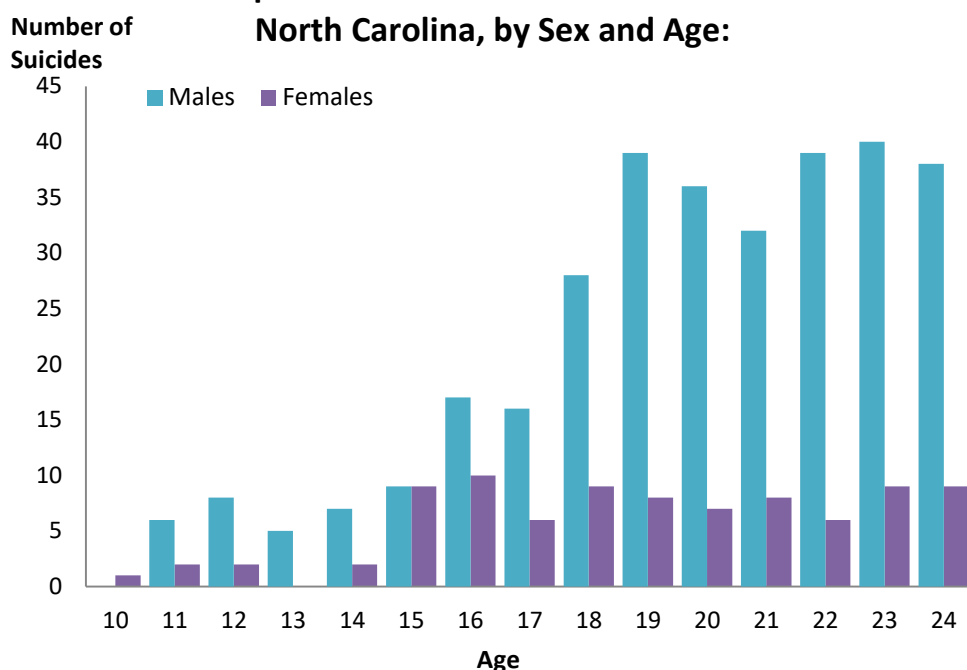


NC Violent Death Reporting System

SUICIDE AMONG NON-HISPANIC AFRICAN AMERICAN YOUTH, AGES 10-24, IN NORTH CAROLINA: 2014-2023

The 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://injuryfreenc.dph.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm>.

Non-Hispanic African American Youth Suicide in North Carolina, by Sex and Age:



- From 2014 to 2023, 1,963 non-Hispanic (NH) African American North Carolina residents ages 10 to 24 died as a result of violence. Of these violent deaths, 408 (20.8%) were suicides.

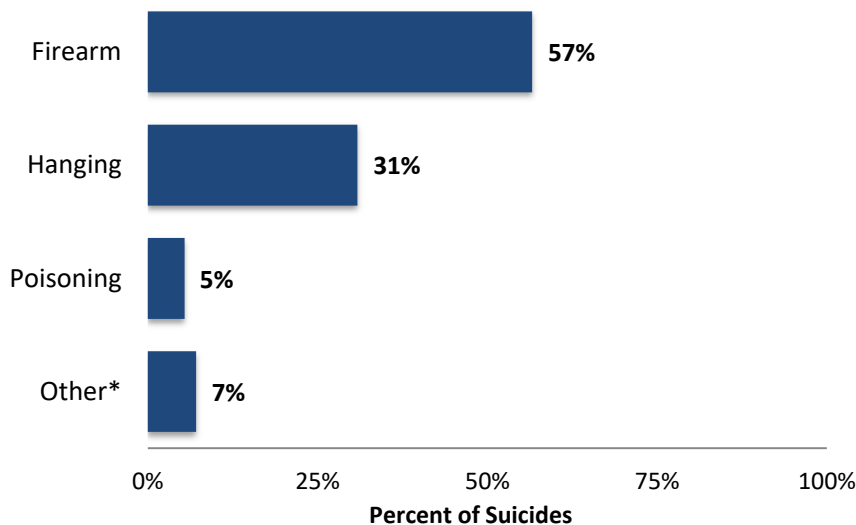
- Males consistently had a higher number of suicides than females, regardless of age.

- The number of suicide deaths peaked for NH African American males at age 23 (40 suicides) and for NH African American females at age 16 (10 suicides).

- Overall, the most common method of suicide among NH African American youth was firearms (56.6%), followed by hanging, strangulation, suffocation (30.9%) and poisoning (5.4%).

- Only 7.2% of suicides involved other methods.

