



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Criminology

AIC reports

Statistical report

02

**Homicide in Australia
2012–13 to 2013–14:
National Homicide
Monitoring Program
report**

Willow Bryant
Samantha Bricknell

© Australian Institute of Criminology 2017

ISSN (Online) 2206-7930

Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth), no part of this publication may in any form or by any means (electronic, mechanical, microcopying, photocopying, recording or otherwise) be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted without prior written permission. Inquiries should be addressed to the publisher.

Published by the Australian Institute of Criminology
GPO Box 1936 Canberra ACT 2601
Tel: (02) 6268 7166
Email: front.desk@aic.gov.au
Website: aic.gov.au

Please note: Minor revisions are occasionally made to publications after release. The online versions available on the AIC website will always include any revisions.

Disclaimer: This research report does not necessarily reflect the policy position of the Australian Government.

General editor: Dr Rick Brown, Deputy Director, Australian Institute of Criminology

Edited and typeset by the Australian Institute of Criminology

A full list of publications in the AIC Reports series can be found on the Australian Institute of Criminology website at aic.gov.au

Contents

i Acknowledgements	1 Homicide incidents
ii Executive summary	18 Homicide victims
iv About the National Homicide Monitoring Program	29 Homicide offenders
iv Purpose	36 Summary of findings
iv Definition of homicide	38 References
v Methodology	39 Appendix A: Homicide incidents 2012–14
1 Homicide in Australia 2012–14	54 Appendix B: Homicide victims 2012–14
	65 Appendix C: Homicide offenders 2012–14

Figures

2 Figure 1: Homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)	11 Figure 9: Location of homicide incidents, 2012–14 (%)
2 Figure 2: Homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)	14 Figure 10: Weapons use in homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (%)
4 Figure 3: Homicide incidents by type, 2012–14 (%)	16 Figure 11: Alcohol involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (%)
5 Figure 4: Homicide incident type by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)	17 Figure 12: Drug involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (%)
6 Figure 5: Domestic homicide incidents by subclassification, 2012–14 (%)	19 Figure 13: Victimisation rate by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
7 Figure 6: Domestic homicide incidents by subclassification and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)	22 Figure 14: Age of homicide victim by type of homicide, 2012–14 (mean age in years)
9 Figure 7: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents, 2012–14 (n)	23 Figure 15: Indigenous status of homicide victims by gender, 2012–14 (%)
10 Figure 8: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (n)	

- 25 Figure 16: Indigenous and non-Indigenous homicide victimisation, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 26 Figure 17: Indigenous homicide victimisation by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 31 Figure 18: Offending rate by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2012–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 33 Figure 19: Indigenous and non-Indigenous homicide offending, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 34 Figure 20: Indigenous homicide offending by gender, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 27 Table 11: Cause of death for homicide victims, 2012–14
- 28 Table 12: Cause of death for homicide victims by type of homicide, 2012–14
- 29 Table 13: Number of homicides offenders by principal incident classification, 2012–14
- 30 Table 14: Homicide offenders by jurisdiction, 2012–14
- 32 Table 15: Homicide offender age in years by gender, 2012–14
- 34 Table 16: Indigenous homicide offending by gender and victim-offender relationship, 2012–14
- 35 Table 17: Prior criminal history of homicide offenders by gender, 2012–14

Tables

- 3 Table 1: Homicide incidents by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 6 Table 2: Homicide incident type by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (%)
- 8 Table 3: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents, 2012–14
- 12 Table 4: Location of homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14
- 13 Table 5: Apparent motive in homicide incidents by victims and incidents, 2012–14
- 15 Table 6: Alcohol and drug involvement in homicide incidents, 2012–14
- 18 Table 7: Homicide victims by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 20 Table 8: Type of homicide by gender of victims, 2012–14
- 21 Table 9: Age of homicide victims by gender, 2012–14
- 24 Table 10: Indigenous status of homicide victims by type of homicide, 2012–14
- 39 Table A1: Incidents of homicide by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)
- 40 Table A2: Incidents of homicide by most serious charge and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 41 Table A3: Incidents of homicide by most serious charge and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)
- 42 Table A4: Incidents of homicide by status at time of reporting and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 42 Table A5: Incidents of homicide by number of victims and offenders and jurisdictions, 2012–14 (n)
- 43 Table A6: Homicide incidents by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 43 Table A7: Homicide incidents by classification, 2012–14
- 44 Table A8: Homicide incident type by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)

- 44 Table A9: Domestic homicide incidents by subclassification, 2012–14
- 45 Table A10: Domestic homicide incidents by subclassification and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)
- 46 Table A11: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents, 2012–14
- 47 Table A12: Temporal characteristics of homicides by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 48 Table A12: Temporal characteristics of homicides by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n) cont.
- 49 Table A13: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (n)
- 50 Table A14: Location of homicide incidents, 2012–14
- 50 Table A15: Location of homicide incidents by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 51 Table A16: Weapon use in homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14
- 52 Table A17: Incidents of homicide occurring during the course of another crime by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 53 Table A18: Alcohol involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14
- 53 Table A19: Drug involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14
- 54 Table B1: Number of homicide victims per incident by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 55 Table B2: Homicide victims by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)
- 56 Table B3: Victimization rate by gender, 1989–90 to 2013–14
- 57 Table B4: Homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14
- 57 Table B5: Homicide victims by age and jurisdiction, 2012–14
- 58 Table B6: Age of homicide victim by type of homicide, 2012–14 (mean age in years)
- 58 Table B7: Indigenous status of homicide victims by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 59 Table B8: Indigenous status of homicide victims by gender, 2012–14
- 59 Table B9: Indigenous and non-Indigenous homicide victimisation, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 60 Table B10: Indigenous homicide victimisation by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 61 Table B11: Primary cause of death of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 62 Table B12: Alcohol and drug consumption of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 63 Table B13: Employment status of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 64 Table B14: Prior criminal history of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 65 Table C1: Number of offenders involved in homicide incidents by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 66 Table C2: Homicide offenders^a by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14
- 67 Table C3: Homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14
- 68 Table C4: Offending rate by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14
- 69 Table C5: Homicide offenders by age and jurisdiction, 2012–14

- 70 Table C6: Indigenous status of homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 71 Table C7: Indigenous and non-Indigenous homicide offending, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 72 Table C8: Indigenous homicide offending by gender, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)
- 73 Table C9: Prior criminal history of homicide offenders by gender (and jurisdiction), 2012–14 (n)
- 74 Table C10: Alcohol and drug consumption of homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)
- 75 Table C11: Employment status of homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–2014 (n)

Acknowledgements

The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) gratefully acknowledges the ongoing assistance and cooperation of each of Australia's police services and those who contribute to and maintain the National Coronial Information System for supplying the information that forms the basis of this report.

Executive summary

In the 25th year of the National Homicide Monitoring Program (NHMP) data collection, this report describes the nature and context of homicides that occurred in financial years 2012–13 and 2013–14, and trends in homicide victimisation and offending since 1989–90. Although much of the data are presented in the aggregate, certain figures for each financial year are provided to aid the monitoring of trends. Ongoing monitoring of homicide locates short-term changes within a longer timeframe, and allows policymakers and law enforcement personnel to identify changes in risk markers associated with incidents, victims and offenders.

The overall number of homicide incidents continues to decline. In 2013–14, the homicide incident rate reached a historical low of one per 100,000 people since the NHMP data collection began in 1989–90.

This report's key findings include:

- from 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2014, there were 487 homicide incidents—249 in 2012–13 and 238 in 2013–14;
- these incidents involved 512 victims and 549 offenders—264 victims and 276 offenders in 2012–13 and 248 victims and 273 offenders in 2013–14;
- since 1989–90, homicide incident rates have decreased from 1.8 per 100,000 to 1.1 in 2012–13, and again to one in 2013–14;
- males remain over-represented as both victims (n=328; 64%) and offenders (n=483; 88%);
- in 2013–14, males were victimised at the rate of 1.3 per 100,000, the lowest rate recorded since 1989–90 (2.5 per 100,000). The rate of female victimisation was 0.8 per 100,000 in 2013–14;
- knives continue to be the most commonly used weapon, with 37 percent (n=89) of all homicide incidents in 2013–14 involving knives or sharp instruments;
- during the 2012–14 period, approximately a fifth (n=69; 14%) of homicide incidents involved the use of a firearm. This is a decrease of 11 percent in the use of firearms in homicide incidents since 1989–90 (n=76; 25%), and a decrease of one percent since 2011–12;
- in 2012–14, the most common relationship between a homicide offender and a victim was a domestic relationship (41%; n=200), followed by an acquaintance (27%; n=133). Thirteen percent (n=62) of homicide incidents were stranger homicides (which includes homicide incidents involving those known to each other for less than 24 hours);

- of the 200 domestic homicide incidents recorded in 2012–14, 63 percent (n=126) were classified as intimate partner homicides, 15 percent as filicides (n=30, 14 of which involved the death of a child under one year of age), 11 percent as parricides (n=21), eight percent as other family (n=16; includes aunts/uncles, in-laws, cousins etc) and four percent as siblicides (n=7);
- females continue to be over-represented as victims of intimate partner homicide (n=99; 79%), while males are still over-represented as victims of acquaintance (83%; n=116) and stranger homicide (92%; n=58);
- 42 children aged 17 years and younger were killed in 2012–14;
- 78 victims (46 males and 32 females) and 91 offenders (75 males and 16 females) in 2012–14 were Indigenous Australians. Indigenous people remain over-represented as both victims of homicide and homicide offenders. At a national level, the rate of Indigenous victimisation in 2013–14 (4.9 per 100,000) was approximately five times higher than non-Indigenous victimisation (0.9 per 100,000);
- eight in ten homicide incidents were not committed in the course of another crime (n=408; 84%). A fifth of homicide incidents where a precipitating crime was known and recorded were committed during the course of another crime, such as a break and enter (n=15; 19%), robbery (n=14; 18%), other violent crime (n=11; 14%) or sexual assault (n=10; 13%); and
- a fifth of offenders had a prior history of domestic violence (n=106; 19%) or mental illness (n=70; 13%) at the time of the homicide incident.

About the National Homicide Monitoring Program

Purpose

Homicide is among the most serious of all crimes. Preventing homicide and other lethal violence remains a key priority for Australian criminal justice and law enforcement agencies. The NHMP and its collection of data is Australia's only national system with the capacity to monitor homicide rates, facilitate detailed analysis of homicide types and trends and communicate this to key stakeholders including police, government and non-government organisations, and the general public.

Definition of homicide

In this report, the term homicide refers to the unlawful killing of a person; a homicide incident is an event in which one or more persons are killed in the same place and at the same time. Homicide is defined differently by the criminal law of each Australian state and territory, and each jurisdiction defines degree, culpability and intent in different ways. The NHMP therefore collects data on the following:

- all cases resulting in a person or persons being charged with murder or manslaughter. This excludes driving-related fatalities except those that immediately followed a criminal event such as armed robbery or motor vehicle theft, or which resulted in a charge of murder or manslaughter being laid;
- all murder-suicides classed as murder by police; and
- all other deaths classed as homicides by police, including infanticides, whether or not an offender was apprehended.

This definition excludes attempted murder and violent deaths such as industrial accidents involving criminal negligence (unless a charge of manslaughter is laid). Lawful homicide, including by police in the course of their duties, is also excluded, as are missing persons' cases unless a charge of murder or manslaughter is laid by police against an offender.

The Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) further classifies types of homicides by the relationship between victim and offender; these are described in the homicide incidents section (see *Homicide Incident Classification*).

Methodology

The NHMP draws on two key sources of data:

- offence records obtained from each Australian state and territory police service and supplemented, where necessary, with information provided directly by investigating police officers and/or associated staff; and
- state coronial records such as toxicology and post-mortem reports. The National Coronial Information System (NCIS) has allowed coronial findings, including toxicology and autopsy reports, to be accessed online since 1 July 2001. Prior to 2001, the AIC accessed paper-based coroners files for the period 1 July 1996 to 30 June 2001 (Mouzos 2000).
- Where appropriate, the data are further supplemented by media reports, which are monitored daily by staff at the AIC.

This report is compiled from police offence reports provided directly to the AIC. The NHMP dataset is based on 77 distinct variables; for each homicide incident, information relevant to these variables is extracted and entered into the NHMP database. The information is organised into three files:

- an incident file, which describes the case and its circumstances (for instance location, date, and time of the incident; status of investigation; and whether the incident occurred during the course of another crime);
- a victim file (or files) containing sociodemographic information relating to the victim(s), details of the cause of death and the type of weapon used, and any alcohol and/or illicit drug use; and
- an offender file containing information on those who have been charged, including data on their sociodemographic characteristics, their previous criminal history, any alcohol and/or illicit drug use, their mental health status and their relationship to the victim. In this report *offender* refers to suspected offenders only rather than convicted persons, unless otherwise stated.

These data are combined into a merged incident, victim and offender data file.

The accuracy of NHMP data is ensured through a quality control process that involves crosschecking the information contained in police offence records with other data sources. These supplementary sources may include post-mortem coronial reports, information provided by other divisions of the police services (such as statistical services, homicide squads or major crime units and firearms registries) and media reports. Should there be any discrepancies between the information provided in the police offence report and one of the additional sources, the circumstances are verified with the police source. Depending on the reliability of the additional source, and the information provided in response to the NHMP query, the NHMP data relating to the homicide incident may be updated.

Rates presented in this report were calculated using the latest population data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Existing NHMP data are updated on a biennial basis; hence historical data presented in this report may be different from data published in previous reports.

Homicide in Australia 2012–14

The results presented in this report are consistent with previous NHMP reports but may vary across some characteristics of homicide.

Homicide incidents

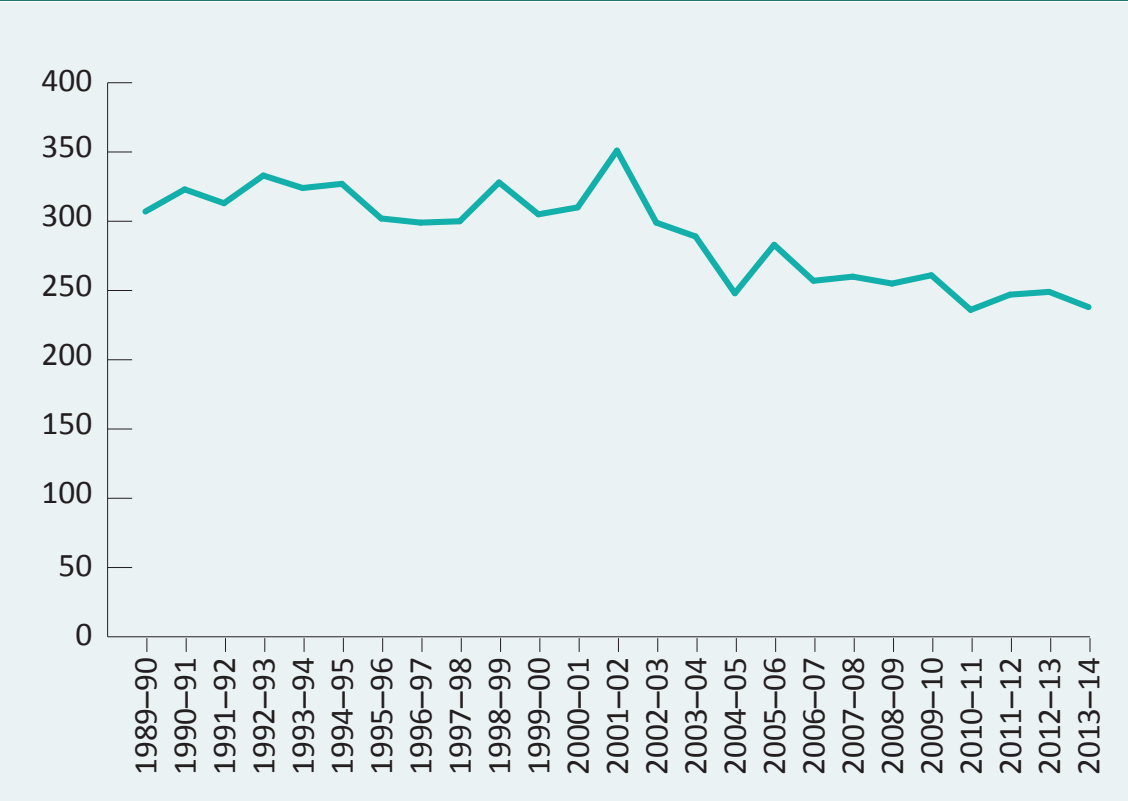
In 2012–14, 487 homicide incidents were recorded in Australia. Two hundred and forty-nine incidents were recorded in 2012–13, a marginal increase from the 243 incidents recorded in the previous year. The number of homicide incidents decreased in 2013–14 to 238 (see Figure 1). Five hundred and forty-nine offenders were identified, and 512 victims were killed. The numbers of both victims and offenders is greater than the number of homicide incidents, because homicide incidents may involve multiple victims and/or multiple offenders. During 2012–14, there were 83 (17%) homicide incidents involving multiple victims and/or offenders. At the time of reporting, no offender had been identified in 38 incidents.

Across the 25-year data collection period, the homicide incident rate has continued to decline (see Figure 2). For the most recent year of data (2013–14), the rate was one homicide incident per 100,000. This is the lowest homicide incident rate since the NHMP data collection began in 1989–90. Over the same period, the number of homicide incidents decreased by 22 percent ($n=307$ cf $n=238$).

The number of homicide incidents recorded in each jurisdiction generally reflects population size. Hence, in 2012–14 the largest number of homicide incidents occurred in New South Wales ($n=151$), followed by Victoria ($n=100$) and Queensland ($n=83$).

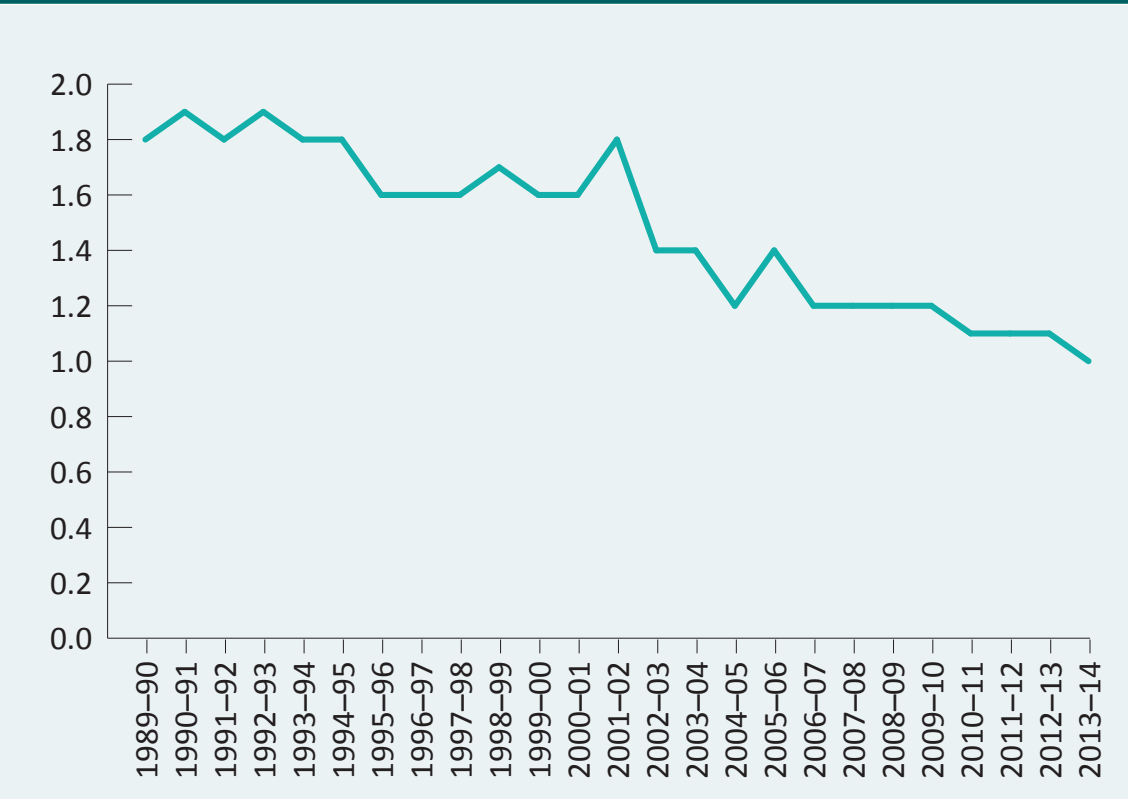
The Northern Territory had the highest homicide incident rate in Australia (see Table 1). In 2012–13, the rate was seven homicide incidents per 100,000 persons and in 2013–14 it was 6.5 per 100,000. The Australian Capital Territory had the lowest rates of homicide incidents for both years.

