

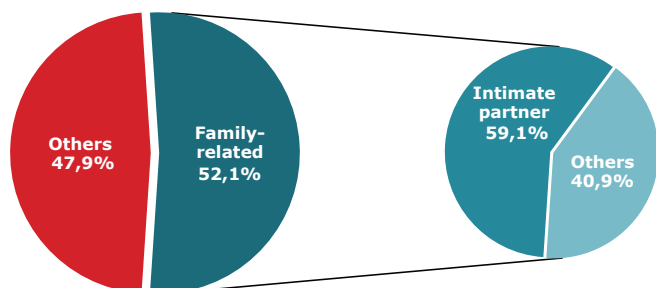
Police and gendarmerie procedures have brought to light the fact that, in 2015, not including terror attacks, more than one in two female homicides are committed by a family member

Female homicide victims are victims of family-related homicides in more than one in two cases and of intimate partner homicides in 30% of cases

In 2015, not including terror attacks¹, 286 women were victims of homicides. According to information available on the suspects in these procedures, 149 of them were victims of family-related homicides (see *Definitions*), i.e. 52.1% of them [1]. Intimate partner homicides account for 30.8% of women's homicides, and family-related homicides not committed by the intimate partner for 21.3%.

According to the UNODC², this is a key characteristic of women's homicides since, worldwide, family-related homicides represent 47% of women's homicides compared with 6% of men's homicides. As such, although women make up 20% of all homicide victims, they account for two-thirds of family-related homicide victims.

1 Type of relationship binding homicide victims with the implicated person



Scope: women, whole of France, 2015 (date of crime)

Source: SSMSI - 2015 database of crime or offence victims, processed by the ONDRP

- [1] In 2015, two women were victims of homicides during the January terror attacks and 51 during the November terror attacks. These victims have been excluded from the analysis so as not to skew the results..
- [2] Global study on homicide, 2013
- [3] On account of their age, female victims of family-related homicide under 15 years of age cannot, with a few exceptions, have a current or former intimate partner in the legal meaning of the term
- [4] Insee defines a rural municipality as a municipality that does not belong to an urban unit. For the definition of an urban unit, please refer to the inset "Sources and definitions".

Intimate-partner homicides are the cause of almost all family-related homicides where 15-35 year-old women are the victim

In 2015, intimate partners are suspected for 59.1% of women's homicides within the family setting. Intimate-partner homicides account for almost all (96%) family-related homicides where 15-35 year-old women are the victim and 88% of family-related homicides where 36-55 year-old women are the victim. These age groups are therefore automatically over-represented among female victims of their intimate partners. For women over 55 years of age, the proportion of homicides for which the intimate partner is implicated exceeds 50% (55%).

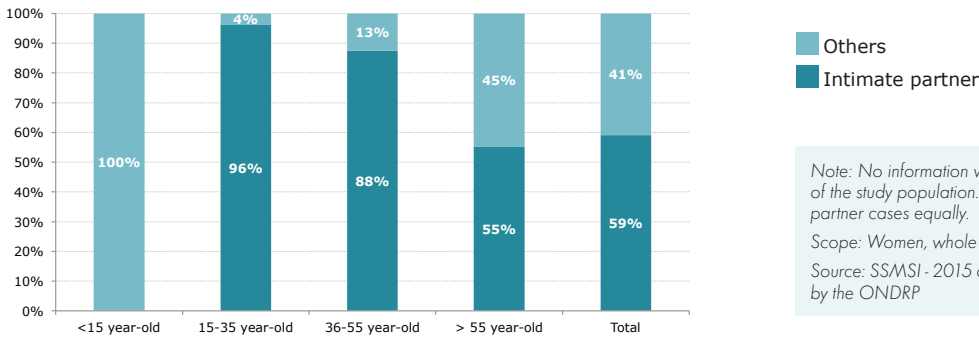
Young women under 15 years of age are over-represented among victims of family-related homicides not committed by intimate partners. Indeed, they make up more than 50% (53%) of victims of family-related homicides not committed by intimate partners, compared with 17% of the study population [2]. Two effects explain this: the low proportion of family-related homicides not committed by intimate partners, in the 15-35 and 36-55 year-old age groups, and the absence of intimate partner homicides for this age group, because of its definition³. The over 55s are also over-represented among victims of family-related homicides not committed by intimate partners. They make up 37% of victims of family-related homicides not committed by intimate partners, so 3 points more than their percentage of the study population..

Almost three-quarters of women's homicide cases in rural areas⁴ took place in the family setting

In 2015, in rural areas, the implicated persons for homicides are family members in almost three out of four cases (73%) when the victim is a woman. For this type of homicide, the woman's intimate partner is implicated in nearly one in two cases, and another member of her family in nearly one in four cases.

