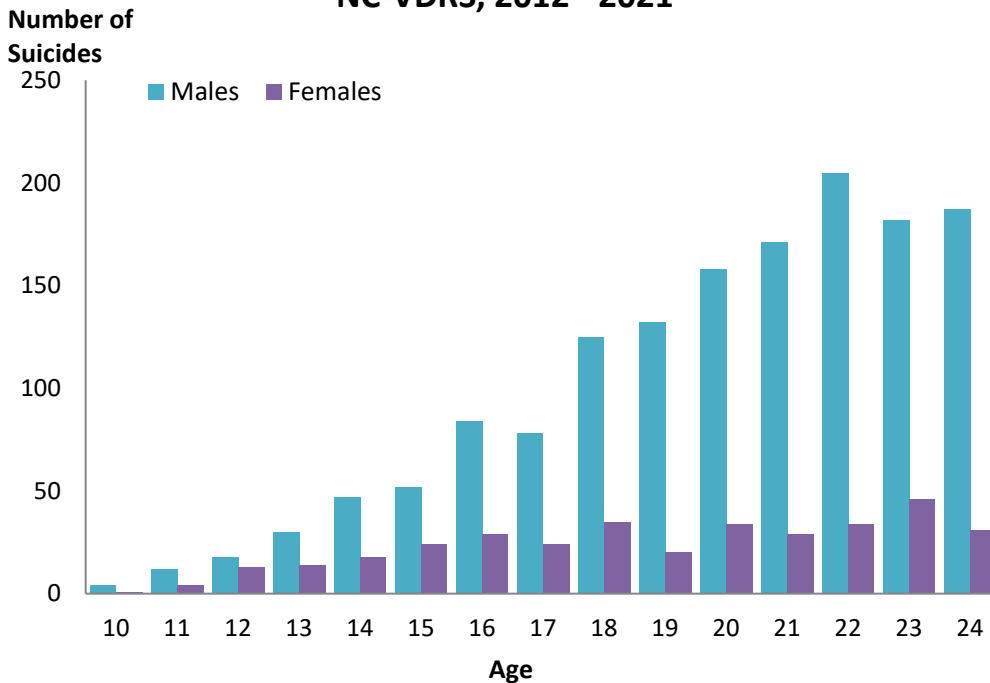


NC Violent Death Reporting System

YOUTH SUICIDE IN NORTH CAROLINA, AGES 10-24, 2012 - 2021

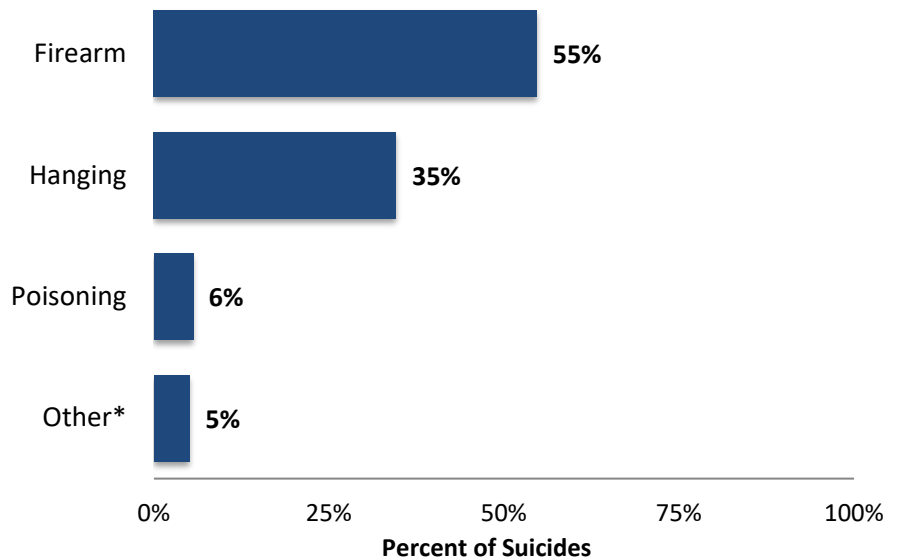
The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on violent deaths that occur in North Carolina including: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths of undetermined intent. 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>.

Youth Suicide in North Carolina, by Sex and Age: NC-VDRS, 2012 - 2021



- From 2012 to 2021, 3,777 North Carolina residents ages 10 to 24 died as a result of violence. Of these violent deaths, 1,841 (48.7%) were suicides.
- Males consistently had a higher number of suicides than females, regardless of age.
- The number of suicide deaths peaked for males at age 22 (205 suicides) and for females at age 23 (46 suicides).
- Sixty-eight percent of all youth suicide victims were identified as non-Hispanic (NH) white, 18.7% as NH Black, 8.5% as Hispanic, and 5.3% as belonging to other racial/ethnic groups.

Method of Youth Suicides: NC-VDRS, 2012 - 2021



*Other includes falls, drowning, motor vehicle, fire/burns and other causes of suicide.

- Overall, the most common method of suicide among youth was firearms (54.7%), followed by hanging, strangulation, suffocation (34.6%) and poisoning (5.6%).
- Only 5.2% of suicides involved a method other than firearms, hanging, strangulation, suffocation, or poisoning.

