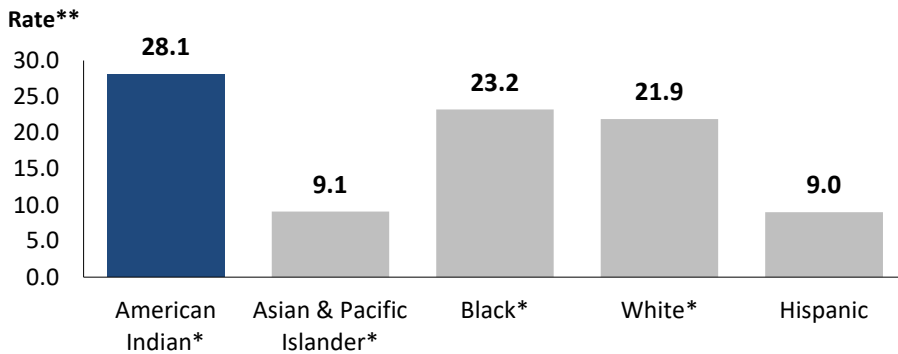


# NC Violent Death Reporting System

## VIOLENT DEATHS AMONG AMERICAN INDIAN RESIDENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA: 2011-2020

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on violent deaths that occur in North Carolina including: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths of undetermined intent. NC-VDRS triangulates information from death certificates, medical examiner reports, and law enforcement reports to understand and aid in the prevention of violent deaths. For more information, please visit <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm>.

### Violent Death Rate by Race/Ethnicity: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020

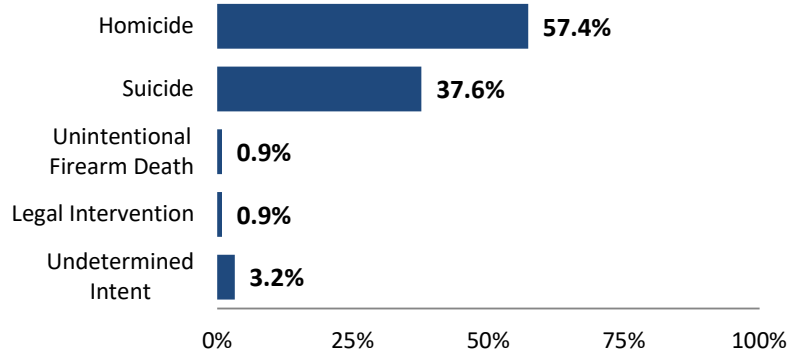


\* Non-Hispanic  
 \*\* Rate per 100,000 population

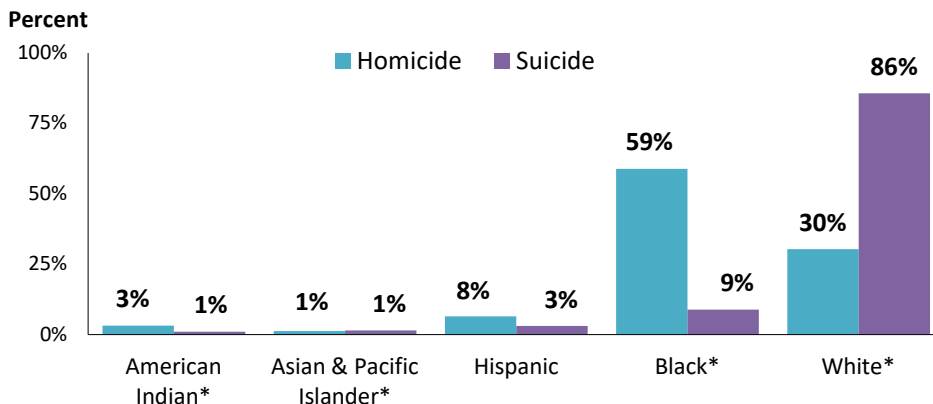
- For the year 2020, there were 124,338 non-Hispanic (NH) American Indian residents living in North Carolina, accounting for 1.2% of the state's population.
- NH American Indian victims had the highest rate of violent death by race in North Carolina for the years 2011-2020 (28.1 per 100,000 population).

- From 2011-2020, 340 NH American Indian residents in North Carolina died by violence.
- There were 195 homicides (57.4%), 128 suicides (37.6%), three unintentional firearm deaths (<1%), three deaths from legal interventions (<1%), and 11 deaths of undetermined intent (3.2%) among NH American Indian residents.
- Male NH American Indian residents were more likely to die by violence than females from 2011 to 2020 (79.4% versus 20.6%).

### Manner of Death Among NH American Indian Victims: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020



### Manner of Death by Race/Ethnicity: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020

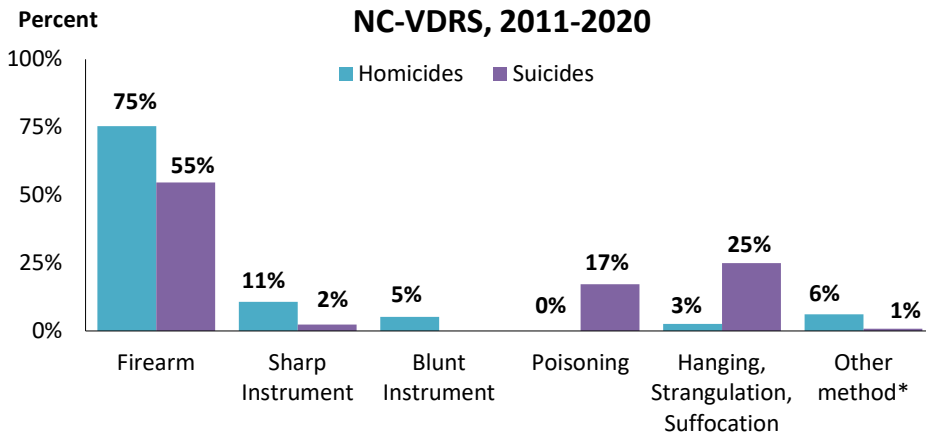


\* Non-Hispanic

- NH American Indian victims accounted for 3.1% of all homicides and 0.9% of all suicides, across all racial groups in North Carolina from 2011 to 2020.

