

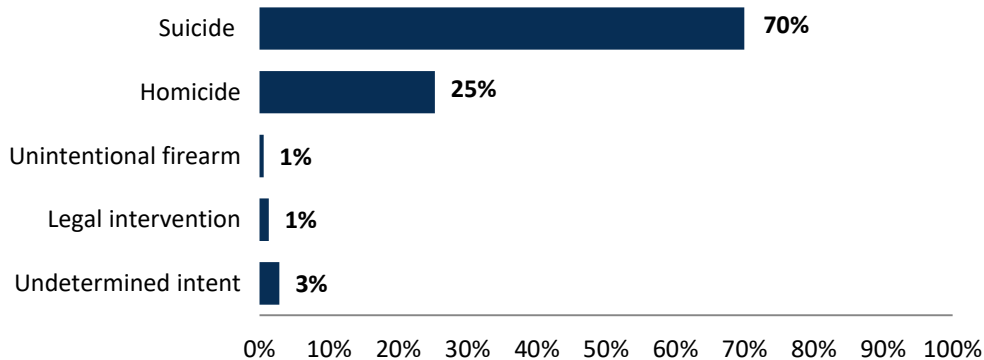
NC Violent Death Reporting System

VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: WAKE 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 of 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: Wake County, NC: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



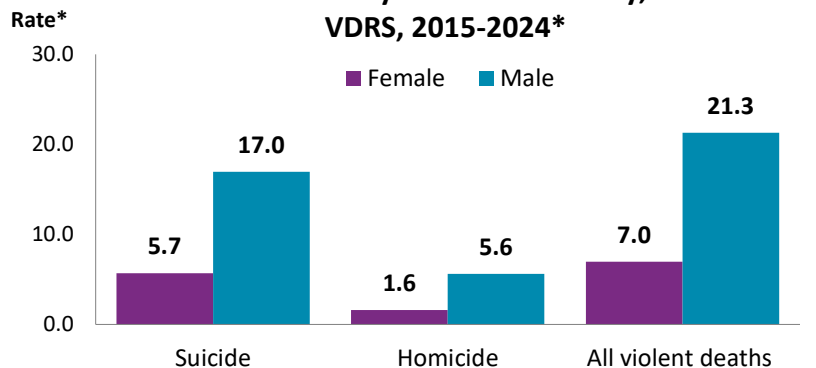
- For the years 2015-2024, there were 1,573 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Wake County. Of these 1,573 deaths, 1,532 were NC residents (97.4%) and 1,380 were Wake County residents (87.7%).

- There were 1,100 suicides (69.9%), 398 homicides (25.3%), nine unintentional firearm deaths (0.5%), 21 deaths from legal intervention (1.3%), and 45 deaths of undetermined intent (2.9%).

*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

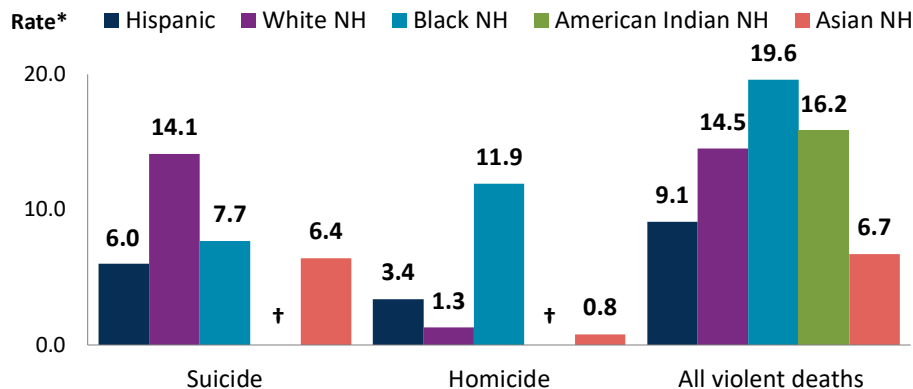
- In Wake County, the suicide ratio was 3.0 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 3.5 times higher in males than in females.

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



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

Manner of Death by Race/Ethnicity: Wake County, NC:

