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](https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm).

**Violent Death Rates by Race/Ethnicity: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Rate**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black*</td>
<td>23.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White*</td>
<td>21.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian*</td>
<td>28.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian &amp; Pacific Islander*</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

- From 2011-2020, 5,181 NH African American residents in North Carolina died by violence.
- There were 3,736 homicides (72.1%), 1,190 suicides (2.1%), 55 unintentional firearm deaths (23.3%), 93 deaths due to legal interventions (1.8%), and 107 deaths of undetermined intent (0.5%) among NH African American residents.
- Male NH African American residents were more likely to die by violence than females from 2011 to 2020 (84.2% versus 15.8%).

**Manner of Death Among NH African American Victims: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020**

- For the year 2020, there were 2,344,295 non-Hispanic (NH) African American residents living in North Carolina, accounting for 22.1% of the state’s population.
- NH African American victims had the second highest rate of violent death by race/ethnicity in North Carolina for the years 2011-2020 (23.2 per 100,000 population).

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

- NH African American victims accounted for 59.0% of all homicides and 8.8% of all suicides, across all racial groups in North Carolina from 2011 to 2020.
- In contrast, NH white victims accounted for 85.9% of all suicides and 30.3% of all homicides, across all racial groups in North Carolina from 2011 to 2020.

For more information, please visit [https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm](https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm).
• Of all homicides among NH African American victims with known circumstance information, over two-fifths (43.6%) involved an argument or conflict.

• Another serious crime (e.g., robbery, burglary) precipitated 90.6% of homicides among NH African American victims.

• Of these homicide victims, 32.4% involved intimate partner violence.

Suicide Circumstances* Among NH African American Victims: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020

- Current mental health problem
- Current depressed mood
- Current mental health treatment
- Ever treated mental health
- Intimate partner problem
- Recent Crisis
- Disclosed suicide intent
- Other substance abuse
- Left a suicide note
- Alcohol problem

- Among NH African American suicide victims with known circumstance information, 52.7% experienced a recent crisis.

- Forty-one percent (40.6%) of NH African American suicide victims were described as having a current mental health problem, and 29.9% were receiving treatment for a mental health problem at the time of suicide.

- Almost one-third (31.7%) of NH African American suicide victims had experienced a recent problem with an intimate partner.

- Twenty-four percent (24.4%) of NH African American suicide victims disclosed their suicide intent, and 21.5% left a note.

* Ninety-four percent (93.9%) of suicide cases had circumstance information.

Method of Death Among NH African American Victims: NC-VDRS, 2011-2020

- Homicide
- Suicide

- The majority of homicides (81.7%) and suicides (54.7%) among NH African Americans victims involved firearms.

- The second most common method of homicide was sharp instruments (8.7%).

- The second most common method of suicide was hanging, strangulation or suffocation (23.0%).

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