene participated, compared women killed by their intimate partners with women who survived abuse by their partners.ⁱ The study identified several factors that increased the risk of intimate partner homicide: (1) the abuser was unemployed; (2) the abuser used illegal drugs; (3) the abuser had access to a gun; (4) the victim had a previous child not fathered by the perpetrator; (5) the abuser exerted control over the victim; (6) the abuser had previously threatened the victim with a weapon; and (7) the abuser had previously threatened to kill the victim. Another factor, abuser's prior arrest for domestic violence, was found to be associated with decreased risk of homicide.

In 2006, the FRC member from the Office of the District Attorney, Bronx County, provided the FRC with information related to some of the risk factors indicated above. Data for 2006 intimate partner homicides supplements data previously reviewed by the FRC for 2004 and 2005. Information on four factors – 1) prior criminal conviction for illegal drugs, 2) prior non-drug criminal history, 3) unemployment, and 4) prior threats by perpetrator – in Bronx intimate partner homicide cases was gathered by the Bronx District Attorney through a review of the case folders and interviews with the respective Assistant District Attorneys who prosecuted the cases. The Bronx cases for these three years total 19. Given this small number of cases, frequencies should be interpreted with caution.

Table 5: 2004-2006 Prevalence of Select Risk Factors for Bronx Intimate Partner Homicide Prosecutions (N=19)

Factor	Bronx Cases with Factor
Prior Non-Drug Criminal History	5% (1 out of 19) of perpetrators had a prior conviction related to domestic violence.
Prior Criminal Conviction for Illegal Drugs	47% (9 out of 19) of perpetrators with a prior conviction had a conviction for a felony drug offense at some point in their criminal history.
Unemployment at Time of Homicide	52% (10 out of 19) were unemployed prior to committing the homicide.
Known Prior Threats (any type) to Victim by Perpetrator	63% (12 out of 19) of the families of the victim knew of prior incidents of domestic violence involving the victim and that perpetrator.

ⁱ Campbell, Jacquelyn, PhD, et. al., *At Risk Factors for Femicide in Abusive Relationships: Results From a Multisite Case control Study*, American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 93(7) (July 2003).

Overview of Agency Contact for Family-Related Homicides

In the last two annual reports, the FRC described known contact – sometimes many years before – with City agencies and the representative contract agencies by victims and perpetrators of family-related homicides.²² This year, we refine this analysis to include documented contact that occurred at some point between January of the year prior to the homicide and the date of the homicide. For example, if a homicide occurred in June of 2006, we would report any contact for the period January 1, 2005 through the date of the homicide. All data presented in this section reflects homicides which occurred in 2005 and 2006.

Specific information regarding contact is exclusive to each agency. A victim or perpetrator may have had contact with more than one agency or contract organization.

Over half of family-related homicide victims had contact with at least one City agency or the representative contract organization within the calendar year preceding the homicide. Fifty-five percent (75 out of 137) of the victims had documented contact with at least one agency any time in the calendar year preceding the homicide. A slightly larger percentage, (59%, 78 out of 132) of perpetrators had contact with at least one agency during the same time period.²³ Forty-five percent (62 out of 137) of the victims and 41% (54 out of 132) of the perpetrators never had any contact with a City agency or a representative contract organization during this time period. Two perpetrators entered the Department of Homeless Services (“DHS”) single adult shelter system more than 18 months *after* the homicide.

Overall, 45% (61 out of 137) of the victims and 47% (62 out of 132) of the perpetrators had documented contact with the Human Resource Administration (“HRA”) for public assistance, food stamps or health insurance. Of the victims, only 3% (2 out of 61) received domestic violence-related services. In 48 of the family-related homicide cases, HRA had contact with both the victim and the perpetrator.

The NYPD had contact with 18% (25 out of 137) of the victims and 19% (25 out of 132) of the perpetrators prior to the homicide. Of the 25 victims who had contact with the NYPD for which a Domestic Violence Incident Report (“DIR”) was filed, more than half (52%, 13 out of 25) had no further subsequent known contact with any City agency or contract organization.²⁴

Table 6: 2005-2006 Number and Percentage of Family-Related Homicide Cases with Agency Contact

Agency	Victims with Agency Contact (N=137)	%	Perpetrators with Agency Contact (N=132)	%
Any Contact with City Agency Prior to the Homicide	75	55%	78	59%
Human Resources Administration (HRA)	61	45%	62	47%
New York City Police Department (NYPD)	25	18%	25	19%
Administration for Children's Services (ACS)	17	12%	9	7%
Department of Homeless Services (DHS)	10	7%	9	7%
New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA)	10	7%	5	4%
Safe Horizon	4	3%	N/A	N/A
Department for the Aging (for victims 60+, N=9)	0	0%	0	0%

