

Domestic Violence Homicides in Arizona

A comprehensive look over the past 2 decades.

Lt. Dan Rincon

- ▶ Scottsdale Police Department - +29 Years
- ▶ Served on the Governor's Commission since 2012
- ▶ MA Criminal Justice - Arizona State University
- ▶ Training Institute of Strangulation Prevention - Faculty



Objective

- ▶ Provide a broad overview of Arizona DV Homicides statistics (Past to Present)
- ▶ Provide factors specific to Arizona that influence how success or failure can be measured when analyzing DV homicides
- ▶ How the media can create unnecessary panic using narrow angles of data
- ▶ Demonstrate how our efforts have made DV victims safer than ever before

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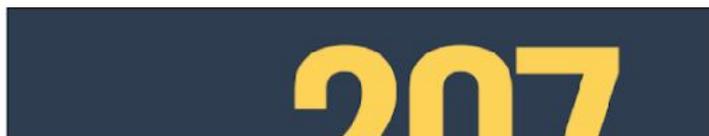
One of the most jarring findings from the data is that the number of deaths involving domestic violence have more

While homicides and aggravated assaults increased by 25% from the same time period last year, homicides involving domestic violence saw a 140% increase, with 24 cases this year compared to 10 in the first half of 2019 in Phoenix, according to Sgt. Mercedes Fortune, spokesperson for Phoenix police.

Domestic violence deaths year-to-date through Aug. 3 jumped 180% compared with the same time period in 2019, which is even more of a concern, said Fortune.

Data released by the Phoenix Police Department on Wednesday shows that domestic violence makes up a quarter of the increased homicides. Since more

Advertisement



Did they get your attention?

What is your immediate thought?

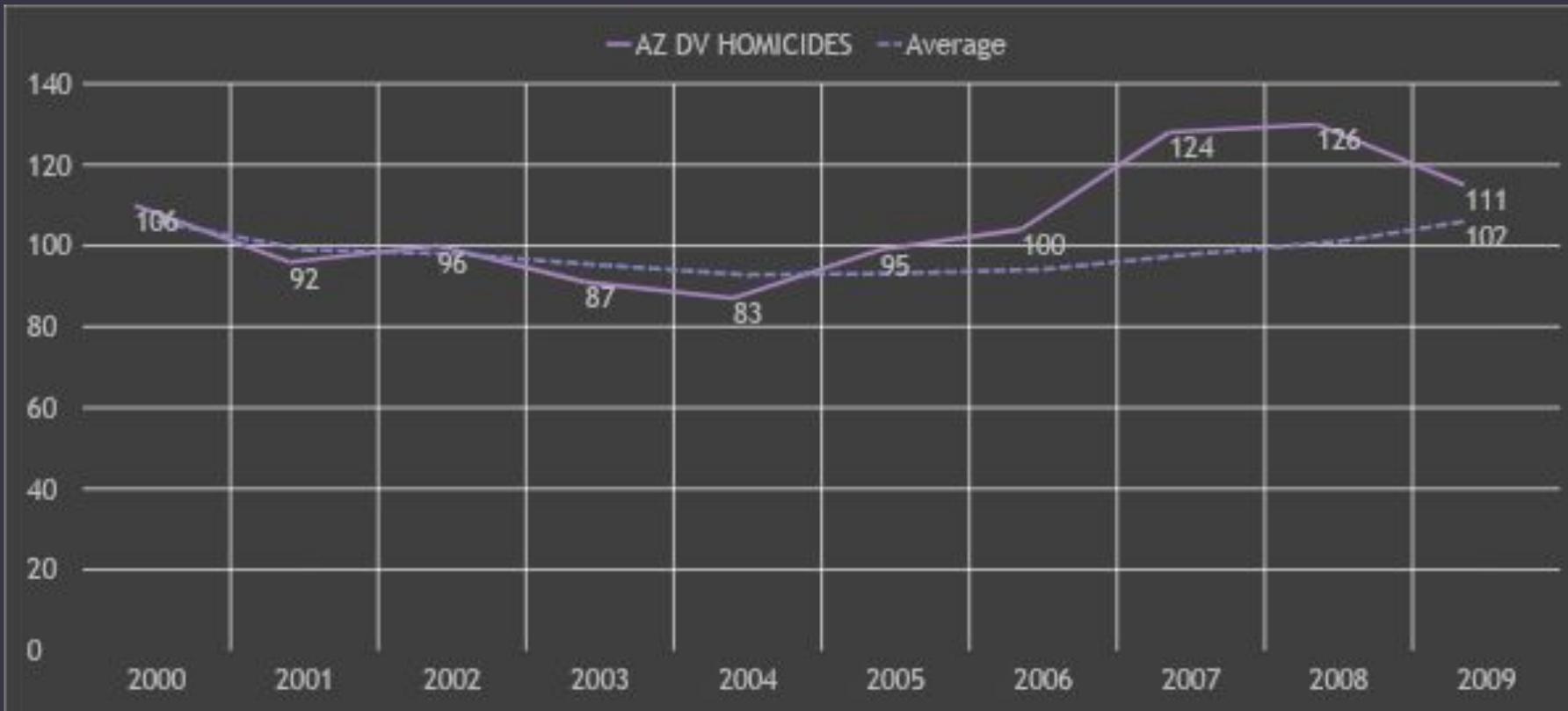
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Looking back... 2000 - 2009

