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# New York State Domestic Violence Dashboard 2020

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Office for the  
Prevention of  
Domestic Violence



## About the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

The agency's powers and duties are detailed in state Executive Law §575:

- Advise the governor and legislature on policies and practices for the State; Train professionals from all disciplines across the state about the intersection of domestic violence in their daily practice; and
- Serve as a resource regarding the issue of domestic violence by disseminating regular public awareness campaigns, publishing materials for use by non-profits and victims, distributing local assistance funds, and highlighting best practices in the field.
- Via the Fatality Review Team, conduct a confidential analysis of deaths or near-deaths that result from domestic violence, with the goal of learning from these cases and identify ways to improve overall response to domestic violence.

## About the Advisory Council

Since 2006, the New York State Domestic Violence Advisory Council has become a vibrant interagency entity that has driven significant policy changes at no additional cost to the state. It has also enhanced data collection, encouraged and facilitated dialogue and sharing among/between agencies and organizations, and strengthened OPDV's efforts to increase public awareness and information sharing.

## Membership

The Council includes representation from 14 state agencies, as well as three members appointed by the Governor, and six members appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the Legislature. The appointed members represent a broad cross-section of service providers, including advocates, human services providers, state agencies, judges, State Police, and others. The Council is directed to meet twice annually.

## Responsibilities

Section 4 of Executive Law § 575 established the NYS Domestic Violence Advisory Council, whose mission is to:

- Make recommendations on domestic violence related issues and effective strategies for preventing domestic violence; and
- Help develop appropriate policies and priorities for effective intervention, public education, and advocacy; and facilitate and assure communication and coordination of efforts among state agencies and between different levels of government, state, federal and municipal, for the prevention of domestic violence.



The New York State Domestic Violence Dashboard contains statistical information detailing the State’s response to domestic violence and the assistance that a variety of state agencies and the courts provide to victims, survivors, and children.

This is the 14th year that the Dashboard has been published by the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) and the State’s Domestic Violence Advisory Council. This Dashboard contains data from 2020 and highlights various trends and emerging issues OPDV has been tracking annually since 2007 - the first year we collected data for the publication.

The 14-year trends continue to confirm what providers are seeing in the field:

- domestic violence disproportionately affects women and children;
- public assistance provides critical support to victims and their families; and
- teenagers and young adults are affected by intimate partner violence in ways that require specialized training and skills in addition to age-appropriate services and resources.

In addition, in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact on survivors and victims of domestic violence and their ability to access services, including the types of services they were able to access, and the collection and reporting of vital statistics on domestic violence statewide.

The Dashboard reflects a commitment across agencies to screen for domestic violence. Quantifying the response to this crime also allows the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) to provide reliable information to stakeholders to better inform local and state decision-making, policies, and programs.

The following agencies contributed to the 2020 Domestic Violence Dashboard:

NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV)

NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS)

NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS)

NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS)

NYS Office of Victim Services (OVS)

NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA)

NYS Office of Court Administration (OCA)

NYS Department of State (DOS)

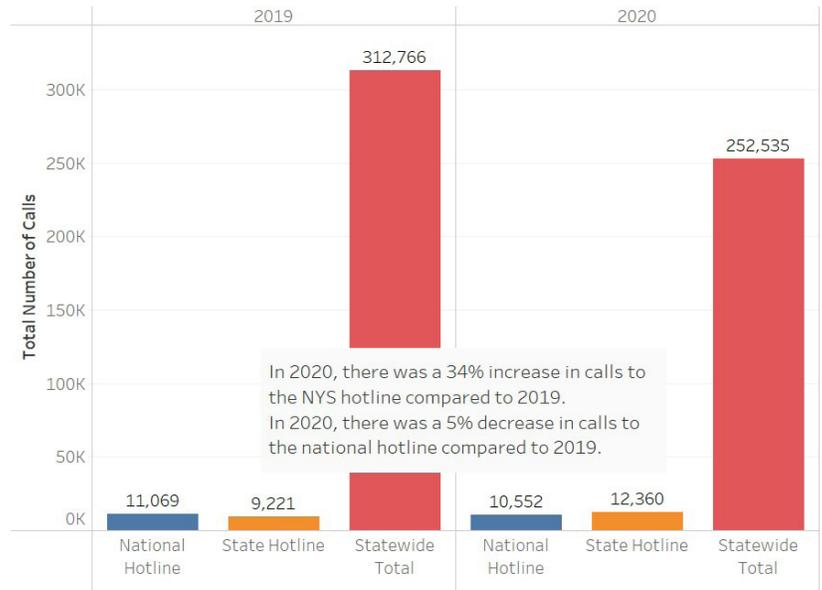
NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS)



## Hotline Calls

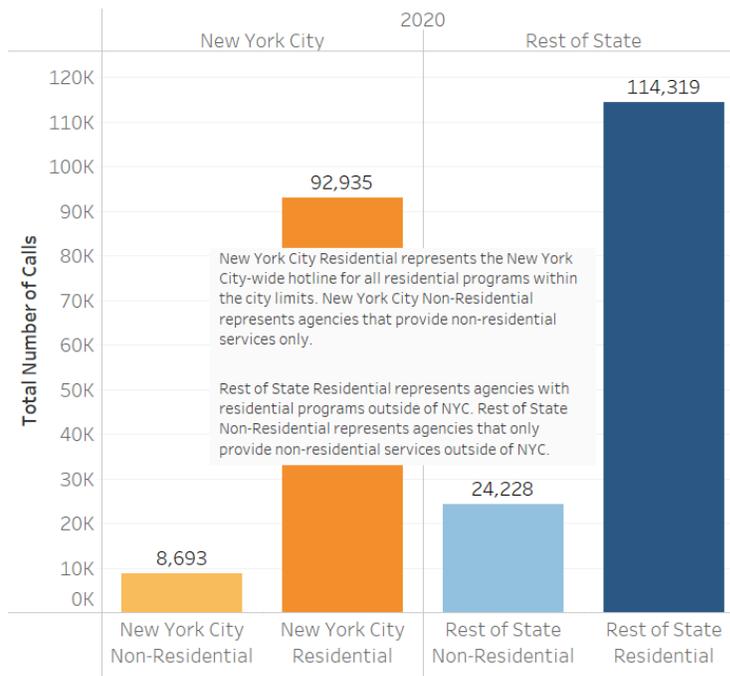
- In 2020, there was a 34% increase in calls to the NYS hotline compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 5% decrease in calls to the national hotline compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 19% decrease in calls to local hotlines statewide as reported to OCFS, compared to 2019.
- In March 2020, OPDV started a text and chat line to expand hotline access. From April to December 2020 a combined 1,443 text and chat contacts were received.

