

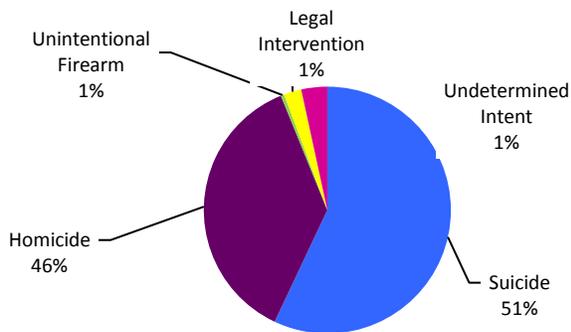
# VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: GUILFORD COUNTY INCIDENTS: 2004-2013

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 occurrent 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

North Carolina Violent Death Reporting

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

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- For the years 2004-2013, there were 912 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Guilford County. Of these 912 deaths, 891 were N.C. residents (97.7%) and 823 were Guilford County residents (90.2%).

- There were 520 suicides (57.0%), 336 homicides (36.8%), 4 unintentional firearm death (0.4%), 21 deaths from legal interventions (2.3%) and 31 deaths of undetermined intent (3.4%).

\*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

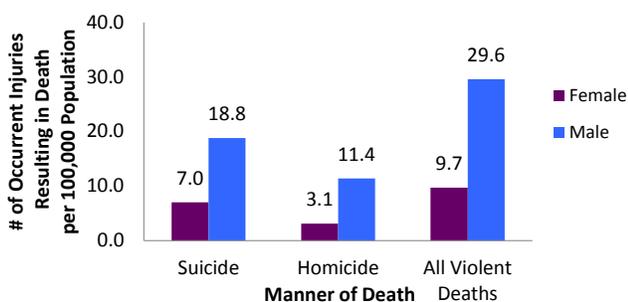
- In Guilford County, the suicide ratio was 2.7 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 3.7 times higher in males than females.

- Patterns of suicide and homicide differed by race. Suicide victims were more likely to be white than black. Whites had 17.0 suicides per 100,000 population versus 4.8 suicides per 100,000 population in blacks. All other racial groups combined had 11 suicides total.

- In contrast, blacks had 14.1 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to whites who had 3.6 homicides per 100,000 population. All other racial groups combined had 10 homicides total.

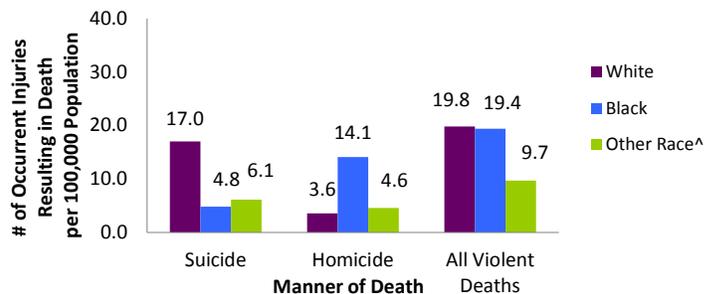
**Manner of Death by Sex: Guilford County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2004-2013\***

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

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\*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

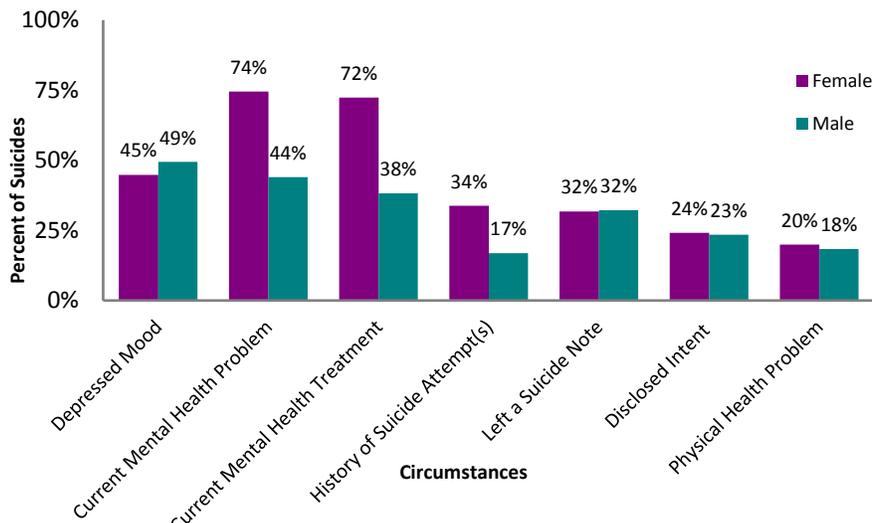
^Rates based on less than 10 deaths are considered unstable and should not be used. Rates based on less than 5 deaths are too small to support the calculation of a rate.

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

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Homicides peaked among those 25-34 with 16.0 homicides per 100,000. Suicides peaked among those 45-54 at 16.5 per 100,000.
- Most homicides (69.0%) and suicides (54.2%) were committed using firearms.
- Alcohol use suspected reported in 30.8 percent of homicides and 35.0 percent of suicides.
- 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 female (82.5%) than male (42.7%) victims.

### Circumstances of Suicides: Guilford County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2004-2013\*

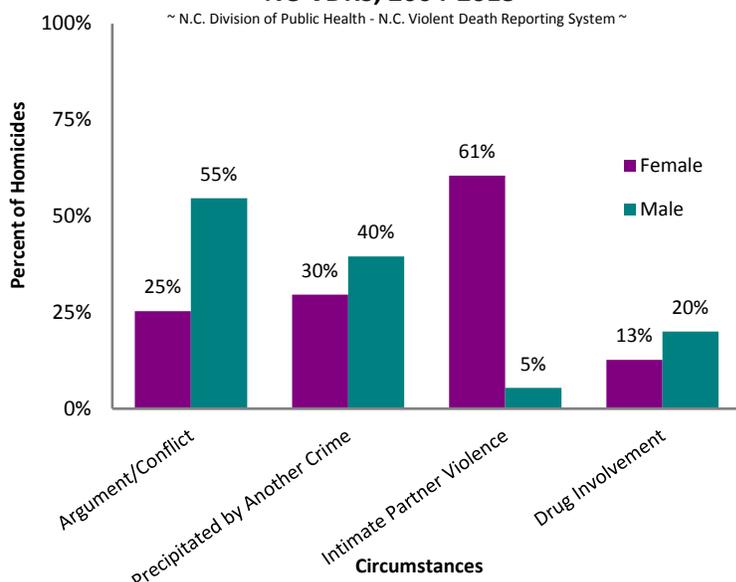
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\*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 92% of victims had circumstance information. Seven females and 36 males were missing circumstance information.

### Circumstances of Homicides: Guilford County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2004-2013\*

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\*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 88.9% victims had circumstance information. Fifty-five males and five females were missing circumstance information.

- Forty-five percent of female and 49.4 percent of male Guilford County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.

- Seventy-four percent of female and 44.0 percent of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Females (34%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (16.9%).

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (54.6%) than for female homicides (25.4%).

- Thirty percent of female homicides and 39.5 percent of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary or drug trafficking.

- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 60.6 percent of female homicides, but only 5.4 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](http://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](http://www.ncdhhs.gov)  
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Please see the NC-VDRS 2013 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.

