

Domestic Violence Takes Its Toll — One Life at a Time

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY (cont.)	July 3	A 50-year-old woman was fatally shot by her ex-boyfriend in Philadelphia.
	July 5	A 28-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend in Philadelphia.
	July 11	A 49-year-old man was stabbed to death by his wife in Philadelphia.
	July 15	A 46-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Philadelphia.
	July 24	A 21-year-old mother of an 8-month-old son was strangled by her boyfriend in Philadelphia.
	August 11	A 21-year-old woman and her 21-month-old son were stabbed to death by her ex-boyfriend in Philadelphia. He then committed suicide.
May 20	A 44-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Philadelphia.	
December 17	An 18-year-old mother of three, ages 4-months, 16-months, and 4-years-old, was stabbed to death by her boyfriend in Philadelphia. He also slashed the 16-month-old daughter's throat; she survived.	
December 25	A mother of an 18-month-old daughter was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Philadelphia. He then committed suicide.	
PIKE COUNTY	September 3	A 30-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend's ex-boyfriend in Lackawaxen Township.
SCHUYLKILL COUNTY	January 11	A 27-year-old woman and her two children, a 9-year-old son and a 7-year-old daughter, were fatally shot by her estranged husband during a custody exchange in Tremont. He then committed suicide. The woman had a Protection From Abuse order against him at the time of their deaths.
SOMERSET COUNTY	January 3	A 26-year-old mother of a 2-year-old son was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Paint Township.
	November 22	A 43-year-old mother was fatally shot by her son in Boswell. He then committed suicide.
SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY	April 3	A 38-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Middletown Township. He then committed suicide.
	May 1	A 51-year-old man was fatally shot by his neighbor's estranged boyfriend in Oakland Township.
WASHINGTON COUNTY	March 9	A man was fatally shot by his sister's boyfriend in Pittsburgh.
WAYNE COUNTY	February 18	A 5-year-old girl was fatally shot by her father at his estranged wife's home in Honesdale. He also attempted to shoot her 2-year-old brother, but the gun jammed. The children's mother had a Protection From Abuse order against the man.
WESTMORELAND COUNTY	February 19	An 18-year-old woman was stabbed to death by her boyfriend in Parks Township.
	December 29	A 42-year-old mother of two was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in Greensburg. He attempted suicide but is expected to survive.
YORK COUNTY	January 26	A 22-year-old mother of two, ages 2 and 4, was stabbed to death by her estranged husband moments after dropping her children off at day-care. She had a Protection From Abuse order against him at the time of her death.
	April 19	A 44-year-old mother of one was stabbed and beaten to death by her estranged boyfriend in York. The woman's 37-year-old male friend was also stabbed to death by the estranged boyfriend.
	June 7	A 27-year-old mother of two, ages 6 and 8, was strangled by her husband in York Township. He then committed suicide.

Domestic Violence Homicide Report is published by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV). Comprised of 65 community-based domestic violence programs, PCADV is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to ending violence against women and children and restoring their fundamental right to live free from fear in their own homes. Please direct all comments and questions about this Domestic Violence Homicide Report to Vicki Cuscino.

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1998 Domestic Violence Homicide Report

Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

January-December 1998

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ALLEGHENY COUNTY	January 1	A 35-year-old mother of two was fatally shot by her estranged husband during a custody exchange in Crescent Township. The children, ages 2 and 5, witnessed her death. The woman's 34-year-old boyfriend was also fatally shot.
January 6	A 53-year-old man was beaten to death by his stepson in Pittsburgh.	
March 20	A 45-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend at her place of employment in Pittsburgh. He then committed suicide.	
April 17	A 25-year-old woman was strangled to death by her husband in Clairton.	
May 24	An 18-year-old man was fatally stabbed by his girlfriend in McKeesport.	
May 31	A 79-year-old man was stabbed to death by his grandson in Natrona Heights.	
August 28	A 26-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in Pittsburgh. He then committed suicide.	
October 19	A 79-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend in McKees Rock.	
November 20	A 54-year-old man was stabbed to death by his girlfriend in East Hills.	
BERKS COUNTY	February 5	A 73-year-old woman was beaten to death by her daughter in Riverview Park.
BLAIR COUNTY	January 31	A 42-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Altoona. He later committed suicide.
September 7	A 34-year-old mother of three was beaten to death by her boyfriend in Altoona.	
November 26	A 36-year-old father of two sons was fatally shot by his wife's former boyfriend in Altoona.	
BRADFORD COUNTY	July 22	A 53-year-old mother of four was beaten to death by her ex-husband in Sheshequin Township.
BUCKS COUNTY	December 10	A 66-year-old woman was bludgeoned to death by her son in Doylestown.
BUTLER COUNTY	July 31	A 43-year-old man was fatally shot by his teen-age son in Summit Township.
CARBON COUNTY	June 9	A 57-year-old man was stabbed to death by his wife in Nesquehoning.

