

femicide census

2020



[www.femicidecensus.org](http://www.femicidecensus.org)

# Dedication

## The women killed by men in 2020 to whom this report is dedicated

Abida Karim	Hyacinth Morris	Maureen Kidd
Amy-Leanne Stringfellow	Jackie (Jacqueline) Hoadley	Melissa Belshaw
Aneta Zdun	Jadwiga Szczygielsk	Najeeba Al-Ariqy
Ann Mowbray	Janice Child	Stella Frew
Aya Hachem	Janice Woolford	Nelly Mustafa
Balvinder Gahir	Jasbir Kaur	Nicole Smallman
Bea Walker	Judith Rhead	Nikoleta Zdun
Bhavini Pravin	Karolina Zinkeviciene	Paula Leather
Bibaa Henry	Kate (Katherine) Bevan	Poorna Kaameshwari-Sivaraj
Caroline Kayll	Katie Walker	Rhonda Humphreys
Caroline Walker	Kelly Fitzgibbons	Rosemary Hill
Cherith Van Der Ploeg	Kelly Price	Ruth Brown
Claire Parry	Kelly Stewart	Ruth Williams
Clare Nash	Kimberly Deakin	Saman Mir Sacharvi
Dawn Bennett	Li Qing-Wang	Sarah Smith
Dawn Fletcher	Lorraine Cox	Shelly Clark
Debbie Zurick	Louise Aitchison	Silke Hartshorne Jones
Deborah Jones/Hendrick	Louise Smith	Suzanne Winnister
Denise Keane Barnett Simmons	Lynda Cooper	Tracey Kidd
Elsie Smith	Magdalena Pacult	Valerie Jozunas
Emma McParland	Mandy Houghton	Vian Mangrio
Esther Egbon	Margaret Johnson	Victoria Woodhall
Gemma Marjoram	Maria Howarth	Wendy Morse
Gian Kaur Bhandal	Marie Gladders	Yvonne 'Vonnie' Lawson
Gwendoline Bound	Marta Vento	McCann
Helen Almey	Mary Haley	Zahida Bi
Helen Bannister	Maryan Ismail	

## Women killed with suspects awaiting trial

Angela Webber	Morag Carmichael
Azaria Williams	Nicole McGregor
Betty Dobbin	Patrycja Wyrebek
Beverley Denahy	Shadika Mohsin Patel
Carole Wright	Sonia Calvi
Catherine Granger	Susan Baird
Hansa Patel	Therasia Gordon
Julie Williams	Vanita Nowell
Katie Simpson	Vera Croghan
Kerry Woolley	Zobaidah Salangy
Khloemae Loy	Unnamed
KyMBERli Sweeney	Unnamed
Lauren Mae Bloomer	Unnamed
Idiko Bettison	Unnamed
Louise Rump	Unnamed
Margaret Grant	Unnamed

## Women killed but awaiting further information so not currently included

Alex Reid  
Beata Fortuna  
Joanna Borucka  
Josephine Kaye  
Unnamed

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# Foreword

This past couple of years have been like no other. The worldwide Covid pandemic has exacerbated inequalities across all sections of society and in individual country-wide responses. Women victims of men's violence, along with those who work supporting women and children victim-survivors of men's violence, had reason to fear country-wide lockdowns: being forced to live with your abuser with no reprieve of work, or school, or wider friends and family check-ins. Men who abuse women take advantage of opportunities to exert power, control, abuse and violence within and outside the home, and then use the same things as excuses for their actions and choices, and so it has been with Covid. The husbands of Ruth Williams and Maryan Ismail used the stress of covid and lockdown in their defence against murder charges, and as celebrating outdoors became the norm, this provided a predatory 19-year-old man an opportunity to attack and kill Biba Henry and Nicole Smallman.

We have recorded two consecutive years of falls in the numbers of women killed by men in 2019 and 2020. In fact, 2020 finds the lowest numbers of women killed by men since our records began in 2009. This is largely driven by a reduction in the number of women recorded as killed by current or former partners. The Femicide Census has consistently shown that separation is a risk factor for intimate partner femicides, or more accurately, a trigger for violent, abusive and/or controlling men. In 2020, evidence of separation was found in far fewer cases, reported in 37% of intimate partner femicides. Looking at the numbers alone that is figures falling from an average of 38 a year to 21. Lockdown and the restrictions to movement made it more difficult for women to leave abusive men, instead they were often stuck with him. It is possible that reduced numbers of women killed by men may reflect the reality that many women did not feel able to leave, so the separation trigger was not activated at that time.

The knock-on effects of the pandemic are also being felt in the criminal justice system. For the first time in five years we delayed publishing our 2019 data report, due at the end of 2020, because so many cases from 2019 had still not gone to trial. In 2021 the justice system has still not caught up on itself, over a quarter (29%) of all known killings in 2020 have not yet gone to trial by the end of 2021 – but we have decided to delay publication no longer. In particular, the situation in Northern Ireland is seriously troubling, 4 out of the 5 known cases in 2019 have still not gone to trial. Of nine killings of women where there is a male suspect in 2019 and 2020 only one has concluded, and there is still no trial date set in six of the remaining cases. It is said that justice delayed is justice denied. For a victim's family and friends, and justice for the woman herself, an indeterminable wait for a criminal justice outcome increases their pain. While Covid has a part to play, the strain our criminal justice system is under from pre-Covid times has been laid bare. The system, already under-resourced, has been unable to process what was once the most efficient of criminal justice outcomes – a homicide conviction for murder or manslaughter. We have stressed this before: with a dead victim and an identified suspect, the criminal justice system kicks into gear and secures an almost guaranteed conviction 'success' rate. This is far less likely for a live witness who can describe first-hand experience of rape or assault, but whose case is far less likely to be heard, let alone result in conviction. By the end of 2021 Northern Ireland, London, Scotland and Cumbria are struggling to bring 2020 cases to trial and Covid cannot be solely blamed.