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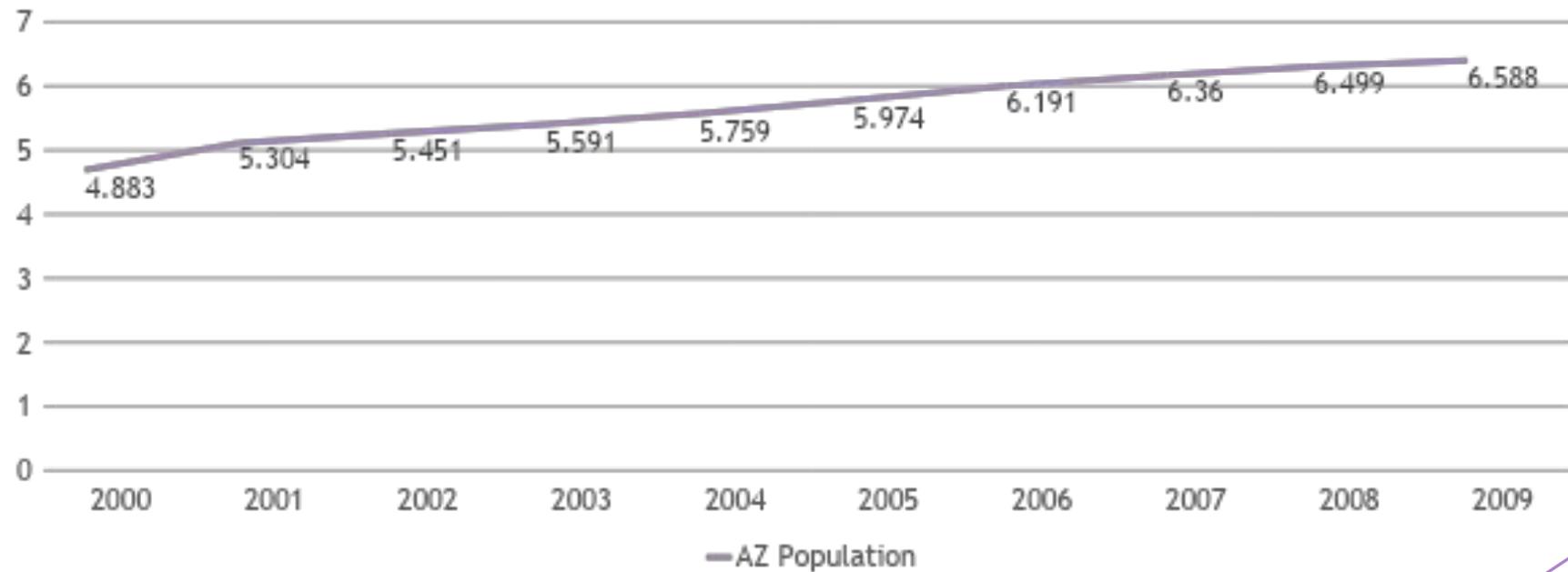
What did we experience?