Figure 1: Homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)



Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]; Table A1

Figure 2: Homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)



Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]; Table A6

Table 1: Homicide incidents by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (rate per 100,000)

	2012–13		2013–14	
	n	rate	n	rate
NSW	70	0.9	81	1.1
Vic	47	0.8	53	0.9
Qld	47	1.0	36	0.8
WA	40	1.6	27	1.1
SA	19	1.1	16	0.9
Tas	7	1.4	8	1.6
NT	17	7.0	16	6.5
ACT	2	0.5	1	0.3
National	249	1.1	238	1.0

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Homicide incident classification

Homicide incidents can be classified in several ways, including those that focus on qualitative characteristics such as the relationship between victim and offender and precipitating events, and those based on more specific quantitative measures such as the number of victims killed and offenders involved. Further, triangulating various victim, offender and incident characteristics complicates the development of homicide typologies so that, with the exception of specific legal definitions which may vary across jurisdictions (such as infanticide), there is no universally agreed classification method.

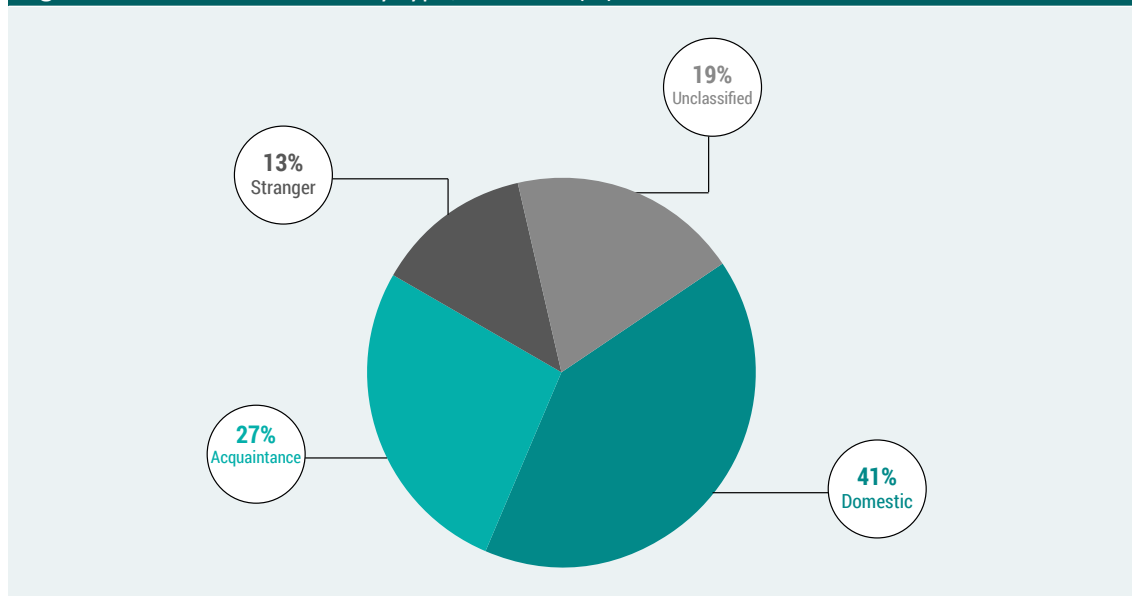
In this report, homicide incidents are classified into three primary categories according to the victim(s) and offender’s principal relationship. The categories are:

- *domestic homicide incident*—incidents involving the death of a family member or other person in a domestic relationship. Domestic homicide incidents include:
 - *intimate partner homicide*, where the victim and offender have a current or former intimate relationship, including same-sex and extramarital relationships;
 - *filicide*, where a custodial or non-custodial parent (or step-parent) kills a child (including infanticide, which is defined as the killing of a child under one year of age);
 - *parricide*, where a child kills a custodial or non-custodial parent or step-parent;
 - *siblicide*, where one sibling kills another; and
- *other family homicide*—where the victim and offender are related, but not in one of the ways described above (for example, they are cousins, aunts/uncles, grandparents etc);
- *acquaintance homicide*—an incident involving a victim and offender who were known to each other but not related or living in a domestic relationship; and
- *stranger homicide*—all incidents in which the victim and offender were not known to each other or knew each other less than 24 hours.

Classifying the vast majority of homicide incidents involving a sole victim and offender is relatively straightforward. However, for multiple victim and/or multiple offender homicide incidents, classification is complicated by the existence of two or more relationships—one for each unique victim and offender pair. For this report, where an incident involves two or more relationship types, the principal relationship is the closest known relationship between any one victim and offender pair. Where an incident involves two victims (and two relationships) within the same category, the closest relationship is chosen for classification. For example, for this report an incident involving the death of an intimate partner and one or more children would be classified as an intimate partner homicide.

Of the 487 homicide incidents in 2012–14, 200 (41%) were classified as domestic homicide incidents, 133 (27%) as acquaintance homicide incidents and 62 as stranger homicide incidents (13%; see Figure 3). Almost a fifth of homicide incidents (n=92; 19%), however, could not be classified because the relationship between victim and offender was not known when the data was collected.

Figure 3: Homicide incidents by type, 2012–14 (%)

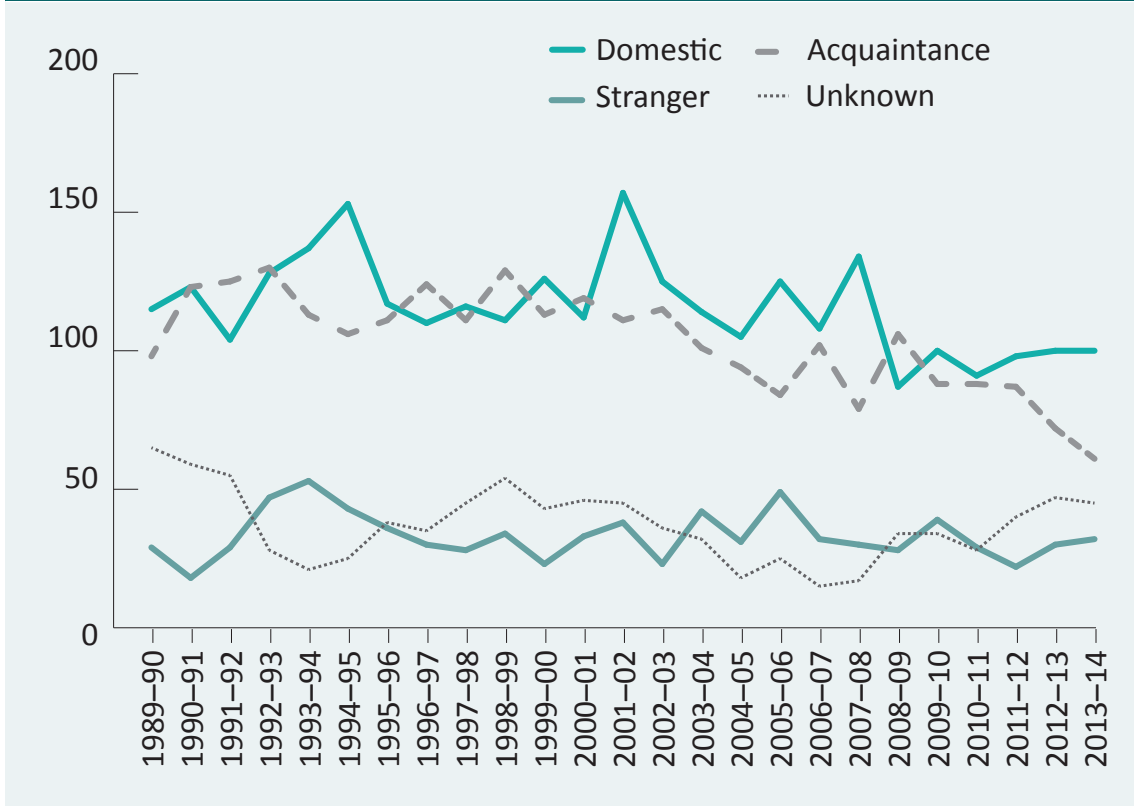


Note: The high percentage of unclassified homicides is due to three jurisdictions providing data in which the victim-offender relationship was unknown for a third to a half of all homicide incidents recorded

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A7

The proportion of homicide incidents by principal relationship has fluctuated since 1989–90, particularly with regard to domestic homicides (see Figure 4). The highest incidence of domestic homicide—52 percent of all homicides—was recorded in 2007–08 (see Virueda & Payne 2010). In succeeding years, this proportion decreased—40 percent in 2012–13 and 42 percent in 2013–14. Between 1989–90 and 2013–14 the number of domestic homicide incidents decreased by 13 percent (n=115 cf n=100).

Figure 4: Homicide incident type by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)



Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]; Table A8

Proportions of domestic homicide incidents vary between jurisdictions (see Table 2). During 2012–14, just over half of all homicide incidents in Tasmania (n=8; 53%) and Western Australia (n=34; 51%) were classified as domestic, as were nearly half of all homicide incidents in the Northern Territory (n=16; 48%). Four in 10 homicide incidents in New South Wales (n=57; 38%), Victoria (n=41; 41%) and Queensland (n=33; 40%) were classified as domestic, as were almost a third of South Australian homicide incidents (n=11; 31%). These findings should be considered with caution, as the total number of homicide incidents in each jurisdiction varies considerably based on population and, in some cases, is very small.

The number of acquaintance homicide incidents has decreased by 38 percent since 1989–90 (n=98 cf n=61). In 2012–14, acquaintance homicides comprised over a quarter of homicide incidents (n=133; 27%). Acquaintance homicide incidents were more prevalent in South Australia (n=13; 37%) and Victoria (n=35; 35%; see Table 2) than in other jurisdictions.

The proportion of stranger homicide incidents varies between jurisdictions but is typically low. Of jurisdictions reporting more than 10 homicide incidents over the reporting period, stranger homicide incidents were most prevalent in New South Wales (n=25; 17%) and Victoria (n=17; 17%). Thirteen percent (n=62) of homicide incidents in 2013–14 were classified as stranger homicides. Since 1989–90 the number of stranger homicide incidents increased by nine percent (n=29 cf n=32).

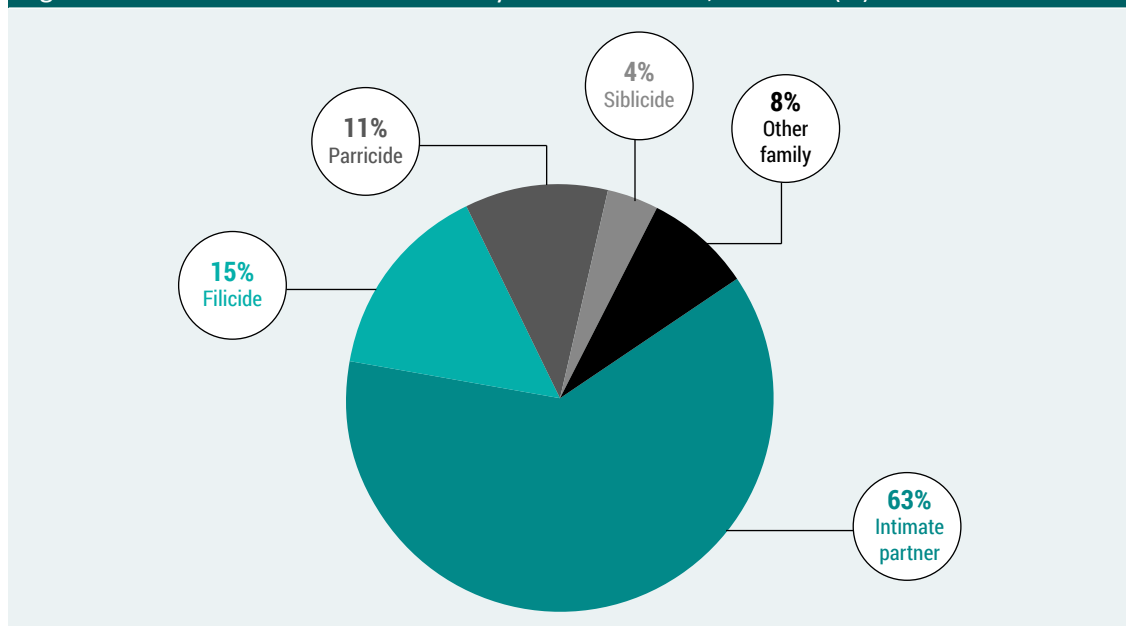
	NSW (n=151)	Vic (n=100)	Qld (n=83)	WA (n=67)	SA (n=35)	Tas (n=15)	NT (n=33)	ACT (n=3)	National (n=487)
Domestic	38	41	40	51	31	53	48	0	41
Acquaintance	27	35	24	10	37	27	33	67	27
Stranger	17	17	6	4	17	13	12	0	13
Unclassified	19	7	30	34	14	7	6	33	19

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Of the 200 domestic homicide incidents recorded in 2012–14, nearly two-thirds were classified as intimate partner homicide incidents (n=126; 63%). This is a 13 percent increase in the number of intimate partner homicide incidents from 2010–12 (58%; n=109). There were also 30 incidents of filicide (15%), 21 of parricide (11%), 16 of other family (8%) and seven of siblicide (4%; see Figure 5).

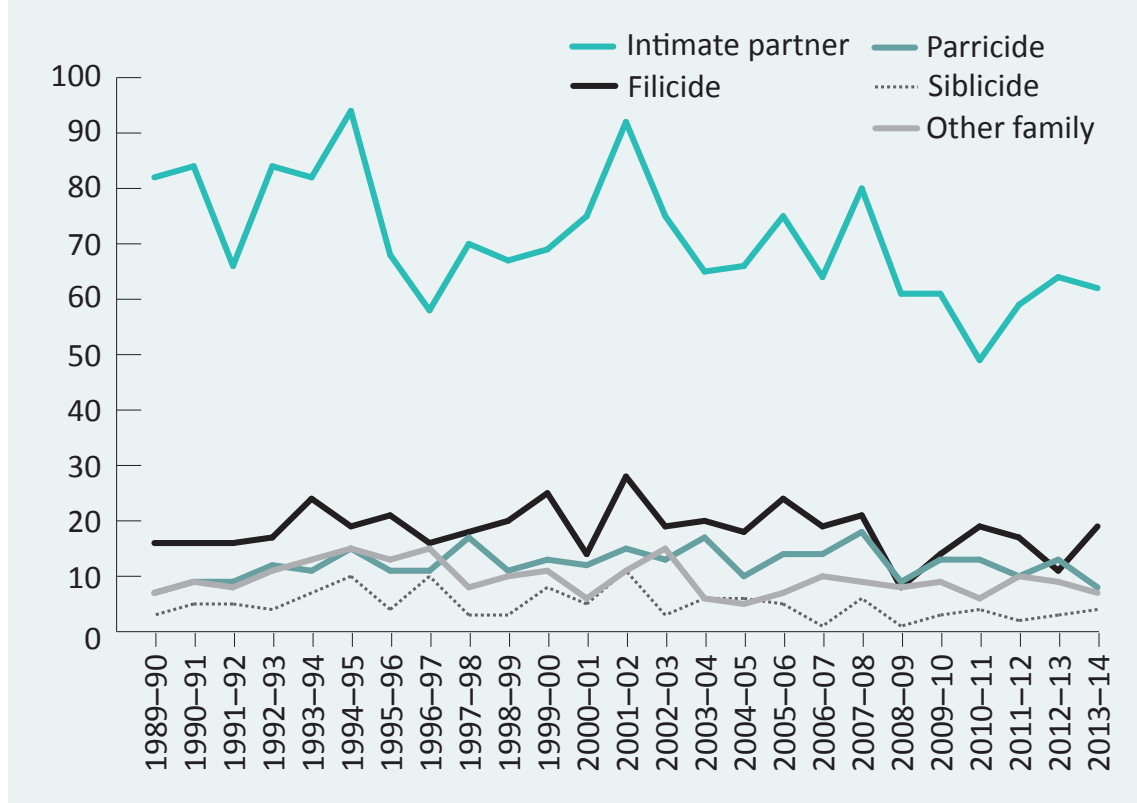
Figure 5: Domestic homicide incidents by subclassification, 2012–14 (%)



Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A9

Intimate partner homicide incidents decreased by 24 percent (n=82 of n=62) between 1989–90 and 2013–14. Filicide, parricide, sibicide and other family homicide incidents have remained fairly stable over the 25-year period.

Figure 6: Domestic homicide incidents by subclassification and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)



Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A10

Temporal characteristics

In 2012–14, homicide incidents were more likely to occur on a Sunday or Thursday (n=82; 17%), and least likely to occur on Monday (n=55; 11%; see Table 3). Over a third of homicide incidents occurred during the evening hours of 6pm to midnight (n=174; 36%) and a quarter from midnight to 6 am (n=124; 25%). Homicide incidents were least likely to occur between 6 am and midday (n=61; 13%; see Table 3).

