

North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence

2006 Domestic Violence Homicide Report



Growing Together To End Domestic Violence

**North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Domestic Violence Homicide Report**

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In Memory

The North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence has collected this information in memory of all the lives lost to the epidemic of domestic violence in our state. We hope that by raising awareness of the deadliness of this crime that others will be saved.

Our hearts go out to all of the families and friends of those who have lost a loved one to domestic violence.

Special Thanks

The Coalition would like to thank the advocates and allies who work for domestic violence service programs and other agencies throughout North Carolina for helping acquire the following information. Without your help, we could not know the extent of domestic violence homicides in our state. Thank you for making it possible for us to understand and record the devastating impact of domestic violence homicides. This information will be used in our quest to educate and inform the public and ultimately, to eliminate domestic violence.

The Coalition extends its gratitude to Soumya Natarajan, MSW, who assisted in the creation of this report while completing her internship for the UNC School of Social Work at NCCADV. We would also like to thank Brooke Ericson, UNC School of Journalism student, who is completing her internship with the Coalition. Their work was invaluable in the creation of this report.

Disclaimer

Information regarding domestic violence homicides in North Carolina has been collected by the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence since January 1, 2002, through reports from advocates, allies, and surviving family members from across the state. This report is not intended to be an official record of all domestic violence homicides in North Carolina for the time period covered and shall not be used for any purpose without prior permission from the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Domestic Violence Homicide Defined

Domestic Violence Homicide as defined by the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Domestic violence homicides occur when a person murders their current or former intimate partner and/or their children. A domestic violence homicide includes the murder of third parties. Examples include the murder of relatives of the person's former or current intimate partner, someone attempting to protect their current or former intimate partner, or the current intimate partner of the person's ex-partner. Domestic violence homicides include acts of self defense against an abusive partner.

**Domestic Violence Homicides in North Carolina
2006 Summary**

Number of Domestic Violence Homicides

79

Sex of Victims and Alleged Perpetrators

	Perpetrators	Victims
Males	60	21
Females	17	58

Child Witnesses

35

Children Murdered

5

Perpetrators Under 25 Years of Age

10

Murder/Suicide

9

Attempted Murder/Suicide

2

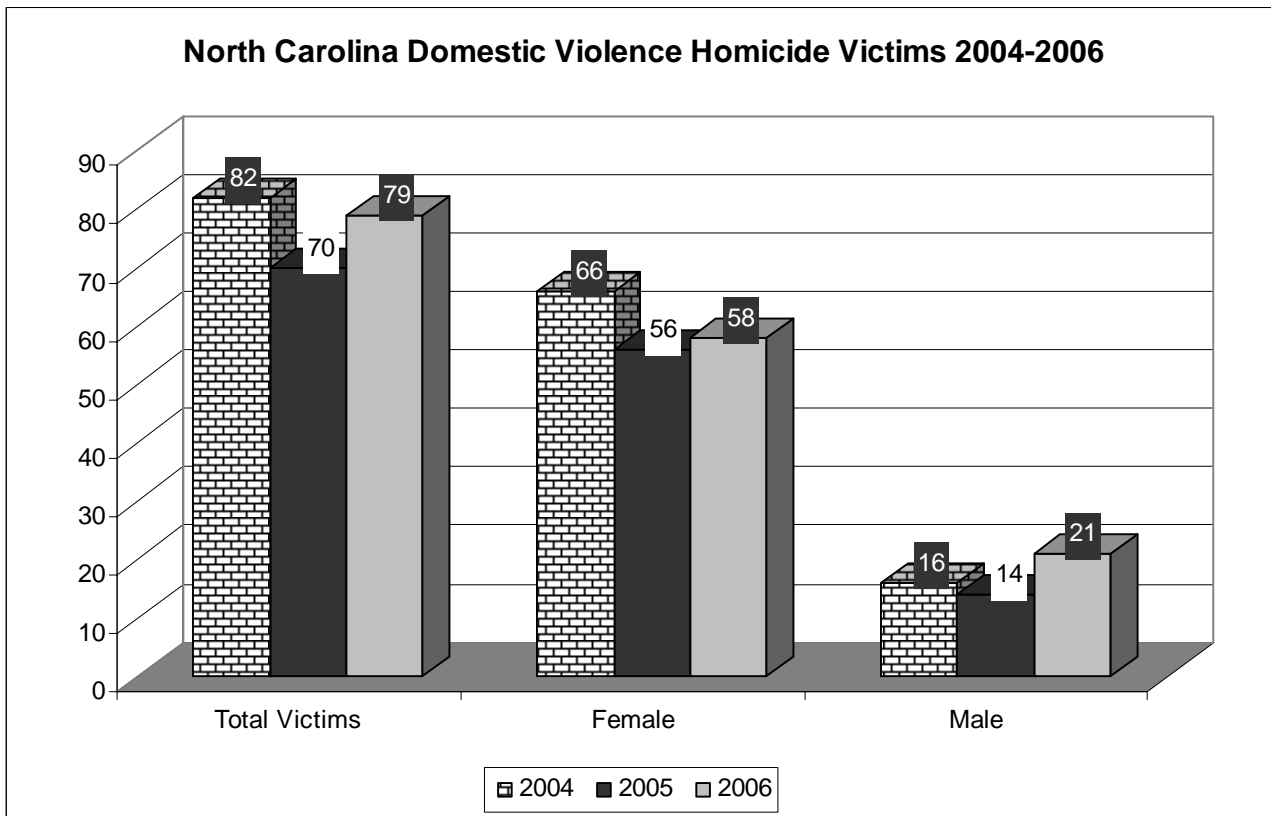
Homicides as of March 13 in Previous Years

