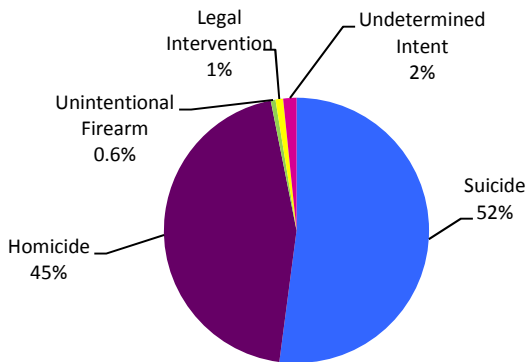


VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: MECKLENBURG COUNTY INCIDENTS, 2005-2014

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. All deaths reported in this document are based on location of occurrence rather than residence and, instead of a rate, the occurrence 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 Mecklenburg County for the years 2005-2014.

Manner of Death: Mecklenburg County, N.C.:
NC-VDRS, 2005-2014*

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



- For the years 2005-2014, there were 1,563 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Mecklenburg County. Of these 1,563 deaths, 1,499 were N.C. residents (95.9%) and 1,414 were Mecklenburg County residents (90.5%).

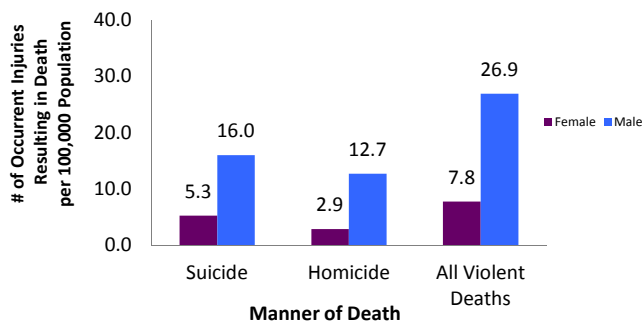
- There were 814 suicides (52.1%), 700 homicides (44.8%), nine unintentional firearm death (0.6%), 15 deaths from legal intervention (1.0%) and 25 deaths of undetermined intent (1.6%).

*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

- In Mecklenburg County, the suicide ratio was 3.0 times higher in males than females, and the homicide ratio was 4.4 times higher in males than in females.
- Patterns of suicide and homicide differed by race. Suicide victims were more likely to be non-Hispanic (NH) White than NH Black. NH Whites had 15.4 suicides per 100,000 population versus 5.8 suicides per 100,000 population in NH Blacks. All other racial groups combined had 2.5 suicides.
- In contrast, NH Blacks had 17.0 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to NH Whites who had 4.4 homicides per 100,000 population. All other racial groups combined had 1.0 homicides.

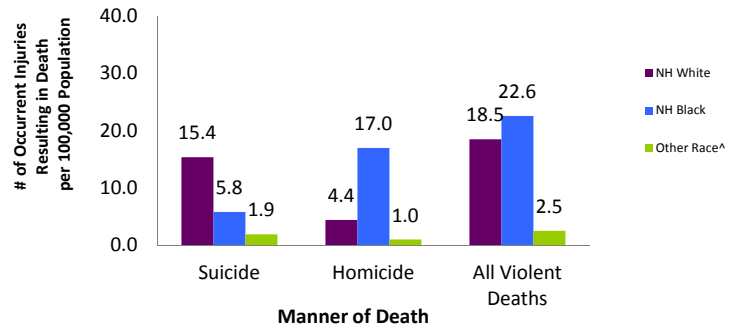
Manner of Death by Sex: Mecklenburg County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2005-2014*

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Manner of Death by Race: Mecklenburg County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2005-2014*

