For every age group, there were more youth homicides among males than females. Homicides among males and females both peaked among those aged 20-24, with a rate of 37.5 and 7.2 per 100,000 respectively. The rate of homicides was approximately 3.8 times greater for males than females overall, and the rate for 15- to 24 year-olds was 5.1 times greater for males than females.

Youth homicide patterns differed by race. Although non-Hispanic (NH) whites composed more than half (56.4%) of the total population, they accounted for 20.4% of youth homicides, while NH Black homicide victims accounted for 25.0% of the total population but, 66.4% of youth homicides. The rate of homicides for NH Blacks victims was 23.6 per 100,000 population, compared to a rate of 21.5, 5.8, and 3.2 per 100,000 population for NH American Indians, Hispanics, and NH whites respectively.
Method of Youth Homicide: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019

- Firearms were used in 76.4% of youth homicides, while sharp instruments were used in 6.9% of all homicides.

- Personal weapons (fists, feet, and hands) were used in 7.6% of youth homicides. Of the remaining methods used in homicides (16%), each method was used in 4.1% of homicides or less.

- Argument, abuse or conflict unrelated to intimate partner violence (IPV) was noted as a contributing factor in 48.0% of youth homicides with reported circumstances.

- Of youth homicides, 29.1% were precipitated by another crime, such as robbery, burglary or drug trafficking.

- IPV was indicated as a contributing factor in 11.3% of homicides overall, 4.5% of male homicides, and 36.9% of female homicides.

- Drug involvement was identified as a contributing factor in 15.8% of all youth homicides, 18.0% of male youth homicides and 7.6% of female youth homicides.

Circumstances of Homicides: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019

- Argument/Conflict
  - Male: 51%
  - Female: 37%

- Precipitated by Another Crime
  - Male: 30%
  - Female: 25%

- Intimate Partner Violence
  - Male: 4%
  - Female: 37%

- Drug Involvement
  - Male: 18%
  - Female: 8%

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

*90.0% of cases had circumstance information. Thirty-one females and 260 males were missing circumstance information.