

# **CONNECTICUT FAMILY VIOLENCE 2017 HOMICIDE REPORT**



**Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection**

**Crimes Analysis Unit, Division of State Police**

**Dr. Dora B. Schriro, Commissioner**

**Published July 2018**

# Family Violence Homicide Summary 2017

- There were 17 family violence homicide incidents in 2017 resulting in 21 deaths; 18 victims and three offender suicides.
- All three offenders in the murder-suicide incidents were male; two of the three offenders were in an intimate relationship with the victim. All three murder-suicides were perpetrated with a firearm.
- The 2017 family violence victim count was the third lowest annual total on record.
- There were on average 1.4 family violence homicide incidents per month in 2017.
- There were more female (13) than male (five) victims of family violence homicides.
- Victims ranged in age from ten months old (son) to 79 years old (wife). The highest number of victims was in the 30 to 39 year old age group (four). The average age of all victims was 39 years old.
- In 2017, males were more often the offender in the family violence homicides, 15 of 17 (88%).
- The youngest offender to commit a domestic homicide was 17 years of age (nephew); the oldest was 70 years of age (husband). The highest number of offenders was in the 30 to 39 year old age group (eight). The average age of all offenders was 39 years old.
- The majority of the family violence homicide victims were in an intimate relationship with the offender (67%).
- Firearms were the most commonly used weapon to commit the murder, utilized in 35% of incidents.
- The month of April saw the most family violence homicide incidents (five). Other months with multiple family violence homicides were February and August (three), and September (two).
- Fourteen of the family violence homicides occurred in the residence shared by the victim and offender (78%).
- In 2017, a family violence homicide occurred in 10 Connecticut municipalities. Five municipalities had multiple family violence homicides, Bridgeport (four), Hartford (three), New Britain, Norwalk and Waterbury (two).
- Children under 18 years of age were involved in four family violence homicide incidents, three as victims and one as the offender.

**2017 State of Connecticut Family Violence Homicide Victims**

	<u>Department</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Victim</u>			<u>Offender</u>		
			<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Relationship</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Weapon</u>
	** CSP - Ellington	12/23/15	39	F	Spouse	39	M	Firearm
	** Meriden	11/14/16	8	M	Other relative residing in home: Son	40	F	Hands/Fists/Feet
1.	Bridgeport	2/8/17	61	M	Other relative residing in home: Uncle	35	F	Other Dangerous: Unknown
2.	Hartford	2/14/17	17	M	Other relative residing in home: Son	33	F	Hands/Fists/Feet
3.	Bridgeport	2/24/17	25	F	Spouse	39	M	Knife
4.	New Britain	4/7/17	33	F	Spouse	36	M	Firearm
5.	Torrington	4/22/17	79	F	Spouse	70	M	Other Dangerous: Steel Rod
6.	Bridgeport	4/25/17	10 Mo.	M	Other relative residing in home: Son	30	M	Hands/Fists/Feet
7.	Norwalk	4/26/17	49	F	Live-in girlfriend	59	M	Hands/Fists/Feet
8.	* Norwalk	4/30/17	33	F	Other relative residing in home: Daughter	55	M	Firearm
9.	CSP - New Fairfield	5/2/17	55	F	Roommate	32	M	Hands/Fists/Feet
10.	Meriden	6/22/17	46	F	Persons who have a child in common	48	M	Other Dangerous: Club
11.	* Bridgeport	7/5/17	33	F	Former Spouse	32	M	Firearm
12.	Stratford	8/13/17	27	F	Other relative residing in home: Niece	21	M	Firearm
13.	Waterbury	8/18/17	9	F	Roommate	28	M	Firearm
14.	Waterbury	8/18/17	29	F	Live-in girlfriend	28	M	Firearm
15.	Hartford	9/3/17	30	F	Girlfriend	39	M	Hands/Fists/Feet
16.	* Newington	9/21/17	46	F	Spouse	45	M	Firearm
17.	New Britain	11/20/17	63	M	Roommate	41	M	Knife
18.	Hartford	12/4/17	71	M	Other relative residing in home: Uncle	17	M	Knife

\* Murder-Suicide

\*\* Known to Police in 2017

CSP=Connecticut State Police

Note: The above list includes incidents submitted to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection prior to May 7, 2018. Included in the list are two incidents that became known to police in 2017.

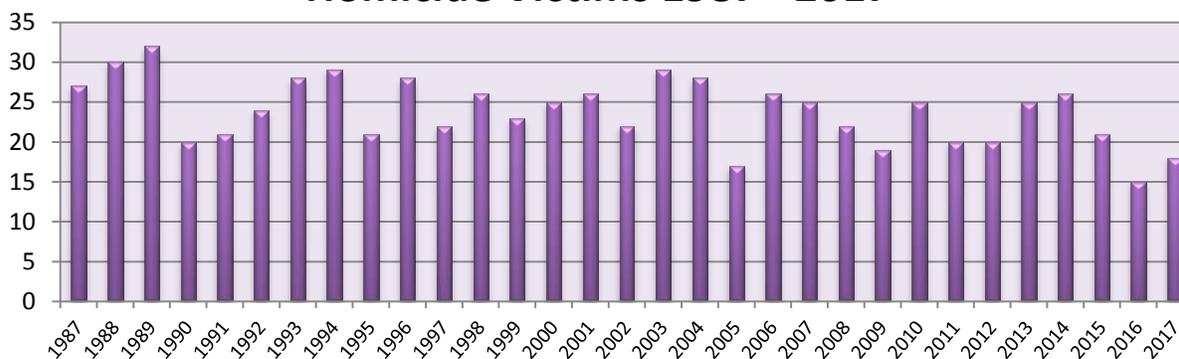
# Family Violence Homicides 2017

Summaries of family violence homicides occurring in Connecticut during calendar year 2017 are presented in this report. Incidents are included in this report if a family or household member as defined in Connecticut General Statute 46b-38a (2) was arrested for the crime as of May 7, 2018. "Family or household member" means any of the following persons, regardless of the age of such person: (A) Spouses or former spouses; (B) parents or their children; (C) persons related by blood or marriage; (D) persons other than those persons described in subparagraph (C) of this subdivision presently residing together or who have resided together; (E) persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they are or have been married or have lived together at any time; and (F) persons in, or who have recently been in, a dating relationship. These homicides have been matched against offenses reported via Uniform Crime Reports. Any homicide circumstance information provided is derived from newspaper accounts or other publicly available sources.

## OVERVIEW

In 2017 there were 17 family violence homicide incidents involving 18 victims. The total number of deaths from these incidents was 21 including three offender suicides. These numbers do not include homicides from previous years for which the offenders were arrested in 2017. During 2017, one arrest was made for a 2015 incident, and one arrest was made for a 2016 incident. The 2017 victim count was the third lowest annual total on record. The first full calendar year of collected family violence data was 1987. The number of family violence homicide victims ranged from a low of 15 in 2016 to a high of 32 in 1989. Between 1987 and 2016, there have been 740 recorded family violence homicide victims, an average of 24 per calendar year. The numbers listed below may be different from previously published reports. In some cases the offenders were arrested after publication of the data.

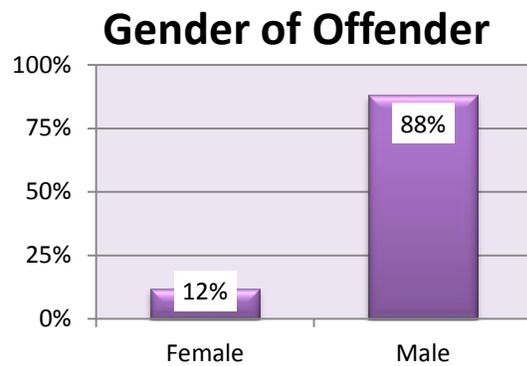
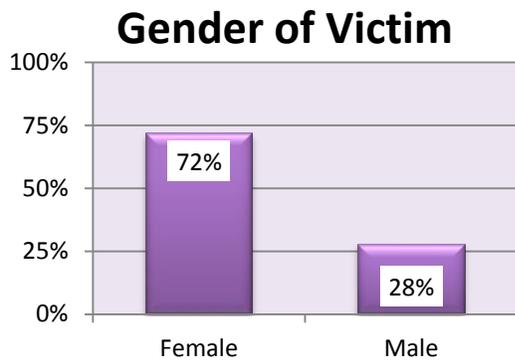
## Homicide Victims 1987 - 2017



## DEMOGRAPHICS

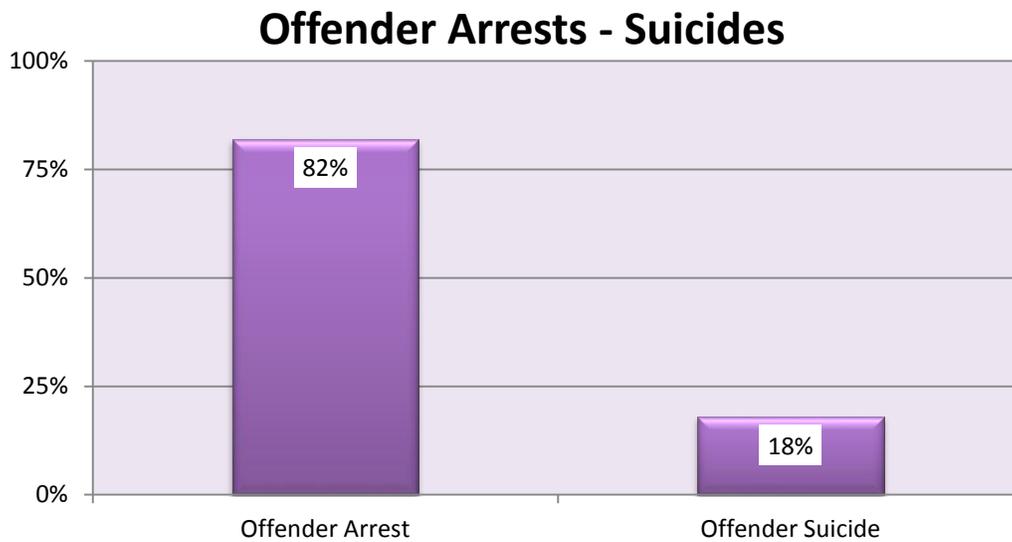
### Gender

In 2017 females were more often the victim of a family murder than males. Males were more often the offender in family violence homicides. Of the 18 victims, 13 (72%) were female and five (28%) were male. Each homicide incident involved a single offender. Of the seventeen offenders, 15 were male (88%), two were female (12%).

