

MURDER

(See page 3 for definition)

1987—SUMMARY ANALYSIS

A total of 1,368 murders was reported by law enforcement agencies in Florida for the year 1987.

Murders accounted for 1.1 percent of all violent crimes and 0.1 percent of all index offenses reported.

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

There were 890 murders cleared by arrest or exceptionally cleared, amounting to a 65.1 percent clearance rate statewide.

The age group of 25-29 accounted for 16.0 percent of persons arrested for murder. Males accounted for 87.1 percent of all persons arrested for murder.

Of all persons arrested for murder, 49.6 percent were white, 49.9 percent were black, and 0.5 percent were of other races.*

Of all murder victims, 56.5 percent were white, 42.3 percent were black, and 1.2 percent were of other races. Of all murder victims, males represented 73.2 percent.

Firearms were used in 51.0 percent of all reported murders. The use of a knife or other cutting device was involved in 18.9 percent of the murders.

The murder of one family member by another accounted for 167 or 12.2 percent of all murders. Of these, 102 murders, or 7.5 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 18.1 percent of all murders reported during the year 1987. Lovers' quarrels recorded the highest involvement, accounting for 9.9 percent of the total murders.

NUMBER AND PERCENT BY TYPE OF WEAPONS USED 1985-1987

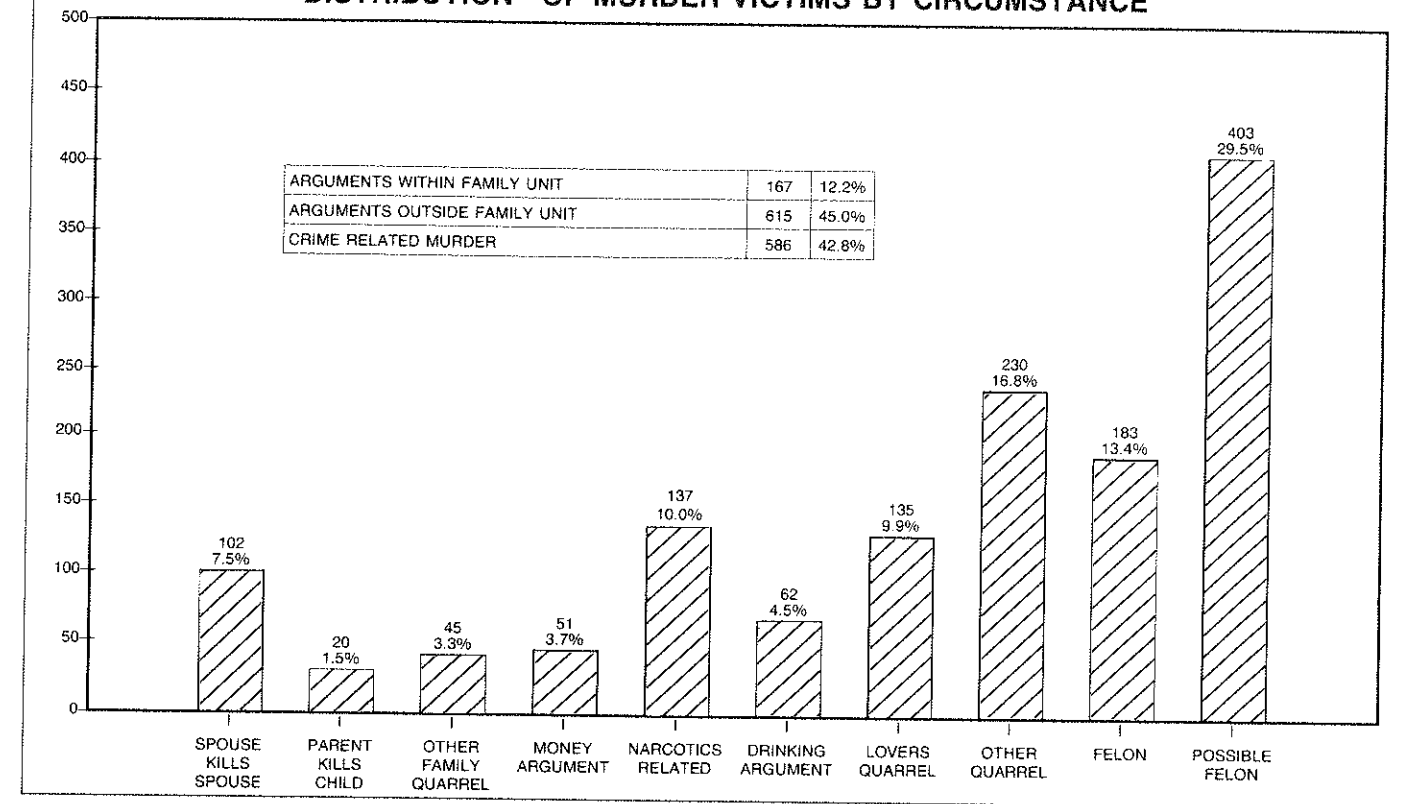
TYPE OF WEAPON USED	1985		1986		1987	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Handgun	456	35.2%	532	38.8%	569	41.6%
Rifle	43	3.3	40	2.9	53	3.9
Shotgun	54	4.2	56	4.1	75	5.5
Knife	218	16.8	244	17.8	258	18.9
Personal	53	4.1	80	5.8	73	5.3
Other	473	36.5	419	30.6	340	24.9
TOTAL*	1,297	100.0%	1,371	100.0%	1,368	100.0%

