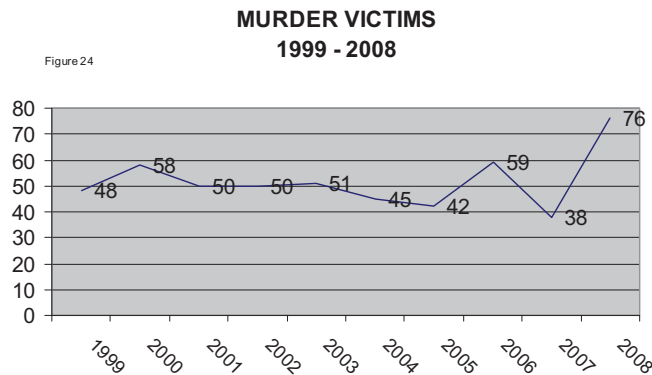


MURDER

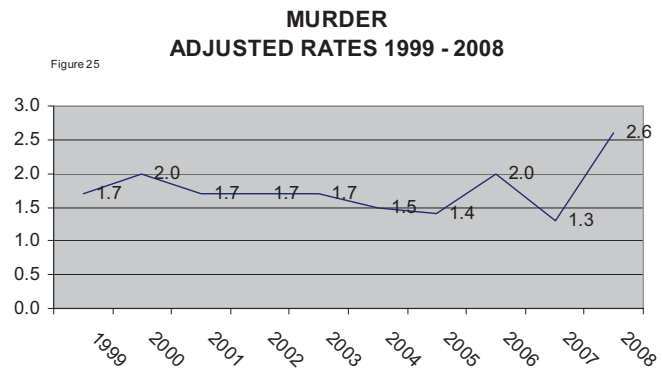
“The willful killing of one human being by another.” (Does not include Negligent Manslaughter or Justifiable Homicide)

2008 MURDER	
Number of Victims	76
Adjusted Rate	2.8
Number of Incidents	68
Number of Offenders	79



There were 76 murders reported in 2008, which is the second highest number since the Department became the repository for crime data in 1974. The only higher reported number was in 1981 when there were 77 recorded murders. The number of murders doubled from 2007 when only 38 murders were reported. The 38 murders recorded in 2007 was an all time low since 1974. It is difficult to

identify a trend in murders because of the relatively small numbers involved. However, murders generally increased from 1992 (44) to a period peak in 1996 (66) and 1998 (66) before declining substantially in 1999 (48). During the last decade the number of murders peaked slightly in 2000 (58) followed by a relatively constant number from 2001 through 2003. The number of murder victims declined in 2004 (45) and again in 2005 (42) before increasing in 2006 (59).



Murder rates per 100,000 population for the years 1999 – 2008 are displayed in Figure 25. They follow a similar pattern to the number of victims displayed in Figure 24, but vary slightly depending on the population changes.

NOTE: Since statewide crime reporting was instituted, supplemental homicide reports have been submitted by law enforcement agencies to the Iowa Department of Public Safety. These reports contained more detailed homicide information than was required by the summary based crime reporting system. Since the inception of the incident-based system in 1991, supplemental homicide reports have been requested (when applicable) of law enforcement agencies that have not been able to report to the incident-based system.

VICTIMS

Who were they...

