

Statistical Bulletin

Crime and Justice Series

A National Statistics Publication for Scotland



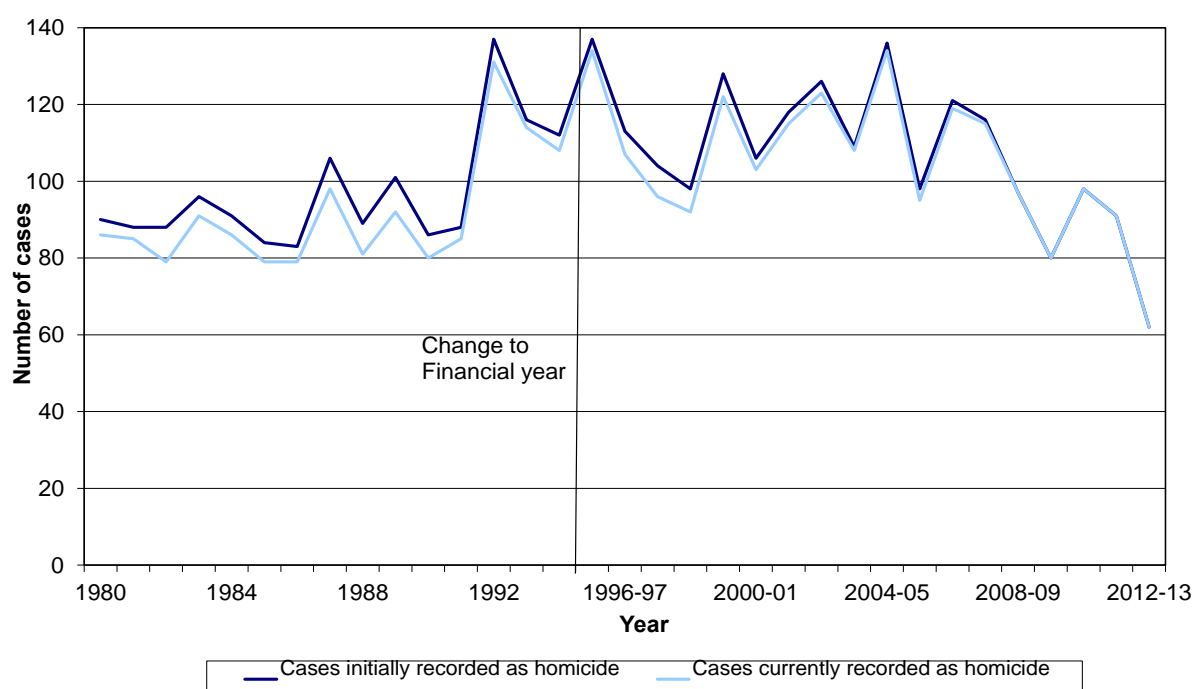
HOMICIDE IN SCOTLAND, 2012-13 1 October 2013

1. Introduction

This bulletin presents statistics on the crimes of homicide recorded by the police in Scotland in the period 2003-04 to 2012-13, incorporating information known as at 1 October 2013. The bulletin includes all crimes of murder and culpable homicide but excludes cases of causing death by dangerous driving, causing death by careless driving while under the influence of drink or drugs, causing death by careless driving, illegal driver involved in fatal accident and corporate homicide.

Statistics are presented on the number of homicide cases recorded in Scotland, where a single case of homicide is counted for each incident involving murder or culpable homicide, irrespective of the number of victims or accused. Victim and accused data are then provided, followed by the circumstances associated with the homicide. Additional details relating to the method, motive and relationship between the victim and the accused are also shown.

Chart 1: Cases initially and currently recorded^{1,2} as homicide by the police, Scotland, 1980 to 1994 then 1995-96 to 2012-13



1. [Note 4.7](#) explains the difference between cases initially and currently recorded as homicide.
2. [Note 4.8](#) explains the break in the series for cases currently recorded as homicide.

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2. Main points

- In 2012-13, Scottish police forces recorded 62 cases of homicide, as at 1 October 2013, a decrease of 32% from the 91 cases recorded in 2011-12. As at 1 October 2013, one of the homicide cases recorded in 2012-13 was unsolved ([Table 1](#)).
- The 62 cases of homicide in 2012-13 involved 62 victims, 31 fewer victims than in 2011-12. This represented a rate of 12 victims per million population in Scotland, the lowest rate recorded in the ten year period covered by this bulletin and a decrease of 6 victims per million population compared to 2011-12 ([Table 1](#)).
- In 2012-13, 39 (63%) of the 62 recorded homicide cases took place in the Strathclyde Police force area. Between 2011-12 and 2012-13 there was a decrease in the number of homicide cases recorded by six of the eight police forces. Homicide cases increased in the Grampian Police force area from one to five. The number of cases in the Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary force area remained at one, the same number as in the previous two years ([Table 2](#)).
- In 2012-13, 76% of all homicide cases occurred within a residential location, 19% of cases occurred in public places outdoors and 5% of cases occurred in public places indoors ([Table 3](#)).
- In 2012-13, there were 50 male victims, 81% of all homicide victims. The overall homicide rate for males was 19 victims per million population, almost five times the rate for females which was four victims per million population ([Table 5](#)).
- In the 61 solved homicide cases recorded in 2012-13, 83 persons have been accused as at 1 October 2013. This is 35% less than in 2011-12. Of the persons accused of homicide in 2012-13, 80% were male ([Table 6](#)).
- In previous years, males aged 16 to 20 years were the most likely to be accused in homicide cases. However, in 2012-13 males aged 21 to 30 years were the most likely to be accused in homicide cases. The accused rate per million population was more than five times greater for 21 to 30 year old males, at 82 accused per million population, compared to the national average of 16 per million population ([Table 6](#)).
- The most common method of killing in each of the last ten years was with a sharp instrument. In 2012-13, a sharp instrument was the main method of killing of 26 homicide victims (42%), 11 more homicide victims than second most common main method of killing, which was hitting and kicking. For the definition of a sharp instrument please see [Note 4.10](#) ([Table 7](#)).
- For 77% of homicide victims, in solved cases, in 2012-13, the main accused was known to them either as an acquaintance (56%), a partner or ex-partner (15%), or a relative (7%) ([Table 8](#)).

- Of the 83 persons accused of homicide in 2012-13, 43% were reported to have been drunk and/or under the influence of drugs at the time; 36% were drunk, 5% were on drugs and 2% were both drunk and on drugs. For 32 of the persons accused in homicide cases in 2012-13, it was not known whether they were drunk or under the influence of drugs. This is 39% of all accused persons ([Table 15](#)).

3. Commentary

Statistics quoted in this section refer to cases currently recorded as homicide, as at 1 October 2013. A case of homicide refers to one incident and may involve more than one victim and/or accused person.

The statistics on homicides are used to inform [National Outcome 9](#) – ‘we live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger’ as well as [The Strategy for Justice in Scotland](#). These statistics are also used by a wide range of stakeholders to monitor trends, for policy research and development, and for research purposes. The ‘Homicide in Scotland’ statistical bulletin forms part of a series of bulletins produced by the Scottish Government on the criminal justice system.

The full ‘Homicide in Scotland’ statistical bulletin was previously published biennially, with a shorter less detailed statistical release being published in the intervening years. To allow users to get a fuller picture of homicide in Scotland, the statistical bulletin will now be published annually from 2013 onwards.

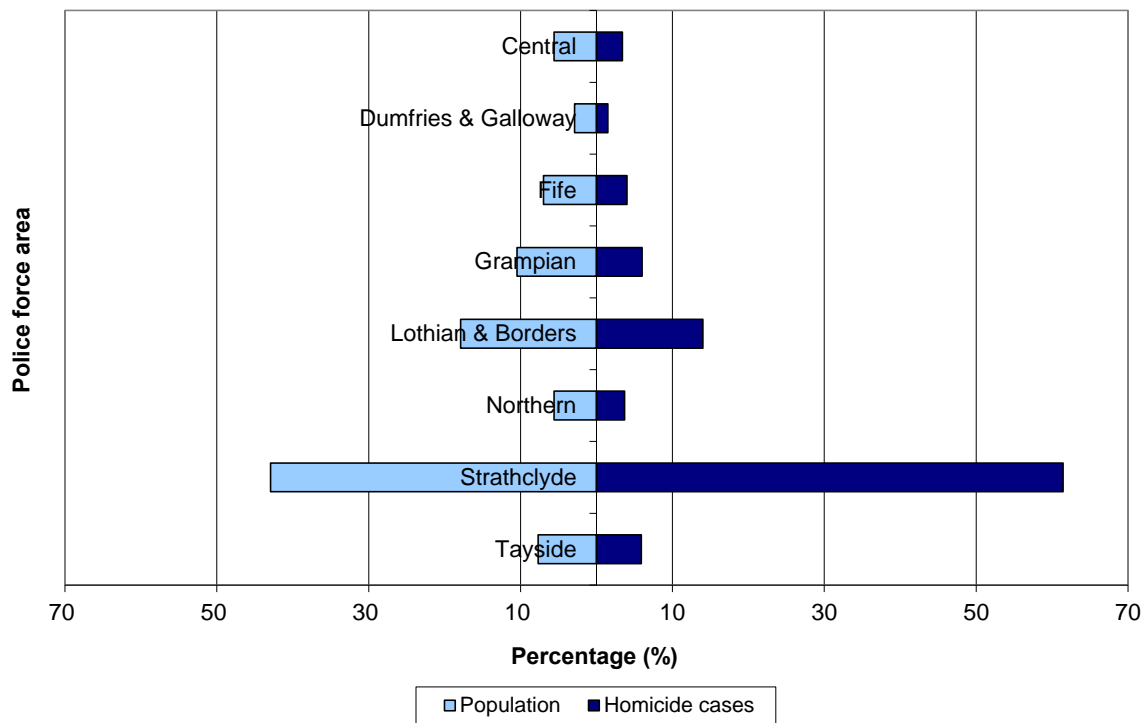
The Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012 changed the policing landscape in Scotland, replacing the previous eight police forces, the Scottish Police Services Authority and the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency from 1 April 2013. The Police Service of Scotland is now responsible for operational policing in Scotland and will be held to account by the Scottish Police Authority. The statistics set out in this bulletin cover the year immediately preceding the establishment of the Police Service of Scotland.

3.1 Homicide cases (Tables [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) and [4](#), and Charts [1](#), [2](#), [3](#) and [4](#))

- In 2012-13, Scottish police forces recorded 62 cases of homicide, a decrease of almost a third (32%) from the 91 cases recorded in 2011-12. The number of cases recorded in 2012-13 was the lowest in the ten year period covered by this bulletin. There were 18 fewer cases recorded in 2012-13 than the next lowest year in this period, which was 2009-10, when 80 homicide cases were recorded. As at 1 October 2013, one of the homicide cases recorded in 2012-13 was unsolved.
- Homicide cases involving more than one victim remain rare. There were no such cases in 2012-13. In total, there were only ten homicide cases involving multiple victims between 2003-04 and 2011-12. Of the 61 solved homicide cases recorded in 2012-13, 26% of them involved more than one accused person. There was a total of 83 accused persons connected with the 61 solved recorded homicide cases, with one further case unsolved as at 1 October 2013.
- From [Chart 2](#) it can be seen that over the ten year period from 2003-04 to 2012-13 the percentage of homicide cases recorded in each of the police forces areas broadly mirrored the percentage of the population that they contained. The exception to this is the Strathclyde Police force area. The Strathclyde Police force area contained 43% of the population of Scotland but 61% of the homicide cases in Scotland were recorded there in the period from 2003-04 to 2012-13. As a result of this, the other seven police force areas all recorded marginally fewer

homicide cases in comparison to their population shares. This pattern was broadly replicated in the 2012-13 data, when there were 39 homicide cases recorded in the Strathclyde Police force area, 63% of the total number of cases, while the force area contained 42% of the estimated population of Scotland in 2012.

