

Number of homicides

- In Australia, in the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, there were 273 homicide victims and 308 offenders.
- There were 161 male and 112 female homicide victims in 2007/08.
- The rate of homicide for men was 1.5 per 100 000 population, and the rate for women was 1.0 per 100 000 population.
- The majority of homicide offenders (61 percent) were known to have a prior criminal history.

Homicide methods

- The most common cause of death was stab wounds (114 victims), followed by beating (64 deaths), and other causes (37 deaths).
- Firearms accounted for 30 deaths (12 percent of all homicides).

Legal status of firearms used in homicide

- In 2007/08, there were no firearm homicides known to involve a firearm registered to the offender.
- In 2007/08, there were no recorded firearm homicides where the offender was licensed to own a firearm.

Domestic homicide

- Domestic homicides include incidents where the victim and offender share a family or intimate relationship.
- There were 124 domestic homicides in 2007/08.

Intimate partner homicide

- Intimate partner homicides are those where the victim and offender share a current or former intimate relationship (for example, marriage).
- There were 80 intimate partner homicides recorded in 2007/08, up from 65 deaths in 2006/07, 74 deaths in 2005/06, and 66 deaths in 2004/05.
- Women represented the majority of intimate partner homicide victims in 2007/08, with 62 deaths.

Firearm use in intimate partner homicide

- Of the 80 intimate partner homicides recorded in 2007/08, eight (10 percent) involved a firearm.
- None of these firearms were known to be registered, or the offender licensed.

References and data sources

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