In urban municipalities, excluding Paris, family-related homicides account for more than one in two women's homicides (52%). This

2 Breakdown of types of family-related homicide by age



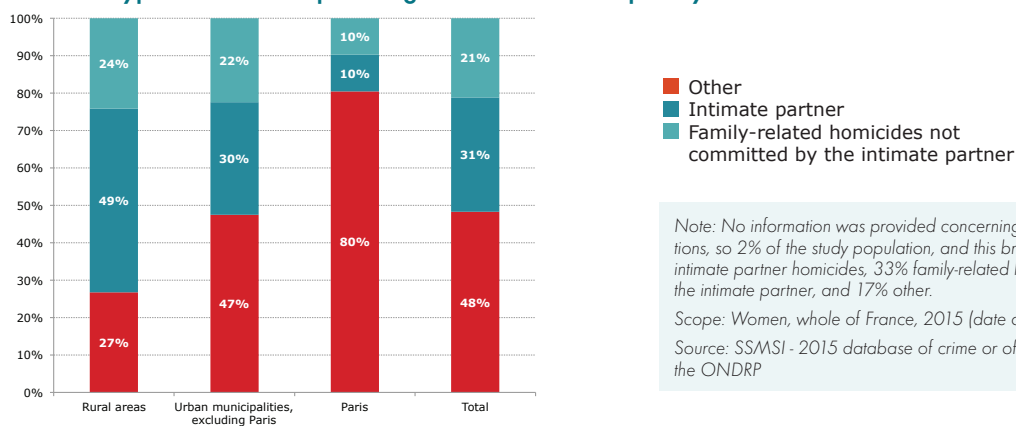
Note: No information was provided for two individuals only, i.e. 0.7% of the study population. This concerns intimate partner and non-intimate partner cases equally.
 Scope: Women, whole of France, 2015 (date of crime)
 Source: SSMSI - 2015 database of crime or offence victims, processed by the ONDRP

breaks down as 30% intimate-partner homicides and 22% family-related homicides not committed by the intimate partner.

represent 20% of women’s homicides, divided equally between intimate partner homicides (10%) and family-related homicides not committed by the intimate partner (10%) [3].

In Paris, the proportion of women’s homicides committed in the family setting is less. Indeed, family-related homicides only

3 Breakdown of types of relationship binding the victim to the suspect by urban size



Note: No information was provided concerning urban size for 6 observations, so 2% of the study population, and this breaks down as follows: 50% intimate partner homicides, 33% family-related homicides not committed by the intimate partner, and 17% other.
 Scope: Women, whole of France, 2015 (date of crime)
 Source: SSMSI - 2015 database of crime or offence victims, processed by the ONDRP

Sources and definitions

Sources

Every year, the Ministerial Statistics Department for Internal Security (SSMSI) produces a «Database of crime or offence victims» with respect to recorded criminal offences. Criminal offences are recorded following an official complaint lodged by a victim, a statement, an eye-witness account, a case of in flagrante delicto, someone coming forward with information, etc., as well as on the initiative of the security forces⁵.

Definitions

Intentional homicide:

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) defines intentional homicide as the killing of a person by another person (objective element); this incident must be unlawful (legal element) and the perpetrator must have wilfully intended to kill or seriously injure the victim (subjective element)⁶.

This definition, adopted by the UNODC, includes murder, assassination, murders of minors under 15 years of age and non-negligent manslaughter.

Family-related homicide:

Intimate partner and family-related homicide encompasses homicides committed by intimate partners or members of the same family⁷. Intimate partner homicides correspond to murders of one’s current or former spouse. The term partner encompasses married couples, couples in civil partnerships and common-law couples. Family-related homicides refer to

homicides by parents or offspring (parricides and infanticides), fratricides, murders of grandparents or grandchildren, or homicides of people with family ties by marriage to the perpetrator, such as homicide of one’s brother-in-law. In the «Database of crime or offence victims», family-related violence includes recorded crimes – for which the NATINF (type of offence) used to qualify the case clearly indicates the link between the victim and the implicated person or when the descriptors of such links are entered in the procedure writing software.

Urban unit:

Urban units are municipalities (or a group of municipalities) presenting a continuous built area, i.e. there is no interruption of more than 200 metres between two buildings, and which are home to at least 2,000 inhabitants.

Suspect:

The notion of suspect adopted to qualify the person described as being the person behind the crime refers to different statuses in the “Database of crime and offence victims”. This may be the person that the victim singles out as the perpetrator of the crime when the former officially reports it, the person suspected by law enforcement when the crime is being recorded, or the implicated person if the case is solved (in the “police” sense of the term rather than the “legal” sense). On the other hand, and as with all data obtained through police and gendarmerie procedures, this cannot refer to the perpetrator from the point of view of criminal liability, since the information bearing on trials and possible convictions is not available at this stage of the process.

(5) Les homicides in the report *Insécurité et délinquance en 2016 : premier bilan statistique, Interstat, 2017*

(6) UNODC, (2013), *Global Study on Homicide, Trends / Contexts / Data*

(7) This notion does not exist as such in law.