

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

Criminal Justice Statistics Special Report

Homicide in North Dakota, 2025



**Attorney General
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The term "homicide," for purposes of this report, includes the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) offenses of murder and non-negligent manslaughter. Homicide refers to the "willful killing of one human being by another." It does not include attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, accidental deaths, justifiable homicides or deaths caused by gross negligence.

HOMICIDE IN 2025

- In 2025, fourteen homicide deaths were known to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program. Based on a state population estimate of 799,358, the resulting homicide rate for the state of North Dakota was 1.8 per 100,000 population. See Table 2 on page 3 for information regarding rates for previous years.
- **Victim Gender:** Ten of the homicide victims were male; four of the homicide victims were female.
- **Victim Age:** Thirteen of the victims were adults. "Adult" is defined as a person aged 18 or older. See Table 1 on page 2 for a summary of homicide incidents in 2025.
- **Weapons:** Firearms were involved in the deaths of nine homicide victims.
- **Domestic Violence:** There were four homicides in 2025 resulting from domestic violence incidents. See definition on page 10.
- **Assailant Gender:** Nine of the eleven identified assailants were male.
- **Assailant Age:** All identified assailants were adults.
- While tribal law enforcement agencies and any other federal law enforcement entities in the state do not participate in the state UCR program, every effort is made to include all homicide incidents occurring within the state's borders.

Table 1
Summary of Homicide Incidents
North Dakota, 2025

Date & Location of Incident	Victim(s)		Assailant(s)		Relationship of Victim to Assailant	Weapons Used	Circumstances
	Age	Sex	Age	Sex			
02/02/2025 Williston PD	30	M	30 30	M F	Acquaintance	Handgun	Drug Dealing Other Circumstances
03/04/2025 ND Tribal Lands	03 31	F F	27	M	Child Sibling	Firearm	Unknown Circumstances Domestic Incident
07/24/2025 ND Tribal Lands	41 38	M F	23	M	Acquaintance	Fire/Incendiary Device	Unknown Circumstances
08/03/2025 Fargo PD	19	M				Firearm	Argument Unknown Circumstances
08/03/2025 Fargo PD	20	M	20	M	Acquaintance	Firearm	Unknown Circumstances
08/03/2025 Fargo PD	55	M	19	M	Stranger	Blunt Object	Argument
08/13/2025 Minot PD	19	M	19	M	Friend	Firearm	Other Circumstances
08/21/2025 ND Tribal Lands	30	M	52	M	Acquaintance	Knife/Cutting Instrument	Argument
10/18/2025 Minot PD	38	M	43	F	Boyfriend/Girlfriend	Handgun	Other Circumstances Domestic Incident
10/27/2025 Fargo PD	28	M	26	M	Acquaintance	Firearm	Argument
11/05/2025 Cass County SO	23	F	21	M	Boyfriend/Girlfriend	Firearm	Other Circumstances Domestic Incident
11/07/2025 Minot PD	27	M				Knife/Cutting Instrument	Unknown Circumstances

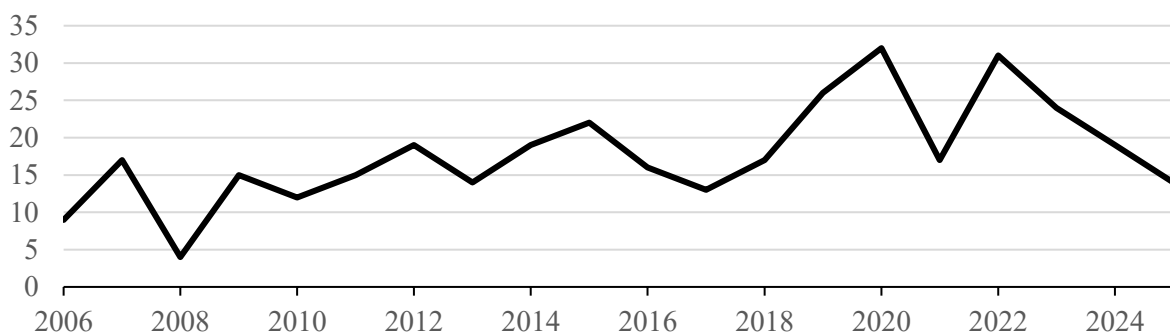
HOMICIDE TOTALS AND RATES

- Table 2 provides yearly homicide totals and homicide rate information for North Dakota during the period 2006-2025.
- The average number of homicide deaths per year during this period is 17.8.