Method of Suicide Among NH African American Youth: NC-VDRS, 2014-2023



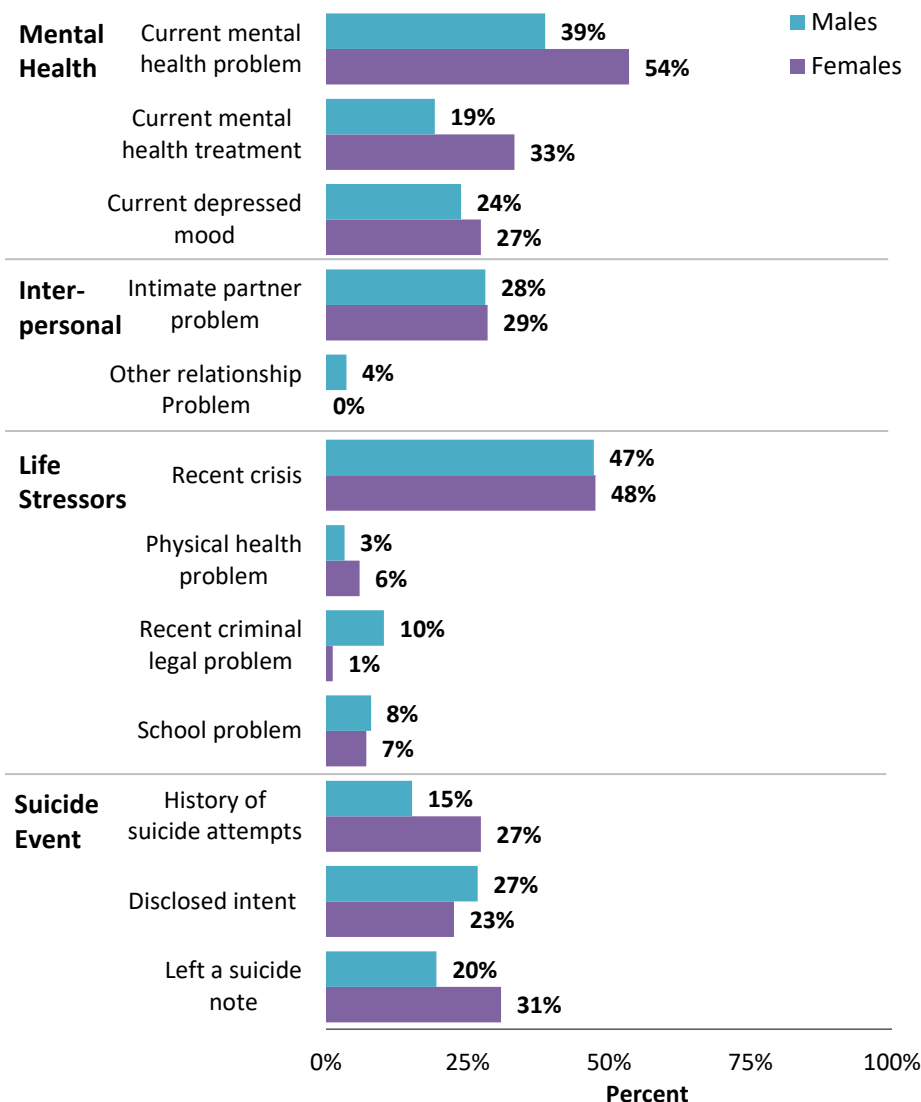
*Other includes falls, drowning, motor vehicle, fire/burns and other causes of suicide.

If you or someone you know needs support now,



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

Precipitating Circumstances of NH African American Youth Suicide by Sex: NC-VDRS, 2014-2023



- Fifty-four percent (53.6%) of female and 38.7% 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 (33.3%) were more likely than males (19.2%) to be receiving treatment for a current mental health problem at the time of suicide.

- Twenty-nine percent (28.6%) of female and 28.2% of male suicide victims had an intimate partner problem.

- Forty-eight percent (47.6%) of female and 47.4% of male suicide victims had experienced a recent or imminent crisis.

- Twenty-three percent (22.6%) of female and 26.8% of male suicide victims had disclosed their suicide intent to someone else before they died.

- Females (31.0%) were more likely to leave a suicide note than males (19.5%).

*Circumstances are known for 94% of males (n=302) and 96% of females (n=84)

More information on suicide prevention efforts can be found at:

State Resource Partners

**Division of Mental Health,
Developmental Disabilities and Substance Use Services**
<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsus>

North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
<https://www.ocme.dhhs.nc.gov/>

Injury and Violence Prevention Branch Suicide Prevention Website
<https://injuryfreenc.dph.ncdhhs.gov/preventionResources/Suicide.htm>

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

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NCDHHS Division of Public Health / www.dph.ncdhhs.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
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2023 PROVISIONAL DATA 6/20/2025

Please see the NC-VDRS 2023 Annual Report for additional data and technical information:

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



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