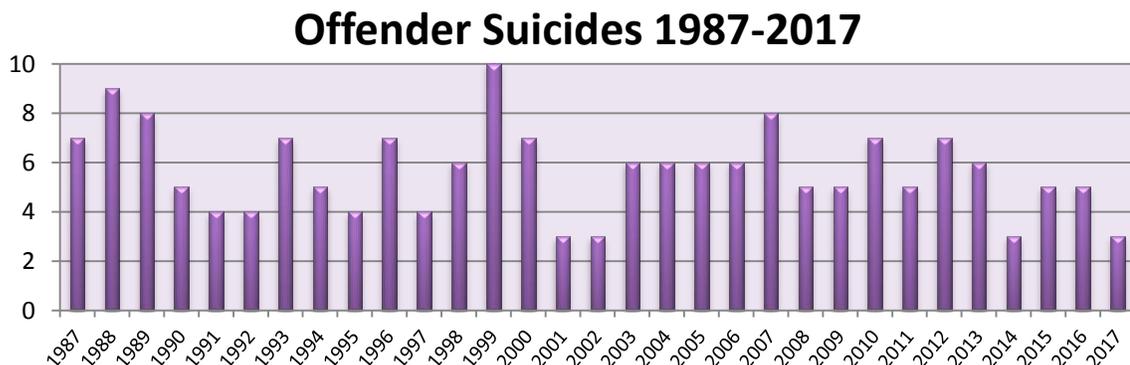


#### Offender Arrests-Suicides-Other

A total of 14 offenders were arrested (82%). Three offenders committed suicide (18%), two at the scene of the homicide and one while incarcerated. Two of the three murder-suicides involved participants in an intimate relationship; all three victims were female. All three of the offenders of murder-suicide incidents were male. All three murder-suicides were perpetrated with a firearm. In 2017 all murder-suicide incidents involved a single victim.



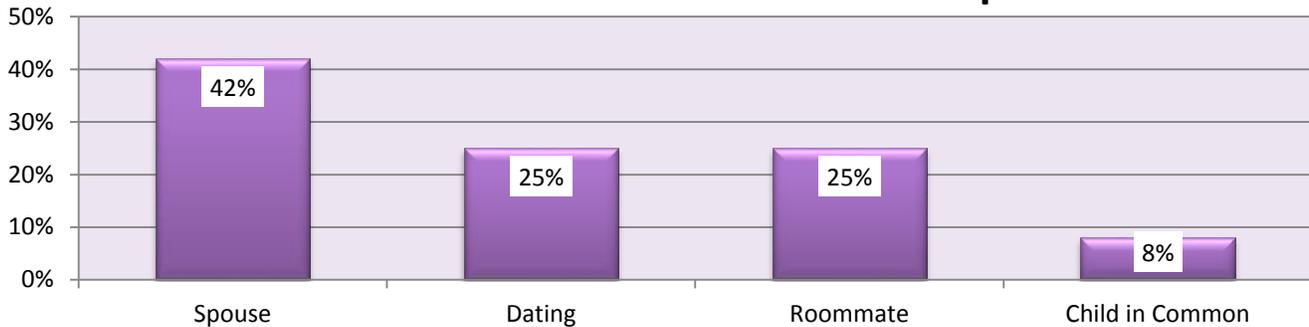
Between 1987 and 2016, 176 suspected offenders have committed suicide, an average of six per calendar year. The number of offender suicides ranged from a high of 10 in 1999 to a low of three in 2001, 2002, 2014, and 2017.



### Intimate/Non-intimate Relationship

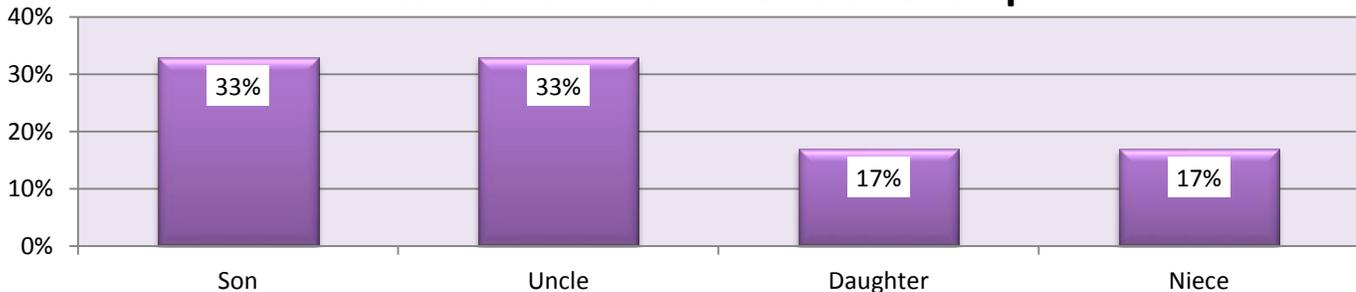
The majority of the homicide victims, a total of 12 (67%), were in an intimate relationship with the offender. The 12 intimate victims included five wives, three girlfriends (two were live-girlfriends), three roommates, and one that had a child in common with the offender. Overall, 11 intimate victims were female and one was male. Eleven of the intimate victims resided with the offender.

### **Victims Intimate Relationship**



Six victims (33%) of the homicides involved people in a non-intimate relationship. Four non-intimate victims were male; relationships included two sons and two uncles. Two non-intimate victims were female; relationships included one daughter and one niece. Five of the non-intimate victims lived with the offender.

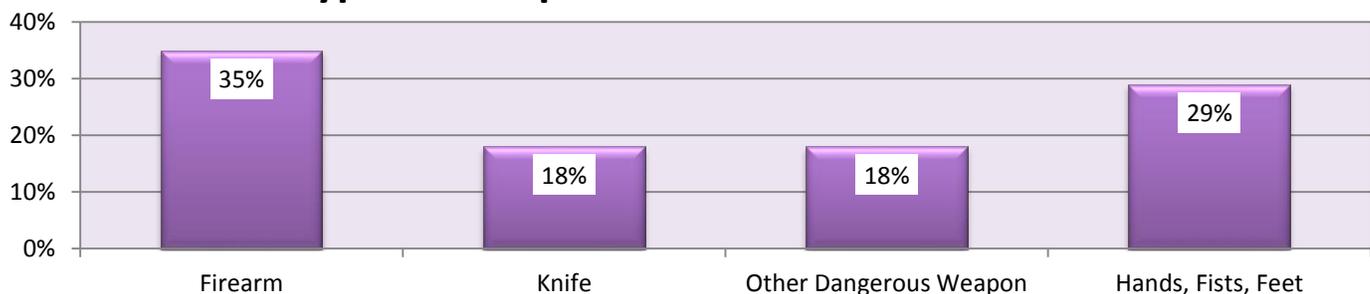
### **Victims Non-Intimate Relationship**



### Weapons

A weapon is defined as any object, instrument, device or part of the anatomy used in an attack. In the 17 family violence homicide incidents, firearms were the most commonly used weapon, six incidents (35%). Other weapons included hands, fists, feet, five incidents (29%); knife, three incidents (18%); other dangerous weapons which included a steel rod, blunt object, and an unknown weapon, three incidents (18%).