As a result of these trial delays, we have split the names of the victims between those where a man has been convicted of the killing of a woman or where the perpetrator is recorded as

having died by suicide and where there is no other suspect, and the other victims where a man has been charged and is awaiting trial. As in the case of all trials, guilt has not yet been proven, so we have not reported on those 24 cases in the perpetrator section which only refers to those who have been found or pleaded guilty, or otherwise held accountable. We are very clear when we refer to data in the victim section the data refers to perpetrators found or who have pleaded guilty, deceased perpetrators and men who have been charged and are awaiting trial. This is also why there are a larger number than usual variables in the victim section where information is unknown – it is often through the criminal justice process where factors including the true relationship or lack of it between the perpetrator and the victim, comes to light.

As always, our data is continually evolving, new information comes to light after trials, inquests and Domestic Homicide Reviews which sometimes happen years after the killings. Perpetrators are found and the cases against them proven who were previously missing or where evidence was inconclusive, and cases that once aroused no suspicion among the authorities are reclassified after the valiant campaigning by families. Our work is about the women killed and the men who did it, but we need to honour the further 134 women victims over the 12 years whom we have not yet been able to include in the Census. Sadly, we know that there will be others, where the killings of women have been hidden as disappearances, accidents or suicides but where, in reality, their lives were ended by men.

In memory of the women killed in 2019 and 2020, for their families and friends, this work is for you.

We will not forget.

We will continue to commemorate.

We will not be silenced.

We will continue to fight to make visible the extent of men's fatal violence against women and to demand action from the state.

# Key Findings

Overall data trends remain broadly consistent with our previous reports. On average, one woman is killed by a man every 3 days in the UK.

Our 10-year report, 2009 to 2018, dealt with a considerable amount of data over a long period and this was instructive in ironing out possible aberrations in data clusters which, viewed in isolation, sometimes receive undue attention.

**110** women were killed by men in 2020

**111** men have been implicated in their killings, but to date only **79** men have been found, or pleaded guilty to the killing of a woman, or who otherwise have been held responsible for the killing in the cases where the perpetrator was detained under the mental health act or died by suicide prior to conviction

**57** women (52%) were killed by a current or former **partners**

**14** women (13%) were killed by their **son**

**9** women (8%) were killed by a **stranger**

**77** killings (70%) took place in the **home** (that of the victim and perpetrator, that of the victim or that of the perpetrator)

**22** women (20%) were **aged 66** or over

**42** women (38%) were killed by men using a **knife or sharp instrument**,

**24** (22%) involved **strangulation** or **asphyxiation**,

**16** (15%) involved a **blunt instrument**,

**14** (13%) involved **hitting** or **kicking** or **stamping**

The killings of **49** women (45%) would be described as **overkill** (defined as the use of excessive, gratuitous violence beyond that necessary to cause the victim's death)

There was a known **history** of violence and abuse by the perpetrator of the victim in **43** (48%) of cases

**42** (53%) perpetrators were known to have previous histories of **violence against women**

**47** perpetrators (60%) were found **guilty of murder** (including double murder for 8%)

**14** perpetrators (19%) were found **guilty of manslaughter** including culpable homicide

**9** men (11%) **killed themselves** as well as the victim

At the time of writing **32** men (29%) are **awaiting trial**

# Femicide Census data 2020

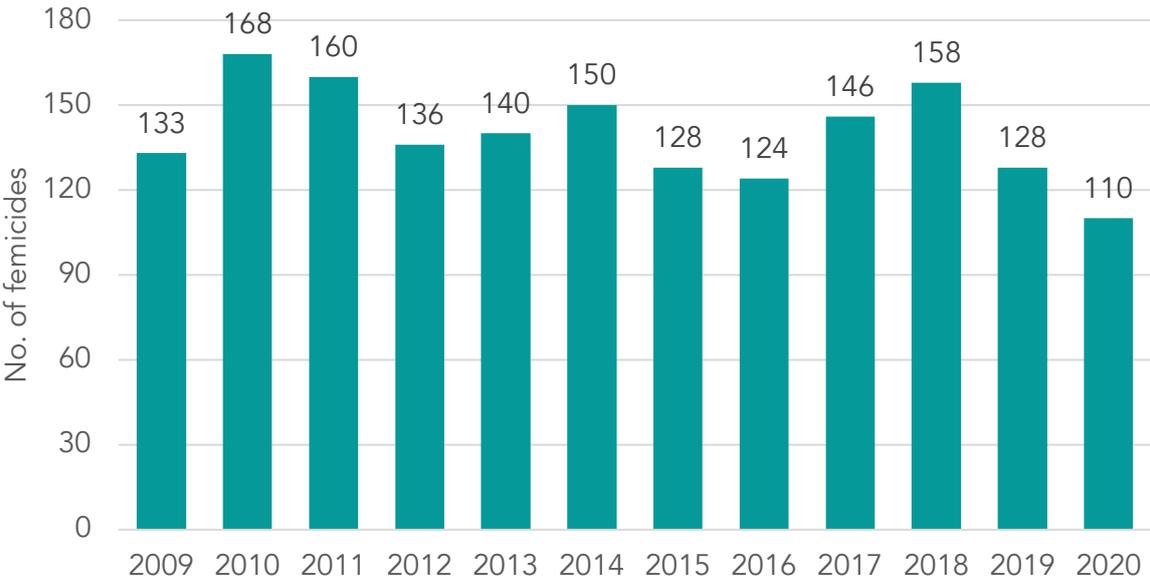
The below tables show the data gathered to date (Nov 19, 2021) on 110 women with 111 men implicated in their killings, but to date only 79 have been found, or pleaded guilty to, the killing of a woman or otherwise have been held responsible for the killing in the cases where the perpetrator was detained under the mental health act or died by suicide prior to conviction. The 2020 figures will change substantially as 32 men (29%) charged with killing women have not yet been to trial. More data almost always become publicly available during and after trial, so we expect that some of the below data will change once trials are complete.

The Femicide Census collates data relating to all women who have been killed by men in the UK and the men who have killed them. However, the victim data presented for 2020 relates to women killed where a male has been either charged or convicted of murder, manslaughter, culpable homicide, or otherwise formally identified as being responsible for a woman’s death, such as in cases where he was detained under the mental health act or killed himself after killing a woman.