New York State and National Hotline Calls



(Source: OPDV)

2020 Local Domestic Violence Calls



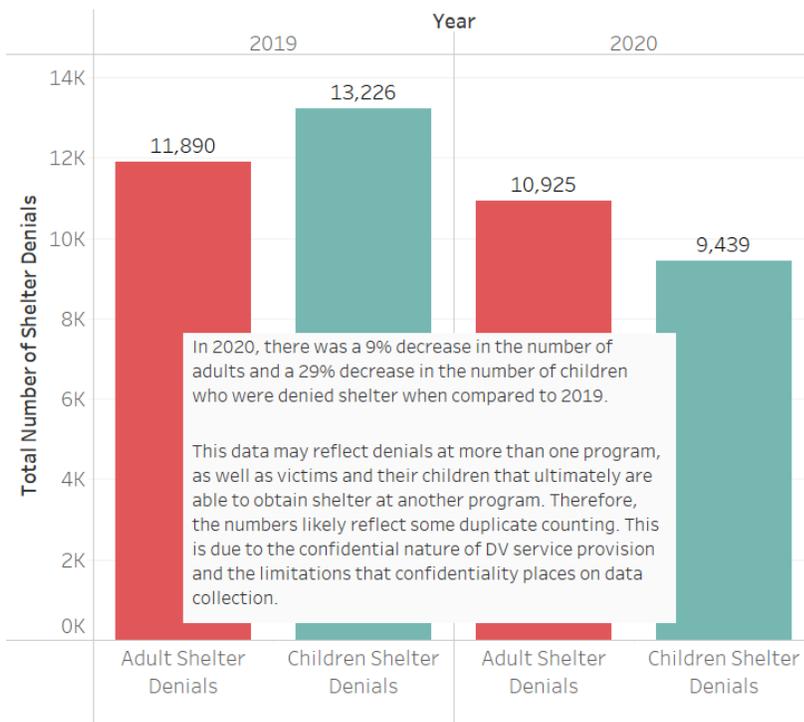


## Domestic Violence Shelter Utilization<sup>1</sup>

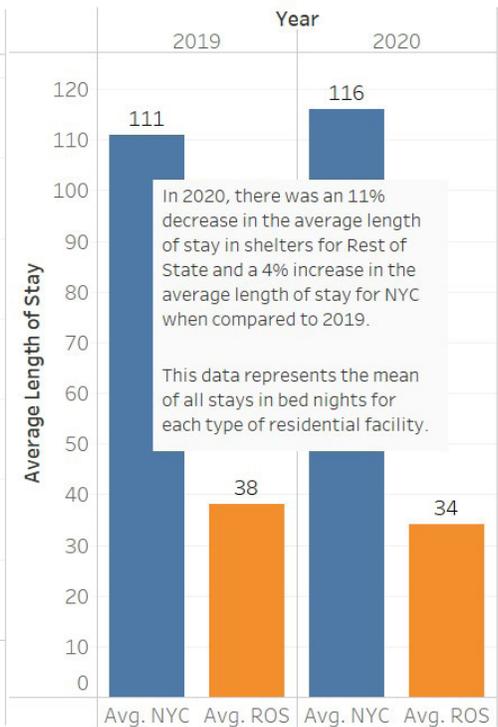
- In 2020, there was a 9% decrease in adults and a 6% decrease in the number of children served by non-residential programs.
- In 2020, there was a 15% decrease in adults and a 12% decrease in the number of children served by residential programs.
- In 2020, there was an 11% decrease in the average length of stay in shelters for Rest of State and a 4% increase in the average length of stay for NYC when compared to 2019.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2020, there was a 9% decrease in the number of adults and a 29% decrease in the number of children who were denied shelter when compared to 2019.<sup>3</sup>

(Source: OCFS)

### Shelter Denials



### Average Length of Stay



1 The COVID-19 public health emergency and policy measures taken to reduce its impacts significantly altered the provision of shelter services starting in March 2020, including due to decreases in available beds to allow for social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic and some victim's hesitancy to enter congregate settings during this time, as well as due to Executive Order 202.11's allowance for domestic violence residential programs to continue to serve victims of domestic violence beyond the maximum 180 day length of stay during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

2 This data represents the mean of all stays in bed nights for each type of residential facility.

3 May reflect denials at more than one program, as well as victims and children who obtain shelter at another program.

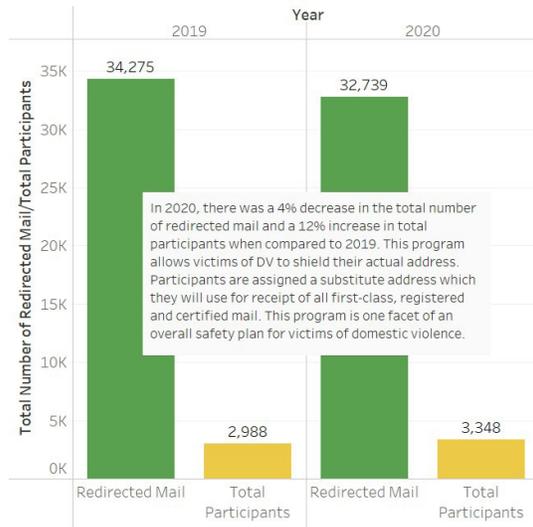


## Address Confidentiality Program

- In 2020, there was a 4% decrease in the total number of redirected mail and a 12% increase in total participants when compared to 2019.

(Source: DOS)

Address Confidentiality Program

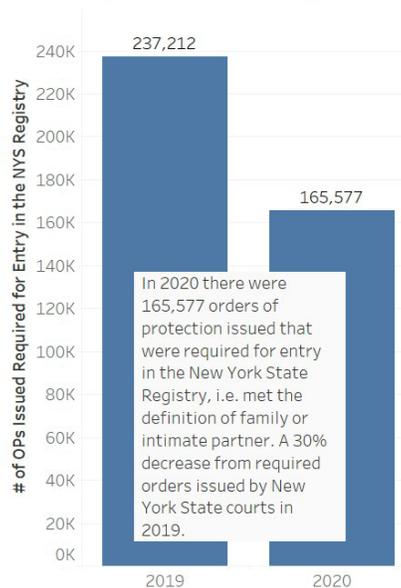


## Courts | Orders of Protection<sup>4</sup>

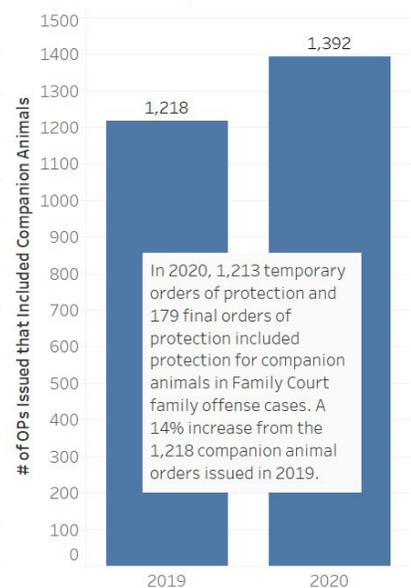
- In 2020, there were 165,577 orders of protection issued that were required for entry in the New York State Registry, i.e., met the definition of family or intimate partner. This is a 30% decrease from the 237,212 required orders issued by New York State courts in 2019.
- In 2020, 1,213 temporary orders of protection and 179 final orders of protection included protection for companion animals in Family Court family offense cases. This is a 14% increase from the 1,218 total companion animal orders issued in 2019.

(Source: OCA)

Orders of Protection Required for Entry in the NYS Registry



Orders of Protection that Included Companion Animals



<sup>4</sup> The COVID-19 public health emergency and policy measures taken to reduce its impacts significantly altered access to courts starting in March 2020.



## Courts | Orders of Protection, Continued

Under Executive Law § 221, certain orders of protection (OPs) are required to be listed in the NYS OP registry, which is overseen by the Office of Court Administration (OCA). OCA calls orders that must be filed with the registry “required.”

These orders involve support, paternity, custody and visitation, guardianship, and OP cases in Family Court, and domestic violence cases from criminal court. These OPs protect individuals from intimate partners and may protect a child from a parent.

OPs issued against unrelated parties, such as neighbors, are not required to be filed with the registry.