Socioeconomic Circumstances of Neighborhoods Impacted by Family-Related Homicides

Poor socioeconomic circumstances, such as low income, unemployment and low educational attainment are risk factors for domestic violence homicides.²⁵ The FRC did not have access to individual-level income, educational attainment, or employment status of the individual family-related homicide victims. Instead, it examined neighborhood-level socioeconomic indicators by census tract. Indicators included: (1) the percentage of the individuals living below the poverty level; (2) the percentage of residents age 25 and older who has not graduated from high school; and (3) the percentage of the labor force that is unemployed. Poor economic circumstances of a neighborhood appear to be correlated with the frequency of family-related homicides in that community. Through analysis of 2004 through 2007 family-related homicides, the FRC found these victims resided in neighborhoods exhibiting the following socioeconomic factors conditions:

Poverty:²⁶ Almost 70% (176 out of 254) of the family-related homicide victims resided in communities with more than 20% of the population living below the poverty level. For comparison, only 39% of New York City's census tracts experience similar levels of poverty and only 21% of New York City residents live below the poverty line.

Extreme Poverty:²⁷ One in four (26%, 65 out of 249) family-related homicide victims resided in communities experiencing extreme poverty, where 40% of the population lives below the poverty level. In contrast, 13% of New York City's census tracts experienced similar levels of poverty, and only 9% of the City's population experience similar levels of poverty.

Unemployment Rate:²⁸ More than 4 in 10 victims (44%, 109 out of 249) resided in communities where unemployment exceeded 16% — almost double the citywide percentage of 9%.²⁹ Only 18% of all New York City census tracts have unemployment rates higher than 16%.

High School Graduates:³⁰ More than half (54%, 134 out of 249) of the family-related homicide victims from 2004 through 2007 resided in communities where more than 40% of the residents age 25 and older have never received a high school diploma. In contrast, 24% of New York City's census tracts experienced similar low levels of educational attainment and 38% of the City's population age 25 and over never obtained a high school diploma.

Table 7: 2004-2007 Number and Percentage of Family-Related Homicides by Poverty, Unemployment Rate, and Educational Attainment for Census Tract in which Family-Related Homicides Occurred (N=249)³¹

Socioeconomic Circumstances of the Neighborhood		
Level	Number of Homicides	Percentage
Poverty		
< 20%	77	31%
20% to 40%	107	43%
> 40%	65	26%
Unemployment		
< 8%	60	24%
8% to 15.9%	80	32%
16% to 23.9%	75	30%
24% to 31.9%	26	10%
≥32%	8	3%
No High School Diploma		
<20%	27	11%
20 to 39.9%	88	35%
40 to 59.9%	130	52%
60 to 79.9%	3	1%
≥80%	1	<1%

Community Districts with the Greatest Concentration of Family-Related Homicides

As previously mentioned in this report, a disproportionate number of family-related homicides occurred in the Bronx and Brooklyn.³² Family-related homicides from 2004 to 2007 were mapped within Community District boundaries. The following maps display areas of high concentration. Family-related homicides were concentrated – that is, 4 to 9 homicides occur within one mile of each other – in eight of the City’s 59 Community Districts. Five of those Community Districts are located in the Bronx (Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9); and three are located in Brooklyn (Community Districts 3, 16 and 17).

The FRC compared the Community Districts where family-related homicides were concentrated against other Community Districts by ranking them by borough (There are a total of 12 Community Districts in the Bronx and 18 in Brooklyn.) The high incidence Community Districts were also ranked with all 59 Community Districts in the City. Specifically, the Community Districts were ranked by the percentage of residents who were: (1) living in poverty; (2) were unemployed; and (3) had not obtained a high school diploma. We found that these Community Districts with the highest frequencies of family-related homicides rank in the top 50 percent of Community Districts citywide and in their respective boroughs on each of these three socioeconomic measures.

However, some Bronx and Brooklyn Community Districts which have a high concentration of family-related homicides, but do not have uniformly low socioeconomic factors. For example, Bronx Community Districts 4, 7 and 9 do not rank among the top five Community Districts in the Bronx with the highest percentage of residents living in

poverty or unemployed, nor do they rank among the five Community Districts with the lowest percentage of residents obtaining a high school diploma in the Bronx. Community District 17 in Brooklyn does not rank high among the borough's Community Districts with low poverty rates or low educational attainment (see Tables 8A and 8B). These patterns suggest the need to identify additional factors contributing to the higher concentration of family-related homicides in these neighborhoods.