Table 3: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents, 2012–14

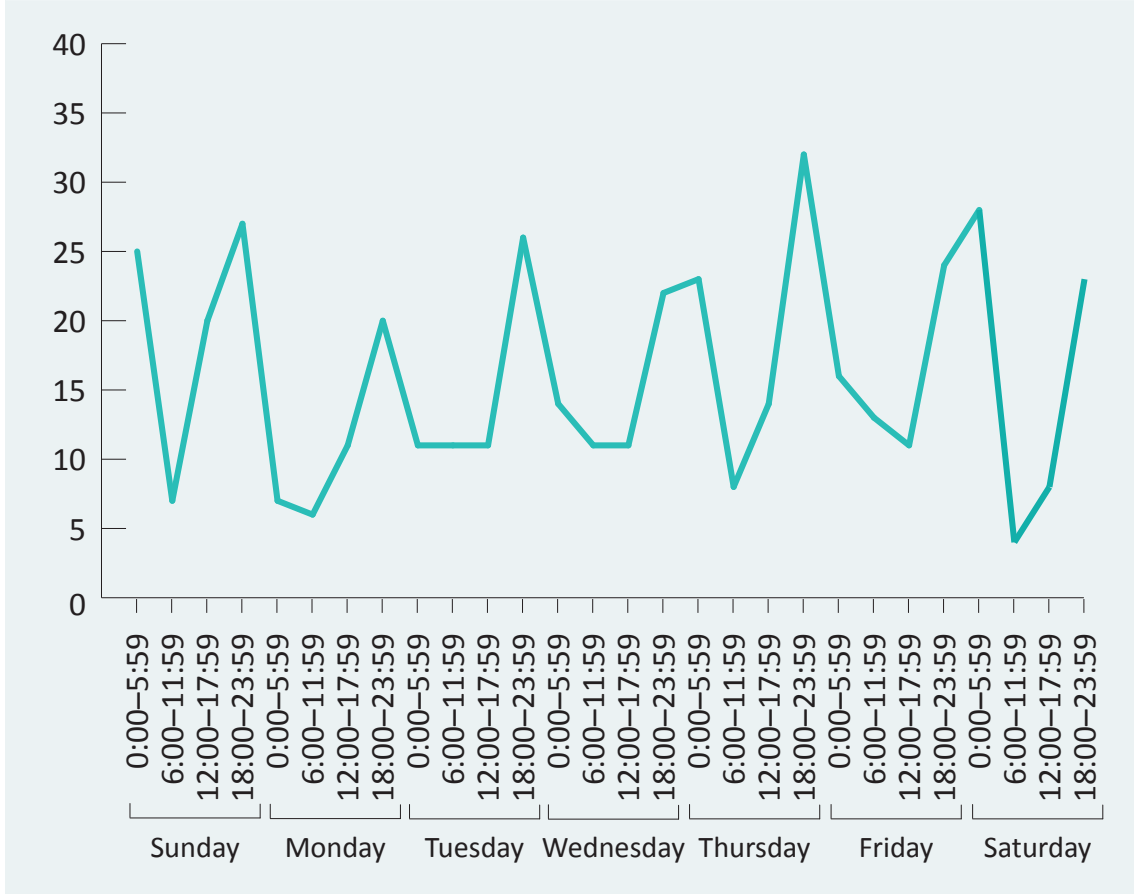
	n	%
Time of day		
00:00–05:59	124	25
06:00–11:59	61	13
12:00–17:59	86	18
18:00–23:59	174	36
Unknown/not stated	42	9
Day of week		
Sunday	82	17
Monday	55	11
Tuesday	64	13
Wednesday	63	13
Thursday	82	17
Friday	69	14
Saturday	68	14
Unknown	4	<1

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

A joint distribution of time of day and day of week provides a more complete picture of the temporal nature of Australian homicide incidents (see Figure 7). The single largest cluster of homicide incidents occurred from 6 pm to midnight on Thursday (n=32), followed by midnight to 6 am on Saturday (n=28) and 6 pm to midnight on Sunday (n=27).

Figure 7: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents, 2012–14 (n)

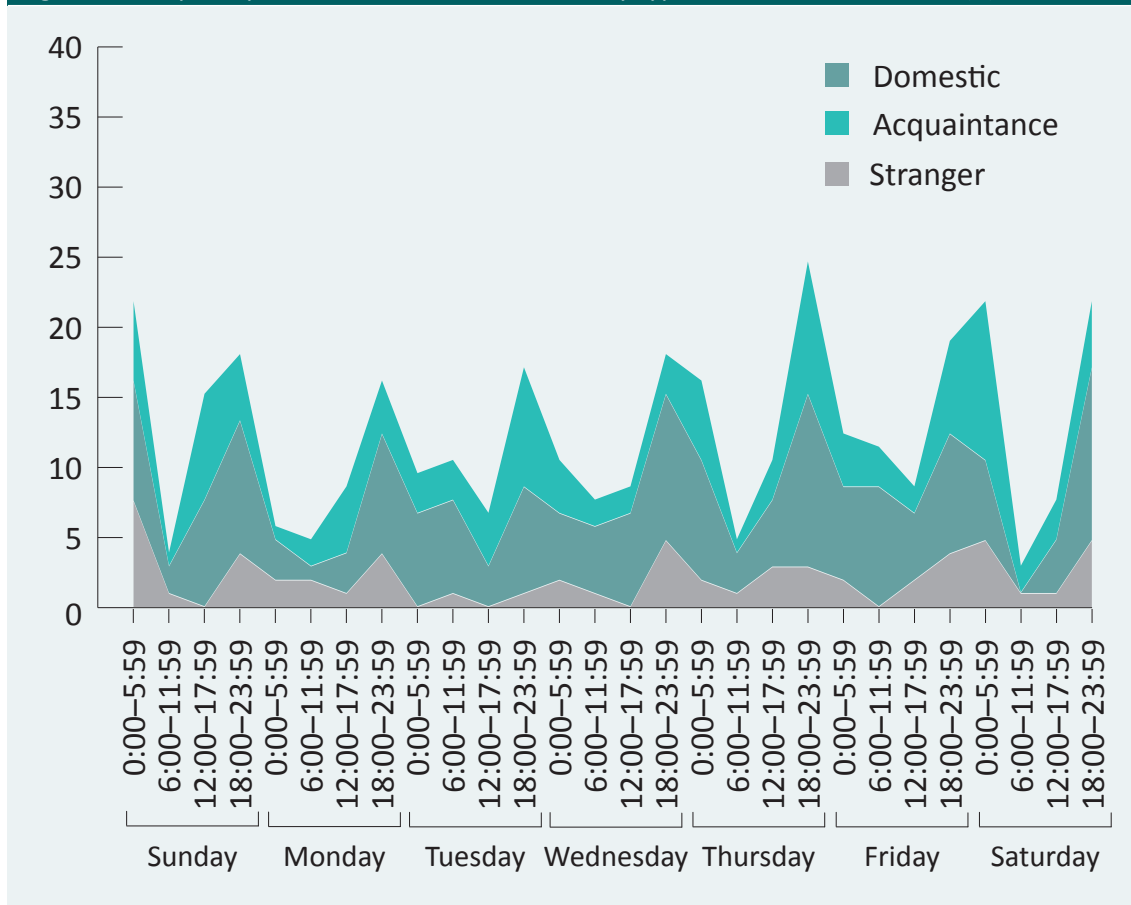


Note: Excludes missing data

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A11

Different homicide incidents may have different temporal characteristics (see Figure 8). For example, where both relationship classification and temporal data were known, stranger homicide incidents were more evenly distributed throughout the week, whereas domestic and acquaintance homicide incidents were skewed toward occurring in the evening or early hours of the following morning (6 pm to 6 am) across all weekdays. The highest number of domestic homicide incidents occurred on a Wednesday (n=11), Thursday (n=13) or Saturday night (n=13; 6 pm to 12 am), while acquaintance homicide incidents were most likely to occur on a Thursday night (6 pm to 12 am; n=10) or during the early hours of Saturday morning (12 am to 6 am; n=12).

Figure 8: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (n)



Note: Excludes missing data

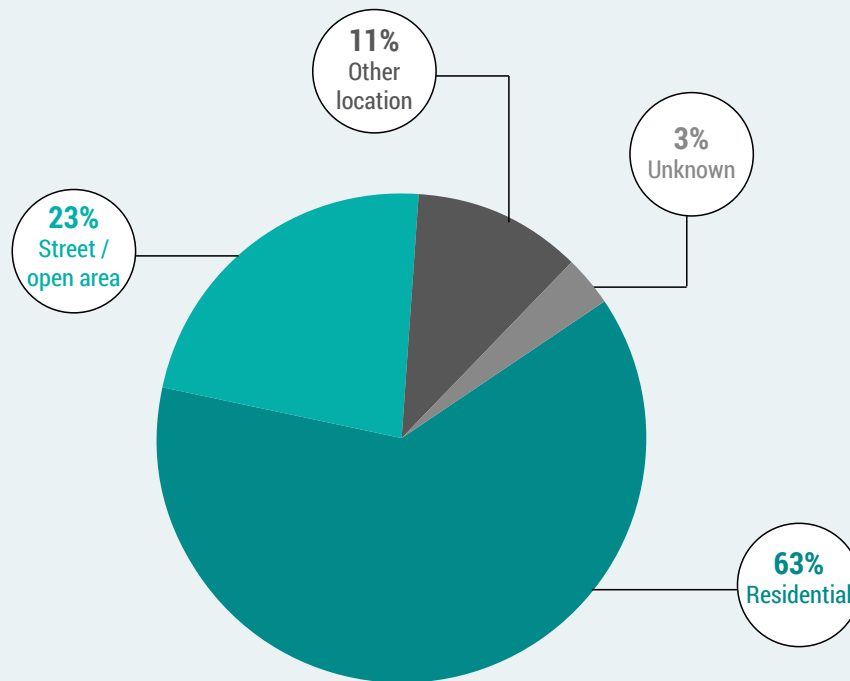
Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A13

Location

In 2012–14, just under two thirds of all homicide incidents occurred in a residence (n=306; 63%; see Figure 9). A quarter occurred on a street or road or in another open area (n=111; 23%).

The location of a homicide incident is largely influenced by the type of homicide (see Table 4). A large proportion of domestic homicide incidents (n=160; 80%) occurred in a residential location, primarily the victim’s home (n=131; 66%). An equally high proportion of acquaintance homicide incidents also occurred in a residential location (n=93; 70%). Conversely, half of stranger homicide incidents (n=32; 52%) took place on the street or in an open area. Almost a quarter of stranger homicide incidents (n=14; 23%) occurred in a residential location.

Figure 9: Location of homicide incidents, 2012–14 (%)



Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A14

Table 4: Location of homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14						
	Domestic homicide (n=200)		Acquaintance homicide (n=133)		Stranger homicide (n=62)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Residential						
Victim's home	131	66	55	41	7	11
Offender's home	20	10	21	16	2	3
Other home	9	5	17	13	5	8
Subtotal	160	80	93	70	14	23
Street or open area						
Open area/waterway	10	5	6	5	5	8
Street/road/highway	12	6	16	12	20	32
Sporting oval/facility	1	<1	0	0	0	0
Public transport	0	0	0	0	1	2
Taxi or similar	0	0	0	0	2	3
Car park/garage	2	1	2	2	4	6
Subtotal	25	13	24	18	32	52
Other						
Hospital/health care	1	<1	0	0	0	0
Shopping mall	2	1	0	0	4	6
Recreation venue	3	2	1	<1	5	8
Workplace	0	0	3	2	3	5
Private motor vehicle	1	<1	1	<1	1	2
Corrective institution	0	0	1	<1	0	0
Nursing home	0	0	1	<1	0	0
Psychiatric facility	0	0	1	<1	0	0
Other/not stated/ unknown	8	4	8	6	3	5
Subtotal	15	8	16	12	16	26

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. The location figures in Table 4 do not necessarily equate to those provided in Figure 8 as there were 92 incidents where the relationship between victim and offender was unknown. Percentages may not subtotal due to rounding

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Motive

Determining the motive behind a homicide incident can help us understand what situations or factors may trigger a homicide incident. However, assigning a motive to a homicide incident is difficult because motivations may be multiple, varied and complicated. In a third of incidents the motive was unknown or not recorded (n=154; 32%).

Almost a third of homicide incidents (n=152; 31%) were motivated by an argument. Of these, 76 incidents were motivated by a domestic argument (16%) and 39 incidents by an alcohol-related argument (8%; see Table 5). Revenge, jealousy or desertion were each recorded as an apparent motive in less than 10 percent of homicide incidents, as were homicide incidents motivated by money or drugs. In five percent of homicide incidents, the offender was determined to have been delusional at the time of the homicide (n=24; 5%).

Table 5: Apparent motive in homicide incidents by victims and incidents, 2012–14

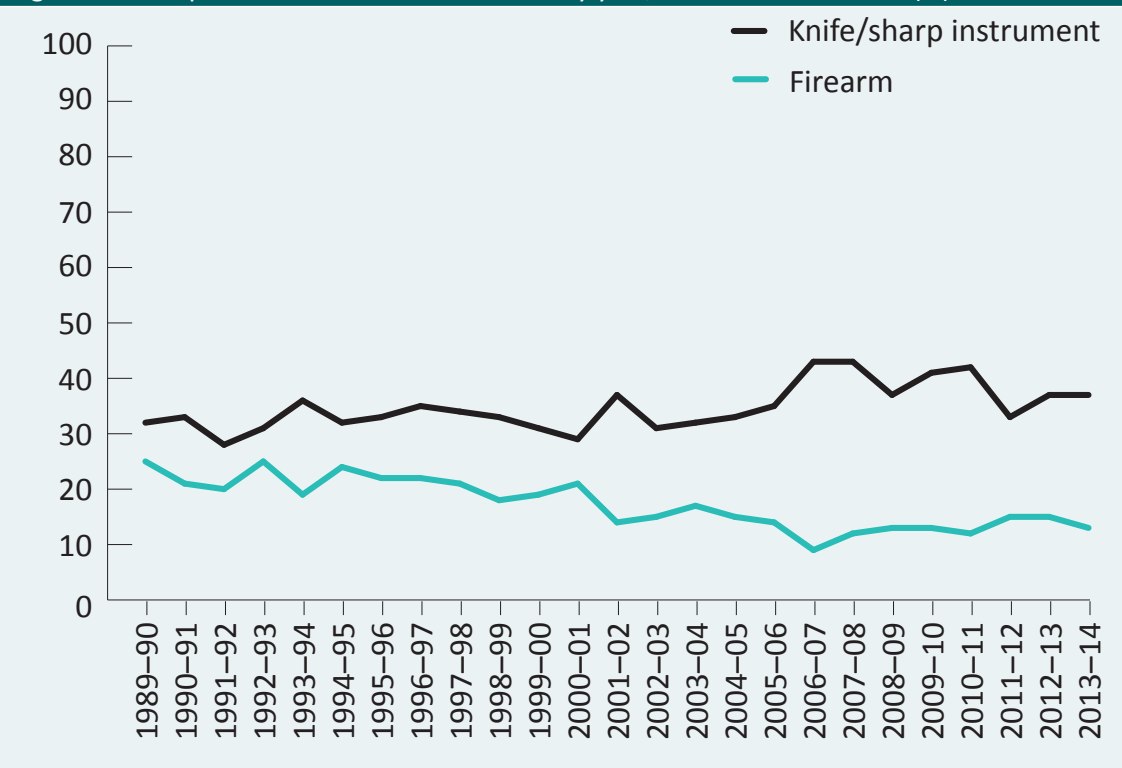
	Victims (n)	Incidents (n)	Incidents (%)
Revenge	20	20	4
Jealousy	25	24	5
Desertion/termination of the relationship	20	20	4
Domestic argument	79	76	16
Money	32	30	6
Drugs	29	28	6
Alcohol-related argument	39	39	8
Other argument	37	37	8
Sexual vilification	1	1	<1
Apparently delusional	29	24	5
Assisted suicide/consensual suicide pact	2	2	<1
To escape relationship	1	1	<1
No apparent motive	34	31	6
Unknown/not recorded	164	154	32

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Weapons used in homicide incidents

Since the NHMP began in 1989–90, homicide incidents involving firearms have decreased (see Figure 19). In 1989–90, 25 percent of homicide incidents (n=76) involved the use of a firearm, while in 2013–14 firearms were used in 13 percent of homicide incidents (n=32). Between 2011–12 and 2013–14, firearm use in homicide incidents decreased from 15 percent (n=38) to 13 percent (n=32). Conversely, the use of knives or sharp instruments in homicide incidents has not changed markedly since 1989–90 (n=99; 32% cf n=89; 37% in 2013–14).

Figure 10: Weapons use in homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (%)



Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]; Table A16

Other situational factors

Over the 2012–14 period, over two thirds of homicide incidents (n=408; 84%) were recorded as isolated events; ie they were not committed during the course of another crime. Where a precipitating crime was known and recorded (n=79; 16%), the most common offences were break and enter (n=15; 19%) and robbery (n=14; 18%), followed by other violent crime (n=11; 14%) and sexual assault (n=10; 13%). In two of the 79 incidents there was a precipitating crime, but the type of offence was unknown at the time of data collection.

Similar to 2010–12, in over a third of homicide incidents either the offender or the victim had consumed alcohol (n=189; 39% cf n=179; 37% in 2010–12; see Table 6), a decrease from the period 2008–10, which estimated alcohol had been consumed in almost half of all incidents (n=238; 47%; Chan & Payne 2013).

NCIS toxicology documents obtained by the AIC for drug and alcohol use can assess the presence of these substances in the victim’s system but cannot assess the impact the alcohol and/or drugs had on the victim, offender or homicide incident (eg affecting the judgement of the victim and/or offender or incapacitation of the victim) (Cussen & Bryant 2015).

In contrast to the 2010–12 findings, alcohol consumption by the victim and the offender was comparable in domestic and acquaintance homicide incidents (see Figure 11). During 2012–14,

of 158 incidents in which the victim was found to be drinking, 37 percent were classified as a domestic homicide incident (n=58) and another 37 percent as an acquaintance homicide incident (n=59). Of 136 total incidents in which the offender consumed alcohol, 40 percent were domestic (n=54) and 40 percent were acquaintance (n=55) homicide incidents.

Illicit drug use preceded a third (n=161; 33%) of homicide incidents. This is an increase of 12 percent from the 2010–12 reporting period. Victim illicit drug use (n=126; 26%) was more commonly recorded than offender drug use (n=80; 16%; see Table 6). However, it is easier to determine whether the victim used drugs (and/or alcohol) through post-mortem toxicological tests—whereas for the offender, drug use is subjectively assessed by the investigating officers and there is usually no toxicological confirmation. Further, while NHMP data identifies whether alcohol and other drugs have been consumed prior to a homicide incident, it cannot assess the impact of their use on the victim, offender or situation.