We are currently awaiting further information about the deaths of five women where there is reason to believe their deaths are suspicious. At the time of writing, these cases are unsolved.

## Femicides

Number of femicides per calendar year 2019-2020



# Police Force Data

## Police Force Area

Police force area	Total no. of femicides
Metropolitan Police Service	21
Police Service of Scotland	8
West Midlands Police	8
Police Service of Northern Ireland	5
Greater Manchester Police	4
Lancashire Constabulary	4
West Yorkshire Police	4
Cumbria	3
Devon and Cornwall Police	3
Merseyside Police	3
Norfolk Constabulary	3
South Yorkshire Police	3
Staffordshire Police	3
Sussex Police	3
Warwickshire	3
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	2
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	2
Dorset Police	2
Dyfed-Powys Police	2
Essex Police	2
Hertfordshire Constabulary	2
Kent Police	2
Nottinghamshire Police	2
Suffolk Constabulary	2
Surrey	2
Wiltshire	2
Bedfordshire	1
Derbyshire Constabulary	1
Gwent Police	1
Hampshire	1
Leicestershire Police	1
Lincolnshire Police	1
Northumbria Police	1
South Wales Police	1
Thames Valley Police	1
West Mercia Police	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>

## Rate of femicide

The annual rate of femicide for each police force area was calculated per 100,000 of the general population<sup>12</sup>.

Police force area	Total no. of femicides
Cumbria	0.600
Warwickshire	0.519
Dyfed-Powys Police	0.384
Norfolk Constabulary	0.330
Wiltshire	0.276
West Midlands Police	0.273
Lancashire Constabulary	0.265
Police Service of Northern Ireland	0.264
Staffordshire Police	0.264
Suffolk Constabulary	0.262
Dorset Police	0.258
Cambridgeshire Constabulary	0.233
Metropolitan Police Service	0.234
South Yorkshire Police	0.212
Merseyside Police	0.209
Sussex Police	0.175
Nottinghamshire Police	0.172
West Yorkshire Police	0.171
Devon and Cornwall Police	0.169
Hertfordshire Constabulary	0.168
Gwent Police	0.168
Surrey	0.167
Bedfordshire	0.148
Police Service of Scotland	0.146
Greater Manchester Police	0.141
Lincolnshire Police	0.131
Avon and Somerset Constabulary	0.116
Essex Police	0.108
Kent Police	0.107
Derbyshire Constabulary	0.094
Leicestershire Police	0.090
West Mercia Police	0.077
South Wales Police	0.074
Northumbria Police	0.068
Hampshire	0.050
Thames Valley Police	0.041

## Victim's relationship to perpetrator

Relationship of victim to perpetrator	Number	% of all relationships
Spouse (incl. former spouse)	31 (2)	28%
Intimate Partner (incl. former intimate partner)	26 (6)	23%
Relative – Mother	14	13%
Unknown	12	11%
Stranger	9	8%
Acquaintance	4 (3)	4%
Neighbour	3	3%
Landlady	2	2%
Relative – Daughter	2	2%
Relative – Grandmother	2	2%
Business associate/colleague	1	1%
Relative – Niece	1	1%
Relative – Sister-in-Law	1	1%
Relative – Step-Daughter	1	1%
Friend or Social Acquaintance	1	1%
Prostitution / Client	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100%</b>

The number of relationships is not equal to the number of victims or perpetrators because in some cases, more than one man killed a woman, in others, a man or men killed more than one woman. Six perpetrators each killed two victims, one victim was killed by two men and one woman was killed by a group of seven men. In addition, there are women who have died though the trials of 32 alleged perpetrators have not yet been completed, the relationships between victims and alleged perpetrators are included here, therefore this table may be subject to change.

1 Population figures are not available for 2020. The average annual rate of femicide for each police force area is based on 2019 population estimates, see:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/datasets/policeforceareadatatables>

2 The rate of annual rate of 2020 femicides were calculated by dividing the number of femicides per police force area by the average population for that police force area. The result was multiplied by 100,000 to estimate the annual rate of femicide for each police force area.

## History of abuse

The perpetrator was known to the victim in 82% (n=90) of all cases (n=110). Of these 90 femicides, there was evidence of previous violence and/or abuse towards the victim in 43 cases (48%). Further evidence indicates that the victim disclosed violence and/or abuse in 27 of the 43 cases. We recognise that this will not reflect the real extent of prior abuse of the victims.

History of abuse reported (where abuse is known)	Total	% of known abuse
Not known if reported	16	37%
Yes – Reported to Friends/Family Only	14	33%
Yes – Reported to Police	11	26%
Yes – Reported to Statutory Services	2	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100%</b>

Nature of previous abuse	Number
Emotional and Psychological	44
Coercive Control	38
Threats	21
Physical	17
Financial	10
Stalking and Harassment	6
Sexual	5
Forced Marriage / Arranged Marriage	2
<b>Honour Based</b>	<b>1</b>

The above table captures the nature of previous violence and abuse in 43 cases where it has been identified. In addition to intimate partner and family abuse, it includes one case where a woman of 79-years had allegedly been targeted on more than one occasion by the suspect who had burglarised her home previously<sup>3</sup>. He was unknown to the victim. This targeted pattern of behaviour is captured as 'emotional and psychological' abuse and 'financial' abuse of the victim.

<sup>3</sup> Trial is ongoing: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-55739343#:~:text=Martin%20Stewart%20is%20charged%20with,the%20High%20Court%20in%20Glasgow.>

## Context of violence

In 17 femicides, more than one context was relevant.