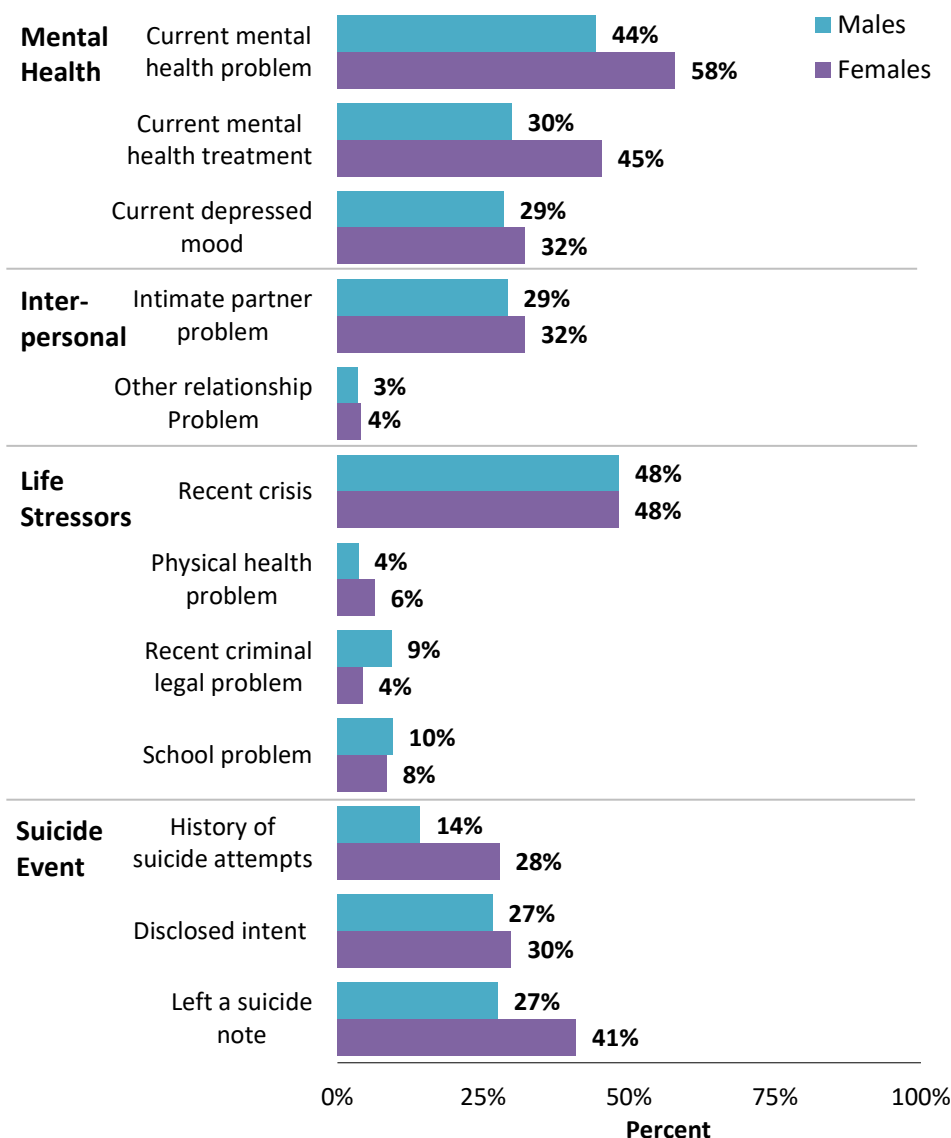
If you or someone you know needs support now,



call or text **988**
or chat
988lifeline.org

Precipitating Circumstances of Youth Suicide by Sex:

NC-VDRS, 2012 - 2021



- Fifty-eight percent (57.9%) of female and 44.4% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem when they died by suicide.

- A similar trend was seen for mental health treatment. Females (45.3%) were more likely than males (29.9%) to be receiving treatment for a current mental health problem at the time of suicide.

- Thirty-two percent (32.2%) of female and 29.2% of male suicide victims had an intimate partner problem.

- Forty-eight percent (48.3%) of female and 48.3% of male suicide victims had experienced a recent or imminent crisis.

- Thirty percent (29.8%) of female and 26.6% of male suicide victims had disclosed their suicide intent to someone else before they died.

- Females (40.9%) were more likely to leave a suicide note than males (27.5%).

*Circumstances are known for 92% of males (n=1364) and 96% of females (n=342)

More information on suicide prevention efforts can be found at:

State Resource Partners

NC Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas>

North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner

<https://www.ocme.dhhs.nc.gov/>

NC Injury and Violence Prevention's Suicide Prevention Website

<https://injuryfreenc.dph.ncdhhs.gov/preventionResources/Suicide.htm>

NC Division of Child and Family Wellbeing

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/division-child-and-family-well-being>

National Resources

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center

<http://www.sprc.org/>

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

<https://afsp.org/>

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

call or text 988

or chat 988lifeline.org

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5 NU17CE924955-02-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

NC Division of Public Health / www.publichealth.nc.gov / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425

NC Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / www.ncdhhs.gov

NC DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

2021 FINAL DATA 8/14/2023

Please see the NC-VDRS 2021 Annual Report for additional data and technical information:

<https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/DataSurveillance/ViolentDeathData.htm>



NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Public Health