3/13/2002	3/13/2003	3/13/2004	3/13/2005	3/13/2006	3/13/2007
18	16	11	8	12	13

2006 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDE STATISTICS

Victims by Sex

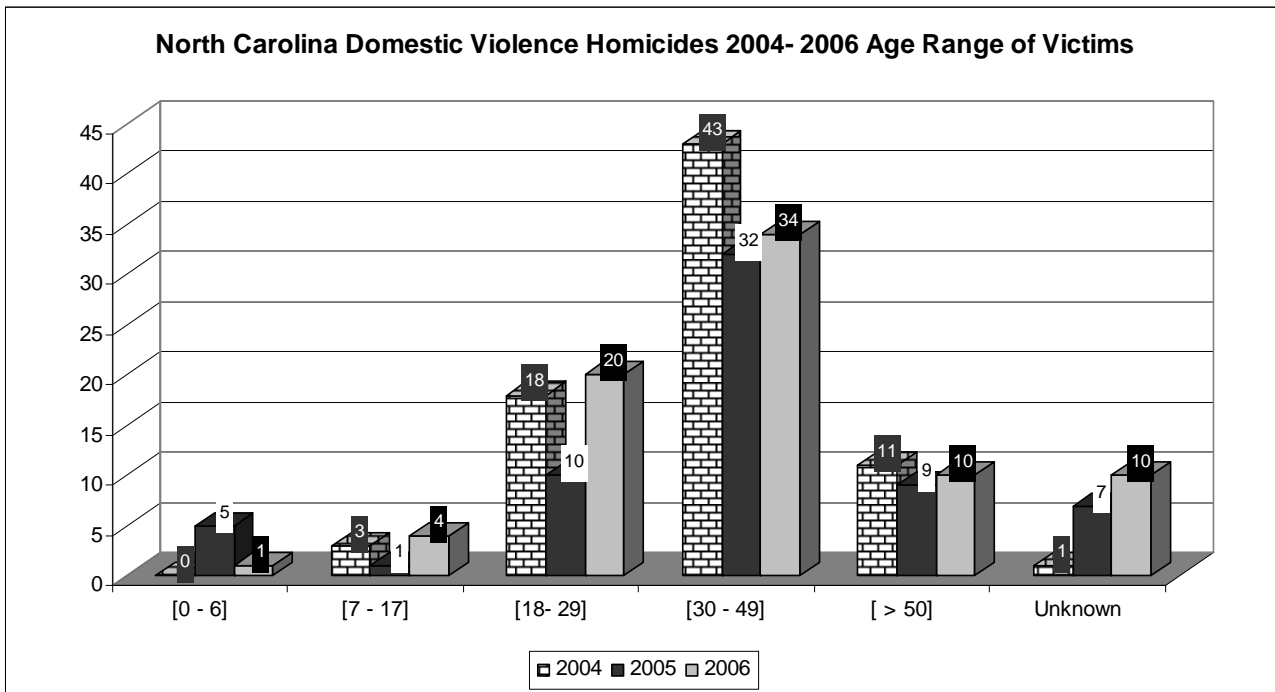
<i>Total Victims (2006)</i>	<i>Sex of Victim – 2006</i>		
	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
79	58	21	0