Primary context of violence	Number	%
Domestic – Intimate Partner Violence	56	51%
Unknown <sup>4</sup>	15	14%
Domestic – Son-Mother	13	12%
Mental Health	6	5%
Domestic – Extended Family	4	4%
Dispute/Grudge/Revenge	2	2%
Domestic – Father-Daughter	2	2%
Financial Gain	2	2%
Sexually Motivated	2	2%
Symbolic Woman	2	2%
Domestic – Child-Parent	1	1%
In the Course of Other Crime – Robbery or Burglary	1	<1%
IPV Collateral	1	<1%
Mistaken Victim	1	<1%
Rejected Advance	1	<1%
Prostituted woman	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>4</sup> In one other case the primary context is not clear, albeit that the trial has concluded, and the perpetrator was found guilty of murder (see FN8). The remaining eight 'unknowns' relate to cases categorised as 'awaiting trial/trial ongoing'.

## Additional contexts of violence

Primary Context of Violence	Additional Context of Violence	No. of victims
Domestic – Intimate Partner Violence	Mercy Killing	1
	Substance use	1
	Mental Health of perpetrator	2
	Dispute/Grudge/Revenge	1
	Financial Gain	1
Domestic – Son-Mother	Financial Gain	1
	Mental Health of perpetrator	3
Domestic – Father-Daughter	IPV Collateral	1
	Other	1
Domestic – Extended Family	Sexually Motivated	1
	Resulting from an Offence of Arson	1
	Dispute/Grudge/Revenge	1
Dispute/Grudge/Revenge	Problematic Substance Misuse	1
Unknown <sup>5</sup>	Problematic Substance Misuse	1
<b>Total no. of additional contexts</b>		<b>17</b>

## Post-separation killings

Twenty-one victims (37% of those killed by a current/former partner) killed by current or former partners were reported to have separated (n=18) or taken steps (n=3) to separate from the men who killed them. At the time of writing, this information is unknown in a further 12 cases.

Time since separation	Total of victims separated	% (where length of time known)
Steps taken to separate/<1 month	6	29%
06-12 months	2	10%
12-36 months	2	10%
01-03 months	1	5%
36 months/3 years +	1	5%
Unknown	9	43%
<b>Total of victims separated</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>5</sup> The primary context of the violence in this case is not clear (see FN 4 above). In brief, a priest had asked the victim to allow the perpetrator to stay in her home two years prior to the femicide. There are possible indicators of coercive and controlling behaviours e.g., the victim, aged 77-years, slept on the sofa while the perpetrator slept in the only bedroom, paying a £200 per month rent to the victim. Though this may suggest a power imbalance, we cannot determine if the victim was satisfied with this arrangement and publicly available materials do not give enough detail regarding the complexities of their relationship. An additional context of substance use has been selected because the perpetrator had drunk a significant amount of strong alcohol in the lead up to the femicide., <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-55756955>

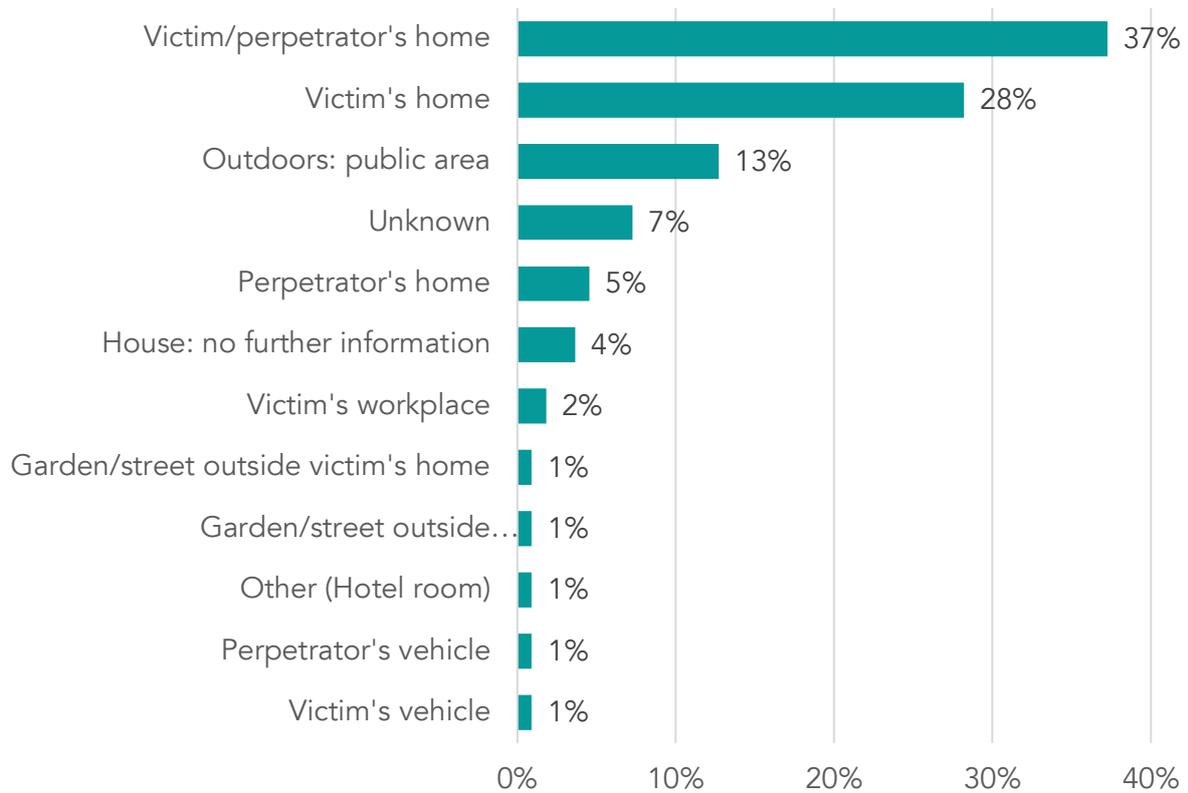
## Location of incident

Location	No. of women	%
Victim/perpetrator's home	41	37%
Victim's home	31	28%
Outdoors: public area	14	13%
Unknown	8 <sup>6</sup>	7%
Perpetrator's home	5	5%
House: no further information	4	4%
Victim's workplace	2	2%
Garden/street outside victim's home	1	<1%
Garden/street outside victim/perpetrator's home	1	<1%
Other (Hotel room)	1	<1%
Perpetrator's vehicle	1	<1%
Victim's vehicle	1	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100%</b>