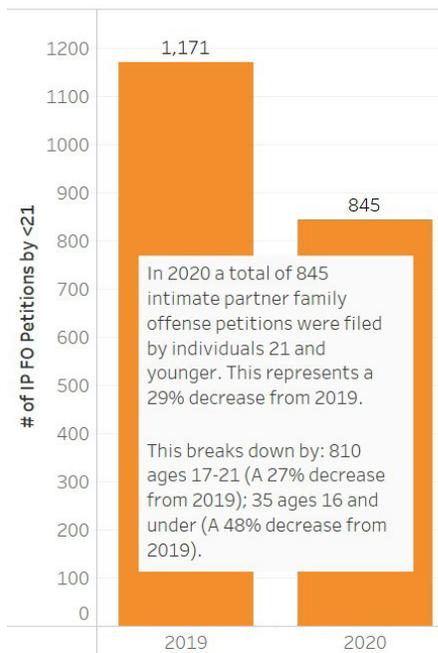
This Dashboard **only** includes data about **required** OPs. It also breaks that total number down by temporary and final OPs. Since individuals may receive multiple temporary OPs before the issuance of a final OP, Dashboard statistics only “count” temporary OPs.

## Courts | Family Offense Petitions<sup>5</sup>

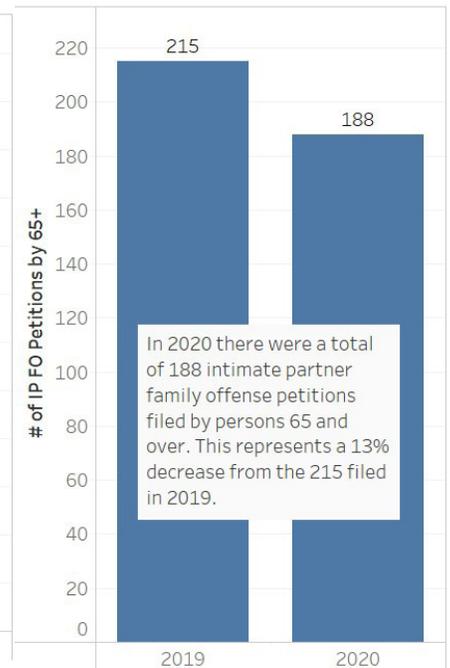
- In 2020, a total of 845 intimate partner family offense petitions were filed by individuals 21 and younger, a 29% decrease from 2019.
  - 810 petitions filed by individuals age 17-21 (a 27% decrease from 2019)
  - 35 petitions filed by individuals age 16 and under (a 48% decrease from 2019).
- In 2020, there were a total of 188 intimate partner family offense petitions filed by persons 65 and over. This represents a 13% decrease from the 215 filed in 2019.

(Source: OCA)

Intimate Partner Family Offense Petitions by Individuals 21 and Younger



Intimate Partner Family Offense Petitions 65 and Older



5 The COVID-19 public health emergency and policy measures taken to reduce its impacts significantly altered access to courts starting in March 2020.

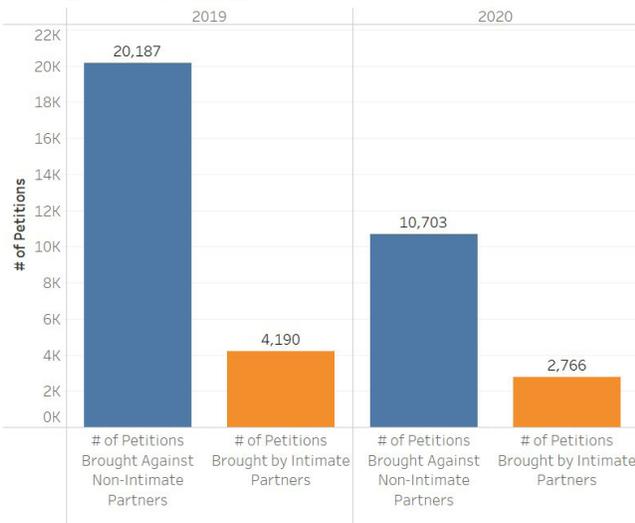


## Courts | Family Offense Petitions, Continued<sup>6</sup>

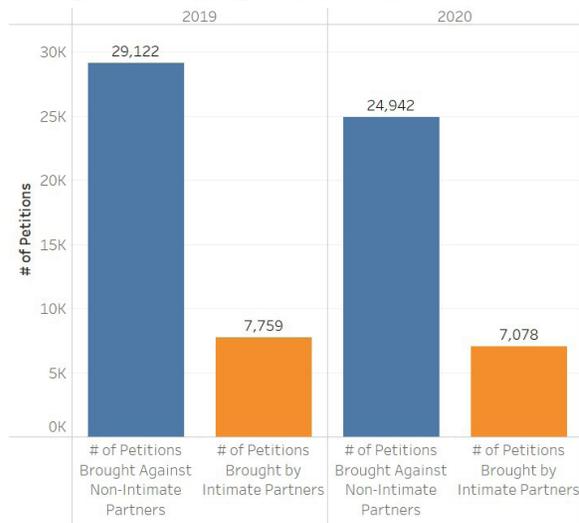
- In 2020, there was a 47% decrease in the number of Family Offense petitions brought against non-intimate partner/other familial and a 34% decrease in the number of petitions brought by intimate partners for NYC compared 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 14% decrease in the number of Family Offense petitions brought against non-intimate partner/other familial and a 9% decrease in the number of petitions brought by intimate partners for Rest of State compared 2019.

(Source: OCA)

Family Offense Filings - NYC



Family Offense Filings - Rest of State

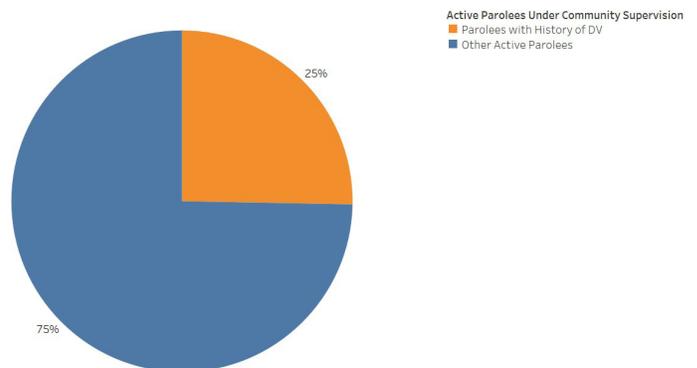


## Parole

Active Parolees Under Community Supervision

- In 2020, out of the 35,388 active parolee population under community supervision, 25% had a reported history of domestic violence.

(Source: DOCCS)

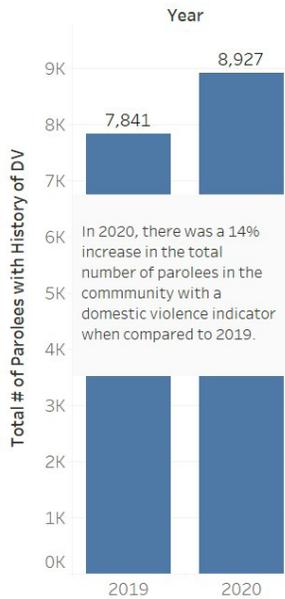


<sup>6</sup> The COVID-19 public health emergency and policy measures taken to reduce its impacts significantly altered access to courts starting in March 2020.



## Parole, Continued

Parolees with History of Domestic Violence



- In 2020, there was a 14% increase in the total number of parolees in the community with a reported history of domestic violence when compared to 2019.