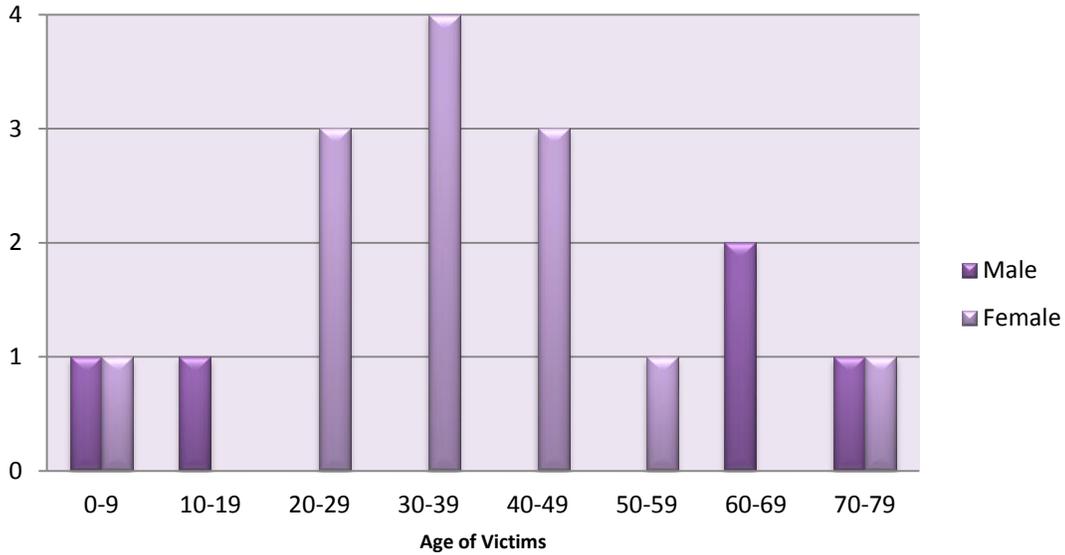
### **Type of Weapon Used in Homicides**



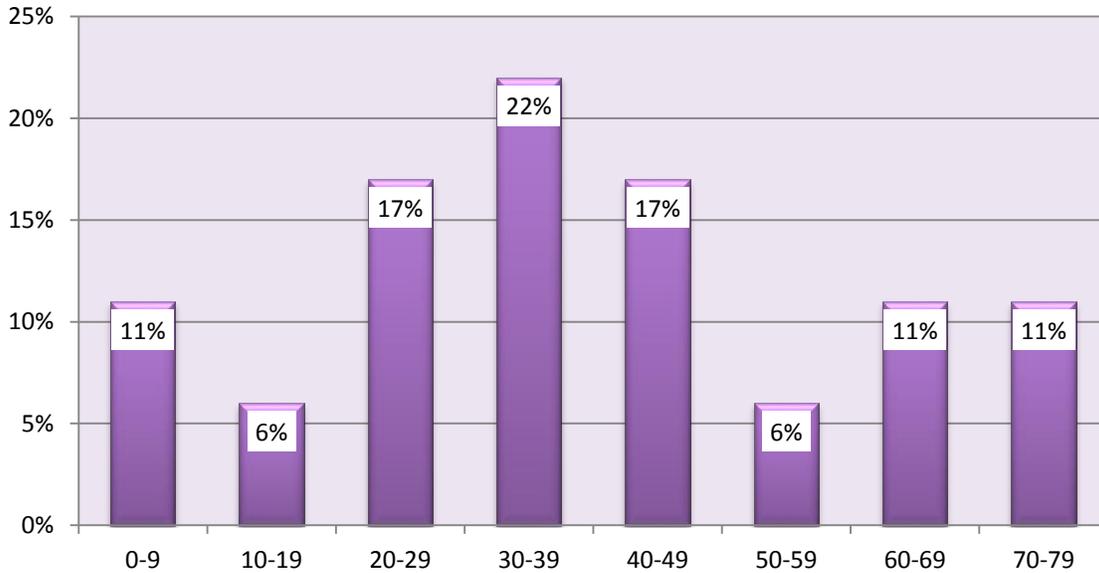
Age & Gender of Victims

In 2017 the youngest victim of a domestic homicide was a ten month old male (son). The oldest victim was 79 year old female (wife). The highest number of victims was in the 30 to 39 year old age group, four (22%). All victims in the age group 30-39 were female. The average age of female victims was 38 years old; the average age of male victims was 43 years old. The average age of all victims was 39 years old.

**Age & Gender of Victims**

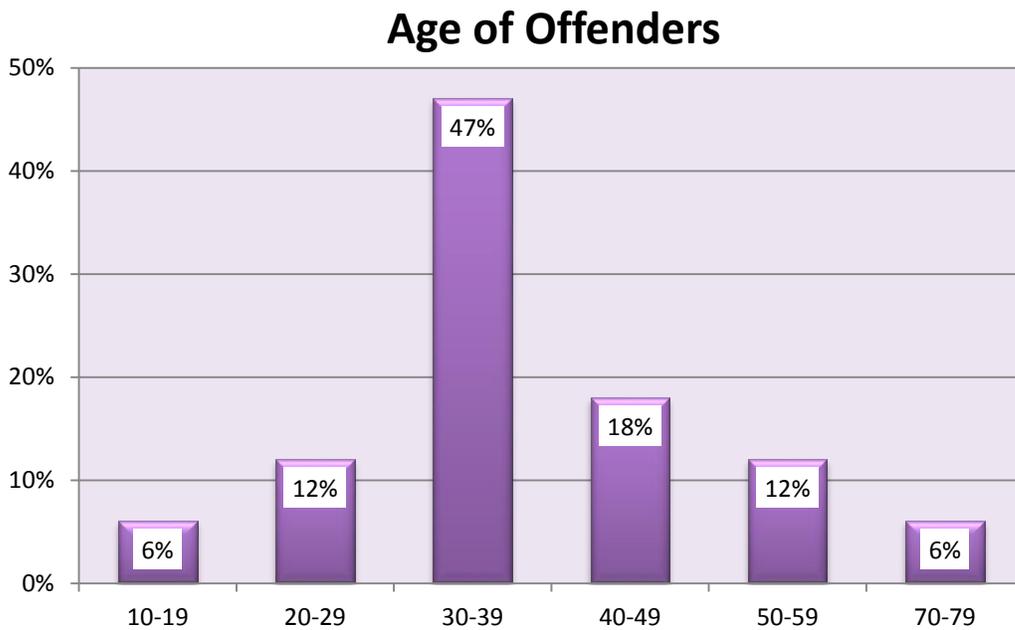
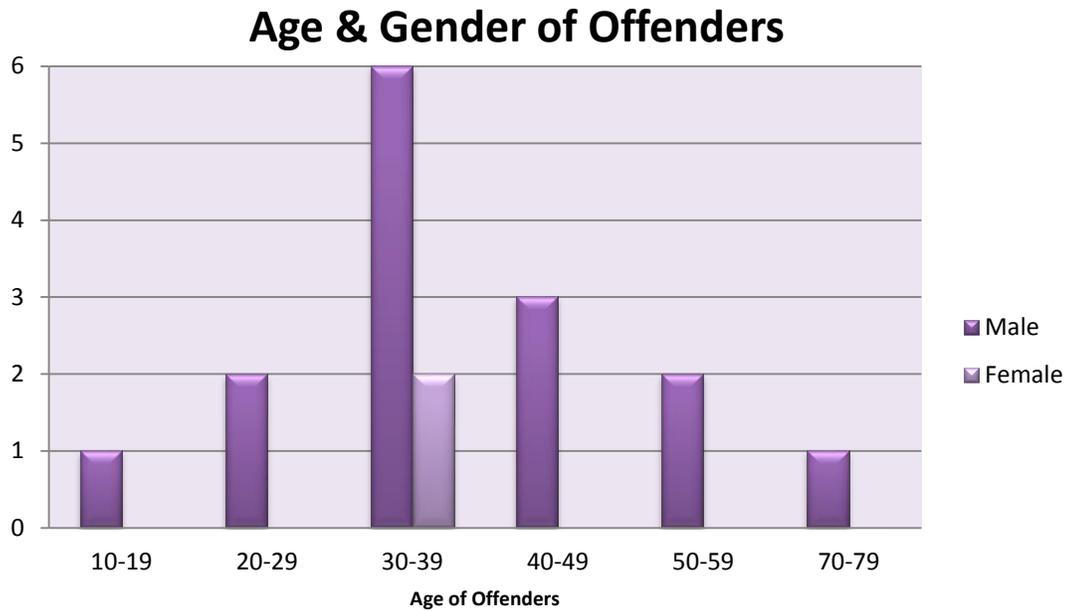


