DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITIES

January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2019

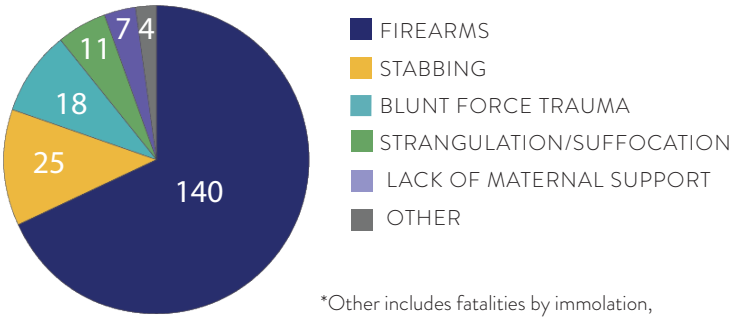
205 FATALITIES
resulting from **147 INCIDENTS.**

The Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) and the Indiana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (INDVFRT) want to provide some brief insight into the deaths related to intimate partner violence for the given time period. The intent of this brief summary report is to adjust this committee's timelines to be more current while honoring the experiences and stories of those who died as a result of intimate partner violence and those who live on without them. The authors acknowledge that this information represents only those deaths which are identified and known, and we acknowledge that there are more losses that are not known to us. We also encourage the reader to use this information with compassion. As a part of the data collection for our Re-Centering Report (http://icadvinc.org/movement) survivors of intimate partner violence told us that they find messaging of domestic violence death statistics triggering and harmful to their healing process. The INDVFRT works to balance our responsibility to learn from the tragic situations reflected in this report in order to prevent similar incidents in the future with our dedication to respecting the needs of survivors as they live their lives. Statistically, fatal incidents are outliers, a tragic but small piece of the puzzle. When we link domestic violence directly with deadly incidents, we are minimizing what a majority of survivors are experiencing on a daily basis.

GENDER OF DECEDENT

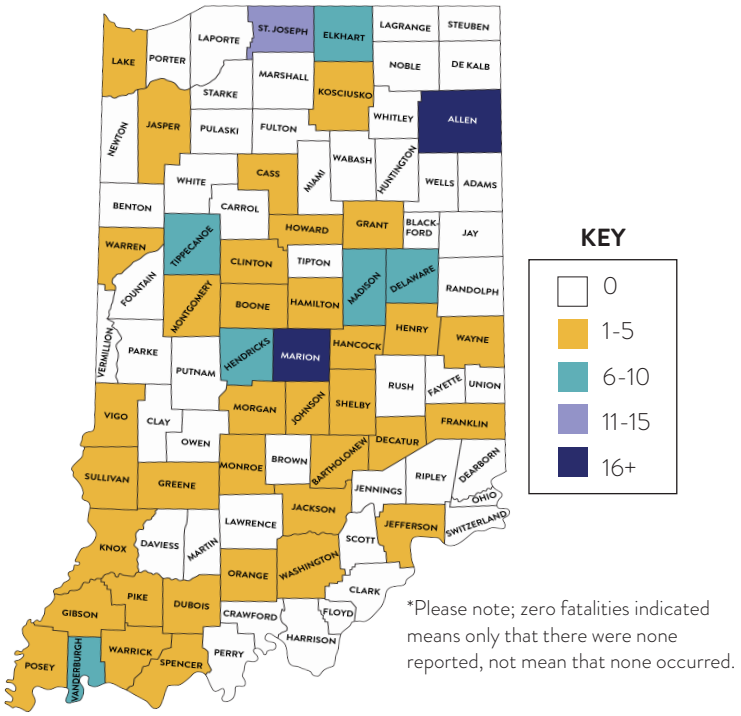
*Please note, the gender reported is based on publicly available sources and typically corresponds to the gender assigned at birth, not necessarily the gender identity each person may have been expressing at the time of their death.