Table 6: Alcohol and drug involvement in homicide incidents, 2012–14

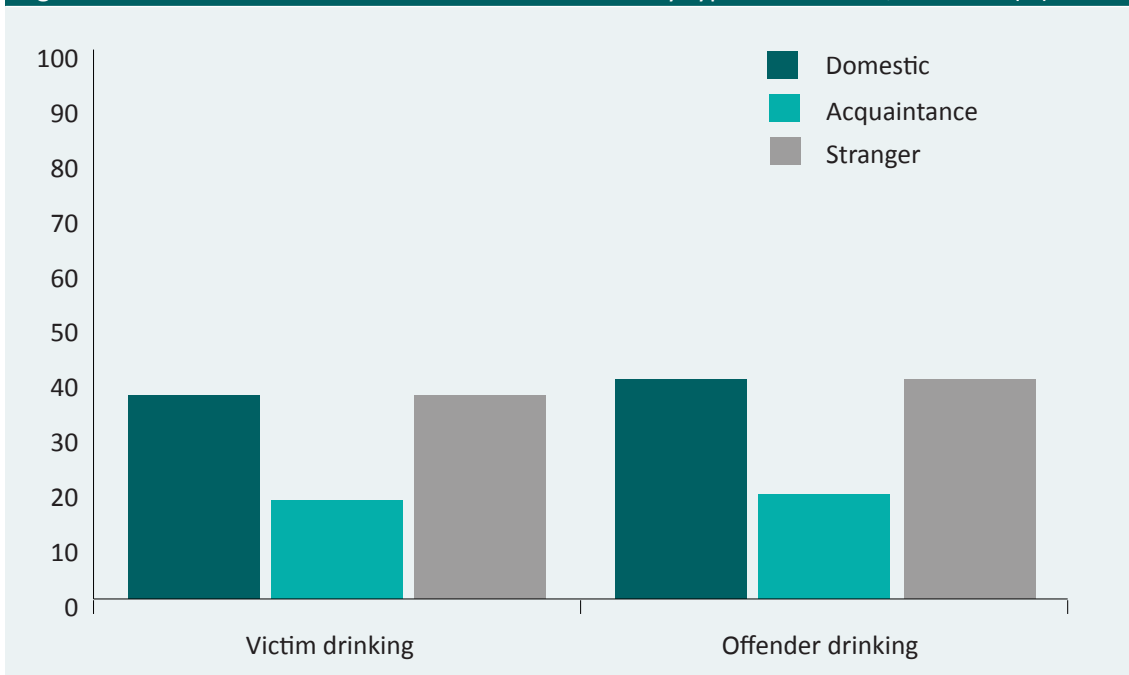
	n	%
Alcohol		
Victim drinking ^a	158	32
Offender drinking ^b	136	28
Any alcohol use	189	39
Victim drinking unknown/not stated	102	21
Offender drinking unknown/not stated	233	48
Drugs		
Victim used drugs ^a	126	26
Offender used drugs ^b	80	16
Any drug use	161	33
Victim drug use unknown/not stated	127	26
Offender drug use unknown/not stated	284	58

a: In 227 incidents and 234 incidents, the victim was not drinking or using drugs, respectively

b: In 118 incidents and 123 incidents, the offender was not drinking or using drugs, respectively

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Figure 11: Alcohol involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (%)

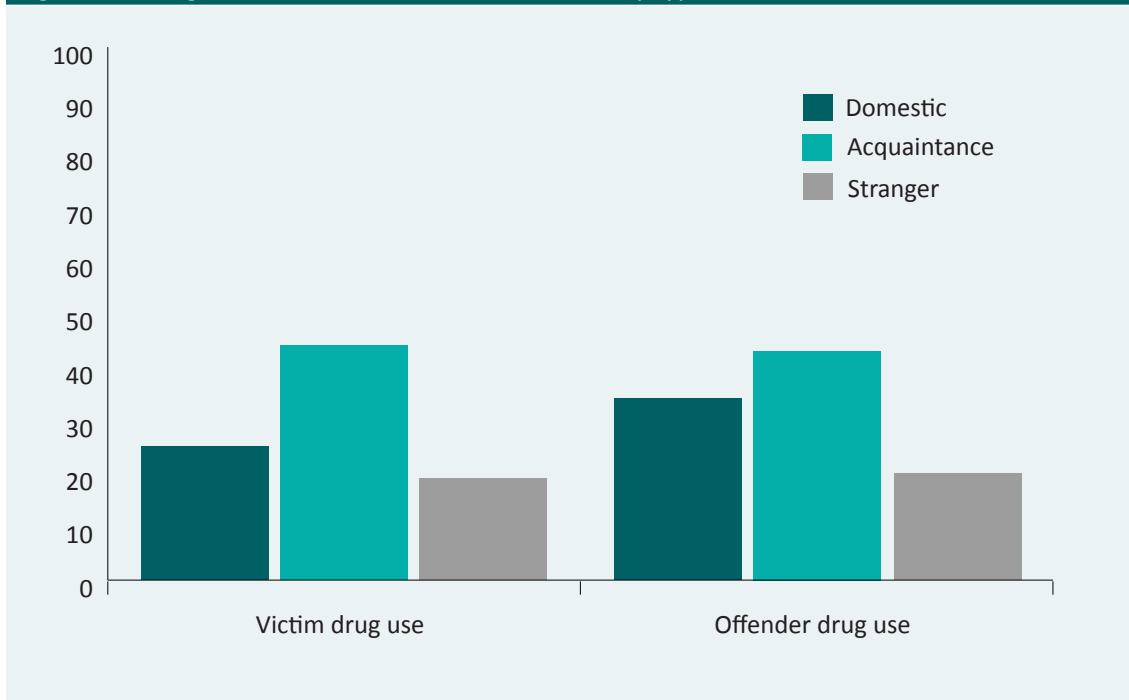


Note: Excludes 92 incidents where victim-offender relationship was unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A18

Drug use by either the victim (n=55 of 126 incidents with drug use; 44%) or offender (n=34 of 80 incidents with drug use; 43%) was most prevalent in acquaintance homicide incidents (see Figure 12). In domestic homicide incidents, offenders (n=27; 34%) were proportionally more likely to have used drugs than victims (n=31; 25%). Similar proportions of stranger homicide incidents were preceded by either the victim or the offender consuming drugs. The relationship between alcohol and/or drug use as a contributing factor in homicide research remains debated as a topic, and the nature of the relationship unclear (Dearden & Payne 2009; Virueda & Payne 2010).

Figure 12: Drug involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (%)



Note: Excludes 92 incidents where victim-offender relationship was unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table A19

Homicide victims

In 2012–14, there were 512 homicide victims—264 in 2012–13 and 248 in 2013–14. The majority of homicide incidents involved the death of a single victim (n=463; 95%). In 24 incidents multiple victims were killed—23 incidents involved the death of two victims and one incident involved three victims.

The homicide victimisation rate in 2012–13 and 2013–14 was 1.1 per 100,000 persons (see Table 7). In the 25 years since 1989–90, the number of homicide victims decreased by 25 percent (n=332 *cf* 248). Homicide victimisation rates recorded for New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia in 2013–14 were similar to the national average. The Northern Territory’s victimisation rate was six times the national rate. These findings should be considered with caution as the total number of homicide victims in each jurisdiction varies considerably based on population and, in some cases, is very small—which affects rates.

Table 7: Homicide victims by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (rate per 100,000)

	2012–13		2013–14	
	n	Rate per 100,000	n	Rate per 100,000
NSW	75	1.0	82	1.1
Vic	50	0.9	57	1.0
Qld	48	1.0	38	0.8
WA	42	1.7	28	1.1
SA	20	1.2	17	1.0
Tas	10	1.9	8	1.6
NT	17	7.0	17	6.9
ACT	2	0.5	1	0.3
National	264	1.1	248	1.1

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Victim gender

Males remain over-represented as victims of homicide. Of 512 homicide victims in 2012–14, 328 were male (64%) and 184 were female (36%).

The victimisation rate by gender is shown in Figure 13. In 2013–14, the victimisation rate for males was 1.3 per 100,000, the lowest rate recorded since 1989–90 and a decrease from a rate of 1.5 per 100,000 recorded in 2011–12 and 2012–13. The victimisation rate for females remained constant at 0.8 per 100,000. Victimization rates for males decreased by 49 percent between 1989–90 (2.53 per 100,000) and 2013–14, and for females by 41 percent (1.36 per 100,000 in 1989–90).

Figure 13: Victimisation rate by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)



Note: Excludes 8 victims where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]; Table B3

The proportion of male and female homicide victims varies depending on the type of homicide (see Table 8). In 2012–14, 213 victims were killed by an offender with whom they shared a domestic relationship, of which just over a third were male (n=75; 35%) and nearly two-thirds were female (n=138; 65%). Females were over-represented as victims of intimate partner homicide (n=99; 79%) and males as victims of acquaintance (n=116; 83%) and stranger (n=58; 92%) homicide. Similar proportions of males and females were victimised in filicides and parricides.

Table 8: Type of homicide by gender of victims, 2012–14

	Male		Female		Total
	n	%	n	%	n
Domestic					
Intimate partner	27	21	99	79	126
Filicide	18	56	14	44	32
Parricide	12	46	14	54	26
Sibicide	7	78	2	22	9
Other family homicide	11	55	9	45	20
Subtotal domestic	75	35	138	65	213
Acquaintance homicide	116	83	24	17	140
Stranger homicide	58	92	5	8	63
Unclassified	79	82	17	18	96
Total	328	64	184	36	512

Note: Percentages are calculated by row total

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Victim age

The mean age of homicide victims in 2012–14 was 37.6 years of age (see Table 9). There was little difference in the mean age of male and female homicide victims (37.2 and 38.3 years of age respectively). Approximately eight percent (n=42) of homicide victims were children under 18 years of age, a decrease of five percentage points from 2010–12 (n=61; 13%). Over a third of these children were between one and nine years of age (n=16; 3% of all homicide victims); 14 victims were under one year of age (3% of all homicide victims).

Table 9: Age of homicide victims by gender, 2012–14

	Male victims ^a		Female victims		All victims	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under 1	9	3	5	3	14	3
1–9	7	2	9	5	16	3
10–14	3	<1	2	1	5	1
15–17	5	2	2	1	7	1
18–24	52	16	22	12	74	14
25–34	82	25	46	25	128	25
35–49	94	29	47	26	141	28
50–64	49	15	36	20	85	17
65+	26	8	15	8	41	8
Total	327		184		511	
Mean age	37.2		38.3		37.6	
Median age	36		36		36	

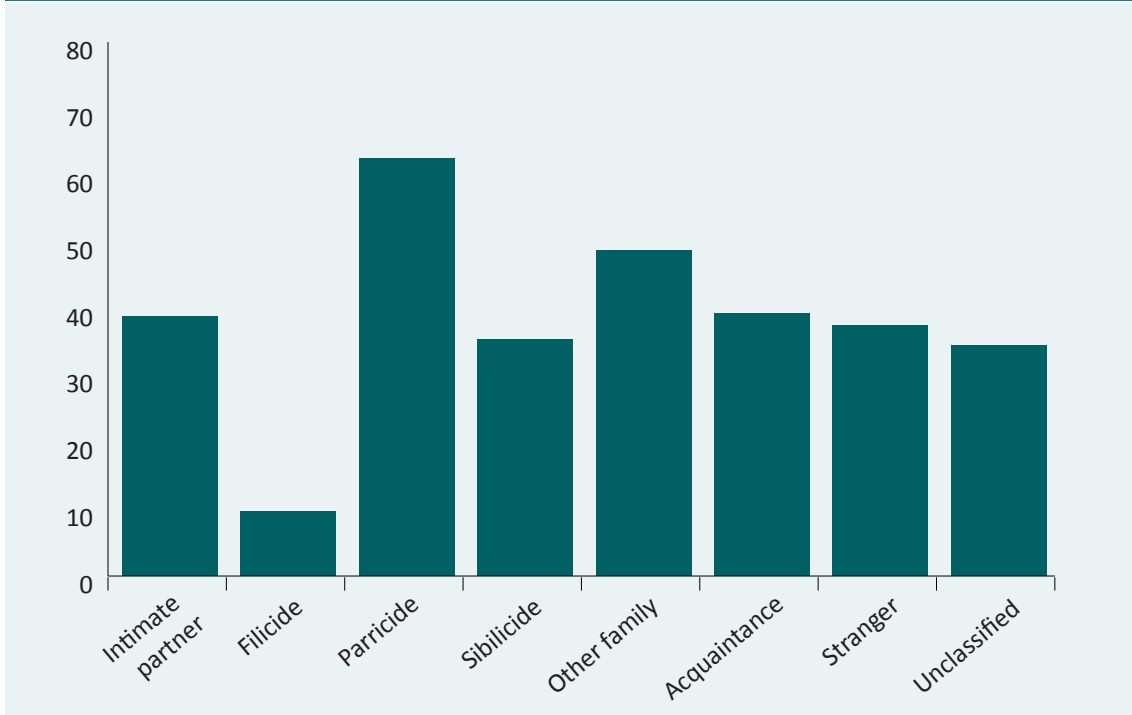
a: Excludes one male where age was unknown

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

The mean age of homicide victims varied according to the homicide relationship classification, from a low of 9.6 years of age for filicide victims (who were predominantly under 18 years of age) to a high of 62.5 years of age for parricides (usually parents killed by adult children; see Figure 14). The mean age of filicide victims varied between reporting periods. In 2012–14, victims of filicide were on average three years older than the mean age recorded in 2010–12 (6.9 years of age). This was because six of the filicide victims were adults, ranging in age from 18 to 46 years.

Figure 14: Age of homicide victim by type of homicide, 2012–14 (mean age in years)

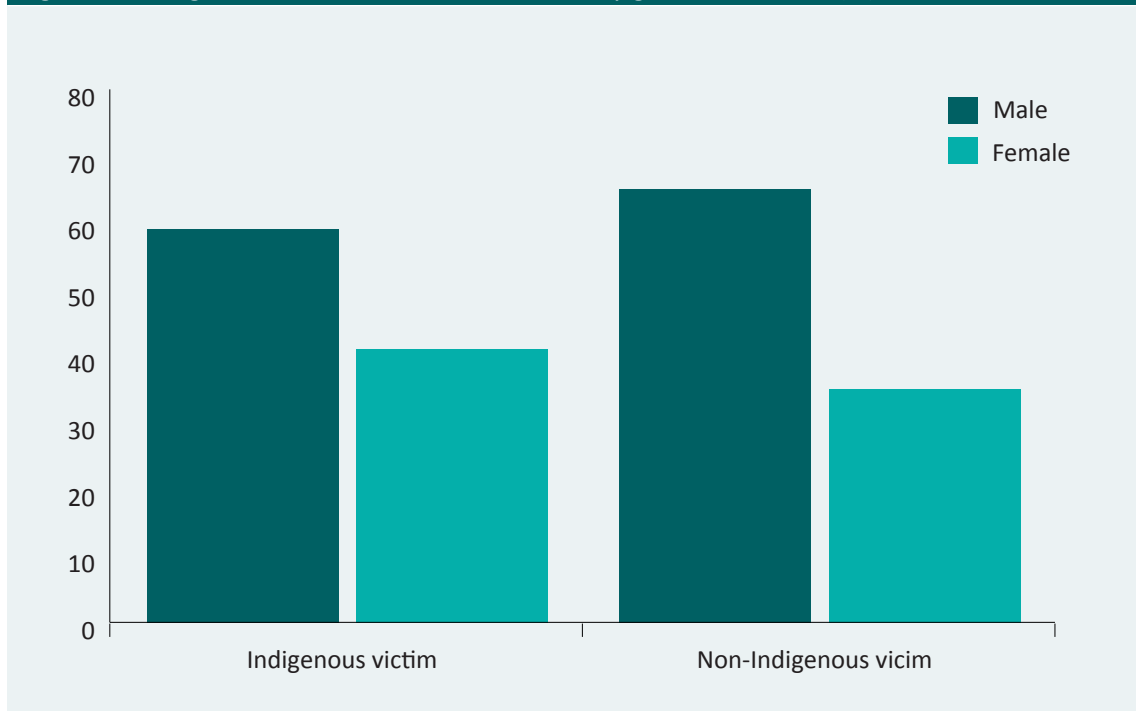


Note. Excludes one victim where age was unknown
Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table B6

Victim Indigenous status

Over the 2012–14 period, 78 of the 512 homicide victims (15%) were identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person (43 in 2012–13 and 35 in 2013–14). Of these, 46 were male (59%) and 32 were female (41%; see Figure 15).

Figure 15: Indigenous status of homicide victims by gender, 2012–14 (%)



Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table B8

Nearly two-thirds (n=48; 62%) of Indigenous victims were killed in a domestic homicide event (see Table 10). Two in five Indigenous victims were killed by an intimate partner (n=32; 41%), compared with one in five non-Indigenous victims (n=94; 22%).

Eighteen percent (n=14) of Indigenous victims were killed by an acquaintance. Indigenous victims are less likely to be killed by strangers; since data collection began the rate has been consistently low and, at times, nonexistent.

Table 10: Indigenous status of homicide victims by type of homicide, 2012–14

	Indigenous (n=78)		Non-Indigenous (n=434)		Total (n=512)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Domestic						
Intimate partner	32	41	94	22	126	25
Filicide	4	5	28	6	32	6
Parricide	0	0	26	6	26	5
Sibicide	3	4	6	1	9	2
Other family homicide	9	12	11	3	20	4
Subtotal	48	62	165	38	213	42
Acquaintance homicide	14	18	126	29	140	27
Stranger homicide	3	4	60	14	63	12
Unclassified	13	17	83	19	96	19

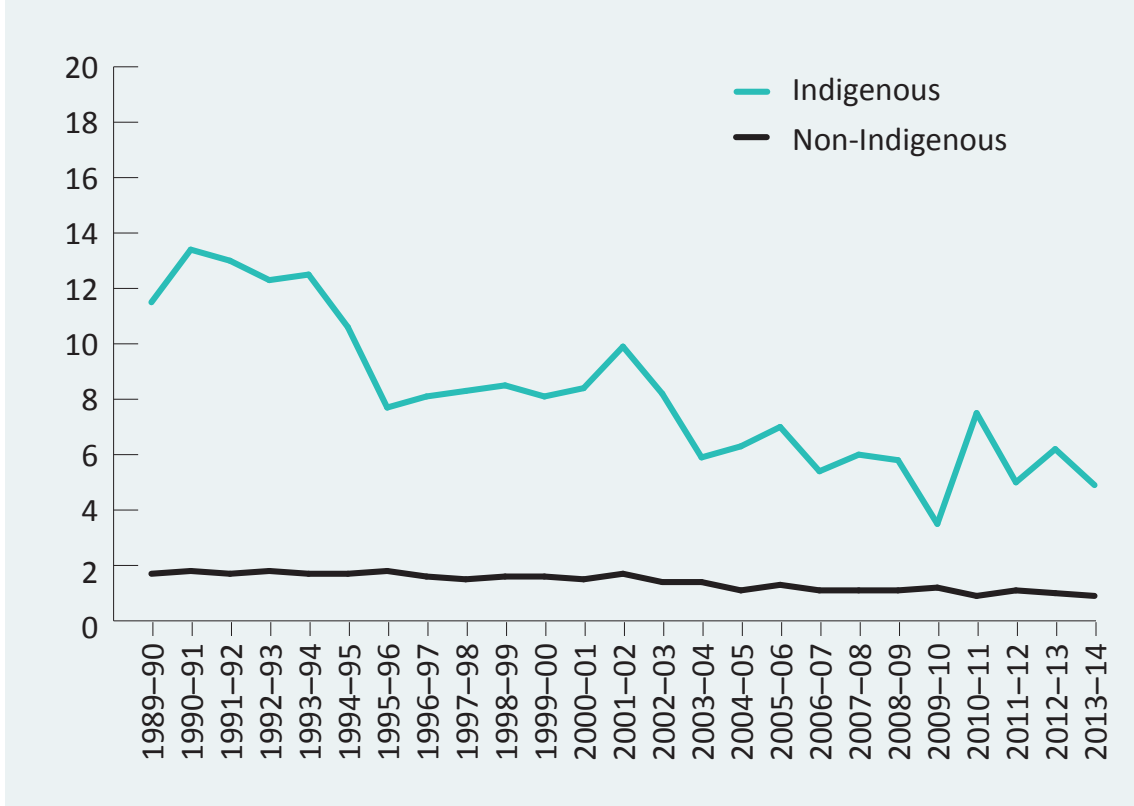
Note: Percentages may not subtotal due to rounding

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Indigenous homicide rates are derived from projected population statistics prepared by the ABS. The ABS has released new estimates and projections to 2026 that suggest the population figures used in previous reports underestimated the Indigenous population. In the current monitoring report, these population figures have been updated and backdated based on ABS data from 1989–90 to 2013–14, and revised rates of Indigenous homicide provided. However, the rates provided in this report will not be comparable to previous reports.

Indigenous people continue to be overrepresented as victims of homicide compared with non-Indigenous people (see Figure 16). In 2013–14, the overall Indigenous homicide rate was 4.9 per 100,000 or five times the non-Indigenous rate (0.9 per 100,000). The victimisation rate for Indigenous males was 5.6 per 100,000 compared with 1.1 for non-Indigenous males. The rate of Indigenous female victimisation was 4.2 per 100,000 compared with 0.7 for non-Indigenous females in 2013–14.

