



South Carolina Domestic Violence Fatality Report

**Silent Witness Statistical Report on Victims of Domestic Murder
from 2021**

**Monique P. Garvin
October 4, 2022**

This year's ceremony will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of Silent Witness.

In 2021, there were a total of 49 people murdered by a household member, according to the South Carolina¹² definition. Of those 49 people, 37 were women, constituting 76 percent of the total, and 12 were men, constituting 24 percent of the total.

The demographics of the victims were as follows: 40.8 percent were White, 57.1 percent were African American and 2 percent of victims identified as Hispanic/Latino. The average age of these victims was 37 years old.

The Office of the Attorney General, through its VAWA program, collected the data by contacting every sheriff's office, coroner's office, police department and solicitor's office in the state. Those offices were provided with a victim information sheet to complete and asked to provide any incident reports related to domestic homicide victims. As always, these offices were gracious and provided this Office with an abundance of information. In addition, all information was cross-checked for accuracy with the records of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division.

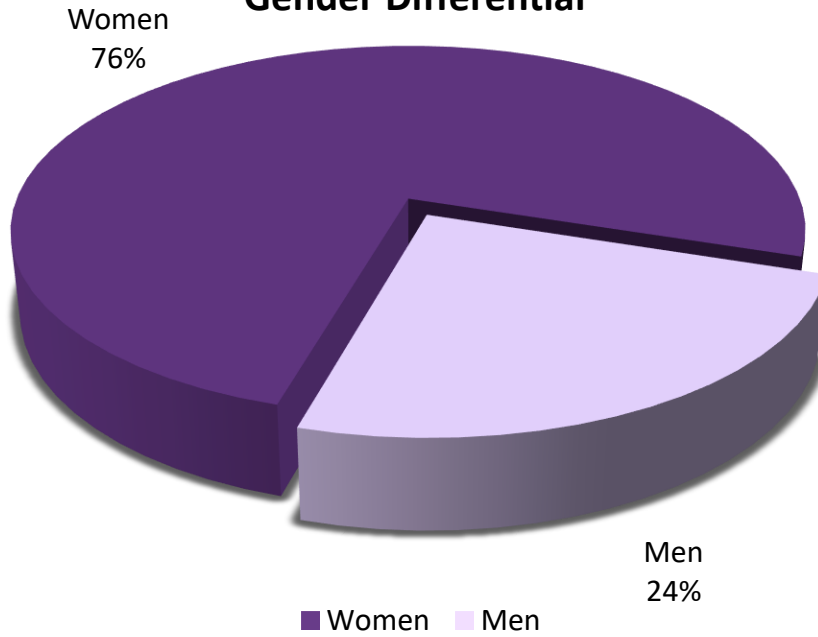
Twenty-three counties reported one or more domestic homicides for 2021.

Guns were the primary weapon used in these homicides. In 81.6 percent of the cases, a gunshot wound was listed as the primary cause of death. Knives were used in 4 percent of the cases; 10.2 percent from striking by or against a fist or object; 2 percent were from strangulation, and 2 percent from unknown causes. Trial is pending for murder in 38 cases, 10 suspects died by suicide and 1 defendant pled guilty to murder.

