

Ohio Domestic Violence Fatalities

JULY 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

In an attempt to better understand the prevalence and circumstances of domestic violence fatalities in Ohio, the Ohio Domestic Violence Network reviewed media reports identified by staff members or local member programs. Fatalities included targeted victims, perpetrators, and others at incidents involving intimate partner relationships.

38% OF CASES INVOLVED SUICIDE



THERE WERE **71** MALE PERPETRATORS AND **7** FEMALE PERPETRATORS. IN ONE CASE THERE WERE 2 PERPETRATORS.

1 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER WAS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY BY A BATTERER

109 FATALITIES IN 77 CASES
71 DECEASED VICTIMS AND 38 DECEASED PERPETRATORS
(55 FEMALE FATALITIES; 54 MALE FATALITIES)

4 YOUNG VICTIMS WERE KILLED, INCLUDING TWO 2-YEAR-OLD GIRLS, A SIX-YEAR-OLD BOY, AND A 17-YEAR-OLD GIRL

AT LEAST 20 PERPETRATORS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN CHARGED WITH OR CONVICTED OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PRIOR TO THE FATAL INCIDENT

8 CASES REQUIRED SWAT OR A STRATEGIC RESPONSE TEAM ACTION FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT



IN **22** CASES, THERE WAS BOTH A HOMICIDE AND A SUICIDE

THE OLDEST VICTIM WAS AN **82-YEAR-OLD MAN**

IN AT LEAST **27%** OF FATALITY CASES, THE VICTIM OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE HAD ENDED THE RELATIONSHIP OR WAS IN THE PROCESS OF ENDING THE RELATIONSHIP

18% OF CASES INVOLVED CHILDREN AT THE SCENE



88 PEOPLE WERE KILLED OR INJURED BY GUNS

IN AT LEAST **70% OF FATALITIES**, THE DECEASED WERE KILLED BY GUNS, EXCLUDING SHOOTINGS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT

77 CASES REVIEWED

MULTIPLE FATALITIES

27 CASES

2 cases involved 4 fatalities each

ABDUCTIONS

5 CASES

1 case resulted in an amber alert

3RD PARTY FATALITIES

9 CASES

13 secondary victims died in IPV-related fatalities

PERPETRATOR KILLED BY 3RD PARTY

8 CASES

5 perpetrators were killed by law enforcement

ROAD RAGE

Domestic violence is not just behind closed doors. Several incidents occurred on public roadways. Perpetrators are frequently known to extend their menacing behavior in traffic, driving recklessly, weaponizing vehicles as a tool of their abuse.

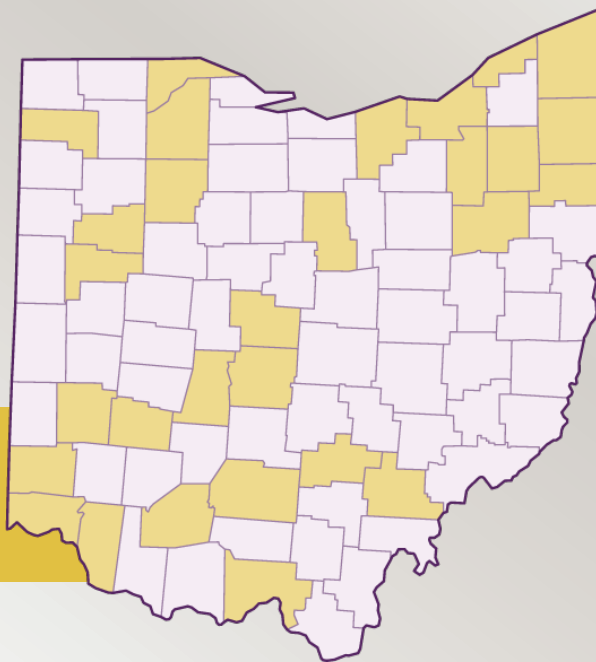
One victim was killed when her abuser veered into a tree as he was being pursued by police. Another threw his partner out on the freeway, resulting in her death, and a third tried to take over the steering wheel, exited the car, and apparently walked into traffic, resulting in his death. One abuser abducted his estranged wife, and as law enforcement followed the truck, he swerved, pulled into a driveway, and fired two fatal shots, ending her life and his.

Sadly, one law enforcement officer in a different incident lost her life when she was intentionally rammed by an abuser as she tried to aid in his apprehension.

THE WORDS OF A SURVIVOR

An Auglaize woman who survived an attempted homicide by defending her life shared these words: *"In my heart, this was the person that I chose to be with. I cared about him. I wanted to make things better. I wanted to fix us. I want people to understand you have every right to step away from someone. It's better to do it now when things are calm or when things are in an area where you can look at each other and say this isn't working, instead of fearing for everything."*

29 counties had fatal incidents of domestic violence



Remember these losses, strive to understand the issue, and support advances toward long-term solutions.

ODVN will be working with legislators, domestic violence programs, public officials, and others to design more effective responses that can prevent these tragedies.