*Table 8A: Rank within Borough and Citywide for **Bronx** Community Districts which Experience a High Concentration of Family-Related Homicides by Poverty, Unemployment Level and Educational Attainment*

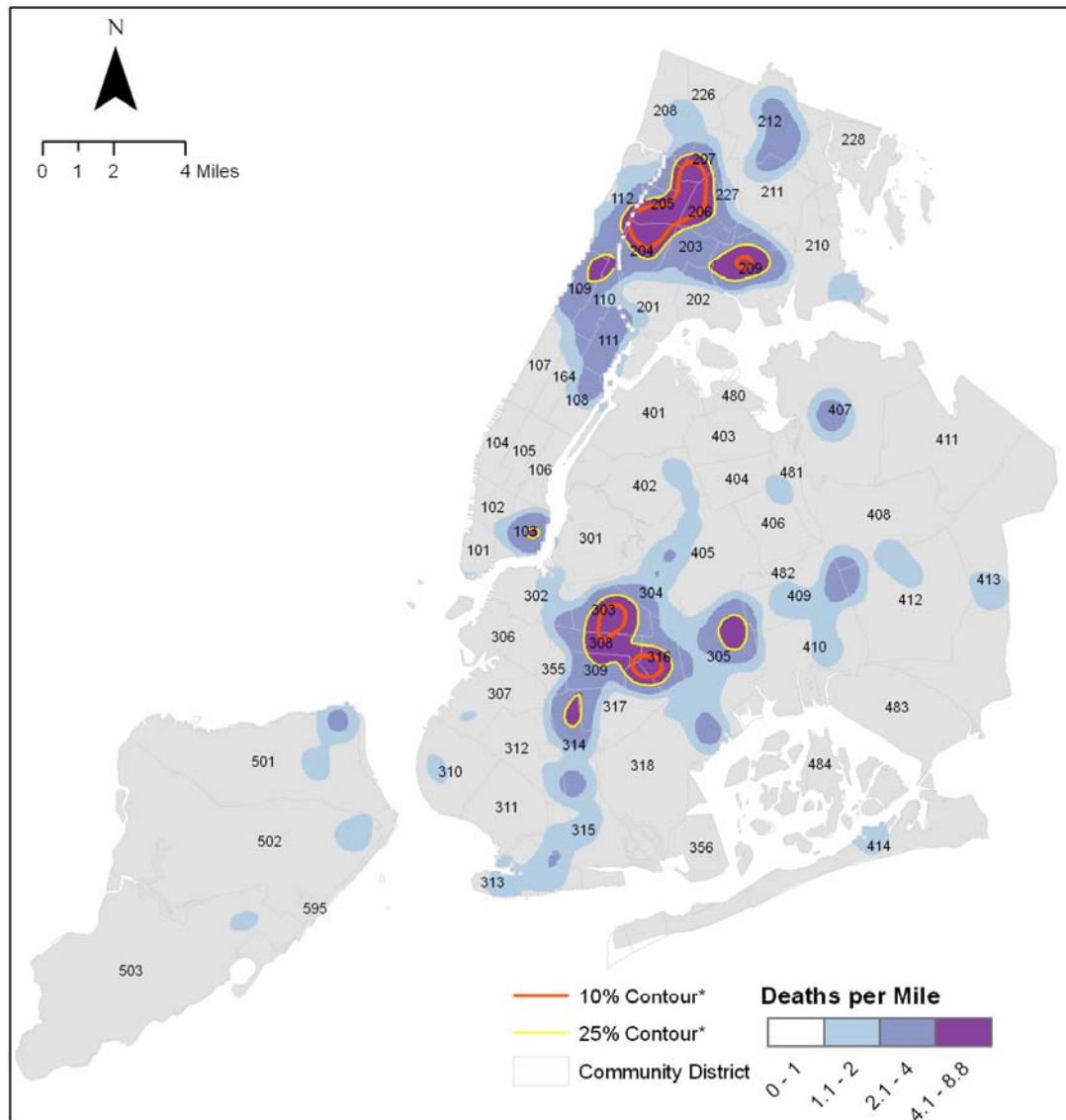
	Bronx Community Districts (CD)				
Community District	CD 4	CD 5	CD 6	CD 7	CD 9
	Poverty Rank				
Borough Rank Out of 12	6	5	2	7	8
Citywide Rank Out of 59	7	6	2	14	17
	Unemployment Rank				
Borough Rank Out of 12	6	5	4	7	8
Citywide Rank Out of 59	8	6	5	14	17
	No High School Diploma Rank				
Borough Rank Out of 12	6	5	3	7	8
Citywide Rank Out of 59	7	6	4	15	17

*Table 8B: Rank within Borough and Citywide for **Brooklyn** Community Districts which Experience a High Concentration of Family-Related Homicides by Poverty, Unemployment Level and Educational Attainment*