MANNER OF FATAL INJURY



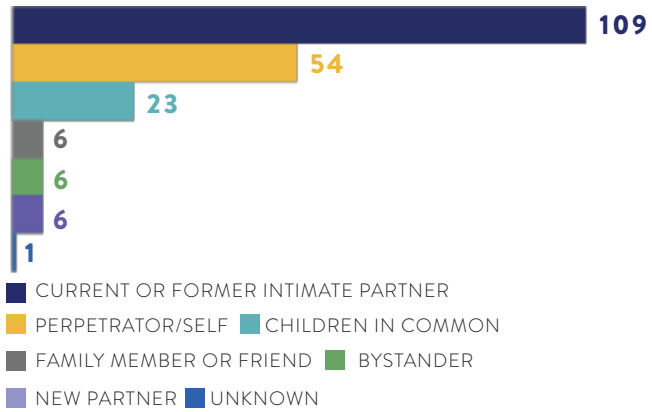
*Other includes fatalities by immolation, smoke inhalation, burns, and cardiac arrest.

FATALITIES BY COUNTY



*Please note; zero fatalities indicated means only that there were none reported, not mean that none occurred.

RELATIONSHIP OF DECEDENT TO PERPETRATOR



TYPE OF FATAL INCIDENT

SINGLE FATALITY
(Incident where a single individual was killed.)

HOMICIDE/SUICIDE
(Incident where abusive partner killed victim and /or others before dying by suicide.)

MULTIPLE HOMICIDE/SUICIDE
(Incident where two or more individuals were killed and includes the abusive partner dying by suicide.)

MULTIPLE FATALITY
(Incident where two or more individuals were killed, that does not include the abusive partner dying by suicide.)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FATALITIES

January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2019

Challenges Faced & Lessons Learned

A primary goal of this process is to identify and strategize the systemic challenges to eliminating the violence that is the root cause of these deaths. A primary challenge facing our team, and our communities as a whole, is the disparate data tracking and gathering methods used to identify these fatalities. The INDVFRT continues to work diligently to reconcile the cases we identify with the data reported from other sources. It should be noted that the disparity does not at all point to inaccuracy or misinformation. It simply means that two (or more) groups looking at similar case-types can use different means to identify, obtain, and evaluate information which can result in similar but slightly different data sets. The INDVFRT also expresses our profound gratitude to our fellow review teams for their diligence and dedication to their specific missions. We know how hard this work is, and we are so grateful to be sharing the mission of eliminating deaths by understanding their circumstances with you. The INDVFRT will continue our efforts to streamline and strengthen the systems that gather and provide data to better understand these deaths.

The INDVFRT continues to vigorously exercise the most critical lesson the last few years have taught us; refining our practice. As we work together as a team, as we conduct more complete reviews, as we engage more directly with the full stories of the lives lost, we better understand the questions to ask and the experiences to examine to gain insight into preventing the worst-case outcome. A part of INDVFRT's ongoing evaluation of our work resulted in the creation of Mission and Guiding Principles statements to help guide our work and provide structure to our process. In January 2023, the INDVFRT drafted and approved the following Mission & Guiding Principles to help us center the most important voices of the work that we do.

INDVFRT Mission; The Indiana Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (INDVFRT) works to prevent deaths related to intimate partner violence by engaging in a systematic multi-disciplinary review of past ipv-related fatalities or near-fatalities to identify systemic barriers or gaps, and by making recommendations for systems and social change.

INDVFRT Guiding Principles;

- **No Blame, No Shame**~ The Team's purpose is not to blame or shame any individual, agency or organization for actions taken or untaken. Our goal is to improve understanding of and thus the response to intimate partner violence to prevent future tragedies.
- **Honor the victim(s) and their loved ones~** Reviews center the experiences of the person or persons lost to an act of violence and the people they leave behind.
- **Conduct reviews with compassion and empathy~** The review process will not traumatize or retraumatize.
- **Commitment to confidentiality~** Review and discussion of any cases reviewed ends when the review meeting is adjourned.
- **Recommendations rooted in systems change~** Prevention of intimate partner violence and ipv-related fatality happens when we create a world where violence of any kind is no longer a choice.
- **Professionalism and mutual support~** This work is a team lift.