MURDER: AGES OF VICTIMS
IOWA, 2008

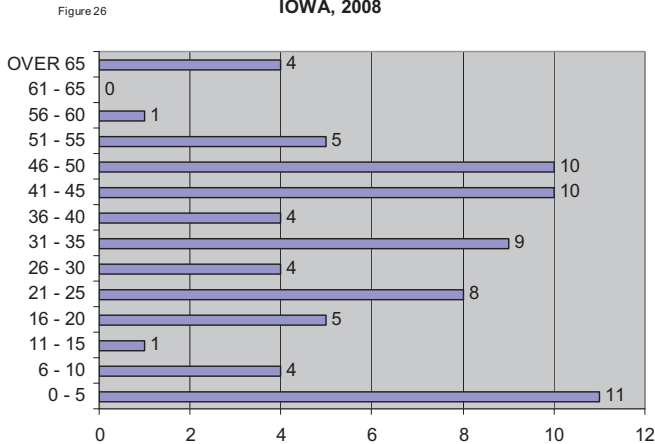


Figure 26 shows the ages of the 76 murder victims during 2008. The age category 0 - 5 accounted for the highest number of victims (11), which is 14.5% of the total number of victims. This is an increase from 2007 in which only 5% of the victims were aged 5 and under. By comparison the percentage logged in other years is as follows: 7% in 2006, 14% in 2005, 7% in 2004, and 16% in 2003. Two age categories recorded the next highest number of victims (10): 41 - 45 and 46 - 50.

The age group 46 - 50 recorded the largest victim increase with no victims recorded in 2007, but ten victims recorded in 2008.

Victims over the age of 50 decreased in 2008 accounting for 13.2% of the total number of victims compared to 23.6% recorded in 2007.

Year	Female	%	Male	%	Total
1999	16	33	32	67	48
2000	20	34	38	66	58
2001	21	42	29	58	50
2002	18	36	32	64	50
2003	22	43	29	57	51
2004	16	36	29	64	45
2005	20	48	22	52	42
2006	29	49	30	51	59
2007	12	32	26	68	38
2008	30	39	46	61	76

MURDER: GENDER OF VICTIMS
IOWA, 2008

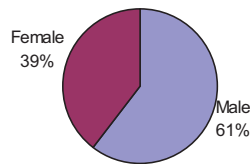


Figure 27

Males were the victim of homicide most often over the last decade. In 1998, the victim's gender was evenly distributed, but all other years in the past decade show a higher percentage of male victims. In 1993 (not shown), female victims accounted for 53% of the total. In 2008, males accounted for 61% of the total number of victims, which is a decrease from the decade high set in 2007.

Table 10 RACE OF VICTIMS											
YEAR	ASIAN		AFRICAN AM.		NATIVE AM.		WHITE		UNKNOWN		TOTAL
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
1999	3	6%	8	17%	1	2%	36	75%	0	0%	48
2000	3	5%	10	17%	0	0%	45	78%	0	0%	58
2001	2	4%	5	10%	0	0%	43	86%	0	0%	50
2002	1	2%	11	22%	1	2%	37	74%	0	0%	50
2003	0	0%	9	18%	1	2%	41	80%	0	0%	51
2004	1	2%	9	20%	0	0%	35	78%	0	0%	45
2005	0	0%	8	19%	0	0%	32	76%	2	5%	42
2006	0	0%	6	10%	0	0%	53	90%	0	0%	59
2007	0	0%	13	34%	0	0%	25	66%	0	0%	38
2008	5	7%	18	24%	1	1%	49	64%	3	4%	76

**MURDER: RACE OF VICTIMS
IOWA, 2008**

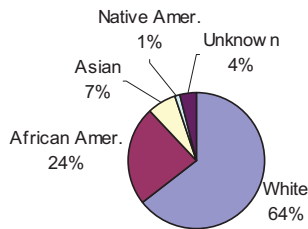


Figure 28

In 2006, African American murder victims accounted for 10% of the total, the same percentage recorded in 2001, which is the lowest percentage recorded since 1991 when the request for supplemental homicide reports for the incident-based system began. In 2007, the percentage spiked to 34%, which is the highest percentage recorded. The percentage decreased to 24% in 2008. White victims accounted for 64%, which is the lowest percentage recorded for the decade. Asian victims recorded a decade high 7% in 2008. Four of the five Asian victims were children in the same family and were killed in the same incident.

There were six reported Hispanic murder victims in 2008, which is 8% of the total number of victims for the year. The six Hispanic victims are recorded under White for their race.