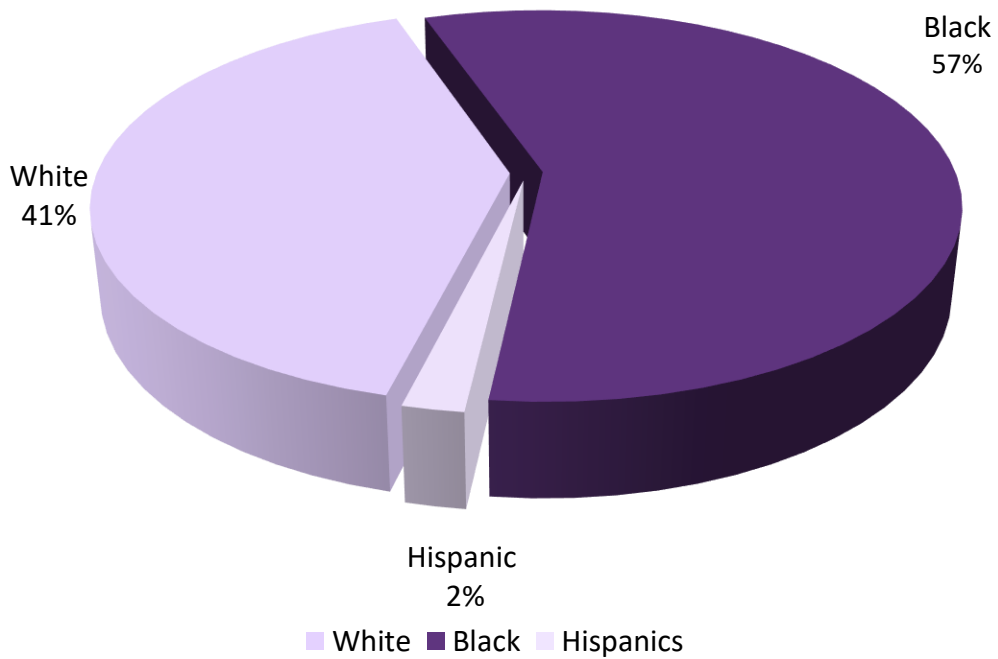
Following this summary are county-by-county statistics and statewide graphs depicting the statistics mentioned in this report.

¹² S.C. Code §16-25-10 defines "household members" as spouses, former spouses, persons who have a child in common, or a male and female who are cohabiting or formerly have cohabited.

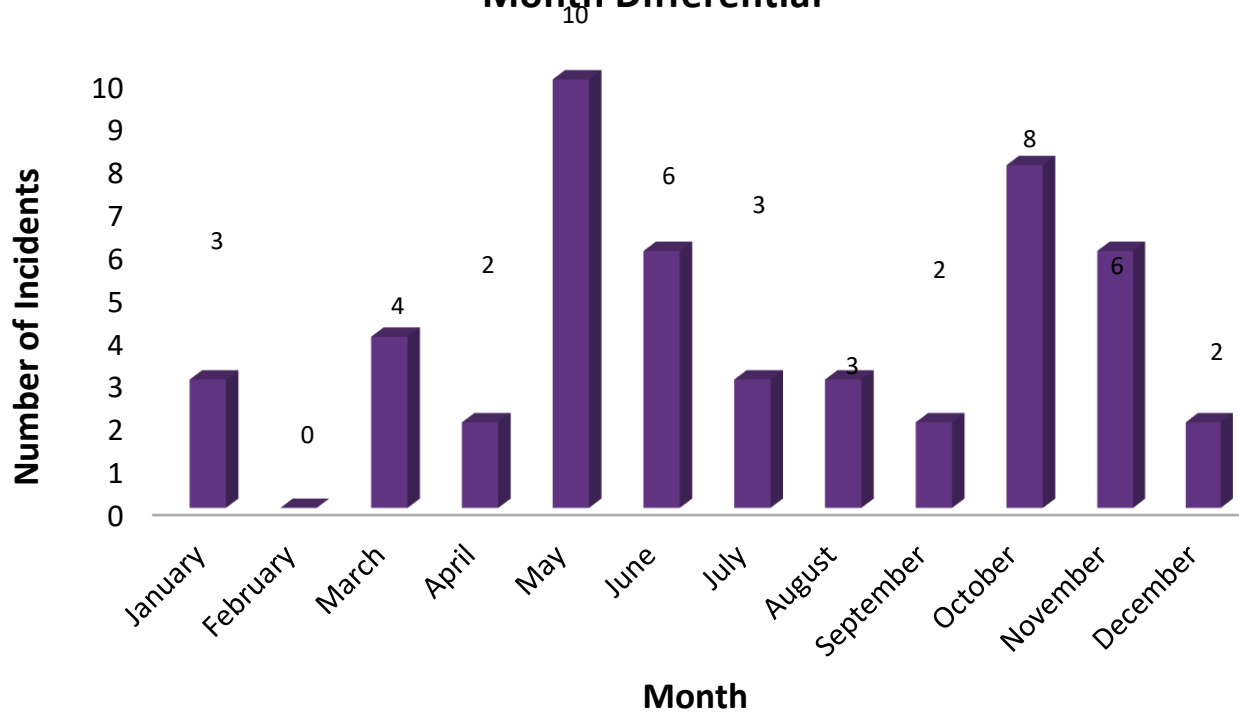
2021 Domestic Violence Homicides State of South Carolina Gender Differential



