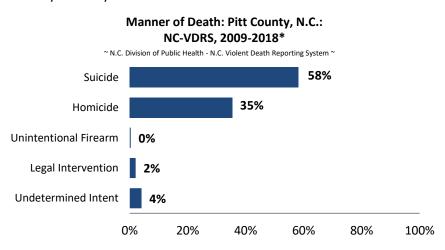
## NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES North Carolina Injury & Violence Prevention Branch

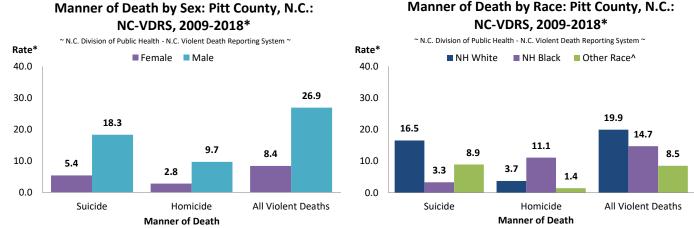
## VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: PITT COUNTY INCIDENTS, 2009-2018

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 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 occurred in Pitt County for the years 2009-2018.



- For the years 2009-2018, there were 297 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Pitt County. Of these 297 deaths, 293 were N.C. residents (98.7%) and 274 were Pitt County residents (92.3%).
- There were 173 suicides (58.2%), 105 homicides (35.4%), one unintentional firearm death (0.3%), six deaths from legal intervention (2.0%), and 12 deaths of undetermined intent (4.0%).

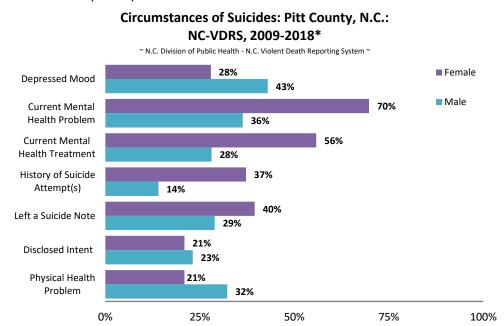
- \*Based on the county of injury occurrence.
- In Pitt County, the suicide ratio was 3.4 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 3.5 times higher in males than in females.
- Patterns of suicide and homicide differed by race. Suicide victims were more likely to be non-Hispanic (NH) white than non-Hispanic Black. NH whites had 16.5 suicides per 100,000 population versus 3.3 suicides per 100,000 population in NH Blacks. All other racial groups combined had 10 suicides.
- In contrast, NH Blacks had 11.1 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to NH whites who had 3.7 homicides per 100,000 population. All other racial groups combined had two homicides.



<sup>\*</sup>Based on the county of injury occurrence.

<sup>^</sup>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 aged less than one with 18.5 homicides per 100,000, where suicides peaked among those aged 45-54 with 20.7 suicides per 100,000.
- More than half of homicides (65.7%) and suicides (63.0%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 21.9% of homicides and 24.3% 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 (75.0%) than for male (52.9%) victims.

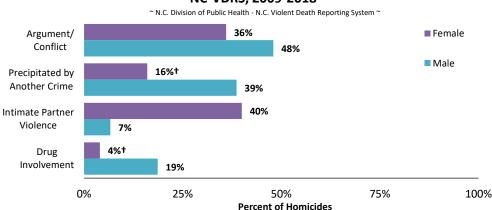


\*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 94.8% of cases had circumstance information. One female and eight males were missing circumstance information.

Percent of Suicides

- Forty-three percent (43.0%) of male and 27.9% of female Pitt County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.
- Seventy percent (69.8%) of female and 36.4% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.
- Females (37.2%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (14.1%).
- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (48.0%) than for female homicides (36.0%).
- Sixteen percent (16.0%) of female homicides and 38.7% of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.
- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 40.0% of female homicides, but only 6.7% of male homicides.

## Circumstances of Homicides: Pitt County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2009-2018\*



\*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 95.2% of cases had circumstance information. One female and four males were missing circumstance information.

† There were fewer than 5 deaths

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5 NU17CE924955-02-00 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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Death

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Please see the NC-VDRS 2018 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.