

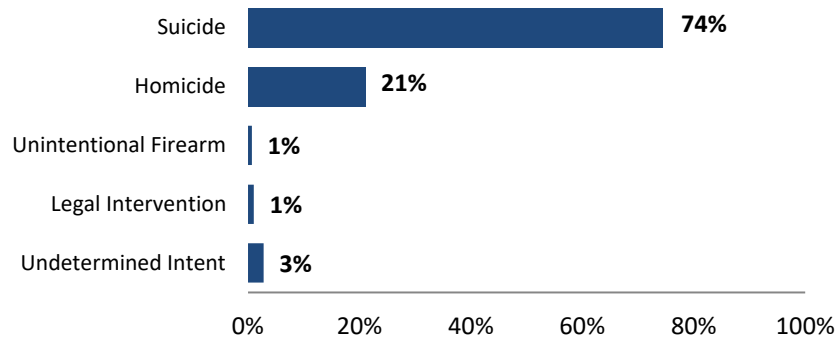
**VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA:
 UNION COUNTY INCIDENTS, 2009-2018**

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 Union County for the years 2009-2018.

North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System

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

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- For the years 2009-2018, there were 285 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Union County. Of these 285 deaths, 271 were N.C. residents (95.1%) and 256 were Union County residents (89.8%).

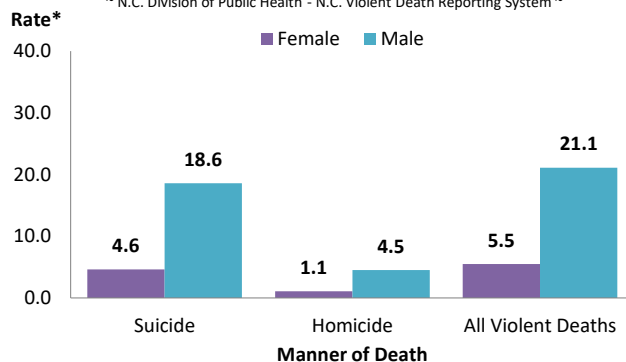
- There were 212 suicides (74.4%), 60 homicides (21.1%), two unintentional firearm deaths (0.7%), three deaths from legal intervention (1.1%), and eight deaths of undetermined intent (2.8%).

*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

- In Union County, the suicide ratio was 4.0 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 4.1 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 13.7 suicides per 100,000 population versus 5.9 suicides per 100,000 population in NH Blacks. All other racial groups combined had seven suicides.
- In contrast, NH Blacks had 10.8 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to NH whites who had 1.6 homicides per 100,000 population. All other racial groups combined had seven homicides.

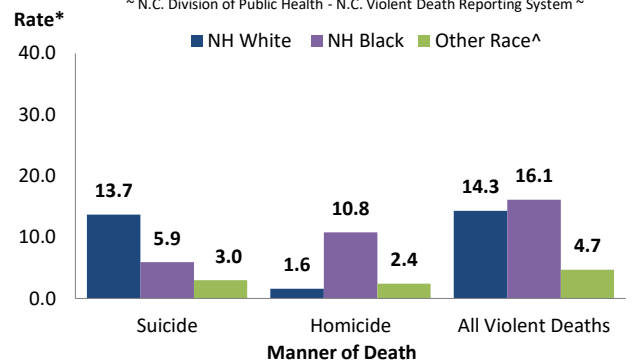
Manner of Death by Sex: Union County, N.C.:
NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*

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

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*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

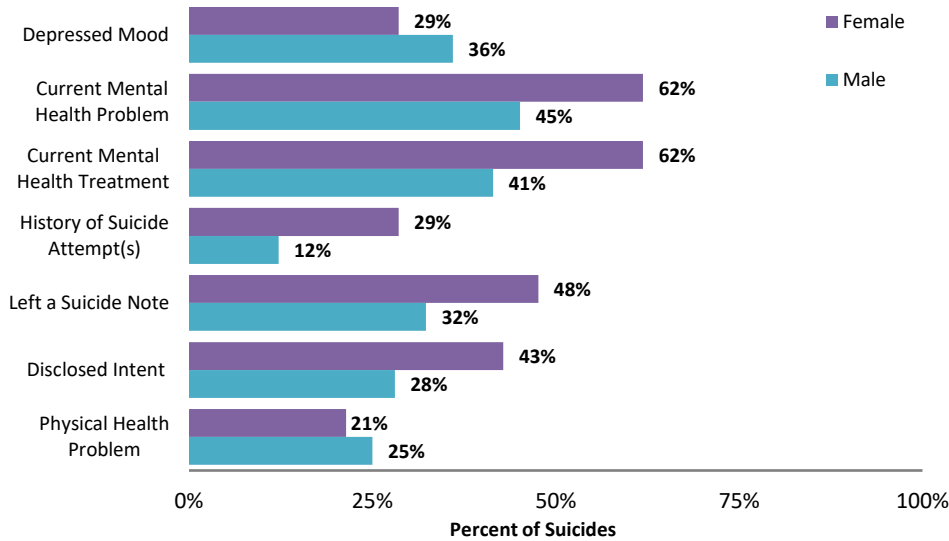
^Other race refers to Hispanics, American Indians, Asians, other races, and unspecified or unknown race.

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. However, both homicides and suicides peaked among those aged 85 and older with 9.1 homicides per 100,000 and 27.4 suicides per 100,000.
- More than half of homicides (68.3%) and over half of suicides (61.3%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 26.7% of homicides and 23.6% 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 (83.3%) than for male (59.2%) victims.

Circumstances of Suicides: Union County, N.C.:

NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*

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*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 97.2% of cases had circumstance information. One female and five males were missing circumstance information.

- Thirty-six percent (36.0%) of male and 28.6% of female Union County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.

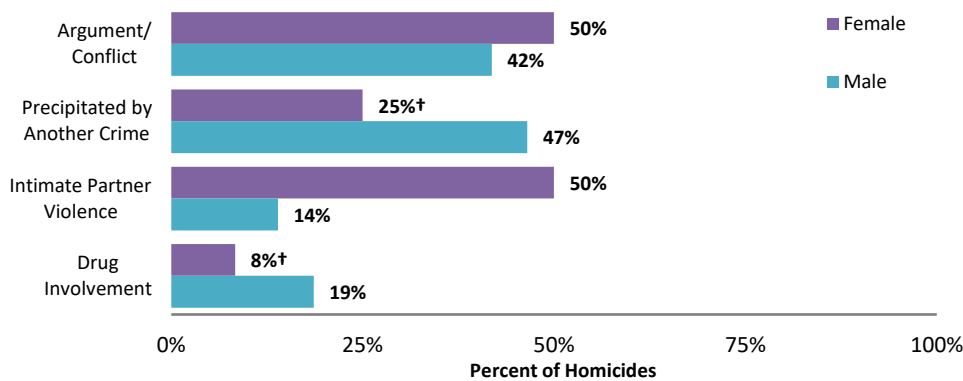
- Sixty-two percent (61.9%) of female and 45.1% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Females (28.6%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (12.2%).

Circumstances of Homicides: Union County, N.C.:

NC-VDRS, 2009-2018*

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*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 91.7% of cases had circumstance information. Zero females and five males were missing circumstance information.

† There were fewer than 5 deaths

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for female homicides (50.0%) than for male homicides (41.9%).

- Twenty-five percent (25.0%) of female homicides and 46.5% of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.

- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 50.0% of female homicides, but only 14.0% of male homicides.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5NU17/CE002613-05-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

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



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

North Carolina Violent Death
NC VDRS
Reporting System

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