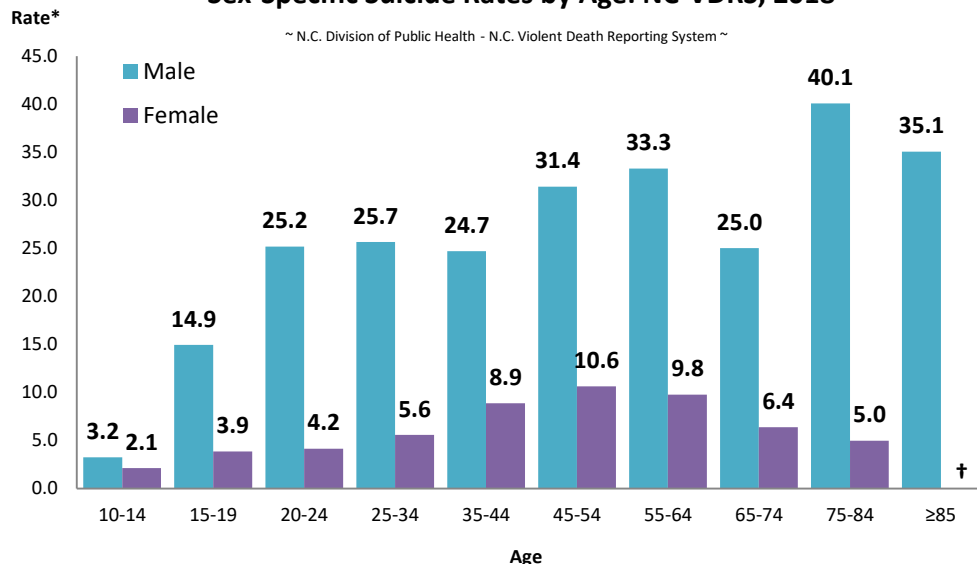


SUICIDE IN NORTH CAROLINA, 2018

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. NC-VDRS began collecting data in January of 2004. This document summarizes deaths among North Carolina residents caused by suicide for the year 2018.

North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System

Sex-Specific Suicide Rates by Age: NC-VDRS, 2018



* Rate per 100,000 NC population

† Indicates fewer than 5 deaths. Rates based on fewer than 5 deaths are considered unstable and should not be used.

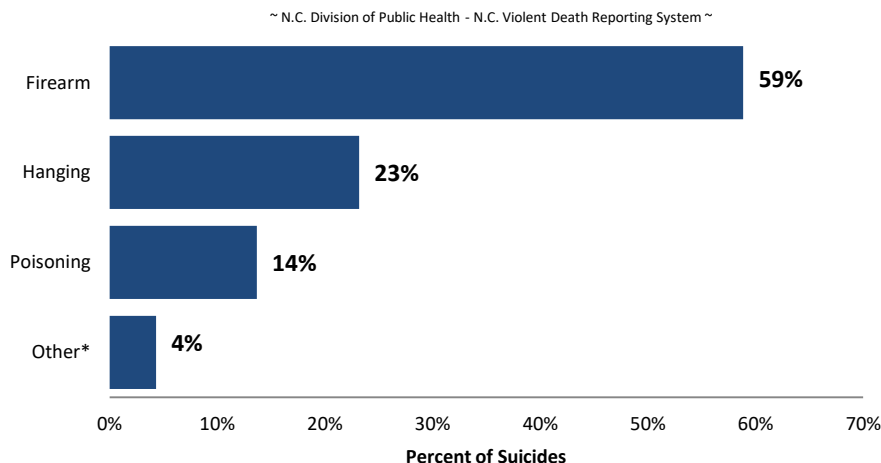
- Of the 2,222 violent deaths in North Carolina in 2018, 1,463 were suicides (65.8%).

- Males consistently had a higher suicide rate than females, regardless of age. The suicide rate peaked for men ages 75-84 at a rate of 40.1 per 100,000.

- Among females, the suicide rate peaked for ages 45-54 at 10.6 per 100,000 and steadily declined thereafter.

- Eighty-five percent (85.4%) of all suicide victims were identified as non-Hispanic (NH) white.
- NH white males had higher suicide rates than other racial/ethnic groups in North Carolina (29.8 per 100,000).