**Table 2
Homicide Rate
North Dakota, 2006-2025**

Year	Homicide Total	Population Estimate	Rate/100,000 Population
2006	9	636,000	1.4
2007	17	640,000	2.7
2008	4	641,500	0.6
2009	15	647,000	2.3
2010	12	672,591	1.8
2011	15	683,932	2.2
2012	19	699,628	2.7
2013	14	723,393	1.9
2014	19	739,482	2.6
2015	22	756,927	2.9
2016	16	757,952	2.1
2017	13	755,393	1.7
2018	17	760,077	2.2
2019	26	762,062	3.4
2020	32	765,309	4.2
2021	17	774,948	2.2
2022	31	779,261	4.0
2023	24	783,926	3.1
2024	19	796,568	2.4
2025	14	799,358	1.8

**Figure 1
Homicide in North Dakota, 2006-2025**



VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS - GENDER

- Sixty-nine percent of the 350 total homicide victims during the period 2006-2025 were male. See Table 3 below.

Table 3
Gender of Homicide Victims
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Age	Male	Female	Total
2006	4	5	9
2007	7	10	17
2008	3	1	4
2009	7	8	15
2010	8	4	12
2011	10	5	15
2012	13	6	19
2013	9	5	14
2014	17	2	19
2015	16	6	22
2016	12	4	16
2017	8	5	13
2018	11	6	17
2019	19	7	26
2020	22	10	32
2021	10	7	17
2022	24	6	30
2023	16	4	20
2024	15	4	19
2025	10	4	14
Total 2006-2025	241 (69%)	109 (31%)	350

VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS - AGE

- Of the 350 homicide victims during the period 2006-2025, 85 percent were adults. See Table 4 below.
- Forty-six percent of homicide victims were between the ages of 21 and 40. See Table 5 on the following page for information regarding age and gender of victims.

**Table 4
Homicide Victims
Juvenile and Adult
North Dakota, 2006-2025**

Year	Juvenile	Adult	Total
2006	3	6	9
2007	4	13	17
2008	2	2	4
2009	4	11	15
2010	1	11	12
2011	4	11	15
2012	6	13	19
2013	2	12	14
2014	1	18	19
2015	4	18	22
2016	0	16	16
2017	0	13	13
2018	7	10	17
2019	2	24	26
2020	4	28	32
2021	2	15	17
2022	2	28	30
2023	3	17	20
2024	0	19	19
2025	1	13	14
Total 2006-2025	52 (15%)	298 (85%)	350

Table 5
Homicide Victims
By Age and Gender
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Age	Male	Female	Total
Less than 1 year	13	11	24
01-05	2	4	6
06-10	5	3	8
11-15	5	1	6
16-20	21	8	29
21-25	34	12	46
26-30	37	13	50
31-35	25	6	31
36-40	23	12	35
41-45	14	9	23
46-50	14	6	20
51-55	17	6	23
56-60	17	4	21
61-65	5	5	10
Over 65	9	9	18
Total 2006-2025	241	109	350

WEAPONS AND VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS

- Forty-five percent of deaths due to homicide during the period 2006-2025 resulted from firearm use. See Table 6 below.
- In homicides involving firearms, handguns and long guns were involved at an equal frequency.
- Sixty-one of the 350 total homicide deaths involved the use of "personal weapons." Personal weapons include the use of hands, fists, and feet as weapons.

**Table 6
Weapons of Homicide*
North Dakota, 2006-2025**

Year	Handgun	Other Firearm	Knife	Blunt Instrument	Personal Weapon	Other or Unknown	Total
2006	1		4		2	2	9
2007	4		3	1	6	3	17
2008			2		2		4
2009	3	3	2	2	3	2	15
2010	2	5	1	1	3		12
2011	2	4	6	1	2		15
2012	1	6	6	1	2	3	19
2013		4	6	2	2		14
2014	1	5	5	1	4	3	19
2015	5	4	4	1	5	3	22
2016	5	4	4	1	2		16
2017	2	4	2	2	1	2	13
2018	8	1	1	1	5	1	17
2019	5	4	7	2	4	4	26
2020	4	11	6	2	5	4	32
2021	7	6	1		2	1	17
2022	13	5	5	1	3	3	30
2023	10	3	1		3	3	20
2024	4	3	4		5	3	19
2025	2	7	2	1		2	14
Total 2006-2025	79	79	72	20	61	39	350

*One weapon per incident is recognized on this chart.