**Age of Victims**



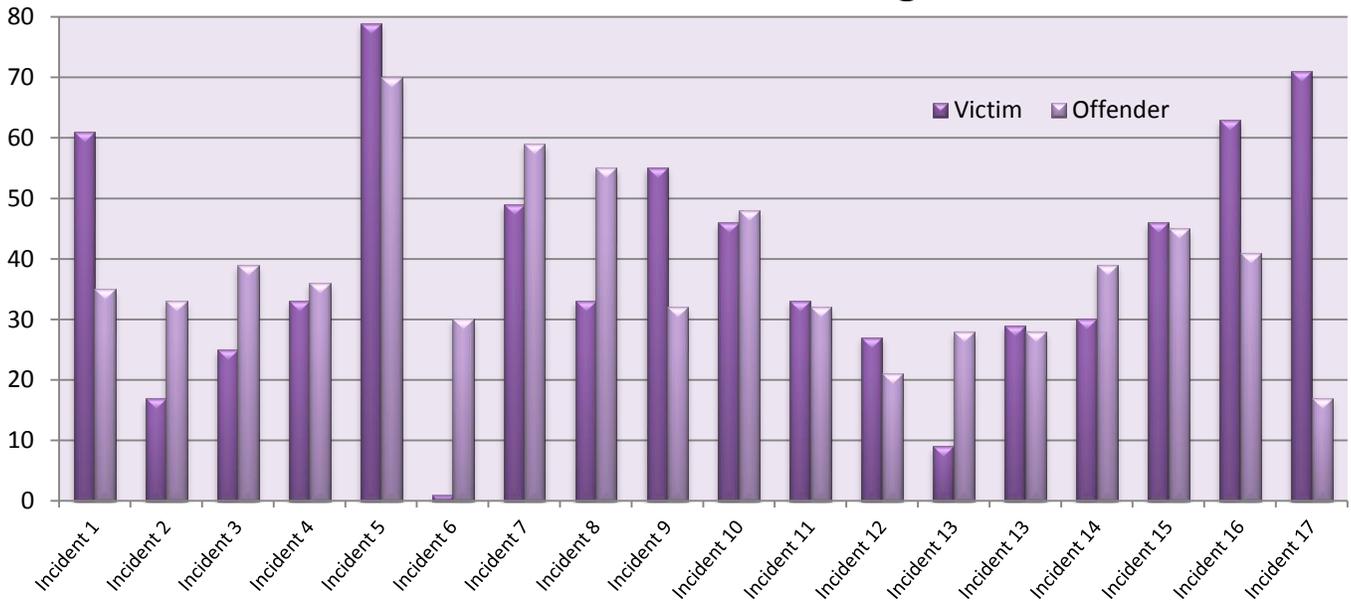
## Age & Gender of Offenders

The youngest offender to commit a domestic homicide during 2017 was a 17 year old male (nephew). The oldest offender was a 70 year old male (husband). The highest number of offenders was in the 30 to 39 age group, 8 (47 percent). The average age of male offenders was 39 years old; the average age of female offenders was 34 years old. The average age of all offenders was 39 years old.



Nine of the 18 family violence homicide victims were younger than the offender, (50%). Nine victims (50%) were older than the offender. Overall, the age difference ranged from 29 years younger to 54 years older.

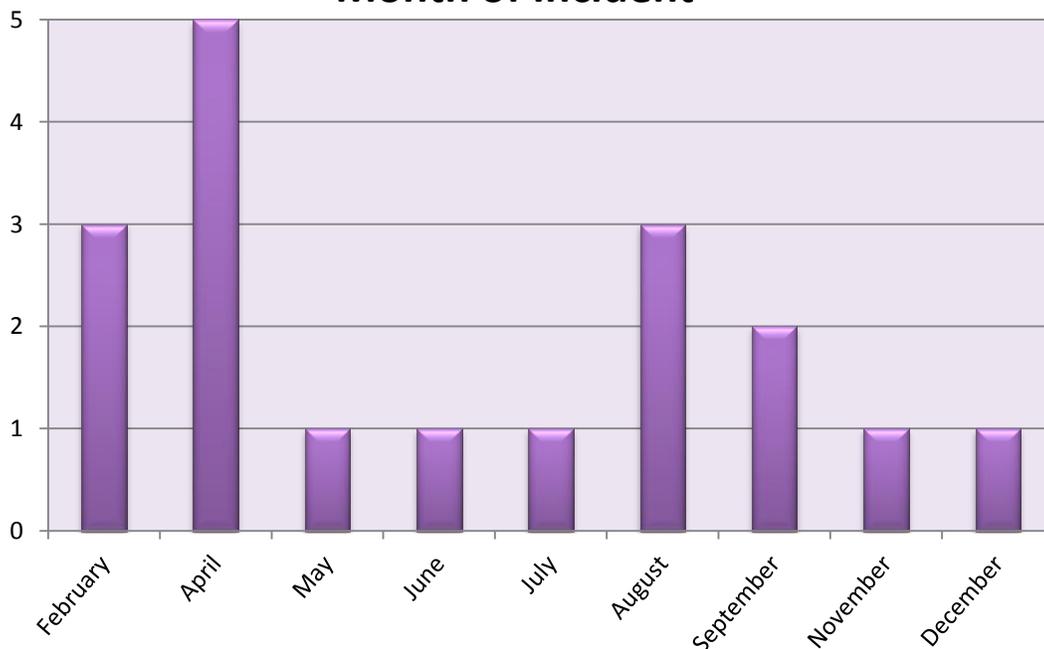
### Victim - Offender Age



### Month

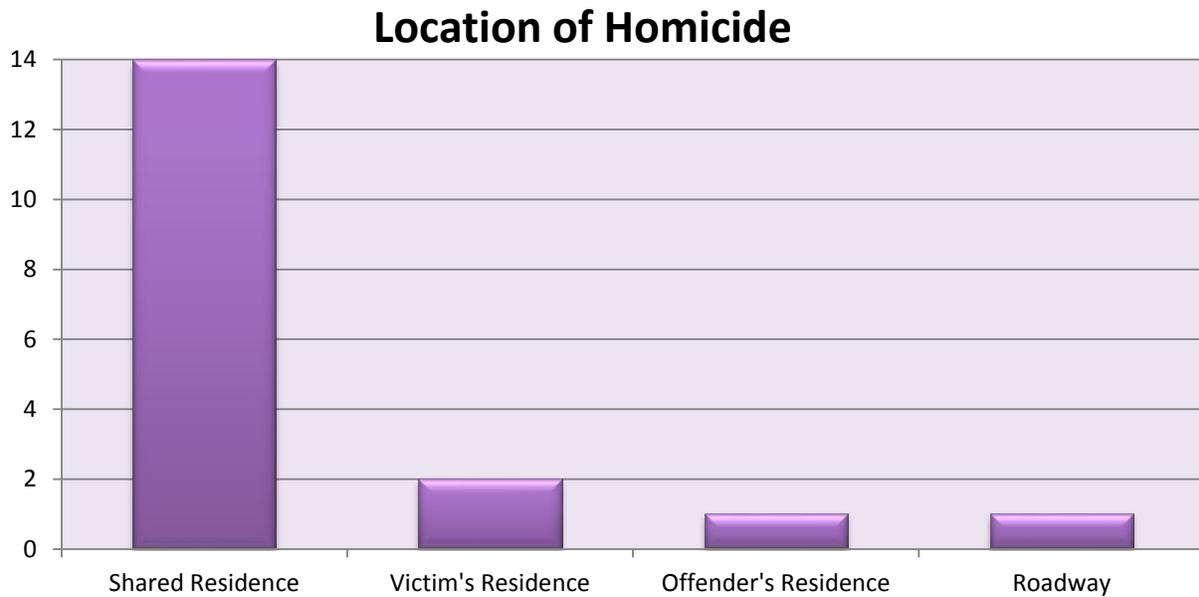
The month of April had the highest number of family violence homicides, a total of five. Other months with multiple family violence homicides included February and August (three each), and September (two). The months of January, March, and October had no family violence homicides.

### Month of Incident



### Location of Homicide

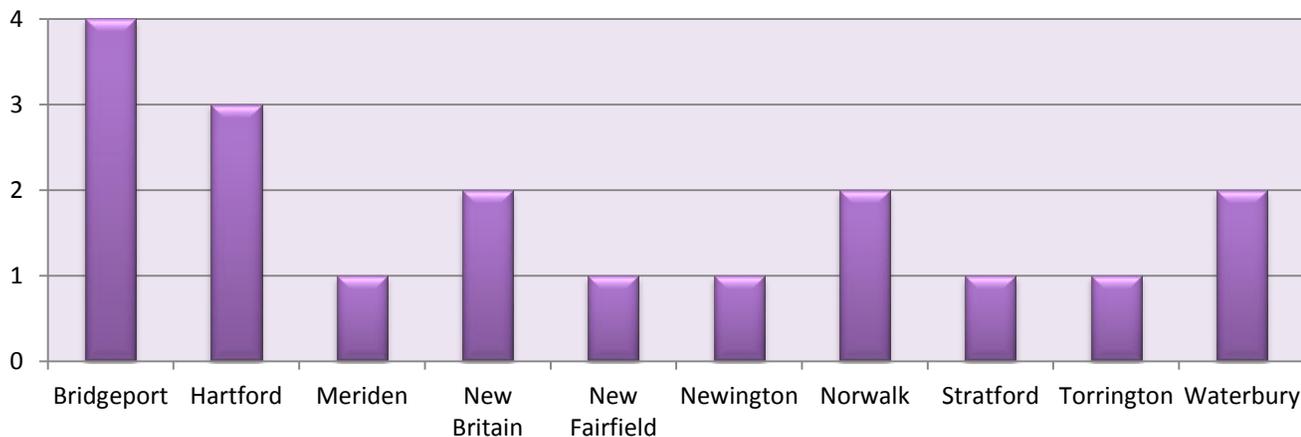
Fourteen of the 18 family violence homicides committed occurred in the residence shared by the victim and the offender (78%). Other locations included: the victim's residence, two (11%); offender's residence, one (6%); and roadway, one (6%).



