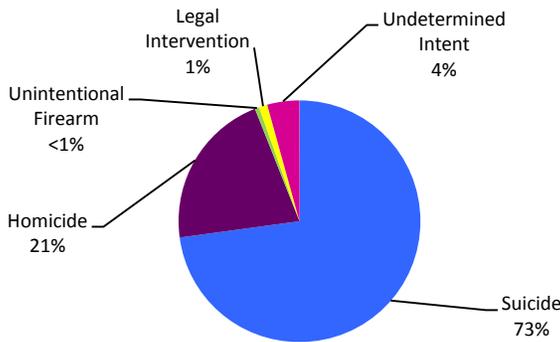


VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: BUNCOMBE COUNTY INCIDENTS: 2004-2013

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded state-wide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in North Carolina resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. All deaths reported in this document are based on location of *occurrence* rather than residence and, instead of a rate, the current ratio is reported. This statistic is derived from the total number of violent deaths resulting from injuries in a specified geographic region divided by the number of residents in this region. This document summarizes all fatal injuries from violence that occurred in Buncombe County for the years 2004-2013.

Manner of Death: Buncombe County, N.C.:
NC-VDRS, 2004-2013*

~ N.C. Division of Public Health - N.C. Violent Death Reporting System ~

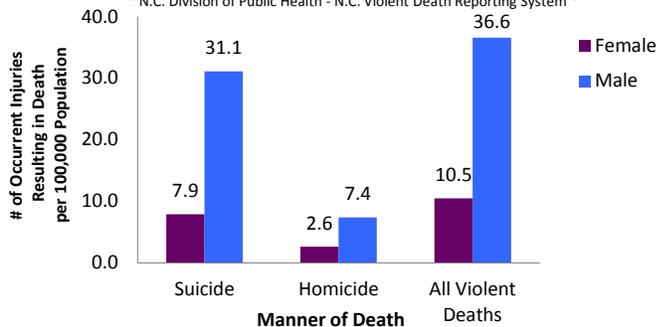


- For the years 2004-2013, there were 534 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Buncombe County. Of these 534 deaths, 518 were N.C. residents (97.0%) and 492 were Buncombe County residents (92.1%).
- There were 389 suicides (72.9%), 113 homicides (21.2%), three unintentional firearm death (0.6%), six deaths from legal interventions (1.1%), and 23 deaths of undetermined intent (4.3%).

- In Buncombe County, the suicide ratio was 3.9 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 2.8 times higher in males than females.
- Suicide victims were more likely to be white. Whites had 19.7 suicides per 100,000 population. Blacks had 10.4 suicides per 100,000 population.
- Blacks had the highest rate of homicides, 12.3 per 100,000 population, while whites had the lowest, 4.2 per 100,000 population.

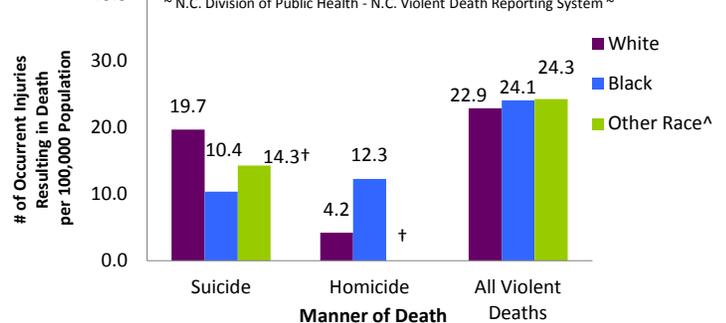
Manner of Death by Sex: Buncombe County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2004-2013*

~ N.C. Division of Public Health - N.C. Violent Death Reporting System ~



Manner of Death by Race: Buncombe County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2004-2013*