Figure 16: Indigenous and non-Indigenous homicide victimisation, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)

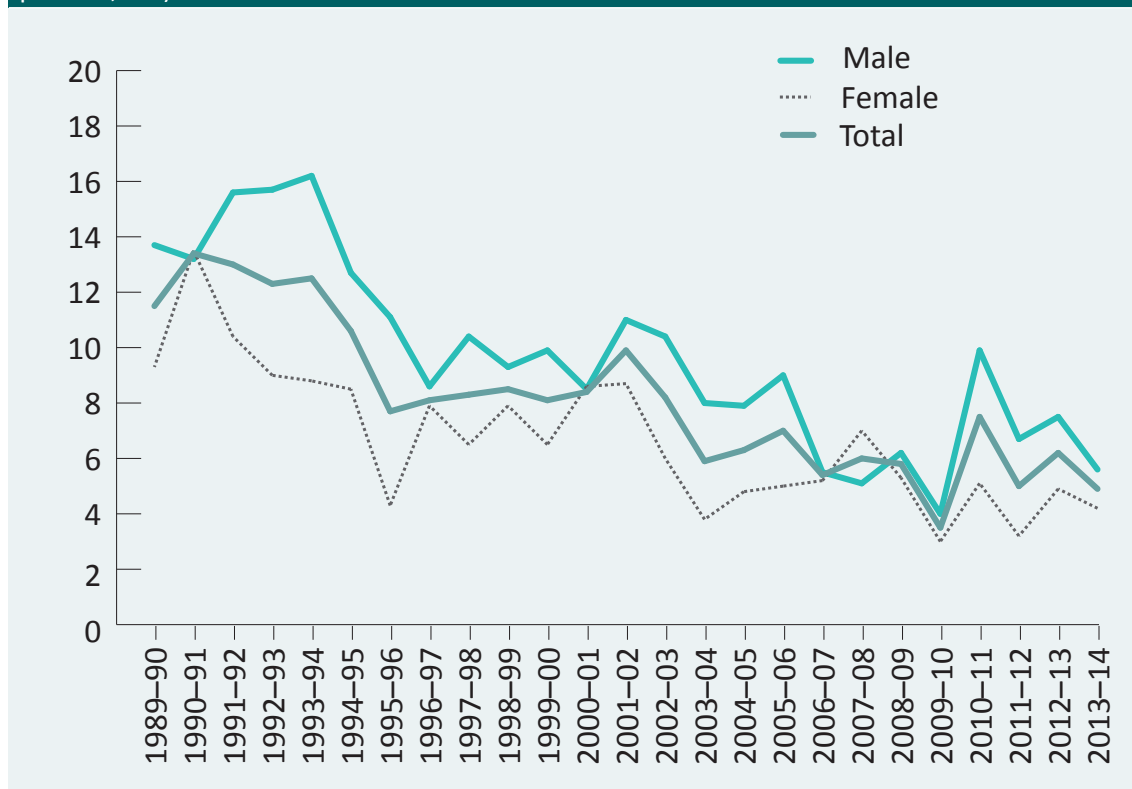


Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table B9

The rate of homicide victimisation for Indigenous males and females steadily declined over the 25-year period (see Figure 17). In 2013–14 the victimisation rate for Indigenous males was 5.6 per 100,000, a 59 percent decrease since 1989–90 (13.7 per 100,000). Among Indigenous females the rate of homicide victimisation decreased by 54 percent to 4.3 per 100,000 in 2013–14 (from 9.3 per 100,000 in 1989–90).

Indigenous homicide victimisation rates, however, fluctuate more than those calculated for non-Indigenous homicide victims, due to the small number of Indigenous homicide victims and the smaller Indigenous population size.

Figure 17: Indigenous homicide victimisation by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)



Note: Excludes 8 victims where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]; Table B10

Cause of death

Cause of death is specific to each victim within a homicide incident and where there are multiple victims, the cause of death may be different for each victim. During 2012–14, a third of victims died from stab wounds (n=192; 38%; see Table 11). Beatings were the cause of death for a quarter of victims (n=129; 25%) and gunshot wounds for 14 percent (n=73).

Table 11: Cause of death for homicide victims, 2012–14

	n	%
Stab wounds	192	38
Beatings	129	25
Gunshot wounds	73	14
Criminal neglect	1	<1
Drug overdose administered by offender	3	<1
Strangulation/suffocation	37	7
Poisoning/injection	1	<1
Smoke inhalation/burns	3	<1
Shaking	4	<1
Other (eg hit by car)	25	5
Drowning/submersion	2	<1
Hanging	1	<1
Pushed from a high place	1	<1
Not stated/unknown	40	8

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Almost half of all victims of domestic homicide in 2012–14 died of stab wounds (n=97; 46%; see Table 12). Stab wounds and beatings were the most common causes of death for victims of acquaintance and stranger homicides. A greater proportion of acquaintance homicide victims (n=21; 15%) died due to gunshot wounds than domestic (n=20; 9%) or stranger homicide (n=7; 11%) victims.

Table 12: Cause of death for homicide victims by type of homicide, 2012–14

	Domestic homicide (n=213)		Acquaintance homicide (n=140)		Stranger homicide (n=63)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Stab wounds	97	46	52	37	21	33
Beatings	47	22	44	31	23	37
Gunshot wounds	20	9	21	15	7	11
Drug overdose (administered by offender)	0	0	3	2	0	0
Criminal neglect	1	<1	0	0	0	0
Pushed from high place	0	0	0	0	1	2
Strangulation/suffocation	18	8	9	6	3	5
Hanging	1	<1	0	0	0	0
Poisoning/injection	1	<1	0	0	0	0
Smoke inhalation/burns	2	<1	1	<1	0	0
Other (eg hit by car/shaken baby syndrome)	10	5	5	4	5	8
Drowning/submersion	1	<1	0	0	0	0
Not stated/unknown	15	7	5	4	3	5

Note: Excludes 96 victims where victim–offender relationship unknown but cause of death known
Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Homicide offenders

Five hundred and forty-nine homicide offenders were identified in 2012–14 (276 in 2012–13 and 273 in 2013–14). At the time of reporting, no offender was identified in 38 of the 487 homicide incidents recorded in 2012–14. Of the 449 incidents where an offender was identified, 388 (86%) involved one offender, 37 involved two offenders (8%) and 24 incidents involved three or more offenders (5%). Proportionally, stranger homicides were more likely to involve multiple offenders (n=14; 23%) than domestic (n=10; 5%) or acquaintance homicides (n=22; 17%; see Table 13).

Table 13: Number of homicides offenders by homicide type, 2012–14

	One offender		Two offenders		Three or more offenders		Total
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n
Domestic							
Intimate partner	119	94	4	3	3	2	126
Filicide	28	93	2	7	0	0	30
Parricide	20	95	1	5	0	0	21
Siblicide	7	100	0	0	0	0	7
Other family homicide	16	100	0	0	0	0	16
Subtotal	190	95	7	4	3	2	200
Acquaintance homicide	111	83	16	12	6	5	133
Stranger homicide	48	77	8	13	6	10	62
Unknown	39	72	6	11	9	17	54
Total	388	86	37	8	24	5	449

Note: Percentages are calculated based on row totals. An incident is classified by the principal relationship. For multiple offender homicides, this is the closest relationship between any one of the offenders and victims

Note. Excludes 38 incidents where an offender was unidentified

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

In 2012–14, the homicide offender rate was calculated at 1.2 per 100,000 persons (see Table 14), a rate which has remained steady since 2010–11. The number of homicide offenders decreased by 19 percent between 1989–90 and 2013–14 (n=339 *cf* 273).

	2012–13		2013–14	
	n	Rate per 100,000	n	Rate per 100,000
NSW	67	0.9	86	1.1
Vic	53	0.9	71	1.2
Qld	55	1.2	40	0.8
WA	46	1.8	34	1.3
SA	25	1.5	16	0.9
Tas	7	1.4	8	1.6
NT	22	5.8	17	6.9
ACT	1	0.4	1	0.3
National	276	1.2	273	1.2

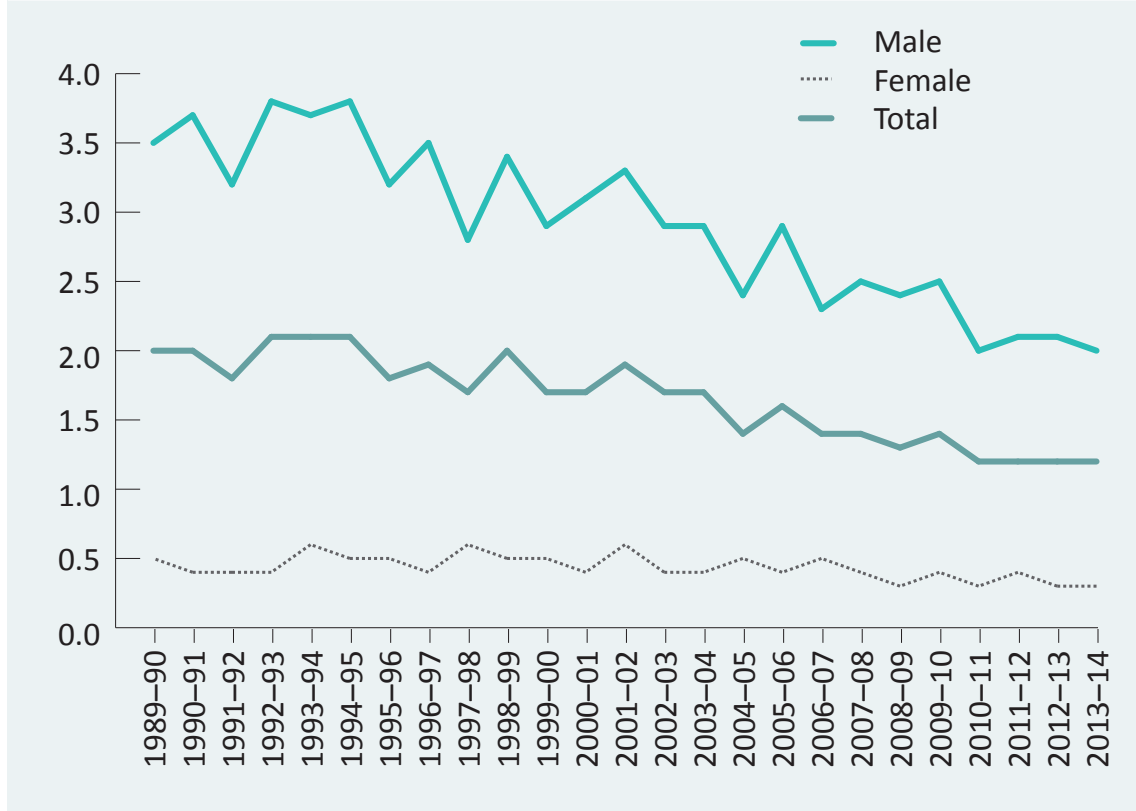
Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Offenders' gender

In 2012–14, there were 483 (88%) male homicide offenders and 64 female offenders (12%). The gender of two offenders was unknown. This is consistent with historical trends, where males are more than 80 percent of all known homicide offenders.

Overall the rate of offending has declined since 1989–90 by 40 percent (2 per 100,000 *cf* 1.2 per 100,000; see Figure 18). The offending rate also decreased by around 40 percent for both males and females. In 2013–14, the offending rate for males and females was two and 0.3 per 100,000 persons, respectively.

Figure 18: Offending rate by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)



Note: Calculated as the estimated number of known offenders per 100,000 of the Australian population. Excludes 6 offenders where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2012–14 [computer file]; Table C4

Offender age

The mean age of all known homicide offenders in 2012–14 was 34.2 years, slightly younger than the mean age of victims (37.6 years of age; see Table 15). The mean age of offenders has remained relatively stable since the NHMP commenced, with a modest decrease in mean age between 1989–90 (36.2 years of age) and 2012–14 (34.2 years of age).

There were 11 offenders over the age of 65 years, the oldest being 82 years of age. Twenty-two offenders were under 18 years of age, only one of whom was female. The youngest offender was 14 years old at the time of the homicide incident. The age of 19 offenders was either unreported or unknown.

Since the 2010–12 reporting period, the mean age of female offenders has remained stable (34.4 in 2012–14 *cf* 34.6 in 2010–12). Conversely, the mean age of male offenders has increased by approximately two years since the 2010–12 reporting period (34.2 *cf* 32.9). It should be noted that female offender data are more significantly affected by changes in offender demographics, due to the relatively low numbers of female offenders.

	Male offenders		Female offenders		All offenders	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Under 1	0	0	0	0	0	0
1–9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10–14	3	<1	0	0	3	<1
15–17	18	4	1	2	19	4
18–24	109	23	13	21	122	23
25–34	127	27	19	31	146	28
35–49	148	32	24	39	172	32
50–64	52	11	5	8	57	11
65+	11	2	0	0	11	2
Total	468		62		530	
Mean age		34.2		34.4		34.2
Median age		32		32		32

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding. Data excludes 17 offenders whose age was not reported or unknown and two offenders whose gender and age were unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Offender Indigenous status

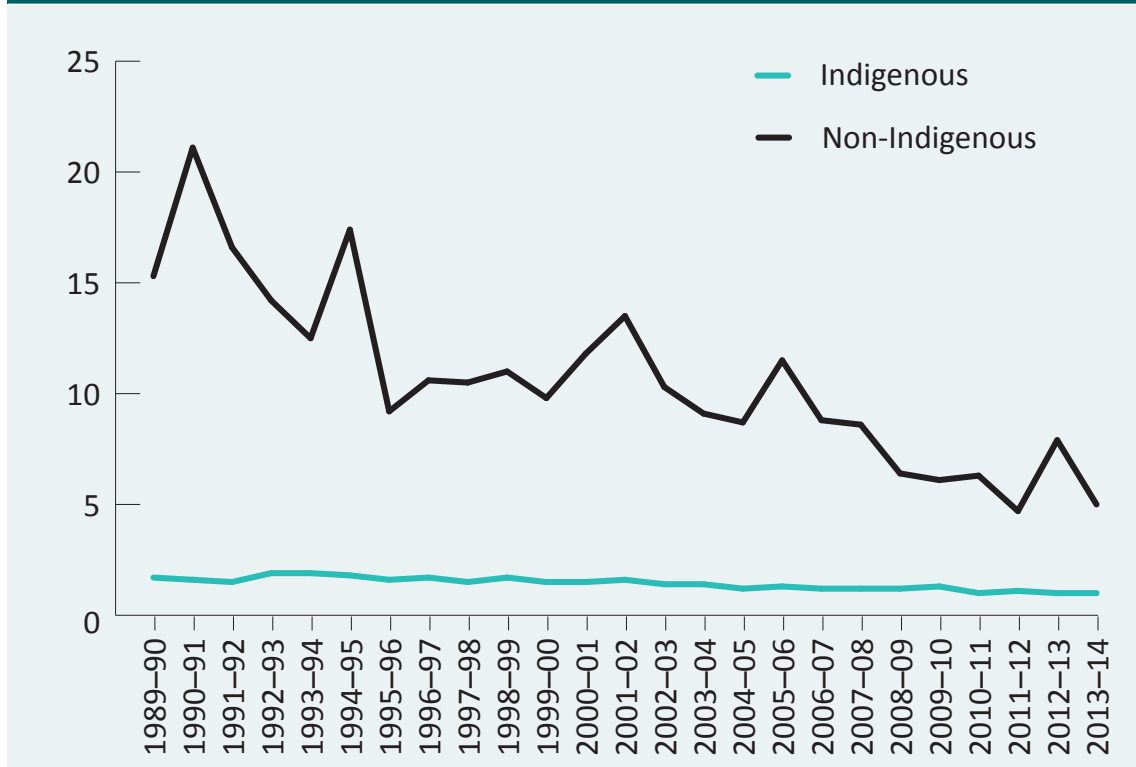
Just under a fifth of the 549 homicide offenders in 2012–14 were identified as Indigenous (n=91; 17%). This is an increase from the proportion of homicide offenders identified as Indigenous in 2010–12 (n=74; 14%). Fifty-five offenders were identified as Indigenous in 2012–13 (representing 10% of all offenders) and 36 in 2013–14 (representing 7% of all offenders).

Consistent with historical trends, Indigenous Australians were over-represented among homicide offenders. In 2013–14, the rate of Indigenous offending was five per 100,000 people. This rate was five times the non-Indigenous rate of one per 100,000 in 2013–14.

Similar to non-Indigenous offenders, Indigenous offenders were more likely to be men (n=75; 82% cf n=16; 18%). Both male and female Indigenous offenders were over-represented, with the extent of over-representation fairly equal. In 2012–13, the rate of offending for Indigenous males was eight times higher, at 14.3 per 100,000 (cf 1.8 for non-Indigenous males), and for Indigenous females it was seven times higher at 1.4 per 100,000 (cf 0.2 per 100,000 for non-Indigenous females). In 2013–14, the offending rate for Indigenous males declined to seven per 100,000, while for Indigenous females the rate increased to 3.1 per 100,000.

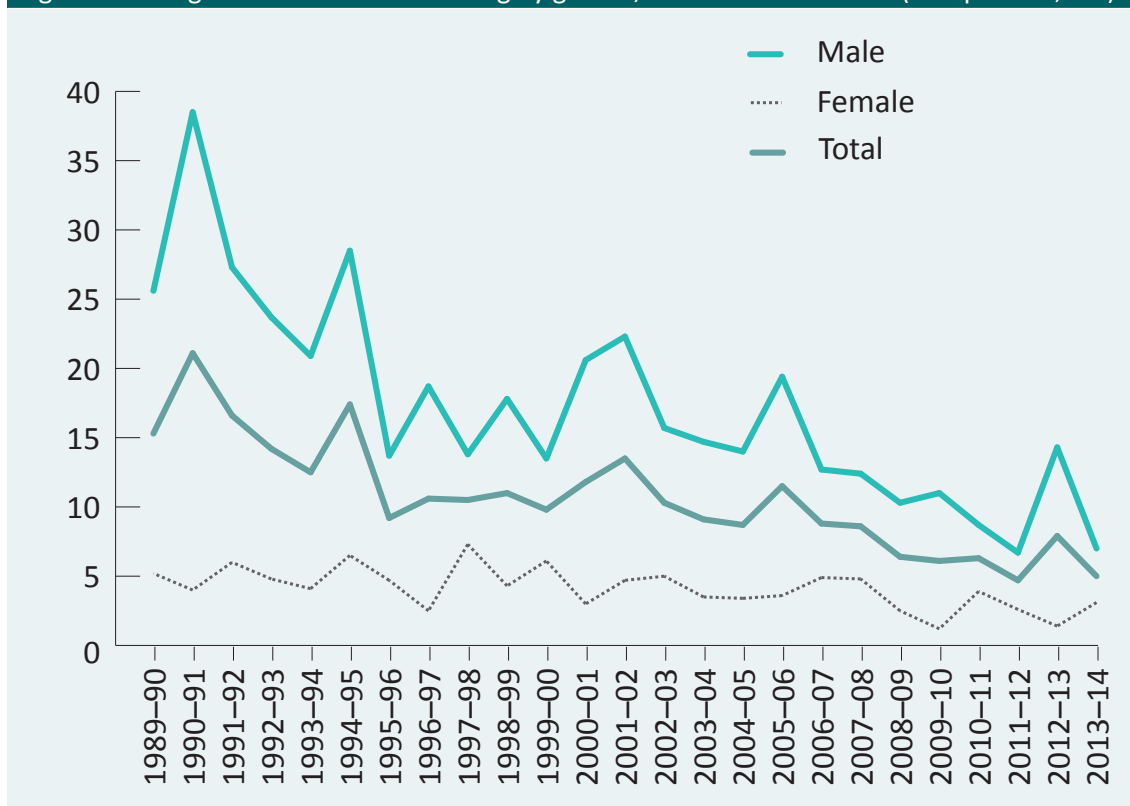
The rate of Indigenous homicide offending has decreased by over two-thirds since 1989–90 (see Figure 19). This decrease was driven by the marked decline in offending among Indigenous males, from 25.6 per 100,000 in 1989–90 to seven per 100,000 in 2013–14, a decrease of 73 percent (see Figure 20). For Indigenous females, the rate of offending decreased by 40 percent (3.1 per 100,000 in 2013–14 cf 5.2 per 100,000 in 1989–90).