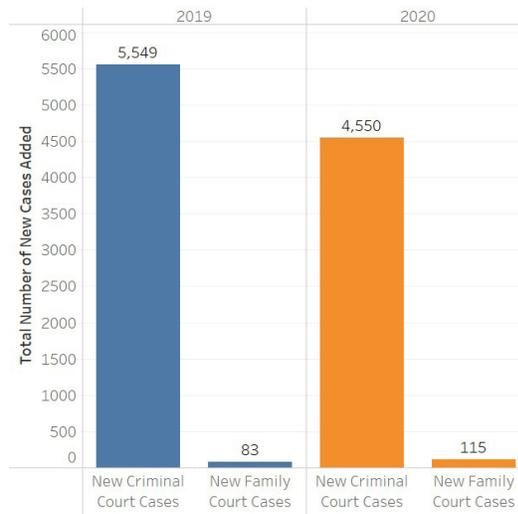
(Source: DOCCS)

## Probation<sup>7</sup>

- In 2020, local probation departments added 4,550 new criminal court domestic violence probation cases to their caseloads. This represents an 18% decrease from 5,449 new criminal court domestic violence cases added in 2019.
- In 2020, local probation departments handled an additional 115 family court cases statewide, a 39% increase from 83 family court cases in 2019.

(Source: DCJS)

Probation - New Criminal/Family Court Cases



<sup>7</sup> The COVID-19 public health emergency and policy measures taken to reduce its impacts significantly altered access to courts starting in March 2020, which may have impacted the numbers of new probation cases.

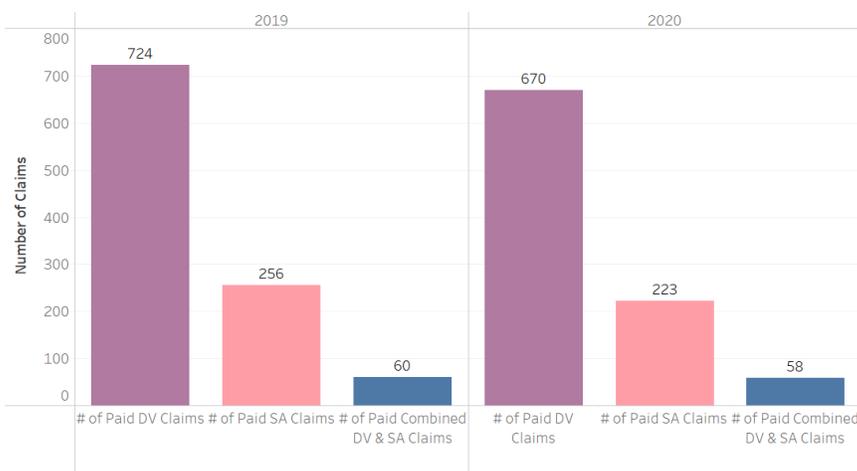


## Crime Victim Compensation

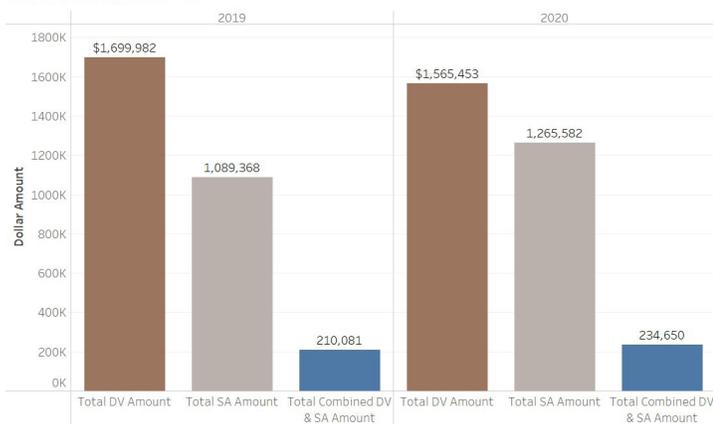
- In 2020, there was a 7% decrease in the number of paid DV claims and a 13% decrease in the number of paid Sexual Assault (SA) claims when compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 3% decrease in the number of paid claims that involved both DV & SA when compared to 2019.

(Source: OVS)

Total Paid Claims



Total Claim Amounts



- In 2020, there was an 8% decrease in the total amount paid for DV claims and a 16% increase in the total amount paid for SA claims, when compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 12% increase in the total amount paid for claims that involved both DV & SA when compared to 2019.

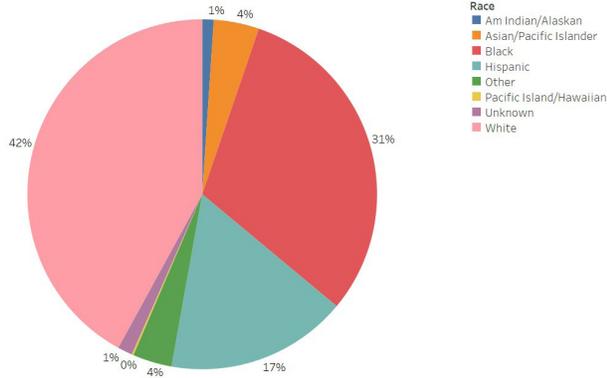
(Source: OVS)

Victim Compensation: OVS funds Victim Assistance Programs (VAPs) across NYS. These programs are for all victims of crime who meet specified criteria. Above data represent claims paid and total amounts paid to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault.