	Brooklyn Community Districts (CD)		
Community District	CD 3	CD 16	CD 17
	Poverty Rank		
Borough Rank Out of 18	3	1	13
Citywide Rank Out of 59	11	5	28
	Unemployment Rank		
Borough Rank Out of 18	2	1	7
Citywide Rank Out of 59	9	3	20
	No High School Diploma Rank		
Borough Rank Out of 18	7	5	12
Citywide Rank Out of 59	16	14	27

Map 1: Family-Related Homicides 2004-2007: Homicides per Mile by Community District

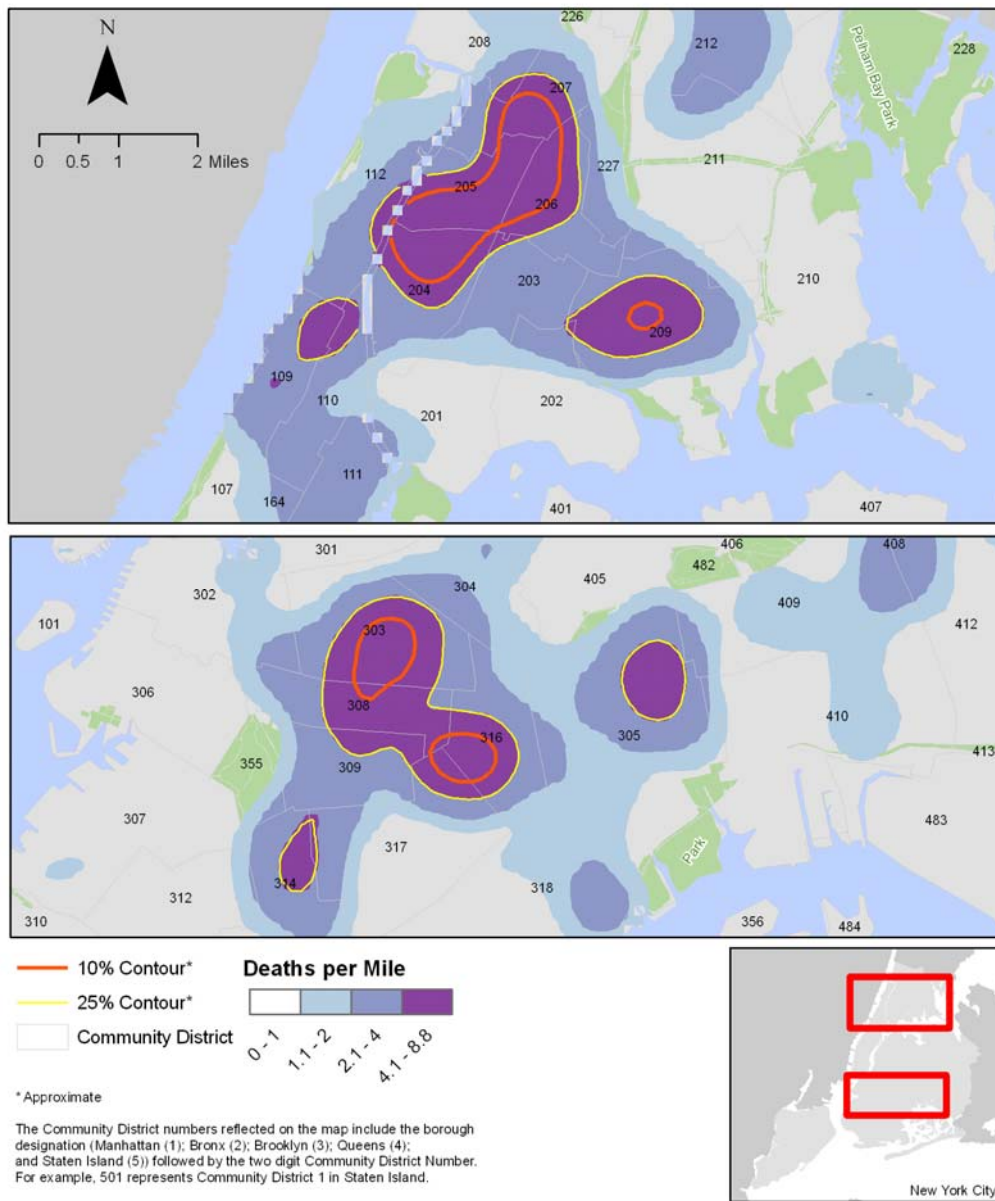
Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area



* Approximate

The Community District numbers reflected on the map include the borough designation (Manhattan (1); Bronx (2); Brooklyn (3); Queens (4); and Staten Island (5)) followed by the two digit Community District Number. For example, 501 represents Community District 1 in Staten Island.

