

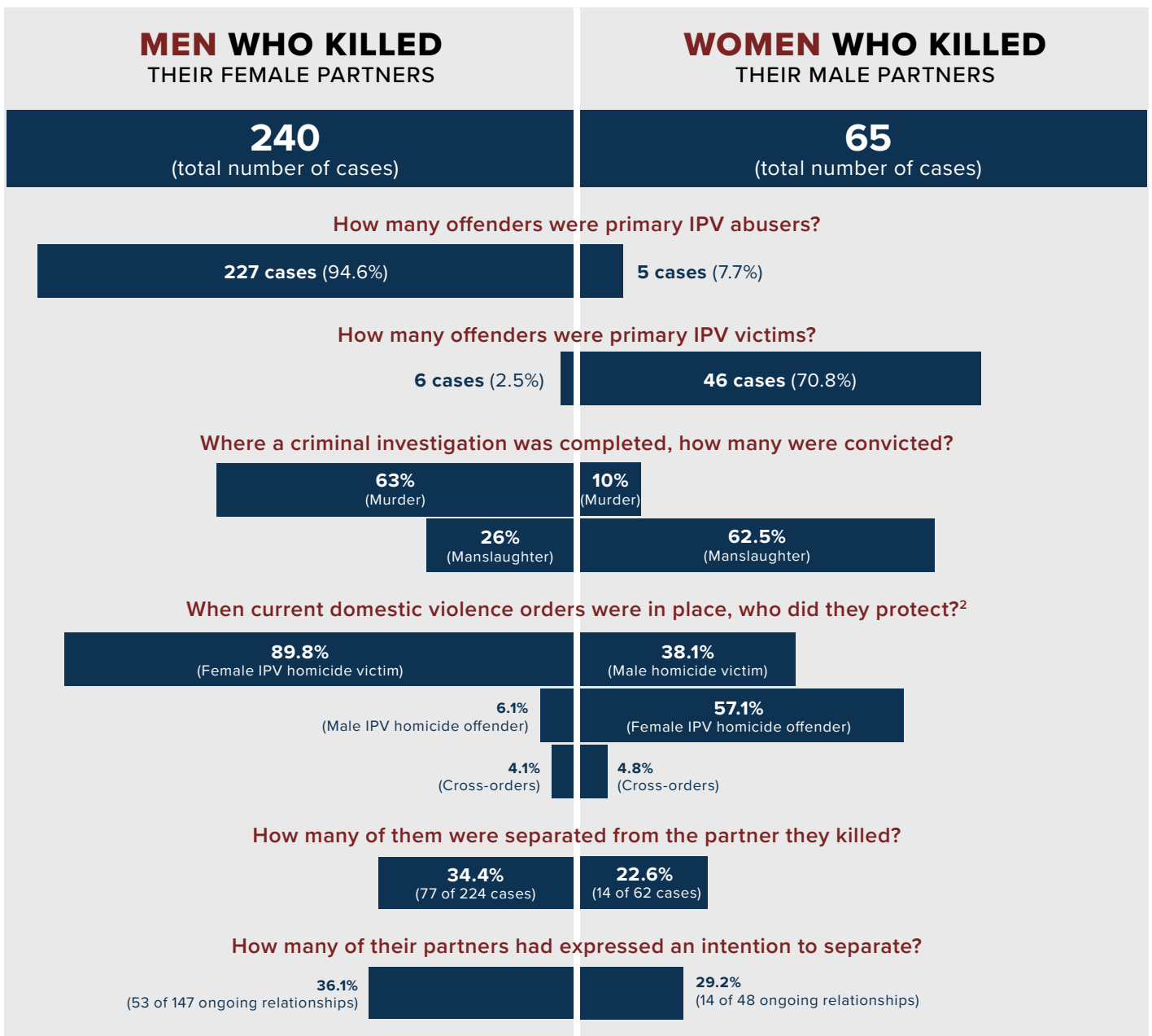
UPDATED FACTS ABOUT INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE



Between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2018, there were **311 intimate partner violence (IPV) homicides** across Australia that followed an identifiable history of domestic violence.¹ More than three quarters of all cases involved a male IPV homicide offender killing a current or former female partner (240 cases, 77.2%). The vast majority of those male offenders had been the **primary user of domestic violence behaviours** against the woman they killed (227 cases, 94.6%).

