

<http://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2004.pdf>

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VIOLENCE POLICY CENTER RELEASES ANNUAL REPORT “WHEN MEN MURDER WOMEN: AN ANALYSIS OF 2002 HOMICIDE DATA”

*Study, Released for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, Ranks Alaska #1
in Rate of Women Murdered by Men*

WASHINGTON, DC – The Violence Policy Center (VPC) today released “When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2002 Homicide Data.” This annual report, which details national and state-by-state information on female homicides involving one female murder victim and one male offender, illustrates the unique role firearms play in female homicide. The study is being released to coincide with Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October.

In 2002, the most recent data available from the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s unpublished Supplementary Homicide Report, firearms were the most common weapon used by males to murder females (928 of 1,733 or 54 percent). Of these, 73 percent (679 of 928) were committed with handguns. Alaska ranks first in the nation in the rate of women killed by men with a rate 4.84 per 100,000. Ranked behind Alaska are: Louisiana (2.91 per 100,000), New Mexico (2.66 per 100,000), Nevada (2.54 per 100,000), Wyoming (2.42 per 100,000), South Carolina (2.32 per 100,000), Tennessee (2.26 per 100,000), Delaware (2.17 per 100,000), North Carolina (2.08 per 100,000), and Alabama (1.82 per 100,000). Nationally, the rate was 1.37 per 100,000. For a chart with each state’s ranking, number of female homicides, and female homicide rate per 100,000, please visit <http://www.vpc.org/press/0409wmmw.htm>.

Study author Marty Langley states, “These numbers should serve as a wake-up call to the states with the highest rates of female homicide. In identifying solutions to domestic violence, the role firearms play must be addressed.”

The Violence Policy Center is a national educational organization working to stop gun death and injury in America. For more information, please visit www.vpc.org.

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