**MURDER: HISPANIC VICTIMS
1999 - 2008**

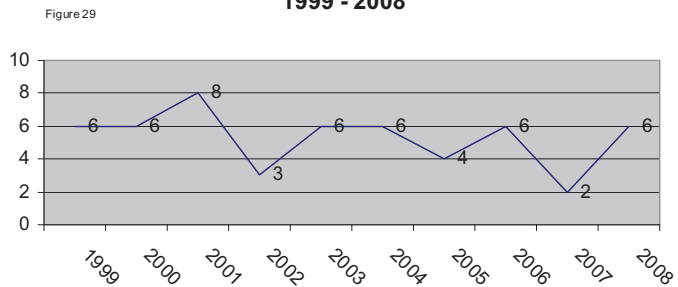
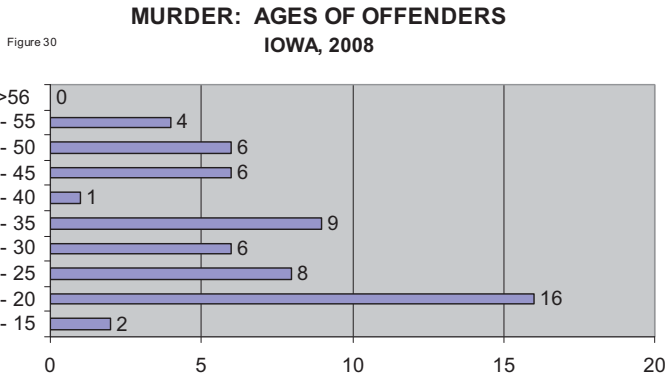


Figure 29

OFFENDERS

2008 OFFENDERS	
Number of Offenders	79
Number of Arrests	58



There are 79 known offenders, who participated in the murder of the 76 victims in 2008. Among those 79 offenders there were 58 arrests recorded. In some cases supplemental information was not received on the arrest of offenders, so it is possible that not all arrest information was recorded.

In 2008, 16 of the 58 arrested offenders were in the age category 16 – 20, which is 27.5% of the total. Fifty-two percent of the offenders were between ages 16 and 30. Over the last decade offenders between the ages of 16 and 30 have been the most reported group. Specifically, the offenders in this age range were reported 66% of the time in 2007, 57% in 2006, 65% in 2004, 58% in 2003, 71% in 2002, 55% in 2001, 60% in 2000, 49% in 1999, and 65% in 1998. The only exception is in 2005 when 52% of the known offenders were recorded between the ages of 21 and 35.

Table 11 GENDER OF OFFENDERS

Year	Female	%	Male	%	Total
1999	5	13	34	87	39
2000	9	14	53	86	62
2001	12	25	35	75	47
2002	10	15	56	85	66
2003	8	13	52	87	60
2004	4	7	51	93	55
2005	10	19	44	81	54
2006	3	5	53	95	56
2007	7	20	28	80	35
2008	9	16	49	84	58

MURDER: GENDER OF OFFENDERS
IOWA, 2008

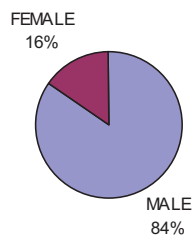


Figure 31

In 2008, female offenders accounted for 16% of the total number. The lowest percentage of female offenders was recorded in 1993 when females accounted for 4%. The highest percentage of female offenders was recorded in 2001 (25%). Males continue to account for the majority of murder offenders.