### Geographic Distribution

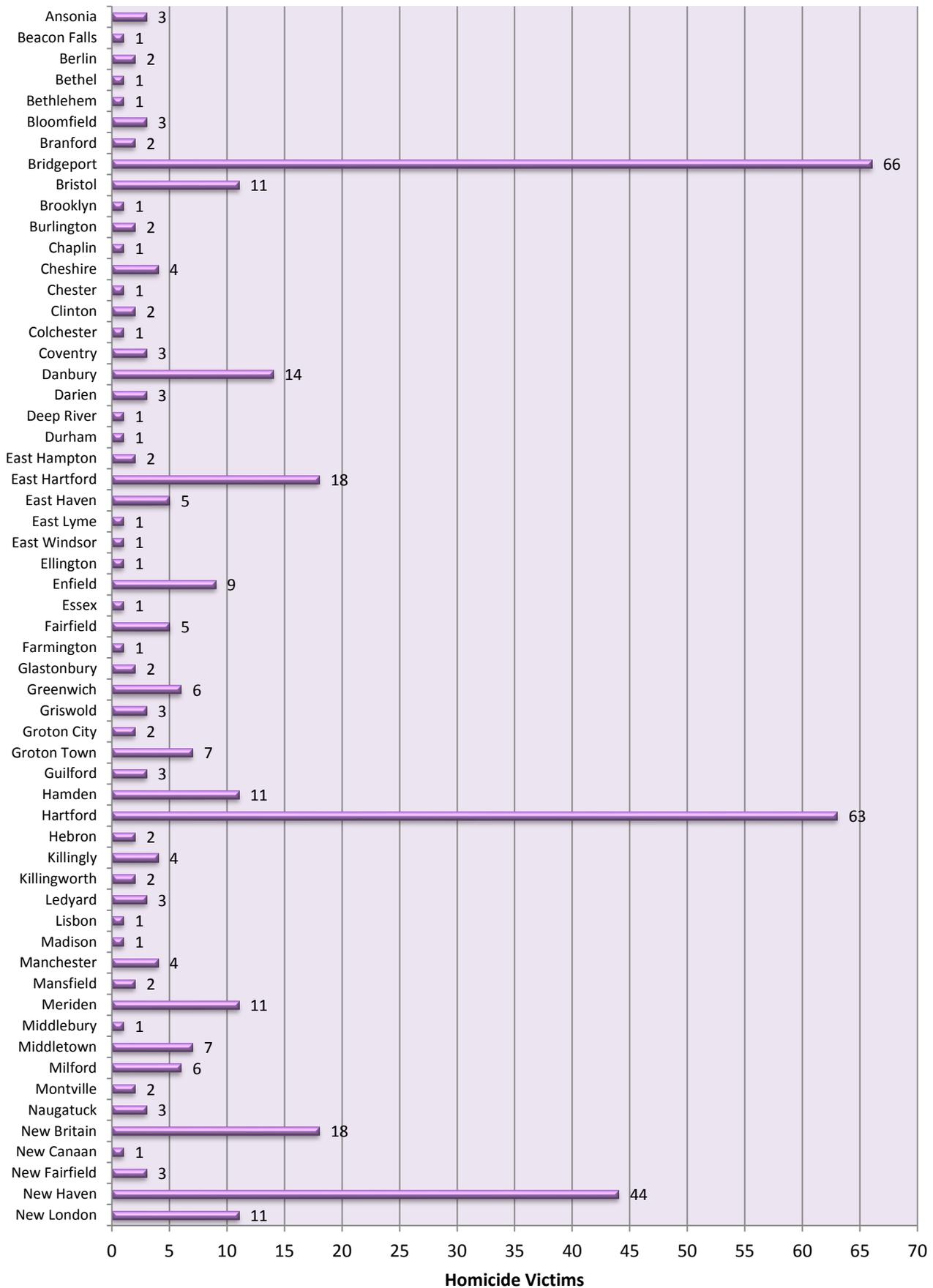
The 18 family violence homicides committed during 2017 occurred in 10 Connecticut municipalities. Five Connecticut municipalities had multiple homicides, Bridgeport (four), Hartford (three), New Britain, Norwalk, and Waterbury (two).

### Family Violence Homicide Victims by Town 2017



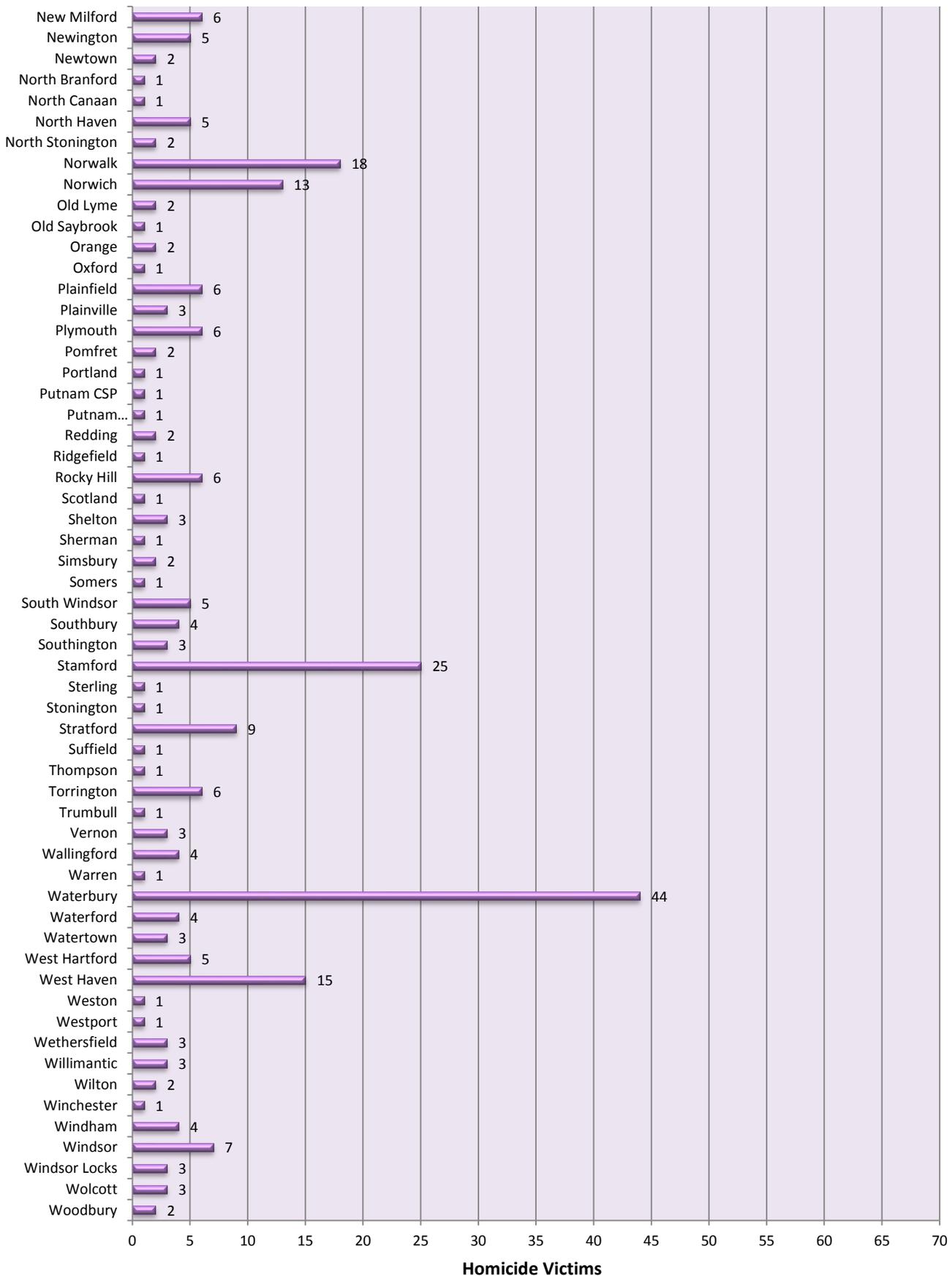
Prior to calendar year 2000, the details of family violence homicides that resulted in no arrest due to the suicide of the offender were not captured. The following table illustrates the total number of family violence victims by town where incident details were captured. With 66 homicide victims, Bridgeport recorded the highest total followed by Hartford (63), New Haven (44) and Waterbury (44). Combined, these four municipalities accounted for one-third (33%) of Connecticut's family violence homicide victims where incident details were captured (653). A total of 113 municipalities have witnessed a family violence homicide, 67% of all Connecticut municipalities.