Fewer cases involved a female IPV homicide offender killing a current or former male partner (65 cases, 20.9%). Even though the female partner was the homicide offender, in the majority of these cases she was also the **primary domestic violence victim** (46 cases, 70.8%).

In this period, six male IPV homicide offenders killed a male intimate partner – three were primary IPV abusers against the partner they killed; two were primary victims of abuse; and in one case both parties mutually used domestic violence against each other. There were no cases identified in this dataset where a female IPV homicide offender killed a female partner.

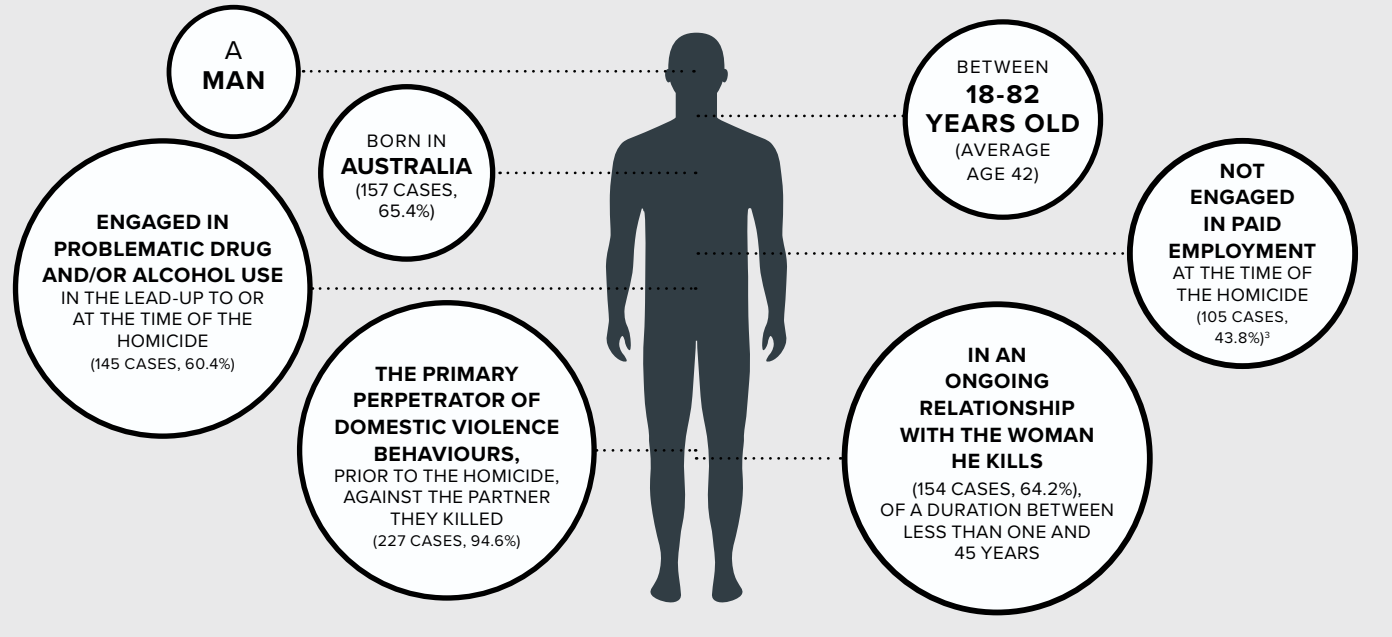


IPV homicide and children

There were four cases in which children were also killed together with their mother, resulting in the deaths of eight children. Of the 311 IPV homicides examined in this dataset, there were at least 172 children under the age of 18 who survived the homicide involving one, or both, of their parents. In at least 133 cases children were exposed to violence between the homicide victim and offender (42.8%).