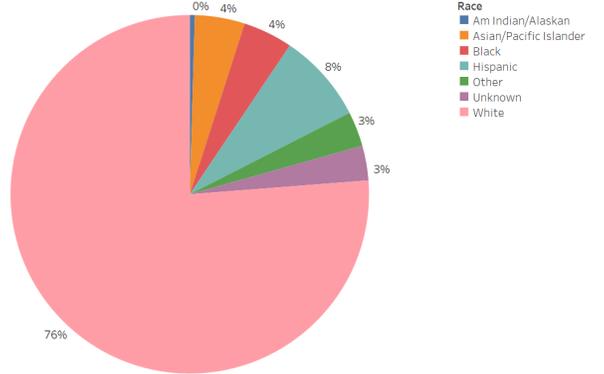


## Crime Victim Compensation | Demographics

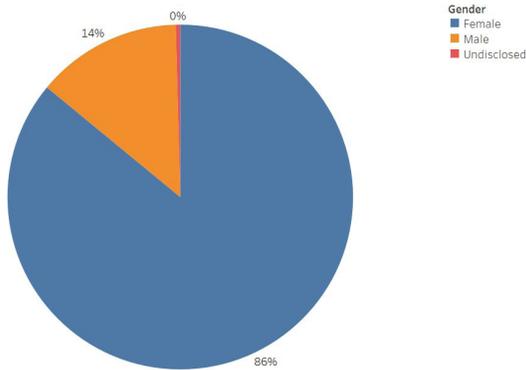
DV Claims - Race



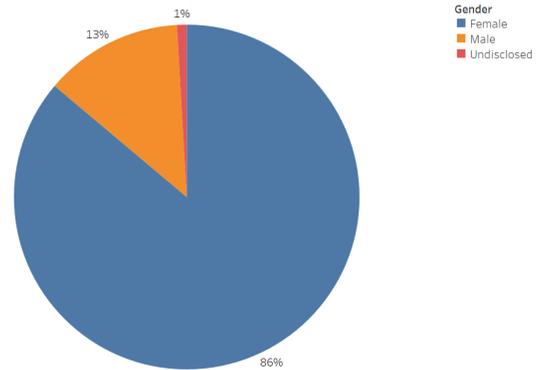
SA Claims - Race



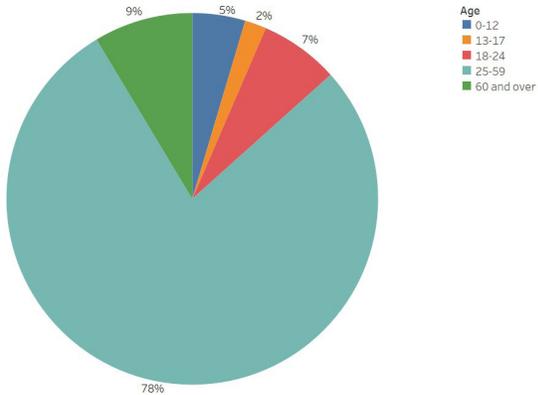
DV Claims - Gender



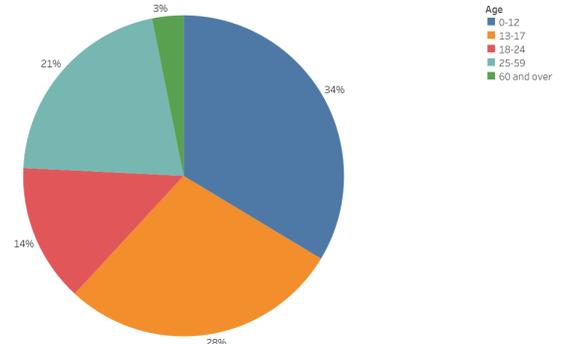
SA Claims - Gender



DV Claims - Age



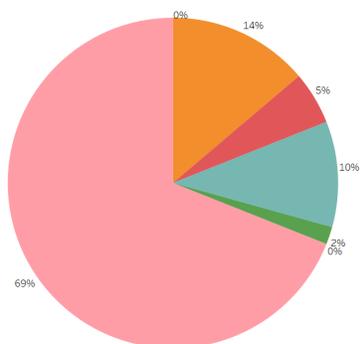
SA Claims - Age



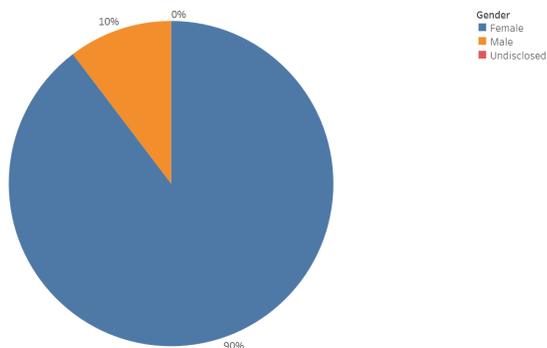


## Crime Victim Compensation | Demographics, Continued

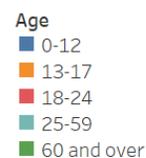
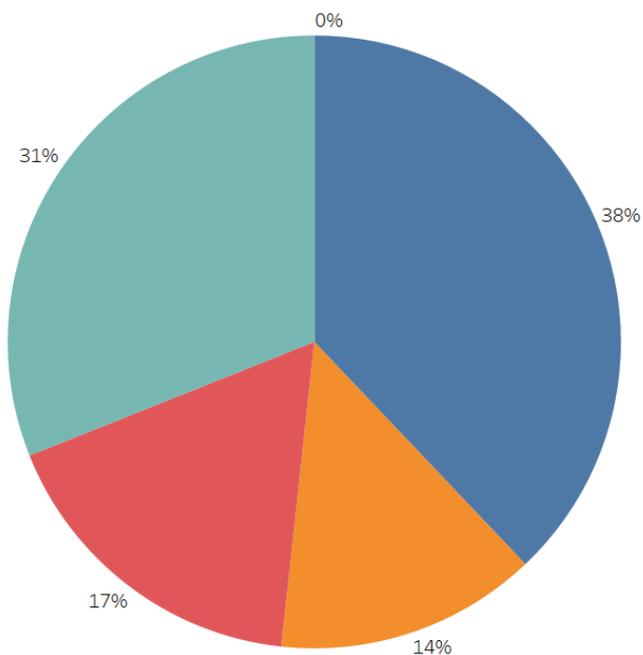
Combined DV & SA Claims - Race



Combined DV & SA Claims - Gender



Combined DV & SA Claims - Age



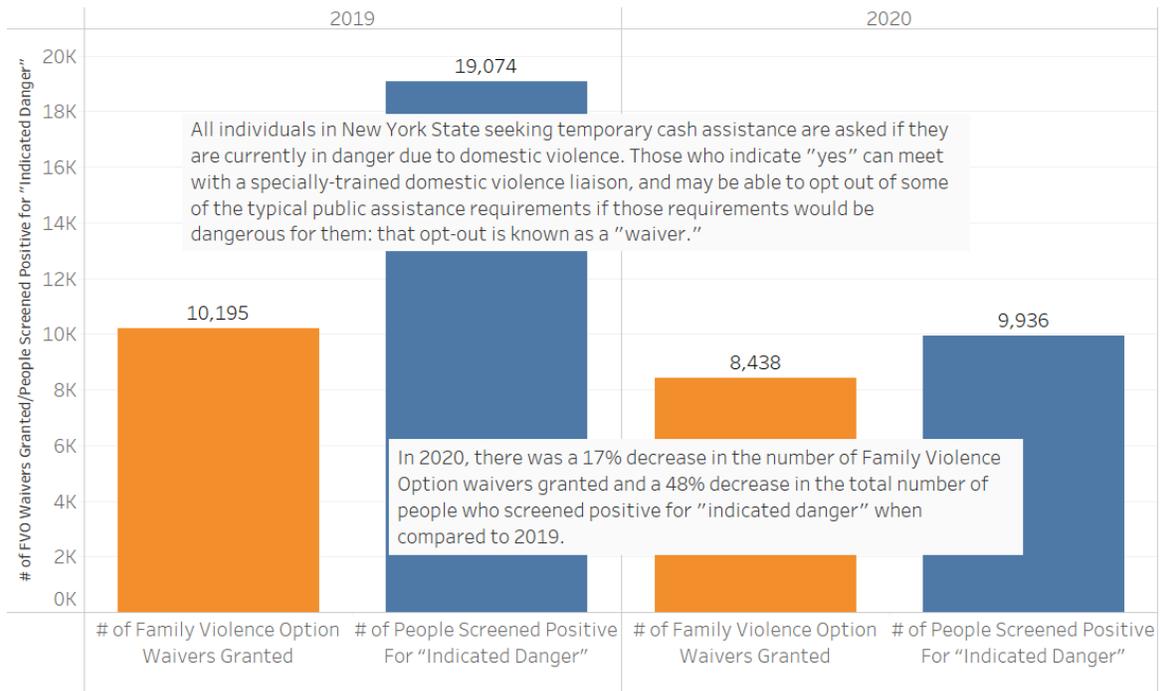


Public Assistance<sup>8</sup>

- In 2020, there was a 17% decrease in the number of Family Violence Option waivers granted and a 48% decrease in the total number of people seeking temporary cash assistance who screened positive for "indicated danger" when compared to 2019.

