

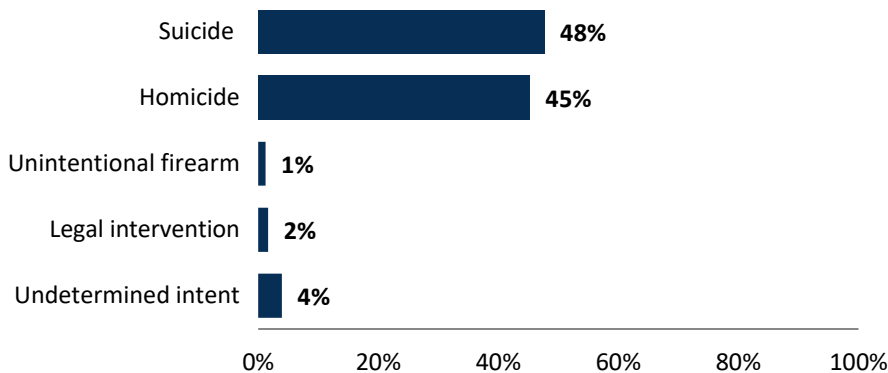
NC Violent Death Reporting System

VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM 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 city where the death occurred rather than city of residence.¹ For more information, please visit the [NC-VDRS page](#) within the Injury and Violence Prevention Branch website.

¹The 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: Winston-Salem, NC: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*

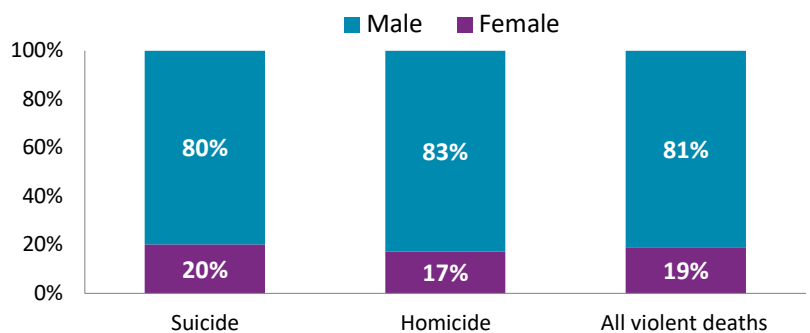


- For the years 2015-2024, there were 706 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Winston-Salem. Of these 706 deaths, 699 were NC residents (99.0%) and 608 were Winston-Salem residents (86.1%).

- There were 337 suicides (47.7%), 320 homicides (45.3%), nine unintentional firearm deaths (1.3%), 12 deaths from legal intervention (1.7%), and 28 deaths of undetermined intent (4.0%).

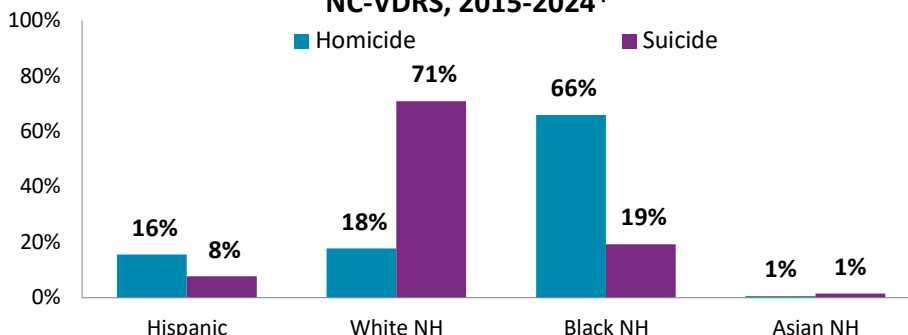
*Based on the county of injury occurrence.

Manner of Death by Sex: Winston-Salem, NC: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



- In Winston-Salem, the suicide ratio was 4.0 times higher in males than in females, and the homicide ratio was 4.8 times higher in males than in females.

Manner of Death by Race/Ethnicity: Winston-Salem, NC: NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



- The proportion of suicide was highest for non-Hispanic (NH) White victims (71%) followed by NH Black victims (19%).

