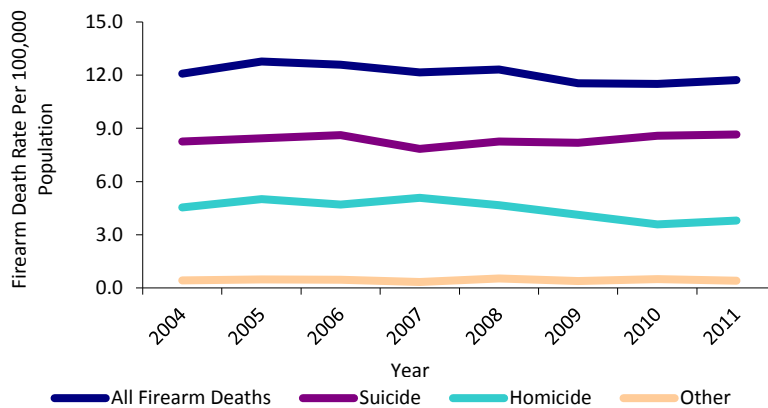


## Firearm Deaths in North Carolina

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. NC-VDRS began collecting data in January 2004. This document summarizes firearm-related deaths among North Carolina residents for the year 2012.

**Firearm-Related Death Rates by Year:  
NC-VDRS, 2004-2012**



- In 2012, there were 1,142 firearm-related deaths among North Carolina residents.

- More than half (59%) of all violent deaths in North Carolina were due to firearms.

- Specific causes of firearm-related deaths included suicide (61%), homicide (34%), legal intervention involving discharge of firearm (2%), unintentional discharge of firearm (2%), and undetermined intent (1%).

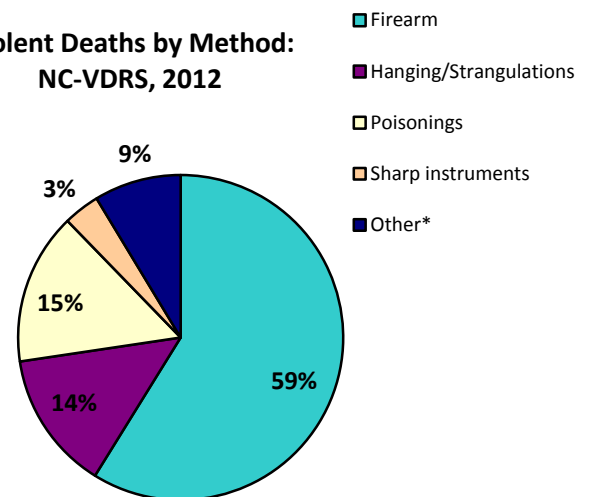
- The rate of firearm-related deaths per 100,000 population remained relatively stable from 2004 (12.1) to 2012 (11.7).

- The rate of firearm-related homicides varied from a high of 5.0 in 2005 to a low of 3.6 in 2010.

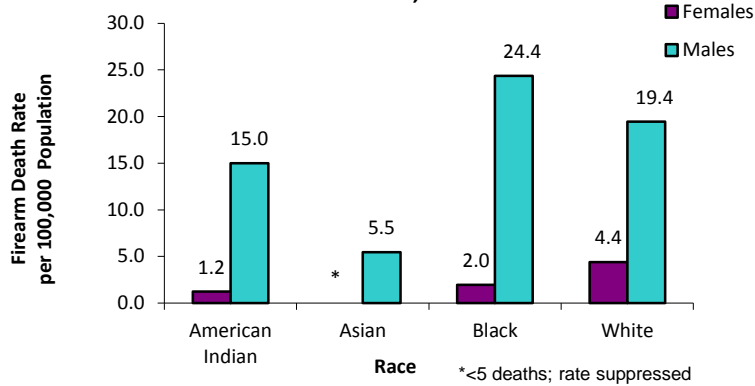
- The rate of firearm-related suicides varied from a high of 8.7 in 2011 to a low of 7.8 in 2007.

- The most common locations of firearm-related deaths were apartment or home (76%); street/road, sidewalk or alley (6%); natural area such as a field, river, beach, or woods (3%); public lot or parking garage (2%); and motor vehicle excluding school bus and public transportation (4%).

**Violent Deaths by Method:  
NC-VDRS, 2012**



### Firearm-Related Death Rates by Sex and Race: NC-VDRS, 2012



- Black (24.4), white (19.4), and American Indian (15.0) males had the highest firearm-related death rates.