ARIZONA DV HOMICIDES 2000 - 2009



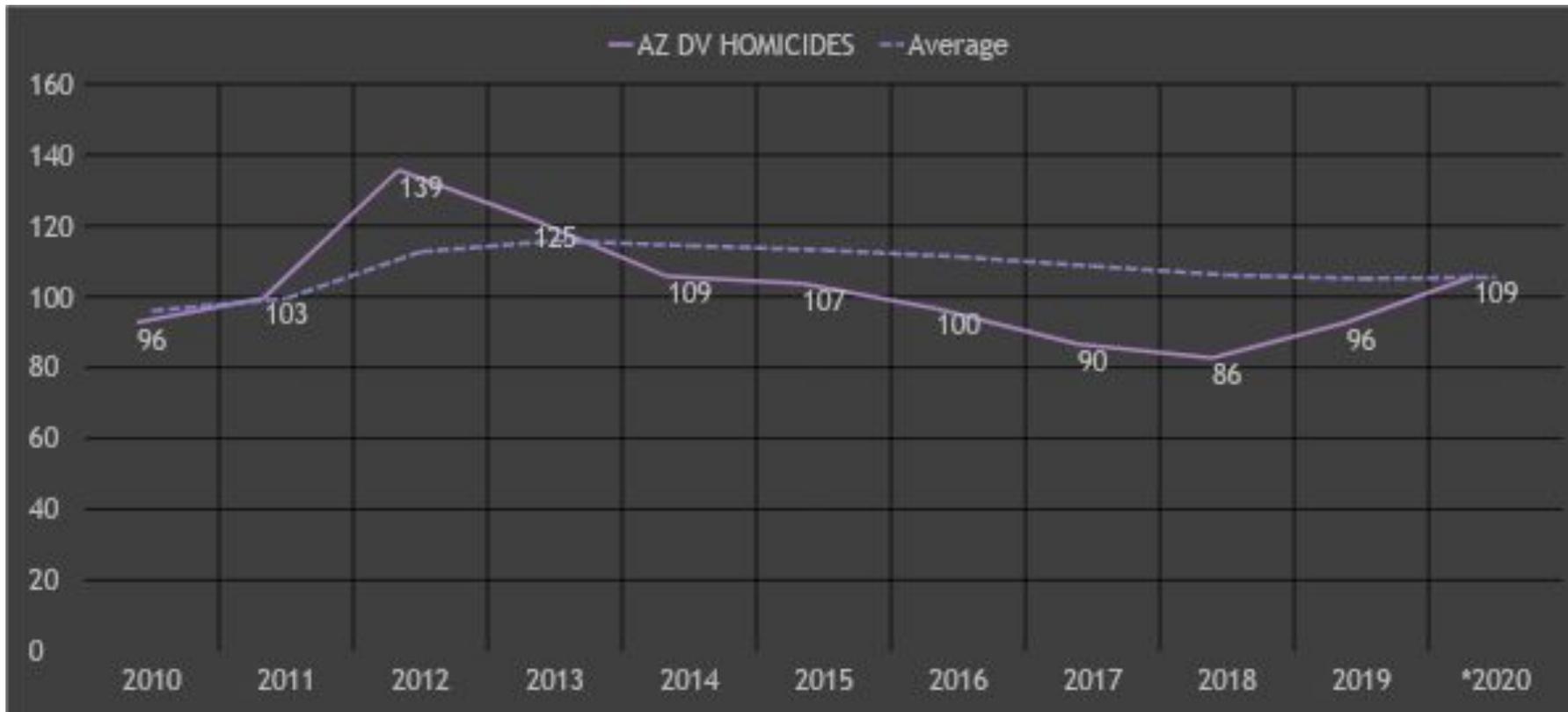
Statistics Provided by the Arizona Coalition To End Sexual & Domestic Violence

Population of Arizona (2000 - 2009)



