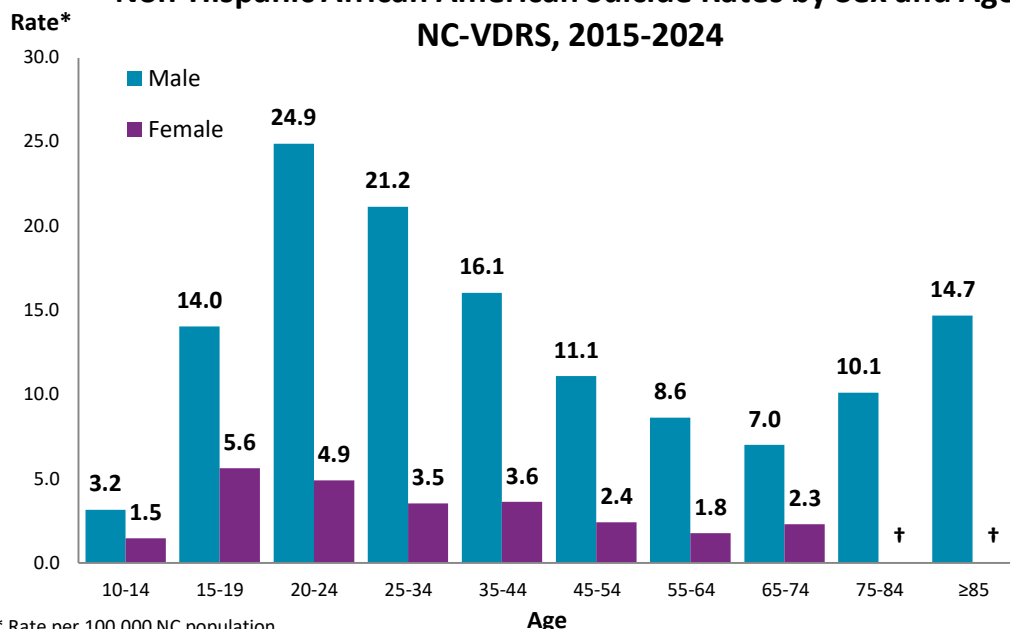


NC Violent Death Reporting System

SUICIDE AMONG NON-HISPANIC AFRICAN AMERICAN RESIDENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA, 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.

Non-Hispanic African American Suicide Rates by Sex and Age: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024



* Rate per 100,000 NC population

† Rate not calculated for less than five suicides.

- From 2015 to 2024, 6,738 non-Hispanic (NH) African American North Carolina residents died as a result of violence. Of these violent deaths, 1,552 (23.0%) were suicides.

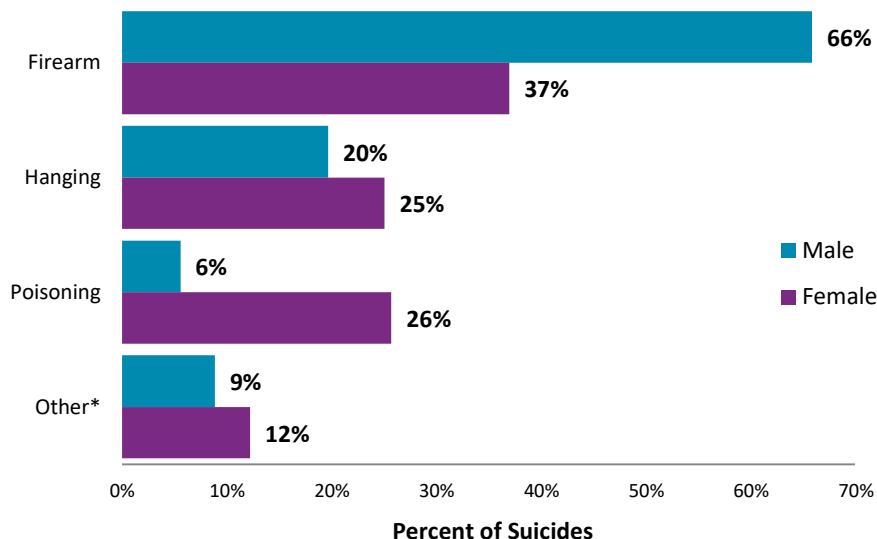
- Males consistently had a higher suicide rate than females, regardless of age. The suicide rate peaked for men ages 20-24 at a rate of 24.9 per 100,000.

- Among females, the suicide rate peaked for ages 15-19 at 5.6 per 100,000 and steadily declined thereafter.

Method of Suicide Among NH African American Residents

- The majority of suicides (65.9%) among NH African American male victims involved firearms, followed by hanging (19.7%) and other causes (8.9%), respectively.

- Among female victims, firearms were the leading cause of suicide (37.0%), followed by poisoning (25.7%) and hanging (25.1%), respectively.