**Map 2: Family-Related Homicides 2004-2007: Homicides per Mile -
Bronx and Brooklyn Community Districts**
Contours Indicate Percentage of Citywide Homicides within Area



Communities Experiencing High Concentration of Family-Related Homicides: The Bronx Community Needs Assessment

The data collected by the FRC indicate that family-related homicides are concentrated in eight of the City's 59 Community Districts. Five of those Community Districts are located in the Bronx (Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9), and three are located in Brooklyn (Community Districts 3, 16 and 17). While analysis suggests an association between the diminished educational, employment and economic status of the community and the frequency of homicides, socioeconomic data do not fully explain the observed frequencies in family-related homicides. Therefore, these concentrations of family-related homicides warrant further investigation.

The FRC, through its participating City agencies and representative contract agencies, chose to conduct a community needs assessment in the targeted Bronx Community Districts (Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9) to better understand the concentration of family-related homicides in these neighborhoods. As a systematic process in which information is gathered about current service needs of a population, a community needs assessment can be used to obtain information about problems with service delivery and receipt, strategies used to mitigate such problems, and met and unmet needs among a population. Common components of a community needs assessment include review of secondary data sources (such as Census data), and information collection through in-depth individual meetings, focus groups and small group meetings. Through the community needs assessment, the FRC is engaged in: (1) assessing services available within the specific Community Districts; (2) determining the extent to which these services are used; (3) determining what difficulties may exist in accessing services; and (4) finding ways to maximize and coordinate services that already exist.

The FRC, under the direction of its Coordinator, has undertaken a series of activities for the community needs assessment, including: (1) informational meetings with identified community stakeholders; (2) small group meetings with key stakeholders, contract organizations and community based organizations; (3) small group meetings with contract organization representatives who are assigned to the target area; (4) small group meetings with survivors of family-related violence who reside in the target community; and (5) a survey of the general public. Information collection will advance understanding of the level of community knowledge about family-related violence and the resources available within the community, and propose solutions for connecting those in need to available resources.

During the past year, the FRC has undertaken the development and preliminary implementation of the community assessment. The following section outlines the FRC's specific progress to date and immediate plans to complete conducting the community needs assessment.

Informational Meetings with Identified Community Stakeholders: Identifying key stakeholders and conducting informational meetings with them was the first step in assessing the scope of the undertaking. These meetings provided insight into the assets of each community and established important relationships with stakeholders. Meetings were held with community stakeholders including, among others, the District Managers of each of the targeted Bronx Community Districts (Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9) and the Bronx Borough President's Office. Assets identified included strong existing networks of service providers and an overall commitment by community organizations to addressing domestic violence in their communities.

Meetings with Contract Agency Representatives: The FRC has identified contract agencies which will take part in upcoming meetings. These contract agencies include entities contracted by the Administration for Children's Services, Department for the Aging ("DFTA"), DHS, and HRA. A projected 15 meetings with contract agency representatives will be conducted during the first quarter of 2009.

Small Group Meetings with Community Organizations and Key Stakeholders: The FRC made contact with and conducted both individual and small group meetings with domestic violence-specific service providers and other community-based organizations in the target areas of the Bronx. To date, the FRC has contacted and conducted individual and group meetings with 12 domestic violence-specific organizations and 25 other general community-based organizations.

Small Group Meetings with Survivors of Domestic Violence: The FRC has conducted three small group meetings with domestic violence survivors. The small groups were convened with assistance from several community partners who have identified participants and coordinated the implementation of the small groups. These small groups have been useful in understanding the various issues faced by domestic violence survivors in accessing services. Additional small group meetings are scheduled for the first quarter of 2009.

Resource Management and Technical Assistance: Several steps were also taken to ensure that this project will have adequate resources and technical assistance for its duration. Meetings were held with Hostos College and Lehman College to discuss opportunities for student involvement in the project during 2009 and to obtain technical assistance on certain aspects of the assessment. These educational institutions were chosen due to their proximity to the target areas of the Bronx, their interest in being a part of the community needs assessment, and their role as community stakeholders.

Community based Survey: A survey is being developed for administration in the focus areas to measure the community's understanding of domestic violence; the level of knowledge of existing domestic violence resources; and how someone might seek help. The FRC Coordinator is seeking technical assistance in the development, design and implementation of the survey from Hostos and Lehman Colleges.

Summary

This report describes family-related homicides that occurred in New York City between 2002 and 2007. During this six year period, family-related homicides declined by 37%, from 76 in 2002 to 48 in 2007. Family-related homicides involving perpetrators who were intimate partners of their victims declined by 51% (from 41 in 2002 to 20 in 2007) during the same period.³³

While progress continues in reducing family-related violence, this crime remains persistent. Firearm use in family-related homicides increased from 12 in 2006 to 18 in 2007. As a result, over one third of family-related homicides in 2007 were committed using a firearm, making firearms the most commonly used weapon that year.