- In contrast, 58.9% of all homicides were NH Black victims and 85.7% of all suicides were NH white victims from 2011 to 2020.

## Method of Death Among NH American Indian Victims:



- The majority of homicides (75.4%) and suicides (54.7%) among NH American Indians victims involved firearms.

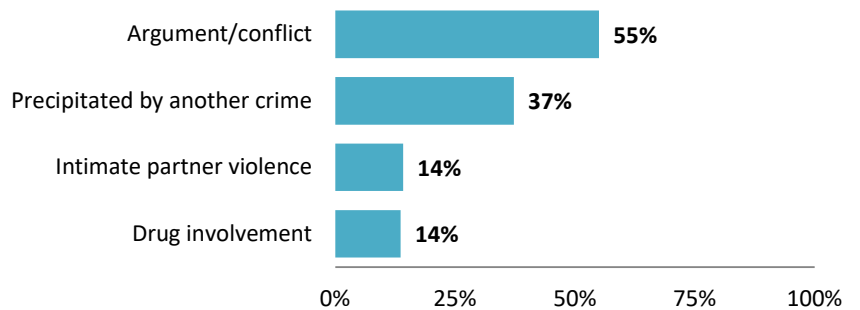
- The second most common method of homicide was sharp instruments (10.8%).

- The second most common method of suicide was hanging, strangulation or suffocation (25.0%).

\*Other includes fire/burns, falls, intentional neglect, personal weapons and other methods

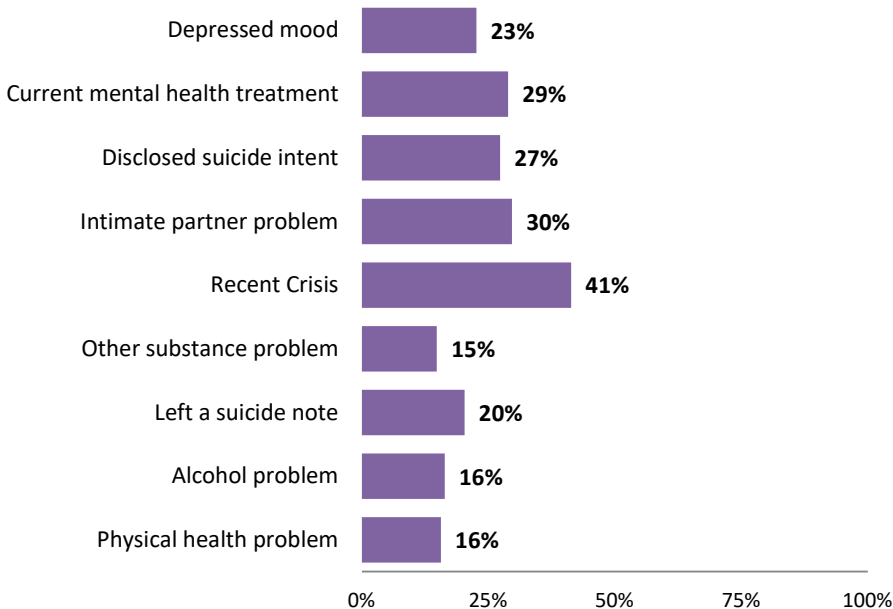
- Of all homicides among NH American Indian victims with known circumstance information, more than half (55.0%) involved an argument or conflict.
- Another serious crime (e.g., robbery, burglary) precipitated 37.3% of homicides among NH American Indians.
- Of these homicides, 13.6% were suspected to have been related to drug dealing, trade, or use.

## Homicide Circumstances\* Among NH American Indian Victims: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020



\* Eighty-seven percent (86.7%) of homicide cases had circumstance information.

## Suicide Circumstances\* Among NH American Indian Victims: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020



\* Ninety percent (89.8%) of suicide cases had circumstance information.

- Among NH American Indian suicide victims with known circumstance information, 41.4% experienced a recent crisis.
- Almost a quarter (22.7%) of victims were characterized as being depressed at the time of suicide.
- Twenty-nine percent (28.9%) of victims were receiving treatment for a mental health problem.
- Thirty percent (29.7%) of suicide victims experienced an intimate partner problem, and (14.8%) percent experienced some substance use problem other than alcohol.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5NU17/CE002613-05-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

NC Division of Public Health / [www.publichealth.nc.gov](http://www.publichealth.nc.gov) / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425  
 NC Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432  
 State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / [www.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.ncdhhs.gov)  
 NC DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.  
 2020 FINAL DATA 6/20/2022

Please see the NC-VDRS 2020 Annual Report for additional data and technical information:

<https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/ViolentDeathData.htm>