- ★ **79 deaths occurred due to domestic violence in North Carolina in 2006.**
- ★ **This number does not accurately reflect the total toll of domestic-violence related deaths, because the Coalition must rely on reports from individual counties.**
- ★ **Every year, the number of women killed as a result of domestic violence far exceeds the number of men killed.**
- ★ **Of the 21 male victims, two were children, of the 58 female victims, three were children.**

Victims by Age

<i>Age of Victim – 2006</i>						<i>Total Child Victims (2006)</i>
<i>[0 - 6]</i>	<i>[7 - 17]</i>	<i>[18- 29]</i>	<i>[30 - 49]</i>	<i>[> 50]</i>	<i>Unknown</i>	
1	4	20	34	10	10	5



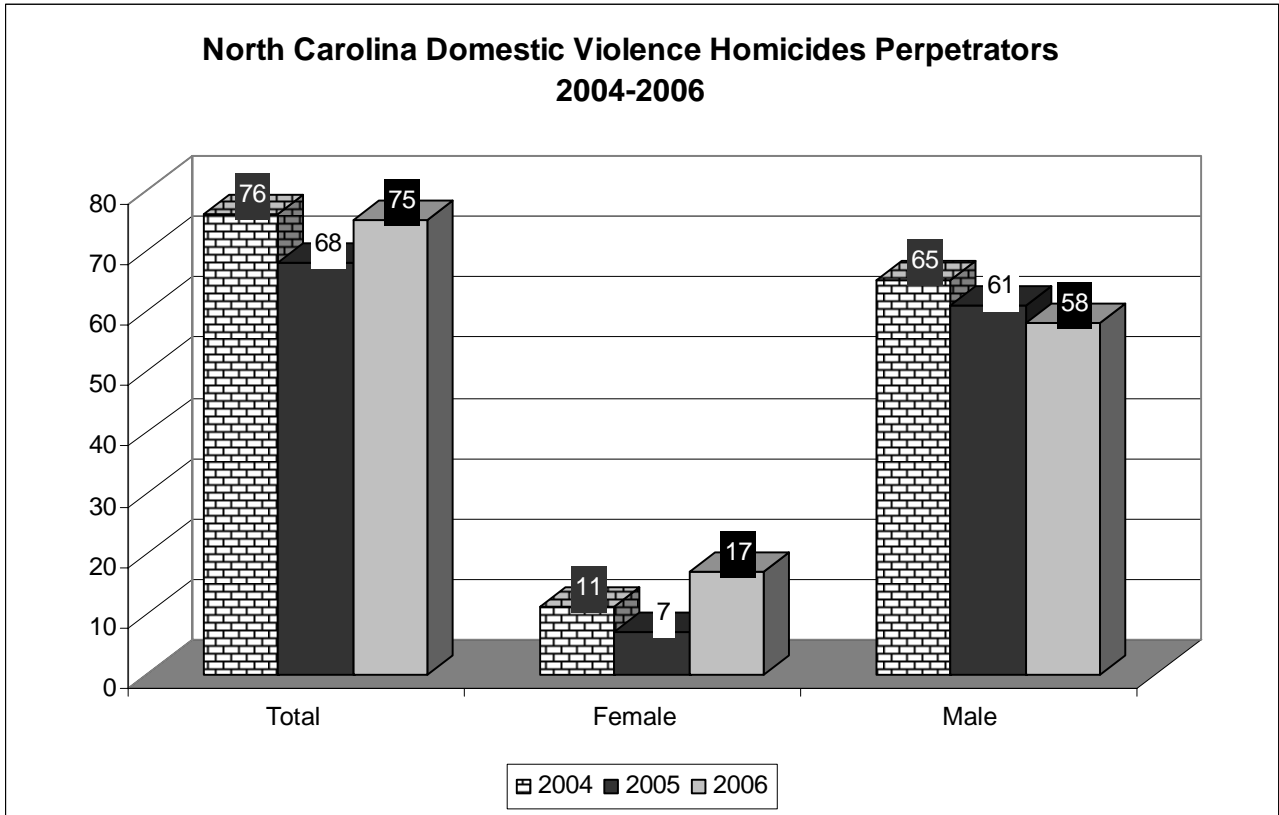
★ **Victims between 18 and 35 years of age are among the most vulnerable to domestic violence homicides.**

