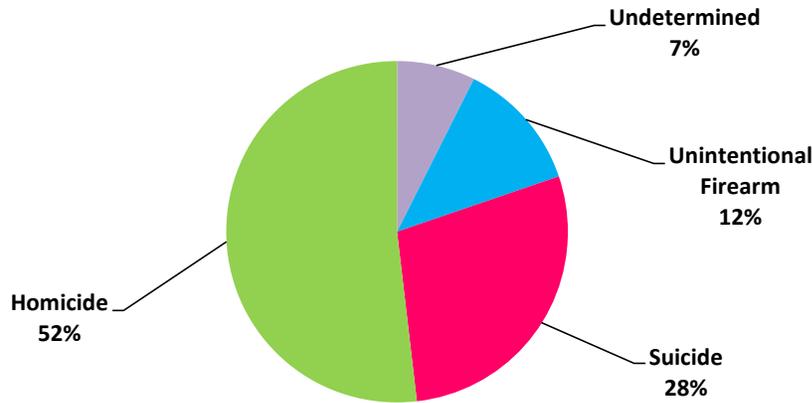


# CHILD VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA

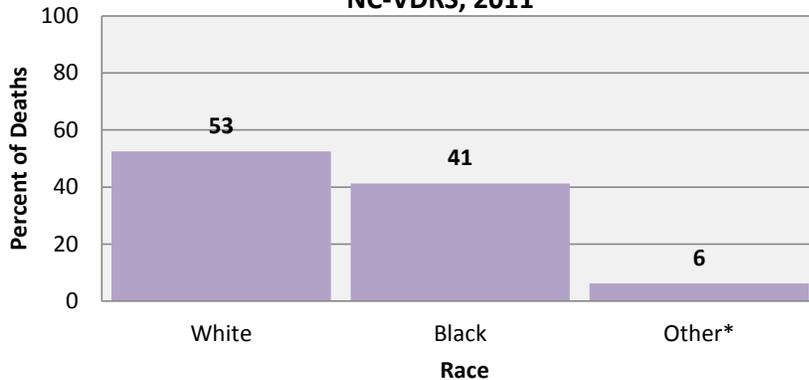
The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in North Carolina resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths for which intent 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. NC-VDRS began collecting data in January 2004. This document summarizes child violent deaths among North Carolina residents for the year 2011.

**Manner of Child Violent Death (0-17): NC-VDRS, 2011**



- In 2011, there were a total of 81 violent deaths to North Carolina children between the ages of zero and seventeen.
- There were 42 homicides (52%), 23 suicides (28%), 10 unintentional firearm deaths (12%), and six deaths for which the Medical Examiner’s Office could not determine the manner of death (7%).
- Most of the child victims were male (64%). Only 36 percent were female.

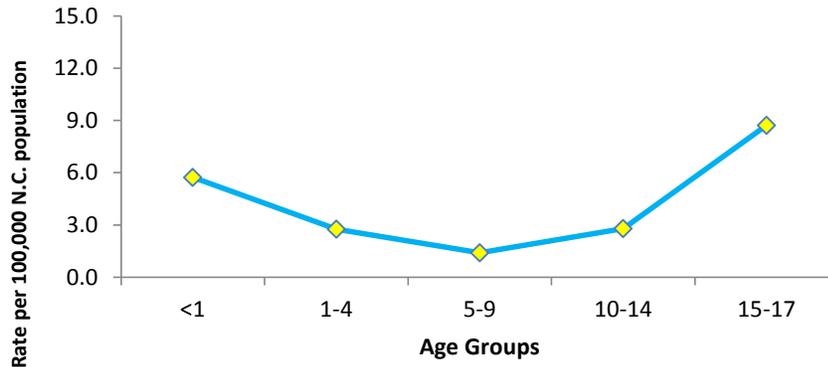
**Percent of Child Violent Deaths by Race:  
NC-VDRS, 2011**



- White children accounted for the greatest percent of deaths (53%), but black children had a higher *rate* of violent death: 5.5 per 100,000 N.C. population vs. 2.7 per 100,000 for white children and 4.2 per 100,000 for children of other races.

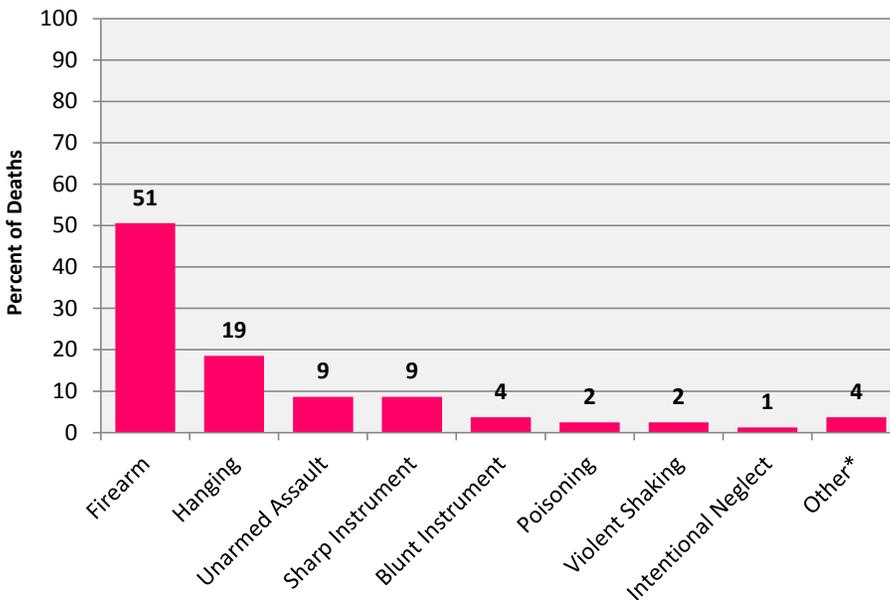
\* Other includes Asian, American Indian, and other races.

**Child Violent Death Rates (per 100,000 N.C. Population)  
by Age: NC-VDRS, 2011**



- The highest child violent death rate occurred in the 15-17 year age group (8.7 deaths per 100,000 N.C. population).
- Children less than one year of age had the second highest rate of violent deaths (5.7 per 100,000 N.C. population).

**Method of Child Violent Death: NC-VDRS, 2011**



- Firearms were involved in half of all violent deaths (51%). This percentage was propelled by the large number of firearm-related deaths (21) in the 15-17 age group.
- Hanging was the second most common cause of violent death in children (19%).
- Physical abuse (unarmed assault, violent shaking & intentional neglect) was the most common cause of death in young children (<1-4 years), while firearms were the most common method of death in older children (10-17 years) followed by hanging and strangulation.

\* Other includes other transport vehicle, motor vehicle, or unknown

More information on child violence prevention can be found at:

**State Resource Partners**

**North Carolina Division of Social Services: Child Protective Services**

Contact: (919) 733-4622  
www.ncdhhs.gov/dss/cps/

**National Resources**

**Children's Bureau**

Contact: Carlis Williams (404) 562-2900  
www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb



North Carolina Violent Death  
**NCVDRS**  
Reporting System

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5U17/CE423098-10 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  
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