## Family Violence Homicide Victims by Town 1987 - 2017\*



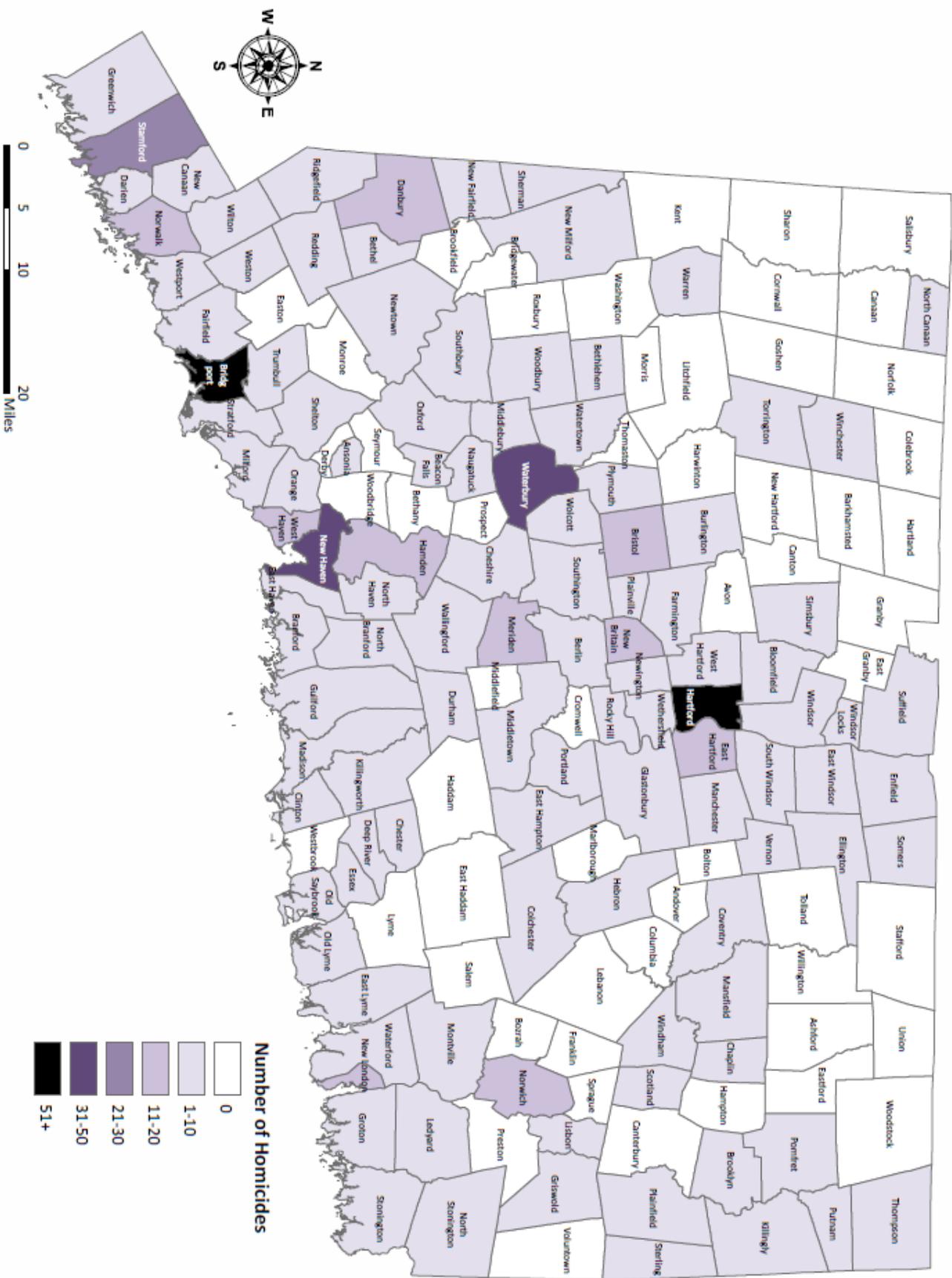
\* Does not include victims where the offender committed suicide prior to 2000.

## Family Violence Homicide Victims by Town 1987 - 2017\*



\* Does not include victims where the offender committed suicide prior to 2000.

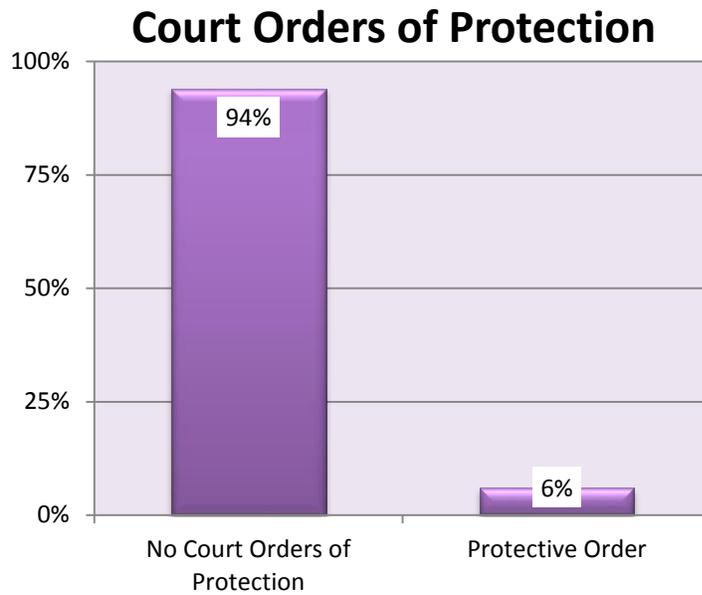
# Family Violence Homicides by Town, 1987 - 2017



Prepared by the Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications GIS, May 24, 2018 Data Sources: CTDESPP-CS\*, CTDEEP FOR REFERENCE ONLY

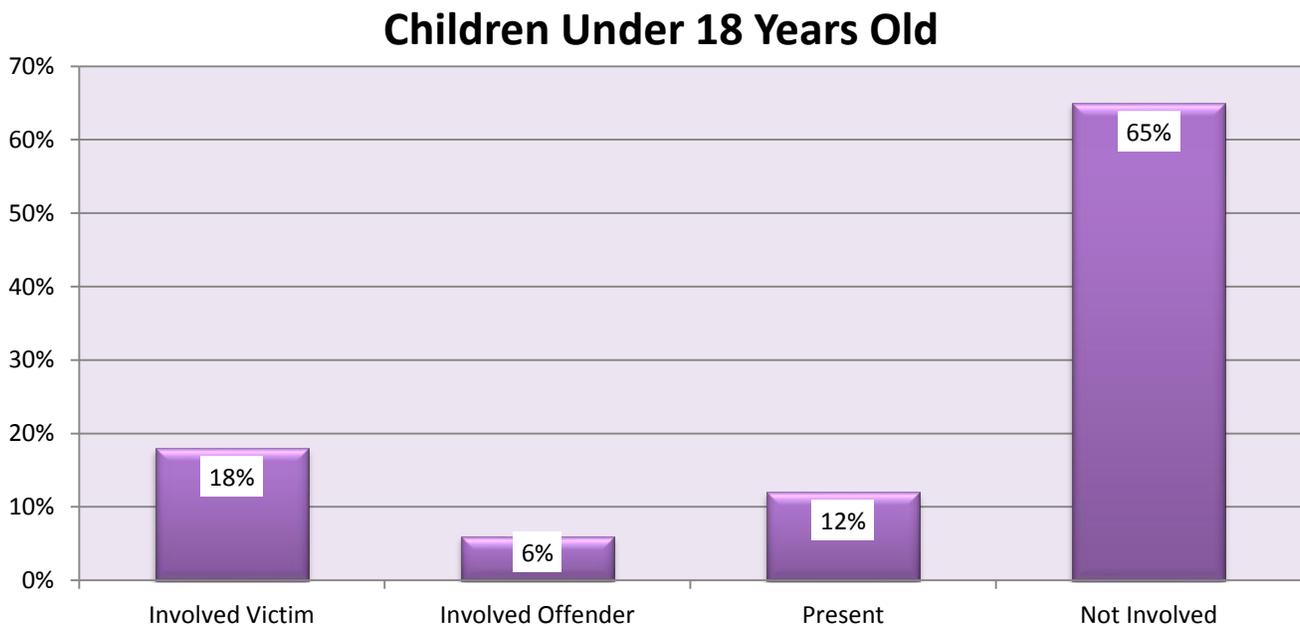
### Court Orders of Protection

In 16 of the 17 family homicide incidents occurring during 2017 there were no court orders of protection, either active or expired (94%). In one incident there was an active protective order (6%).



### Children Under 18 Years Old

Children under 18 years of age were involved in four family violence homicide incidents, three as the victim (18%) and one as the offender (6%). Children under 18 years of age were present in two homicide incidents (12%), and were not involved in 11 incidents (65%).



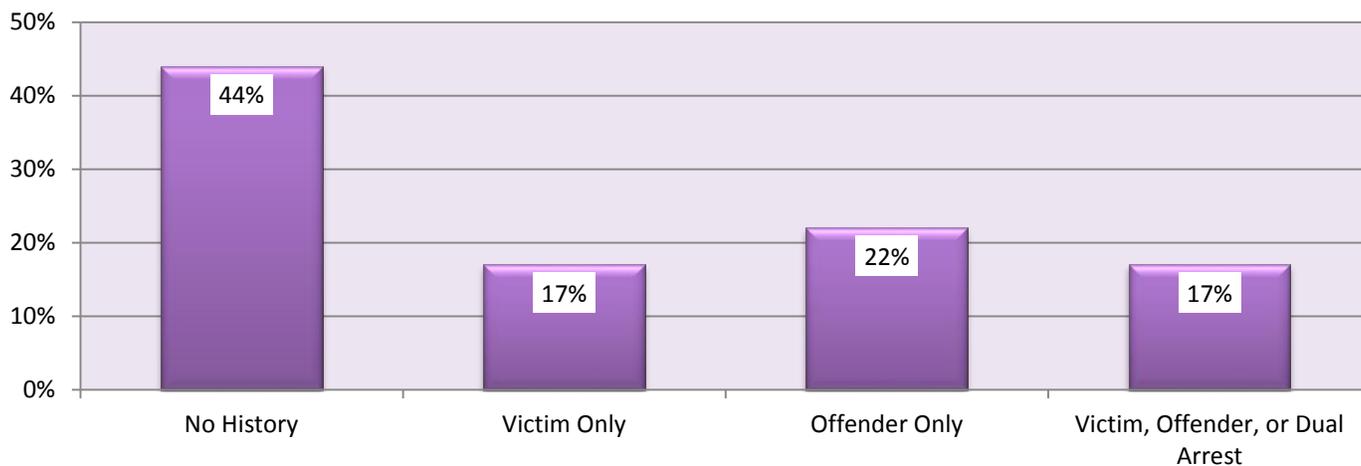
## Victim's Family Violence History

Of the 18 victims in the 2017 family violence homicide incidents, eight (44%) had no previous family violence history in the state of Connecticut as either an offender or a victim.