Location of incident (victims who had separated/taken steps to separate)	No. of women	%
Victim's home	13	62%
Victim/perpetrator's home	4	19%
Outdoors: public area	2	10%
Perpetrator's home	1	5%
Victim's vehicle	1	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100%</b>

6 Three 'unknowns' relate to cases where suspect is awaiting trial or the trial is ongoing

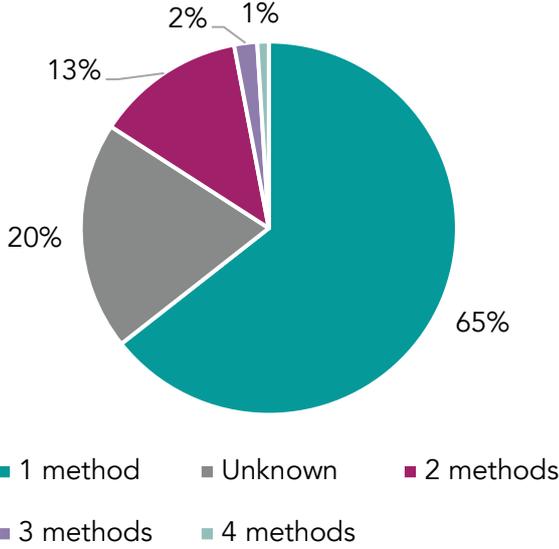
## Location of incident



## Method of killing

Method of killing	Number of incidences	% of total victims
Sharp instrument	42	38%
Strangulation or Asphyxiation	24	22%
Unknown (incl. body not found)	17 (1)	16%
Blunt instrument	16	15%
Kicking / hitting / stamping	14	13%
Firearm	6	5%
Other – head injuries	4	4%
Other – motor vehicle	3	3%
Arson – setting fire and causing death by fire	2	2%
Causing to fall against a hard surface / pushed or thrown from height	2	2%
Other – motor vehicle	3	3%
Poisoning – alcohol or drugs	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>N/A</b>

### Number of methods of killing used



### Overkilling

Evidence of overkilling	Number of victims	% of total victims
Yes	>49	45%
Unknown	36	33%

'Overkilling' is defined as the use of excessive, gratuitous violence beyond that necessary to cause the victim's death<sup>7</sup>. There was evidence of overkilling in at least 49 deaths (45%). At the time of writing, this is unknown in 33 per cent of cases (n=36).

### Evidence of sexual violence

Evidence of sexual violence	Number of victims	% of total victims
Yes	4	4%

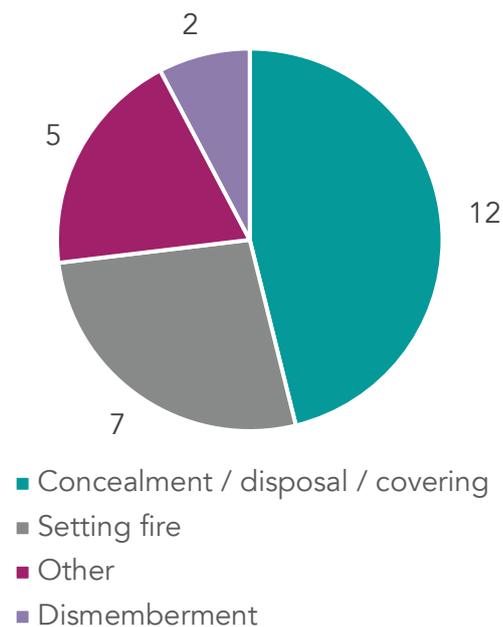
There was evidence of sexual violence in at least four cases (4%). In one case the perpetrator was an acquaintance, in one case a stranger, in one case an intimate partner and in another case the perpetrator was the victim's uncle. However, this is often unreported so may be an underestimate.

<sup>7</sup> Mitchell, C., Anglin, A., (2009) Intimate Partner Violence: A Health-Based Perspective, p. 325, Oxford University Press.

## Violation of body

There was evidence of violation of a deceased victim's body in 23 femicides (21%). In three of these, the perpetrators employed two methods of violation. For example, 'concealment/dispersing covering' and 'dismemberment' or 'concealment / dispersing / covering' and 'setting fire'.

Violation of body	No. of instances	% of all victims
Concealment / Disposal / Covering	12	11%
Setting Fire	7	6%
Other	5 <sup>8</sup>	5%
Dismemberment	2	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>N/A</b>



<sup>8</sup> These include: sending a picture of a deceased victim's body to a third party/parties (n=2); cutting off the victim's hair (n=1) and attempting to wash/place victim's body in a bath (n=2) <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-53985193#:~:text=A%20jealous%20man%20who%20murdered,%2C%20east%20London%2C%20in%20February.&text=He%20was%20ordered%20to%20serve,in%20jail%20after%20admitting%20murder;https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/paranoid-abusive-partner-steroids-murdered-22125982;https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-56445449;https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-53985193#:~:text=A%20jealous%20man%20who%20murdered,%2C%20east%20London%2C%20in%20February.&text=He%20was%20ordered%20to%20serve,in%20jail%20after%20admitting%20murder;https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/paranoid-abusive-partner-steroids-murdered-22125982>

## Additional victims

Additional victims	No. of femicides	% of all femicides
Yes – Fatal	15	14%
Yes – Children witnessed	8	7%
Yes – Non-Fatal	8	7%
Yes – Pets	2	2%
Yes – Other	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31%</b>