Chart 2: Location of homicide cases by police force area compared to population¹ profile of police force areas, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

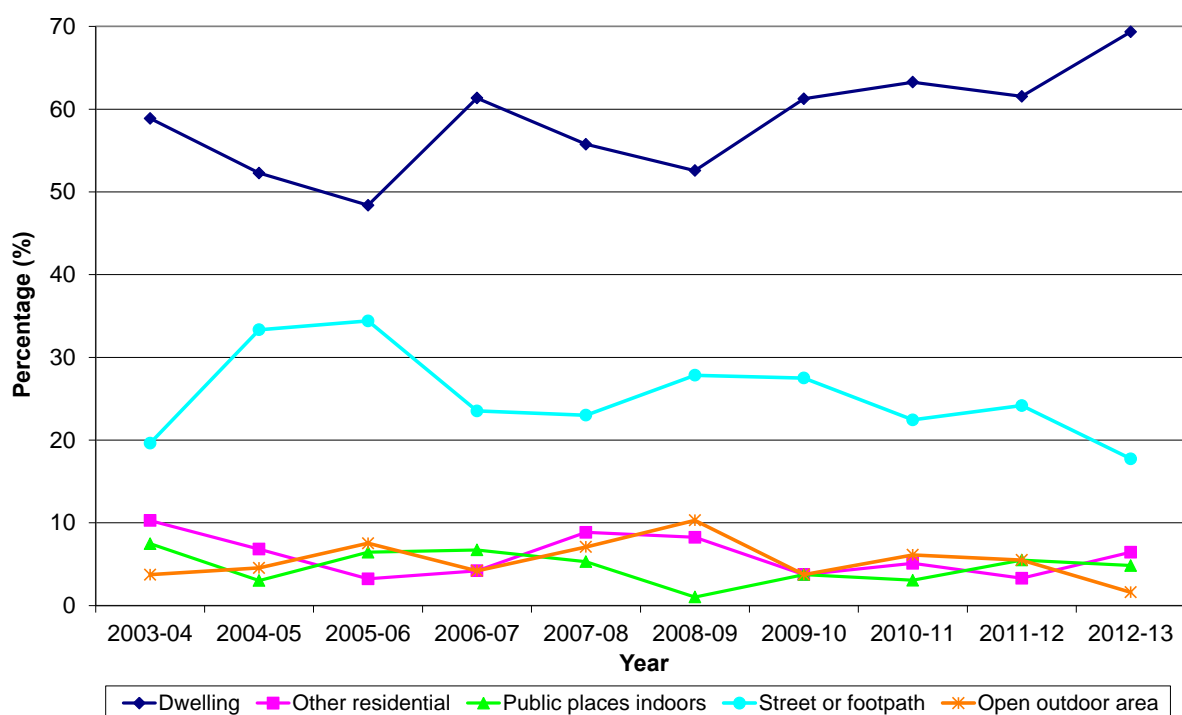


1. Population estimates as at mid-year 2003 to 2012 from the National Records of Scotland. (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>)

- There were decreases in the number of homicide cases recorded by six of the eight police forces in 2012-13 compared to 2011-12. The forces where the number of recorded homicide cases decreased were: Central Scotland Police, Fife Constabulary, Lothian and Borders Police, Northern Constabulary, Strathclyde Police and Tayside Police.
- The largest decrease in terms of the number of cases was 13 (25%) for the Strathclyde Police force area. The number of homicide cases recorded in the Strathclyde Police force area is now at its lowest level in the ten year period covered by this bulletin. There were only four homicide case recorded in the Lothian and Borders Police force area in 2012-13, a decrease of ten cases compared to the 14 recorded in 2011-12. This was also the lowest number of cases recorded in the Lothian and Borders Police force area in the ten year period covered by this bulletin.

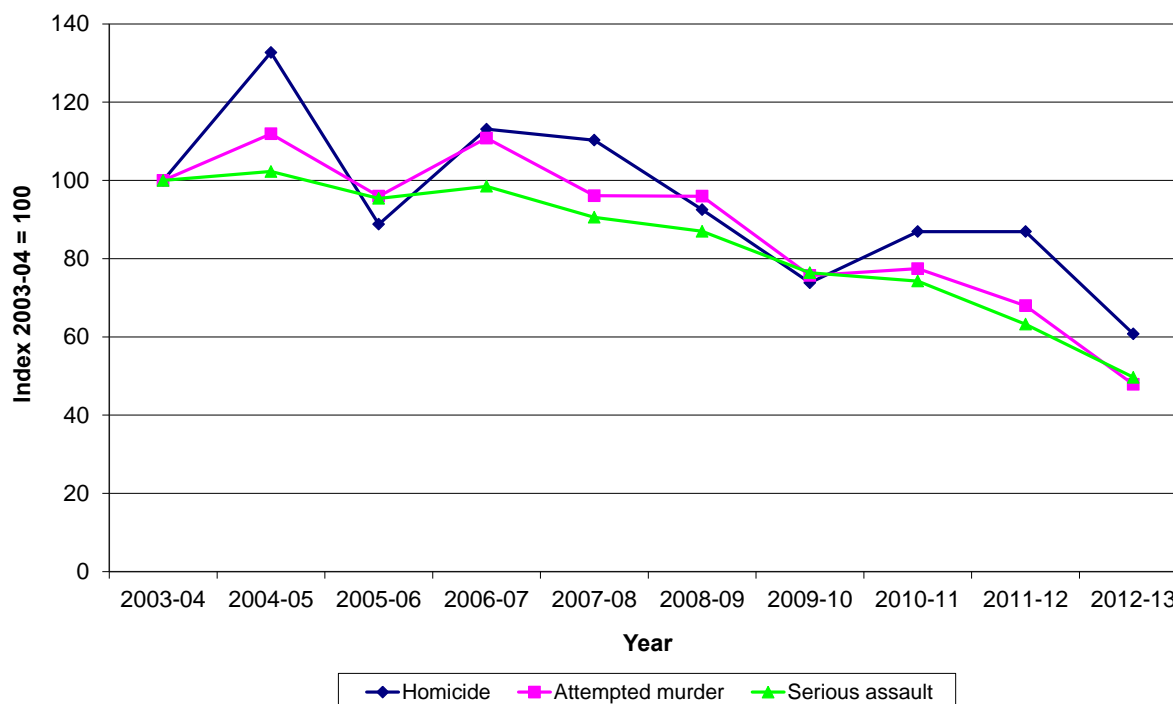
- Grampian Police was the police force to record an increase in homicide cases. Following the one homicide case recorded in the Grampian Police force area in 2011-12, the lowest number in the ten year period covered by this bulletin, there was an increase of four cases to five homicide cases being recorded in 2012-13. The number of homicides recorded in the Dumfries and Galloway Constabulary force area remained the same for the third year in a row, at one case.
- In 2012-13, the most common location for homicides to occur was within a dwelling (69% of all cases) followed by a street or footpath (18% of all cases). In total, 76% of homicides occurred within a residential location, 19% in outdoor public places and 5% in indoor public places. This pattern of homicide locations has remained broadly consistent over the ten year period covered by this bulletin. However, in the last year there was an 11 percentage point increase in the percentage of homicide cases that occurred in residential locations and a corresponding 11 percentage point decrease in the percentage of homicide cases that occurred in outdoor public places. [Chart 3](#) shows the distribution of homicide cases by location between 2003-04 and 2012-13.

Chart 3: Location of homicide cases, where known, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13



- Homicide cases recorded by the police make up only a very small proportion of all recorded crimes of violence, 0.1% in 2012-13. This has remained the same over the ten year period covered by this bulletin, except in 2004-05 when homicide cases accounted for 0.2% of recorded crimes of violence. It can be seen from [Chart 4](#) that the number of recorded homicides by the police has followed a generally downward trend over the ten year period from 2003-04 to 2012-13, following an initial increase between 2003-04 and 2004-05. A similar trend has also been seen for the number of recorded attempted murders and recorded serious assaults. For further information on crimes of violence please see [Note 4.14](#).

Chart 4: Trends in selected crimes of violence¹, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13 (Index 2003-04 = 100)

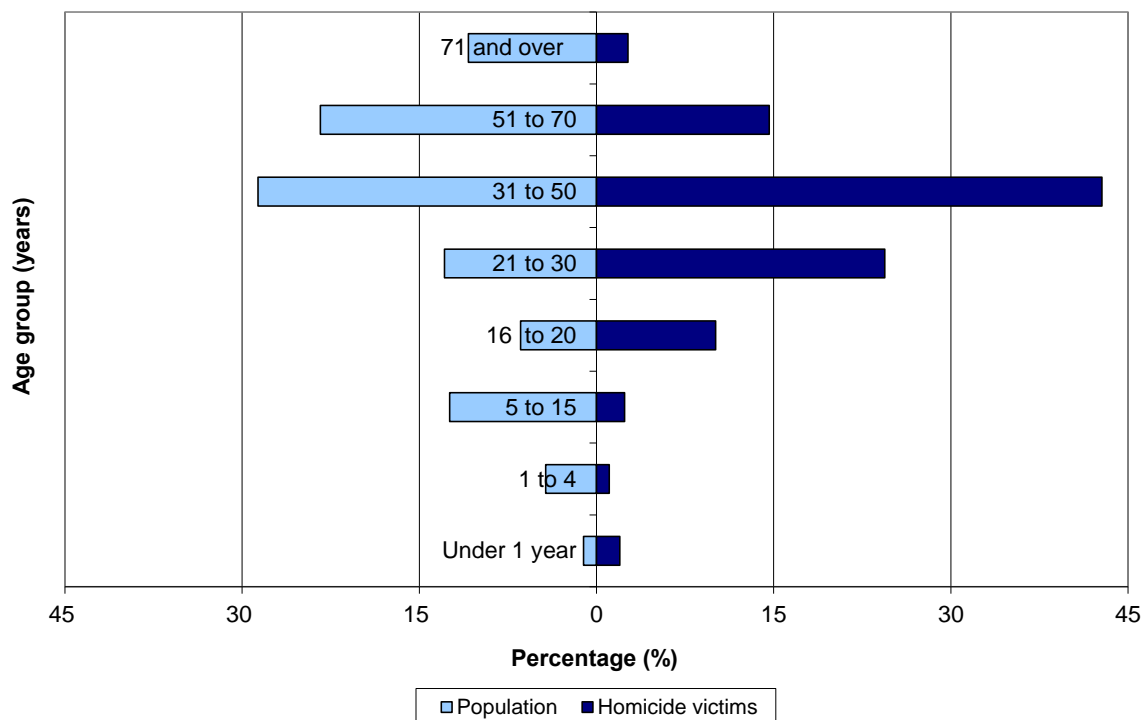


1. The homicide figures provided in this chart are taken from aggregate crime statistics recorded by the police. Due to slight differences in the timing and methods of collection, the aggregated recorded crime figures for homicide may differ slightly from the figures given elsewhere in this bulletin, which are derived from individual returns made in respect of each homicide. For further information on the homicide figures included in this chart please see [Note 4.14](#).

3.2 Victims of homicide ([Table 5](#) and [Charts 5](#) and [6](#))

- In total, there were 62 victims in the 62 homicide cases recorded in 2012-13, 31 fewer victims than in 2011-12. This represented a rate of 12 victims per million population in Scotland. This is a decrease of six victims per million population in Scotland compared to 2011-12. This is the lowest rate of victims per million population in Scotland in the ten year period covered by this bulletin. The next lowest rate was 16 victims per million population in Scotland in 2009-10.
- [Chart 5](#) shows that, although only 29% of the Scottish population between 2003-04 and 2012-13 were aged 31 to 50 years, 43% of all homicide victims were in this age range. In addition, the percentage of homicide victims in the 21 to 30 year age range was greater than the relative percentage of the population by 11 percentage points. It can also be seen that the percentage of homicide victims in the older age ranges, 51 years and over, constituted only 17% of all victims in the period 2003-04 to 2012-13 compared to the 34% of the population these age ranges constituted.

