

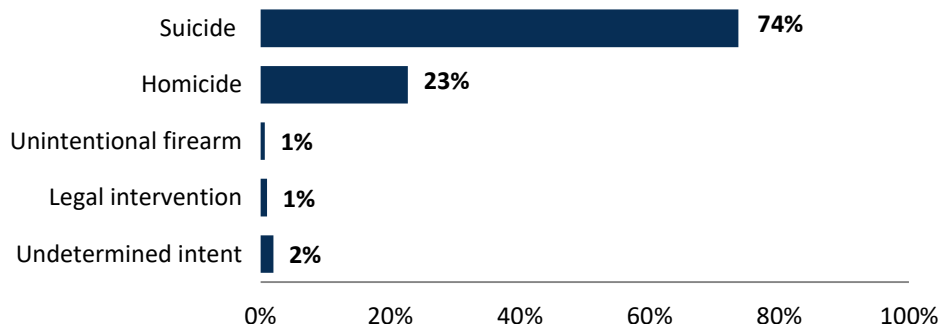
NC Violent Death Reporting System

VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: UNION COUNTY INCIDENTS, 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. Data reported in this document are based on the county where the death occurred rather than county residence.¹ Visit the [NC-VDRS page](#) within the Injury and Violence Prevention Branch website for more information.

¹ 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: Union County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



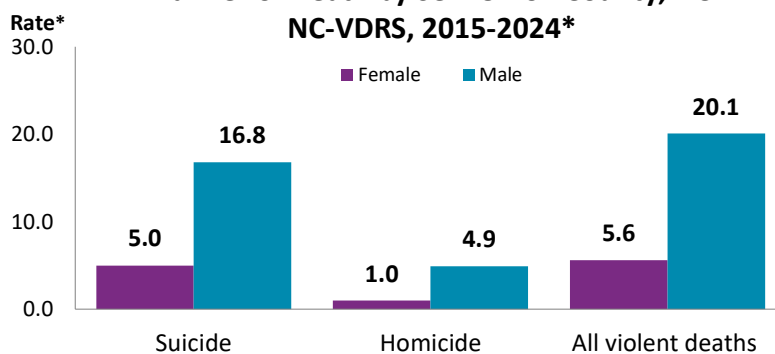
*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

- For the years 2015-2024, there were 308 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Union County. Of these 308 deaths, 294 were NC residents (95.5%) and 274 were Union County residents (89.0%).

- There were 227 suicides (73.7%), 70 homicides (22.7%), two unintentional firearm deaths (0.6%), three deaths from legal intervention (1.0%), and six deaths of undetermined intent (1.9%).

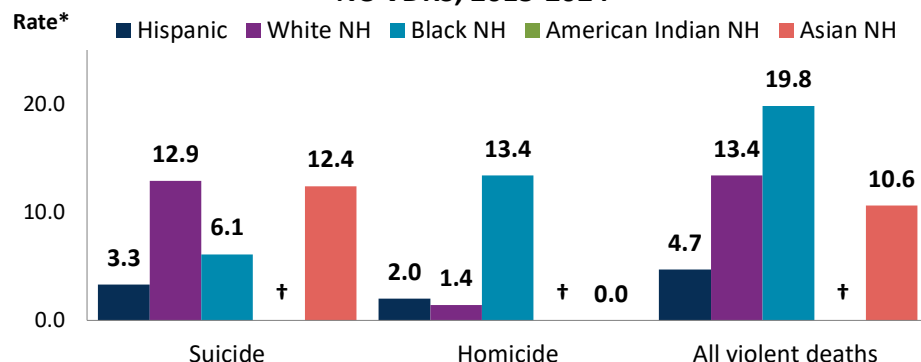
- In Union County, the suicide ratio was 3.4 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 4.9 times higher in males than in females.

Manner of Death by Sex: Union County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



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

Manner of Death by Race/Ethnicity: Union County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