- Firearms were used in 27 percent of the homicides of juveniles and 48 percent of homicides of adults. See Table 7 below.
- Forty-seven percent of homicides of males and 40 percent of homicides of females involved the use of firearms. See Table 8 below.
- Twenty-two percent of homicides of males and 17 percent of homicides of females involved knives.

**Table 7
Homicide Victims
By Weapon and Age Category
North Dakota, 2006-2025**

Weapon	Juvenile	Adult	Total
Handgun	7	71	78
Other Firearm	7	73	80
Knife	3	69	72
Blunt Instrument	0	20	20
Personal Weapon	23	38	61
Other or Unknown	12	27	39
Total 2006-2025	52	298	350

**Table 8
Homicide Victims
By Weapon and Gender
North Dakota, 2006-2025**

Weapon	Male	Female	Total
Handgun	56	22	78
Other Firearm	58	22	80
Knife	54	18	72
Blunt Instrument	16	4	20
Personal Weapon	35	26	61
Other or Unknown	22	17	39
Total 2006-2025	241	109	350

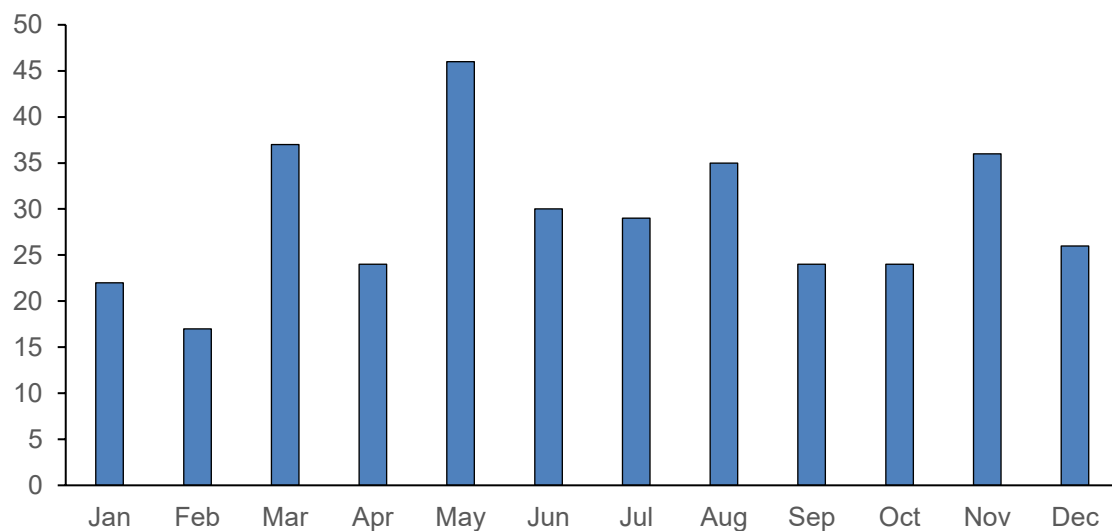
MONTH OF OCCURRENCE

- During the period 2006-2025, the month of May had the highest number of homicide deaths. See Table 9 below. Figure 2 illustrates this information graphically.

Table 9
Deaths Due to Homicide
By Month, 2006-2025

Month	Number	Percent of Total Homicides
January	22	6.3%
February	17	4.9
March	37	10.6
April	24	6.9
May	46	13.1
June	30	8.6
July	29	8.3
August	35	10.0
September	24	6.9
October	24	6.9
November	36	10.3
December	26	7.4
Total 2006-2025	350	100.0

Figure 2
Homicides by Month of Occurrence
North Dakota, 2006-2025



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATHS

For purposes of this report, domestic violence deaths include those involving a spouse, former spouse, parent, child, persons related by blood or marriage, persons in a present or former dating relationship, persons who are presently residing together or have resided together in the past, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they are or have been married or have lived together at any time, other persons on premises when a domestic incident occurs, and romantic triangle situations.

- For the period 2006-2025, 38 percent of deaths due to homicide involved domestic violence. See Table 10 below.