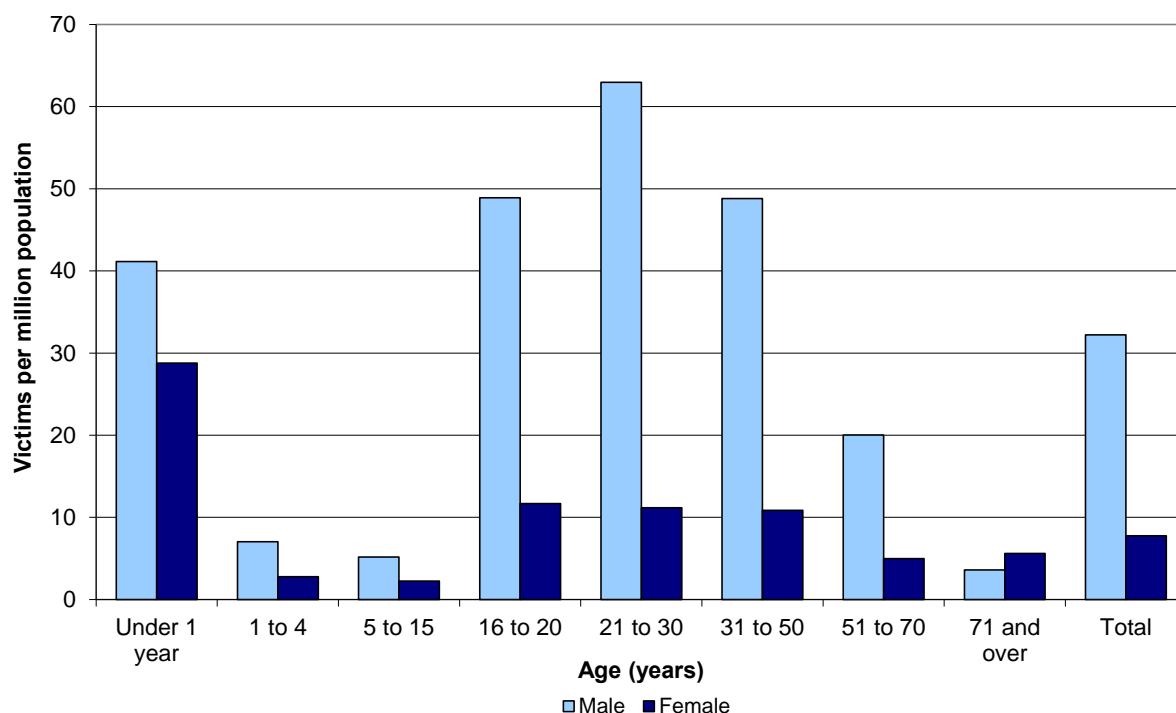
Chart 5: Age profile of homicide victims compared to population¹ profile, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13



1. Population estimates as at mid-year 2003 to 2012 from the National Records of Scotland. (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>)

- In 2012-13, there were 50 male victims, 81% of all homicide victims. The overall homicide rate for males was 19 victims per million population, nearly five times the rate for females which was four victims per million population. For each age range, where there were comparable figures, the homicide rate per million population was greater for males than females in 2012-13. The homicide rates per million population for males, for comparable age ranges, in 2012-13 were at least three times higher than for females.
- The highest homicide rates recorded in 2012-13 for males were in the 21 to 30 and the 31 to 50 year age groups, at 34 and 35 victims per million population respectively. The highest rate for females was in the 31 to 50 year age range, at nine per million population.
- From [Chart 6](#) it can be seen that for the ten year period from 2003-04 to 2012-13 in all age categories, with the exception of the 71 and over age range, the homicide rate was higher for males than females. For males the highest rate of homicide victims per population was for the age range 21 to 30 years. For this age range as well as the two surrounding age ranges, 16 to 20 years and 31 to 50 years, the per population rates were considerably higher for males than females. The highest rate of homicide victims per population for females in the ten year period for 2003-04 to 2012-13 was for the under 1 year age group, at 29 victims per million population.

Chart 6: Homicide victims per million population¹ by age and gender, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13



1. Population estimates as at mid-year 2003 to 2012 from the National Records of Scotland. (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>)

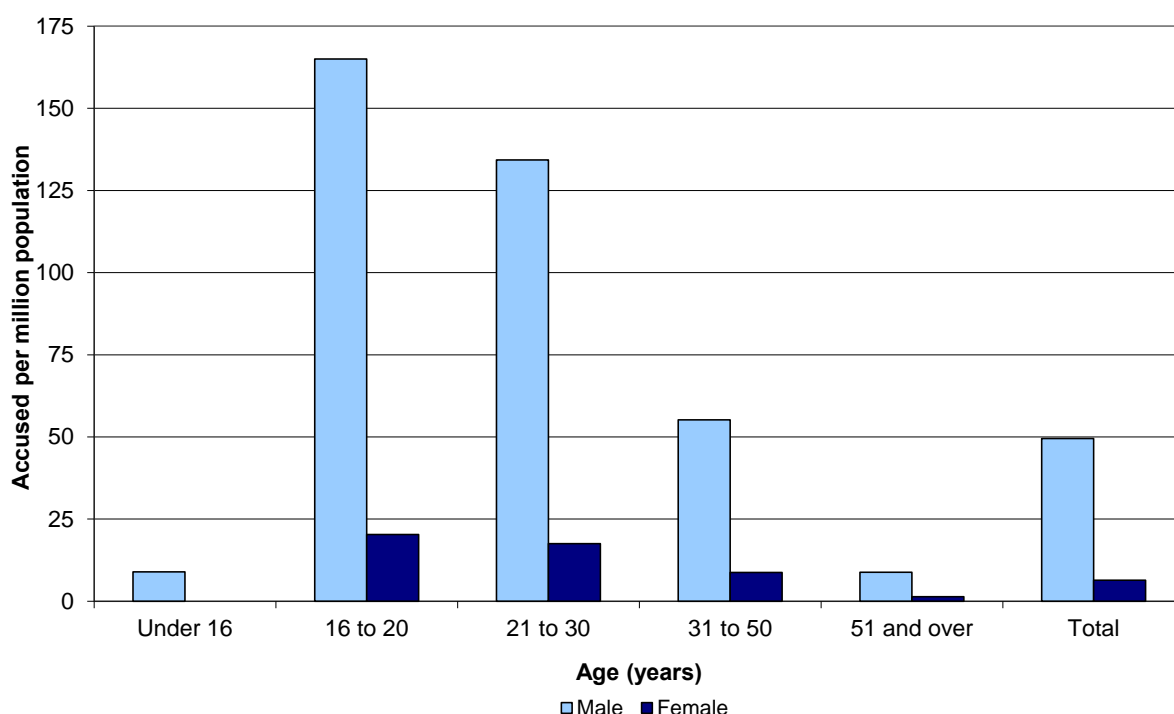
3.3 Persons accused of homicide ([Table 6](#) and [Chart 7](#))

- In the 61 solved homicide cases recorded in 2012-13, 83 persons have been accused as at 1 October 2013, 44 fewer than in 2011-12. This is a decrease of 35% in the number of accused persons. The decrease in the number of persons accused is in line with the decrease in the number of homicide cases as a whole. The majority of accused persons in 2012-13 were male, 80% of the total. Between 2011-12 and 2012-13, there was a decrease of 12 percentage points in the percentage of accused that were male. In 2012-13, 17 females were accused of homicide. This is an increase of seven in the number of females accused compared to 2011-12. In 2012-13, 20% of all accused were female, as was the case in 2010-11. This is the highest percentage of accused who were female in the ten year period covered by this bulletin.
- In 2012-13, the total number of individuals accused of homicide equated to 16 per million population. This is the lowest rate per million population in the ten year period covered by this bulletin and a decrease of eight accused per million population compared to 2011-12.
- The rate was highest for males aged 21 to 30 years, at 82 per million population, followed by males aged 31 to 50 years, at 35 per million population. The highest rate for females related to those aged 21 to 30 years, at 22 per million

population, although it should be noted that the rates for females are based on relatively small numbers of accused.

- [Chart 7](#) clearly shows that amongst all age categories the rates of males accused of homicide per million population were considerably higher than for females in the period from 2003-04 to 2012-13. For both males and females, the age range for which the rate per million population of people accused of homicide was highest was for 16 to 20 year olds, at 165 per million population for males and 20 per million population for females. The rate for males was over eight times higher than for females. It can be seen that males aged 16 to 30 years are most likely to be accused in homicide cases. In the period from 2003-04 to 2012-13, no females under the age of 16 were accused of homicide.

Chart 7: Person accused of homicide per million population¹ by age and gender, Scotland, 2003-2004 to 2012-13

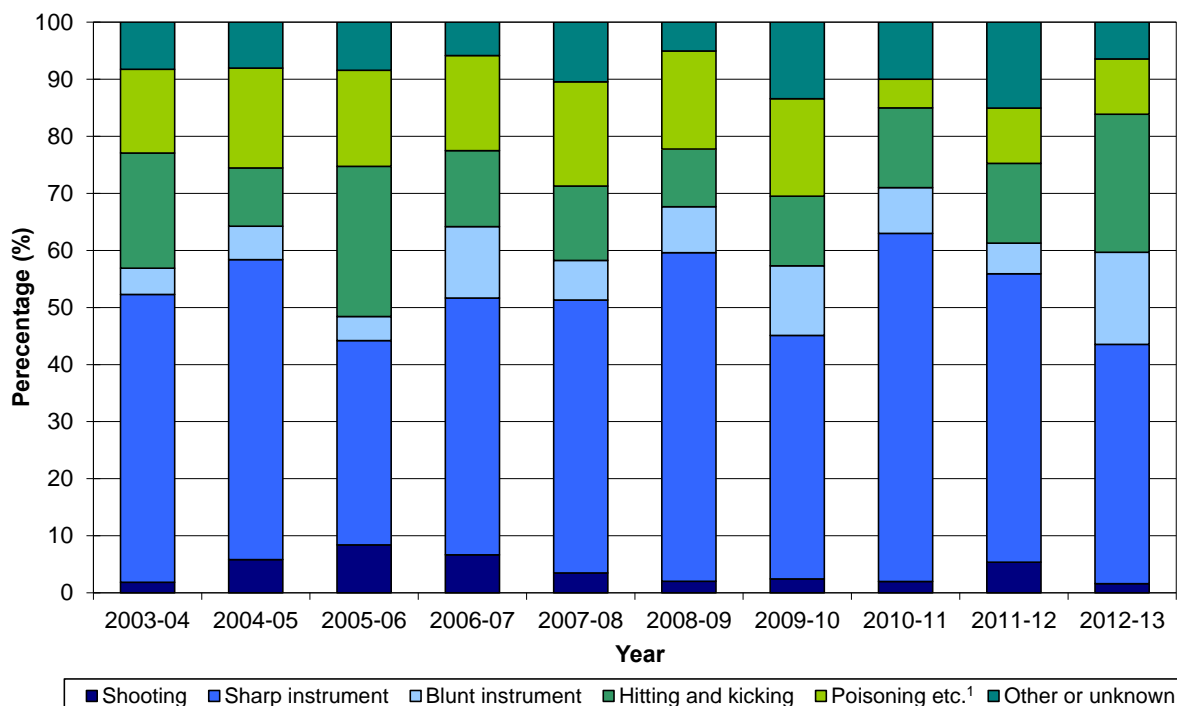


1. Population estimates as at mid-year 2003 to 2012 from the National Records of Scotland. (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>)

3.4 Method ([Table 7](#) and [Charts 8](#) and [9](#))

- The most common main method of killing in each of the last ten years was with a sharp instrument. For the definition of a sharp instrument please see [Note 4.10](#). From [Chart 8](#) it can be seen that a sharp instrument was the main method of killing in around half of all homicides each year over this period. Shooting was the main method of killing in a consistently small number of homicides over the period from 2003-04 to 2012-13.