Impact on Children

- ★ Five children killed in North Carolina in 2006 as a result of domestic-violence.
- ★ Two victims, one 5, the other 8, were killed by their father because their mother refused to go back to him.
- ★ One child victim was a 10-year-old boy whose father shot him and his brother in the head after his wife said she was leaving him. The brother survived.
- ★ One victim was killed while her two children were trying to save her.
- ★ We know of at least 35 children who were present during a domestic violence homicide, in 22 separate incidents. Undoubtedly, there were many more child witnesses to domestic violence homicides that we could not confirm.

Perpetrators by Sex

Total Perpetrators (2006)	Sex of Perpetrator – 2006		
	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
75	17	58	0



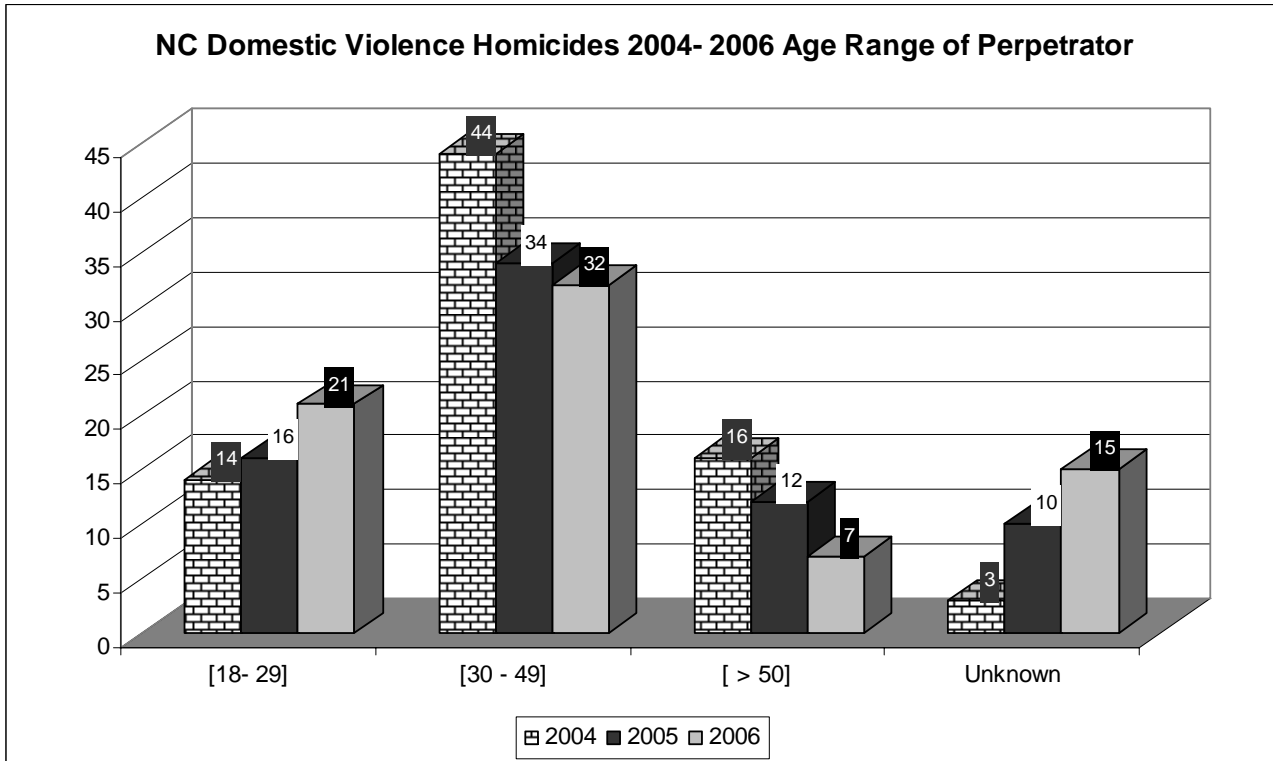
- ★ 75 men and women committed domestic-violence related homicides in North Carolina in 2006.
- ★ Each year, the number of male perpetrators of domestic-violence homicides far exceeds that of female perpetrators.
- ★ One homicide was committed by multiple perpetrators.
- ★ Four perpetrators committed multiple homicides.