NUMBER AND PERCENT BY DAY OF WEEK 1985-1987

DAY OF THE WEEK	1985**		1986		1987	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Sunday	188	14.5%	223	16.3%	207	15.1%
Monday	186	14.3	182	13.3	175	12.8
Tuesday	165	12.7	169	12.3	179	13.1
Wednesday	151	11.6	177	12.9	174	12.7
Thursday	165	12.7	153	11.2	179	13.1
Friday	186	14.3	209	15.2	183	13.4
Saturday	256	19.7	258	18.8	271	19.8
TOTAL*	1,297	100.0%	1,371	100.0%	1,368	100.0%

*Percent distribution may not total 100.0% due to rounding.
**Corrected Data

DISTRIBUTION* OF MURDER VICTIMS BY CIRCUMSTANCE



*Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding.

MURDER VICTIMS BY AGE, SEX, AND RACE — 1987

AGE	NUMBER	PERCENT DISTRIBUTION	SEX		RACE		
			MALE	FEMALE	WHITE	BLACK	OTHER
UNDER 1	7	.5	4	3	5	2	0
1 TO 5	17	1.2	4	13	9	8	0
6 TO 10	5	.4	3	2	2	3	0
11 TO 14	12	.9	3	9	7	5	0
15 TO 17	44	3.2	34	10	14	30	0
18 TO 24	264	19.3	203	61	119	141	4
25 TO 29	214	15.6	173	41	114	97	3
30 TO 34	208	15.2	159	49	111	96	1
35 TO 39	108	7.9	82	26	65	42	1
40 TO 44	111	8.1	88	23	68	43	0
45 TO 49	80	5.8	62	18	53	26	1
50 TO 54	56	4.1	43	13	32	24	0
55 TO 59	55	4.0	40	15	38	17	0
60 TO 64	50	3.7	33	17	38	12	0
65 TO 69	32	2.3	20	12	24	8	0
70 TO 74	25	1.8	8	17	18	7	0
75 & OVER	42	3.1	18	24	35	7	0
UNKNOWN	38	2.8	24	14	21	11	6
TOTAL FOR FLORIDA	1,368	100.0*	1,001	367	773	579	16
PERCENT			73.2	26.8	56.5	42.3	1.2

*Percent distribution may not total 100.0 due to rounding.