United States Census Bureau

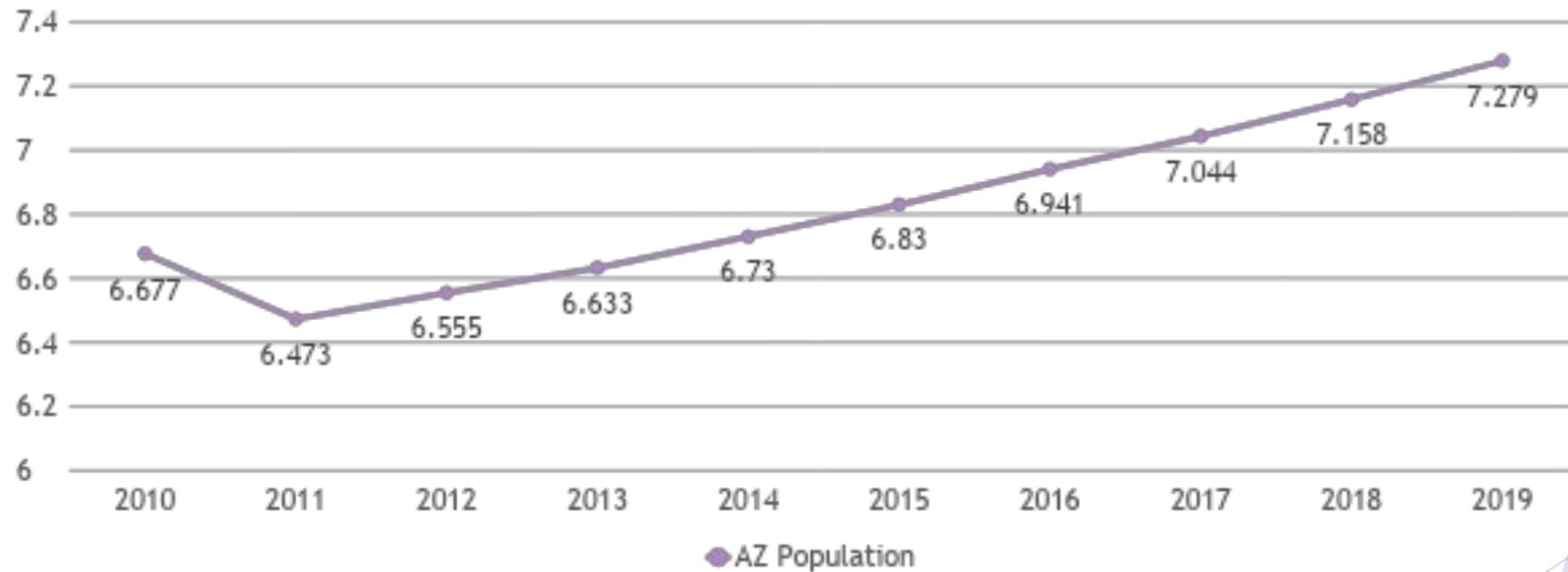
ARIZONA DV HOMICIDES 2010 - 2020



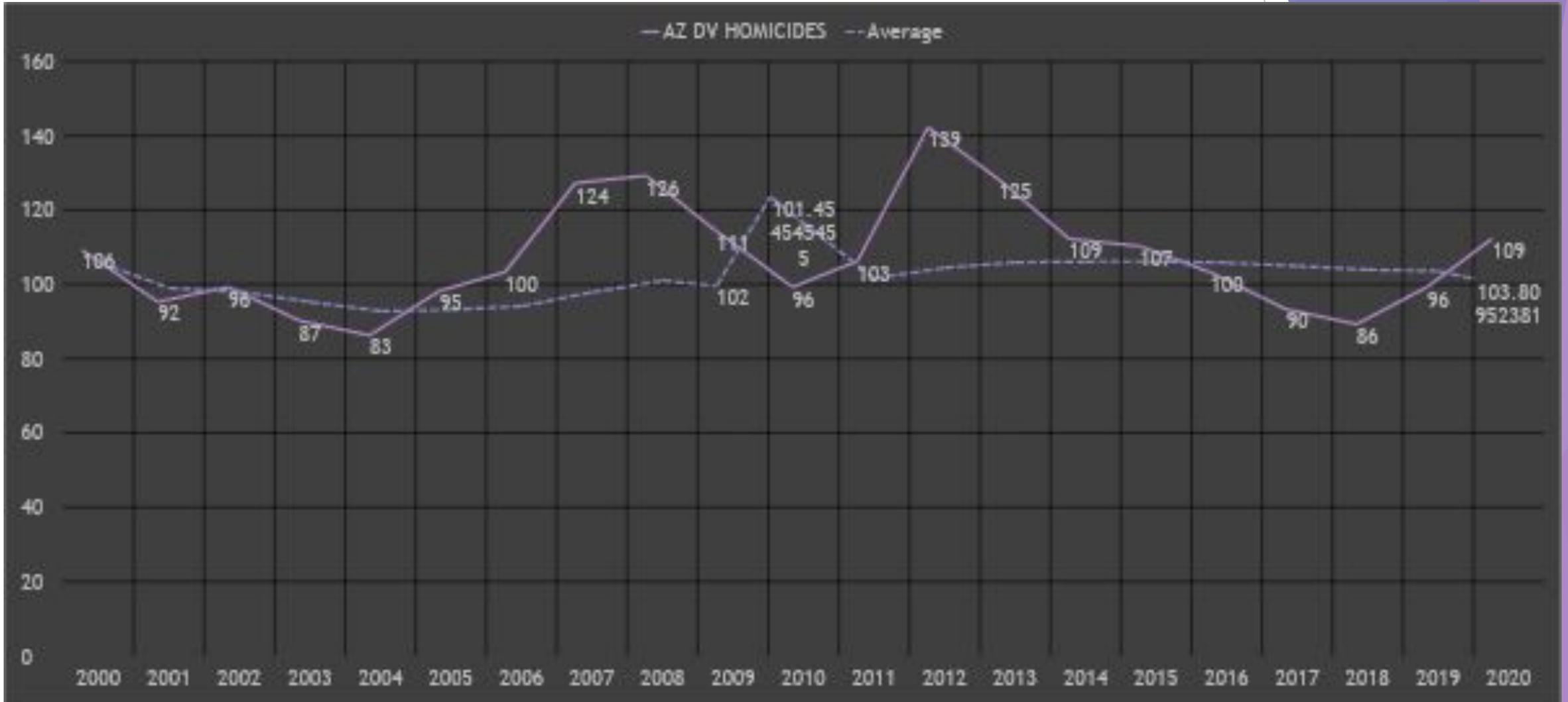
***2020 is a projection based on the 74 