VIOLENT DEATHS AMONG HISPANIC 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

- From 2011 to 2020, 837 Hispanic residents in North Carolina died by violence.

- There were 404 homicides (48.3%), 396 suicides (47.3%), nine unintentional firearm deaths (1.1%), 13 deaths due to legal interventions (1.6%), and 15 deaths of undetermined intent (1.8%) among Hispanic residents.

- Male Hispanic residents were over four times more likely to die by violence than females from 2011 to 2020 (80.5% versus 19.5%).

Manner of Death Among Hispanic Victims: NC-VDRS 2011-2020

- Hispanic victims had the lowest rate of violent death by race in North Carolina (9.0 per 100,000 population) from 2011 to 2020.

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

- Hispanic victims accounted for 6.4% of all homicides and 2.9% of all suicides, across all racial groups in North Carolina from 2011 to 2020.

- In contrast, NH Black victims accounted for 58.9% of all homicides and NH white victims accounted for 85.7% of all suicides, across all racial groups in North Carolina from 2011 to 2020.
• Of all homicides among Hispanic victims with known circumstance information, two-fifths (41.2%) involved an argument or conflict.
• Another serious crime (e.g., robbery, burglary) precipitated 38.7% of homicides among Hispanics.
• Of these homicides victims, 18.2% involved intimate partner violence.

Suicide Circumstances* Among Hispanic Victims:
NC-VDRS, 2011-2020

- Current mental health problem: 36%
- Current depressed mood: 31%
- Current mental health treatment: 28%
- Left suicide note: 26%
- Intimate partner problem: 43%
- Recent Crisis: 51%
- Disclosed intent: 30%
- Physical health problem: 12%
- History of suicide attempt(s): 14%
- Alcohol problem: 14%

* Ninety-two percent (92.4%) of suicide cases had circumstance information.

Homicide Circumstances* Among Hispanic Victims:
NC-VDRS, 2011-2020

- Argument or conflict: 41%
- Precipitated by another crime: 39%
- Intimate partner violence: 18%
- Drug involvement: 15%

* Eighty-eight percent (88.4%) of homicide cases had circumstance information.

• The majority of homicides (77.0%) and suicides (44.7%) among Hispanic victims involved firearms.
• The second most common method of homicide was sharp instruments (9.9%).
• The second most common method of suicide was hanging, strangulation or suffocation (38.4%).

• Among Hispanic suicide victims with known circumstance information, 51.1% experienced a recent crisis.
• One-third (36.1%) of victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem and 31.1% were characterized as being depressed at the time of suicide.
• Twenty-six percent (26.0%) of Hispanic suicide victims left a suicide note and 29.5% disclosed their suicide intent.
• Forty-three percent (42.6%) of Hispanic suicide victims experienced a recent problem with an intimate partner.