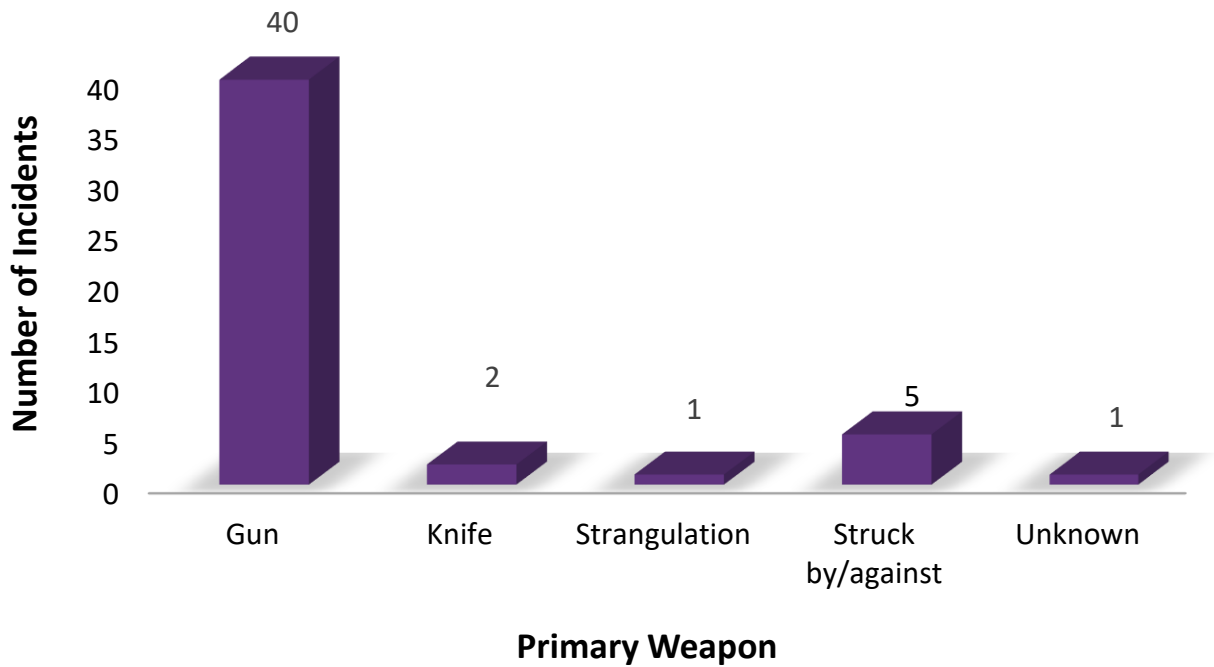
2021 Domestic Violence Homicides State of South Carolina Race Differential