Of the other 10 victims, three were involved in previous family violence incidents as the victim only (17%). Four were involved in previous incidents as the offender only (22%), and three were involved in previous incidents as the victim, offender, or dual arrest incidents when all participants were arrested (17%). Also, three homicide victims were involved in previous incidents with the offender of the 2017 homicide.

2017 Homicide Victim	No Previous Incident	Previous Incident	Previous Incident Status			Involving 2017 Homicide Offender	Incident Offense	Year of Incident
			Victim	Offender	Dual Arrest			
Victim 1		Incident 1 Incident 2 Incident 3		X X X		No No No	Breach of Peace Breach of Peace Disorderly Conduct	1992 1992 1987
Victim 2	X							
Victim 3	X							
Victim 4		Incident 1 Incident 2	X X			Yes Yes	Violation Court Order Assault	2016 2015
Victim 5	X							
Victim 6	X							
Victim 7	X							
Victim 8		Incident 1 Incident 2		X X		No No	Assault Criminal Mischief	2005 2005
Victim 9		Incident 1 Incident 2 Incident 3		X X	X	No No No	Disorderly Conduct Assault Assault	2009 2004 1995
Victim 10		Incident 1 Incident 2 Incident 3	X X		X	Yes Yes Yes	Violation Court Order Assault, Strangulation Assault	2017 2017 2011
Victim 11		Incident 1 Incident 2		X X		No No	Disorderly Conduct Assault	2010 2009
Victim 12	X							
Victim 13	X							
Victim 14		Incident 1	X			No	Violation Court Order	2016
Victim 15		Incident 1 Incident 2		X X		No No	Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct	2005 2003
Victim 16		Incident 1 Incident 2	X X			Yes Yes	Breach of Peace/Disorderly Conduct Assault	2013 2012
Victim 17		Incident 1 Incident 2		X X		No No	Assault Assault	1989 1989
Victim 18	X							

## Victim's Family Violence History



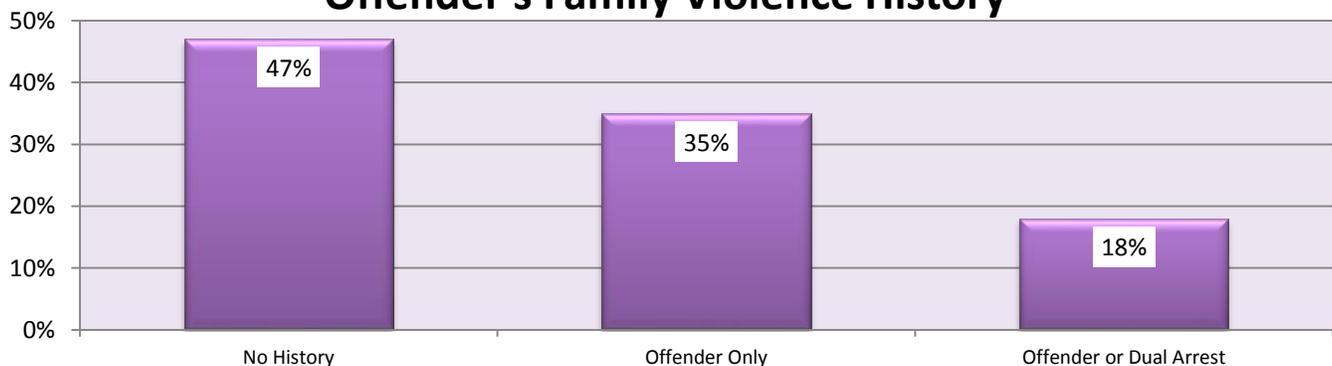
## Offender's Family Violence History

Of the 17 offenders in the 2017 family violence homicides, eight (47%) had no previous family violence history in the state of Connecticut as either an offender or a victim.

Of the other nine offenders, six were involved in previous family violence incidents as the offender only (35%) and three were involved in previous incidents as the offender or in dual arrest incidents were all participants were arrested (18%). Also, three homicide offenders were involved in previous incidents with the victim of the 2017 homicide.

2017 Homicide Offender	No Previous Incidents	Previous Incidents	Previous Incident Status			Involving 2017 Homicide Victim	Incident Offense	Year of Incident
			Victim	Offender	Dual Arrest			
Offender 1				X		No	Breach of Peace	2009
Offender 2	X							
Offender 3		Incident 1		X		No	Assault	2008
		Incident 2		X		No	Assault	2001
		Incident 3			X	No	Assault	2001
Offender 4		Incident 1		X		Yes	Violation of Court Order	2016
		Incident 2		X		Yes	Assault	2015
Offender 5	X							
Offender 6		Incident 1		X		No	Threatening, Breach of Peace/Disorderly Conduct, Other	2015
Offender 7		Incident 1		X		No	Other/Violation Court Order	2010
		Incident 2			X	No	Assault	2009
		Incident 3		X		No	Disorderly conduct	2002
		Incident 4		X		No	Assault	2002
		Incident 5		X		No	Disorderly Conduct	2002
Offender 8	X							
Offender 9	X							
Offender 10		Incident 1		X		Yes	Violation of Court Order	2017
		Incident 2		X		Yes	Assault, Strangulation	2017
		Incident 3			X	Yes	Assault	2011
		Incident 4		X		No	Other/Violation Court Order	2003
		Incident 5		X		No	Other/Violation Court Order	2002
		Incident 6		X		No	Breach of Peace	2000
		Incident 7		X		No	Disorderly Conduct	1997
		Incident 8			X	No	Breach of Peace	1996
Offender 11	X							
Offender 12	X							
Offender 13	X							
Offender 14		Incident 1		X		No	Assault	2007
		Incident 2		X		No	Assault	2005
		Incident 3		X		No	Assault	2003
		Incident 4		X		No	Assault	2002
		Incident 5		X		No	Breach of Peace	2000
Offender 15		Incident 1		X		Yes	Breach of Peace/Disorderly Conduct	2013
		Incident 2		X		Yes	Assault	2012
		Incident 3		X		No	Assault	1997
		Incident 4		X		No	Breach of Peace	1997
Offender 16		Incident 1		X		No	Breach of Peace	2012
		Incident 2		X		No	Breach of Peace	2012
		Incident 3		X		No	Other/Violation Court Order	2011
		Incident 4		X		No	Other/Violation Court Order	2010
		Incident 5		X		No	Other/Violation Court Order	2009
Offender 17	X							

## Offender's Family Violence History



## 2017 Family Violence Homicide Circumstances

**12/23/15 CSP Ellington**

**Victim:** Female, 39

**Relationship:** Wife

**Circumstances:** Responding to a burglary alarm, police found the victim dead of gunshot wounds to the head and stomach and the suspect tied to a folding metal chair. The suspect told police he struggled with a masked intruder until the intruder subdued him. The intruder then chased the victim into the basement and shot her. The suspect also told police he burned the assailant with a blow torch causing the man to flee. After nearly a year and a half investigation, the suspect was charged with murder, tampering with evidence and making a false statement. Investigators used the victim's Fitbit, a fitness device that tracks heartrate and body movements, to determine the victim's registered movements apparently stopped before any possible intruder would have entered the house. It was also discovered the suspect was having an affair and had gotten another woman pregnant. Five days after the shooting the suspect tried to cash in the victim's \$475,000 life insurance policy. The victim was shot with the .357 Magnum the suspect purchased months before the homicide.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 39**

**11/14/16 Meriden P.D.**

**Victim:** Male, 8

**Relationship:** Relative residing in home: Son

**Circumstances:** The suspect had been dealing with depression and marital issues before she set two fires in the family home, one in the bedroom and another in the basement with tiki torch fluid. The victim died of homicidal asphyxiation and a lethal dose of an antihistamine commonly found in Benadryl. The suspect was hospitalized for smoke inhalation and an "altered mental status". After the fire the suspect moved to North Carolina to "start of new life". The suspect told investigators she did not remember what happened and said she did not hurt her son.

**Suspect Arrested: Female, 40**

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**1. 02/08/17 Bridgeport P.D.**

**Victim:** Male, 61

**Relationship:** Relative residing in home: Uncle

**Circumstances:** Responding to a call for a man having a heart attack, medics found the victim propped up in a living room chair with a lit cigarette between his fingers. The victim had been dead for some time, his body in rigor mortis. Along with one large and one small laceration in the back of his head the victim also had cuts and scratches on his face and forehead and burns on his lower extremities and genitals. No obvious blood had been seen at the scene. The suspect, the victim's niece and caregiver, told police the victim had been on the front porch where she found him unresponsive. She then moved the victim inside. When police sprayed the bathroom with an agent used to find blood stains that may have been washed away, there was a blood splatter that stretched from the ceiling to the floor. The victim died of blunt force trauma to the head.

