

People's Health

Outcomes • Planning • Evaluation



Know the Facts: Homicide

DID YOU KNOW?

- There are 2 million emergency department visits for assault injury each year in the United States.
- During 2013, there were 12,253 homicide deaths in the United States, and 8,454 of them were by firearm.
- The U.S. homicide rate declined by nearly half (49%), from 9.3 homicides per 100,000 U.S. residents in 1992 to 4.7 in 2011, falling to the lowest level since 1963. From 2002 to 2011, the average homicide rate for males was 3.6 times higher than the rate for females. The average homicide rate for blacks was 6.3 times higher than the rate for whites.
- The number of homicides in California decreased from 2,505 in 2005 to 1,745 in 2013.
- Most of the victims of assault injury and death are young people, with one-third of deaths occurring in people younger than 25.

WHERE WE WERE (BASELINE):

During 1999-2001, there were 4.4 homicides per 100,000 people in Shasta County. (3-year average annual age-adjusted rate)

WHERE WE ARE:

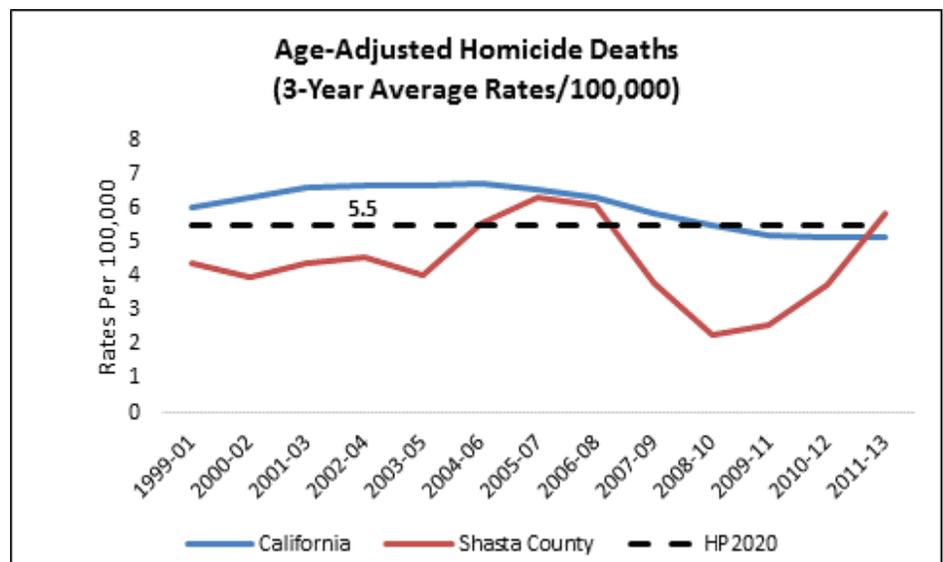
During 2011-2013, there were 5.9 homicides per 100,000 people in Shasta County. (3-year average annual age-adjusted rate)

WHERE WE ARE AIMING (HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020):

Reduce homicides to 5.5 per 100,000 population.

DEFINITION:

Number of homicides and homicide rate (age-adjusted deaths per 100,000 population) for Shasta County residents. This homicide definition includes all fatal injuries purposely inflicted by other persons, excluding legal intervention by law enforcement agents; ICD-10 codes U01-U02, X85-Y09, and Y87.1.

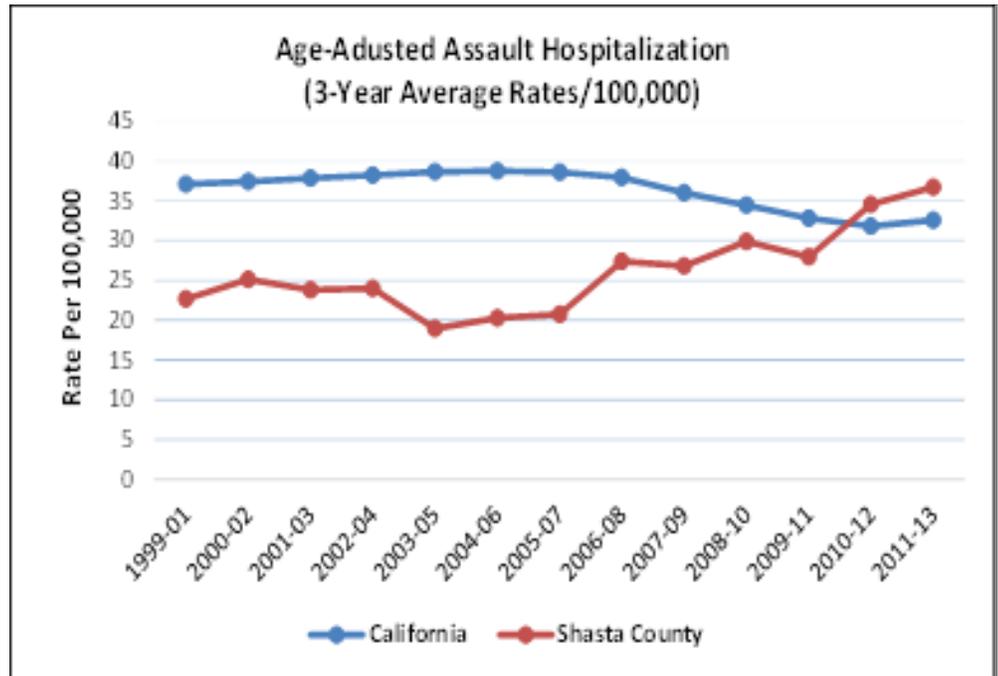


Contributing Staff: Ali Abadi and Stephanie Taylor. Last updated May 2016

Find more health information at www.shastahhsa.net. Click on "Health and Safety," then "Current Health Concerns." Questions? Email shastahealthdata@co.shasta.ca.us

KEY POINTS:

- In 2013, California had a rate of 4.6 homicides per 100,000 population. The lowest rate was 1.5 (North Dakota) and the highest was 9.7 (Louisiana).
- Homicide death rates in California and Shasta County were both below the Healthy People 2020 target during recent years.
- While the homicide rate in California has been smoothly decreasing during recent years, the rate for Shasta County showed a decline during 2008-2011, followed by a sharp rise during 2011 and 2012.



PRIMARY PREVENTION ACTIVITIES:

- Provide alternatives to gang involvement and other criminal behavior, while expanding and increasing employment opportunities and conflict resolution skills.
- Address problem alcohol drinking, such as binge drinking, as 47% of homicides in California can be attributed to medium and high average daily consumption of alcohol.
- Provide violence prevention programs in schools.
- Monitor and encourage limits to the portrayal of violence by the media and entertainment industries.
- Empower youth through programs that build social confidence without use of drugs and alcohol.
- Prevent family violence through public awareness, counseling services, availability of women's services, and effective intervention by law enforcement.

From the Desk of Andrew Deckert, MD, MPH

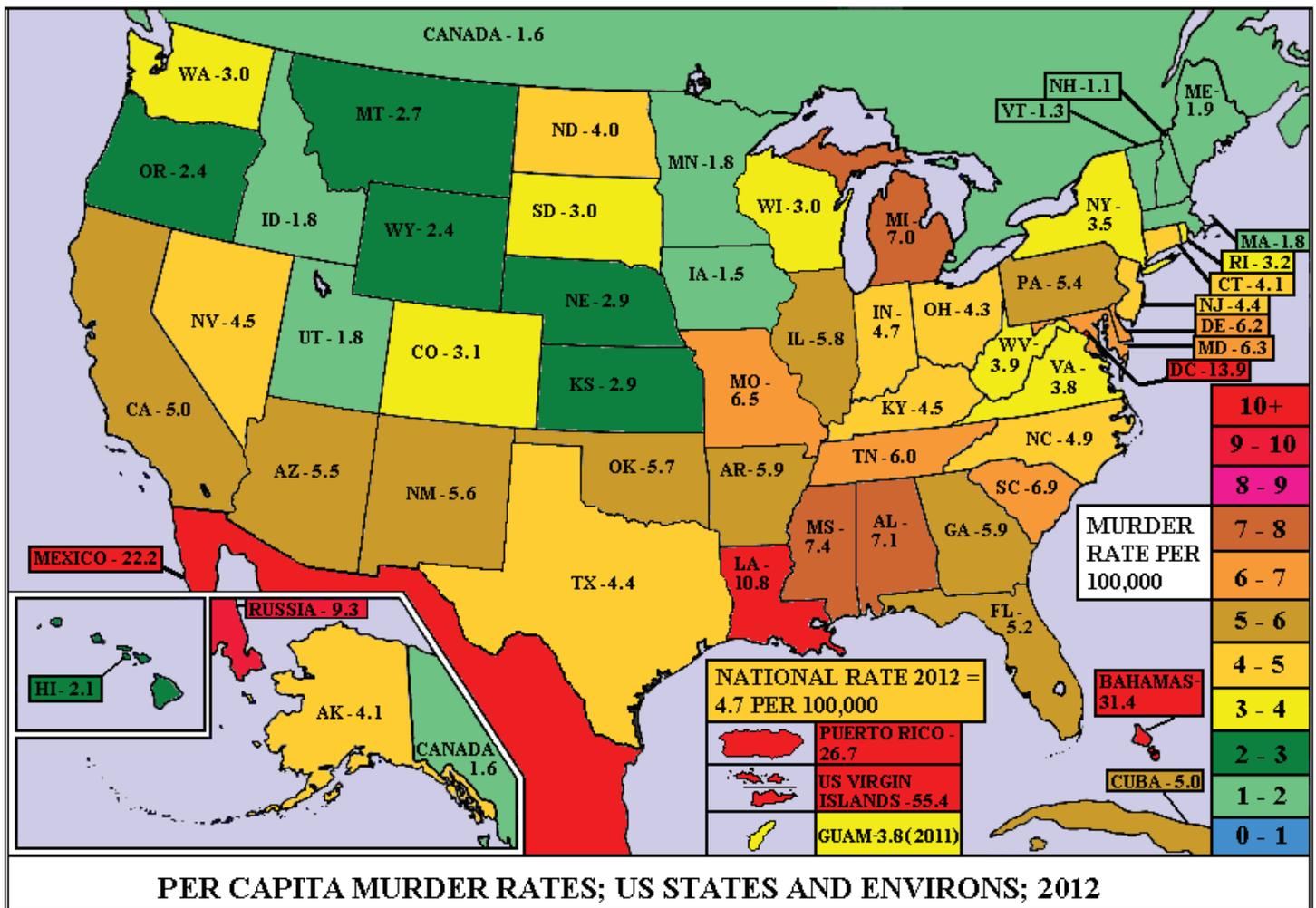
*Shasta County
Public Health Officer*



Most people involved in criminal assault are young people. More than half of homicide victims are in the 15-35 year age group and more than three-quarters are younger than 45. With about 2 million emergency room visits and thousands of hospitalizations each year, this puts a significant burden on health care services and it threatens the safety of a community.

Proper education, social support, addressing the association of criminal acts with alcohol and drug use by young people, and intervention by law enforcement can help reduce the morbidity and mortality due to assault.

To your health!



Source:

<http://www.city-data.com/forum/city-vs-city/1956994-map-us-states-murder-rate-2012-a.html>