(Source: OTDA)

Family Violence Option Waivers Granted & People Screened Positive for "Indicated Danger"



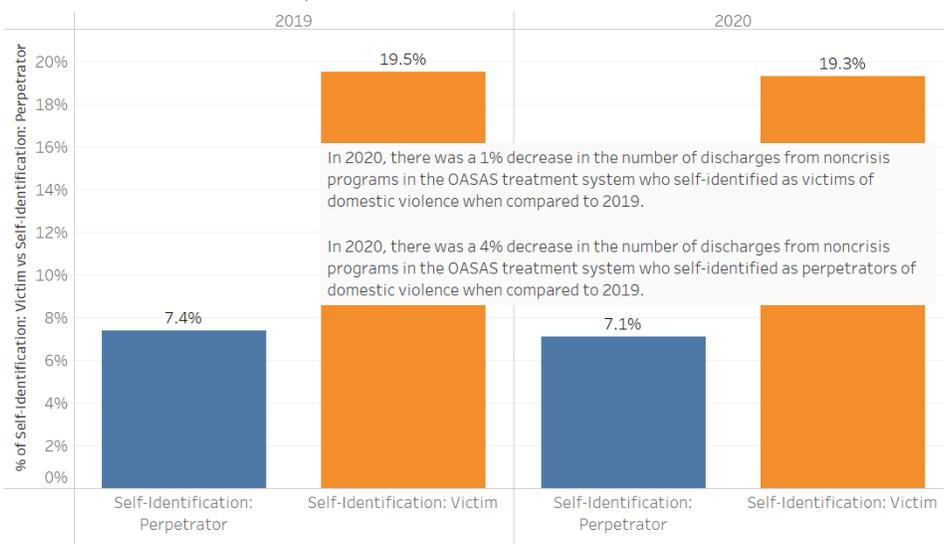
8 As part of the Welfare Reform Act of 1997, the Family Violence Option outlines procedures for screening applicants of temporary assistance (TA) for domestic violence. TA programs include Family Assistance (FA) which provides cash assistance to needy families that have a minor child living with a parent or caretaker relative; and Safety Net Assistance which provides cash assistance to individuals and families not eligible for FA. Applicants who identify as victims of domestic violence can meet with a specially trained domestic violence liaison (DVL) who can provide referral for other services and determine if the applicant requires a waiver of TA requirements that interfere with the safety of the applicant or their children.



## Substance Abuse

- In 2020, there was a 1% decrease in the number of discharges from noncrisis programs in the OASAS treatment system who self-identified as victims of domestic violence when compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 4% decrease in the number of discharges from noncrisis programs in the OASAS treatment system who self-identified as perpetrators of domestic violence when compared to 2019.

Discharges from NYS OASAS-Certified Non-Crisis Treatment Programs Identified as Perpetrator or Victim of Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence\*



(Source: OASAS)

- Discharges are not unique counts of people. A person could be discharged more than once in a given year.
- The data included in this presentation represent only discharges of patients from the OASAS-certified treatment system, not individuals who do not enter treatment, get treated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), go outside of New York State for treatment, are admitted to hospitals but not to Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment, get diverted to other systems, or receive an addictions medication from a physician outside of the OASAS system of care.
- Domestic Violence data represents discharged clients from non-crisis programs.
- Non-Crisis discharges include discharges from Inpatient Rehab, Residential, Opioid Treatment Program, and Outpatient type programs.
- The valid total includes only Yes/No answers and excludes Unknown or Refused to Answer.
- On 4/1/2017 the Domestic Violence question changed from "Client ever a victim of domestic violence?" to "Client ever a victim of Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence?"
- On 4/1/2017 the Domestic Violence question changed from "Client ever a perpetrator of domestic violence?" to "Client ever a perpetrator of Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence?"

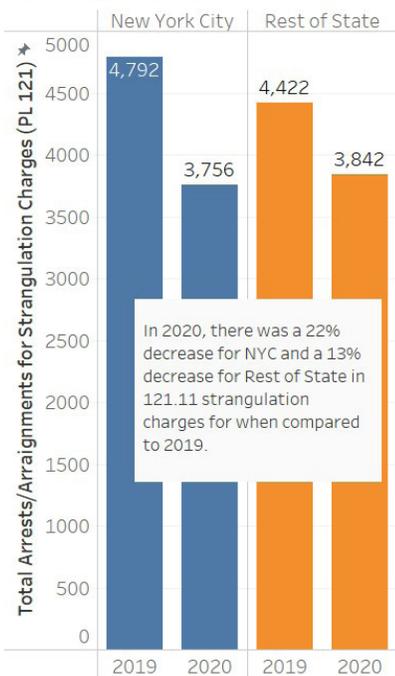


## Strangulation

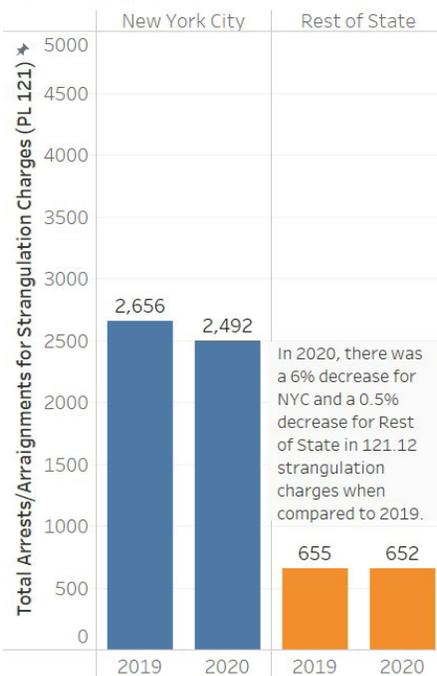
- In 2020, there was a 22% decrease for NYC and a 13% decrease for Rest of State in Penal Law 121.11 strangulation charges, when compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 6% decrease for NYC and a 0.5% decrease for Rest of State in Penal Law 121.12 strangulation charges, when compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 15% decrease for NYC and a 33% increase for Rest of State in Penal Law 121.13 strangulation charges, when compared to 2019.

(Source: DCJS)

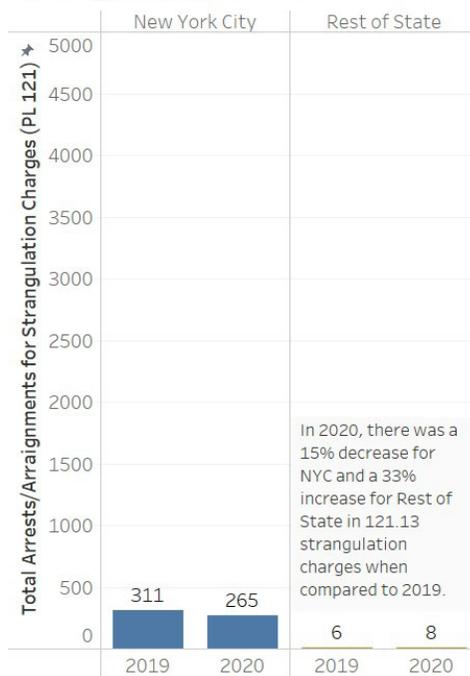
### Strangulation 121.11



### Strangulation 121.12



### Strangulation 121.13



The above indicate number of strangulation charges brought at arrest or arraignment.

New York State’s strangulation statute took effect in November 2010. The crime frequently occurs in violence situations.

While not all these offenses are domestic violence-related and we have no way of being able to tell how many actually involved domestic violence, national statistics show that strangulation is a warning sign for fatality in DV. According to the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention, “A woman who has suffered a nonfatal strangulation incident with her intimate partner is 750% more likely to be killed by the same perpetrator...with a gun.”