homicides as of August 31, 2020**

Statistics Provided by the Arizona Coalition To End Sexual & Domestic Violence

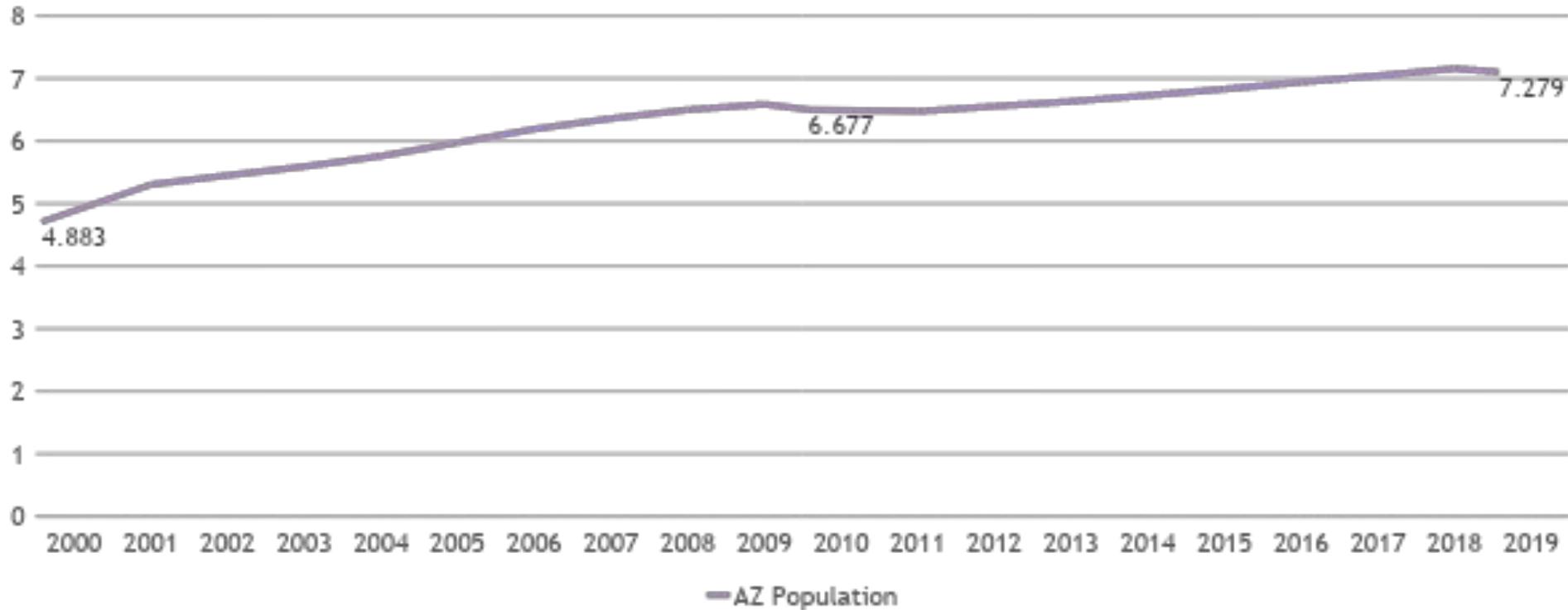
Population of Arizona (2010 - 2020)



