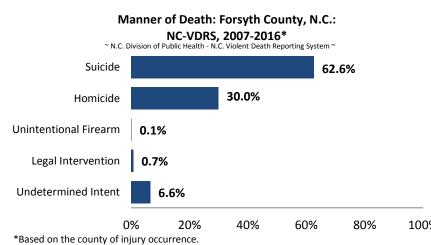
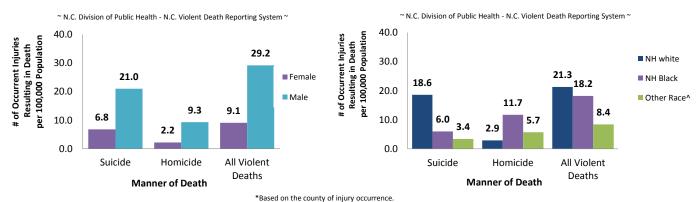


## VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA: FORSYTH COUNTY INCIDENTS, 2007-2016

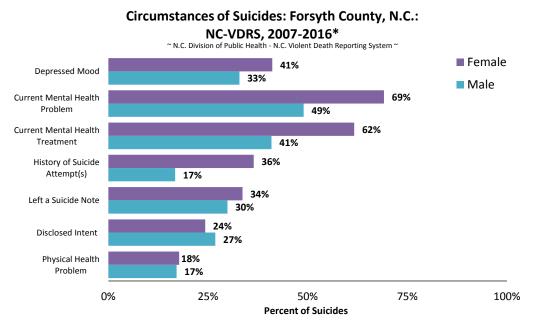
The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in North Carolina resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators, and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. All deaths reported in this document are based on location of occurrence rather than residence and, instead of a rate, the ocurrent ratio is reported. 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 this region. This document summarizes all fatal injuries from violence that occurred in Forsyth County for the years 2007-2016.



- For the years 2007-2016, there were 671 violent deaths from injuries sustained in Forsyth County. Of these 671 deaths, 665 were N.C. residents (99.1%) and 617 were Forsyth County residents (92.0%).
- There were 420 suicides (62.6%), 201 homicides (30.0%), 1 unintentional firearm death (0.1%), 5 deaths from legal intervention (0.7%) and 44 deaths of 100% undetermined intent (6.6%).
- In Forsyth County, the suicide ratio was 3.1 times higher in males than females, and the homicide ratio was 4.2 times higher in males than in females.
- Patterns of suicide and homicide differed by race. Suicide victims were more likely to be non-Hispanic (NH) white than NH Black. NH whites had 18.6 suicides per 100,000 population versus 6.0 suicides per 100,000 population in NH Blacks. All other racial groups combined had 13 suicides.
- In contrast, NH Blacks had 11.7 homicides per 100,000 population as opposed to NH whites who had 2.9 homicides per 100,000 population. All other racial groups combined had 29 homicides.

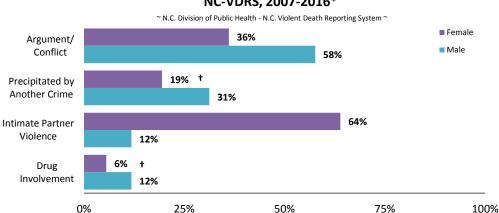


- Suicides and homicides displayed dissimilar age patterns. Homicides peaked among those 25-34 with 11.5 homicides per 100,000, where suicides peaked among those 55-64 with 21.8 suicides per 100,000.
- Most homicides (74.1%) and over half of suicides (49.3%) were committed using firearms.
- Suspicion of intoxication was reported in 32.8 percent of homicides and 22.4 percent 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 (74.5%) than male (63.0%) victims.



\*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 96.4% of cases had circumstance information. 5 females and 10 males were missing circumstance information.

- 33 percent of male and 41.1 percent of female Forsyth County suicide victims with circumstance information were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.
- 69 percent of female and 49.0 percent 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 (16.8%).



Circumstances of Homicides: Forsyth County, N.C.: NC-VDRS. 2007-2016\*

\*Based on the county of injury occurrence. 89.6% of cases had circumstance information. 15 males and 6 females were missing circumstance information.

**Percent of Homicides** 

†There were less than or equal to 10 deaths

- Arguments or conflicts were more likely to be a contributing factor for male homicides (57.6%) than for female homicides (36.1%).
- 19.4 percent of female homicides and 31.3 percent of male homicides were precipitated by another crime such as robbery, burglary or drug trafficking.
- Intimate partner violence was a contributing factor in 63.9 percent of female homicides, but only 11.8 percent of male homicides.

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5NU17/CE002613-05-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).





N.C. Division of Public Health / www.publichealth.nc.gov / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425

N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / www.ncdhhs.gov

N.C. DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. 2016 FINAL DATA 11/18

Please see the NC-VDRS 2016 Annual Report for additional data and technical information.