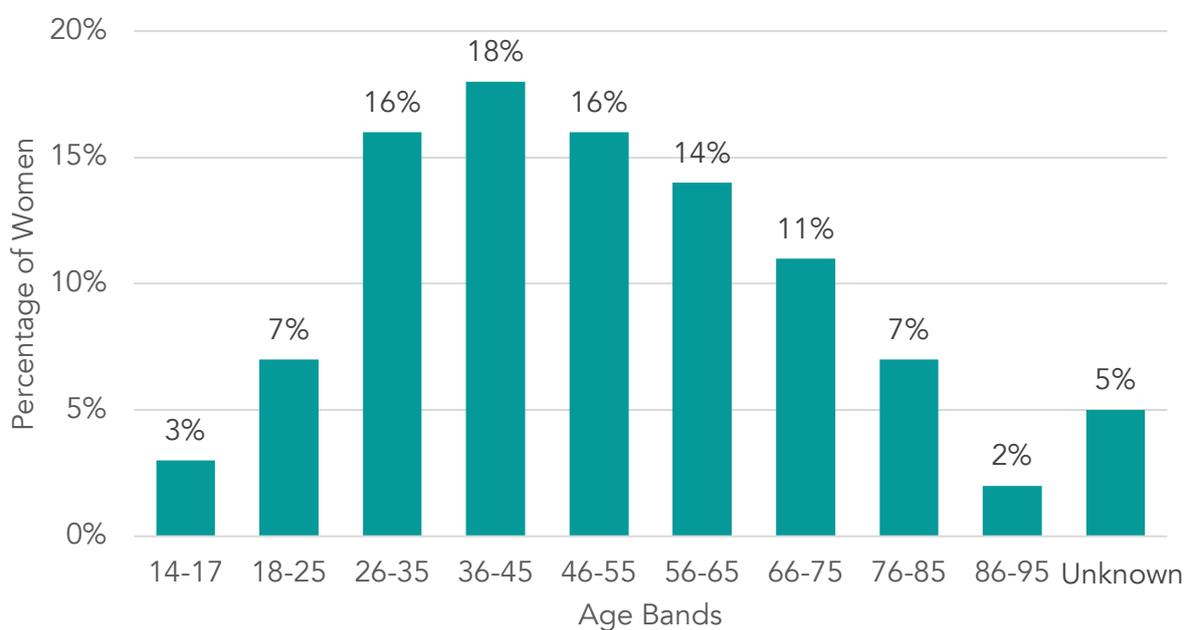
'Other' relates to a femicide in which the perpetrator took photos of the deceased victim and sent the pictures to her family group chat. Her sister, who lives in China, alerted relatives to check on the victim's welfare upon seeing the pictures<sup>9</sup>.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.guardian-series.co.uk/news/18690477.leyton-man-stabbed-wife-21-times-death-jailed/>

# Victims

## Age

Age band	No of victims	%
14–17	3	3%
18–25	8	7%
26–35	18	16%
36–45	20	18%
46–55	18	16%
56–65	15	14%
66–75	12	11%
76–85	8	7%
86–95	2	2%
Unknown <sup>10</sup>	6	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100%</b>



<sup>10</sup> Age of victims were not provided by some police FOIA requests.

## Women aged 66+

At least<sup>11</sup> twenty-two women aged 66 and over (20% of all victims) were killed by men in 2020. The oldest victim was 89-years old.

Relationship to perpetrator	Total	% of all victims
Relative – Mother	8	7%
Spouse	8	7%
Relative – Grandmother	2	2%
Acquaintance	1	1%
Acquaintance – Landlady	1	1%
Neighbour	1	1%
Stranger	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>20%</b>

## Country of birth, ethnicity and immigration status (where known)

### Country of birth

Country of birth	No. of victims
UK/believed to be UK	85
Unknown <sup>12</sup>	6
Poland	4
Pakistan	3
China	1
Germany	1
India	1
Lebanon	1
Lithuania	1
Malaysia	1
Nigeria	1
South Africa	1
Spain	1
Sweden	1
Yemen	1
South America <sup>13</sup>	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>

<sup>11</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Six 'unknowns' relate to FOI requests provided by West Yorkshire Police (n=3), Cumbria Police (n=2) and Dyfed Powys Police (n=1). The level of detail provided is sparse and despite further research we have been unable to match the information provided on these FOI requests to any information available in the public domain.

<sup>13</sup> Media reports indicate that this victim was born in South America; the actual country is not specified in any publicly available material and we are unable to provide detailed information on this category for this victim on country of birth.

## Ethnicity

Data on ethnicity has been collated from police FOIA requests. No information relating to race and ethnicity have been taken from media reports. There are significant gaps in the data relating to ethnicity.

Ethnicity	Number of victims
Data not provided	88
White (no further information provided)	7
White North European	7
Asian	5
White British	2
Asian – Pakistani	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>

## Children under 18 years

Yes	No	Unknown	Total
28 (25%)	67 (61%)	15 (14%)	110 (100%)

## Substance use

Substance use	Number
Substance Use\Alcohol	6
Substance Use\Illegal Drugs	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>

## Health and disabilities

These tables represent the number of health needs and disabilities amongst femicide victims. Some women had multiple needs.

Health issue	Number
Physical health	2
Mental health	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

Disability	Number
Chronic Disease (Terminal cancer n=1; Alzheimer's n=1)	2
Physical Impairment	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

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## Sexual Orientation

There are no femicides of women recorded as being lesbians or bisexual in 2020.

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## Prostitution and the sex industry

One woman was killed after a man refused to pay for sexual activities and drove off whilst she was hanging on to his van, causing her death. This man's plea of causing death by dangerous driving was accepted<sup>14</sup>. In another case, evidence presented at a trial indicated that one victim was involved in the sex industry through monetary exchanges with a so-called 'sugar daddy'. She was killed by her former partner<sup>15</sup>. Another woman was allegedly killed by her ex-partner and an acquaintance when she reportedly was performing a pole dance.

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## Occupation

Media reports do not always include reference to victims' employment / occupation; this is unknown in 40 per cent (n=44) of cases.