Victims and Perpetrators by Sex

	Perpetrators	Victims
Males	60 (76%)	21 (27%)
Females	17 (22%)	58 (73%)

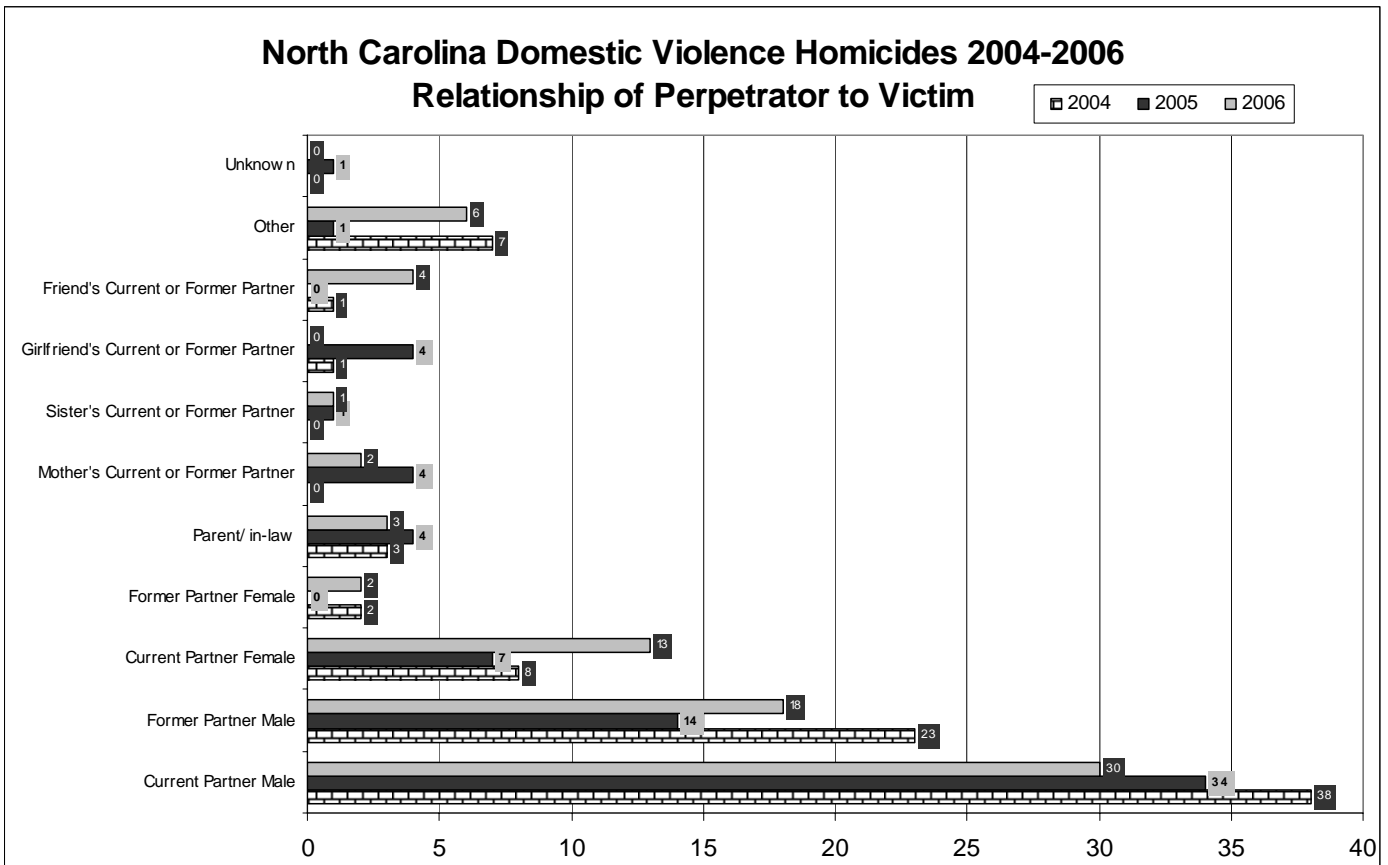
Perpetrators by Age

<i>Age of Perpetrator</i>				
	<i>[18- 29]</i>	<i>[30 - 49]</i>	<i>[> 50]</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
<i>2006</i>	21	32	7	15



Relationship of Perpetrator to Victim

<i>Relationship - i.e., the perpetrator was the victim's</i>										
<i>Current Partner Male</i>	<i>Former Partner Male</i>	<i>Current Partner Female</i>	<i>Former Partner Female</i>	<i>Parent/ in-law</i>	<i>Mother's Current or Former Partner</i>	<i>Sister's Current or Former Partner</i>	<i>Girlfriend's Current or Former Partner</i>	<i>Friend's Current or Former Partner</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Unknown</i>
30	18	13	2	3	2	1	0	4	6	0



Relationship of Perpetrator to Victim (continued)

- ★ Domestic violence endangers not only the victim of the abuse but also the close friends and family members of the victim. Children, brothers, friends and current partners of abused women are all part of the domestic violence homicide count in North Carolina.
- ★ **The majority of the perpetrators were a current or former male partner of a female victim.**

<i>live-in boyfriend</i>	<i>boyfriend</i>	<i>husband</i>	<i>estranged husband</i>	<i>ex-boyfriend</i>	<i>Total</i>
5	11	17	6	9	48

- ★ Six domestic violence homicides were by a male parent or guardian of the victim (four were by a father and two were by a mother’s boyfriend).
- ★ **The domestic violence victim was often not safe even after separating from the abuser.** Leaving an intimate partner is a dangerous issue for battered women. Statistics show that 15 victims were killed by their estranged husbands and ex-boyfriends in 2006.