**Table 10
Domestic Violence Deaths
North Dakota, 2006-2025**

Year	Domestic	Non-Domestic	No Assailant Identified	Homicide Total
2006	4	4	1	9
2007	7	10		17
2008		4		4
2009	12	3		15
2010	6	6		12
2011	7	7	1	15
2012	6	13		19
2013	7	7		14
2014	6	12	1	19
2015	9	11	2	22
2016	2	14		16
2017	4	9		13
2018	12	5		17
2019	10	16		26
2020	15	14	3	32
2021	3	13	1	17
2022	11	16	3	30
2023	4	16		20
2024	3	14	2	19
2025	4	9	1	14
Total 2006-2025	132	203	15	350

- Persons killed in non-domestic violence incidents were more likely to be killed with a firearm than those killed in domestic incidents. See Table 11 below.
- Forty-two percent of female deaths in domestic violence incidents involved firearms, while 37 percent of female deaths in non-domestic violence incidents involved firearms. See Table 12 below.
- Seventy-two percent of female homicide victims were killed in domestic violence incidents, compared to 24 percent of males.

Table 11
Domestic Violence Deaths
By Type of Weapon and Age Category of Victim
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Weapon	Domestic		Non-Domestic	
	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult
Handgun	4	24	3	45
Other Firearm	2	25	5	43
Knife	2	21	1	45
Blunt Instrument		7		13
Personal Weapon	17	13	5	25
Other or Unknown	6	11	5	13
Total 2006-2025	31	101	19	184

Table 12
Domestic Violence Deaths
By Type of Weapon and Gender of Victim
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Weapon	Domestic		Non-Domestic	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Handgun	11	17	43	5
Other Firearm	11	16	42	6
Knife	11	12	40	6
Blunt Instrument	3	4	13	
Personal Weapon	9	21	25	5
Other or Unknown	9	8	10	8
Total 2006-2025	54	78	173	30

CLEARANCE RATES

- Cases may be "cleared by arrest" of an assailant, or "cleared exceptionally," if a physical arrest cannot be made for reasons beyond the control of law enforcement. An example of an exceptional clearance would be a case in which the assailant committed suicide after killing someone.
- "Clearances" should not be interpreted as "convictions." The information regarding clearances, collected through the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) program, reflects law enforcement activity. If an arrest is made, the NIBRS program considers the case cleared. NIBRS data does not reflect the results of prosecution of assailants.
- The average clearance rate for homicides in North Dakota during the period from 2006 to 2025 is 93 percent. See Table 13 below.

Table 13
Clearance Rates for Homicides
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Year	Total Cleared	Total Homicides	North Dakota Clearance Rate	National Clearance Rate*
2006	8	9	88	61
2007	17	17	100	61
2008	4	4	100	64
2009	15	15	100	67
2010	12	12	100	65
2011	14	15	93	65
2012	19	19	100	63
2013	14	14	100	64
2014	18	19	95	65
2015	20	22	91	62
2016	16	16	100	59
2017	12	13	92	62
2018	17	17	100	62
2019	26	26	100	61
2020	28	32	88	54
2021	16	17	94	Not Available
2022	23	31	74	Not Available
2023	18	24	75	Not Available
2024	15	19	79	Not Available
2025	12	14	86	Not Available

* Clearance rates reported in annual Crime in the United States reports published by the FBI.

IDENTIFIED ASSAILANT CHARACTERISTICS - GENDER

- During the period 2006-2025, 87 percent of the 351 identified homicide assailants were male. See Table 14 below.

Table 14
Identified Homicide Assailants
By Gender
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Year	Male	Female	Total
2006	7	1	8
2007	14	4	18
2008	6	1	7
2009	15	2	17
2010	11	1	12
2011	11	2	13
2012	15	2	17
2013	13	4	17
2014	18	4	22
2015	20	2	22
2016	17	2	19
2017	11	2	13
2018	12	3	15
2019	22	2	24
2020	25	5	30
2021	16	1	17
2022	18	4	22
2023	26	1	27
2024	19	1	20
2025	9	2	11
Total 2006-2025	305 (87%)	46 (13%)	351

- Ninety-six percent of the total 351 assailants identified by law enforcement were adults. See Table 15 below.
- Of the 351 assailants identified by law enforcement, 67 percent were between the ages of 16 and 35. See Table 16 on the following page for information on age and gender of identified assailants.