Occupation	Grand Total
Pensioner/Retired	20
Social Work/Healthcare/Charity	11
Student	5
Retail	4
Educator	3
Other	3
Professional	3
Arts/Literature/Music	2
Cleaner	2
Military	2
Volunteer	2
Childcare/Social Care	2
Administrator	1
Business Owner	1
Factory Worker	1
Hair/Beauty	1
Hospitality/Catering	1
Unemployed	1
Exploited through Prostitution	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>66</b>

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14 <https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/mum-4-who-died-after-22150461>

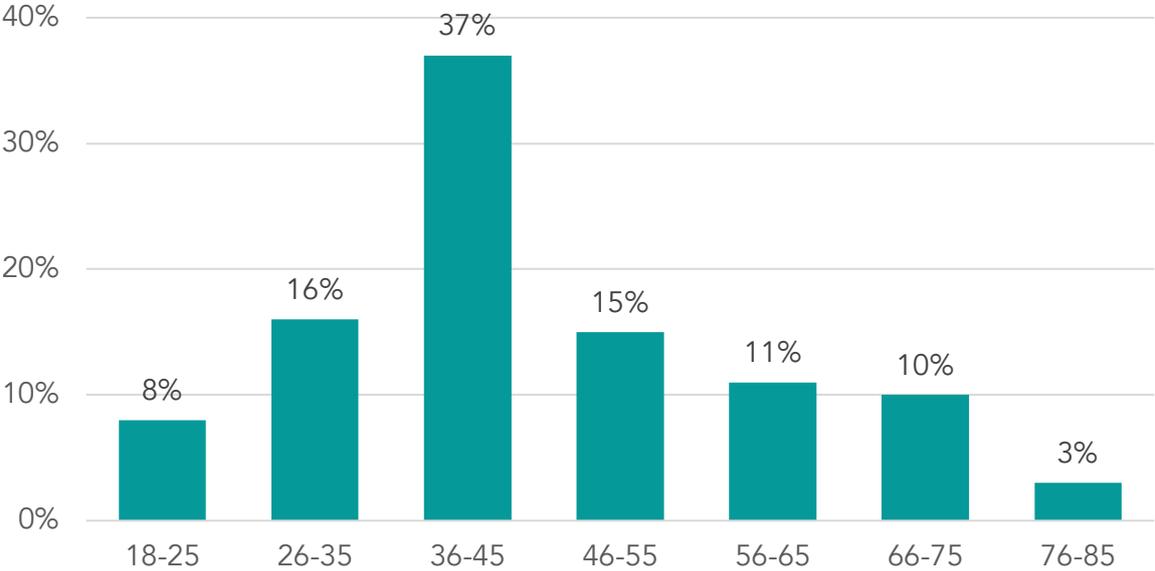
15 <https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/cagefighter-denies-obsession-ex-girlfriend-19345846>

# Perpetrators

The Femicide Census perpetrator data for 2020 relates to the 79 male perpetrators who have been found, or pleaded guilty to the killing of a woman, or who otherwise have been held responsible for the killing in the cases where the perpetrator died by suicide prior to conviction. Thirty-two men are still awaiting trial.

## Age

Age Bands	No. of perpetrators	%
18-25	6	8%
26-35	13	16%
36-45	29	37%
46-55	12	15%
56-65	9	11%
66-75	8	10%
76-85	2	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Country of Birth

Country of birth	No. of perpetrators
Believed to be UK	65
Poland	3
India	2
Pakistan	2
South Africa	2
China	1
Iraq	1
Italy	1
Malaysia	1
Nigeria	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>

## Substance use

Substance use	Number
Substance use	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

## Health and disabilities

Health issue	Number
Mental Health	12
Physical Health	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

Disability	Number
Mental Illness	10
Learning Impairment <sup>16</sup>	5
Asperger's / Autism	1
Chronic Disease	1
Physical Impairment	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

<sup>16</sup> Dementia (n=4), learning disability (n=1), brain injury (n=1)

## Sexual orientation

No men who killed women in 2020 have been identified as being gay or bisexual.

## History of violence against women

Forty-two perpetrators (53%) were known to have histories of abuse and violence against women.

History of abuse/violence against women	Total	% of all perpetrators
Yes – not reported	16	20%
Yes – police outcome unknown	10	13%
Yes – no action taken	8	10%
Yes – convicted	6	8%
Yes – not convicted / case dropped	2	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>53%</b>

## Use of pornography and the sex industry

Three perpetrators were known to use pornography and/or women in prostitution and the sex industry. This is likely a significant undercount.

## Online dating, social media, cyberstalking and IT

Five perpetrators are known to have utilised technologies as part of a pattern of abusive behaviour towards the victim and/or immediately before or after the femicide. For example, one woman was murdered by her spouse following her report to police that he had uploaded a naked picture of her to Instagram. In another case, a perpetrator sent a picture of the deceased victim’s body to an instant messaging service used by her father, sister and nieces.

# Criminal Justice Outcomes

## Criminal Justice Charges

Nine perpetrators killed themselves at the time of the offence and one perpetrator died in hospital of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head in the days after the femicide. Another perpetrator killed himself after the offence but before any charges were brought<sup>17</sup>. Thirty-two alleged perpetrators (29% of 111) are awaiting trial at the time of writing.

Criminal Justice Charge	Total	% of all perpetrators
Charged with Murder (including double <sup>18</sup> )	67	85%
Charged with Attempted Murder	8	10%
Charged with Possessing an Offensive Weapon	4	5%
Charged with Arson with Intent to Endanger Life	2	3%
Charged with Assault	1	1%
Charged with Manslaughter	1	1%
Charged with Perverting the Course of Justice	1	1%
Charged with Prevention of lawful burial	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>N/A</b>

<sup>17</sup> A verdict of unlawful killing of the victim and death as a result of suicide for the perpetrator has been returned by an inquest in eight cases. An inquest is yet to conclude in the remaining three cases (two of these relate to the deaths of female victims, their children and the perpetrators).

<sup>18</sup> n=6

## Pleas

Plea	Total	% of all perpetrators
Not Guilty to Murder	26	33%
Guilty to Murder	16	20%
Guilty to Manslaughter on Grounds of Diminished Responsibility	11	14%
Other – Deceased	13	16%
Guilty to Manslaughter	10	13%
Unfit to Plea	2	3%
Guilty to Causing Death by Dangerous Driving	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Arguments put forward in lines of defence

Defences are not always detailed in media reports and some perpetrators may draw on more than one of the defence categories to form a defence.