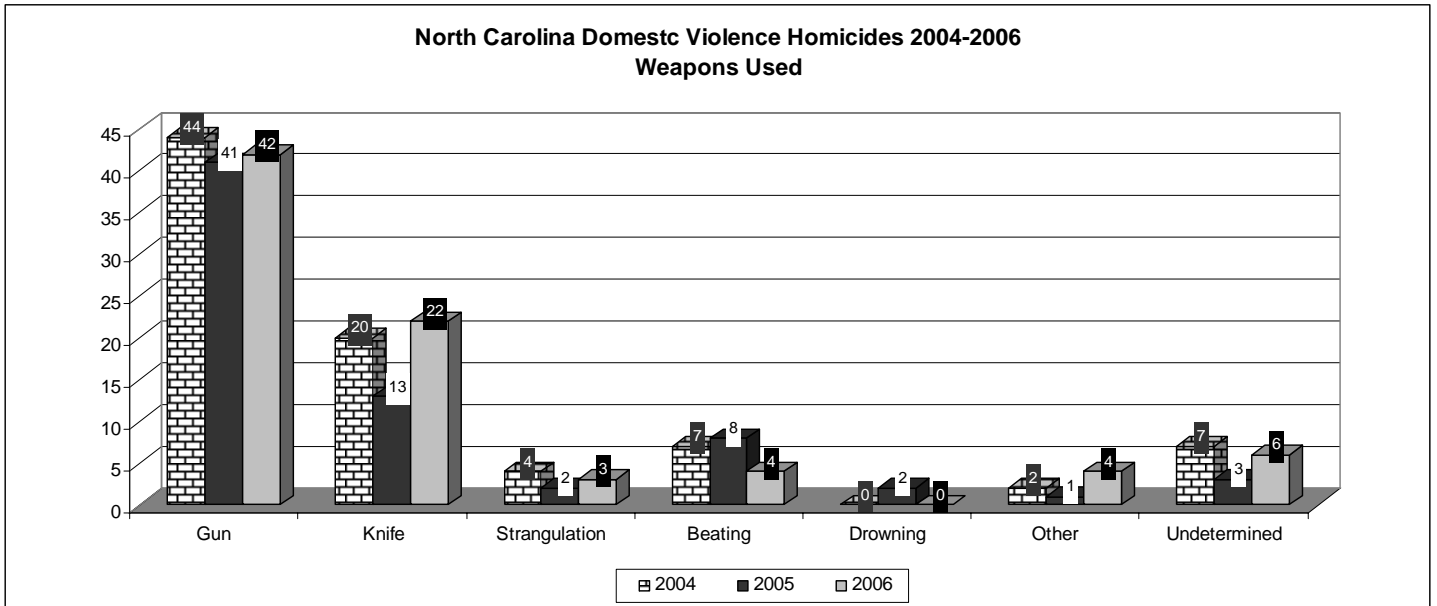
Murder- Suicide

2004	2005	2006
18	18	9
17 male perpetrators and 1 female perpetrator	All male perpetrators	Another 2 suicides with an attempted murder. Victims survived multiple gunshot wounds.

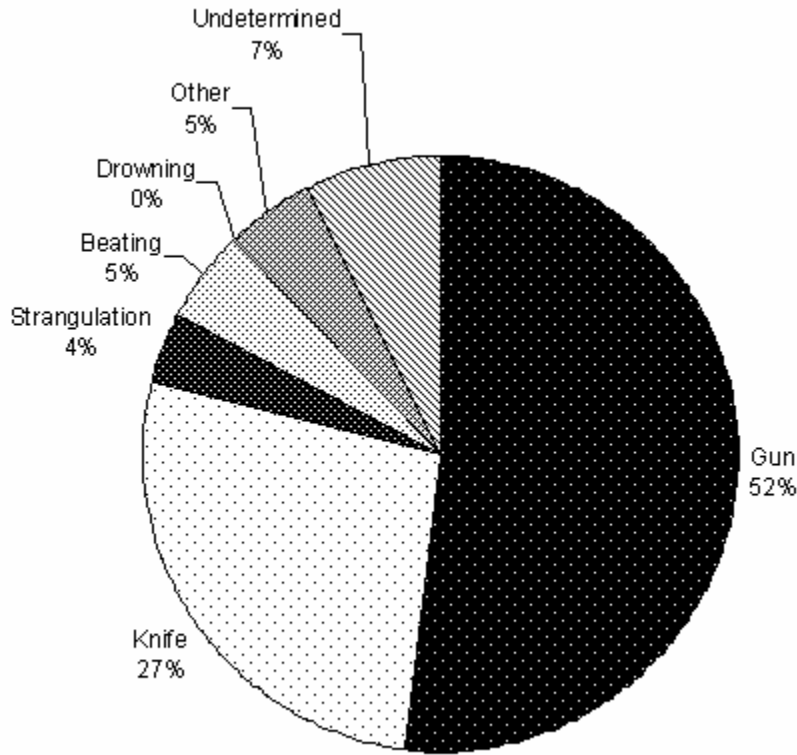
Type of Weapon

In some cases more than one weapon was used per victim.

Weapons Used						
<i>Gun</i>	<i>Knife</i>	<i>Strangulation</i>	<i>Beating</i>	<i>Drowning</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Undetermined</i>
42	22	3	4	0	4	6



Type of Weapon (continued)



- ★ More than half (52 percent) of the domestic violence homicides in North Carolina in 2006 involved guns.
- ★ At least four victims were killed by the perpetrator beating them to death with his hands, in two other cases victims were beaten with other objects and in one case with a baseball bat.

Resources

If you are in need of emergency medical attention, call 911.

National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-SAFE (7233).

Domestic Violence Crisis Centers serve all 100 counties in North Carolina. To find the number of your local program in North Carolina, go to www.nccadv.org.

For information on domestic violence and how you can help, call the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence at 888-232-9124.