

Contribute

Subscribe

LOGIN

News > UK > Crime

London 'on track' for worst year of teen killings

Three teenagers were killed last week in London

Eleanor Sly | @eleanor_sly | 18 hours ago



Overall 17 teenagers have been killed in London this year
(AFP via Getty Images)



[Contribute](#)[Subscribe](#)[LOGIN](#)

to see its worst ever year for teenage **violence** and nomicides.

The **Metropolitan Police**'s lead for violence called for calm amid a worrying rise in teenage murders as coronavirus restrictions have begun to lift.

A total of 17 **teenagers** have been killed so far this year, with Commander Murray warning that numbers could be on track to reach levels similar to those seen in 2008, when 28 teenagers were killed in **London**.

He said: "If **London** continues to see this rate of violence, we will be on track to see the worst year for young homicides since 2008," reported the Evening Standard.

According to the commander, the homicides have affected certain communities much more than others. Indeed, over two thirds of the teenagers who died (12) were black.

Overall, 15 of those who died were attacked with a knife while one was shot and another died in a house fire.

Last week, three teenagers were killed in seven days in London. These included Jalan Woods-Bell, 15, in Hayes, Denardo Samuels-Brooks, 17, in **Streatham** and Taylor Cox, 19, in Crouch Hill.

In spite of the recent spate of knife crime, Commander Murray said that serious violence offences in London had dropped by 22 per cent over the past year. The murder rate was also down, which could be due to the Covid lockdowns.

"Through lockdown there has been an incredible amount of work to take the wind out of the sails of people who drive violence," he said.

He added that over 400 guns have been recovered as well as thousands of knives and a large amount of drugs.

The Met Police commander went on to explain that a recent lack of trust in the police has made it more challenging to "build relationships."

He noted that this was particularly challenging as the public seem hesitant



[Contribute](#)[Subscribe](#)[LOGIN](#)

prison for murder.

“We simply cannot do this alone. Everyone has a role to play. Community leaders, businesses, politicians, youth workers, parents and teachers – quite literally anybody and everybody.”

Anyone with any information on knife crime is asked to call police on 101 or tell Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

More about: [London](#) [Violence](#) [Scotland Yard](#) [Teenagers](#)



GET IN TOUCH

[Contact us](#)[Jobs](#)

OUR PRODUCTS

[Subscribe](#)[Register](#)[Newsletters](#)[Donate](#)[Install our apps](#)[Archive](#)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[International editions](#)[Independent en Español](#)[Independent Arabia](#)[Independent Turkish](#)[Independent Persian](#)[Independent Urdu](#)[Evening Standard](#)[Novaya Gazeta](#)

LEGAL

[Code of conduct and complaints](#)

EXTRAS

[All topics](#)