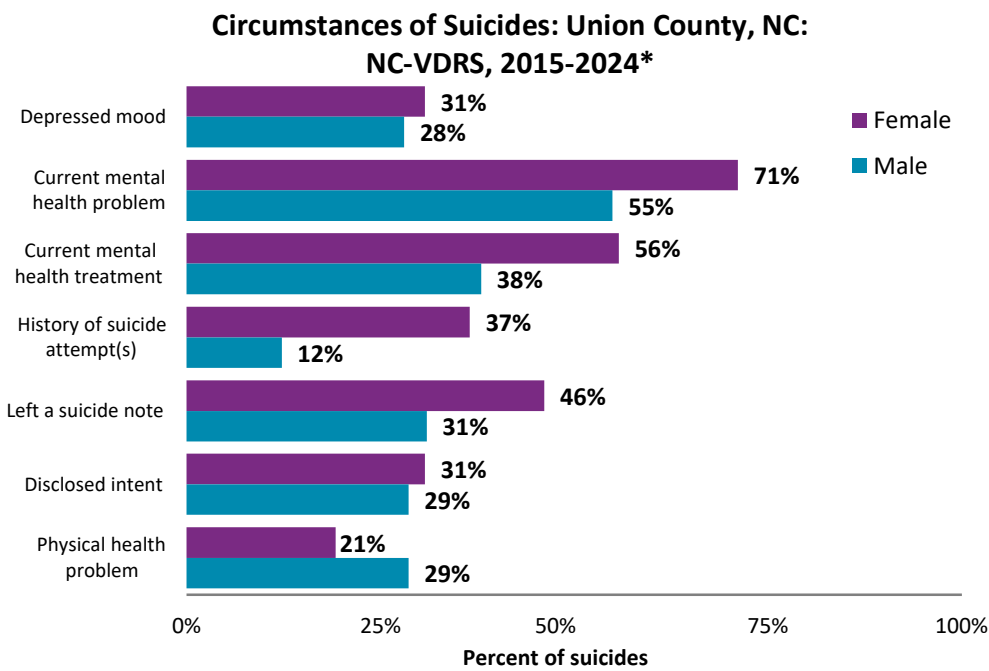
*Rate per 100,000 based on the county of injury occurrence. † Rate suppressed, 1-4 deaths.

Chart excludes zero deaths of unknown or other race/ethnicity.

- The suicide rate was highest for non-Hispanic (NH) White victims (12.9 suicides per 100,000 population) followed by NH Asian victims (12.4 per 100,000).

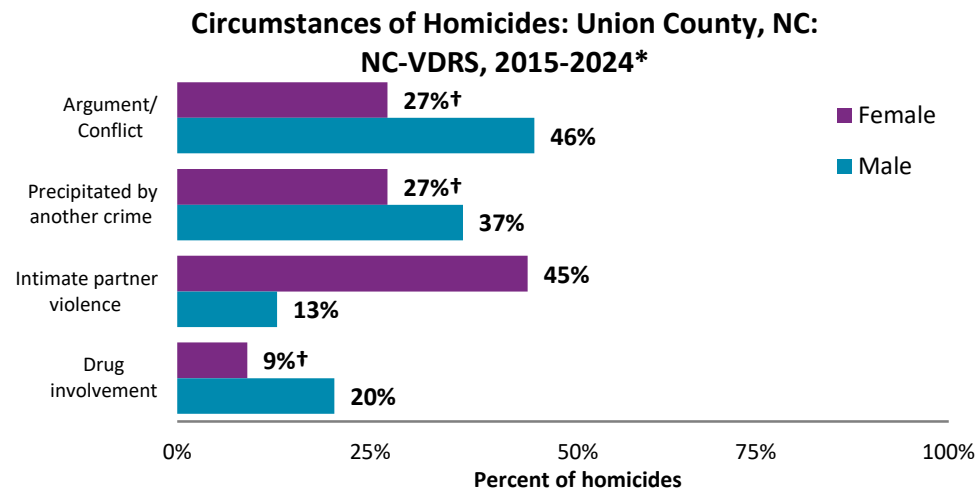
- In contrast, the homicide rate was highest among NH Black victims (13.4 per 100,000 population) followed by Hispanic victims (2.0 per 100,000).

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Homicide rates peaked among those aged 25-34 with 7.2 homicides per 100,000, while suicide rates peaked among those aged 85 and older with 25.3 suicides per 100,000.
- More than two-thirds of homicides (70.0%) and over half of suicides (60.8%) involved firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 14.3% of homicides and 19.8% 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 (66.7%) than for male (63.8%) victims.



- Twenty-eight percent (28.1%) of male and 30.8% of female Union County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they died by suicide.
- Seventy-one percent (71.2%) of female and 55.0% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.
- Females (36.5%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (12.3%).

*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 98.2% of cases had circumstance information. One female and three males were missing circumstance information.



- Arguments or conflicts were a contributing factor for male homicides (46.3%) more frequently than female homicides (27.3%).
- Twenty-seven percent (27.3%) of female homicides and 37.0% of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.
- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 45.5% of female homicides, but only 13.0% of male homicides.

*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 92.9% of cases had circumstance information. One female and four males were missing circumstance information.
† There were fewer than 5 deaths

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5NU17/CE924955-02-00 with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



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



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2024 FINAL DATA 7/21/2026

Please see the NC-VDRS 2024 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.