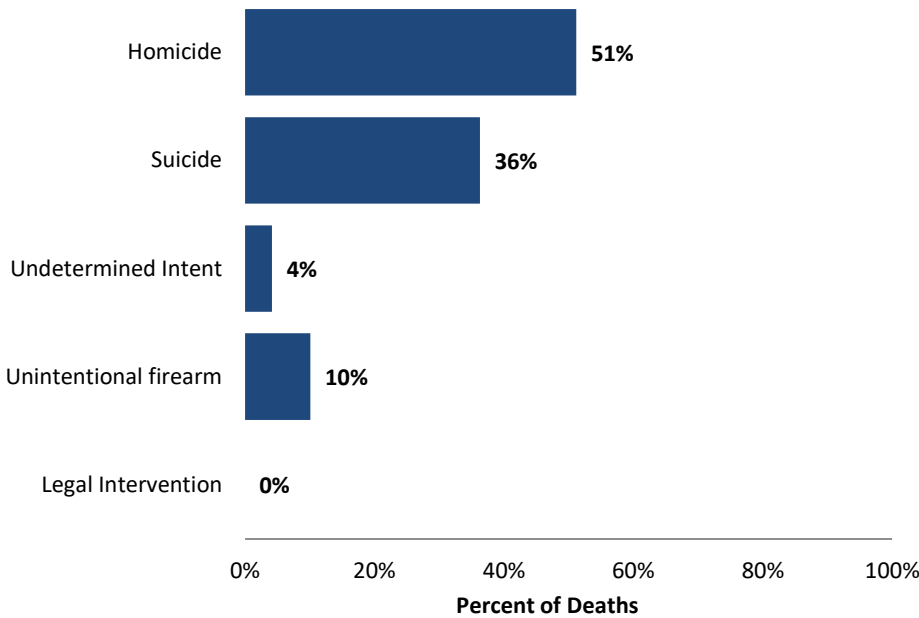


NC Violent Death Reporting System

CHILD VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA, 2021

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 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://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm>.

Manner of Child Violent Deaths (ages 0-17): NC-VDRS, 2021

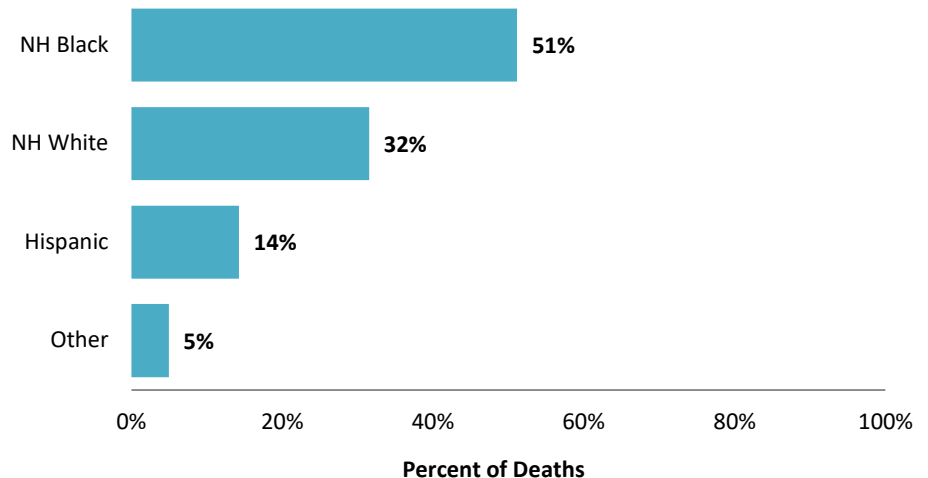


- In 2021, there were 171 violent deaths among North Carolina children ages 0-17.
- There were 86 homicides (51.2%), 61 suicides (36.3%), 17 unintentional firearm deaths (10.1%), zero deaths resulting from legal intervention (0.0%), and seven deaths in which the Medical Examiner’s Office could not determine the manner of death (4.2%).
- Most of the child victims were male (73.2%).

Percent of Child Violent Deaths by Race/Ethnicity*: NC-VDRS, 2021

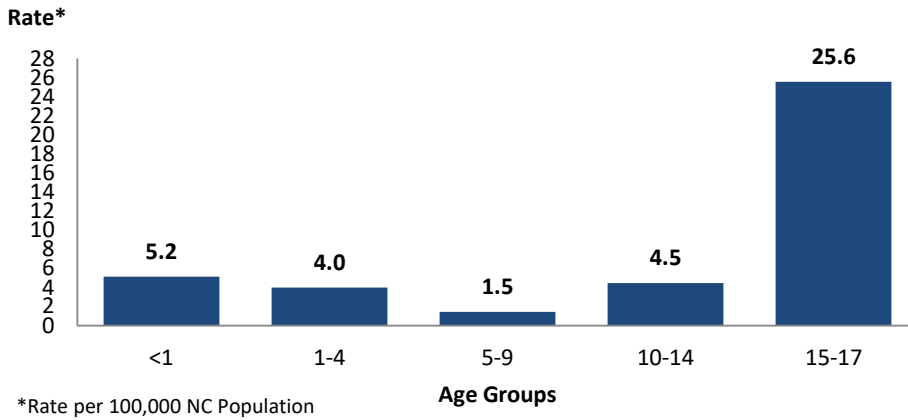
• Non-Hispanic (NH) Black victims accounted for the greatest percent of child violent deaths (51.2%), followed by NH white victims (31.6%).