PA Death Toll...

The Domestic Violence Homicide Report details domestic violence homicides, as reported in PA newspapers. Although this report does NOT reflect the total number of domestic violence deaths, it offers a strong indication of the scope and lethality of the crime. (NOTE: Data about homicides attributed to child abuse are not included.)

136 Deaths in 1998

- In 1998, at least **95 domestic violence incidents resulted in 136 deaths:**
- **109 victims**
- 27 perpetrators who committed suicide

Who Was Killed

- **65 women**
- **35 men**
- **9 children** (3 were killed by their fathers during a custody exchange or after being abducted)

How They Were Killed

- 67 were **shot**.
- 15 were **stabbed**.
- 12 were **beaten**.
- 6 were **strangled**.
- 3 died in an **arson**.
- 2 were **stabbed and beaten**.
- 1 was **suffocated**.
- 1 was **crushed** by a truck.
- 1 was **run over** by a car.
- 1 died from **sharp force trauma**.

Who Committed the Crimes

- 82 of the perpetrators were men.
- 13 of the perpetrators were women.

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CENTRE COUNTY	May 7	A 65-year-old woman was beaten to death by her husband in State College.
	May 28	A 67-year-old woman was fatally shot by her ex-husband at her place of employment in State College.
CHESTER COUNTY	May 20	A 22-year-old father of one was stabbed to death by his girlfriend at his place of employment in Coatesville.
	November 13.	A 45-year-old man was stabbed to death by his girlfriend in Downingtown.
CLARION COUNTY	August 29	A 20-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in New Bethlehem.
CLEARFIELD COUNTY	March 28	A 32-year-old father of 7-year-old twin boys was fatally shot by his wife in LeContes Mills.
	November 8.	A 46-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Knox Township. He then committed suicide.
COLUMBIA COUNTY	February 8.	A 30-year-old mother of three, ages 8, 10, and 13, was stabbed to death by her estranged husband in Bloomsburg. He then committed suicide. The woman had a Protection From Abuse order against him.
	December 4.	A 36-year-old mother of three was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Jerseytown. He also fatally shot the woman's 36-year-old boyfriend and then committed suicide. The children, ages 15, 11, and 10, witnessed the deaths.
CUMBERLAND COUNTY	March 25	A 37-year-old man was fatally shot by his teen-age son in Carlisle. His wife and 12-year-old son witnessed his death.
DAUPHIN COUNTY	April 3.	A 28-year-old man was beaten to death by the estranged husband of his girlfriend in Harrisburg. The man's girlfriend, who had a Protection From Abuse order against her estranged husband, and her 4-year-old daughter witnessed the homicide.
DELAWARE COUNTY	February 27.	A 43-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Yeadon.
	March 13	A 21-year-old mother of a 3-year-old daughter was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in Upper Darby. The woman's 27-year-old male friend was also fatally shot by the estranged boyfriend.
	April 14.	A 44-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend in Chester.
	May 29	An 18-year-old mother of a 2-year-old daughter was strangled by her ex-boyfriend in Middletown Township.
	August 7	A 60-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend's husband in Darby Township.
ELK COUNTY	January 28.	A 30-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Kersey. The woman's 44-year-old female friend was also fatally shot by the boyfriend who then committed suicide.
FAYETTE COUNTY	April 8.	A 52-year-old woman was crushed to death by a truck while her husband was working on it in Deer Lake. Police are investigating the accident and consider it to be suspicious.
	December 15.	A 46-year-old woman was fatally shot by her son-in-law in East Huntingdon. The woman's 23-year-old son was also shot. The shootings occurred when the man kidnapped and stabbed his estranged wife, the murdered woman's 25-year-old daughter, who had a Protection From Abuse order against him. The perpetrator was later killed by the State Police.
FRANKLIN COUNTY	January 12.	A 20-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Quincy Township. He then committed suicide.
	July 9	A 32-year-old woman and her 3-year-old daughter were fatally shot by the woman's husband in Chambersburg. He then committed suicide.
	November 3.	A 23-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband's male cousin in Chambersburg. A 39-year-old male neighbor was also fatally shot.
JUNIATA COUNTY	January 12.	A 46-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in Port Royal.
	October 20.	A 16-year-old teenager was accidentally fatally shot by his mother's estranged husband. The shooting was the result of a stray bullet during a domestic violence incident in Mifflin.
LANCASTER COUNTY	January 3.	A 23-year-old mother of a 6-year-old daughter was fatally shot by her estranged husband in Lancaster. She had a Protection From Abuse order against him.
	February 15.	A 36-year-old man was fatally shot by his stepfather in Fulton Township.
	March 4	An 8-month-old girl died in a car fire set by her father near Manheim. The man, who also died in the fire, had abducted the baby from her mother. The woman had a Protection From Abuse order against him.

