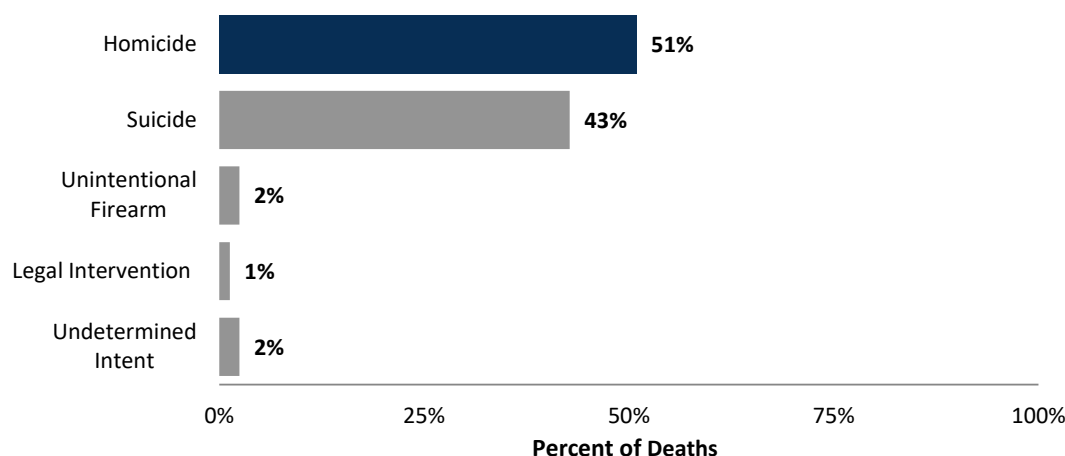


NC Violent Death Reporting System

YOUTH HOMICIDE IN NORTH CAROLINA: 2015-2024

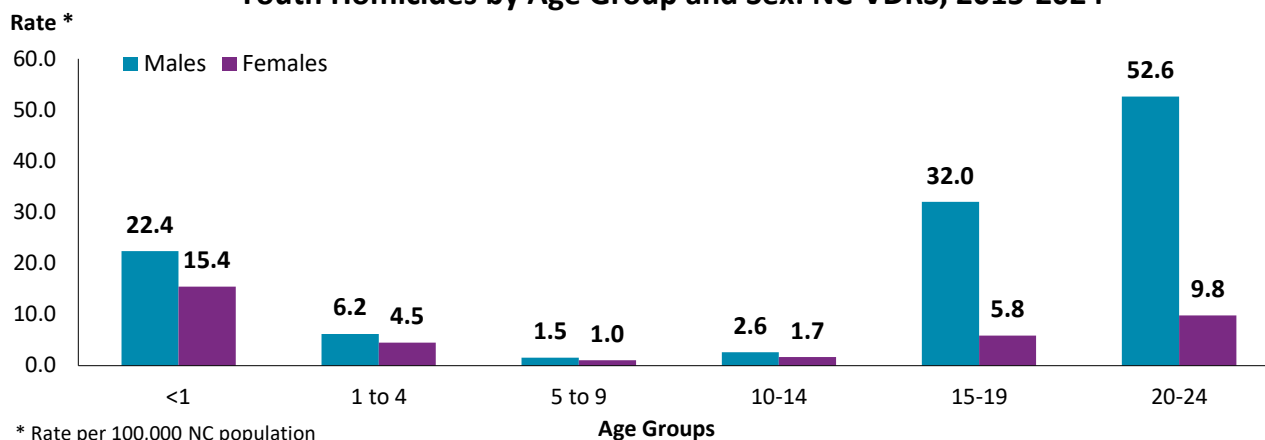
The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on violent deaths that occur in North Carolina including: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths of undetermined intent. NC-VDRS uses 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 the [NC-VDRS page](#) within the Injury and Violence Prevention Branch website.

Manner of Death among Youth (Ages 0-24): NC-VDRS, 2015-2024



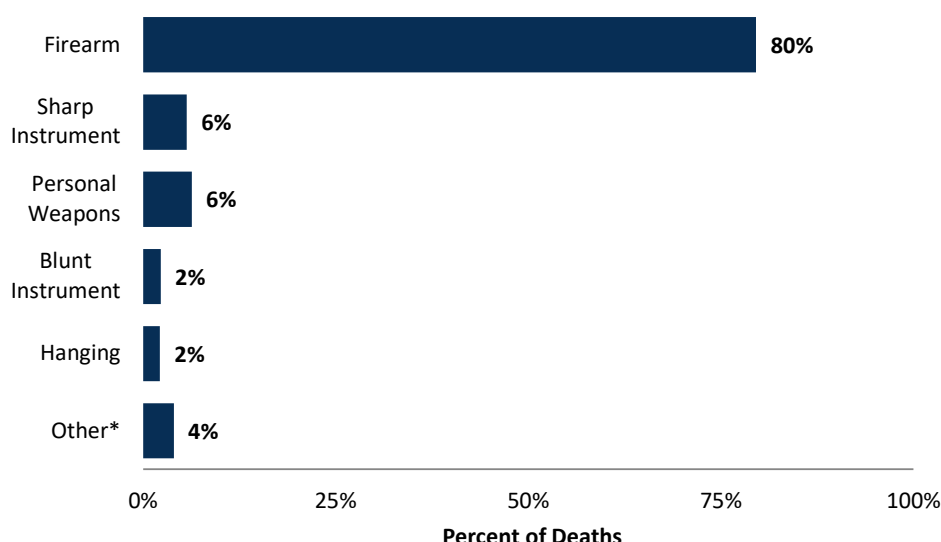
• Of the 8,476 violent deaths in North Carolina among youth aged 0-24, there were 4,319 homicides (51.0%).