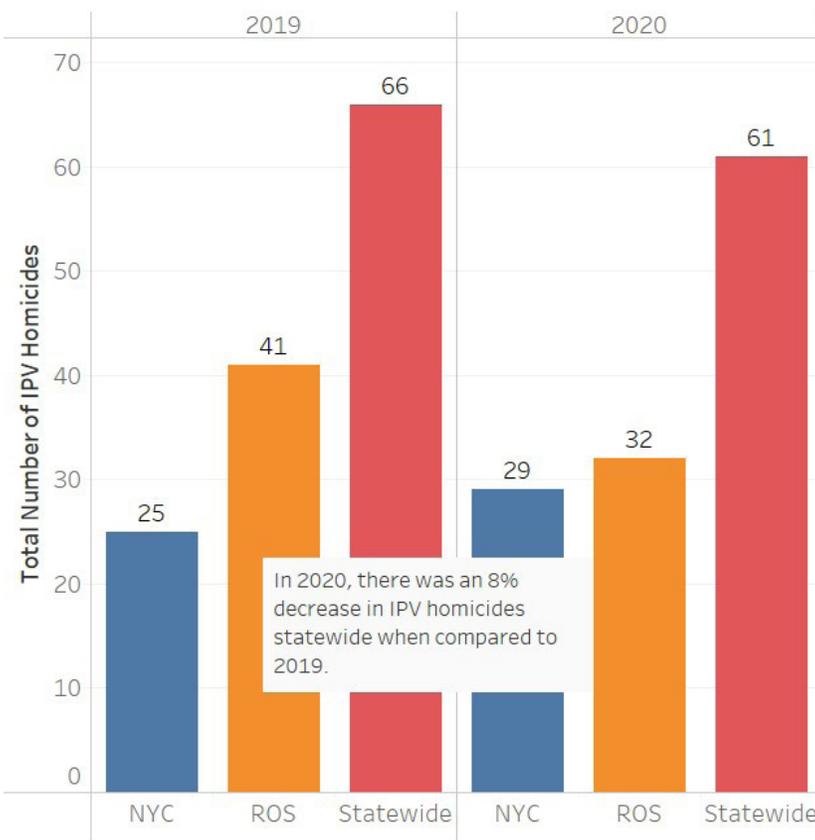


## Intimate Partner Homicide

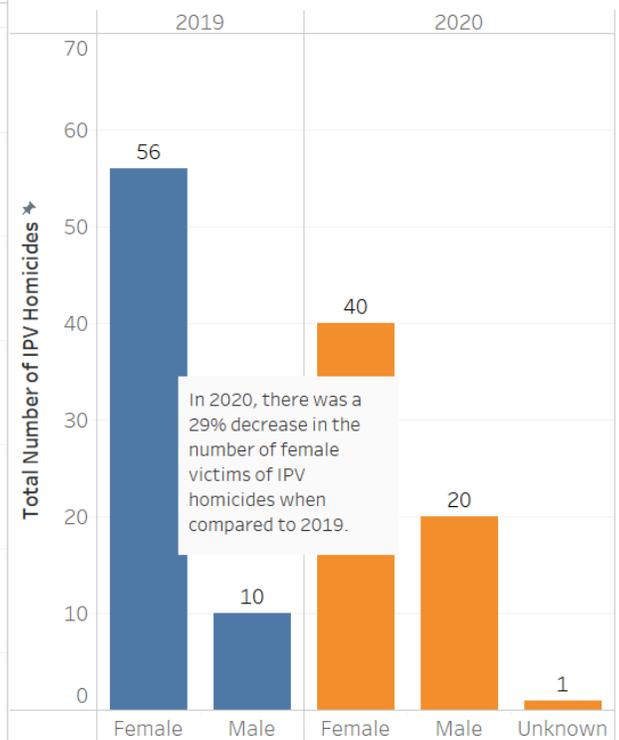
- In 2020, there was an 8% decrease in IPV homicides statewide when compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there was a 29% decrease in the number of female victims of IPV homicides, when compared to 2019.
- In 2020, there were 20 male victims of IPV homicides, compared to 10 in 2019.

(Source: DCJS)

### Intimate Partner Violence Homicides



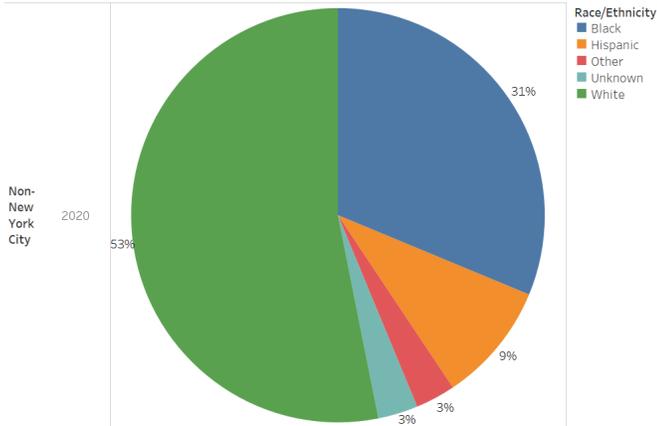
### Intimate Partner Violence Homicides by Sex



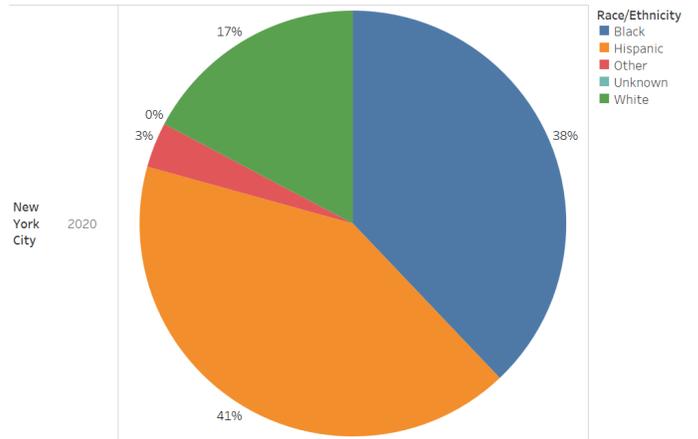


## Intimate Partner Homicide, Continued

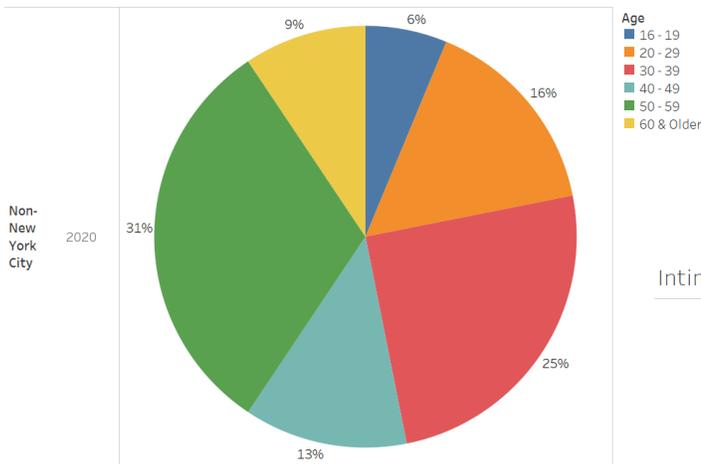
Intimate Partner Violence Homicides by Race/Ethnicity