From 2002 through 2007, 15% (62 out of 404) of the family-related homicides involved perpetrator suicide after the homicide was committed. Almost 80% (49 out of 62) of the homicide-suicide cases from 2002 to 2007 involved perpetrators who were the intimate partner of the victim. When the perpetrator committed suicide following the homicide, a firearm was used in a majority of the cases.

By matching FRC agency and contract agency records with homicide cases, the FRC found that almost half of the family-related homicide victims had never had any contact with a City agency or a representative contract organization.

The FRC mapped homicides from 2004 through 2007. Family-related homicides were concentrated in eight of the City's 59 Community Districts – Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 in the Bronx and 3, 16 and 17 in Brooklyn. The Bronx Community Districts accounted for the majority of all family-related homicides that occurred in the Bronx. The majority (70%) of family-related homicide victims resided in neighborhoods with more than 20% of the population living below the poverty level.

Given the concentration of family-related homicides in these communities, the FRC developed a plan for a community needs assessment in Community Districts 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 in the Bronx. Under the direction of its Coordinator, the FRC has begun an assessment that includes the following activities, among others: (1) informational meetings with identified community stakeholders; (2) small group meetings with domestic violence-specific service providers; and (3) small group meetings with domestic violence survivors who reside in the target community. Lessons learned from the community assessment will inform service coordination, program planning and outreach in the targeted areas.

Acknowledgements

The Committee members would like to express their appreciation to Christopher D. Goranson, Director, Geographic Information Systems Center, Bureau of Epidemiology Services, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, for assisting the Committee in analyzing and mapping the data presented in this report.

Appendix A: Action Steps in Response to Findings from Prior FRC Reports

Training Department of Homeless Services Shelter Staff

Over the last year, DHS, Sanctuary for Families, a nonprofit domestic violence service provider represented on the FRC, and the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence partnered to develop a domestic violence awareness and referral training program for employees of general homeless population shelters. The training covers the following topics: (1) prevalence of domestic violence in New York City; (2) power and control dynamics of domestic violence; (3) potential barriers to leaving a domestic violence situation; (4) intersection of mental health, physical disabilities, substance abuse and immigration issues which arise in domestic violence cases; (5) identification of potential signs of domestic violence; and (6) domestic violence resources in New York City. The training has been piloted to DHS shelter staff in the Bronx focus areas. To date, more than 200 shelter staff have participated in the training program. During the first half of 2009 this pilot program will be expanded to the targeted Brooklyn Community Districts with high concentrations of family-related homicides. We anticipate that an additional 200 DHS shelter staff will be trained.

Domestic Violence and Elder Abuse Education Program

During 2007, DFTA, NYCHA, and NYPD conducted workshops to raise awareness of elder abuse at NYCHA Senior Centers. Representatives from these agencies presented to Senior Center clients on defining elder abuse and the resources available for elder abuse victims. Twenty workshops have been held, and additional workshops will be held during 2009.

Addressing Training/Public Education Needs

Domestic violence awareness training among community based organization staff and community wide outreach regarding domestic violence services have emerged as common themes as a result of the community assessment in the Bronx target areas. Participants in the community assessment indicated they did not know about the City's Domestic Violence Hotline, and they often communicated the need for multilingual education materials, such as posters and brochures. Furthermore, community organizations often requested training for community members as well as their staff. The FRC, under the direction of the FRC Coordinator, will address the immediate need of community based organizations for training and multilingual educational materials by coordinating appropriate training and distributing existing public education materials during 2009.

