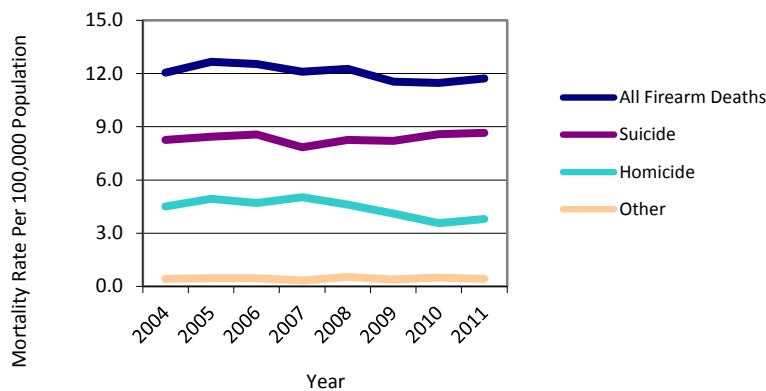


Firearm Deaths in North Carolina

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 2011.

**N.C. Annual Firearm Death Rates:
NC-VDRS, 2004-2011**



- In 2011, there were 1,133 firearm-related deaths among North Carolina residents.

- Causes of death attributable to firearm mortality include suicide (64%), homicide (32%), legal intervention involving discharge of firearm (1%), unintentional discharge of firearm (2%), and undetermined intent (<1%).

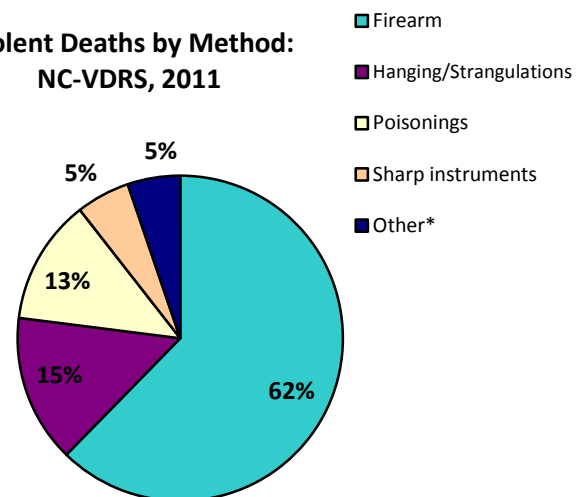
- The rate of firearm-related deaths was relatively stable from 2004 (12.1) to 2011 (11.7).

- The mortality rates (per 100,000 persons) for firearm-related deaths in 2011 were: suicide 8.7, homicide 3.8, and other (unintentional, legal intervention and undetermined) 0.4.

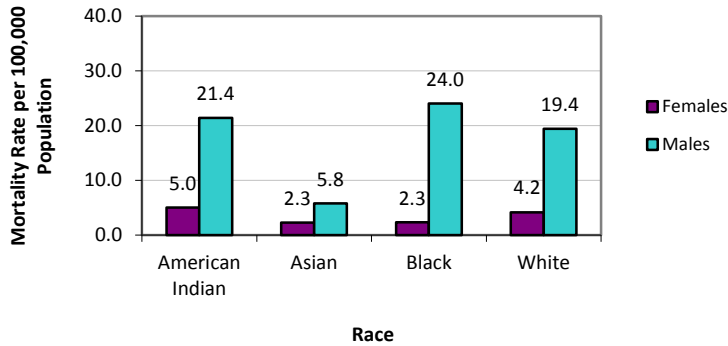
- The most common locations of firearm deaths were apartment or home (74%); street/road, sidewalk or alley (9%); natural area (such as a field, river, beach, or woods) (4%); public lot or parking garage (2%); and motor vehicle (excluding school bus and public transportation) (2%).

- More than half (62%) of all violent deaths in North Carolina were due to firearms.