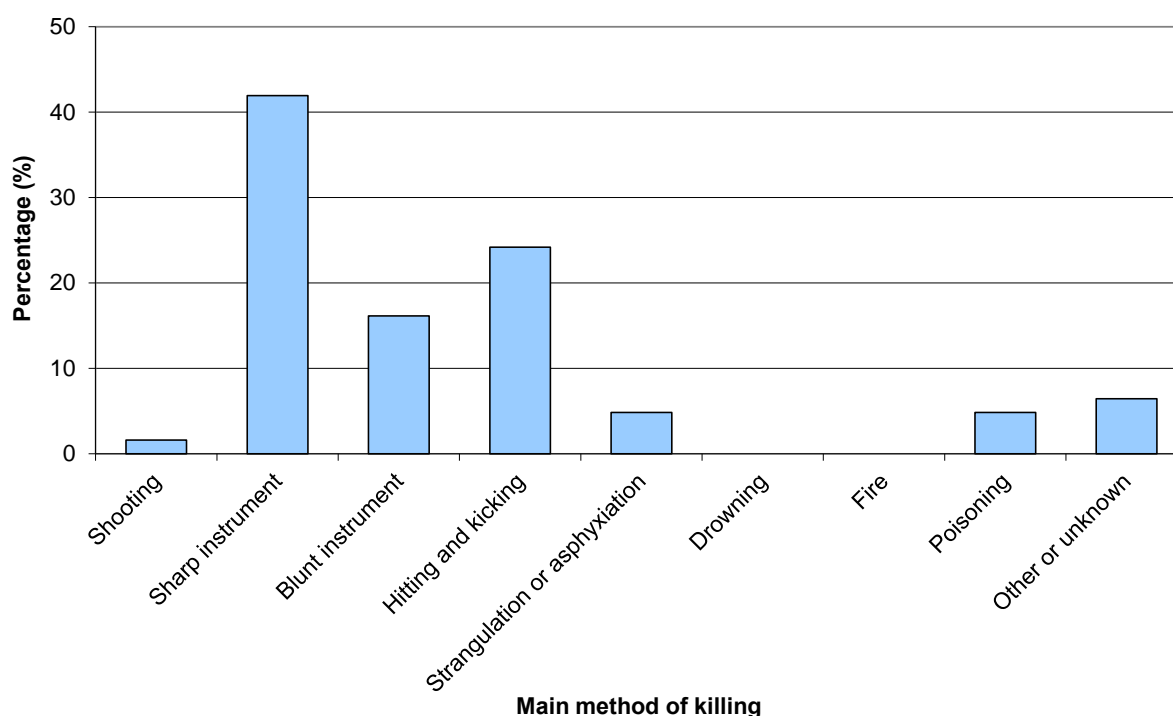
Chart 8: Victims of homicide by main method of killing, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13



1. The poisoning etc. category includes the following main methods of killing: strangulation or asphyxiation, drowning, fire, and poisoning.

- In 2012-13, a sharp instrument was the main method of killing for 26 (42%) of the homicide victims. This is a decrease of nine percentage points in the percentage of victims where the main method of killing was with a sharp instrument compared to 2011-12. Whilst this figure is down compared to 2011-12, sharp instruments were still the main method of killing in over one and a half times as many homicides as the next most common main method of killing, which in 2012-13, was hitting and kicking. The distribution of the main methods of killing in 2012-13 can be seen in [Chart 9](#).
- Sharp instruments were the most common main method of killing for both male and female victims. For females, a sharp instrument was the most common main method of killing jointly with strangulation or asphyxiation. For male victims, the next most common main method of killing was hitting and kicking, affecting 26% of male victims.

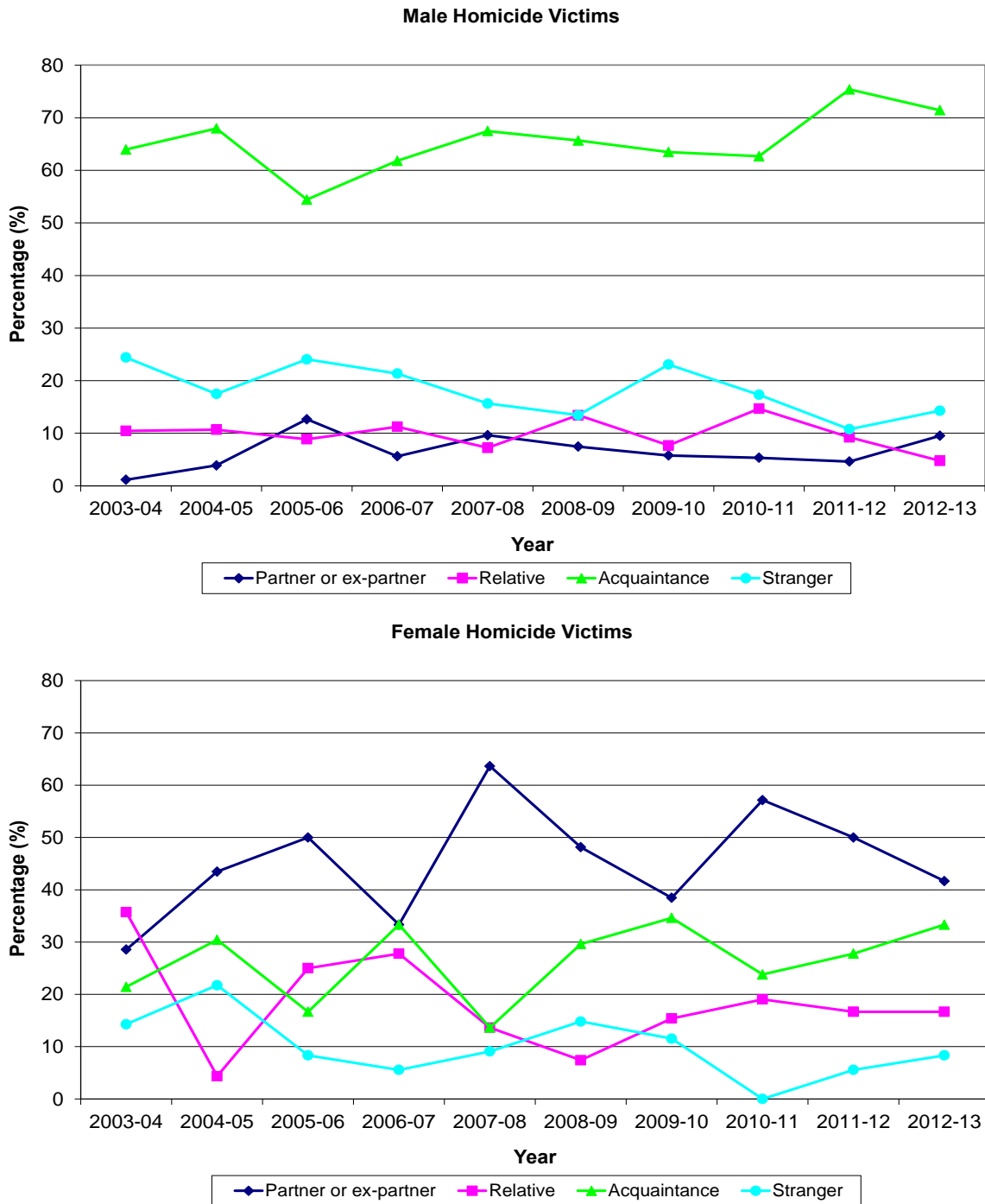
Chart 9: Victims of homicide by main method of killing, Scotland, 2012-13



3.5 Relationship of main accused to victim (Tables [8](#), [9](#) and [10](#), and Charts [10](#) and [11](#))

- For 47 of the homicide victims recorded in 2012-13, the main accused was known to them either as an acquaintance (56%), a partner or ex-partner (15%) or a relative (7%). Seven victims were killed by a stranger, 11% of all victims. For the remaining 11% of victims in solved cases, the relationship of the main accused and victim was unknown.
- [Chart 10](#) presents the trends over the last ten years in the percentage of homicides for male and female victims by their relationship to the main accused. The highest percentage of male victims was consistently for those killed by an acquaintance. For female victims the largest percentage was almost always for killed by a partner or ex-partner. There are more fluctuations in the percentage of the relationships of the accused to female victims due to the smaller number of female victims compared to male victims.
- A total of 54 children under the age of 16 years were victims of homicide between 2003-04 and 2012-13. Of these, 56% were killed by one of their parents. For the 20 victims aged under one year old, where there was an accused person, the main accused was either a parent (85%), other relative (10%), or the relationship between the victim and the accused was unknown (5%).

Chart 10: Victims of homicide by gender and relationship to main accused, where relationship known, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

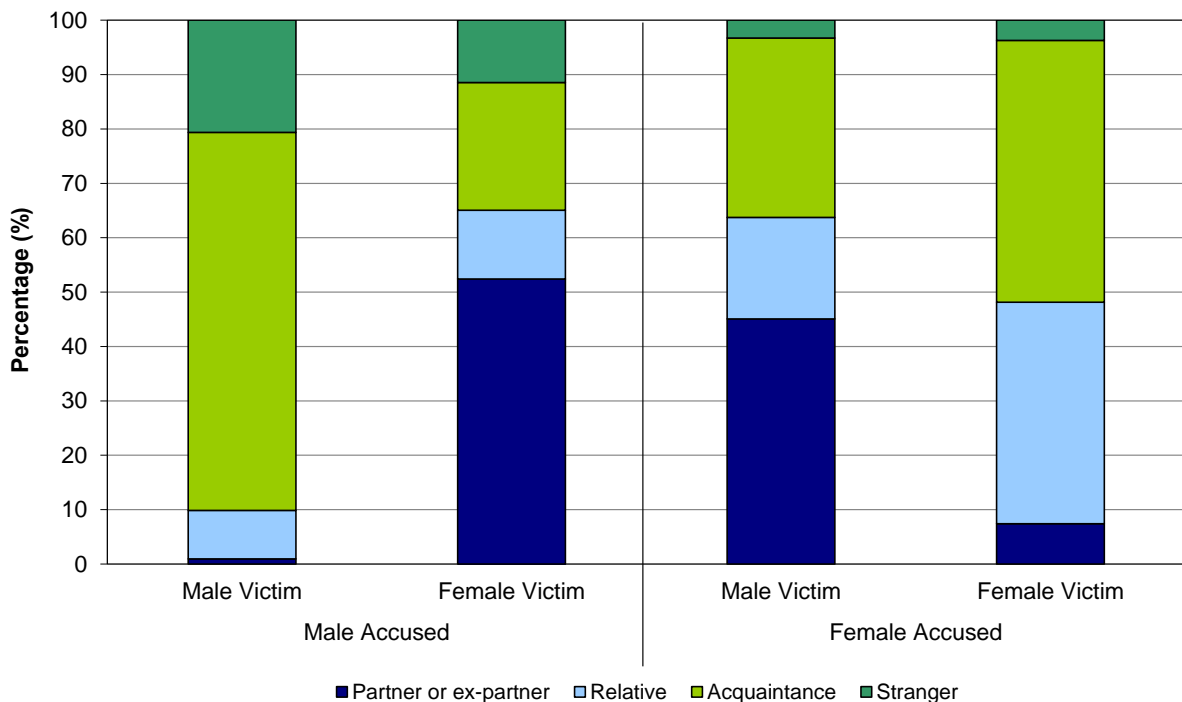


- For homicides recorded in the last ten years, 50% of the female victims aged between 16 and 70 years were killed by their partner or ex-partner, 29% were killed by an acquaintance and 8% were killed by a stranger. For male victims aged 16 to 70 years, only 6% were killed by their partner or ex-partner. Nearly two thirds (63%) of male victims aged 16 to 70 years were killed by an acquaintance and 17% were killed by a stranger.
- Of the 27 people aged 71 and over, who were victims of homicide in the ten year period covered by this bulletin, 19 were female and eight were male. Older

people were most likely to be killed by either their son or daughter (eight victims) or a stranger (six victims). Of the eight victims killed by their son or daughter, seven were female. Acquaintances killed five older people, four of whom were male victims, and partners or ex-partners killed four older people, all of whom were female victims.