**Suspect Arrested: Female, 35**

**2. 02/14/17 Hartford P.D.**

**Victim:** Male, 17

**Relationship:** Relative residing in home: Son

**Circumstances:** The suspect called 911 reporting that the victim had been vomiting for 24 hours and had a bulging belly. Emergency crews responded and brought the severely autistic and emancipated victim to the hospital where he died hours later. The 5 feet 9 inch victim weighed 84 pounds. The suspect had screwed the cabinets shut and locked the refrigerator to prevent the victim from getting food. The victim had cuts and bruises on his face, torso, and arms, three broken ribs from a previous injury, and bed sores. The cause of death was fatal child abuse syndrome with dehydration and malnutrition.

**Suspect Arrested: Female, 33**

**3. 02/24/17 Bridgeport P.D.**

**Victim:** Female, 25

**Relationship:** Wife

**Circumstances:** In a jealous rage, the suspect fatally stabbed the victim and critically wounded another woman by stabbing her more than a dozen times leaving her for dead. The suspect then fled the state with the couple's 6-year-old daughter. Pennsylvania state troopers spotted the suspect and a chase ensued. During the pursuit the suspect crashed into a tractor trailer and was taken into custody. The girl was also taken into custody unharmed. The suspect, an undocumented immigrant, was previously convicted of choking an estranged wife and was deported in 2013. Authorities said he illegally returned to the U.S.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 39**

**4. 04/07/17 New Britain P.D.**

**Victim:** Female, 33

**Relationship:** Wife

**Circumstances:** Responding to an anonymous complaint about domestic violence, police found the victim shot twice in the head and once in the shoulder. The victim had moved out of the shared residence but went back to retrieve some possessions. The victim and the suspect had a turbulent relationship with accusations of violence dating back years. More recently the suspect threatened to kill a female friend of the victim because he suspected they were having a romantic relationship. After the shooting, the suspect fled with the couple's 2-year-old daughter and left her with relatives in Brooklyn, New York. The suspect was apprehended four days later in Springfield Massachusetts.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 36**

**5. 04/22/17 Torrington P.D.**

**Victim:** Female, 79

**Relationship:** Wife

**Circumstances:** The suspect called 911 reporting that his wife had fallen and was unresponsive. Arriving firefighters found the victim on the floor with significant head trauma. The victim suffered at least three violent blows to the head, breaking her right cheekbone and shattering her right eye socket. The victim was surrounded by an enormous amount of blood, her body was cold and rigor mortis had set into her legs. The suspect's explanation of what happened was inconsistent with the physical evidence. Police collected 57 pieces of evidence at the scene including bloody clothing, sponges, washcloths, and a wiped down 24 inch steel rod with blood on it that matched the blood of the victim.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 70**

**6. 04/25/17 Bridgeport P.D.**

**Victim:** Male, 10 Mo.

**Relationship:** Relative residing in home: Son

**Circumstances:** Police responded to a report of an unresponsive male infant. Paramedics rushed the infant to the hospital where he died the next day. The infant had bruises on his body and suffered head injuries and a detached retina. The suspect, the infant's father, turned himself in days later.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 30**

**7. 04/26/17 Norwalk P.D.**

**Victim:** Female, 49

**Relationship:** Live-in girlfriend

**Circumstances:** The victim lived in a small one-bedroom trailer she shared with an ex-boyfriend and the suspect. The ex-boyfriend arrived home to find the suspect drunk watching TV. When asked about the whereabouts of the victim, the suspect told the ex-boyfriend she was in the bedroom. The ex-boyfriend found the victim slumped on the floor of the bedroom leaning against the bed and a nightstand, her face a purple hue. The suspect told police there had been a verbal argument that quickly turned physical, that he pushed the victim and she fell and struck her head on a dresser. Death was caused by blunt force head trauma.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 59**

8. **04/30/17 Norwalk P.D.** Victim: Female, 33 Relationship: Relative residing in home: Daughter

**Circumstances:** After not showing up for work, the victim's co-workers went to the victim's apartment, looked through the window and saw her on the floor. They then knocked in the door and found the victim dead of a gunshot in the head. The suspect was inside the apartment sitting on a couch, holding a weapon mumbling to himself. Police spent hours attempting to get the suspect to surrender. While talking to the suspect, officers heard a single gunshot, the suspect committed suicide. The suspect had been living in the victim's apartment for two years sleeping on the couch. The victim told the suspect the day of the incident he had to move out the next day.

**Suspect Suicide: Male, 55**

9. **05/02/17 CSP New Fairfield** Victim: Female, 55 Relationship: Roommate

**Circumstances:** The victim and offender met while staying in a hotel and agreed to rent a home together to save money. The offender confronted the victim about food shopping and bills then knocked the victim to the floor, stomped on her head and sexually assaulted her. The offender who has post-traumatic stress disorder and bipolar disorder was on disability at the time of the murder. The offender was tracked down while camping in the woods by a patrol trooper and his K9 partner. The suspect told police he felt guilt over the homicide and had hoped to buy heroin so he could overdose.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 32**

10. **06/22/17 Meriden P.D.** Victim: Female, 46 Relationship: Child in common

**Circumstances:** The victim was found by police bleeding with serious facial and head injuries. She was taken to the hospital by LifeStar and underwent surgery. Two months after the incident the victim died. The victim and suspect had a tumultuous history. At the time of the incident the victim had an active protective order against the suspect.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 48**

11. **07/05/17 Bridgeport P.D.** Victim: Female, 33 Relationship: Wife

**Circumstances:** Police responded to a report of two people dead and found the bodies of the victim and suspect in an apparent murder-suicide. Police said the couple's 14-year old daughter discovered the scene. The suspect was described as obsessively jealous and continually battered and humiliated the victim and threatened to kill her on more than one occasion. The couple left behind three children under the age of 15.

**Suspect Suicide: Male, 32**

12. **08/13/17 Stratford P.D.** Victim: Female, 27 Relationship: Relative residing in home: Niece

**Circumstances:** Responding to a call of gunshots police found the victim, the mother of two small children, lying in the street surrounded by family members with a gunshot wound in her chest. The victim's boyfriend was found a short distance away suffering from a gunshot wound to the abdomen. Prior to the shooting the victim and suspect were attending a 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party for a relative. The victim and her boyfriend had walked out to the street to have an argument. Several people from the party walked over to the arguing couple and the situation escalated. Witnesses told police the victim and suspect were very close and the suspect intervened to protect the victim but accidentally shot her.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 21**

13. 08/18/17 Waterbury P.D.

Victim: Female, 9

Relationship: Roommate

**Circumstances:** The victim and her mother were found dead in their apartment, victims of a double homicide. The victim also had a 2-year old sister who was found wandering outside the apartment. The victim's mother had a tumultuous relationship with the suspect who is not the biological father of either the victim or her sister.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 28**

14. 08/18/17 Waterbury P.D.

Victim: Female, 29

Relationship: Live-in-girlfriend

**Circumstances:** The victim and her 9-year old daughter were found dead in their apartment, victims of a double homicide. The victim also had a 2-year old daughter who was found wandering outside the apartment. The suspect, who had a tumultuous relationship with the victim, is not the biological father of either of the victim's daughters. Neighbors reported hearing arguing and saw the suspect leave, that's when the 2-year old came outside saying her mother was dead. The victim had helped found a victim's support group following the domestic violence death of her sister.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 28**

15. 09/03/17 Hartford P.D.

Victim: Female, 30

Relationship: Girlfriend

**Circumstances:** Responding to a 911 call of a woman hanging naked out of a broken window police found a grisly scene with blood on the walls, floor, and bloody hand prints. The victim was found with cuts, bruises and a shoelace strung around her neck. The victim was transported to the hospital where she was pronounced dead several hours later. The suspect has an extensive criminal history and was on probation for strangulation at the time of the homicide. The victim and suspect had been dating for about a year, but broke up five days before the homicide.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 39**

16. 09/21/17 Newington P.D.

Victim: Female, 46

Relationship: Wife

**Circumstances:** A neighbor reported a neighbor lying inside the front door of her home appearing lifeless. Responding police found the victim shot in the head and lower extremities. Police entered the home and found the suspect in the living room with a self-inflicted shotgun wound to the face. Police also found a blood trail from the master bedroom through the house to the front door. Investigators determined the victim was running to escape when she was shot a second time killing her. The couple was experiencing marital problems with an impending divorce. The victim previously moved out of the house, but returned to make it clear she was not abandoning the home in case the issue arose during a divorce proceeding. Several months later, the suspect was found dead from an apparent suicide in his prison hospital room.

**Suspect Suicide: Male, 45**

17. 11/20/17 New Britain P.D.

Victim: Male, 63

Relationship: Roommate

**Circumstances:** An argument about a birthday cake led to a fatal stabbing. The suspect told police he got into an argument with the victim after bringing home birthday cake for another one of his roommates. The suspect told police the victim destroyed the cake and started yelling at him and harassing him, banging on his bedroom door with an ax. The suspect told investigators he left his room and went into the kitchen and that's when the victim attacked him with the ax. The suspect then grabbed a knife and stabbed the victim in the back of his head. No ax was found at the scene.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 41**

18. 12/04/17 Hartford P.D.

Victim: Male, 71

Relationship: Relative residing in home: Uncle

**Circumstances:** Police responded to the victim's home and found him on the couch, bloody with multiple stab wounds to his torso. Witnesses told police the victim's 17-year old grandnephew had stabbed him. Police were also told the suspect had been suffering from depression and the incident was completely unprovoked. The victim was taken to the hospital and pronounced dead less than an hour later.

**Suspect Arrested: Male, 17**