Youth Homicides by Age Group and Sex: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024



- For every age group, there were more youth homicides among males than females. Homicide rates among females peaked among those aged less than 1, with a rate of 15.4 per 100,000. For males, the homicide rate peaked among those aged 20-24, with a rate of 52.6 per 100,000. The rate of homicides was approximately 4.1 times greater for males than females overall, and the rate for 15- to 24-year-olds was 5.4 times greater for males than females.
- Youth homicide patterns differed by race. Although non-Hispanic (NH) Whites composed more than half (54.6%) of the total population, they accounted for 17.8% of youth homicides, while NH Black homicide victims accounted for 23.7% of the total population but, 68.5% of youth homicides. The rate of homicides for NH Black victims was 39.2 per 100,000 population, compared to a rate of 35.9, 7.8, and 4.4 per 100,000 population for NH American Indians, Hispanics, and NH Whites respectively.

Method of Youth Homicide: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024

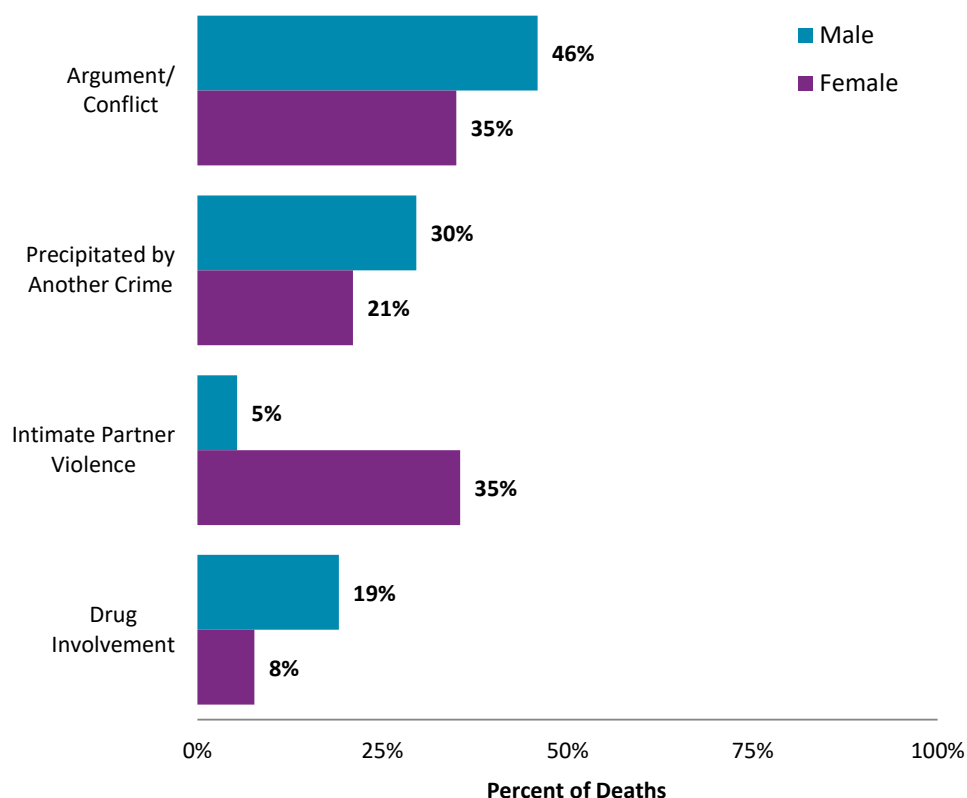


*Other includes poisoning, motor vehicle, violent shaking, drowning, fire/burns, intentional neglect, unknown method, and other causes of death.

- Firearms were used in 79.6% of youth homicides, while sharp instruments were used in 5.7% of all homicides.

- Personal weapons (fists, feet, and hands) were used in 6.3% of youth homicides. Of the remaining methods used in homicides (8%), each method was used in 4.0% of homicides or less.

Circumstances of Homicides: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024



* 91.1% of cases had circumstance information. Thirty-nine females and 344 males were missing circumstance information.

- Argument, abuse or conflict unrelated to intimate partner violence (IPV) was noted as a contributing factor in 43.8% of youth homicides with reported circumstances.

- Of youth homicides, 27.9% 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, 5.3% of male homicides, and 35.5% of female homicides.

- Drug involvement was identified as a contributing factor in 16.8% of all youth homicides, 19.1% of male youth homicides and 7.7% of female youth homicides.

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 DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Public Health
Injury and Violence Prevention Branch

NORTH CAROLINA VIOLENT DEATH
NC VDRS
REPORTING SYSTEM

NCDHHS Division of Public Health / 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
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2024 FINAL DATA 7/21/2026
Please see the [2024 NC-VDRS Annual Report](#) for additional data and technical information.