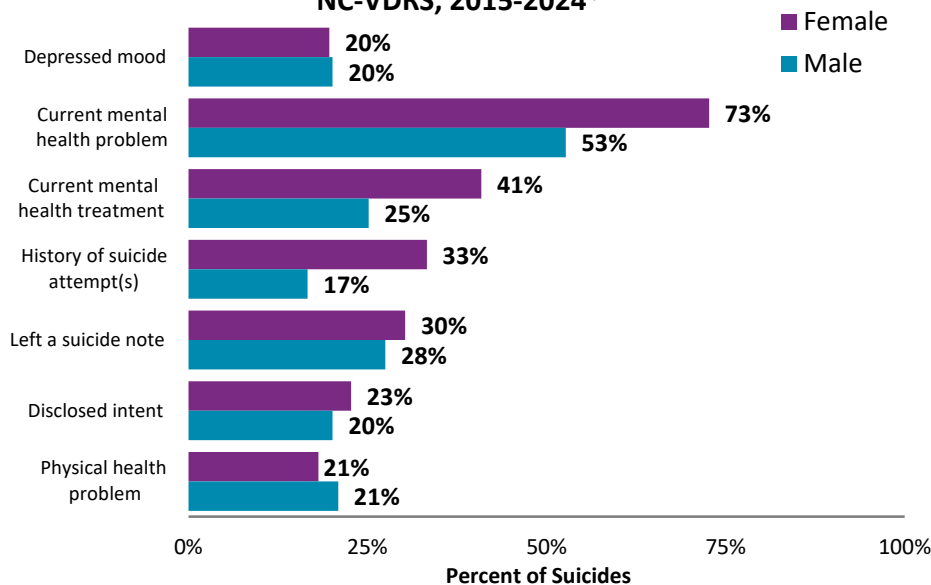
- In contrast, the proportion of homicide was highest for NH Black victims (66%) followed by NH white victims (18%).

*A total of one suicide victim of American Indian race were excluded from the above calculations. There was one death not accounted for due to an unknown or other race/ethnicity.

- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. The largest proportion of homicides was among those aged 25-34 with 30%, while the largest proportion of suicides was among those aged 45-54 (17%).
- Over three-fourths of homicides (78.1%) and half of suicides (53.1%) involved firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 15.0% of homicides and in 16.0% 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 (67.3%) than for male (42.3%) victims.

Circumstances of Suicides: Winston-Salem City, NC:

NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



*Based on the city of injury occurrence, 96.1% of cases had circumstance information. Two females and 11 males were missing circumstance information.

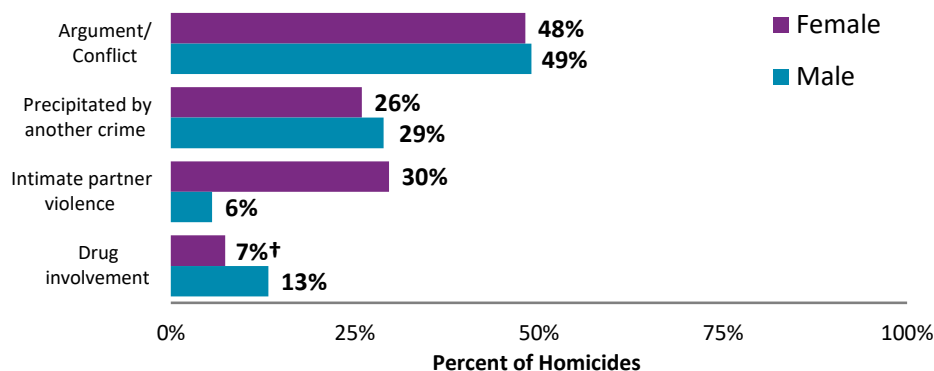
- Twenty percent (20.2%) of male and 19.7% of female Winston-Salem suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they died by suicide.

- Seventy-three percent (72.7%) of female and 52.7% of male suicide victims were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Females (33.3%) were more likely to have attempted suicide in the past as compared to males (16.7%).

Circumstances of Homicides: Winston-Salem, NC:

NC-VDRS, 2015-2024*



*Based on the city of injury occurrence, 94.7% of cases had circumstance information. One female and 16 males were missing circumstance information.

† There were fewer than 5 deaths

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (49.0%) than for female homicides (48.2%).

- Twenty-six percent (25.9%) of female homicides and 28.9% of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary, or drug trafficking.

- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 29.6% of female homicides, but only 5.6% of male homicides.

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

NCDHHS Division of Public Health / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit / 919-707-5425
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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.



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