Table 15
Identified Homicide Assailants
Juvenile and Adult
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Year	Juvenile	Adult	Total
2006		8	8 *
2007	3	15	18
2008		7	7
2009		17	17
2010		12	12
2011		13	13 *
2012	1	16	17 *
2013		17	17
2014		22	22 *
2015		22	22 *
2016		19	19
2017		13	13 *
2018		15	15
2019	2	22	24
2020		30	30 *
2021		17	17 *
2022	1	21	22 *
2023	6	21	27
2024	1	19	20
2025		11	11 *
Total 2006-2025	14 (4%)	337 (96%)	351

* Indicates that at least one incident for the year does not have an identified assailant.

Table 16
Identified Homicide Assailants
By Age and Gender
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Age	Male	Female	Total
Less than 10			0
11-15	4		4
16-20	35	5	40
21-25	59	7	66
26-30	58	9	67
31-35	51	10	61
36-40	21	3	24
41-45	29	6	35
46-50	17	3	20
51-55	10		10
56-60	7	2	9
61-65	7		7
Over 65	7	1	8
Total 2006-2025	305	46	351

WEAPONS AND IDENTIFIED ASSAILANT CHARACTERISTICS

- In homicide incidents involving firearms, adult assailants were more likely to use firearms other than handguns. See Table 17 below.
- Male assailants were more likely to use firearms in homicide incidents, while females were more likely to use personal weapons or knives. See Table 18 below.

Table 17
Identified Assailants
By Type of Weapon and Age Category
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Weapon	Juvenile	Adult	Total
Handgun	2	72	74
Other Firearm	1	74	75
Knife	2	68	70
Blunt Instrument	0	24	24
Personal Weapon	9	66	75
Other or Unknown	0	33	33
Total 2006-2025	14	337	351

Table 18
Identified Assailants
By Type of Weapon and Gender
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Weapon	Male	Female	Total
Handgun	69	5	74
Other Firearm	72	3	75
Knife	57	13	70
Blunt Instrument	23	1	24
Personal Weapon	62	13	75
Other or Unknown	22	11	33
Total 2006-2025	305	46	351

- Thirty-seven percent of assailants identified by law enforcement were involved in domestic violence incidents. See Table 19 below.
- Assailants were more likely to use firearms in non-domestic incidents than in domestic incidents. See Table 20 on the following page.
- Knives were more likely to be used by assailants in non-domestic incidents. See Table 20 on the following page.

Table 19
Identified Homicide Assailants
Domestic/Non-Domestic Incidents
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Year	Domestic	Non-Domestic	Total
2006	4	4	8 *
2007	9	9	18
2008		7	7
2009	14	3	17
2010	6	6	12
2011	7	6	13 *
2012	6	11	17 *
2013	6	11	17
2014	6	16	22 *
2015	9	13	22 *
2016	2	17	19
2017	4	9	13 *
2018	10	5	15
2019	10	14	24
2020	14	16	30 *
2021	3	14	17 *
2022	9	13	22 *
2023	4	23	27
2024	3	16	19
2025	3	8	11 *
Total 2006-2025	129 (37%)	221 (63%)	350

* Indicates that at least one incident for the year does not have an identified assailant.

Table 20
Weapon Use by Identified Assailants
Domestic/Non-Domestic Incidents
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Weapon	Domestic	Non-Domestic	Total
Handgun	25	49	74
Other Firearm	24	51	75
Knife	21	49	70
Blunt Instrument	8	16	24
Personal Weapon	33	42	75
Other or Unknown	18	14	32
Total 2006-2025	129	221	350

Table 21
Domestic/Non-Domestic Incidents
By Type of Weapon and Age Category of Assailant
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Weapon	Domestic		Non-Domestic	
	Juvenile	Adult	Juvenile	Adult
Handgun	0	25	2	47
Other Firearm	1	23	0	51
Knife	0	21	2	47
Blunt Instrument	0	8	0	16
Personal Weapon	2	31	7	35
Other or Unknown	0	18	0	14
Total 2006-2025	3	126	11	210

Table 22
Domestic/Non-Domestic Incidents
By Type of Weapon and Gender of Assailant
North Dakota, 2006-2025

Weapon	Domestic		Non-Domestic	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Handgun	22	3	47	2
Other Firearm	23	1	49	2
Knife	15	6	42	7
Blunt Instrument	8	0	15	1
Personal Weapon	23	10	39	3
Other or Unknown	8	10	13	1
Total 2006-2025	99	30	205	16