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 Deaths by Method: NC-VDRS, 2019**

- Firearm: 63%
- Hanging/Strangulations: 16%
- Poisonings: 10%
- Sharp instruments: 5%
- Other*: 6.2%

*Other includes motor vehicle, blunt instruments, violent shaking, drowning, fire/burns, intentional neglect, unknown method, and other causes of death.

**Firearm-Related Death Rates by Year: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019**

- The rate of firearm-related deaths per 100,000 population remained relatively stable from 2010 (11.5) to 2014 (11.6); from 2014 to 2019 (13.1) the rate increased by 13.2%.
- The rate of firearm-related homicides varied from a low of 3.6 in 2010 to a high of 5.3 in 2016.
- The rate of firearm-related suicides varied from a low of 8.3 in 2012 to a high of 9.4 in 2018.

* Rate per 100,000 NC population

- In 2019, there were 1,379 firearm-related deaths among North Carolina (NC) residents.
- Nearly two-thirds (63.1%) of all violent deaths in NC during 2019 were caused by firearms.
- Specific causes of firearm-related deaths included suicide (56.4%), homicide (39.4%), legal intervention involving discharge of firearm (2.4%), unintentional discharge of firearm (1.1%), and undetermined intent (0.7%).

The most common locations of firearm-related deaths were apartment or home (67.4%); motor vehicle, excluding school bus and public transportation (12.3%); natural areas such as a field, river, beach, or woods (3.3%); street/road, sidewalk or alley (6.2%); other commercial establishment, such as a grocery store, retail outlet, or laundromat (3.8%); and parking lot or public parking garage (1.1%).
Firearm-Related Death Rates by Sex and Race: NC-VDRS, 2019

- Most firearm-related deaths were among males (85.4%).
- The firearm-related death rate was highest among men ages 85 and older (44.8) and 20-24 (44.4), while the rate among women was highest for ages 25-34 (7.0) and 45-54 (5.0).
- Suicide was the most common type of firearm-related death among NH whites (86.6%), and NH Asians (60.0%), while homicide was the most common type among NH Blacks (82.0%), NH American Indians (72.2%) and Hispanics (70.2%).
- There were only 18 total firearm-related deaths among American Indians, 10 among Asians, and 63 among Hispanics in 2019.

Suicide and Homicide Firearm-Related Deaths by Race/Ethnicity: NC-VDRS, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>% Suicides</th>
<th>% Homicides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH White</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Black</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Asian</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH American Indian</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Among suicide and homicide firearm-related deaths