

MURDER

(See page 9 for definition)

1983—SUMMARY ANALYSIS

A total of 1,203 murders was reported by law enforcement agencies in Florida for the year 1983.

Murders accounted for 1.4 percent of all violent crimes and 0.2 percent of all index offenses reported.

The murder rate for the reporting period was 11.4 per 100,000 population.

There were 850 murders cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared, amounting to a 70.7 percent clearance rate statewide.

The age group of 25-29 accounted for 19.5 percent of persons arrested for murder. Males accounted for 86.2 percent of all persons arrested for murder.

Of all persons arrested for murder, 50.5 percent were white, 49.3 percent were black and 0.2 percent were of other races.

Of all murder victims 59.7 percent were white, 39.4 were black and 0.9 percent of the other races were murdered. Of all murder victims, males represented 73.6 percent.

Firearms were employed in 47.5 percent of all reported murders. The use of a knife or other cutting device was involved in 18.3 percent of the murders.

The murder of one family member by another accounted for 187 or 15.5 percent of all murders. Of these, 113 murders or 60.4 percent resulted from one spouse killing the other.

Altercations or quarrels between the victim and perpetrator, including money quarrels, lovers' quarrels and drinking quarrels, accounted for 15.6 percent of all murders reported during the year 1983. Lovers quarrels recorded the highest involvement, accounting for 8.7 percent of the total murders.

PERCENT BY TYPE OF WEAPON USED, 1979-1983

Type of Weapon Used	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Handgun	48.5%	50.6%	50.4%	48.1%	40.1%
Rifle	3.3	4.2	3.3	3.5	3.0
Shotgun	8.1	5.7	4.7	5.6	4.3
Knife	17.2	18.4	14.6	15.9	18.3
Personal	7.5	5.6	4.1	4.7	6.6
Other	15.4	15.5	22.8	22.2	27.7
TOTAL*	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

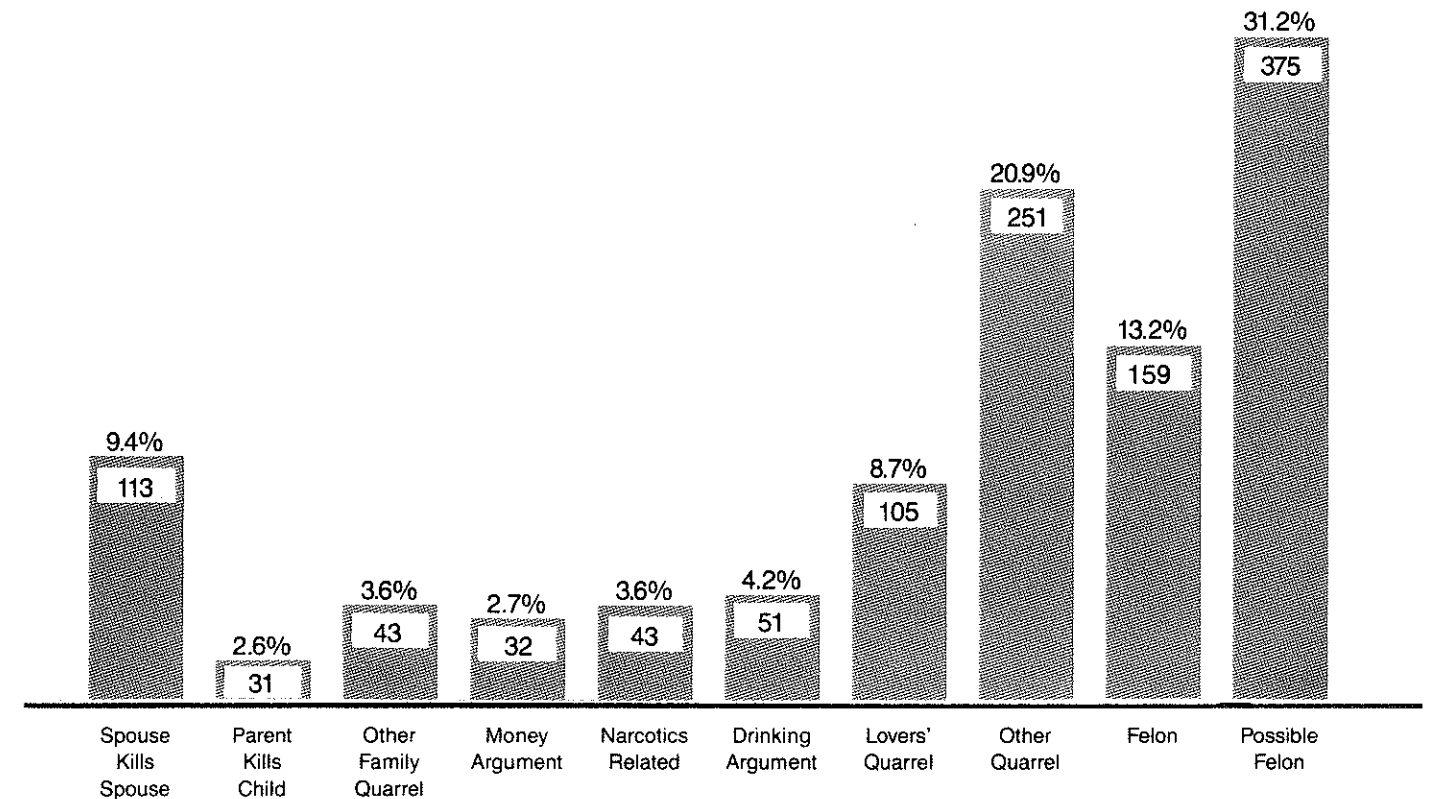
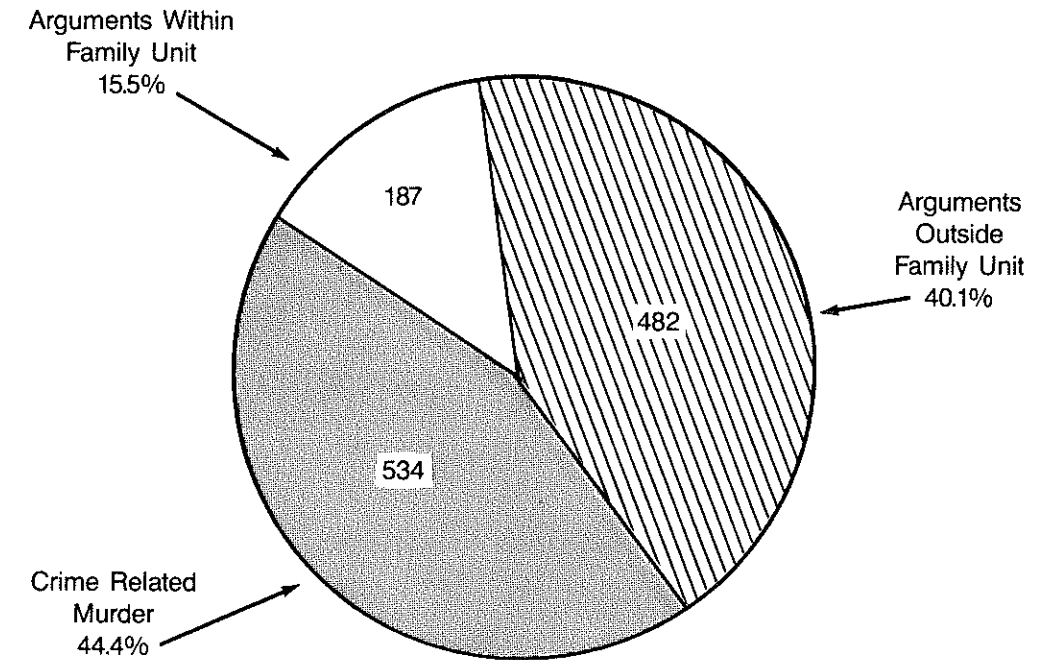
PERCENT BY DAY OF THE WEEK, 1979-1983