Figure 19: Indigenous and non-Indigenous homicide offending, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)



Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2012–14 [computer file]; Table C7

Figure 20: Indigenous homicide offending by gender, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)



Note: Excludes 6 offenders where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2012–14 [computer file]; Table C8

Almost two-thirds of Indigenous offenders perpetrated their crime against an Indigenous victim (n=55; 60%). This pattern was evident for both Indigenous male (n=43; 57%) and female offenders (n=12; 75%).

The majority of homicides perpetrated by Indigenous female offenders were of intimate partners or family members (n=14; 88%; see Table 16). Male Indigenous offenders were also more likely to kill intimate partners or family members (n=34; 45%), followed by close friends and acquaintances (n=17; 23%). Eight stranger homicides were committed by Indigenous male offenders.

Table 16: Indigenous homicide offending by gender and victim-offender relationship, 2012–14

	Male		Female		Total
	n	%	n	%	n
Domestic	34	45	14	88	48
Stranger	17	23	2	13	19
Acquaintance	8	11	0	0	8
Unknown	16	21	0	0	16
Total	75		16		91

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Offender criminal history

In 2012–14, almost half (n=255; 47%) of homicide offenders had a prior criminal history (see Table 17). Fourteen percent (n=76) did not have a criminal history. The criminal history of 39 percent (n=216) of offenders was not known or not provided at the time of reporting. Male offenders (n=235; 49%) were more likely than female offenders (n=20; 31%) to have a prior criminal history.

Where information on prior offences was available (see Table 17), assault was the most commonly recorded offence for both males (n=116; 24%) and females (n=12; 19%). Although much less frequent, the next most commonly recorded prior conviction for all offenders was for drug offences (n=45; 8%).

Table 17: Prior criminal history of homicide offenders by gender, 2012–14

	Male offenders (n=483)		Female offenders (n=64)		All offenders (n=547)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Murder	7	1	0	0	7	1
Sexual assault	16	3	0	0	16	3
Other assault	116	24	12	19	128	23
Robbery	6	1	0	0	6	1
Drug offences	42	9	3	5	45	8
Property offences	19	4	1	2	20	4
Other offences	26	5	4	6	30	5
Any criminal history	235	49	20	31	255	47
No criminal history	61	13	15	23	76	14
Criminal history unrecorded/unknown	187	39	29	45	216	39

Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

Note: Excludes two offenders where gender was unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Offender suicide

Of the 549 homicide offenders in 2012–14, 26 committed suicide (5%) at the time of or shortly after the homicide incident. This represents a small proportional decrease compared with the 2010–12 reporting period (n=31; 6%). The majority of these offenders were male (n=24; 92%). All but one committed suicide prior to their arrest (n=25), and one suicided after being arrested. The majority of offenders who committed suicide did so following a domestic homicide (n=24; 92%). Two offenders committed suicide after killing a close friend.

Of the 24 offender suicides related to domestic homicide:

- 11 involved the death of a current intimate partner;
- seven involved the death of a former intimate partner;
- one involved the death of a former intimate partner and other family member;
- two involved the death of child or children only; and
- three involved the death of a parent.

Offender history of domestic violence

A fifth of offenders (n=106; 19%) were known to have had a prior history of domestic violence. Four-fifths of offenders with a flagged prior history of domestic violence were male (n=86; 81%) while a fifth were female (n=20; 19%). A prior history of domestic violence, however, does not indicate the homicide took place in the context of domestic violence.

The majority of offenders with a prior history of domestic violence were involved in a domestic homicide (n=75; 71%), of which 58 (77%) involved the death of a current or former intimate partner. Of the 75 offenders with a prior history of domestic violence who were involved in a domestic homicide, 57 (76%) were males and 18 (24%) were females. Ten offenders with a prior history of domestic violence committed suicide after committing a domestic homicide.

Offender mental illness

Of the 549 offenders in 2012–14, 70 (13%) had a mental illness. Of these, 52 (74%) had an unspecified mental illness while 18 (26%) had depression at the time of the incident. For the NHMP, an offender's mental illness is recorded based on evidence presented by medical professionals during court proceedings and agreed upon by the presiding judge. Recorded mental illnesses include, but are not limited to, depression, schizophrenia, paranoia, hallucinations and delusions.

The majority of offenders with a recorded mental illness were male (n=61; 87%) while nine were female (13%; this is a consequence of the over-representation of male homicide offenders). Over half of those offenders with a mental illness committed a domestic homicide (n=39; 56%). Of these, almost half (n=18; 46%) killed an intimate partner and a quarter killed a parent (n=10; 26%). Fourteen offenders (20%) with a mental illness killed a close friend or acquaintance and eleven (16%) killed a stranger.

Summary of findings

Over 2012–14, there were 487 homicide incidents involving 512 victims (328 males and 184 females) and 549 offenders (483 males and 64 females). Ongoing monitoring of homicide trends has shown the incidence of homicide has declined over the 25 years since the NHMP began. In 2013–14 the incident rate was one homicide incident per 100,000, the lowest recorded since 1989–90.

The overall number of homicide victims decreased by 25 percent between 1989–90 and 2013–14. A similar downward trend was observed in the number of homicide offenders, which decreased by 19 percent over the same period.

The proportion of domestic homicide incidents increased from 39 percent (n=187) of all homicides in 2010–12 to 41 percent (n=200) in 2012–14. Nearly two-thirds of these domestic homicide incidents were intimate partner homicides (n=126; 63%), an increase of five percent from 2010–12 (n=109; 58%). The number of female intimate partner homicide victims increased from 83 in 2010–12 to 99 in 2013–14—more than three-quarters of all victims killed by a current or previous intimate partner.

Males remain over-represented as victims and offenders in homicide incidents. Eight in 10 victims of acquaintance homicides in 2012–14 were male as were nine in 10 victims of stranger homicides. Almost 90 percent of homicide offenders in 2012–14 were male. The rate of homicide offending by males decreased by 43 percent between 1989–90 and 2013–14.

The rate of Indigenous homicide victimisation from homicide was five times the national average in 2013–14. Three in five (n=48; 62%) Indigenous victims in 2012–14 were killed in a domestic homicide; 41 percent of these were killed in an intimate partner homicide, which was double the proportion for non-Indigenous victims (n=94; 22%). Victimisation rates for Indigenous males and females, however, have decreased by more than half.

Stab wounds (n=192; 38%) continue to be the most common cause of death for homicide victims, followed by being beaten to death (n=129; 25%). Gunshot wounds caused less than a fifth of all homicide deaths (n=73; 14%), which is proportionally equal to the 2010–12 reporting period (n=69; 14%). The use of firearms in homicide incidents also continues to decline.

Further analysis of the 2012–14 data revealed the following:

- Approximately eight percent (n=42) of homicide victims were children under 18 years of age, a decrease of five percentage points (n=61; 13%) from 2010–12.
- Eleven offenders were aged over 65 years, the oldest being 82 years of age.
- There were 22 offenders under 18 years of age, only one of whom was female; the youngest was 14 years of age.
- Alcohol was consumed by the offender or the victim in over a third of all homicide incidents (n=189; 39%) and was present in over a third of domestic and acquaintance homicide incidents where the victim (n=58; 37% *cf* n=59; 37% respectively) or offender (n=54; 40% *cf* n=55; 40% respectively) was drinking. Illicit drug use preceded almost a quarter of homicide incidents (n=161; 33%).
- Almost half of homicide offenders had a prior criminal history (n=255; 47%). Male offenders were more likely than female offenders to have a prior criminal record (n=235; 49% *cf* n=20; 31% respectively).
- There was a small proportional decrease in offenders who committed suicide in 2012–14 compared with 2010–12. Most committed suicide following a domestic homicide.
- A fifth of offenders were recorded as having a prior history of domestic violence (n=106; 19%). Thirteen percent (n=70) were known to have had a mental illness at the time of the homicide incident.

References

All URLs correct at June 2016

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2014. *Australian demographic statistics Dec 2014, population by age and sex tables*. ABS cat no. 3101.0. Canberra: ABS

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2014. *Australian demographic statistics Dec 2014, Australian demographic statistics tables*. ABS cat no. 3101.0. Canberra: ABS

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2014. *Estimates and projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2001 to 2026*. ABS cat no. 3238.0. Canberra: ABS

Chan A & Payne J 2013. *Homicide in Australia: 2008–09 to 2009–10 National Homicide Monitoring Program annual report*. Monitoring report no.21. Canberra: AIC <http://aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/mr/21-40/mr21.html>

Cussen T & Bryant W 2015. Domestic/family homicide in Australia. Research in Practice paper no. 38. Canberra: AIC. <http://aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/rip/21-40/rip38.html>

Dearden J & Payne J 2009. Alcohol and homicide in Australia. *Trends & Issues in Crime & Criminal Justice* no. 372. Canberra: AIC. <http://aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/tandi/361-80/tandi372.html>

Mouzos J 2000. *Homicidal encounters: A study of homicide in Australia 1989-1999*. Research and public policy series no. 28. Canberra: AIC. <http://aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/rpp/21-40/rpp28.html>

Virueda M & Payne J 2010. *Homicide in Australia: 2007–08 National Homicide Monitoring Program annual report*. Monitoring report no.13. Canberra: AIC. <http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/mr/1-20/13.html>

Appendix A: Homicide incidents 2012–14

Table A1: Incidents of homicide by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
1989–90	95	73	69	25	20	5	20	0	307
1990–91	119	72	55	22	22	5	28	0	323
1991–92	106	54	68	29	27	9	18	2	313
1992–93	112	59	73	35	30	6	17	1	333
1993–94	118	49	62	36	29	5	23	2	324
1994–95	90	74	59	46	29	5	20	4	327
1995–96	110	51	66	33	13	6	22	1	302
1996–97	100	51	80	23	22	3	18	2	299
1997–98	107	42	74	34	27	4	11	1	300
1998–99	112	54	64	33	38	7	18	2	328
1999–00	106	62	60	35	23	9	7	3	305
2000–01	116	55	65	28	21	8	17	0	310
2001–02	97	82	73	32	31	9	24	3	351
2002–03	99	58	62	32	22	6	17	3	299
2003–04	81	69	58	36	28	3	11	3	289
2004–05	73	51	51	27	21	10	12	3	248
2005–06	85	67	56	30	21	3	16	5	283
2006–07	89	47	53	26	12	8	18	4	257
2007–08	88	44	54	30	18	5	18	3	260
2008–09	77	52	46	31	26	8	11	4	255
2009–10	77	61	57	23	21	6	13	3	261
2010–11	77	43	49	32	20	4	11	0	236
2011–12	72	54	48	34	17	5	13	4	247
2012–13	70	47	47	40	19	7	17	2	249
2013–14	81	53	36	27	16	8	16	1	238

Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table A2: Incidents of homicide by most serious charge and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Murder	66	36	43	34	15	7	12	1	214
Manslaughter	3	11	3	5	3	0	5	0	30
Infanticide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Not stated/unknown	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	4
Total	70	47	47	40	19	7	17	2	249
2013–14									
Murder	79	44	35	26	14	8	12	1	219
Manslaughter	2	8	1	1	2	0	4	0	18
Infanticide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not stated/unknown	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	81	53	36	27	16	8	16	1	238

Note: This refers to the initial charge by police and not subsequent charges or changes/downgrades in charges that may occur in the prosecution process. For further information please refer to the inclusion criteria for the NHMP in the Methodology.

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A3: Incidents of homicide by most serious charge and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)

	Murder	Manslaughter	Infanticide	Not stated/ unknown	Total
Year	n	n	n	n	n
1989–90	282	25	0	0	307
1990–91	301	22	0	0	323
1991–92	279	34	0	0	313
1992–93	290	43	0	0	333
1993–94	286	38	0	0	324
1994–95	290	37	0	0	327
1995–96	280	22	0	0	302
1996–97	271	28	0	0	299
1997–98	279	21	0	0	300
1998–99	315	12	1	0	328
1999–00	277	28	0	0	305
2000–01	277	33	0	0	310
2001–02	316	35	0	0	351
2002–03	265	33	0	1	299
2003–04	256	28	5	0	289
2004–05	216	28	4	0	248
2005–06	256	26	1	0	283
2006–07	227	28	1	1	257
2007–08	233	24	0	3	260
2008–09	216	27	1	11	255
2009–10	214	36	1	10	261
2010–11	181	55	0	0	236
2011–12	204	35	1	7	247
2012–13	214	30	1	4	249
2013–14	219	18	0	1	238

Note: This refers to the initial charge by police and not subsequent charges or changes/downgrades in charges that may occur in the prosecution process. For further information please refer to the inclusion criteria for the NHMP in the Methodology.

Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table A4: Incidents of homicide by status at time of reporting and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Solved ^a	56	47	38	37	17	7	16	1	219
Not yet solved	14	0	9	3	2	0	1	1	30
Total	70	47	47	40	19	7	17	2	249
2013–14									
Solved ^a	68	41	31	27	13	7	14	1	202
Not yet solved	13	12	5	0	3	1	2	0	36
Total	81	53	36	27	16	8	16	1	238

a: Solved incidents include those for which an offender has been identified and charged, those in which the offender has suicided and incidents otherwise cleared, such as subsequent death of the offender

Note: The South Australia Police definition of unsolved homicides includes all homicides where a Police Incident Report for murder is made

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A5: Incidents of homicide by number of victims and offenders and jurisdictions, 2012–14 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
One victim, one offender	51	39	36	33	12	4	13	1	189
One victim, multiple offenders	6	5	6	3	4	0	3	0	27
Multiple victims, one offender	3	3	1	2	1	3	0	0	13
Multiple victims, multiple offenders	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	60	47	43	38	17	7	16	1	229
2013–14									
One victim, one offender	63	32	28	23	11	6	13	1	177
One victim, multiple offenders	10	12	4	3	2	1	1	0	33
Multiple victims, one offender	1	3	2	1	1	0	1	0	9
Multiple victims, multiple offenders	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	74	48	34	27	14	7	15	1	220

Note: Excludes 38 cases in which an offender has not been identified or formally charged

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A6: Homicide incidents by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
1989–90	1.6	1.7	2.4	1.7	1.2	1.1	12.2	0.0	1.8
1990–91	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.1	16.9	0.0	1.9
1991–92	1.8	1.2	2.2	2.0	1.6	1.9	10.7	0.7	1.8
1992–93	1.9	1.3	2.3	2.4	1.8	1.3	10.0	0.3	1.9
1993–94	1.9	1.1	1.9	2.5	1.7	1.1	13.3	0.7	1.8
1994–95	1.5	1.6	1.8	3.1	1.7	1.1	11.3	1.3	1.8
1995–96	1.8	1.1	2.0	2.2	0.7	1.3	12.1	0.3	1.6
1996–97	1.6	1.1	2.4	1.6	1.2	0.6	9.6	0.6	1.6
1997–98	1.7	0.9	2.1	2.3	1.5	0.8	5.8	0.3	1.6
1998–99	1.7	1.2	1.8	2.2	2.1	1.5	9.3	0.6	1.7
1999–00	1.6	1.3	1.7	2.3	1.2	1.9	3.6	1.0	1.6
2000–01	1.8	1.1	1.8	1.9	1.1	1.7	8.6	0.0	1.6
2001–02	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.1	1.6	1.9	12.0	0.9	1.8
2002–03	1.5	1.2	1.6	2.1	1.1	1.3	8.5	0.9	1.5
2003–04	1.2	1.4	1.5	2.3	1.4	0.6	5.4	0.9	1.4
2004–05	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.7	1.0	2.1	5.8	0.9	1.2
2005–06	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.0	0.6	7.6	1.5	1.4
2006–07	1.3	0.9	1.3	1.6	0.6	1.6	8.4	1.2	1.2
2007–08	1.3	0.8	1.3	1.9	0.8	1.0	8.2	0.9	1.2
2008–09	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.6	4.9	1.1	1.2
2009–10	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.0	1.3	1.2	5.7	0.8	1.2
2010–11	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.2	0.8	4.8	0.0	1.1
2011–12	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.0	5.5	1.1	1.1
2012–13	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.6	1.1	1.4	7.0	0.5	1.1
2013–14	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.6	6.5	0.3	1.0

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table A7: Homicide incidents by classification, 2012–14

	2012–13	2013–14	Total	
	n	n	n	%
Domestic	100	100	200	41
Acquaintance	72	61	133	27
Stranger	30	32	62	13
Unclassified	47	45	92	19
Total	249	238	487	

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger	Unknown	Total
1989–90	115	98	29	65	307
1990–91	123	123	18	59	323
1991–92	104	125	29	55	313
1992–93	128	130	47	28	333
1993–94	137	113	53	21	324
1994–95	153	106	43	25	327
1995–96	117	111	36	38	302
1996–97	110	124	30	35	299
1997–98	116	111	28	45	300
1998–99	111	129	34	54	328
1999–00	126	113	23	43	305
2000–01	112	119	33	46	310
2001–02	157	111	38	45	351
2002–03	125	115	23	36	299
2003–04	114	101	42	32	289
2004–05	105	94	31	18	248
2005–06	125	84	49	25	283
2006–07	108	102	32	15	257
2007–08	134	79	30	17	260
2008–09	87	106	28	34	255
2009–10	100	88	39	34	261
2010–11	91	88	29	28	236
2011–12	98	87	22	40	247
2012–13	100	72	30	47	249
2013–14	100	61	32	45	238

Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

	2012–13	2013–14	Total	
	n	n	n	%
Intimate partner	64	62	126	63
Filicide	11	19	30	15
Parricide	13	8	21	10
Siblicide	3	4	7	4
Other family	9	7	16	8
Total	100	100	200	

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A10: Domestic homicide incidents by subclassification and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)

	Intimate partner	Filicide	Parricide	Siblicide	Other family
1989–90	82	16	7	3	7
1990–91	84	16	9	5	9
1991–92	66	16	9	5	8
1992–93	84	17	12	4	11
1993–94	82	24	11	7	13
1994–95	94	19	15	10	15
1995–96	68	21	11	4	13
1996–97	58	16	11	10	15
1997–98	70	18	17	3	8
1998–99	67	20	11	3	10
1999–00	69	25	13	8	11
2000–01	75	14	12	5	6
2001–02	92	28	15	11	11
2002–03	75	19	13	3	15
2003–04	65	20	17	6	6
2004–05	66	18	10	6	5
2005–06	75	24	14	5	7
2006–07	64	19	14	1	10
2007–08	80	21	18	6	9
2008–09	61	8	9	1	8
2009–10	61	14	13	3	9
2010–11	49	19	13	4	6
2011–12	59	17	10	2	10
2012–13	64	11	13	3	9
2013–14	62	19	8	4	7

Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table A11: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents, 2012–14		
Day of week	Time of day	n
Sunday	0:00–5:59	25
	6:00–11:59	7
	12:00–17:59	20
	18:00–23:59	27
Monday	0:00–5:59	7
	6:00–11:59	6
	12:00–17:59	11
	18:00–23:59	20
Tuesday	0:00–5:59	11
	6:00–11:59	11
	12:00–17:59	11
	18:00–23:59	26
Wednesday	0:00–5:59	14
	6:00–11:59	11
	12:00–17:59	11
	18:00–23:59	22
Thursday	0:00–5:59	23
	6:00–11:59	8
	12:00–17:59	14
	18:00–23:59	32
Friday	0:00–5:59	16
	6:00–11:59	13
	12:00–17:59	11
	18:00–23:59	24
Saturday	0:00–5:59	28
	6:00–11:59	4
	12:00–17:59	8
	18:00–23:59	23

Note. Excludes 43 incidents where day of week and/or time of day was unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A12: Temporal characteristics of homicides by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Time of day									
Midnight to 6 am	20	19	4	5	8	1	3	1	61
6 am to noon	8	4	4	8	3	0	0	0	27
Noon to 6 pm	15	11	5	10	0	0	3	0	44
6 pm to midnight	23	12	20	17	8	6	9	1	96
Not stated/unknown	4	1	14	0	0	0	2	0	21
Day of week									
Sunday	18	7	7	6	2	1	3	0	44
Monday	11	7	6	4	3	0	1	0	32
Tuesday	7	6	6	4	1	1	7	0	32
Wednesday	6	3	9	8	2	2	1	0	31
Thursday	15	8	8	6	3	1	1	0	42
Friday	6	4	6	7	5	1	2	1	32
Saturday	7	11	5	5	3	1	2	1	35
Not stated	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Month of year									
January	7	4	3	2	1	0	1	0	18
February	9	1	4	3	1	1	2	0	21
March	8	7	3	4	2	0	1	0	25
April	7	7	4	6	1	0	3	0	28
May	2	7	3	4	0	0	1	0	17
June	4	2	2	1	0	1	1	0	11
July	7	2	4	1	0	0	4	1	19
August	4	1	3	5	4	2	1	1	21
September	8	3	5	3	2	0	1	0	22
October	5	3	3	2	3	0	0	0	16
November	4	4	5	2	1	0	0	0	16
December	5	6	8	7	4	3	2	0	35
Not stated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table A12: Temporal characteristics of homicides by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n) cont.									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2013–14									
Time of day									
Midnight to 6 am	21	16	9	6	6	2	3	0	63
6 am to noon	13	7	5	5	1	1	2	0	34
Noon to 6 pm	13	9	5	7	2	2	4	0	42
6 pm to midnight	29	20	7	9	3	3	6	1	78
Not stated/unknown	5	1	10	0	4	0	1	0	21
Day of week									
Sunday	9	8	9	8	2	1	1	0	38
Monday	11	5	4	1	0	1	1	0	23
Tuesday	15	7	4	2	0	0	4	0	32
Wednesday	14	7	4	4	2	1	0	0	32
Thursday	13	9	5	5	4	0	3	1	40
Friday	10	7	5	3	5	4	3	0	37
Saturday	8	10	4	4	2	1	4	0	33
Not stated	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
Month of year									
January	5	8	1	3	2	1	1	0	21
February	5	6	6	2	0	2	0	0	21
March	5	2	4	2	1	0	0	0	14
April	10	8	2	3	2	0	2	0	27
May	4	6	3	1	3	0	1	0	18
June	6	3	2	3	0	1	0	0	15
July	9	3	6	1	2	1	2	0	24
August	4	1	2	2	1	0	2	0	12
September	8	3	3	2	0	1	0	0	17
October	9	3	1	2	1	0	3	0	19
November	5	2	2	1	3	1	2	0	16
December	10	8	4	5	1	1	3	1	33
Not stated/unknown	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A13: Temporal pattern of homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14 (n)		Type of homicide		
Day of week	Time of day	Domestic	Acquaintance	Stranger
		n	n	n
Sunday	0:00–5:59	9	6	8
	6:00–11:59	2	1	1
	12:00–17:59	8	8	0
	18:00–23:59	10	5	4
Monday	0:00–5:59	3	1	2
	6:00–11:59	1	2	2
	12:00–17:59	3	5	1
	18:00–23:59	9	4	4
Tuesday	0:00–5:59	7	3	0
	6:00–11:59	7	3	1
	12:00–17:59	3	4	0
	18:00–23:59	8	9	1
Wednesday	0:00–5:59	5	4	2
	6:00–11:59	5	2	1
	12:00–17:59	7	2	0
	18:00–23:59	11	3	5
Thursday	0:00–5:59	9	6	2
	6:00–11:59	3	1	1
	12:00–17:59	5	3	3
	18:00–23:59	13	10	3
Friday	0:00–5:59	7	4	2
	6:00–11:59	9	3	0
	12:00–17:59	5	2	2
	18:00–23:59	9	7	4
Saturday	0:00–5:59	6	12	5
	6:00–11:59	0	2	1
	12:00–17:59	4	3	1
	18:00–23:59	13	5	5

Note: Excludes 33 incidents where day of week, and/or time of day was unknown. Excludes 92 incidents where relationship type unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A14: Location of homicide incidents, 2012–14

	n	%
Residential	306	63
Street/open area ^a	111	23
Other location ^b	55	11
Unknown	15	3

a: Includes open area/waterway, street/road/highway, sporting oval/facility, public transportation connected facilities, taxi or similar, car park/garage

b: Includes hospital/healthcare, shopping mall, recreation venue, workplace, private motor vehicle, corrective institution, nursing home, psychiatric facility, other location

Note: The categories of locations above have been grouped differently and do not necessarily equate to the categories in Table A15

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A15: Location of homicide incidents by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Residential	46	34	31	19	7	4	8	2	151
Street/open area	10	8	7	11	9	0	6	0	51
Other location ^a	12	5	9	5	3	3	3	0	40
Unknown/not stated	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	7
2013–14									
Residential	57	32	24	17	10	6	8	1	155
Street/open area	12	13	5	7	2	0	7	0	46
Other location ^a	8	8	6	1	3	2	1	0	29
Unknown/not stated	4	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	8

a: Includes shops, shopping malls, bank/credit unions/post offices, car parks/public garages/service stations, workplaces, other commercial premises, public transport and related facilities, places of entertainment, and corrective/health institutions

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A16: Weapon use in homicide incidents by year, 1989–90 to 2013–14

Year	Firearm		Knife/sharp instrument	
	n	%	n	%
1989–90	76	25	99	32
1990–91	68	21	107	33
1991–92	63	20	89	28
1992–93	84	25	102	31
1993–94	60	19	118	36
1994–95	80	24	106	32
1995–96	67	22	99	33
1996–97	65	22	106	35
1997–98	63	21	103	34
1998–99	59	18	107	33
1999–00	59	19	96	31
2000–01	65	21	91	29
2001–02	49	14	130	37
2002–03	44	15	93	31
2003–04	49	17	92	32
2004–05	37	15	82	33
2005–06	39	14	98	35
2006–07	24	9	111	43
2007–08	30	12	111	43
2008–09	34	13	93	36
2009–10	33	13	106	41
2010–11	28	12	98	42
2011–12	38	15	81	33
2012–13	37	15	91	37
2013–14	32	13	89	37

Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table A17: Incidents of homicide occurring during the course of another crime by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Sexual assault	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	6
Kidnapping/ abduction	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	4
Robbery	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	6
Other violent crime ^a	1	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	6
Arson	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Break and enter	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Theft	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Other property ^b	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Prostitution	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Drug offences	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Other ^c	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
No precipitating crime	48	32	39	4	13	6	13	2	157
Unknown/not stated	10	0	5	33	2	0	0	0	50
Total	70	47	47	40	19	7	17	2	249
2013–14									
Sexual assault	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
Kidnapping/ abduction	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Robbery	2	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	8
Other violent crime ^a	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	5
Arson	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Break and enter	2	4	0	1	1	0	0	0	8
Theft	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
Drug offences	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Other ^c	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
No precipitating crime	65	31	24	0	8	7	16	1	152
Unknown/not stated	10	3	10	24	3	1	0	0	51
Total	81	53	36	27	16	8	16	1	238

a: Examples include torture, etc

b: Examples include fraud, etc

c: Examples include dangerous driving, etc

Note: In two incidents, there was a precipitating crime but the type of crime was unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A18: Alcohol involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14

	Domestic		Acquaintance		Stranger		Unknown		Total
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n
Victim drinking	58	37	59	37	28	18	13	10	158
Offender drinking	54	40	55	40	26	19	1	<1	136

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table A19: Drug involvement in homicide incidents by type of homicide, 2012–14

	Domestic		Acquaintance		Stranger		Unknown		Total
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n
Victim drug use	31	25	55	44	24	19	16	13	126
Offender drug use	27	34	34	43	16	20	3	4	80

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Appendix B: Homicide victims 2012–14

Table B1: Number of homicide victims per incident by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
One victim	66	44	46	38	18	4	17	2	235
Two victims	6	6	2	4	2	6	0	0	26
Three victims	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total incidents	70	47	47	40	19	7	17	2	249
Total victims	75	50	48	42	20	10	17	2	264
2013–14									
One victim	80	49	34	26	15	8	15	1	228
Two victims	2	8	4	2	2	0	2	0	20
Total incidents	81	53	36	27	16	8	16	1	238
Total victims	82	57	38	28	17	8	17	1	248

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table B2: Homicide victims by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
1989–90	104	78	73	28	21	7	21	0	332
1990–91	135	77	57	23	25	5	28	0	350
1991–92	115	59	70	30	28	9	18	2	331
1992–93	126	62	79	40	30	7	17	1	362
1993–94	132	52	62	38	29	5	23	2	343
1994–95	95	80	61	47	31	5	20	4	343
1995–96	118	54	76	33	14	40	22	1	358
1996–97	108	56	81	24	24	6	18	2	319
1997–98	112	45	76	36	29	4	11	1	314
1998–99	118	56	68	35	38	7	18	2	342
1999–00	113	63	78	45	26	9	7	3	344
2000–01	117	57	69	28	23	8	17	0	319
2001–02	111	86	76	34	33	10	24	3	377
2002–03	105	70	70	32	22	6	18	3	326
2003–04	85	74	63	38	28	3	12	3	306
2004–05	81	51	55	29	21	11	12	3	263
2005–06	89	73	60	33	22	3	16	5	301
2006–07	92	47	56	27	12	9	18	4	265
2007–08	98	44	57	30	18	5	18	3	273
2008–09	81	52	48	31	27	8	11	6	264
2009–10	84	66	60	27	21	6	14	5	283
2010–11	77	47	53	33	22	4	11	0	247
2011–12	82	60	49	35	18	5	15	4	268
2012–13	75	50	48	42	20	10	17	2	264
2013–14	82	57	38	28	17	8	17	1	248

Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table B3: Victimization rate by gender, 1989–90 to 2013–14						
Year	Male		Female		Total	
	n	Rate per 100,00	n	Rate per 100,00	n	Rate per 100,000
1989–90	215	2.53	116	1.36	331	1.9
1990–91	203	2.36	147	1.70	350	2.0
1991–92	202	2.32	129	1.47	331	1.9
1992–93	219	2.49	143	1.60	362	2.0
1993–94	218	2.45	124	1.38	342	1.9
1994–95	218	2.42	122	1.34	340	1.9
1995–96	232	2.55	125	1.36	357	1.9
1996–97	209	2.27	110	1.18	319	1.7
1997–98	201	2.16	113	1.20	314	1.7
1998–99	222	2.36	120	1.26	342	1.8
1999–00	205	2.16	139	1.44	344	1.8
2000–01	192	1.99	127	1.30	319	1.6
2001–02	240	2.46	137	1.38	377	1.9
2002–03	217	2.20	109	1.09	326	1.6
2003–04	196	1.96	109	1.08	305	1.5
2004–05	176	1.74	87	0.85	263	1.3
2005–06	188	1.83	113	1.08	301	1.5
2006–07	185	1.77	80	0.75	265	1.3
2007–08	161	1.51	112	1.04	273	1.3
2008–09	180	1.65	84	0.76	264	1.2
2009–10	187	1.68	96	0.86	283	1.3
2010–11	157	1.41	90	0.80	247	1.1
2011–12	173	1.53	94	0.82	267	1.2
2012–13	178	1.55	86	0.74	264	1.1
2013–14	150	1.28	98	0.83	248	1.1

Note: Excludes 8 victims where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table B4: Homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Number	55	34	28	27	14	6	13	1	178
Rate per 100,000	1.5	1.2	1.2	2.1	1.7	2.3	10.1	0.5	1.5
Female									
Number	20	16	20	15	6	4	4	1	86
Rate per 100,000	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.2	0.7	1.6	3.5	0.5	0.7
2013–14									
Male									
Number	51	33	24	18	11	4	8	1	150
Rate per 100,000	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.6	6.2	0.5	1.3
Female									
Number	31	24	14	10	6	4	9	0	98
Rate per 100,000	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	1.5	7.8	0	0.8

Source: ABS 2014, AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table B5: Homicide victims by age and jurisdiction, 2012–14									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Mean age	38.7	40.4	33.2	34.9	43.9	40.2	34.1	89	38.0
Median age	39	33	35.5	36	40	32	34	89	36
Female									
Mean age	38.2	40.3	37.7	42.9	26.8	38.2	24.8	0	37.4
Median age	33	32.5	36	43	27	31	25	0	33.5
Persons									
Mean age	38.6	40.4	35.1	37.7	38.8	39.4	31.9	44.5	37.8
Median age	39	33	35.5	38	33.5	31	30	44.5	35
2013–14									
Male									
Mean age	38.0	40.4	30.6	26.8	40.3	40.8	37.6	27	36.2
Median age	37	39	28	24.5	35	43.5	34.5	27	35
Female									
Mean age	42.3	37.8	32.4	48.6	38.2	36.2	33.4	0	39.1
Median age	42	37.5	27.5	48.5	41	41	34	0	39.5
Persons									
Mean age	39.6	39.3	31.3	34.6	39.5	38.5	35.4	27	37.4
Median age	40.5	38	28	31	35	43.5	34	27	36

Note: Excludes one victim where age was unknown

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table B6: Age of homicide victim by type of homicide, 2012–14 (mean age in years)							
Type of homicide							
Intimate partner	Filicide	Parricide	Siblicide	Other family	Acquaintance	Stranger	Unclassified
38.9	9.6	62.5	35.4	48.7	39.4	37.5	34.5

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table B7: Indigenous status of homicide victims by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Indigenous	1	1	5	7	1	0	11	0	26
Non-Indigenous	23	33	22	18	13	6	2	1	118
Unknown/not stated	31	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	34
Female									
Indigenous	1	0	4	6	2	0	4	0	17
Non-Indigenous	5	16	15	7	4	4	0	1	52
Unknown/not stated	14	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	17
Persons									
Indigenous	2	1	9	13	3	0	15	0	43
Non-Indigenous	28	49	37	25	17	10	2	2	170
Unknown/not stated	45	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	51
2013–14									
Male									
Indigenous	6	1	3	5	1	0	4	0	20
Non-Indigenous	10	32	19	12	10	4	4	1	92
Unknown/not stated	35	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	38
Female									
Indigenous	3	0	2	3	0	0	7	0	15
Non-Indigenous	4	23	11	5	6	4	2	0	55
Unknown/not stated	24	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	28
Persons									
Indigenous	9	1	5	8	1	0	11	0	35
Non-Indigenous	14	55	30	17	16	8	6	1	147
Unknown/not stated	59	1	3	3	0	0	0	0	66

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

	Male		Female		Total
	n	%	n	%	
Indigenous	46	59	32	41	78
Non-Indigenous	282	65	152	35	434

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
1989–90	11.5	1.7
1990–91	13.4	1.8
1991–92	13.0	1.7
1992–93	12.3	1.8
1993–94	12.5	1.7
1994–95	10.6	1.7
1995–96	7.7	1.8
1996–97	8.1	1.6
1997–98	8.3	1.5
1998–99	8.5	1.6
1999–00	8.1	1.6
2000–01	8.4	1.5
2001–02	9.9	1.7
2002–03	8.2	1.4
2003–04	5.9	1.4
2004–05	6.3	1.1
2005–06	7.0	1.3
2006–07	5.4	1.1
2007–08	6.0	1.1
2008–09	5.8	1.1
2009–10	3.5	1.2
2010–11	7.5	0.9
2011–12	5.0	1.1
2012–13	6.2	1.0
2013–14	4.9	0.9

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table B10: Indigenous homicide victimisation by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)

	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1989–90	13.7	9.3	11.5	2.3	1.2	1.7
1990–91	13.2	13.5	13.4	2.1	1.4	1.8
1991–92	15.6	10.4	13.0	2.0	1.3	1.7
1992–93	15.7	9.0	12.3	2.2	1.5	1.8
1993–94	16.2	8.8	12.5	2.2	1.2	1.7
1994–95	12.7	8.5	10.6	2.2	1.2	1.7
1995–96	11.1	4.3	7.7	2.3	1.3	1.8
1996–97	8.6	7.9	8.1	2.1	1.0	1.6
1997–98	10.4	6.5	8.3	1.9	1.1	1.5
1998–99	9.3	7.9	8.5	2.2	1.1	1.6
1999–00	9.9	6.5	8.1	1.9	1.3	1.6
2000–01	8.5	8.6	8.4	1.8	1.1	1.5
2001–02	11.0	8.7	9.9	2.2	1.2	1.7
2002–03	10.4	6.0	8.2	2.0	0.9	1.4
2003–04	8.0	3.8	5.9	1.8	1.0	1.4
2004–05	7.9	4.8	6.3	1.6	0.7	1.1
2005–06	9.0	5.0	7.0	1.6	1.0	1.3
2006–07	5.5	5.2	5.4	1.7	0.6	1.1
2007–08	5.1	7.0	6.0	1.4	0.9	1.1
2008–09	6.2	5.3	5.8	1.5	0.6	1.1
2009–10	4.0	3.0	3.5	1.6	0.8	1.2
2010–11	9.9	5.1	7.5	1.1	0.7	0.9
2011–12	6.7	3.2	5.0	1.4	0.7	1.1
2012-13	7.5	4.9	6.2	1.4	0.6	1.0
2013-14	5.6	4.2	4.9	1.1	0.7	0.9