ARIZONA DV HOMICIDES 2000 - 2020



Population of Arizona (2000 - 2019)



United States Census Bureau

What's the overall Picture?

POPULATION GROWTH

- ▶ 2000-2009:
 - ▶ Population > 1.794 Million
- ▶ 2010 - 2019:
 - ▶ Population > .602 Million
- ▶ **2000-2019:**
 - ▶ **Population > 2.396 Million**

DV HOMICIDE CHANGE

- ▶ 2000-*2009:
 - ▶ Average # of DV Homicides per year decreased from 106 to 102
- ▶ 2010 - 2019:
 - ▶ Average # of DV Homicides per year increased from 102 to 104
- ▶ **2000-*2020:**
 - ▶ **Average # of DV Homicides per year decreased from 106 to 104**

OUTSTANDING RESULTS BUT WE'RE NOT FINISHED!

- ▶ It is important to emphasize that the **average number of DV Homicides** over the past 20-years has relatively **remained the same** (decreased of 1.89%), while the **population of Arizona has steadily risen** by a total of 49% (**2.396 Million**) during this same period.
- ▶ Simply put..
 - ▶ In 2000, 1:46,066 people were a victim of a DV Homicide
 - ▶ In 2020, 1:69,990 people were a victim of a DV Homicide
- ▶ Arizona has **decreased** the average DV homicide rate by **50%** since 2000, which equates to **52 less** DV Homicides in *2020.

How We Attain This Success?

How Will We Continue To Get Better?

- ▶ The overall success over the past 2 decades didn't happen by accident.
- ▶ Improvement in Training, Policies, and Best Practices
 - ▶ Law Enforcement
 - ▶ City & County Attorney's Offices
 - ▶ Courts
 - ▶ Probation
 - ▶ Advocacy
 - ▶ Shelters
 - ▶ Crisis / Social Workers
 - ▶ Medical Exams / Imaging
 - ▶ Academic (Research)
 - ▶ Community Outreach



Be Focused

Remain Determined

▶ **&**

Stay Passionate

Hold Offenders Accountable

One DV Homicide is One Too Many

- ▶ Although we must focus on the statewide status of DV homicides to grasp the most comprehensive picture in Arizona, this **DOES NOT** mean we ignore communities experiencing higher than normal rates of DV homicide.
- ▶ We must continue to target communities that experience high rates of DV homicides if we intend to make progress towards the goal of having zero (0) DV Homicides per year.

A large, stylized purple awareness ribbon is positioned on the left side of the image, overlapping the text area. The ribbon is rendered with a gradient from light purple to dark purple, giving it a three-dimensional appearance.

Domestic Violence

AWARENESS MONTH