



An Analysis of Intimate Partner Murders in Oklahoma Using State Incident-Based Data, 2011-2016 Selected Findings

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Intimate Partner Murders in Oklahoma

The SAC conducted a qualitative and quantitative analysis of intimate partner murders (IPMs) that were reported in Oklahoma using State Incident-Based Reporting System (SIBRS). During the study, researchers also assessed the quality of the SIBRS reports and developed recommendations to improve the data quality. Overall, the study highlights the utility of SIBRS reports over the summary reporting system (SRS).

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines an intimate partner as “a person with whom one has a close personal relationship.” The CDC further defines Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) as physical and sexual violence; stalking; and psychological aggression that occurs with an intimate partner relationship. Intimate Partner Murders were defined in this study as all instances where IPV occurred resulting in death.

❖ **Thirty-one SIBRS agencies reported at least one intimate partner murder from 2011-2016.**

Twenty-seven of the 77 counties in the State of Oklahoma reported an intimate partner murder, and Tulsa County reported the most intimate partner murders during the six-year period. Tulsa County Sheriff’s Office and Muskogee Police Department had the highest number (n=3) of IPM reports. Only two IPMs included a secondary offense to the murder.

❖ **Representing 50% of reports, the most common victim to offender relationship type was a spouse.**

Representing 36.8% of the IPM reports, the second most common victim to offender relationship type was boyfriend and/or girlfriend.

❖ **The gender of victims and offenders was evenly distributed.**

Nineteen victims were reported as male, and nineteen victims were reported as female. Nineteen male and nineteen female offenders were reported.

❖ **Over 57% of IPM reports occurred between November and February.**

November and December had six reports each, and January and February had five IPM reports each. The day of the week with the most IPM reports was Monday, with eight reports. Friday was the second highest, with seven reports, and at six reports, Tuesday represented the third highest number of intimate partner murder reports. Researchers found intimate partner murders were reported the most during the times of 21:01-22:00 and 22:01-23:00. These two hours of the day represented 26.3% reports of IPM reviewed. With four reports, the second most common time of day for intimate partner murders was 09:01-10:00.

❖ **A firearm was the most common type of weapon used during an IPM.**

Firearms accounted for 47.5% of the intimate partner murders; a handgun represented 47.4% of firearms used in the IPMs. With 20%, the second most common type of weapon used in the commission of an IPM was a knife and/or cutting instrument. Lastly, the third most common weapon used were personal weapons (ex. hands, feet, teeth, etc.).