- The majority of solved homicide cases (70%) recorded between 2003-04 and 2012-13 involved males killing males. Cases where the main accused and main victim were both female accounted for just 3% of the total number of homicide cases recorded in this period.
- [Chart 11](#) shows a breakdown of the relationship, where the relationship is known, between the main accused and victim. In over two thirds of cases (70%) where a male was accused of killing another male, the victim and accused were acquaintances, whereas only 48% of females accused of killing another female were acquaintances. In 45% of cases where a female was accused of killing a male, the accused and victim were partners or ex-partners. This was also the relationship in just over half (52%) of cases where a male was accused of killing a female.

Chart 11: Relationship between main accused and victim, where relationship known, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13



3.6 Main motive (Tables [11](#), [12](#), [13](#) and [14](#))

- The most common reasons recorded for committing homicide in the ten year period between 2003-04 and 2012-13, were fight or quarrel, and rage or fury, with just under half (48%) of all victims killed in such circumstances. In 2012-13, this figure was 30 victims (49%), 22 for whom the main motive was fight or quarrel.

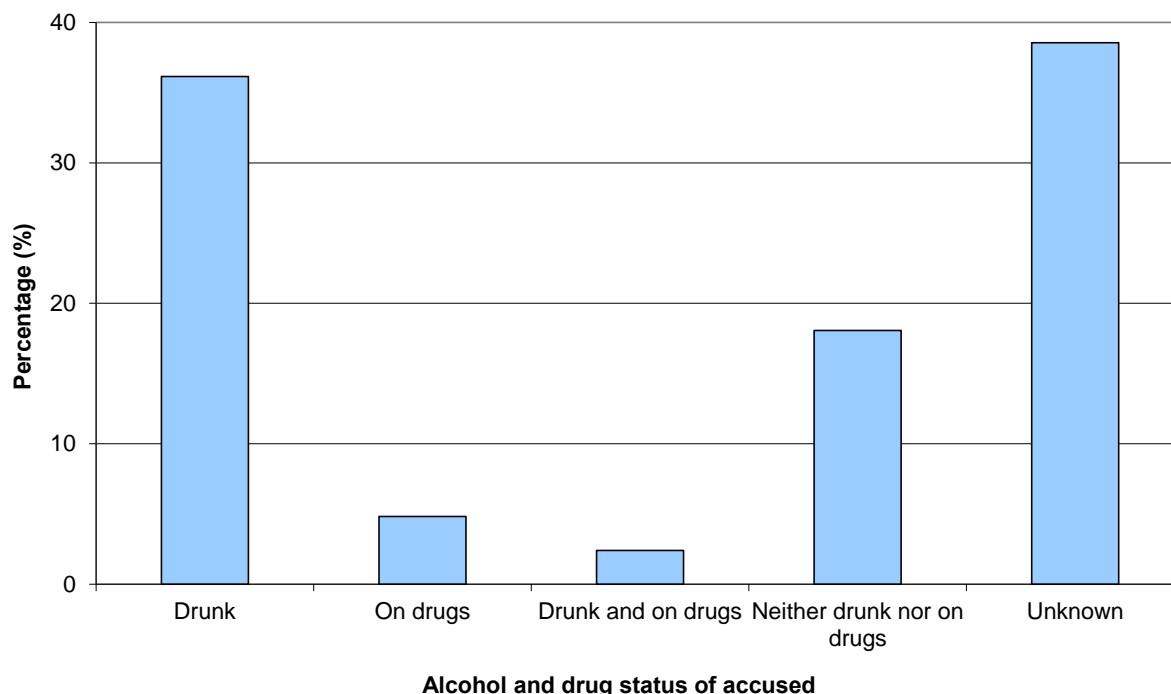
- In 2012-13, the main motive in the killing of 39% of male victims was fight or quarrel. The next most common known motives for killing male victims were rage or fury, or financial, each accounting for 14% of male victims. Due to the small number of female victims of homicide in 2012-13, there are no clear patterns in the main motives of these homicides.
- In the period 2003-04 to 2012-13, 78% of all female victims were killed in dwellings, compared with 53% of males. The most common set of circumstances in which females become victims of homicide are in a dwelling, in a rage or fight with a partner or ex-partner (17% of female victims in solved cases). Location is less of a factor for male victims, whose killings are more typically a result of a rage or fight with an acquaintance.
- Ten victims were reported to have been killed in drug-related homicide cases in 2012-13. Eight of the ten victims were male. One of the homicides recorded in 2012-13 was reported to have had a homophobic motivation. There were no homicides in 2012-13 where there was a racial motivation.

3.7 Alcohol and drug status (Tables [15](#), [16](#), and [17](#), and [Chart 12](#))

- More than two fifths (43%) of the total of 83 persons accused in homicide cases in 2012-13 were reported to have been drunk and/or under the influence of drugs at the time of the homicide. Of these 83, 30 (36%) were drunk, 4 (5%) were on drugs, and 2 (2%) were both drunk and on drugs. This represents 71% of accused persons for whom the alcohol and drug status was known.
- In 2012-13, the alcohol and drug status of the accused was unknown for 32 persons, 39% of the total number of accused. This is an increase of 21 percentage points in the percentage of those accused in 2012-13 compared to 2011-12 for whom the alcohol and drug status was unknown. Only 15 accused persons (18%) were reported to have been neither drunk nor under the influence of drugs at the time of the homicide. The distribution of the alcohol and drug status of persons accused in homicide cases in 2012-13 can be seen in [Chart 12](#).
- In the ten year period between 2003-04 and 2012-13, half of all accused were reported to have been drunk and/or under the influence of drugs at the time of the homicide. For males accused it was also half, but for females it was marginally higher at 54%. When looking at only accused persons for whom the alcohol and drug status was known, the percentages for all accused and for males were both 78%. The percentage for females is again marginally higher at 81%. The pattern across the different age ranges is the same, with the exception of the under 16 age group. As should be expected within this age group, the percentage of accused persons reported to have been drunk and/or on drugs at the time of the homicide is lower, at 26%. When those accused whose alcohol and drug status was unknown are excluded, the percentage increased to 46%.
- In 2012-13, 83% of cases where the main accused was drunk and/or on drugs, the victim was also known to have been drunk and/or on drugs. Where the main motive for a homicide was a rage or fight, 86% of the main accused for whom the

alcohol and drug status was known, were drunk and/or on drugs. In 84% of such cases, the victim was also drunk and/or on drugs at the time the homicide took place.

Chart 12: Alcohol and drug status of homicide accused, Scotland, 2012-13



3.8 International comparisons of homicide rates ([Table 18](#))

- A number of international organisations, including [Eurostat](#), have attempted to collate international homicide statistics. It is important to note that there are issues surrounding the comparability of international homicide data. There are different definitions of homicide between countries, although definitions vary less than for some other types of crimes. Furthermore, there are differing points in criminal justice systems at which homicides are recorded, i.e. when the offence is discovered or following further investigation. The Eurostat figures are for completed homicides but, in some countries, the police register any death that cannot immediately be attributed to other causes, as homicide. It may, therefore, be over represented in the statistics.
- Eurostat's most recently published figures compare homicide rates per 100,000 population averaged over the years 2005 to 2007 and 2008 to 2010. [Table 18](#) contains the homicide rates per 100,000 population for the 28 European Union (EU) member states as well as the EU candidate states and the states that are part of the European Free Trade Association.
- Scotland's average homicide rate for 2005 to 2007 was 2.18 victims per 100,000 population, which fell to 1.74 victims per 100,000 population for 2008 to 2010. For both time periods the rates were higher than the corresponding rates in England and Wales which were, 1.43 per 100,000 population falling to 1.17 per 100,000 population and in Northern Ireland, 1.60 per 100,000 population falling to 1.42 per 100,000 population. An average homicide rate of 1.74 victims per

100,000 population for 2008 to 2010 places Scotland in the upper third of EU member states.

- Amongst EU Member states, there was a decrease in the average homicide rate per population between 2005 to 2007 and 2008 to 2010, in all but four countries. The average homicide rate increased in Malta, Greece and Denmark. The average homicide rate remained the same in the Netherlands. The decrease seen in Scotland in the number of homicide victims per population between 2005 to 2007 and 2008 to 2010 is amongst the highest in terms of the decrease in the number of homicide victims per population amongst the EU member states.

Table 1: Homicide cases¹ by number of victims and accused persons, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

	Number									
Homicide cases, victims and accused	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Total number of cases	108	134	95	119	115	97	80	98	91	62
Cases by number of victims:										
1	107	132	95	118	115	95	78	97	90	62
2	1	1	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-
3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Total number of victims	109	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	62
Total number of victims per million population²	22	27	19	23	22	19	16	19	18	12
Cases by number of accused:										
1	73	93	68	90	88	67	53	68	66	45
2	25	27	12	14	16	19	20	19	13	10
3	6	8	6	7	5	5	3	5	6	6
4	-	3	2	5	2	3	1	4	3	-
5	3	1	1	2	-	-	1	1	1	-
6	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
unsolved	1	2	3	1	3	3	1	1	2	1
Total number of accused	156	188	141	169	149	132	121	142	127	83

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

2. Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland:

<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>.

Table 2: Homicide cases¹ by Police Force Area, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Police Force Area (and selected councils)	Number									
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Central	1	6	3	4	3	5	3	3	4	2
Dumfries & Galloway	3	3	3	-	1	2	-	1	1	1
Fife	3	3	2	5	7	5	5	3	5	2
Grampian	7	9	3	9	6	8	6	6	1	5
Aberdeen City	5	5	2	5	4	6	3	1	-	2
Lothian & Borders	16	22	10	16	19	7	12	20	14	4
City of Edinburgh	6	11	9	11	11	4	7	12	7	2
Northern	1	5	4	5	6	4	3	4	4	1
Strathclyde	73	82	62	76	66	59	44	61	52	39
Glasgow City	33	39	32	33	30	24	20	26	16	19
Tayside	4	4	8	4	7	7	7	-	10	8
Dundee City	2	2	6	3	2	3	3	-	2	6
Scotland	108	134	95	119	115	97	80	98	91	62

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

Table 3: Location of homicide cases¹, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Location	Number									
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Residential	74	78	48	78	73	59	52	67	59	47
House, dwelling, etc.	63	69	45	73	63	51	49	62	56	43
Garden of house	3	2	1	1	3	3	1	1	-	2
Close, common stair	6	5	1	3	5	3	2	4	1	2
Hostel, hotel, lodging house	2	2	1	1	2	2	-	-	2	-
Public places indoors	8	4	6	8	6	1	3	3	5	3
Licensed premises (bar, club, etc.)	4	2	2	2	2	.	1	.	.	.
Other commercial premises	2	2	4	3	3	1	2	2	4	2
School, hospital, church	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	1
Transport (car, train, taxi, etc.)	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Public places outdoors	25	50	39	33	34	37	25	28	27	12
Street or footpath	21	44	32	28	26	27	22	22	22	11
Open outdoor area	4	6	7	5	8	10	3	6	5	1
Unknown	1	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Total	108	134	95	119	115	97	80	98	91	62