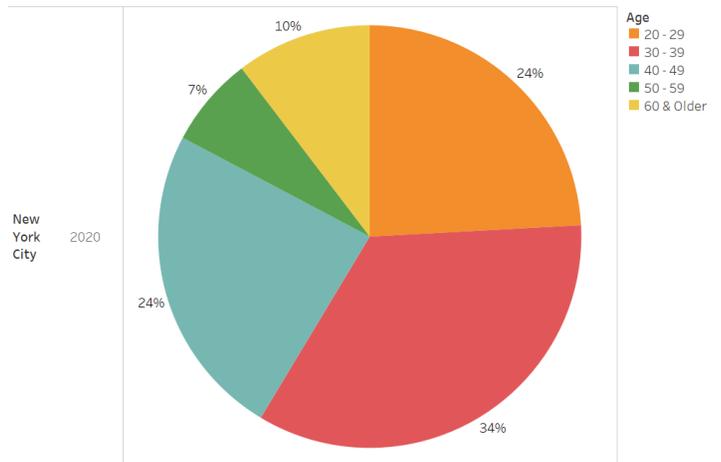
Intimate Partner Violence Homicides by Race/Ethnicity



Intimate Partner Violence Homicides by Age



Intimate Partner Violence Homicides by Age



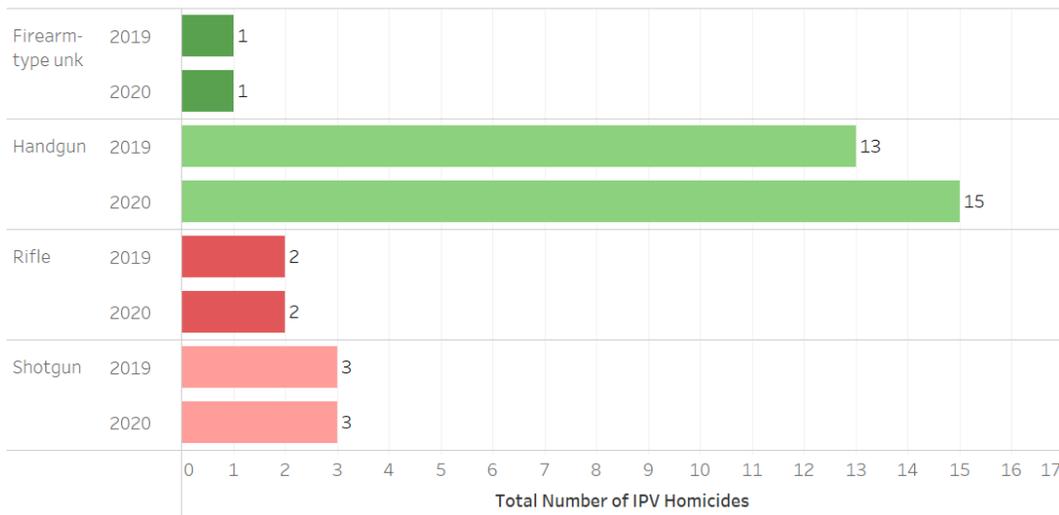


## Intimate Partner Homicide, Continued

- In 2020, there was a 11% increase in IPV homicides by firearm and a 15% decrease in IPV homicides by Other Weapon Type when compared to 2019.

(Source: DCJS)

Intimate Partner Violence Homicides by Firearm



## Intimate Partner Violence Homicides by Other Weapon Type

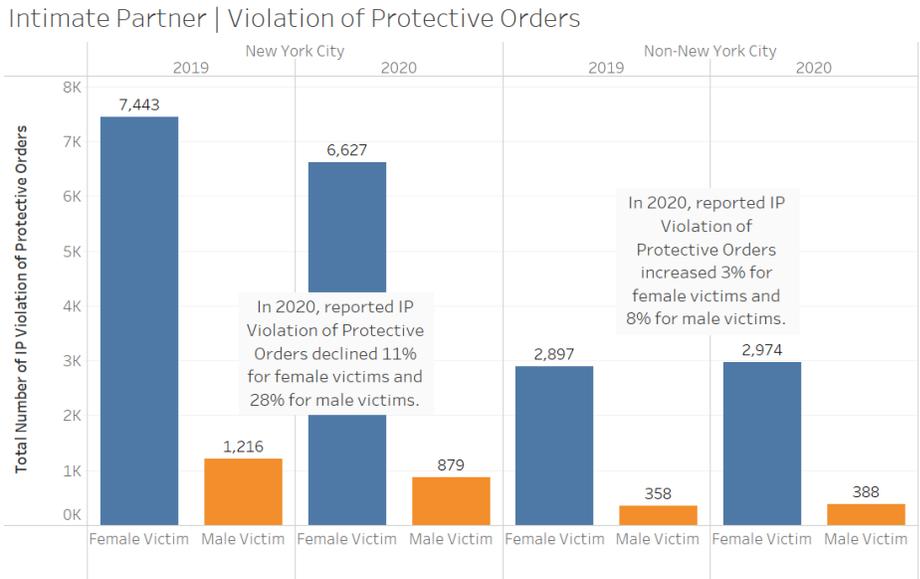
Weapon Type	2019	2020
Asphyxiation	4	4
Blunt Instrument	3	3
Cutting-Stabbing	30	25
Fire	0	0
Hands, Fist, Etc	7	6
Motor Vehicle	1	0
Narcotics	0	1
Other	0	0
Strangulation	1	1
Unknown	1	0
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>40</b>



## Intimate Partner Violation of Protective Orders

- In 2020, reported IP Violation of Protective Orders declined 11% for female victims and 28% for male victims in New York City.
- In 2020, reported IP Violation of Protective Orders increased 3% for female victims and 8% for male victims outside of New York City.

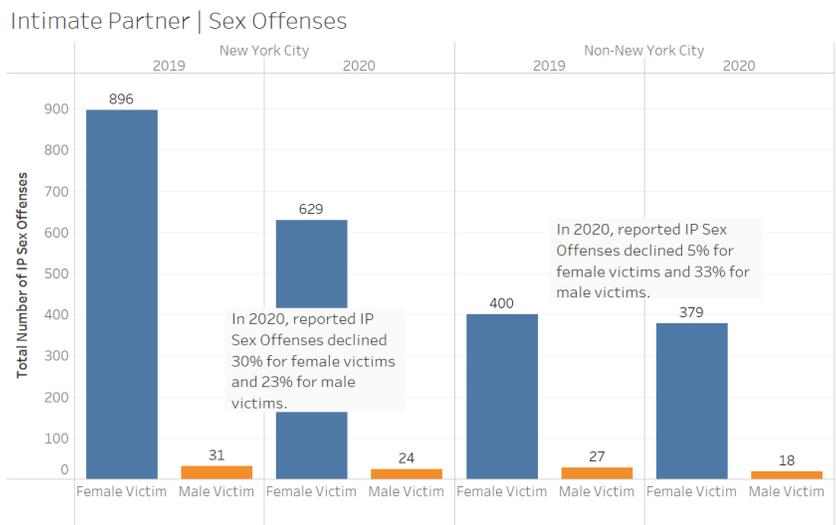
(Source: DCJS)



## Intimate Partner Sex Offenses<sup>9</sup>

- In 2020, reported IP Sex Offenses declined 30% for female victims and 23% for male victims in New York City compared to 2019.
- In 2020, reported IP Sex Offenses declined 5% for female victims and 33% for male victims outside of New York City compared to 2019.

(Source: DCJS)



<sup>9</sup> Sex Offenses includes offenses of rape, statutory rape, sodomy, incest, and sexual abuse. Reported offenses are charges not convictions.