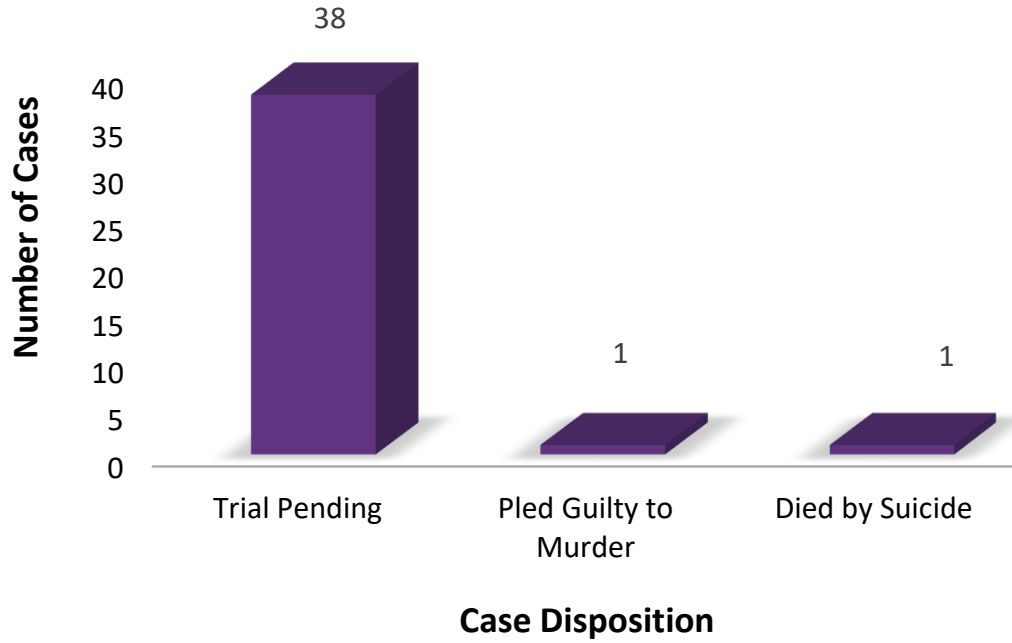
2021 Domestic Violence Homicides State of South Carolina Month Differential



2021 Domestic Violence Homicides State of South Carolina Primary Weapon Differential



2021 Domestic Violence Homicides State of South Carolina Case Disposition



County Statistics

Abbeville

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:
Whites:	0	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0	
		:				
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0	
				by/Against		
Strangulation:	0	Other	0			
Disposition:	N/A					

Aiken

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:
Whites:	0	Black:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0	
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0	
				by/Against		
Strangulation:	0	Othe:	0			
Disposition:						

Allendale

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:
Whites:	0	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0	
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0	
				by/Against		
Strangulation:	0		0			
Disposition:						

Anderson

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	25
Whites:	1	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	1		
				by/Against:			
Strangulation:	0	Other					
Disposition:	Pending Trial-Pending						

Bamberg

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:
Whites:	0	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0	
		:				
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0	
				by/Against		
		Other				
Strangulation:	:		0			
Disposition:						

Barnwell

Report on Domestic Murder Victims from 2021

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Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	
Whites:	0	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
		:					
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0		
				by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:		:	0				
Disposition:							

Beaufort

Women:		Men:		Total:		Avg Age:	
Whites:		Blacks		Hispanic/Other:			
		:					
Gun:		Knife:		Struck by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:		:					
Disposition:							

Berkeley

Women:	2	Men:	1	Total:	3	Avg Age:	34
Whites:		Blacks	2	Hispanic/Other:	1		
		:					
Gun:	3	Knife:		Struck by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:		:					
Disposition:	3		Pending Murder				

Calhoun

Women:		Men:		Total:		Avg Age:	
Whites:		Blacks		Hispanic/Other:			
		:					
Gun:		Knife:		Struck by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:		:					
Disposition:							

Charleston

Women:	4	Men:	1	Total:	5	Avg Age:	27
Whites:	3	Blacks	2	Hispanic/Other:	0		
		:					
Gun:	4	Knife:	0	Struck	1		
				by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:	0	:	0				

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Disposition: 5 Pending Murder

Cherokee

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	
Whites:	0	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
		:					
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0		
				by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:	0	:	0				
Disposition:							

Chester

Women:	0	Men:	1	Total:	1	Avg Age:	33
Whites:	0	Blacks	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
		:					
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck	0		
				by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:	0	:	0				
Disposition:							

Chesterfield

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	
Whites:	0	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
		:					
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0		
				by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:	0	:	0				
Disposition:							

Clarendon

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	
Whites:	0	Blacks	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
		:					
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck	0		
				by/Against			
		Other					
Strangulation:	0	:	0				
Disposition:							

Colleton

Women:	3	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	27
Whites:	1	Blacks	2	Hispanic/Other:	0		
		:					
Gun:	3	Knife:	0	Struck	0		
				by/Against			

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Other

Strangulation: 0 : 0
Disposition: 3 Pending Murder

Darlington

Women: 1 Men: 1 Total: 2 Avg Age: 20
Whites: 1 Blacks: 1 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 2 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0