Appendix B: 2002-2007 Family-Related Homicides Data by Year

Years/ Characteristics	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
Total Family Related Homicides	76	74	67	68	71	48	404
Victim by Gender							
Child Female	7	11	5	4	15	8	50
Adult Female	44	40	37	38	32	22	213
Child Male	9	6	7	11	6	8	47
Adult Male	16	17	18	15	18	10	94
Victim by Age							
<1	8	9	7	6	5	10	45
1-10	8	8	5	9	16	5	51
11-17	1	0	1	2	5	1	10
18-24	8	11	8	11	3	2	43
25-45	37	28	31	25	26	18	165
46-59	5	10	8	12	8	6	49
60+	9	8	7	3	8	6	41
Victim by Race							
Black	41	38	32	28	28	23	190
Hispanic	25	18	20	22	35	10	130
White	3	10	9	9	6	11	48
Asian/Indian	0	7	5	9	2	4	27
Other/Unknown	7	1	1	0	0	0	9
Total Family Related Homicides by Borough							
Brooklyn	37	28	24	19	26	16	150
Bronx	15	11	18	23	22	8	97
Manhattan	9	12	10	12	12	4	59
Queens	15	22	13	10	8	14	82
Staten Island	0	1	2	4	3	6	16
Perpetrator to Victim Relationship							
Intimate Partner							
Spouse/Live In	17	14	19	16	9	11	86
Common Law	17	14	15	14	11	7	78
Child in Common	7	7	7	6	3	2	32
Same Sex	0	1	1	0	1	0	3
Other							
Parent	17	21	15	17	27	20	117
Child	6	4	5	3	11	7	36
Other Family	12	14	6	14	15	6	67
Unknown	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Homicide Method/Weapon							
Cutting/Knife	26	20	23	19	31	7	126
Firearm	22	15	20	21	12	18	108
Blunt Trauma	11	9	9	10	11	13	63
Asphyxiation/ Strangulation	9	13	9	10	5	4	50
Other/Unknown	8	17	6	8	12	6	57

Endnotes

¹ For the purposes of this report, “family-related homicides” is defined in Local Law 61 of 2005 creating the New York City Fatality Review Committee and by the New York City Police Department as a homicide involving persons related by marriage, persons related by blood; persons legally married to one another; persons formerly married to one another regardless of whether or not they still reside in the same household; persons who have a child in common regardless of whether or not such persons have been married or have lived together at any time; persons not legally married, but living together in a family-type relationship; and persons not legally married, but who have formerly lived together in a family-style relationship. This definition includes same sex partners.

While not reflected in this report, effective July 21, 2008, the New York State Criminal Procedure Law and the Family Court Act was amended to allow victims in other intimate relationships (whether or not they ever resided together with the perpetrator) to seek an order of protection in Family Court. The new law expands the definition of family/household member to include victims who are or have been in an intimate relationship, regardless of whether they have lived with the abuser or whether the relationship is of a sexual nature. Based on this amendment to New York State law, the New York City Police Department (“NYPD”) definition of family-related offenses has been amended to include individuals in intimate relationships. This change will be reflected in all future reports issued by the Fatality Review Committee, beginning with the Annual Report for 2009.

² “Intimate partner homicides” is defined by the New York City Fatality Review Committee as all relationships defined in endnote 1 supra except other family members, such as parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, children and grandchildren.

³ The United States Census Bureau defines “poverty areas” as census tracts where at least 20 percent of the residents live below the poverty level. See, <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/definitions.html>. The United States Census determines poverty status for all people except institutionalized people, people in military group quarters and people in college dormitories. The United States Census uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to clarify who is poor. If a family’s total annual income is less than the family’s threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds for 2007 for a single person is \$10,590; a family of two is \$13,540; a family of three (two children under 18) is \$16,750 and a family of four (with three children under 18) is \$21,100. Information was obtained from the New York City Department of City Planning.

⁴ Local Law Number 61 for the year 2005, Section 2.

⁵ The New York City Fatality Review Committee Annual Reports for 2006 and 2007 can be obtained through the Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence website at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/ocdv/html/publications/publications.shtml>.

⁶ Local Law Number 61 for the year 2005, Section 5. For a definition of “family-related” homicides see endnote 1.

⁷ Both the number of total citywide homicides and homicides designated as family-related homicides were obtained from the NYPD. In compiling annual figures for family-related homicides, the NYPD counts the actual family-related homicides that occurred during that year and any other homicides that have been reclassified as “family-related” homicides from previous years. The NYPD reclassifies homicides as family-related because, on occasion, it is not immediately known to the NYPD that the perpetrator was a person who falls within the definition of “family-related.” Since the FRC is charged with reviewing access by victims to services, the FRC chose to review data on homicides that actually occurred during calendar years 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

⁸ The Administration for Children’s Services (“ACS”), among other things, could provide only aggregate, not individual, data on contact and was excluded from the analysis of individuals contacting multiple agencies.

⁹ ACS did not provide the time frame during which the contact occurred relative to the homicide.

¹⁰ The number of all citywide homicides and homicides designated as “family-related” were obtained from the NYPD. Overall citywide homicide numbers are preliminary NYPD Compstat numbers.

¹¹ See endnote 2

¹² 2000 Census, Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning (October 2008). See http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/census/demo_profile.shtml

¹³ 2000 Census, Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning (October 2008). See http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/census/demo_profile.shtml

¹⁴ 2000 Census, Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning (October 2008). See http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/census/demo_profile.shtml

¹⁵ *New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee: Annual Report 2007*, New York City Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee (December 2007).

¹⁶ Between 2002 and 2007, there were 422 perpetrators involved in 404 family-related homicides. In 2007, there were 53 perpetrators involved in the 48 family-related homicides.