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

Table 4: Selected crimes of violence recorded by the police¹, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Crime/Offence	Number & Percentage									
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Homicide ²	107	142	95	121	118	99	79	93	93	65
Attempted Murder	740	828	710	820	711	710	560	573	503	354
Serious assault ³	6,625	6,775	6,320	6,525	6,000	5,762	5,061	4,920	4,190	3,289
Robbery	4,161	3,736	3,553	3,578	3,064	2,963	2,496	2,557	2,244	1,832
Abduction ⁴	341	393	396	381	293	330	277	263	221	230
Rape & attempted rape	1,037	1,109	1,161	1,123	1,053	963	996	1,131	1,274	1,462
Sexual assault ⁵	3,257	3,470	3,392	3,452	3,502	3,297	3,412	3,220	2,908	3,008
Common assault ^{3,6}	57,355	73,711	72,281	78,167	73,523	74,130	72,212	70,786	69,253	60,955
Total violent crime	73,623	90,164	87,908	94,167	88,264	88,254	85,093	83,543	80,686	71,195
Homicide as a percentage of all violent crime	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Notes:

1. Violent crime is defined here to be crimes and offences included in the categories shown in the above table. For further information please see [Note 4.14](#).
2. The homicide figures provided in this table are taken from aggregate recorded crime statistics reported by the police and comprise the crimes of Murder and Culpable homicide only. Due to slight differences in the timing and methods of collection, the aggregated crime figures for homicide may differ slightly from the figures given elsewhere in this bulletin, which are derived from individual returns made in respect of each homicide.
3. For the distinction between Serious assault and Common assault please see [Note 4.15](#).
4. Abduction includes the crimes of Child stealing (plagium) and Abduction.
5. Sexual assault includes the following categories of crimes: contact Sexual assault (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+), Sexually coercive conduct (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+), Sexual offences against children under 13 years and Lewd and libidinous practices.
6. Common assault includes the offences of Common assault and Common assault of an emergency worker.

Table 5: Age and gender of homicide victims¹ by rate per million population², Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Age and gender of victim	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	Number:									
All victims	109	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	62
Under 1 year	4	4	3	1	2	2	-	3	-	1
1 to 4	-	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	-	-
5 to 15	4	4	1	3	2	2	1	3	3	1
16 to 20	9	12	11	14	14	10	9	14	9	-
21 to 30	29	41	18	36	24	24	18	21	23	13
31 to 50	46	48	48	44	50	47	37	42	39	32
51 to 70	15	21	11	18	18	10	15	15	11	14
71 and over	2	3	2	3	3	3	1	1	8	1
Male victims	94	110	82	100	91	71	55	79	73	50
Under 1 year	2	4	1	-	-	1	-	3	-	1
1 to 4	-	3	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
5 to 15	3	3	1	2	1	2	-	2	2	1
16 to 20	7	9	9	14	12	6	6	12	8	-
21 to 30	27	36	14	31	20	21	16	16	17	12
31 to 50	42	40	44	36	41	33	24	34	31	25
51 to 70	13	15	11	15	15	7	8	12	10	11
71 and over	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	5	-
Female victims	15	27	13	20	24	28	27	21	20	12
Under 1 year	2	-	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
1 to 4	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
5 to 15	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-
16 to 20	2	3	2	-	2	4	3	2	1	-
21 to 30	2	5	4	5	4	3	2	5	6	1
31 to 50	4	8	4	8	9	14	13	8	8	7
51 to 70	2	6	-	3	3	3	7	3	1	3
71 and over	2	3	1	2	2	3	1	1	3	1
	Rate per million population:									
All victims	22	27	19	23	22	19	16	19	18	12
Under 1 year	77	75	55	18	35	34	-	51	-	17
1 to 4	-	19	5	5	9	4	4	4	-	-
5 to 15	6	6	2	5	3	3	2	5	5	2
16 to 20	28	37	33	42	42	30	27	42	26	-
21 to 30	47	67	29	56	36	35	26	30	33	18
31 to 50	31	32	32	29	34	32	25	29	26	22
51 to 70	13	18	9	15	15	8	12	12	9	11
71 and over	4	6	4	5	5	5	2	2	14	2
Male victims	39	45	33	40	37	28	22	31	28	19
Under 1 year	76	145	36	-	-	33	-	100	-	33
1 to 4	-	28	9	9	9	9	9	-	-	-
5 to 15	9	9	3	6	3	6	-	6	6	3
16 to 20	43	54	53	82	70	35	35	71	46	-
21 to 30	88	118	45	96	60	61	45	44	49	34
31 to 50	58	55	61	50	57	46	34	49	43	35
51 to 70	24	27	20	26	26	12	14	20	16	17
71 and over	-	-	5	5	5	-	-	-	21	-
Female victims	6	10	5	8	9	10	10	8	7	4
Under 1 year	79	-	76	37	72	34	-	-	-	-
1 to 4	-	10	-	-	9	-	-	9	-	-
5 to 15	3	3	-	3	3	-	3	3	3	-
16 to 20	13	19	12	-	12	25	18	12	6	-
21 to 30	6	16	13	16	12	9	6	14	17	3
31 to 50	5	10	5	10	12	18	17	11	11	9
51 to 70	3	10	-	5	5	5	11	5	2	4
71 and over	6	9	3	6	6	9	3	3	9	3

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
2. Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>.

Table 6: Age and gender of persons accused of homicide¹ by rate per million population², Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Age and gender of accused	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	Number:									
All accused	156	188	141	169	149	132	121	142	127	83
Under 16	4	8	4	7	3	4	5	4	3	-
16 to 20	29	35	45	49	32	30	28	34	27	4
21 to 30	70	71	44	60	50	43	44	42	45	37
31 to 50	48	62	44	42	55	48	31	58	46	29
51 and over	5	12	4	11	9	7	13	4	6	13
Male accused	146	169	123	156	131	114	101	114	117	66
Under 16	4	8	4	7	3	4	5	4	3	-
16 to 20	26	33	43	48	26	26	23	26	25	4
21 to 30	65	64	35	54	44	40	39	37	41	29
31 to 50	46	54	38	37	50	37	23	44	42	25
51 and over	5	10	3	10	8	7	11	3	6	8
Female accused	10	19	18	13	18	18	20	28	10	17
Under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 to 20	3	2	2	1	6	4	5	8	2	-
21 to 30	5	7	9	6	6	3	5	5	4	8
31 to 50	2	8	6	5	5	11	8	14	4	4
51 and over	-	2	1	1	1	-	2	1	-	5
	Rate per million population:									
All accused	31	37	28	33	29	26	23	27	24	16
Under 16	4	9	4	8	3	4	5	4	3	-
16 to 20	90	107	135	147	96	90	84	102	79	12
21 to 30	114	116	71	94	76	63	63	59	64	52
31 to 50	32	41	29	28	37	33	21	40	31	20
51 and over	3	7	2	6	5	4	7	2	3	7
Male accused	60	69	50	63	53	46	40	45	46	26
Under 16	8	17	8	15	6	9	11	9	6	-
16 to 20	159	197	253	282	152	151	135	153	145	24
21 to 30	213	209	113	168	133	117	110	102	118	82
31 to 50	63	74	52	51	70	52	33	63	58	35
51 and over	7	13	4	13	10	9	13	4	7	9
Female accused	4	7	7	5	7	7	7	10	4	6
Under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 to 20	19	12	12	6	37	25	31	49	12	-
21 to 30	16	23	29	19	18	9	15	14	11	22
31 to 50	3	10	8	6	6	14	11	19	5	5
51 and over	-	2	1	1	1	-	2	1	-	5

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
2. Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>.

Table 7: Victims of homicide¹ by gender and main method of killing², Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

	Number									
Gender of victim and main method of killing	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All victims	109	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	62
Shooting	2	8	8	8	4	2	2	2	5	1
Sharp instrument	55	72	34	54	55	57	35	61	47	26
Blunt instrument	5	8	4	15	8	8	10	8	5	10
Hitting and kicking	22	14	25	16	15	10	10	14	13	15
Strangulation or asphyxiation	5	10	4	3	6	5	7	2	1	3
Drowning	-	1	-	1	2	1	-	2	1	-
Fire	3	1	3	3	1	3	4	-	4	-
Poisoning	8	12	9	13	12	8	3	1	3	3
Other or unknown	9	11	8	7	12	5	11	10	14	4
Male victims	94	110	82	100	91	71	55	79	73	50
Shooting	1	8	7	8	4	2	1	2	4	1
Sharp instrument	51	61	31	46	49	49	27	48	38	23
Blunt instrument	5	7	4	11	5	4	7	7	4	8
Hitting and kicking	22	11	23	15	12	5	8	12	11	13
Strangulation or asphyxiation	3	5	3	1	2	1	-	2	1	-
Drowning	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-
Fire	2	1	3	2	1	1	3	-	3	-
Poisoning	7	9	8	11	10	6	2	-	2	2
Other or unknown	3	7	3	5	7	3	7	7	9	3
Female victims	15	27	13	20	24	28	27	21	20	12
Shooting	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Sharp instrument	4	11	3	8	6	8	8	13	9	3
Blunt instrument	-	1	-	4	3	4	3	1	1	2
Hitting and kicking	-	3	2	1	3	5	2	2	2	2
Strangulation or asphyxiation	2	5	1	2	4	4	7	-	-	3
Drowning	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
Fire	1	-	-	1	-	2	1	-	1	-
Poisoning	1	3	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Other or unknown	6	4	5	2	5	2	4	3	5	1

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
2. For further information on the main method of killing please see [Note 4.10](#).

Table 8: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by gender of victims, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Gender of victim and relationship of main accused to victim	Number									
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All victims	109	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	62
All victims - solved cases	108	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	61
Son or daughter	6	1	5	5	5	1	4	4	5	2
Parent	3	6	2	2	2	6	1	7	2	2
Partner or ex-partner	5	14	16	11	22	18	13	16	12	9
Other relative	5	5	3	8	2	4	3	4	2	-
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	36	40	20	34	32	33	31	36	35	25
Business or criminal associate	5	5	3	3	4	-	1	-	3	1
Rival gang member	2	6	2	5	2	3	1	2	2	-
Other known person	15	26	20	19	21	16	9	14	14	8
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	3	6	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	20	17	18	20	13	11	14	13	8	7
Unknown	8	9	1	12	7	2	3	3	6	7
Male victims - solved cases	93	108	80	99	89	68	54	78	70	49
Son or daughter	3	1	4	2	4	1	-	2	3	-
Parent	1	5	1	1	0	4	1	5	2	2
Partner or ex-partner	1	4	10	5	8	5	3	4	3	4
Other relative	5	5	2	7	2	4	3	4	1	-
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	35	34	19	31	30	27	25	32	33	21
Business or criminal associate	4	5	3	3	4	-	1	-	2	1
Rival gang member	2	6	2	5	2	3	1	2	2	-
Other known person	14	25	19	16	20	14	6	13	12	8
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	3	5	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	18	13	17	19	11	7	11	13	7	6
Unknown	7	5	1	10	6	1	2	3	5	7
Female victims - solved cases	15	27	12	20	23	28	27	21	19	12
Son or daughter	3	-	1	3	1	-	4	2	2	2
Parent	2	1	1	1	2	2	-	2	-	-
Partner or ex-partner	4	10	6	6	14	13	10	12	9	5
Other relative	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Acquaintance:										
Friend or social acquaintance	1	6	1	3	2	6	6	4	2	4
Business or criminal associate	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Rival gang member	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other known person	1	1	1	3	1	2	3	1	2	-
Stranger:										
Victim known to accused	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim unknown to accused	2	4	1	1	2	4	3	-	1	1
Unknown	1	4	-	2	1	1	1	-	1	-