Method of Death*: NC-VDRS, 2018



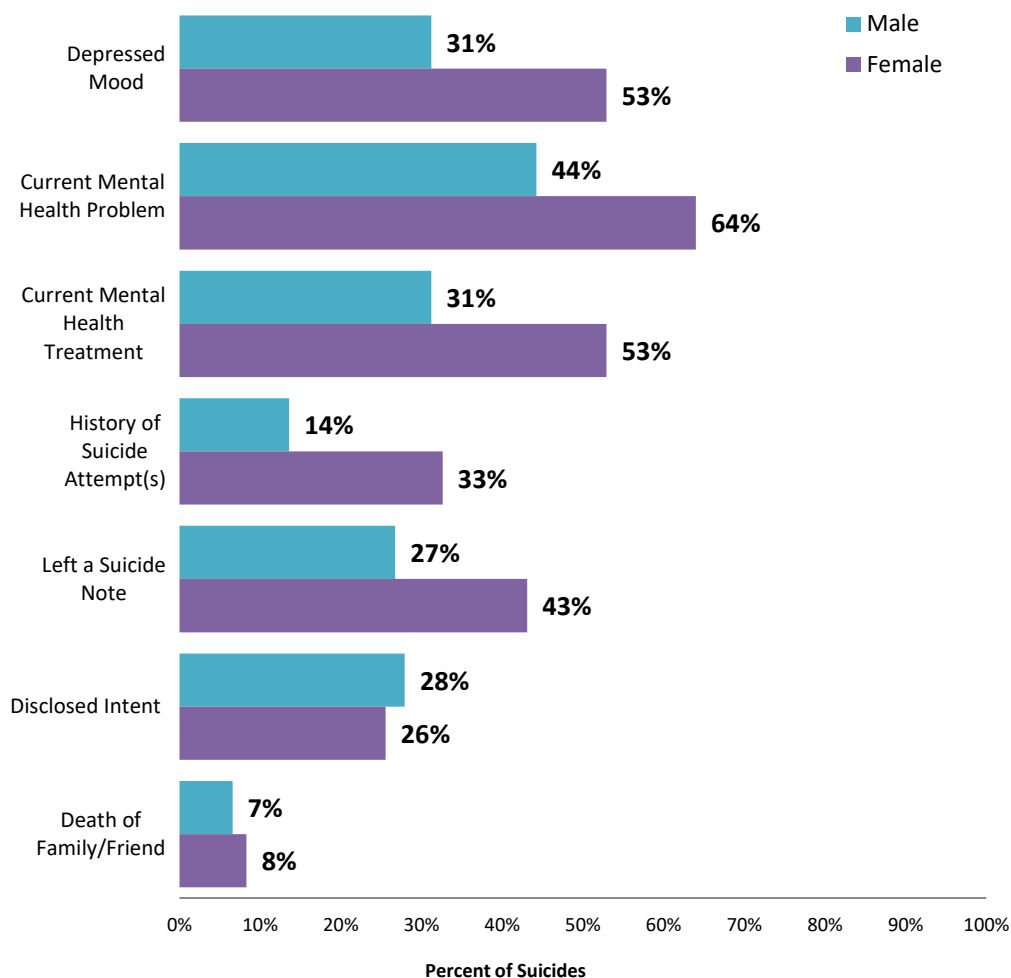
*Other includes falls, motor vehicle, sharp instrument, drawing, fire/burns, unknown and other causes of suicide.

- After firearms (58.9%), hanging (23.2%) and poisoning (13.7%) were the second and third leading causes of suicide, respectively.

- Four percent (4.3%) of suicides were completed using a method other than firearms, hanging or poisoning.

Suicide Circumstances*: NC-VDRS, 2018

~ N.C. Division of Public Health - N.C. Violent Death Reporting System ~



- Of suicide victims with circumstance information, 31.2% of males and 52.9% of females were characterized as being currently depressed when they completed suicide.

- Sixty-four percent (64.0%) of females and 44.3% of males were characterized as having a current mental health problem.

- Fifty-three percent (52.9%) of females and 31.2% of males were currently being treated for a mental health problem at the time of suicide.

- Approximately 27.4% of all suicide victims had disclosed their suicidal intention to someone else.

- Females (32.6%) were more likely to have a history of prior suicide attempts than males (13.6%).

*Among those with reported circumstance information. 97.1% of cases had circumstance information. Thirty-eight males and four females were missing circumstance information.

More information on suicide prevention efforts can be found at:

State Resource Partners

N.C. Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services
<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddsas>

North Carolina Office of the Chief Medical Examiner
<https://www.ocme.dhhs.nc.gov/>

N.C. Injury and Violence Prevention's Youth Suicide Prevention Website
<https://www.itsok2ask.com/>

National Resources

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center
<http://www.sprc.org/>

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
<https://afsp.org/>

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
 (for suicide crisis calls)
 1-800-273-8255

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).

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
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2018 FINAL DATA 8/24

Please see the NC-VDRS 2018 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