**Violent Deaths by Method:
NC-VDRS, 2011**



Firearm Death Rates by Sex and Race: NC-VDRS, 2011



- Black(24.0) and American Indian (21.4) males had higher firearm mortality rates compared to white (19.4) and Asian (5.8) males.

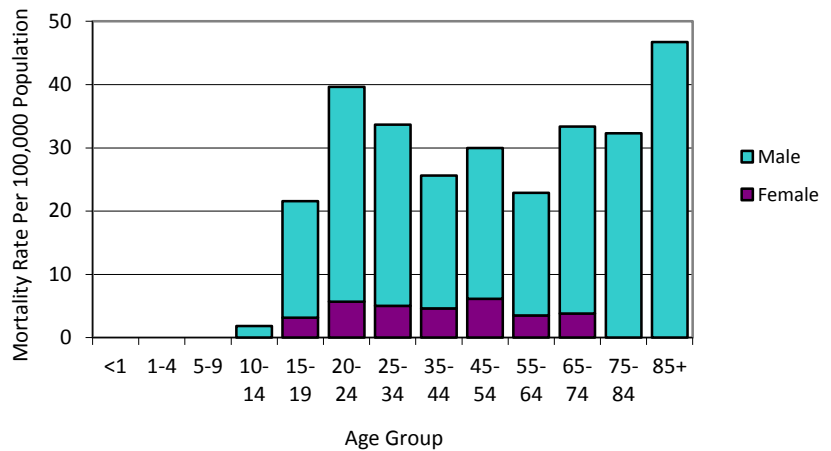
- Although rates were much lower in females than males, American Indian women had the highest firearm mortality rate (5.0) compared to other races: white (4.2), black (2.3), and Asian (2.3).

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

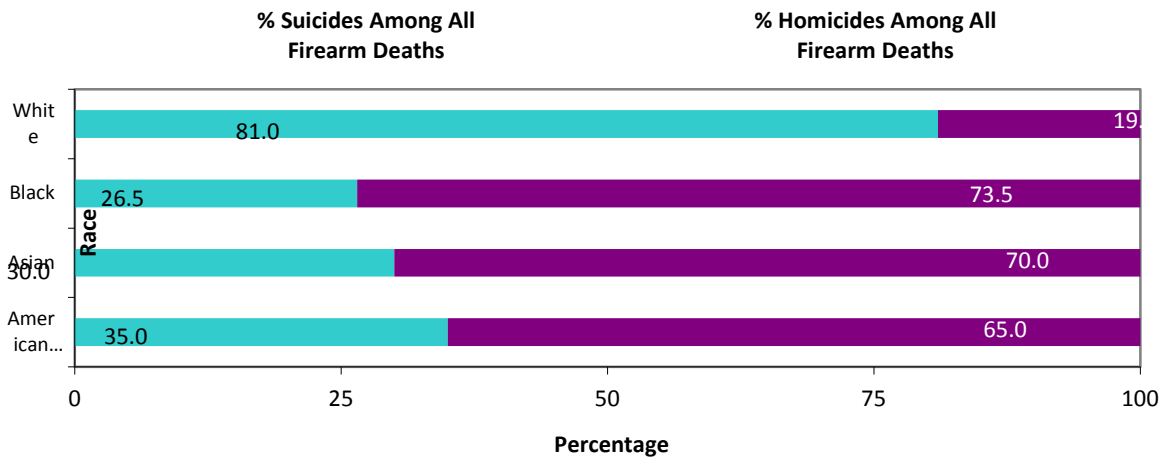
- The firearm-related mortality rate peaked in men ages 20-24 plus at a rate of 33.9, while the rate among women peaked for ages 45-54 at a rate of 6.1.

- Suicide was the most common type of firearm-related death among whites (81%) while homicide was the most common type among blacks (74%), Asians (70%) and American Indians (65%). American Indians had only 20 total firearm deaths and Asians had only ten firearm deaths in 2011.

Firearm Death Rates by Sex and Age: NC-VDRS, 2011



Percent of Suicides and Homicides Among All Firearm Deaths by Race: NC-VDRS, 2011



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