

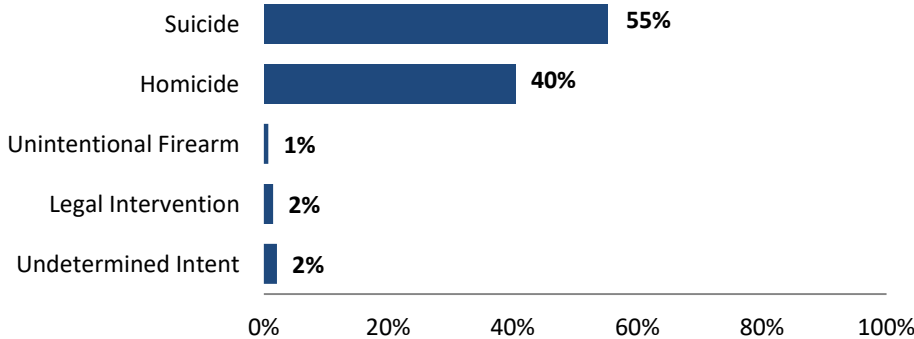
# NC Violent Death Reporting System

## VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: MECKLENBURG COUNTY INCIDENTS, 2010-2019

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. Data reported in this document are based on the county where the death occurred rather than county of residence<sup>1</sup>. For more information, please visit <https://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm>.

<sup>1</sup>The occurrent ratio is used instead of the rate. 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 the region.

### Manner of Death: Mecklenburg County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019\*



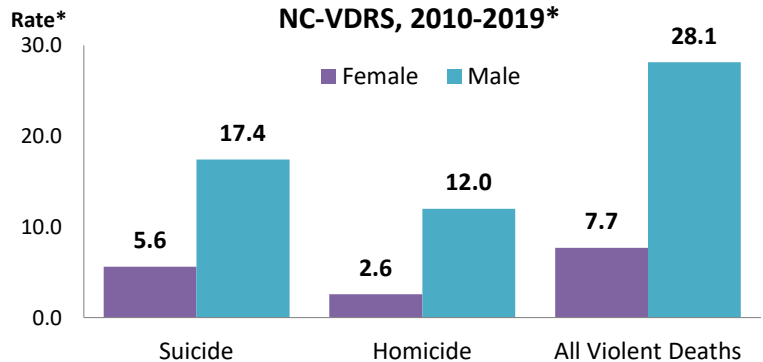
- For the years 2010-2019, there were 1,790 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Mecklenburg County. Of these 1,790 deaths, 1,719 were NC residents (96.0%) and 1,616 were Mecklenburg County residents (90.3%).

- There were 988 suicides (55.2%), 724 homicides (40.4%), 13 unintentional firearm deaths (0.7%), 27 deaths from legal intervention (1.5%), and 38 deaths of undetermined intent (2.1%).

\*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

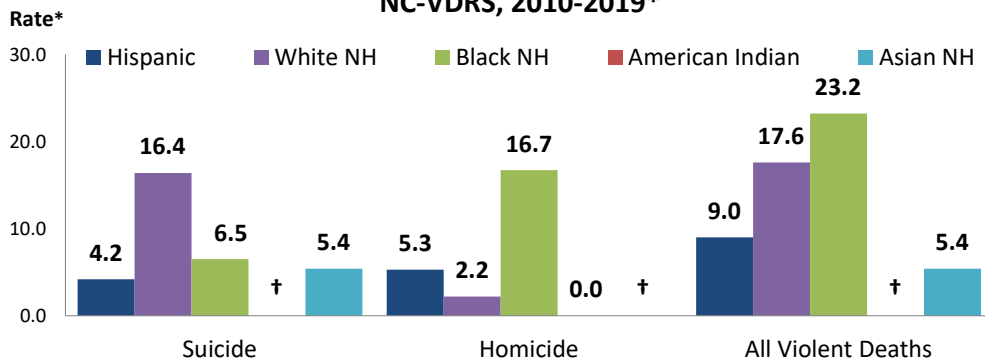
- In Mecklenburg County, the suicide ratio was 3.1 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 4.6 times higher in males than in females.

### Manner of Death by Sex: Mecklenburg County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019\*



\*Rate per 100,000 based on the county of injury occurrence.