• Rates of child violent death were highest among Black victims (16.9 deaths per 100,000 population) followed by Hispanic and white victims (6.3 and 4.6 per 100,000, respectively).



*Other includes non-Hispanic Asian (N=3) and American Indian (N=2) victims.

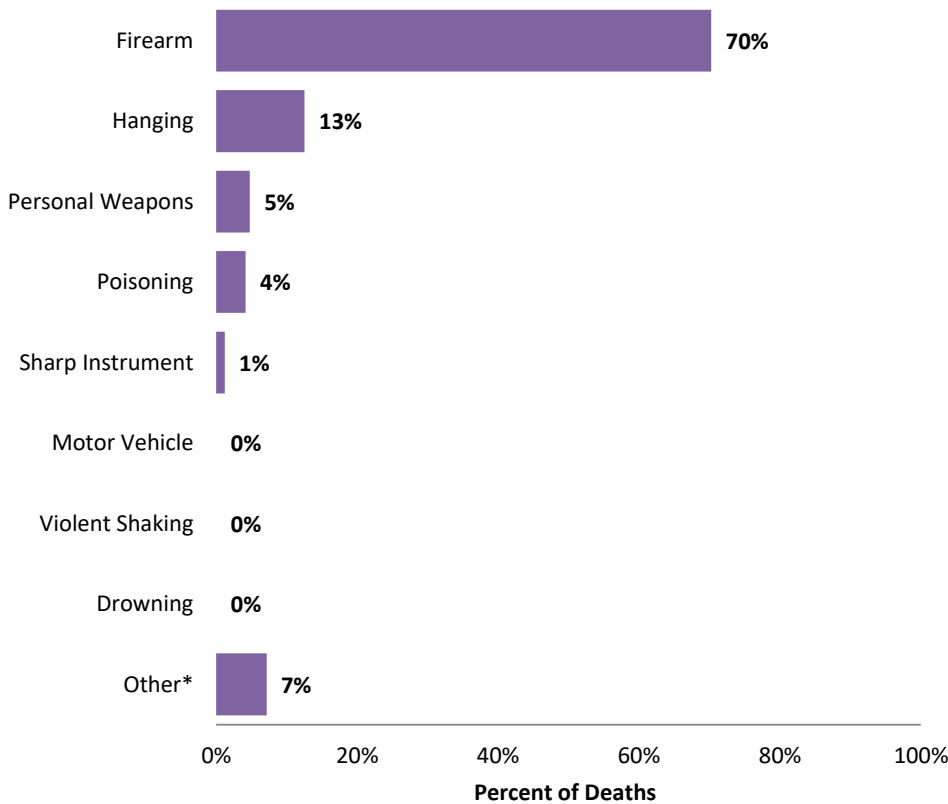
Child Violent Death Rates* by Age: NC-VDRS,



- The highest child violent death rate occurred among children ages 15-17 (25.6 deaths per 100,000 population).

- Children less than one year of age had the second highest rate of violent deaths (5.2 deaths per 100,000 population).

Method of Child Violent Death: NC-VDRS, 2021



- Firearms were involved in 70.2% of all child violent deaths (n=118). This percentage was propelled by the high number of firearm related deaths among children ages 15-17 (n=85).

- Hanging was the second most common cause of violent death among children (12.5%).

- Personal weapons (fists, feet, and hands) were the most common causes of death among children under the age of five, while firearms were the most common weapon among children ages 5 and older.

* Other includes: non-powder gun, blunt instrument, unknown, fall, fire or burns, intentional neglect, (e.g., starving a baby or oneself), and other transport vehicle, (e.g., trains, planes, boats)

More information on child violence prevention can be found at:

State Resource Partners

North Carolina Division of Social Services: Child Protective Services

Contact: (919) 733-4622

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/social-services/child-welfare-services/child-protective-services>

National Resources

Children's Bureau

Contact: Carlis Williams (404) 562-2900

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb>

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5 NU17CE924955-02-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

NC Division of Public Health / www.publichealth.nc.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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2021 FINAL DATA 8/04/2023

Please see the NC-VDRS 2021 Annual Report for additional data and technical information:

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



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