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the main accused and the victim please see [Note 4.11](#).
2. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

Table 9: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by age and gender of victims, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Age and gender of victim	Relationship of main accused to victim							Total
	Son or daughter	Parent	Partner or ex-partner	Other relative	Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown	
All victims - solved cases	38	33	136	36	534	157	58	992
Under 1 year	-	17	-	2	-	-	1	20
1 to 4	-	7	-	-	3	1	-	11
5 to 15	-	6	1	-	7	8	1	23
16 to 20	-	-	10	1	63	22	6	102
21 to 30	-	2	32	11	137	43	15	240
31 to 50	13	1	70	16	243	54	25	422
51 to 70	17	-	19	5	76	23	7	147
71 and over	8	-	4	1	5	6	3	27
Male victims - solved cases	20	22	47	33	482	137	47	788
Under 1 year	-	10	-	1	-	-	1	12
1 to 4	-	5	-	-	3	-	-	8
5 to 15	-	5	-	-	5	7	-	17
16 to 20	-	-	2	1	54	21	5	83
21 to 30	-	1	12	10	127	42	13	205
31 to 50	8	1	26	16	222	45	21	339
51 to 70	11	-	7	5	67	20	6	116
71 and over	1	-	-	-	4	2	1	8
Female victims - solved cases	18	11	89	3	52	20	11	204
Under 1 year	-	7	-	1	-	-	-	8
1 to 4	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	3
5 to 15	-	1	1	-	2	1	1	6
16 to 20	-	-	8	-	9	1	1	19
21 to 30	-	1	20	1	10	1	2	35
31 to 50	5	-	44	-	21	9	4	83
51 to 70	6	-	12	-	9	3	1	31
71 and over	7	-	4	1	1	4	2	19

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the main accused and the victim please see [Note 4.11](#).
2. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

Table 10: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by gender of victim and main accused, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

		Relationship of main accused to victim					Number
Gender of main accused	Gender of victim	Partner or ex-partner	Relative ³	Acquaintance	Stranger	Not known	Total
All accused	All victims - solved cases	136	107	534	157	58	992
Male	Male - solved cases	6	58	452	134	44	694
	Female - solved cases	87	21	39	19	11	177
Female	Male - solved cases	41	17	30	3	3	94
	Female - solved cases	2	11	13	1	-	27

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the main accused and the victim please see [Note 4.11](#).
2. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
3. The relative category includes: son or daughter, parent and other relative.

Table 11: Victims of homicide¹ by gender² and main motive³ for killing, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

	Number									
Gender of victim and main motive	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All victims	109	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	62
All victims - solved cases	108	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	61
Rage or fury	20	22	10	14	23	10	13	20	5	8
Fight or quarrel	41	43	35	34	33	33	27	29	38	22
Jealousy	1	4	4	3	6	6	3	8	2	3
Sexual	2	1	2	3	1	3	4	-	2	-
Financial (theft or gain)	4	6	2	3	1	9	3	8	8	8
Feud, faction rivalry	8	16	11	14	8	8	6	5	8	3
Insanity	-	3	-	3	1	2	1	3	5	1
Contract killing	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Suicide pact or mercy killing	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	1	2
Other	17	14	10	15	20	7	7	7	8	-
Unknown	14	26	16	28	18	17	17	17	12	14
Male victims² - solved cases	93	108	80	99	89	68	54	78	70	49
Rage or fury	17	17	8	12	19	6	7	14	2	7
Fight or quarrel	40	38	33	32	28	29	22	27	36	19
Jealousy	-	2	3	1	5	2	1	4	1	1
Sexual	2	1	1	-	-	2	2	-	1	-
Financial (theft or gain)	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	7	5	7
Feud, faction rivalry	7	15	10	14	8	8	6	5	8	3
Insanity	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	2	-
Contract killing	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Suicide pact or mercy killing	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	1
Other	12	12	7	13	15	5	5	5	5	-
Unknown	12	19	14	23	13	10	9	13	9	11
Female victims² - solved cases	15	27	12	20	23	28	27	21	19	12
Rage or fury	3	5	2	2	4	4	6	6	3	1
Fight or quarrel	1	5	2	2	5	4	5	2	2	3
Jealousy	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	4	1	2
Sexual	-	-	1	3	1	1	2	-	1	-
Financial (theft or gain)	2	3	-	1	-	6	1	1	3	1
Feud, faction rivalry	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Insanity	-	2	-	2	1	-	1	2	3	1
Contract killing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide pact or mercy killing	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Other	5	2	3	2	5	2	2	2	3	-
Unknown	2	7	2	5	5	7	8	4	3	3

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
2. The gender split for data for 2003-04 to 2011-12 has been revised following an error being found in the calculation used to produce this table. No other tables were affected by this error. For reference, the previous version of the data can be found in [Table 11](#) of the 'Homicide in Scotland, 2011-12' statistical bulletin.
3. For further information on the main motive please see [Note 4.12](#).

Table 12: Relationship¹ of main homicide accused² to victim by gender of victim, main motive³ and location of homicide, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Gender of victim and relationship of main accused to victim by location	Main motive of accused						Number
	Rage or fight ⁴	Jealousy or feud ⁵	Sexual	Financial	Insanity	Other or unknown ⁶	All motives
All victims - solved cases	480	127	18	52	19	296	992
Male victims - solved cases	413	104	9	34	7	221	788
Homicide in dwelling	214	37	5	15	5	141	417
Partner or ex-partner	25	3	2	-	1	14	45
Relative ⁷	28	5	1	1	3	24	62
Acquaintance	147	24	2	10	1	78	262
Stranger	14	3	-	2	-	4	23
Unknown	-	2	-	2	-	21	25
Homicide not in dwelling	199	66	4	19	2	80	370
Partner or ex-partner	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Relative ⁷	5	-	-	-	1	7	13
Acquaintance	124	54	1	6	-	35	220
Stranger	66	11	3	12	1	20	113
Unknown	3	1	-	1	-	17	22
Location unknown	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Partner or ex-partner	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Relative ⁷	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acquaintance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stranger	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Female victims - solved cases	67	23	9	18	12	75	204
Homicide in dwelling	55	18	5	13	10	58	159
Partner or ex-partner	35	15	-	3	4	18	75
Relative ⁷	9	-	1	2	5	14	31
Acquaintance	11	3	3	6	1	17	41
Stranger	-	-	1	2	-	2	5
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
Homicide not in dwelling	11	5	4	5	2	13	40
Partner or ex-partner	5	3	-	1	1	3	13
Relative ⁷	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Acquaintance	3	1	1	1	1	4	11
Stranger	3	1	3	3	-	4	14
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Location unknown	1	-	-	-	-	4	5
Partner or ex-partner	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Relative ⁷	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acquaintance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stranger	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Unknown	1	-	-	-	-	2	3

Notes:

1. For further information on the relationship between the victim and the accused please see [Note 4.11](#).
2. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
3. For further information on the main motive please see [Note 4.12](#).
4. The rage or fight category includes the motives: rage or fury, and fight or quarrel.
5. The jealousy or feud category includes the motives: jealous and feud or faction rivalry.
6. The other or unknown category includes the motives: contract killing, suicide pact or mercy killing, other and unknown.
7. The relative category includes: son or daughter, parent and other relative.

Table 13: Victims of homicide¹ by gender, where the motive was drug related², Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

	Number									
Drug related motive	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All victims	109	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	62
All victims - solved cases	108	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	61
Drug related - No	83	107	69	81	85	79	72	82	76	44
Drug related - Yes	15	12	17	22	18	12	6	10	10	10
Drug related - Unknown	10	16	6	16	9	5	3	7	3	7
Male victims - solved cases	93	108	80	99	89	68	54	78	70	49
Drug related - No	71	86	59	66	67	54	45	64	61	35
Drug related - Yes	12	11	15	20	14	11	6	8	7	8
Drug related - Unknown	10	11	6	13	8	3	3	6	2	6
Female victims - solved cases	15	27	12	20	23	28	27	21	19	12
Drug related - No	12	21	10	15	18	25	27	18	15	9
Drug related - Yes	3	1	2	2	4	1	-	2	3	2
Drug related - Unknown	-	5	-	3	1	2	-	1	1	1

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
2. For further information on drug related homicides please see [Note 4.13](#).

Table 14: Victims of homicide¹ where the motive was homophobic or racially motivated, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

	Number									
Homophobic and racially related motive	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
All victims	109	137	95	120	115	99	82	100	93	62
All victims - solved cases	108	135	92	119	112	96	81	99	89	61
Homophobic motivation										
No	100	128	91	106	105	93	79	95	85	57
Yes	2	1	-	8	1	-	1	2	2	1
Unknown	6	6	1	5	6	3	1	2	2	3
Racial motivation										
No	101	131	92	107	105	91	80	97	85	60
Yes	1	-	-	7	1	2	-	2	1	-
Unknown	6	4	-	5	6	3	1	-	3	1

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

Table 15: Alcohol and drug status of persons accused of homicide¹, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

	Number									
Alcohol and drug status of accused	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Drunk	54	50	57	50	33	39	39	52	73	30
On drugs	18	16	13	14	13	7	5	7	6	4
Drunk and on drugs	11	11	21	15	21	8	15	19	7	2
Neither drunk nor on drugs	11	26	26	20	20	21	19	22	19	15
Unknown	62	85	24	70	62	57	43	42	22	32
Total	156	188	141	169	149	132	121	142	127	83

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

Table 16: Alcohol and drug status of persons accused of homicide¹ by age and gender, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Age and gender of accused	Alcohol and drug status of accused					Total
	Drunk	On drugs	Drunk and on drugs	Neither drunk nor on drugs	Unknown	
All accused	477	103	130	199	499	1,408
Under 16	8	1	2	13	18	42
16 to 20	121	13	33	34	112	313
21 to 30	163	50	46	63	184	506
31 to 50	150	38	47	70	158	463
51 and over	35	1	2	19	27	84
Male accused	422	79	117	177	442	1,237
Under 16	8	1	2	13	18	42
16 to 20	111	10	29	29	101	280
21 to 30	147	41	42	57	161	448
31 to 50	127	26	42	63	138	396
51 and over	29	1	2	15	24	71
Female accused	55	24	13	22	57	171
Under 16	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 to 20	10	3	4	5	11	33
21 to 30	16	9	4	6	23	58
31 to 50	23	12	5	7	20	67
51 and over	6	-	-	4	3	13

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.

Table 17: Alcohol and drug status of homicide victims and accused¹ by main motive², Scotland, 2012-13

Alcohol and drug status of victims and accused	Main motive of accused						All motives
	Rage or fight ³	Jealousy or feud ⁴	Sexual	Financial	Insanity	Other or unknown ⁵	
All victims - solved cases	30	6	-	8	1	16	61
Accused drunk	16	2	-	2	-	4	24
Victim drunk	11	-	-	-	-	3	14
Victim on drugs	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Victim drunk and on drugs	1	2	-	1	-	-	4
Victim neither drunk nor on drugs	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Unknown	2	-	-	-	-	1	3
Accused on drugs	1	-	-	-	-	2	3
Victim drunk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim on drugs	1	-	-	-	-	2	3
Victim drunk and on drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim neither drunk nor on drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accused drunk and on drugs	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Victim drunk	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Victim on drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim drunk and on drugs	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Victim neither drunk nor on drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accused neither drunk nor on drugs	3	2	-	2	1	3	11
Victim drunk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim on drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim drunk and on drugs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Victim neither drunk nor on drugs	3	1	-	2	1	2	9
Unknown	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Unknown	8	2	-	4	-	7	21
Victim drunk	2	-	-	1	-	2	5
Victim on drugs	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Victim drunk and on drugs	3	1	-	-	-	-	4
Victim neither drunk nor on drugs	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Unknown	2	1	-	2	-	3	8

Notes:

1. Figures correct as at 1 October 2013.
2. For further information on the main motive please see [Note 4.12](#).
3. The rage or fight category includes the motives: rage or fury, and fight or quarrel.
4. The jealousy or feud category includes the motives: jealous and feud or faction rivalry.
5. The other or unknown category includes the motives: contract killing, suicide pact or mercy killing, other and unknown.