### Manner of Death by Race/Ethnicity: Mecklenburg County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019\*



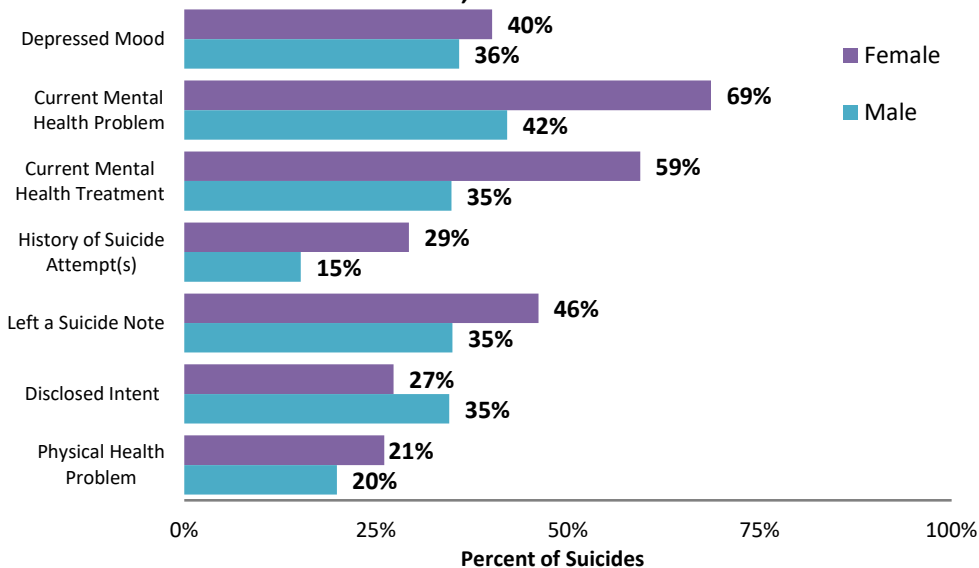
\*Rate per 100,000 based on the county of injury occurrence. † Rate suppressed, 1-4 deaths. Chart excludes five deaths of unknown or other race/ethnicity

- The suicide rate was highest for non-Hispanic (NH) white victims (16.4 suicides per 100,000 population) followed by NH Black victims (6.5 per 100,000).

- In contrast, the homicide rate was highest among NH Black victims (16.7 per 100,000 population) followed by Hispanic victims (5.3 per 100,000).

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Homicides peaked among those aged 20-24 with 23.0 homicides per 100,000, while suicides peaked among those aged 85 and older with 15.5 suicides per 100,000.
- More than three quarters of homicides (79.1%) and nearly half of suicides (48.7%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 22.5% of homicides and 26.0% 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 (70.5%) than for male (52.3%) victims.

### Circumstances of Suicides: Mecklenburg County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019\*



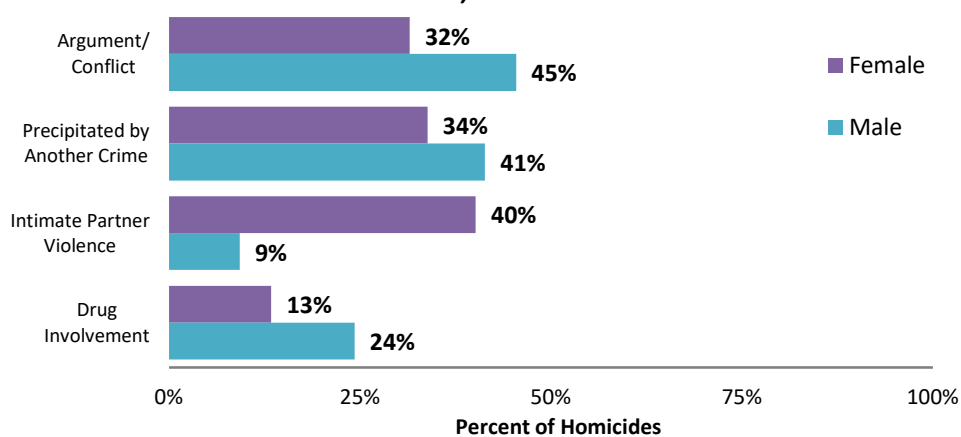
\*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 96.4% of cases had circumstance information. Seven females and 29 males were missing circumstance information.

- Thirty-six percent (35.9%) of male and 40.2% of female Mecklenburg County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.

- Sixty-nine percent (68.7%) of female and 42.1% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Females (29.3%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (15.2%).

### Circumstances of Homicides: Mecklenburg County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2010-2019\*



\*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 92.0% of cases had circumstance information. Eight females and 50 males were missing circumstance information.

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (45.5%) than for female homicides (31.5%).

- Thirty-four percent (33.9%) of female homicides and 41.4% of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.

- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 40.2% of female homicides, but only 9.3% 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](http://www.publichealth.nc.gov) / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425

N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / [www.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.ncdhhs.gov)

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2019 FINAL DATA 8/16/21



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



Please see the NC-VDRS 2019 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.