

# CHARACTERIZING THE PREVALENCE AND PERPETRATORS OF DOCUMENTED FATAL VIOLENCE AGAINST BLACK TRANSGENDER WOMEN IN THE UNITED STATES (2013–2021)

This is the 1st study to systematically document the characteristics and perpetrators of fatal acts of violence against transgender women in the U.S.



This research was led by and for the BIPOC LGBT community using a retrospective cohort study design.

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## BLACK TRANSGENDER WOMEN ARE SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO BE KILLED IN THE U.S.

### PROPORTION

**229** documented acts of fatal violence against transgender women in the U.S.

Of those, Black transgender women murdered account for... **78%**

### BY AGE

The average age of Black transgender women at the time of death was...

**28**

**7**

years younger than previous reports that the average age of transgender women murdered in Latin America was 35

*These data reflect the average age transgender women are murdered, and do not reflect the average life span of all transgender women.*

### BY GUN VIOLENCE

**76%**

Black transgender women were fatally shot

vs.

**38%**

of non-Black transgender women



### IN THE SOUTHERN AND MIDWESTERN U.S.

Regions with greater anti-transgender legislation, fewer commonsense gun laws, and greater structural racism

U.S. REGION	BLACK TRANSGENDER WOMEN	NON-BLACK TRANSGENDER WOMEN
WEST	6%	36%
MIDWEST	25%	12%
SOUTH	61%	46%
NORTHEAST	12%	6%

### PERPETRATORS OF FATAL ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST TRANSGENDER WOMEN IN THE U.S.

Of perpetrators identified...

**58%**

of perpetrators were identified in the murders

**61%**

Sexual or romantic partners

**32%**

non-romantic known acquaintances or family

Of the perpetrators identified...

**90%** were Black/African American

**96%** were cisgender men

**93%** were charged with homicide



was the average age

This does not mean that Black men are the issue but likely reflects that Black men face economic and sociopolitical challenges that amplify the risk of perpetuating violence that is more fatal.

## THERE HAS BEEN A STARK INCREASE IN ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST NON-BLACK LATINA WOMEN IN RECENT YEARS



**57%** of all non-Black Latinas were killed in 2020-2021.

Over half were killed in states along the U.S.-Mexico border

**33%** Texas

**19%** California



## CALL TO ACTION

Support for Black cisgender men is needed to normalize and affirm their relationships with transgender women to address the hostility expressed towards their partners in situations where they fear others will judge them or their masculinity.

We must address transphobia as a root cause of fatal and non-fatal acts of intimate partner violence.

We must work to ensure transgender women of color have equitable access to safe housing and employment opportunities.

We need local and national government policies to protect and support transgender rights.

Culturally sensitive interventions that help to reduce relationship stigma and reaffirm one's sense of masculinity among Black cisgender male partners are needed.

Legislative and organizational policies that work to reduce anti-Black discrimination, reduce fatality through common sense gun laws, and reverse anti-transgender initiatives are needed.



Full Article



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