YEAR	ASIAN		AFRICAN AM.		NATIVE AM.		WHITE		UNKNOWN		TOTAL
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
1999	3	8%	5	13%	2	5%	29	74%	0	0%	39
2000	1	2%	12	20%	0	0%	49	79%	0	0%	62
2001	2	4%	10	21%	0	0%	35	75%	0	0%	47
2002	0	0%	25	38%	1	2%	39	59%	1	2%	66
2003	0	0%	16	27%	3	5%	41	68%	0	0%	60
2004	1	2%	23	42%	1	2%	30	55%	0	0%	55
2005	0	0%	15	28%	0	0%	33	61%	6	11%	54
2006	0	0%	8	14%	0	0%	48	86%	0	0%	56
2007	0	0%	16	46%	1	3%	18	51%	0	0%	35
2008	1	2%	19	33%	0	0%	37	63%	1	2%	58

**MURDER: RACE OF OFFENDERS
IOWA, 2008**

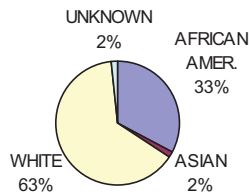


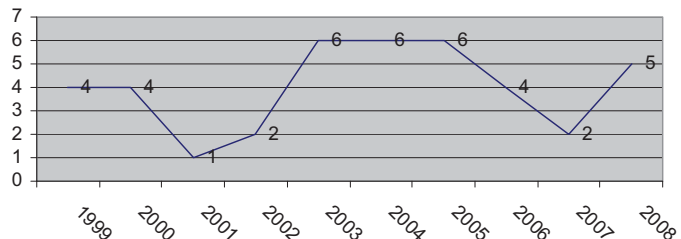
Figure 32

Following a marked decrease from 2006 to 2007, White offenders increased to 63% of the total number of offenders in 2008. The percentage of African American offenders decreased to 33% after having set a decade high 46% in 2007. In 2008, Asian persons and an offender of an unknown race each accounted for 2% of the total.

In 2008, five of the white offenders were identified as being Hispanic. Hispanic offenders accounted for 6.6% of the total in 2008, which is an increase from the 5.3% reported in 2007.

**MURDER: HISPANIC OFFENDERS
1999 - 2008**

Figure 33



JUVENILES INVOLVED IN HOMICIDE

In 2008, the highest number of juvenile victims was recorded for the decade with 17 reported juvenile victims. Fifteen of the seventeen child victims were killed by their parent, parents significant other and/or guardian. The decade low was recorded in 2007 with only three juvenile victims. In 2008, 11 of the juvenile victims were aged five and under. The year also recorded two juvenile offenders including 15 year old and 13 year males. The decade high for juvenile offenders was in 2002 with nine young persons involved in the commission of a murder: one 15 year old, four 16 year olds, and four 17 year olds.

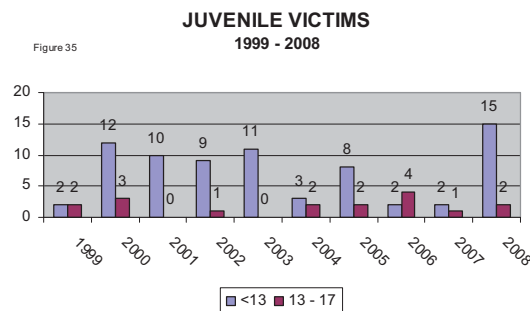
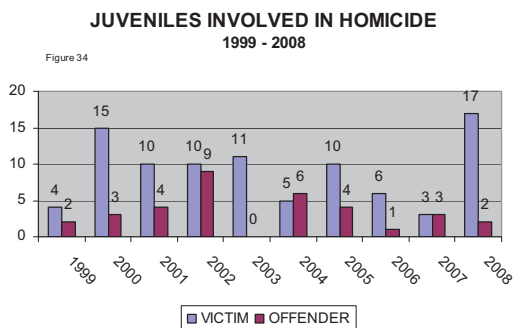


Table 13

JUVENILES INVOLVED IN HOMICIDE
BY AGE, 1999 - 2008

YEAR	1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
TOTAL HOM.	48		58		50		50		51		45		45		59		38		76	
JUV. HOM.	4	2	15	3	10	4	10	9	11	0	5	6	10	4	6	1	3	3	17	2
AGE	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF	VIC	OFF
0-5	2		11		4		6		8		3		6		2		2		11	
6					2		2		1				1							
7																				
8					1				1											2
9					1		1		1											
10																				2
11			1		1															
12					1															
13		1	1										1		1					1
14														2	1					
15	1	1		1				1							1			1	2	1
16	1		1					4				5		1		1	1	1		
17			1	2		4	1	4			2	1	1	1	1			1		
UNK																				

