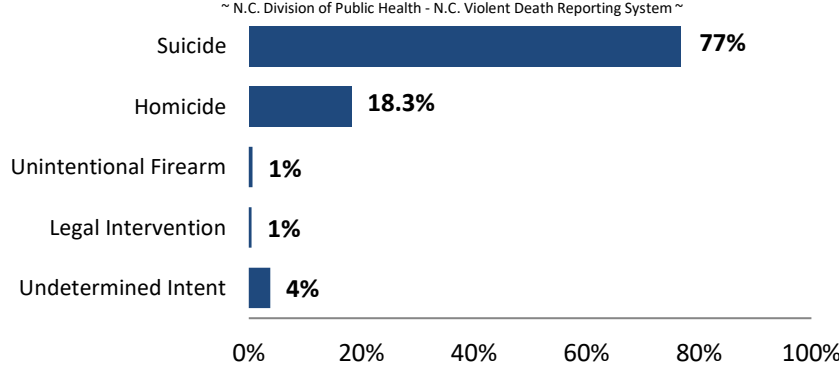


**VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA:
 BUNCOMBE COUNTY INCIDENTS, 2009-2018**

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 Buncombe County for the years 2009-2018.

North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System

Manner of Death: Buncombe County, N.C.:
NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*



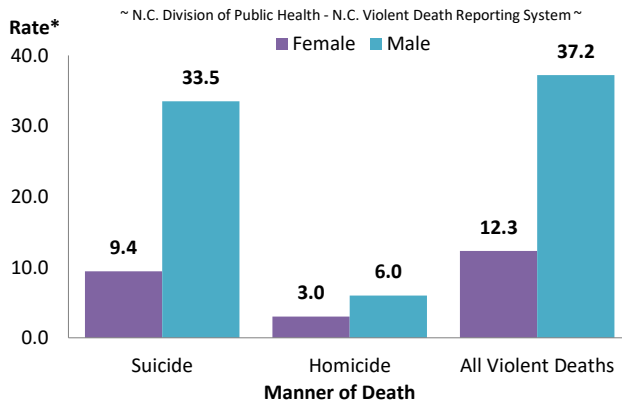
- For the years 2009-2018, there were 602 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Buncombe County. Of these 602 deaths, 580 were N.C. residents (96.3%) and 551 were Buncombe County residents (91.5%).

- There were 462 suicides (76.7%), 110 homicides (18.3%), four unintentional firearm deaths (0.7%), three deaths from legal intervention (0.5%), and 23 deaths of undetermined intent (3.8%).

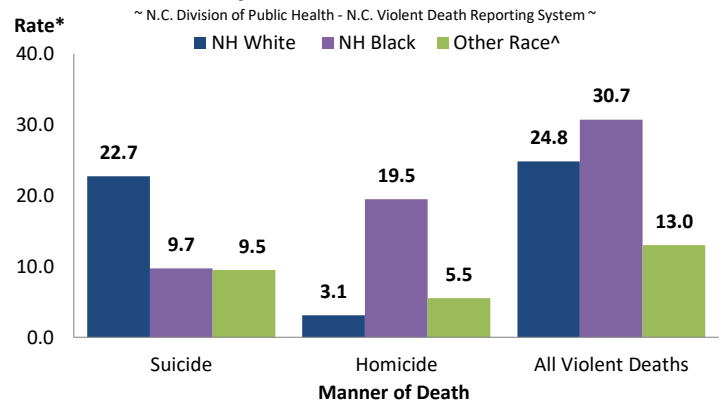
*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

- In Buncombe County, the suicide ratio was 3.6 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 2.0 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 22.7 suicides per 100,000 population versus 9.7 suicides per 100,000 population in NH Blacks. All other racial groups combined had 15 suicides.
- In contrast, NH Blacks had 19.5 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to NH whites who had 3.1 homicides per 100,000 population. All other racial groups combined had 11 homicides.