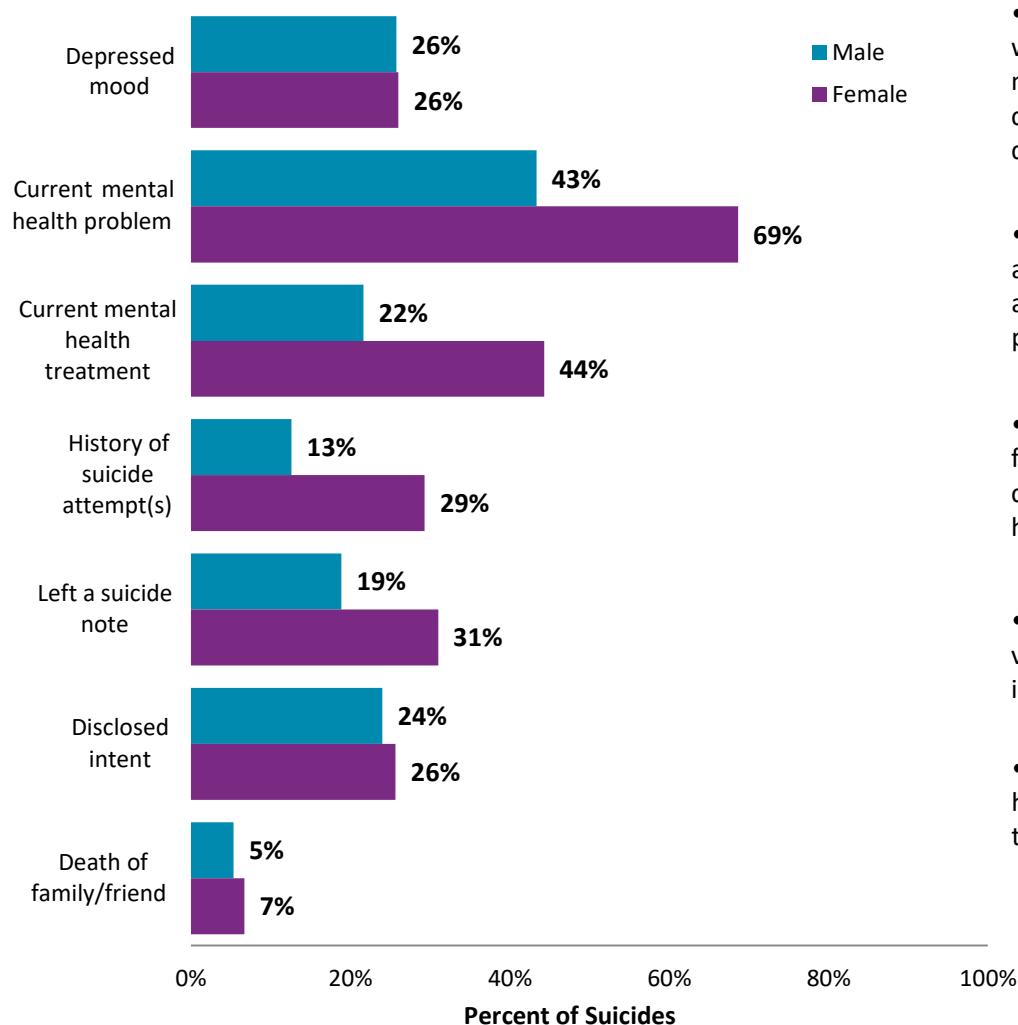
*Other includes falls, motor vehicle, sharp instrument, drowning, fire/burns, unknown and other causes of suicide.

If you or someone you know needs support now,



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

Suicide Circumstances* Among NH African American Victims: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024



- Of NH African American suicide victims with circumstance information, 25.8% of males and 26.0% of females were characterized as being currently depressed at the time of death.

- Sixty-nine percent (68.7%) of females and 43.4% of males were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Forty-four percent (44.3%) of females and 21.6% of males were currently being treated for a mental health problem at the time of suicide.

- Approximately 24.3% of all suicide victims had disclosed their suicidal intention to someone else.

- Females (29.3%) were more likely to have a history of prior suicide attempts than males (12.6%).

*Among those with reported circumstance information. 95.6% of cases had circumstance information. Fifty-seven males and eleven females were missing circumstance information.

More information on suicide prevention efforts can be found at:

State Resource Partners

[Division of Mental Health,
Developmental Disabilities and Substance Use Services](#)

[Office of the Chief Medical Examiner](#)

[Injury and Violence Prevention Branch Suicide Prevention Website](#)

[Division of Child and Family Well-being](#)

National Resources

[The Suicide Prevention Resource Center](#)

[The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#)

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



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](#)
NCDHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.
2024 FINAL DATA 7/21/2026
Please see the [NC-VDRS 2024 Annual Report](#) for additional data and technical information: