

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITIES IN ARIZONA 2021 REPORT

In 2021, The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence documented 94 known domestic violence-related fatalities across Arizona. These incidents were identified using an online media monitoring service that uses topical keywords related to domestic violence to produce articles from around the state. While this method of data collection generates a fairly comprehensive list of domestic violence-related fatalities, the data contained in this report is limited, as it captures only those fatalities reported in online media publications.

Arizona consistently ranks among the top states with the highest homicide rates of women murdered by men. In fact, between 2009 and 2021, there were 1,358 domestic violence related deaths. These tragedies represent a small fraction of the violence that occurs within intimate and family relationships and reminds us of the potential for lethality in relationships where domestic violence is present. It is critical that survivors are heard and supported in accessing safety and healing. This report is dedicated to those who have lost their lives as a result of domestic violence.



lives were lost due to domestic violence



people were killed by a current or former partner

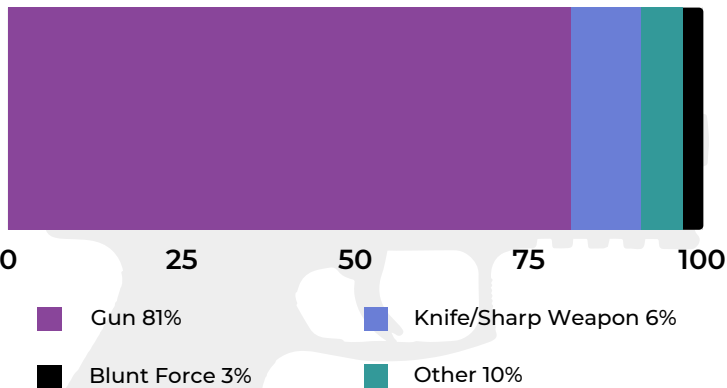


percentage of cases with previous violence reported



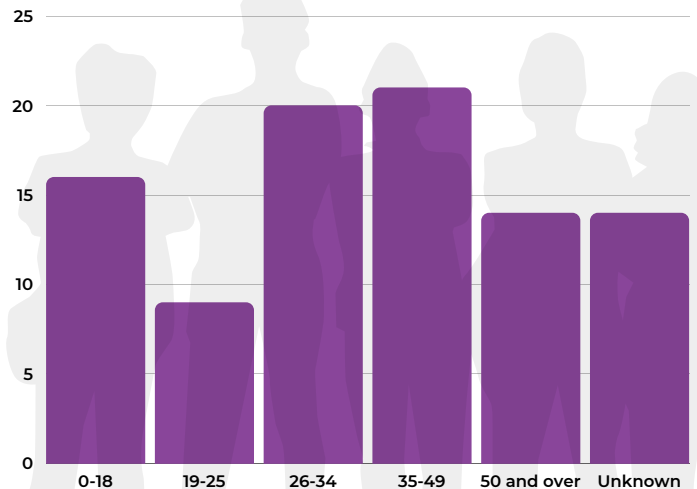
of homicides occurred at home

HOMICIDE METHOD



81% of fatalities were caused by guns.

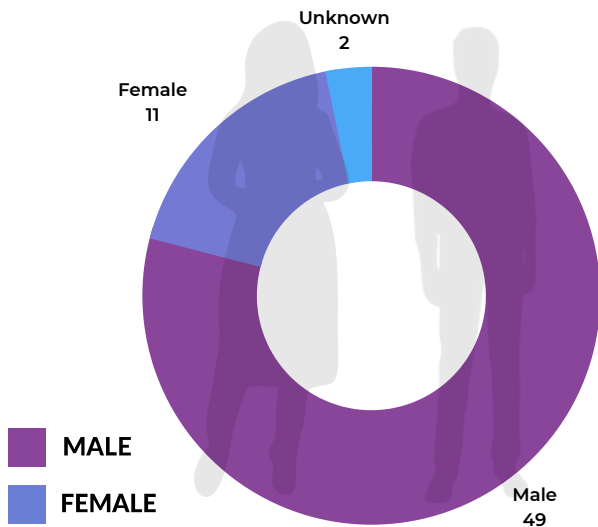
AGE OF VICTIMS



15% of all victims were over the age of 50

17% of all victims were under the age of 18

GENDER OF HARM DOER

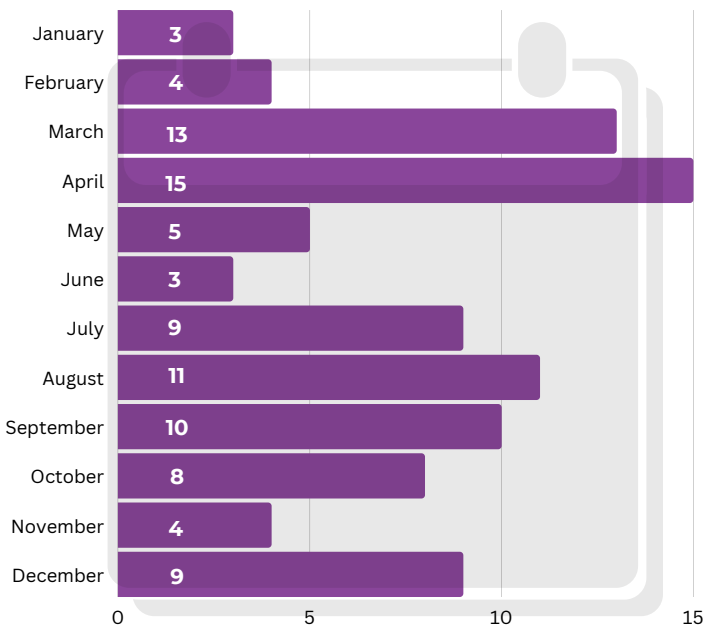


PET FATALITIES

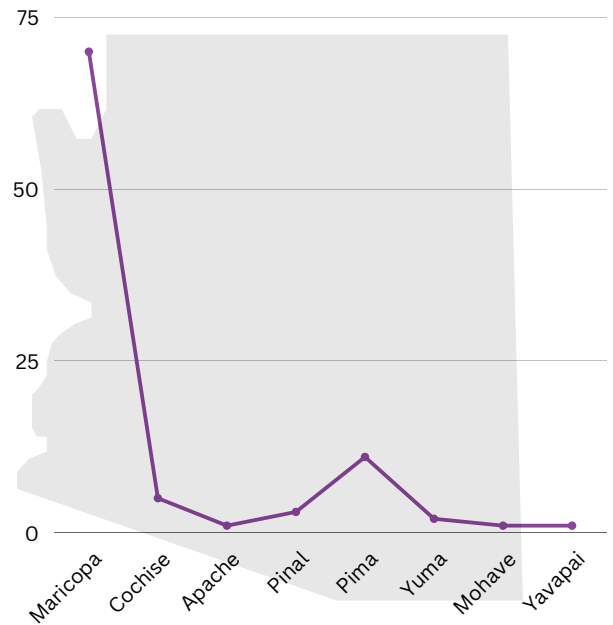
Number of pet fatalities due to DV:



FATALITIES BY MONTH



FATALITIES BY COUNTY



DESTINY MUNOZ'S STORY

17-year-old Destiny Munoz was the devoted mother of a one-year-old son. Her brother characterized her as a strong, independent women who provided hope and inspiration for her friends. Destiny is an example of most fatalities in Arizona, a woman harmed by her male partner, using a gun. She was in a relationship with the father of her son, Daniel Torrealba. He was found with Destiny's body in his truck in a plastic tote on October 5th, 2021, saying he "wanted to remain close to her." He originally claimed that Destiny had shot herself in the face while they were arguing about their relationship, and told detectives he covered up what happened because he was afraid he would get in trouble. He went so far as using Destiny's phone to send messages to her family "so they would not worry about her." He had told other family members alternate versions of the story, saying that he had pushed her in a fight causing a head injury to Destiny or that he accidentally shot her when she fell. His brother said that he, with the help of others, were planning to dismember and bury her, even purchasing a chainsaw online to prepare for the plan. Destiny is not just a number on the fatality list, she was an individual who is missed by her family, her son, and all those that knew her.