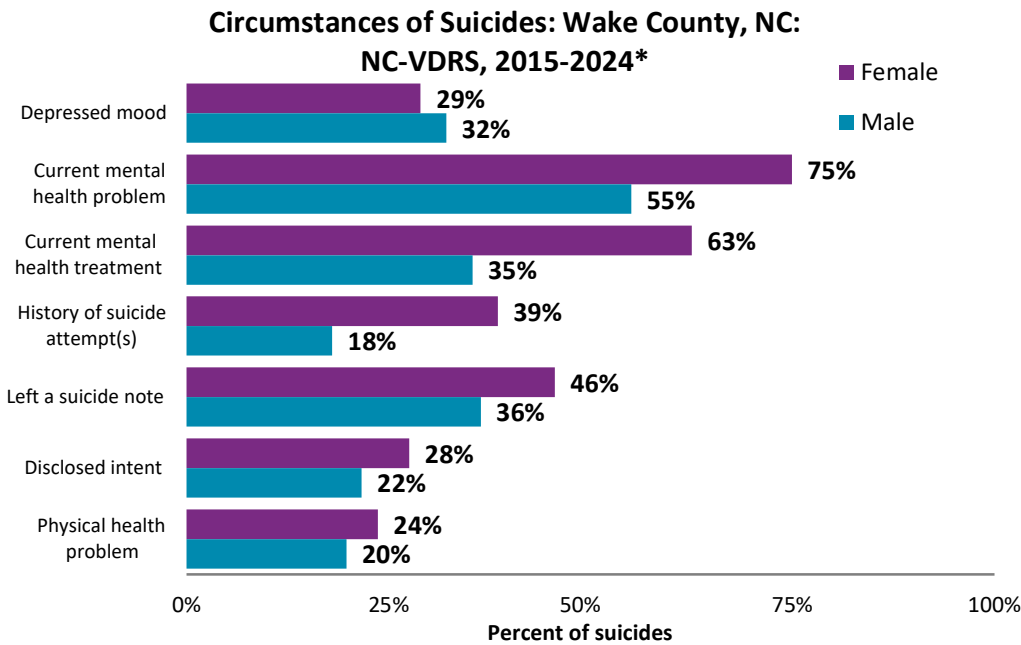


*Rate per 100,000 based on the county of injury occurrence. † Rate suppressed, 1-4 deaths. Chart excludes five deaths of unknown or other race/ethnicity.

- The suicide rate was highest for non-Hispanic (NH) White victims (14.1 suicides per 100,000 population) followed by NH Black victims (7.7 per 100,000).

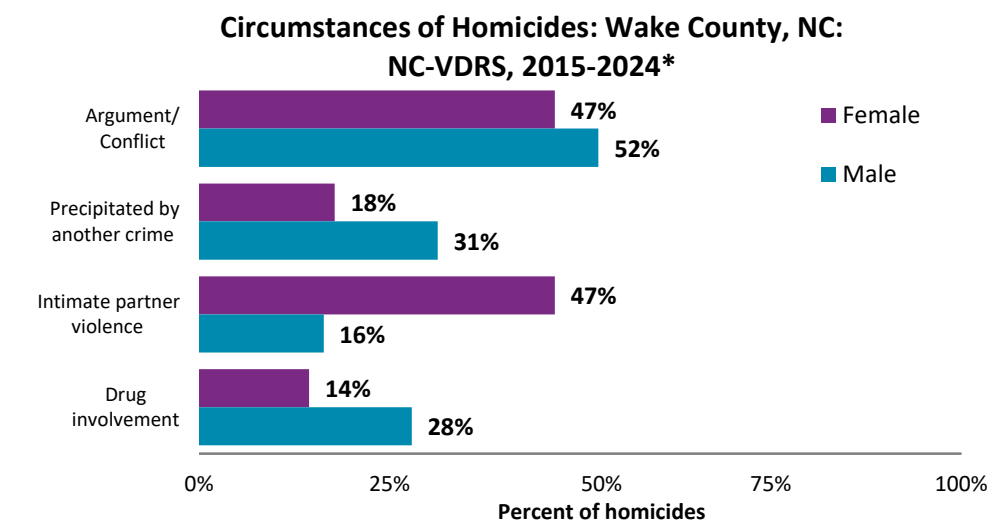
- In contrast, the homicide rate was highest among NH Black victims (11.9 per 100,000 population) followed by Hispanic victims (3.4 per 100,000).

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. However, both homicide and suicide rates peaked among those aged 20-24 with 9.8 homicides per 100,000 and 16.1 suicides per 100,000.
- Nearly three quarters of homicides (72.9%) and almost half of suicides (45.2%) involved firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 18.8% of homicides and 20.3% 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 (82.6%) than for male (57.5%) victims.



- Thirty-two percent (32.1%) of male and 29.0% of female Wake County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they died by suicide.
- Seventy-five percent (74.9%) of female and 55.0% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.
- Females (38.5%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (18.0%).

*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 97.9% of cases had circumstance information. Four females and 19 males were missing circumstance information.



- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (52.4%) than for female homicides (46.7%).
- Eighteen percent (17.8%) of female homicides and 31.3% of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.
- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 46.7% of female homicides, but only in 16.3% of male homicides.

*Based on the county of injury occurrence, 96.5% of cases had circumstance information. Two females and 12 males were missing circumstance information.

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



**NORTH CAROLINA VIOLENT DEATH
REPORTING SYSTEM**

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State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services
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2024 FINAL DATA 7/21/2026

Please see the [NC-VDRS 2024 Annual Report](#) for additional data and technical information.