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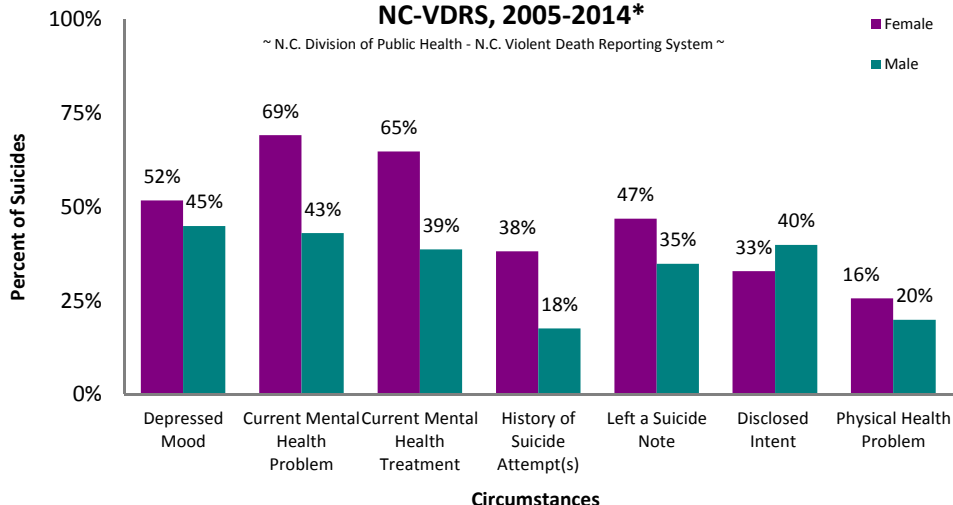
*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

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

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Homicides peaked among those 20-24 with 25.7 homicides per 100,000, where suicides peaked among those 55-64 with 14.2 suicides per 100,000.
- Most homicides (77.7%) and nearly half of suicides (49.1%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 29.9 percent of homicides and 32.2 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 (85.3%) than male (60.2%) victims.

Circumstances of Suicides: Mecklenburg County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2005-2014*

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*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 96.1% of cases had circumstance information. Seven females and 25 males were missing circumstance information.

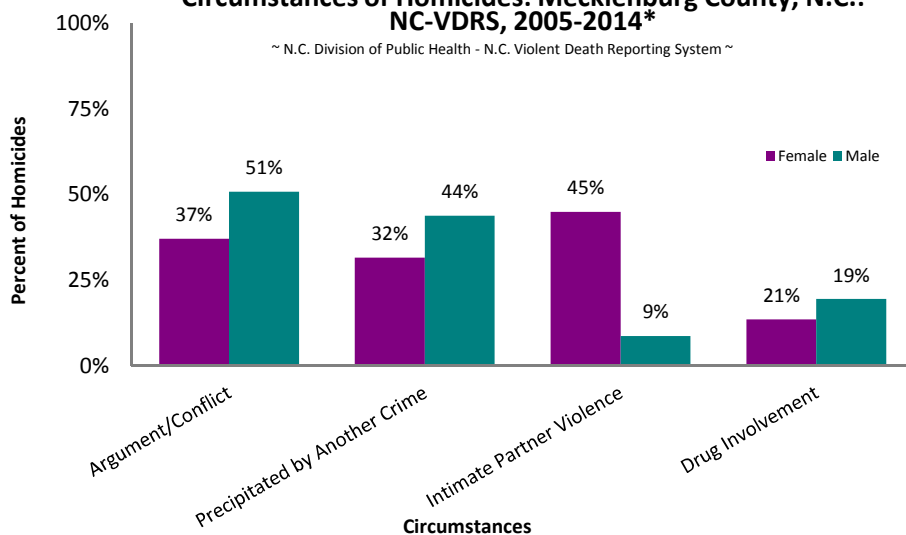
- Forty-five percent of male and 51.7 percent of female Mecklenburg County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.

- Sixty-nine percent of female and 43.0 percent of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Females (38.2%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (17.6%).

Circumstances of Homicides: Mecklenburg County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2005-2014*

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*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 89.7% of cases had circumstance information. Sixty-three males and nine females were missing circumstance information.

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (50.7%) than for female homicides (37.0%).

- Thirty-two percent of female homicides and 43.7 percent of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary or drug trafficking.

- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 44.9 percent of female homicides, but only 8.6 percent of male homicides.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5U17/CE002613-03 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
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Please see the NC-VDRS 2014 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.