Other

Strangulation: 0 : 0
Disposition:

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age: N/A
Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: Other: 0

Dillon

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition:

Dorchester

Women: 1 Men: 0 Total: 1 Avg Age: 36
Whites: 0 Blacks: 1 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 1 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition: Suicide

Edgefield

Women: 1 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age: 32
Whites: 1 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 1 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0

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Disposition: Pending Murder

Fairfield

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				
Disposition:							

Florence

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	26
Whites:	1	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	1		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				
Disposition:	2 Pending Murder						

Georgetown

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	71
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				
Disposition:	1 Pending Murder						

Greenville

Women:	3	Men:	0	Total:	3	Avg Age:	34
Whites:	1	Blacks:	2	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	3	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	1		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				
Disposition:	2 Pending Murder, 1 Suicide						

Greenwood

Women:	1	Men:	0	Total:	1	Avg Age:	23
Whites:	0	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	1	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		

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Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition: Pending Murder

Hampton

Women: 0 Men: 1 Total: 1 Avg Age: 52
Whites: 1 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 1 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition: 1 Pending Murder

Horry

Women: 1 Men: 0 Total: 1 Avg Age: 49
Whites: 1 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 1
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition: 1 Pending Murder

Jasper

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition:

Kershaw

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition:

Lancaster

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition:

Laurens

Women: 1 Men: 1 Total: 2 Avg Age: 50
Whites: 0 Blacks: 2 Hispanic/Other: 0

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Gun: 1 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
 Strangulation: 0 Other: 1
 Disposition: 1 Pending Murder, 1 Reckless Homicide

Lee

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
 Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
 Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
 Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
 Disposition:

Lexington

Women: 2 Men: 0 Total: 2 Avg Age: 27
 Whites: 1 Blacks: 1 Hispanic/Other: 0
 Gun: 2 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
 Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
 Disposition: 1 Pending Murder, 1 Suicide

Marion

Women: 2 Men: 1 Total: 3 Avg Age: 32
 Whites: 0 Blacks: 3 Hispanic/Other: 0
 Gun: 3 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
 Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
 Disposition: 3 Pending Murder

Marlboro

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
 Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
 Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
 Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
 Disposition:

McCormick

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
 Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0

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Newberry

Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition:

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition:

Oconee

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:
Whites: 0 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 0 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition:

Orangeburg

Women: 1 Men: 0 Total: 1 Avg Age: 48
Whites: 0 Blacks: 1 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 1 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition: 1 Pending Murder

Pickens

Women: 0 Men: 1 Total: 1 Avg Age: 42
Whites: 1 Blacks: 0 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 1 Knife: 0 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: Other: 0
Disposition: 1 Pending Murder

Richland

Women: 1 Men: 3 Total: 4 Avg Age: 49
Whites: 1 Blacks: 3 Hispanic/Other: 0
Gun: 3 Knife: 1 Struck by/Against 0
Strangulation: 0 Other: 0
Disposition: 3 Pending Murders, 1 suicide

Saluda

Women: 0 Men: 0 Total: 0 Avg Age:

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Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0		
Disposition:					

Spartanburg

Women:	4	Men:	0	Total:	4	Avg Age:	58
Whites:	4	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	3	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	1	Other:	0				
Disposition:	3 Suicides, 1 Pled Guilty						

Sumter

Women:	2	Men:	1	Total:	3	Avg Age:	32
Whites:	0	Blacks:	3	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	3	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				
Disposition:	2 Pending Murder, 1 Pending Voluntary Manslaughter						

Union

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				
Disposition:							

Williamsburg

Women:	0	Men:	0	Total:	0	Avg Age:	
Whites:	0	Blacks:	0	Hispanic/Other:	0		
Gun:	0	Knife:	0	Struck by/Against	0		
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0				
Disposition:							

York

Women:	2	Men:	0	Total:	2	Avg Age:	38
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Whites:	1	Blacks:	1	Hispanic/Other:	0
Gun:	1	Knife:	1	Struck by/Against	0
Strangulation:	0	Other:	0		
Disposition:	1 Pending Murder, 1 Suicide				