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN VICTIM AND OFFENDER

MURDER: RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VICTIMS AND OFFENDERS
IOWA, 2008

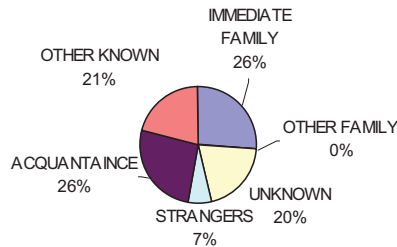


Figure 36

No victim/offender relationship was identified in eight of the cases due to no known offender being recorded. Several of the incidents also had more than one offender listed. There were 76 victim/offender relationships identified, 26% of which were recorded as Acquaintance. Child/Step-Child was the second accounted for the second highest number of identified relationships at 14.5%. Offenders identified as Immediate Family accounted for 26% of the total relationships. This category peaked in 1998 accounting for 35% of the total.

Table 14 RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIM TO OFFENDER										
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Spouse	4	5	5	6	2	2	1	5	2	7
CL Spouse		3	4			1	1			
Parent/Step		1		2	3	1		5	2	1
Sibling/Step						3	2	4	1	1
Child/Step	4	9	4	6	7	2	5	3	1	11
Oth Fam	2		1	1	2	2	1			
Sub	10	18	14	15	14	11	10	17	6	20
Acquaintance	7	12	20	14	10	8	3	14	14	20
Friend	1	4		1	2	1	1	2		1
Neighbor					2			2	1	1
Babysittee/er		1			1				1	
B/G Friend	1	2	0	5	5	3	6	7	7	6
Child of B/G Fr		1		1	1			1		2
Oth Known	4	1	2	1	3	3	10	6		5
Homosexual										
X Spouse	1	2	1				1	2		1
Employer/ee					1					
Sub	14	23	23	22	25	15	21	34	23	36
Stranger	2	9	4	5	3	4	3	3	4	5
Unk	21	8	9	8	9	15	8	10	5	15
Sub	24	17	13	13	12	19	11	13	9	20
Total	48	58	50	50	51	45	42	64	38	76

MURDER CIRCUMSTANCES

**MURDER CIRCUMSTANCES
NUMBER OF VICTIMS/OFFENDERS
IOWA, 2008**

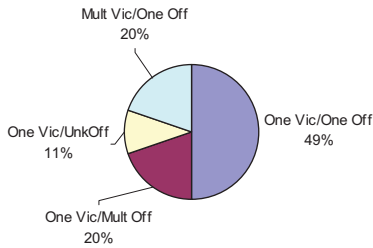


Figure 37

Figure 37 shows the 2008 murder situations broken down by number of victims and offenders for each incident. One victim/one offender accounted for 49% of the situations, which is a decrease from the 71% reported in 2007. Fifteen victims were recorded in incidents where there was either multiple victims/one offender or one victim/multiple offenders. Domestic/child abuse related circumstances were recorded in all of the incidents where multiple victims were killed by one perpetrator. A relationship was identified in 89% of the cases.