Table 18: Comparison of homicide rates¹ in selected countries, 2005 to 2007 and 2008 to 2010

EU Member States		
Country	Homicides per 100,000 population (average per year 2005 to 2007)²	Homicides per 100,000 population (average per year 2008 to 2010)³
Lithuania	9.69	7.70
Estonia	6.85	5.57
Finland	2.24	2.14
Bulgaria	2.37	2.06
Romania	2.02	1.97
Belgium	2.06	1.77
Scotland	2.18	1.74
Slovakia	1.76	1.64
Croatia	1.63	1.53
Northern Ireland	1.60	1.42
Hungary	1.57	1.39
Greece	1.11	1.36
Luxembourg	1.42	1.35
Denmark	1.17	1.33
Cyprus	1.66	1.33
Ireland (Eire)	1.97	1.30
Poland	1.37	1.21
Portugal	1.50	1.19
England & Wales	1.43	1.17
France	1.41	1.14
Malta	0.66	1.13
Czech Republic	1.18	1.05
Italy	1.13	1.03
Sweden	1.01	0.94
Netherlands	0.91	0.91
Spain	1.12	0.89
Germany	0.98	0.86
Austria	0.64	0.58
Slovenia	0.93	0.56
Latvia ⁴	:	:

EU Candidate States		
Country	Homicides per 100,000 population (average per year 2005 to 2007)²	Homicides per 100,000 population (average per year 2008 to 2010)³
Turkey	6.69	3.64
Montenegro	3.05	2.43
Serbia	2.24	1.95
FYR of Macedonia	2.22	1.76

European Free Trade Association States		
Country	Homicides per 100,000 population (average per year 2005 to 2007)²	Homicides per 100,000 population (average per year 2008 to 2010)³
Liechtenstein	0.00	2.81
Switzerland	0.83	0.67
Norway	0.69	0.64
Iceland	0.55	0.31

Source: Eurostat, Trends in Crime and Criminal Justice, 2010

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_OFFPUB/KS-SF-13-018/EN/KS-SF-13-018-EN.PDF

Notes:

1. Rates per 100,000 population are calculated on figures for completed homicides only. A completed homicide is a homicide which results in the death of the victim. Attempted homicides are not included in the figures.
2. The homicides rates per 100,000 population for 2005 to 2007 for the following countries are based on data for the following years: Estonia, 2006 and 2007; Ireland and Serbia, 2007.
3. The homicides rates per 100,000 population for 2008 to 2010 for the following countries are based on data for the following years: Finland and Switzerland, 2009 and 2010; Montenegro, 2010; the FYR of Macedonia, 2008.
4. The homicides rates for Latvia are not calculated, as figures include attempted homicide.

4. Notes on statistics used in this bulletin

4.1 The figures within this bulletin provide details on cases of homicide. This includes all crimes of either murder or culpable homicide but excludes all cases of causing death by dangerous driving, causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs, causing death by careless driving, illegal driver involved in fatal accident and corporate homicide.

4.2 In 2012-13, Scottish police forces recorded a total of 25 crimes of causing death by dangerous driving, causing death by careless driving when under the influence of drink or drugs, causing death by careless driving and illegal driver involved in fatal accident. The figures are provided in [Table A](#).

Source: Scottish Government, '[Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2012-13](#)' statistical bulletin.

4.3 The Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 came into force on 6 April 2008. This introduced a new offence for convicting an organisation where a gross failure in the way activities have been managed or organised, results in a person's death. This applies to a wide range of organisations across the public and private sectors. In 2012-13, there was one case of corporate homicide recorded by the police in Scotland. The figures are provided in [Table A](#).

Source: Scottish Government, '[Recorded Crime in Scotland, 2012-13](#)' statistical bulletin.

4.4 The summary figures presented in this bulletin are derived from information provided by the eight legacy Scottish police forces in respect of each case, that is initially recorded as homicide. A homicide case is included against the year in which it is recorded by the police. This is not necessarily the year in which the crime took place, the year in which the accused is brought to trial for the crime, or the year in which the case is finally disposed of by the courts. This may lead to minor differences between the figures reported in this bulletin and those published by police forces.

4.5 A single case of homicide is counted for each incident involving murder or culpable homicide irrespective of the number of victims or accused. For the purposes of this bulletin an accused person in a homicide case is defined as:

(i) a person who has been arrested in respect of an offence initially classified as homicide and charged with homicide or

(ii) a person who is suspected by the police of having committed the offence but is known to have died or committed suicide prior to arrest/being charged.

More than one accused person may be tried for an offence and sometimes no accused person is ever brought to trial. Therefore, the number of accused will not necessarily be the same as the number of homicide cases.

Table A: Driving related homicides and Corporate homicide, Scotland, 2003-04 to 2012-13

Type of Crime	Number									
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Causing death by dangerous driving	37	21	25	37	23	27	22	17	15	9
Death by careless driving while under the influence of drugs/alcohol	5	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	2
Causing death by careless driving	~	~	~	~	~	3	4	8	11	8
Illegal driver involved in fatal accident	~	~	~	~	~	3	1	2	2	6
Corporate homicide	~	~	~	~	~	1	-	2	-	1

~ = The relevant legislations for these categories were implemented in 2008-09.

4.6 Where more than one person is accused of committing a homicide, the main accused is taken as the person who received the severest penalty. If more than one possible main accused is identified, then the first person recorded on the statistical returns that is submitted annually by police forces is selected. Similarly, if a person is accused of killing more than one victim, the main victim is the person for whom the accused received the severest penalty for killing. Where more than one possible main victim can be identified, then the first person recorded on the statistical return is selected as the main victim.

4.7 The figures provided in this bulletin are as known to the Scottish Government as at 1 October 2013. The initial classification of a case as murder or culpable homicide is made by the police. This classification may be altered as a result of decisions taken during the course of criminal proceedings. For example, it may be determined that a homicide did not take place if an accused person is found guilty of a lesser charge in court, such as serious assault; or where it has been concluded by the [Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service \(COPFS\)](#) that a victim actually committed suicide and that no further criminal proceedings are required. Hence, some cases initially classified as homicide will, on the basis of criminal proceedings, no longer be classified as such at a later date. For this reason, and as a result of continual data checking, trend data may differ slightly from year-to-year. In addition, late data returns may occasionally be submitted by police forces which will result in revisions to the next issue of this bulletin.

4.8 It has not been possible to carry out the matching of homicide police returns with court proceedings data since 2006-07 due to data matching issues which have been identified. Consequently, there may be a small overcount of the number of cases currently recorded as homicide as the classification of some cases could have altered as a result of decisions taken during the course of criminal proceedings. This area of work is currently being investigated by Justice Analytical Services and data users will be notified of any resulting outcomes through [ScotStat](#).

4.9 For those cases with multiple accused which are currently recorded as homicide, the co-accused are included in the statistics in this bulletin regardless of whether or not they were ultimately charged with homicide. For example, if the main accused person is found guilty of homicide by the court but the co-accused are found guilty of serious assault then the co-accused continue to be counted as persons accused in cases currently recorded as homicide.

4.10 Only one method of killing has been selected for each victim. The main method is taken to be the most serious of those methods recorded. Methods of killing have been ranked in the following order of priority: shooting, sharp instrument, blunt instrument, hitting and kicking, strangulation or asphyxiation, drowning, fire, poisoning and other or unknown. The term "sharp instrument" includes knives, broken bottles, swords, sharpened screwdrivers and any other pointed or edged weapons. The main method of "poisoning" includes the use of drugs, gas and carbon monoxide poisoning.

4.11 When considering the relationship of the main accused person to the victim, the term "partner or ex-partner" includes: spouse, separated or divorced spouse, cohabitee, lover, boy/girlfriend and ex-boy/girlfriend.

4.12 The motive behind committing a homicide is as determined by the police. For simplicity of presentation, only one motive for killing is recorded by the police for each accused person.

4.13 In the context of this bulletin “drug-related” is defined as a homicide motivated by a need to obtain drugs or money for drugs, a homicide of a consumer or supplier of drugs, a homicide committed in order to steal proceeds of the drugs trade or a homicide as a consequence of rivalry between users and/or dealers within the drugs trade.

4.14 In the context of [Chart 4](#) and [Table 4](#) of this bulletin, crimes of violence recorded by the police are defined as:

Homicide -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Murder• Culpable homicide (common law)
Attempted murder -	Attempted murder
Serious assault -	Serious assault
Robbery -	Robbery and assault with intent to rob
Abduction -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child stealing (plagium)• Abduction
Rape & attempted rape -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rape• Attempted rape
Sexual assault -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact sexual assault (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+)• Sexually coercive conduct (13 to 15 year old or adult 16+)• Sexual offences against children under 13 years• Lewd and libidinous practices
Common assault -	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common assault• Common assault of an emergency worker

4.15 In Scotland, assault is a common law offence. In order to distinguish between serious and common assaults, police forces use a common definition of what a serious assault is, namely:

“An assault or attack in which the victim sustains injury resulting in detention in hospital as an inpatient, for the treatment of that injury, or any of the following injuries whether or not detained in hospital:

- Fractures (the breaking or cracking of a bone. Note – nose is cartilage not bone, so a ‘broken nose’ should not be classified unless it meets one of the other criteria)
- Internal injuries
- Severe concussion
- Lacerations requiring sutures which may lead to impairment or disfigurement
- Any other injury which may lead to impairment or disfigurement.”

4.16 The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Assessment Report, which was published in June 2011, can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/assessment-report-119---statistics-on-homicide--domestic-abuse--firearm-offences-and-firearm-certificates-recorded-by-the-police-in-scotland.pdf>

4.17 Under the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, the estimated costs of responding to statistical surveys and data collection are to be published.

The estimated cost of compliance for supplying and validating the data for this bulletin is: £400.

Details of the calculation methodology are available on the Scottish Government Crime and Justice website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Crime-Justice/costcalculation>

4.18 Homicide statistics for England and Wales are published by the Office for National Statistics in the 'Focus on: Violent Crime and Sexual Offences' statistical bulletin series. Prior to the release of the 2011-12 data the homicide statistics for England and Wales were published in the 'Homicides, Firearm Offences and Intimate Violence: Supplementary Volume 2 to Crime in England and Wales' statistical bulletin series.

The latest bulletin for England and Wales contained information for the financial year 2011-12 and was published on 7 February 2013. The bulletin can be found at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/focus-on-violent-crime/stb-focus-on--violent-crime-and-sexual-offences-2011-12.html>

Homicide data for England and Wales for 2012-13 are scheduled for publication in early 2014.

4.19 Population data are derived from relevant mid-year population estimates prepared by the National Records of Scotland: <http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/theme/population/estimates/mid-year/index.html>. Following the release of the mid-year 2012 population data, the mid-year 2011 population data were revised. The revised mid-year 2011 population data have been used to calculate population rates for 2011-12 throughout this bulletin.

4.20 Only a limited selection of tables are included in this bulletin. However, further analysis of homicide statistics can be supplied upon request. This includes available information relating to a different time period than that covered in this bulletin. In certain cases, a fee may be charged for additional information. For details of what can be provided, please telephone Justice Analytical Services on 0131 244 2635 or e-mail JusticeAnalysts@scotland.gsi.gov.uk.

4.21 The percentage figures given in tables and charts have been independently rounded, so they may not always sum to the relevant sub-totals or totals.

4.22 The following symbols are used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

– = nil

: = data not available

~ = The relevant legislations for these categories were implemented in 2008-09.

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