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 Rates by Race/Ethnicity: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Rate**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black*</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White*</td>
<td>21.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian*</td>
<td>28.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian &amp; Pacific Islander*</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- From 2010-2019, 4,809 NH African American residents in North Carolina died by violence.
- There were 3,425 homicides (71.2%), 1,139 suicides (2.1%), 49 unintentional firearm deaths (24.0%), 93 deaths due to legal interventions (1.9%), and 103 deaths of undetermined intent (0.6%) among NH African American residents.
- Male NH African American residents were more likely to die by violence than females from 2010 to 2019 (83.7% versus 16.3%).

### Manner of Death Among NH African American Victims: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019

- Homicide: 71%
- Suicide: 2%
- Legal Intervention: 2%
- Unintentional Firearm: 24%
- Undetermined Intent: 1%

### Manner of Death by Race/Ethnicity: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019

- NH African American victims accounted for 57.3% of all homicides and 8.6% of all suicides, across all racial groups in North Carolina from 2010 to 2019.
- In contrast, NH white victims accounted for 86.3% of all suicides and 31.8% of all homicides, across all racial groups in North Carolina from 2010 to 2019.
The majority of homicides (80.0%) and suicides (54.1%) among NH African Americans victims involved firearms.

• The second most common method of homicide was sharp instruments (9.4%).

• The second most common method of suicide was hanging, strangulation or suffocation (23.2%).

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

• Of all homicides among NH African American victims with known circumstance information, over two-fifths (44.7%) involved an argument or conflict.

• Another serious crime (e.g., robbery, burglary) precipitated 90.1% of homicides among NH African American victims.

• Of these homicide victims, 33.8% involved intimate partner violence.

Suicide Circumstances* Among NH African American Victims: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019

- Current mental health problem 40%
- Current depressed mood 27%
- Current mental health treatment 31%
- Ever treated mental health 40%
- Intimate partner problem 32%
- Recent Crisis 54%
- Disclosed suicide intent 24%
- Other substance abuse 14%
- Left a suicide note 22%
- Alcohol problem 10%

* Ninety-four percent (93.5%) of suicide cases had circumstance information.

• Among NH African American suicide victims with known circumstance information, 53.8% experienced a recent crisis.

• Forty percent (40.1%) of NH African American suicide victims were described as having a current mental health problem, and 30.5% were receiving treatment for a mental health problem at the time of suicide.

• Almost one-third (31.9%) of NH African American suicide victims had experienced a recent problem with an intimate partner.

• Twenty-four percent (24.1%) of NH African American suicide victims disclosed their suicide intent, and 22.3% left a note.