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
One Vic/One Off	22	36	25	31	31	26	19	34	25	38
One Vic/Mult Off	6	7	9	10	7	8	12	7	2	15
One Vic/UnkOff	12	4	6	1	5	5	3	3	5	8
Mult Vic/One Off	3	3	2	3	3	2	4	4	3	15
Mult Vic/Mult Off	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
Mult Vic/Unk Off	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	44	51	43	46	47	42	38	49	35	76

**MURDER CIRCUMSTANCES
IOWA, 2008**

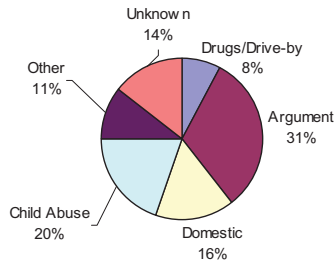


Figure 38

Escalating arguments accounted for 31% (24 of 76) of the murder circumstances in 2008. Child abuse murders accounted for the second highest percentage (20%) with 15 reported incidents. The previous decade high for child abuse murders was in 2000 when 19.2% of the victims were due to child abuse. In 2008, domestic murders accounted for 16% (12 of 76).

MURDER WEAPONS

**MURDER WEAPONS
IOWA, 2008**

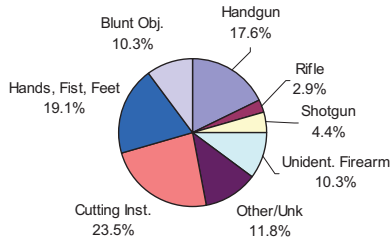


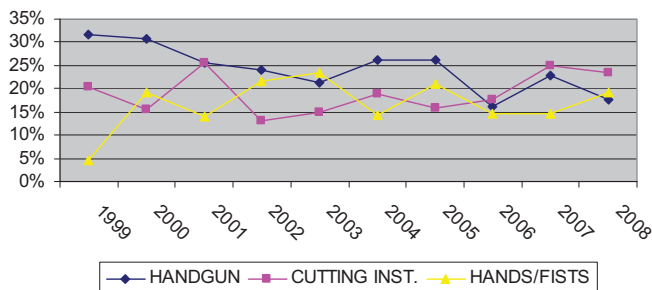
Figure 39

The combined Firearm category accounted for 35.3% of weapons used during the commission of a murder. Handguns (12 of 24) were the most used firearm. Knives or Cutting Instruments accounted for 23.5% (16 of 68) of the total, which was the most often used weapon. Handguns were used more often than Cutting Instruments in 2003 to 2005, but Cutting Instruments have surpassed Handguns for the past three years.

	2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Handgun	11	26.2	10	26.3	11	16.2	11	22.9	12	17.6
Rifle	1	2.4	1	2.6	2	2.9	2	4.2	2	2.9
Shotgun	3	7.1	2	5.3	7	10.3	0	0.0	3	4.4
Unident. Firearm	6	14.3	5	13.2	9	13.2	5	10.4	7	10.3
<i>Firearm Total</i>	21	50.0	18	47.4	29	42.6	18	37.5	24	35.3
Cutting Inst.	8	19.0	6	15.8	12	17.6	12	25.0	16	23.5
Hands, Fist, Feet	6	14.3	8	21.1	10	14.7	7	14.6	13	19.1
Blunt Obj.	2	4.8	3	7.9	1	1.5	1	2.1	7	10.3
Arson	0	0.0	1	2.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Other/Unk	5	11.9	2	5.3	16	23.5	10	20.8	8	11.8
TOTAL	42		38		68		48		68	

**MURDER WEAPON COMPARISON
1999 - 2008**

Figure 40



Over the last decade handguns, cutting instruments, and personal weapons (hands/feet/etc.) have consistently been the most commonly used weapons. Figure 40 shows a comparison of the change in usage of those weapons over the last decade.