Perpetrator Defence	Total
Mental health / diminished responsibility	17
Blaming third party/ies	12
Accident	6
Loss of control (as partial defence)	4
Memory loss (re crime)	3
Blaming the victim	2
Couldn't cope	1
Mercy killing	1
Other <sup>19</sup>	1
Self-defence	1
Unknown <sup>20</sup>	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>

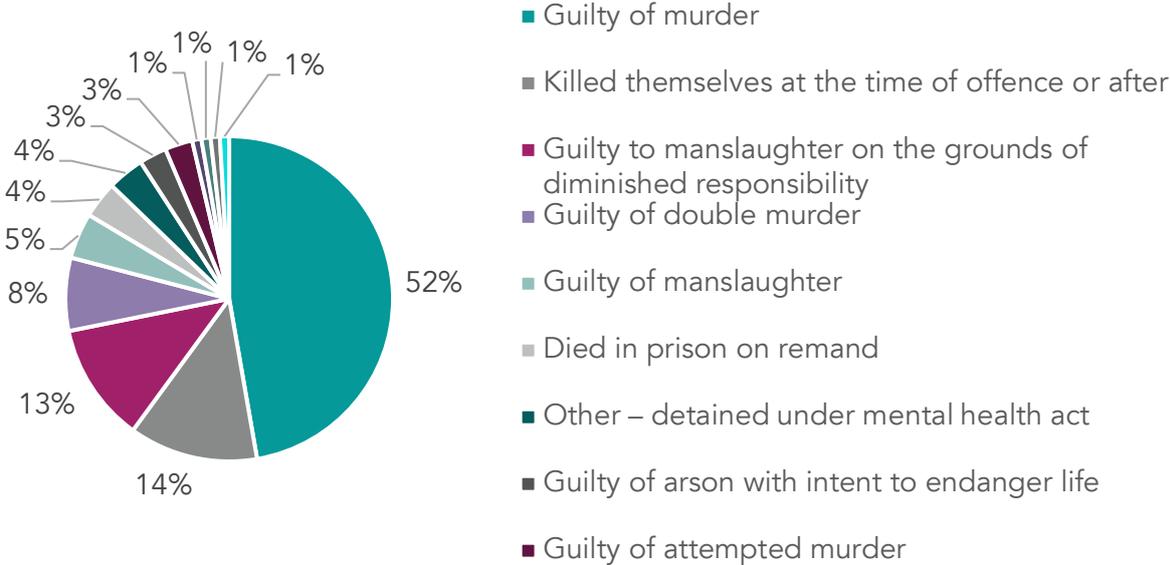
Cases where perpetrators have been found unfit to plea are not included. Fourteen perpetrators are deceased, one of these men entered a not guilty plea to the charge of murder but died before a trial. Where the perpetrators pleaded guilty and the plea was accepted, these cases did not have defences.

<sup>19</sup> The perpetrator claimed that the victim, whose body has never been found, was still alive. He was found guilty of murder and sentenced to 32 years imprisonment.

<sup>20</sup> The perpetrator was found guilty of murder at trial and sentenced to 20 years, however, we cannot establish the defence in this case.

### Criminal Justice Outcome

Fifty-nine per cent (n=47) of perpetrators were found guilty of murder or double murder; five per cent of perpetrators were found guilty of manslaughter (n=4) and 13 per cent of perpetrators were found guilty of manslaughter by diminished responsibility (n=10).



Below is a more detailed breakdown of each charge (where applicable) and the criminal justice outcome.

Criminal Justice Outcome	Total	% of all perpetrators
Guilty of murder	41	52%
Killed themselves at the time of offence or after	11	14%
Guilty to manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility	10	13%
Guilty of double murder	6	8%
Guilty of manslaughter	4	5%
Died in prison on remand	3	4%
Other – detained under mental health act	3	4%
Guilty of arson with intent to endanger life	2	3%
Guilty of attempted murder	2	3%
Guilty of perverting the course of justice	1	1%
Guilty of preventing lawful burial	1	1%
Guilty of possessing an offensive weapon	1	1%
Guilty of causing death by dangerous driving	1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>N/A</b>

## Sentencing

Forty-seven of 48 perpetrators found guilty of murder (n=41) or double murder (n=6) have been sentenced, sentencing in one case is outstanding. Minimum tariffs range from six to 36 years.

### Guilty of murder

Life sentence: min. tariff	Number of perpetrators
6 Years	1 <sup>21</sup>
13 Years	1
16.5 Years	1
17 Years	4
18 Years	4
18.5 Years	1
19 Years	4
20 Years	4
22 Years	2
23 Years	1
25 Years	1
26 Years	1
27 Years	1
28 Years	4
30 Years	2
32 Years	4
33 Years	1
34 Years	2
35 Years	1
Awaiting Sentence	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>

21 The perpetrator defence in this case was 'mercy killing'. He was divorced from the victim, who had been diagnosed with terminal cancer, and he neither lived with or had any part in her care. The victim was receiving end-of-life care, at her home. The perpetrator smothered the victim after asking their adult children if he could spend some time alone with her  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-53779504>

## Guilty of double murder

Life sentence: min. tariff	Number of perpetrators
30 Years	1
31 Years	1
34 Years	2
35 Years	1
36 Years	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>

## Guilty of manslaughter

All perpetrators found guilty of manslaughter (n=4) have been sentenced.

Prison sentence	No. of perpetrators
6 years	2
10 years	1
13.5 years	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>

## Guilty of manslaughter – diminished responsibility

Of the perpetrators found guilty of manslaughter by diminished responsibility (n=10), one perpetrator was sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum tariff of 12 years<sup>22</sup>.

Prison Sentence	No. of perpetrators
5 Years	1
6.5 Years	1
8 Years	1
9 Years	1
12 years	1
Detained Under the Mental Health Act	1
Indefinite Hospital Order	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

## Guilty of Death by Dangerous Driving

Prison sentence	No. of perpetrators
4.5 years	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>

There are three perpetrators where their criminal justice outcome was 'Other – Detained under Mental Health Act'. Their sentences were either 'detained under Mental Health Act', 'Indefinite Hospital Order' and one case was unknown.

<sup>22</sup> <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-59250108>

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