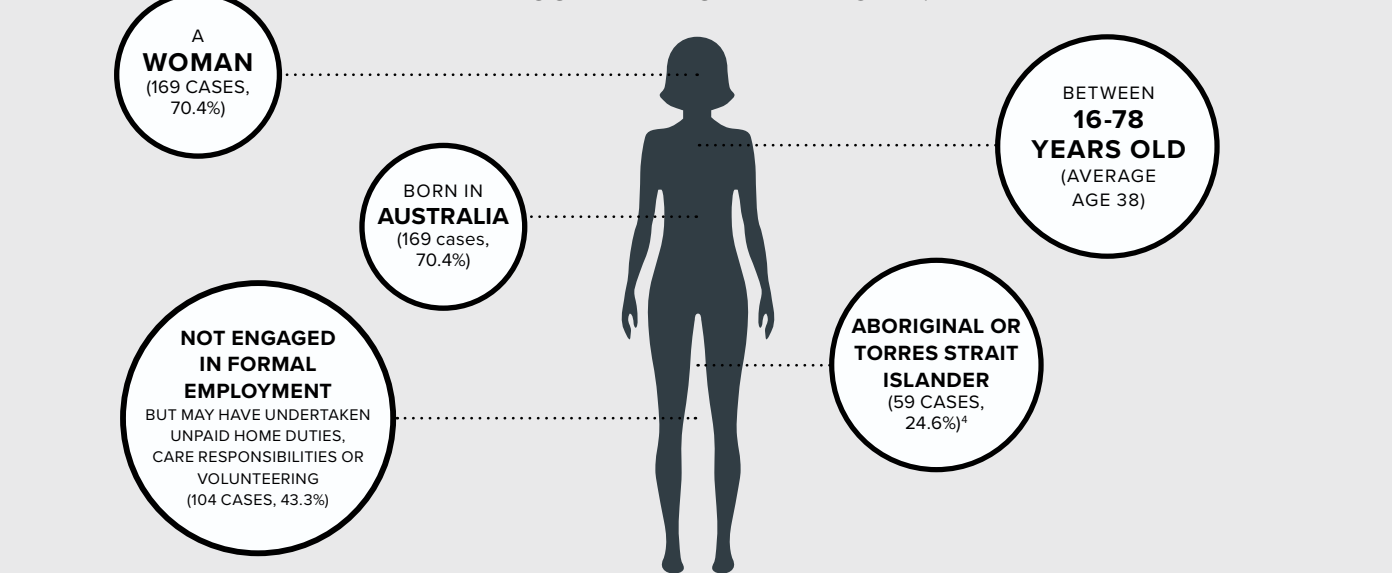
AN INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE OFFENDER

IN AUSTRALIA IS LIKELY TO BE:



AN INTIMATE PARTNER HOMICIDE VICTIM

IN AUSTRALIA IS LIKELY TO BE:



Source:

Australian Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Network, & Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety. (2022). [Australian Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Network Data Report: Intimate partner violence homicides 2010–2018](#) (2nd ed.; Research report 03/2022). ANROWS.

Suggested citation:

Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety. (2022). *Domestic and family violence lethality: Updated facts about intimate partner homicide* [Fact sheet]. ANROWS.

Footnotes:

¹ The information in this fact sheet is sourced from the *Australian Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Network Data Report: Intimate partner violence homicides 2010–2018* (2022) which provides data on intimate partner homicides that have occurred across Australia between 2010 and 2018. To be included in this dataset, deaths are the result of homicides that occurred in Australia between 1 July 2010 and 30 June 2018. The homicide victim and homicide offender were either in a current or former intimate partner relationship, and there was an identifiable history of violence between them. The criminal or coronial proceedings in that homicide had to have concluded on or before 31 December 2020.

² There was a higher rate of cross-orders protecting both parties from each other in female-perpetrated IPV homicide incidents. These results should be read in conjunction with research on the misidentification of the person most in need of protection. See <https://www.anrows.org.au/project/accurately-identifying-the-person-most-in-need-of-protection-in-domestic-and-family-violence-law/>

³ This is significant because workplaces can offer an additional site of intervention for domestic and family violence.

⁴ This data finding demonstrates an overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women as victims of IPV homicide. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who experience intimate partner violence also experience complex barriers to accessing and receiving help. This can include poor or discriminatory practices from frontline services, such as the police or child protection services, can result in poor outcomes for victims and survivors and a mistrust of these services. This experience can be compounded for women living in regional or remote locations, where there may be fewer service options, and concerns pertaining to privacy and confidentiality in small communities. See <https://www.anrows.org.au/project/improving-family-violence-legal-and-support-services-for-indigenous-women/>