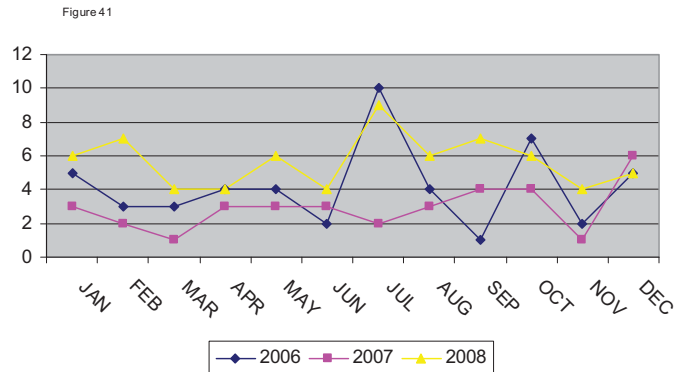
WHEN

Usually no clear pattern emerges when comparing previous years' murder incidents by month. In 2008, the highest number of incidents occurred in July (9), which was also the highest recorded month in 2006 (10). In 2007, the highest recorded month was December (6). In 2005, May and June had the highest number of incidents with five each. January and February had the most reported incidents in 2004.

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
JAN	6	2	5	3	6
FEB	6	4	3	2	7
MAR	5	4	3	1	4
APR	2	3	4	3	4
MAY	3	5	4	3	6
JUN	2	5	2	3	4
JUL	2	4	10	2	9
AUG	4	1	4	3	6
SEP	0	2	1	4	7
OCT	3	2	7	4	6
NOV	5	3	2	1	4
DEC	4	3	5	6	5
TOTAL	42	38	50	35	68

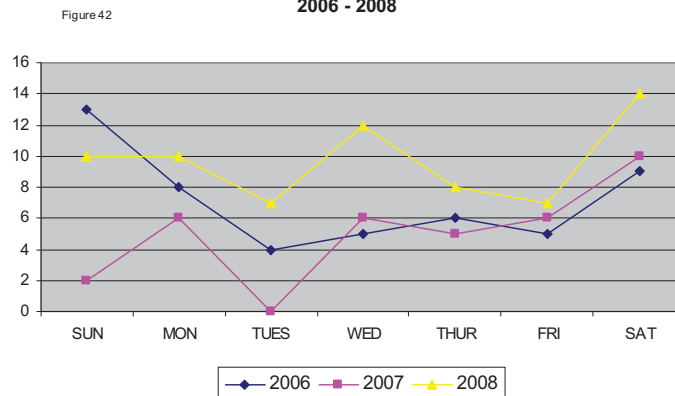
Over the last five years no specific day of the week has been identified as having more murder incidents, however, Saturday was the most reported day in 2007 (10) and 2008 (14). Sunday was the most common day in 2006 (13) and shared with Monday in 2005 (8 each). In 2004, Tuesday had twelve incidents, which was the highest day. Tuesday was the least reported day in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

**MURDER
INCIDENTS BY MONTH
2006 - 2008**



The least number of murder incidents reported per month varied by year as well. In 2008, there were four months that reported four incidents each: March, April, June, and November. In 2007, there was only one incident reported in both March and November. The other three years represented in Table 17 varied as follows: September was the lowest month in 2006, August in 2005, and September in 2004.

**MURDER
INCIDENTS BY DAY
2006 - 2008**



WHERE

**MURDER INCIDENT LOCATIONS
IOWA, 2008**

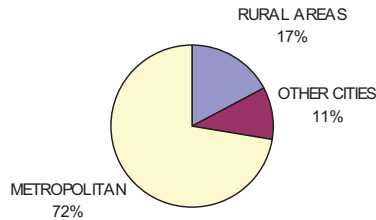


Figure 43

Metropolitan incidents accounted for 72% of the murders in 2008, which is a decrease from the 83% reported in 2007. In recent years metropolitan incidents have accounted for the majority of the reported murders as follows: 52% of incidents in 2006 were located within metropolitan areas, 55% in 2005, and 79% in 2004. "Other" refers to the cities, usually over 2,500 population, which submit their own statistical data. Other cities accounted for 11% of the reported

homicides in both 2007 and 2008. Rural areas are the county sheriffs' jurisdictions that are not in a Metropolitan area. Rural county sheriffs' offices recorded 17% of the murder incidents in 2008, which is an increase from the 6% reported in 2007.

2008 HOMICIDES BY COUNTY