~ N.C. Division of Public Health - N.C. Violent Death Reporting System ~



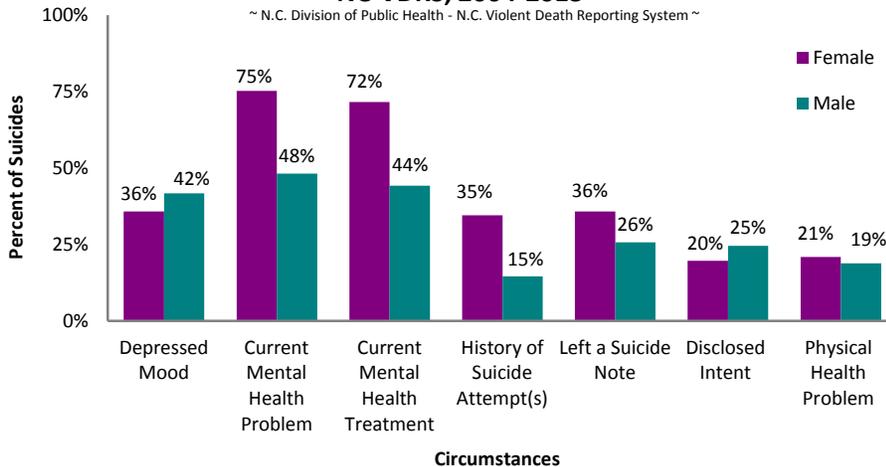
*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

†Rates based on less than 10 deaths are considered unstable and should not be used. Rates based on less than 5 deaths are too small to support the calculation of a rate.

^Other race refers to American Indians, Asians, other races and unspecified or unknown race.

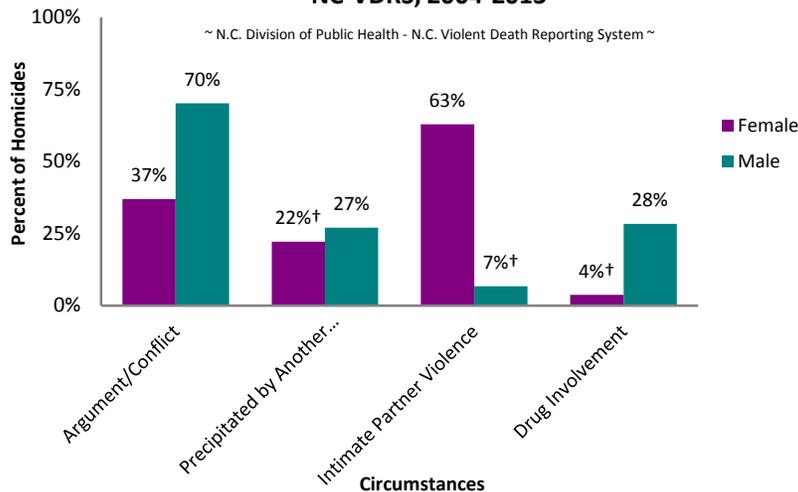
- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Suicides peaked among those 85+ with 31.5 per 100,000 population. The rate of homicides was greatest among those 20-24 with 9.3 per 100,000 population.
- Most homicides (46.0%) and suicides (52.7%) were committed using firearms.
- Alcohol was involved in 36.3 percent of the homicides and 28.3 percent of suicides in Buncombe County for the years 2004-2013.
- For homicide incidents where one or more suspects were identified, the relationship of the victim to the suspect was known (current or former spouse/boyfriend/girlfriend, family, friend or acquaintance) more frequently for females (92.9%) than males (80.0%).

Circumstances of Suicides: Buncombe County NC-VDRS, 2004-2013*



*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 92.8% of cases had circumstance information. Four females and 24 males were missing circumstance information.

Circumstances of Homicides: Buncombe County NC-VDRS, 2004-2013*



*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 89.4% of cases had circumstance information. Four females and eight males were missing circumstance information.

†Percentage reflects fewer than 10 deaths.

- Forty-two percent of male and 35.8 percent of female Buncombe County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.

- Seventy-five percent of female and 48.2 percent of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Females (34.6%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (70.3%) than for female homicides (37.0%).

- Twenty-seven percent of male and 22.2 percent of female homicides were precipitated by another crime, such as robbery, burglary or drug trafficking.

- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 63.0 percent of female homicides, but only 6.8 percent of male homicides.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5U17/CE002613-02 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

N.C. Division of Public Health / www.publichealth.nc.gov / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit / 919-707-5425
N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / www.ncdhhs.gov
N.C. DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. NC-VDRS. 2013 FINAL DATA 11/15

Please see the NC-VDRS 2013 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.