Day of the Week	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Sunday	17.1%	16.7%	14.3%	14.7%	15.4%
Monday	14.5	13.8	12.0	14.7%	11.5
Tuesday	12.8	13.0	11.8	11.8	12.8
Wednesday	12.1	11.9	13.8	11.8	10.8
Thursday	12.0	11.8	11.8	11.2	12.6
Friday	13.0	14.2	15.1	17.0	14.5
Saturday	18.5	18.7	21.3	18.9	22.4
TOTAL*	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

*Percent distributions may not total 100.0 due to rounding.

FDLE TABLE

1983 FLORIDA MURDER ANALYSIS DISTRIBUTION OF MURDER VICTIMS BY CIRCUMSTANCE*



*Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding.

FDLE Chart

MURDER VICTIMS BY AGE, SEX, AND RACE—1983

AGE	Number	*Percent Distribution	Sex		Race		
			Male	Female	White	Black	Others
Under 1	15	1.2%	8	7	7	8	0
1-5	21	1.7	10	11	12	9	0
6-10	3	0.2	3	0	3	0	0
11-14	6	0.5	2	4	4	2	0
15-19	66	5.5	37	29	33	33	0
20-24	182	15.1	128	54	94	87	1
25-29	160	13.3	117	43	91	69	0
30-34	169	14.0	141	28	92	77	0
35-39	123	10.2	104	19	67	56	0
40-44	102	8.5	80	22	70	32	0
45-49	63	5.2	51	12	40	23	0
50-54	56	4.7	45	11	39	17	0
55-59	61	5.1	46	15	38	23	0
60-64	39	3.2	26	13	27	12	0
65-69	31	2.6	24	7	23	7	1
70-74	17	1.4	10	7	14	3	0
75 & Over	44	3.7	21	23	37	7	0
Unknown	45	3.7	33	12	27	9	9
TOTAL for Florida	1,203	100.0%	886	317	718	474	11
PERCENT*			73.6	26.4	59.7	39.4	0.9

*Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding.

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