Manner of Death by Sex: Buncombe County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*



Manner of Death by Race: Buncombe County, N.C.: NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*



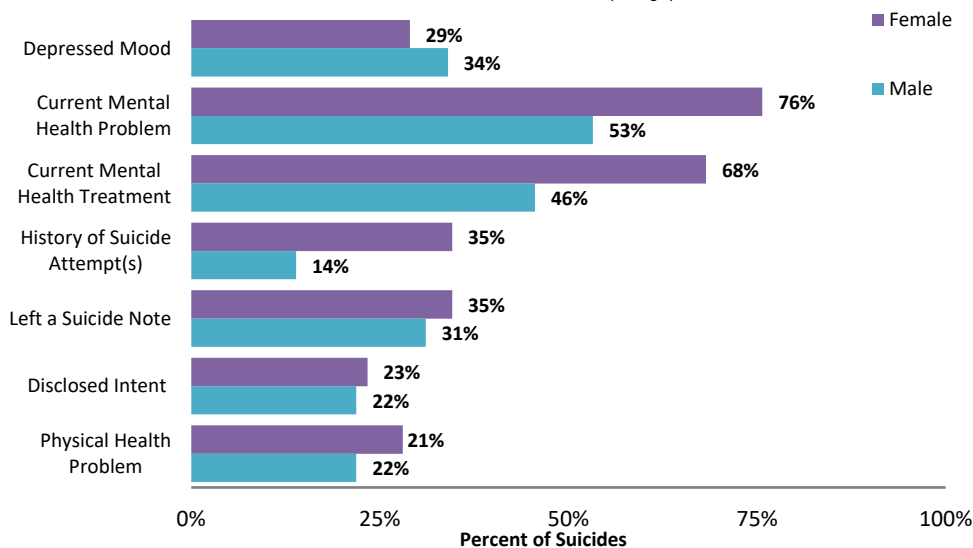
*Rate per 100,000 (number of occurrent injuries resulting in death per 100,000 population; based on the county of injury occurrence.

^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 20-24 with 8.8 homicides per 100,000, where suicides peaked among those aged 45-54 with 29.7 suicides per 100,000.
- More than half of homicides (54.5%) and half of suicides (50.0%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 27.3% of homicides and in 22.9% 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 (81.0%) than for male (73.4%) victims.

Circumstances of Suicides: Buncombe County, N.C.:
NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*

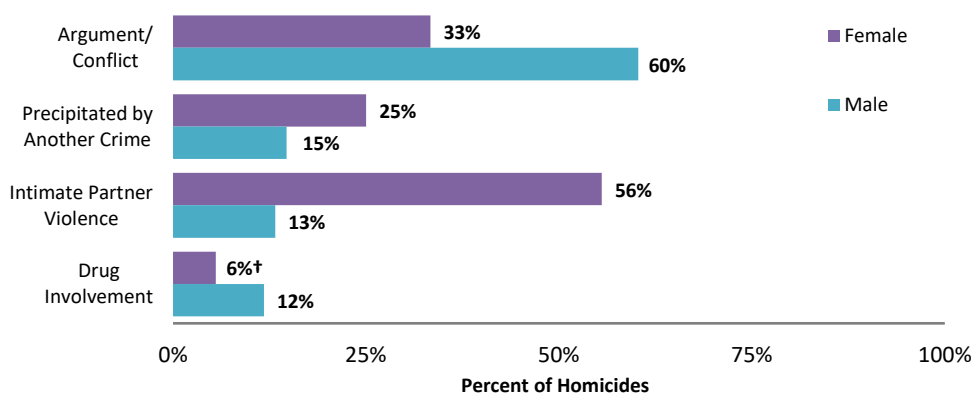
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*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 96.3% of cases had circumstance information. Two females and 15 males were missing circumstance information.

Circumstances of Homicides: Buncombe County, N.C.:
NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*

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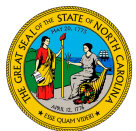
*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 94.5% of cases had circumstance information. Three females and three males were missing circumstance information.

† There were fewer than 5 deaths

- Thirty-four percent (34.0%) of male and 29.0% of female Buncombe County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.
- Seventy-six percent (75.7%) of female and 53.3% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.
- Females (34.6%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (13.9%).

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (60.3%) than for female homicides (33.3%).
- Twenty-five percent (25.0%) of female homicides and 14.7% of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.
- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 55.6% of female homicides, but only 13.2% of male homicides.

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NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
 HUMAN SERVICES**
 Division of Public Health

North Carolina Violent Death
NC VDRS
 Reporting System

N.C. Division of Public Health / www.publichealth.nc.gov / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425
 N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432
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 2018 FINAL DATA 8/24

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