Note: Excludes 8 victims where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table B11: Primary cause of death of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Gunshot	14	6	5	3	1	1	1	0	31
Stab wound	18	15	9	11	6	3	2	1	65
Beating	17	10	8	2	5	1	7	0	50
Other ^a	4	3	6	5	2	1	3	0	24
Unknown/not stated	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	8
Female									
Gunshot	0	5	1	2	1	1	0	0	10
Stab wound	13	4	8	3	3	1	0	0	32
Beating	3	1	2	7	0	2	4	0	19
Other ^a	4	5	5	1	1	0	0	1	17
Unknown/not stated	0	1	4	2	1	0	0	0	8
Persons									
Gunshot	14	11	6	5	2	2	1	0	41
Stab wound	31	19	17	14	9	4	2	1	97
Beating	20	11	10	9	5	3	11	0	69
Other ^a	8	8	11	6	3	1	3	1	41
Unknown/not stated	2	1	4	8	1	0	0	0	16
2013–14									
Male									
Gunshot	16	5	2	1	1	2	0	0	27
Stab wound	14	13	5	8	7	1	6	1	55
Beating	13	7	7	5	2	1	2	0	37
Other ^a	4	6	2	1	1	0	0	0	14
Unknown/not stated	4	2	8	3	0	0	0	0	17
Female									
Gunshot	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Stab wound	9	12	8	3	2	1	5	0	40
Beating	8	4	1	5	2	0	3	0	23
Other ^a	7	7	2	1	2	3	1	0	23
Unknown/not stated	4	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	7
Persons									
Gunshot	19	6	2	2	1	2	0	0	32
Stab wound	23	25	13	11	9	2	11	1	95
Beating	21	11	8	10	4	1	5	0	60
Other ^a	11	13	4	2	3	3	1	0	37
Unknown/not stated	8	2	11	3	0	0	0	0	24

a: Includes drug overdose, drowning/submersion, neglect, hanging, strangulation/suffocation, smoke inhalation/burns, poisoning/injection, shaking, pushed from a high place and other cause of death

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table B12: Alcohol and drug consumption of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Alcohol only	10	6	4	6	5	0	8	1	40
Drugs only	7	7	4	0	1	0	0	0	19
Alcohol and drugs	8	5	4	0	4	2	3	0	26
Unknown/not stated	30	16	16	21	4	4	2	0	93
Female									
Alcohol only	5	3	3	2	1	0	4	0	18
Drugs only	4	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	11
Alcohol and drugs	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	5
Unknown/not stated	10	9	13	13	3	3	0	1	52
Persons									
Alcohol only	15	9	7	8	6	0	12	1	58
Drugs only	11	10	6	0	2	1	0	0	30
Alcohol and drugs	9	6	6	0	5	2	3	0	31
Unknown/not stated	40	25	29	34	7	7	2	1	145
2013–14									
Male									
Alcohol only	10	0	2	3	1	2	3	0	21
Drugs only	9	13	0	1	1	2	0	1	27
Alcohol and drugs	11	7	1	0	3	0	2	0	24
Unknown/not stated	21	13	21	14	6	0	3	0	78
Female									
Alcohol only	3	2	1	2	1	1	6	0	16
Drugs only	2	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	7
Alcohol and drugs	3	3	0	0	1	1	1	0	9
Unknown/not stated	23	15	13	8	3	2	2	0	66
Persons									
Alcohol only	13	2	3	5	2	3	9	0	37
Drugs only	11	17	0	1	2	2	0	1	34
Alcohol and drugs	14	10	1	0	4	1	3	0	33
Unknown/not stated	44	28	34	22	9	2	5	0	144

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table B13: Employment status of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Employed ^a	20	15	9	6	5	0	0	0	55
Other ^b	23	15	10	0	8	6	12	1	75
Unknown/not stated	12	4	9	21	1	0	1	0	48
Female									
Employed ^a	7	3	7	4	3	0	0	0	24
Other ^b	7	11	6	1	3	4	3	0	35
Unknown/not stated	6	2	7	10	0	0	1	1	27
Persons									
Employed ^a	27	18	16	10	8	0	0	0	79
Other ^b	30	26	16	1	11	10	15	1	110
Unknown/not stated	18	6	16	31	1	0	2	1	75
2013–14									
Male									
Employed ^a	14	14	7	1	5	1	3	0	45
Other ^b	22	17	3	2	5	2	4	1	56
Unknown/not stated	15	2	14	15	1	1	1	0	49
Female									
Employed ^a	8	11	2	1	2	1	0	0	25
Other ^b	13	10	5	1	3	2	7	0	41
Unknown/not stated	10	3	7	8	1	1	2	0	32
Persons									
Employed ^a	22	25	9	2	7	2	3	0	70
Other ^b	35	27	8	3	8	4	11	1	97
Unknown/not stated	25	5	21	23	2	2	3	0	81

a: In full- or part-time employment

b: Includes domestic duties, pension and unemployment

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table B14: Prior criminal history of homicide victims by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Prior criminal history	6	13	16	0	8	5	11	0	59
No prior history	3	20	8	2	6	1	2	1	43
Unknown/not stated	46	1	4	25	0	0	0	0	76
Female									
Prior criminal history	0	2	4	0	4	3	3	0	16
No prior history	1	14	11	0	2	1	1	1	31
Unknown/not stated	19	0	5	15	0	0	0	0	39
Persons									
Prior criminal history	6	15	20	0	12	8	14	0	75
No prior history	4	34	19	2	8	2	3	2	74
Unknown/not stated	65	1	9	40	0	0	0	0	115
2013–14									
Male									
Prior criminal history	4	16	8	0	6	4	6	0	44
No prior history	1	16	9	2	4	0	2	1	35
Unknown/not stated	46	1	7	16	1	0	0	0	71
Female									
Prior criminal history	1	5	2	0	3	2	6	0	19
No prior history	5	19	10	0	3	2	3	0	42
Unknown/not stated	25	0	2	10	0	0	0	0	37
Persons									
Prior criminal history	5	21	10	0	9	6	12	0	63
No prior history	6	35	19	2	7	2	5	1	77
Unknown/not stated	71	1	9	26	1	0	0	0	108

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Appendix C: Homicide offenders 2012–14

Table C1: Number of offenders involved in homicide incidents by jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
One offender	54	42	37	35	13	7	13	1	202
Two offenders	10	8	6	2	4	0	4	0	34
Three offenders	3	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	12
Four or more offenders	0	0	9	6	8	0	5	0	28
Total incidents	60	47	43	38	17	7	16	1	229
Total offenders	67	53	55	46	25	7	22	1	276
2013–14									
One offender	64	35	30	24	12	6	14	1	186
Two offenders	16	12	4	2	4	2	0	0	40
Three offenders	6	15	6	0	0	0	3	0	30
Four or more offenders	0	9	0	8	0	0	0	0	17
Total incidents	74	48	34	27	14	7	15	1	220
Total offenders	86	71	40	34	16	8	17	1	273

Note: Data excludes 38 homicide incidents which were not yet solved or had no identified offender (20 cases in 2012–13 and 18 cases in 2013–14)

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table C2: Homicide offenders ^a by year and jurisdiction, 1989–90 to 2013–14									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
1989–90	112	76	79	24	22	6	20	0	339
1990–91	116	74	60	22	24	5	45	0	346
1991–92	103	48	73	29	25	12	18	2	310
1992–93	118	64	92	36	37	7	18	2	374
1993–94	142	52	75	43	34	6	28	2	382
1994–95	101	82	75	61	30	6	25	4	384
1995–96	120	52	76	34	20	7	22	3	334
1996–97	117	63	88	25	39	3	18	5	358
1997–98	122	40	76	34	26	3	15	2	318
1998–99	109	56	73	40	64	11	18	3	374
1999–00	109	55	69	37	28	13	7	4	322
2000–01	119	61	65	32	25	10	25	0	337
2001–02	104	79	82	37	42	9	25	2 ^b	380
2002–03	105	63	79	38	22	7	17	3	334
2003–04	89	77	67	37	40	5	18	2	335
2004–05	80	65	64	27	26	15	13	2 ^b	292
2005–06	113	70	62	32	23	3	28	7	338
2006–07	103	52	59	28	18	8	22	4	294
2007–08	97	49	64	37	31	5	22	3	308
2008–09	93	57	62	28	27	12	12	4	295
2009–10	93	78	60	27	28	8	23	4	321
2010–11	82	39	55	34	30	6	14	0	260
2011–12	83	62	52	39	19	5	16	5	281
2012–13	67	53	55	46	25	7	22	1	276
2013–14	86	71	40	34	16	8	17	1	273

a: Known/identified offenders

b: Includes one offender on Norfolk Island

Source: AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table C3: Homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Number	57	48	48	42	23	7	20	1	246
Rate per 100,000	1.6	1.7	2.1	3.3	2.8	2.7	15.6	0.5	2.1
Female									
Number	10	5	7	4	2	0	2	0	30
Rate per 100,000	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0	1.8	0	0.3
2013–14									
Male									
Number	77	62	33	29	15	8	12	1	237
Rate per 100,000	2.1	2.1	1.4	2.2	1.8	3.1	9.3	0.5	2.0
Female									
Number	8	9	6	5	1	0	5	0	34
Rate per 100,000	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.1	0	4.3	0	0.3

Note: Excludes two offenders where gender was unknown in 2013–14

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table C4: Offending rate by gender and year, 1989–90 to 2013–14						
	Male		Female		Total	
	n	Rate per 100,000	n	Rate per 100,000	n	Rate per 100,000
1989–90	295	3.5	44	0.5	339	2.0
1990–91	315	3.7	31	0.4	346	2.0
1991–92	277	3.2	33	0.4	310	1.8
1992–93	336	3.8	38	0.4	374	2.1
1993–94	331	3.7	51	0.6	382	2.1
1994–95	339	3.8	45	0.5	384	2.1
1995–96	291	3.2	43	0.5	334	1.8
1996–97	320	3.5	38	0.4	358	1.9
1997–98	261	2.8	57	0.6	318	1.7
1998–99	323	3.4	50	0.5	373	2.0
1999–00	271	2.9	51	0.5	322	1.7
2000–01	298	3.1	39	0.4	337	1.7
2001–02	323	3.3	57	0.6	380	1.9
2002–03	290	2.9	44	0.4	334	1.7
2003–04	292	2.9	43	0.4	335	1.7
2004–05	243	2.4	49	0.5	292	1.4
2005–06	295	2.9	43	0.4	338	1.6
2006–07	240	2.3	54	0.5	294	1.4
2007–08	268	2.5	39	0.4	307	1.4
2008–09	265	2.4	28	0.3	293	1.3
2009–10	273	2.5	48	0.4	321	1.4
2010–11	222	2.0	38	0.3	260	1.2
2011–12	238	2.1	43	0.4	281	1.2
2012–13	246	2.1	30	0.3	276	1.2
2013–14	237	2.0	34	0.3	271	1.2

Note: Excludes six offenders where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table C5: Homicide offenders by age and jurisdiction, 2012–14									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Mean age	33.8	34.4	34.6	34.6	25.9	36.6	31.2	69	33.5
Median age	31	32	35	32.5	22.5	35	30.5	69	31
Female									
Mean age	40	29	38.4	31.5	42	0	25	0	35.7
Median age	36	25	45	31.5	42	0	25	0	36
Persons									
Mean age	34.7	33.8	35.1	34.3	27.3	36.6	30.6	69	33.7
Median age	32	31	35.5	32.5	24	35	28	69	31
2013–14									
Male									
Mean age	35.8	36.2	32.7	32.1	38.4	36.3	31.7	27	34.9
Median age	34	36	31	29	36	35.5	30	27	33
Female									
Mean age	35.1	31.6	30.7	32.6	39	0	36.2	0	33.4
Median age	30	33	29.5	34	39	0	32	0	32
Persons									
Mean age	35.7	35.7	32.4	32.1	38.4	36.2	33	27	34.7
Median age	34	36	31	31	37.5	35.5	32	27	33

Note: Excludes two offenders where gender was unknown in 2013–14

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table C6: Indigenous status of homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Indigenous	6	1	9	16	5	0	13	0	50
Non-Indigenous	51	47	39	26	18	7	7	1	196
Female									
Indigenous	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	5
Non-Indigenous	9	5	6	3	2	0	0	0	25
Persons									
Indigenous	7	1	10	17	5	0	15	0	55
Non-Indigenous	60	52	45	29	20	7	7	1	221
2013–14									
Male									
Indigenous	5	1	2	6	2	0	9	0	25
Non-Indigenous	72	61	31	23	13	8	3	1	212
Female									
Indigenous	1	2	1	3	0	0	4	0	11
Non-Indigenous	7	7	5	2	1	0	1	0	23
Persons									
Indigenous	6	3	3	9	2	0	13	0	36
Non-Indigenous	79	68	36	25	14	8	4	1	235

Note: Excludes two offenders where gender was unknown in 2013–14

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table C7: Indigenous and non-Indigenous homicide offending, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)

	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous
Year	Rate	Rate
1989–90	15.3	1.7
1990–91	21.1	1.6
1991–92	16.6	1.5
1992–93	14.2	1.9
1993–94	12.5	1.9
1994–95	17.4	1.8
1995–96	9.2	1.6
1996–97	10.6	1.7
1997–98	10.5	1.5
1998–99	11.0	1.7
1999–00	9.8	1.5
2000–01	11.8	1.5
2001–02	13.5	1.6
2002–03	10.3	1.4
2003–04	9.1	1.4
2004–05	8.7	1.2
2005–06	11.5	1.3
2006–07	8.8	1.2
2007–08	8.6	1.2
2008–09	6.4	1.2
2009–10	6.1	1.3
2010–11	6.3	1.0
2011–12	4.7	1.1
2012–13	7.9	1.0
2013–14	5.0	1.0

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table C8: Indigenous homicide offending by gender, 1989–90 to 2013–14 (rate per 100,000)						
	Indigenous			Non-Indigenous		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1989–90	25.6	5.2	15.3	3.0	0.4	1.7
1990–91	38.5	4.0	21.1	2.9	0.3	1.6
1991–92	27.3	6.0	16.6	2.7	0.3	1.5
1992–93	23.7	4.8	14.2	3.4	0.3	1.9
1993–94	20.9	4.1	12.5	3.3	0.5	1.9
1994–95	28.5	6.5	17.4	3.2	0.4	1.8
1995–96	13.7	4.7	9.2	2.9	0.4	1.6
1996–97	18.7	2.5	10.6	3.1	0.4	1.7
1997–98	13.8	7.3	10.5	2.5	0.4	1.5
1998–99	17.8	4.3	11.0	3.0	0.4	1.7
1999–00	13.5	6.1	9.8	2.6	0.4	1.5
2000–01	20.6	3.0	11.8	2.6	0.3	1.5
2001–02	22.3	4.7	13.5	2.8	0.5	1.6
2002–03	15.7	5.0	10.3	2.6	0.3	1.4
2003–04	14.7	3.5	9.1	2.6	0.3	1.4
2004–05	14.0	3.4	8.7	2.1	0.4	1.2
2005–06	19.4	3.6	11.5	2.4	0.3	1.3
2006–07	12.7	4.9	8.8	2.0	0.4	1.2
2007–08	12.4	4.8	8.6	2.2	0.2	1.2
2008–09	10.3	2.5	6.4	2.2	0.2	1.2
2009–10	11.0	1.2	6.1	2.2	0.4	1.3
2010–11	8.7	3.9	6.3	1.8	0.2	1.0
2011–12	6.7	2.6	4.7	2.0	0.3	1.1
2012–13	14.3	1.4	7.9	1.8	0.2	1.0
2013–14	7.0	3.1	5.0	1.9	0.2	1.0

Note: Excludes six offenders where gender was unknown

Source: ABS 2014; AIC NHMP 1989–90 to 2013–14 [computer file]

Table C9: Prior criminal history of homicide offenders by gender (and jurisdiction), 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Prior criminal history	29	37	16	3	18	6	19	0	128
No prior history	7	10	10	1	5	1	1	1	36
Unknown/not stated	21	1	22	38	0	0	0	0	82
Female									
Prior criminal history	1	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	7
No prior history	3	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	9
Unknown/not stated	6	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	14
Persons									
Prior criminal history	30	39	17	3	19	6	21	0	135
No prior history	10	13	12	1	6	1	1	1	45
Unknown/not stated	27	1	26	42	0	0	0	0	96
2013–14									
Male									
Prior criminal history	13	50	13	0	13	8	10	0	107
No prior history	4	8	10	0	1	0	1	1	25
Unknown/not stated	60	4	10	29	1	0	1	0	105
Female									
Prior criminal history	0	8	1	0	0	0	4	0	13
No prior history	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	6
Unknown/not stated	5	1	4	5	0	0	0	0	15
Persons									
Prior criminal history	13	58	14	0	13	8	14	0	120
No prior history	7	8	11	0	2	0	2	1	31
Unknown/not stated	65	5	14	34	1	0	1	0	120

Note: Excludes two offenders where gender was unknown in 2013–14

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table C10: Alcohol and drug consumption of homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–14 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Alcohol only	14	8	13	7	8	3	15	1	69
Drugs only	9	9	2	6	0	0	0	0	26
Alcohol and drugs	7	7	1	0	2	1	2	0	20
None	10	16	6	0	3	1	0	0	36
Unknown/not stated	17	8	26	29	10	2	3	0	95
Female									
Alcohol only	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	4
Drugs only	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Alcohol and drugs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
None	4	3	2	0	1	0	0	0	10
Unknown/not stated	5	0	4	2	1	0	1	0	13
Persons									
Alcohol only	14	9	14	8	8	3	16	1	73
Drugs only	10	10	2	7	0	0	0	0	29
Alcohol and drugs	7	7	1	0	2	1	2	0	20
None	14	19	8	0	4	1	0	0	46
Unknown/not stated	22	8	30	31	11	2	4	0	108
2013–14									
Male									
Alcohol only	13	12	4	3	3	2	7	0	44
Drugs only	6	19	0	2	0	1	1	0	29
Alcohol and drugs	2	2	0	0	3	2	0	0	9
None	14	12	5	0	2	2	0	1	36
Unknown/not stated	42	17	24	24	7	1	4	0	119
Female									
Alcohol only	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	0	6
Drugs only	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Alcohol and drugs	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
None	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Unknown/not stated	4	4	5	3	1	0	1	0	18
Persons									
Alcohol only	13	12	5	4	3	2	11	0	50
Drugs only	7	22	0	2	0	1	1	0	33
Alcohol and drugs	3	3	0	1	3	2	0	0	12
None	16	13	5	0	2	2	0	1	39
Unknown/not stated	46	21	29	27	8	1	5	0	137

Note: Excludes 2 offenders where gender was unknown in 2013–14

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

Table C11: Employment status of homicide offenders by gender and jurisdiction, 2012–2014 (n)									
	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	NT	ACT	National
2012–13									
Male									
Employed ^a	12	15	9	3	8	1	5	0	53
Other ^b	21	28	18	0	13	5	14	1	100
Unknown/not stated/not applicable	24	5	21	39	2	1	1	0	93
Female									
Employed ^a	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
Other ^b	7	3	2	0	2	0	2	0	16
Unknown/not stated	2	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	9
Persons									
Employed ^a	13	17	11	3	8	1	5	0	58
Other ^b	28	31	20	0	15	5	16	1	116
Unknown/not stated/not applicable	26	5	24	43	2	1	1	0	102
2013–14									
Male									
Employed ^a	18	19	7	0	4	3	1	0	52
Other ^b	12	40	9	4	8	4	11	0	88
Unknown/not stated/not applicable	47	3	17	25	3	1	0	1	97
Female									
Employed ^a	2	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	7
Other ^b	2	7	0	0	0	0	5	0	14
Unknown/not stated/not applicable	4	1	3	4	1	0	0	0	13
Persons									
Employed ^a	20	20	10	1	4	3	1	0	59
Other ^b	14	47	9	4	8	4	16	0	102
Unknown/not stated/not applicable	51	4	20	29	4	1	0	1	110

a: In full or part-time employment or on leave

b: Includes domestic duties, pensions, full time student, part time student and unemployed

Note: Excludes two offenders where gender was unknown in 2013–14

Source: AIC NHMP 2012–14 [computer file]

AIC reports
Statistical report

Australia's national research and
knowledge centre on crime and justice

aic.gov.au