¹⁷ The population figures were obtained from the United States Census Bureau, 2000 Census, American Factfinder, United States Census Bureau website accessed August 26, 2008.

¹⁸ See endnote 2.

¹⁹ See endnote 2.

²⁰ Banks, L., Crandall, C., Sklar, D., and Bauer, M., *A Comparison of Intimate Partner Homicide to Intimate Partner Homicide-Suicide*, Violence Against Women, Vol. 14(9): 1065-1078 (September 2008); Campbell, J.C., Glass, N., Sharps, P., Laughon, K. and Bloom, T., *Intimate Partner Homicide: Review and Implications of Research and Policy*, Trauma Violence and Abuse, Vol. 8(3): 246-269 (July 2007); and Koziol-McClain, J., Webster, D., McFarlane, J., Block, C.R., Curry, M.A., Ulrich, Y., et. al., *Risk factors for femicide-suicide in abusive relationships: Results from a multi-site case control study*, Violence and Victims, Vol. 21: 3-21 (2006).

²¹ See endnote 21.

²² For all agencies except the New York City Housing Authority (“NYCHA”), “contact” is defined as the victim or perpetrator having an interaction with the agency, such as obtaining a service, which was documented in the agency’s records. With respect to NYCHA, the victim and/or perpetrator was considered to have had contact with NYCHA if the victim/perpetrator was a resident in a NYCHA property as reflected in NYCHA records.

²³ ACS could not be included because it did not provide information regarding contact that occurred within one year of the homicide and was therefore excluded from the time analysis.

²⁴ New York State law mandates that a Domestic Violence Incident Report (DIR) be completed when members of law enforcement respond to an incident that involves a victim/perpetrator relationship as defined in endnote 1. The DIR requests specific data regarding the incident.

²⁵ Burke, J. O'Campo, P. and Peak, G., *Neighborhood Influence and Intimate Partner Violence: Does Geographic Setting Matter*, Journal of Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine, Vol. 83(2): 182-194 (March 2006); O'Campo P., Gielen A.C., Faden R.R., Xue X., Kass N., Wang M.C., *Violence by Male Partners Against Women During the Childbearing Years: A Contextual Analysis*, American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 85(8): 1092-1097 (August 1995); O'Campo, P. Burke, J., Peak, G., McDonnell, K. and Gielen, A., *Uncovering Neighborhood Influence on Intimate Partner Violence Using Concept Mapping*, Journal of Epidemiol Community Health, Vol. 59: 603-608 (2005) and Miles-Doan, R., *Violence Between Spouses and Intimates: Does Neighborhood Context Matter?*, Social Forces, December 1, 1998.

²⁶ The United States Census Bureau defines "poverty areas" as census tracts where at least 20 percent of residents live below the poverty level. See, <http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/definitions.html>. The United States Census determines poverty status for all people except institutionalized people, people in military group quarters and people in college dormitories. The United States Census uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than a pre-set threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds for 2007 for a single person is \$10,590 annually; a family of two is \$13,540; a family of three (two children under 18) is \$16,750 and a family of four (with three children under 18) is \$21,100. Information was obtained from the New York City Department of City Planning.

²⁷ *Increasing Opportunity and Reducing Poverty in New York City*, The New York City Commission for Economic Opportunity (September 2006).

²⁸ According to the United States Census, "unemployed" includes all civilians 16 years old and over if they were neither "at work" nor "with a job but not at work." Information was obtained from the New York City Department of City Planning. For the unemployment analysis of the FRC, census tracts with unemployment rates higher than 16% were utilized in the analysis because only 18% (403 of the 2,217) of all census tracts that comprise New York City have an unemployment rate higher than 16%. This compares to 42% (928 out of 2,217) of the City's census tracts that are considered areas of poverty under the United States Census Bureau definition.

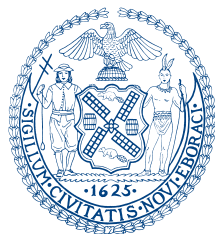
²⁹ 2000 Census, Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning (October 2008). *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/census/demo_maps.shtml

³⁰ 2000 Census, Population Division, New York City Department of City Planning (October 2008). *See* http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/census/demo_maps.shtml

³¹ This analysis excluded five family-related homicides recorded by the New York City Police Department from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2007. Two cases were excluded because the victims' address were not known and three other cases were excluded because the victims' residences were not within New York City.

³² The population data for the per population rate calculation was obtained from the United States Census Bureau website, People Quick Facts, 2006 population estimate for Bronx, Kings, New York, Queens and Richmond Counties accessed August 25, 2008.

³³ *See* endnote 2.



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