LANCASTER COUNTY (cont.)	March 19	A 21-year-old woman was strangled to death by her ex-husband in Lancaster. She was eight weeks pregnant and had a Protection From Abuse order against him at the time of her death.
	May 18	A 31-year-old mother of one was strangled by her boyfriend in Lancaster.
	December 29.	A 36-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Lancaster. He also fatally shot their two daughters, ages 4 and 13, and then committed suicide.
LEBANON COUNTY	January 1.	A 29-year-old man was beaten to death by his girlfriend's ex-boyfriend in South Lebanon Township.
	May 23	A 40-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend's estranged husband during a custody exchange in Jonestown. The man's girlfriend and her 4-year-old daughter witnessed the shooting.
LEHIGH COUNTY	February 22.	A 74-year-old woman was suffocated by her husband in Salisbury Township.
LUZERNE COUNTY	February 12.	An 84-year-old man was beaten to death by his wife in Hazle Township.
	September 12	A 32-year-old mother of two, ages 14 and 11, was stabbed to death by her husband in Wyoming.
LYCOMING COUNTY	January 18.	A 32-year-old mother of three, ages 4, 9, and 12, was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in Williamsport. He then committed suicide.
MONROE COUNTY	September 2	A 37-year-old woman died of multiple sharp force trauma at the hands of her boyfriend in Middle Smithfield Township.
MONTGOMERY COUNTY	March 9	A 32-year-old man was stabbed to death by his teen-age stepson in Bridgeport.
	June 6.	A 41-year-old man was beaten to death by his teen-age son in Upper Providence.
	October 3	A 57-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in King of Prussia. He then committed suicide.
	November 4.	A 38-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Montgomeryville. He also fatally shot their two daughters, ages 13 and 10, and then committed suicide.
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	February 16.	A 30-year-old mother of three, ages 3, 8, and 11, was fatally shot by her husband in Dornsife. He then committed suicide.
	August 21	A 44-year-old man was fatally shot by his girlfriend's ex-boyfriend in Wind Gap.
PHILADELPHIA COUNTY	January 13.	A 43-year-old man died in an arson set by his brother in Philadelphia. The man's 45-year-old female friend also died in the fire. Her 6-year-old daughter and mother witnessed their deaths.
	January 19.	A 19-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in Philadelphia. He then committed suicide.
	January 20.	A mother of three, ages 7, 10, and 13, was fatally shot by her husband in Philadelphia. He then committed suicide.
	February 10.	A 22-year-old woman was fatally shot by her estranged partner in Philadelphia.
	March 1	A 22-year-old woman was beaten to death by her boyfriend in Philadelphia. Her 2-year-old daughter witnessed her death.
	March 14	A 29-year-old mother of a 6-year-old son was fatally shot by her estranged boyfriend in Philadelphia.
	March 24	An 81-year-old woman was fatally shot by her husband in Pittsgrove Township. He then committed suicide.
	April 10.	A 46-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Mayfair. He then committed suicide.
	May 25	A 32-year-old mother of a 7-year-old son was beaten to death by her long-time male friend in Philadelphia.
	May 29	A 45-year-old woman was stabbed and beaten to death by her husband in Philadelphia.
	May 31	A 25-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Philadelphia. He then committed suicide. She had a Protection From Abuse order against him at the time of her death.
	June 19.	A 30-year-old woman was fatally shot by her boyfriend in Frankford. He then committed suicide.
	June 22.	A 38-year-old man was run over with a car by his girlfriend in Philadelphia.