- Across all races, firearm-related death rates were lower for females than males.

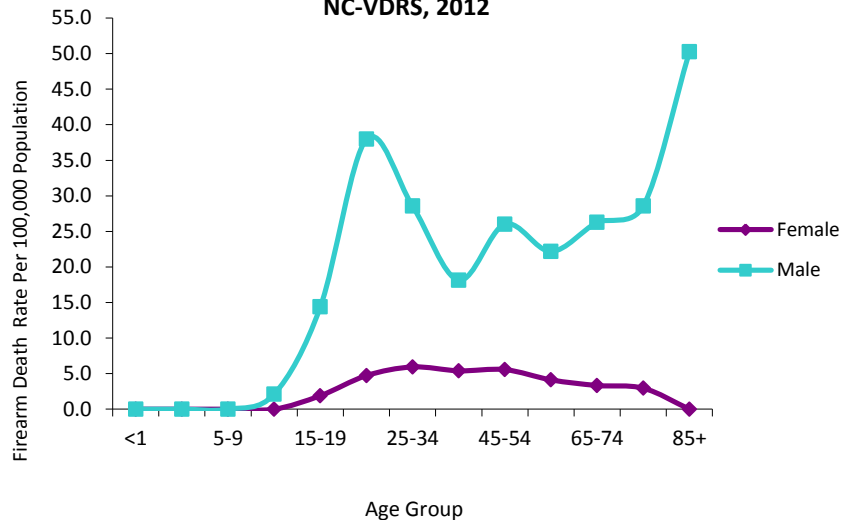
- White (4.4) females had a higher firearm-related death rate than black (2.0) and American Indian (0.0) females.

- The majority of firearm-related deaths were among males (84%).

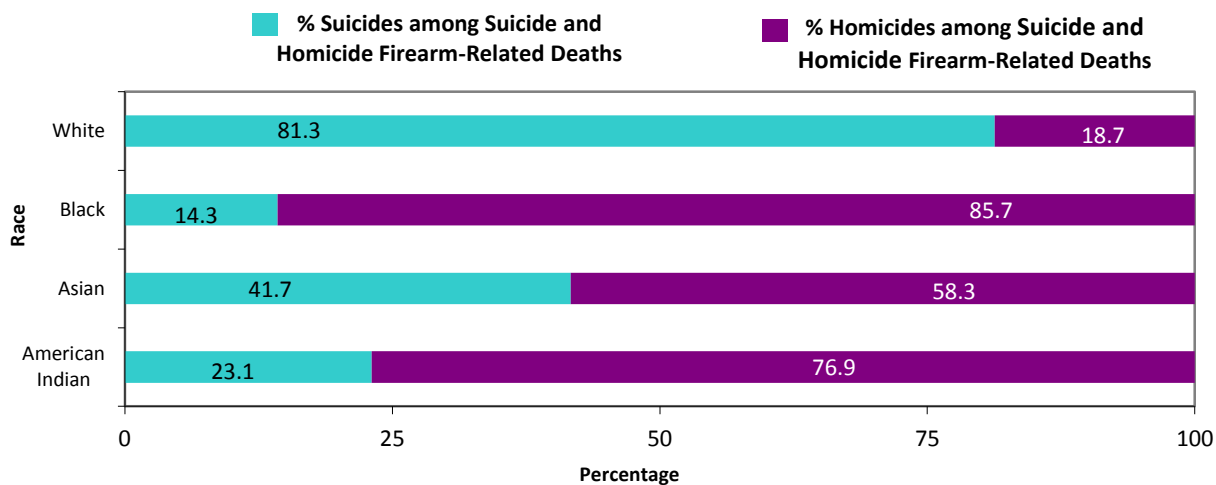
- The firearm-related death rate peaked among men ages 20-24 (38.0) and again among men ages 85 and older (50.2), while the rate among women peaked from ages 25 to 54.

- Suicide was the most common type of firearm-related death among whites (81%) while homicide was the most common type among blacks (86%), Asians (58%) and American Indians (77%). There were only 13 total firearm-related deaths among American Indians and 12 among Asians in 2012.

### Firearm-Related Death Rates by Sex and Age: NC-VDRS, 2012



### Percent of Suicides and Homicides among Suicide and Homicide Firearm-Related Deaths by Race: NC-VDRS, 2012



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