

NORTH CAROLINA

Violent Death
Reporting System
Franklin County 2004 – 2007

March 2010

North Carolina
Injury & Violence
PREVENTION Branch

Division of Public Health

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

Background and Acknowledgements

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded state-wide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths 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, 2004. This document summarizes findings from Franklin County, North Carolina that occurred from 2004 to 2007.

A Statewide Annual Report for 2007 will be completed by summer of 2010. More information can be found at: www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov/About/ncVDRS.htm.

The task of locating, abstracting, entering, and evaluating the data that are used to create the NC-VDRS is challenging, time-consuming and difficult. The extent and quality of the data in this report are the direct result of the dedication of the NC-VDRS staff: Tammy Norwood, Program Manager, and Susan Autry and Pat Jones, Statistical Research Assistants.

Thanks to Sharon Schiro for the analysis and programming of the NC-VDRS data, and Becca Byrd for the formatting and updating of this report.

Three advisory groups provided assistance to us with this report. The leadership of these advisory groups formed the Board Leadership & Evaluation Team (BLET). Members of the BLET for 2007 were Tamera Coyne-Beasley, Kay Sanford, Phillip J. Cook, Sandra Martin, Steve Marshall, and Anna Waller.

We acknowledge the assistance and on-going support of the N.C. State Center for Health Statistics, the N.C. Office of the Chief Medical Examiner, and the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation, as well as the many local law enforcement agencies throughout N.C. that have provided information to the NC-VDRS.

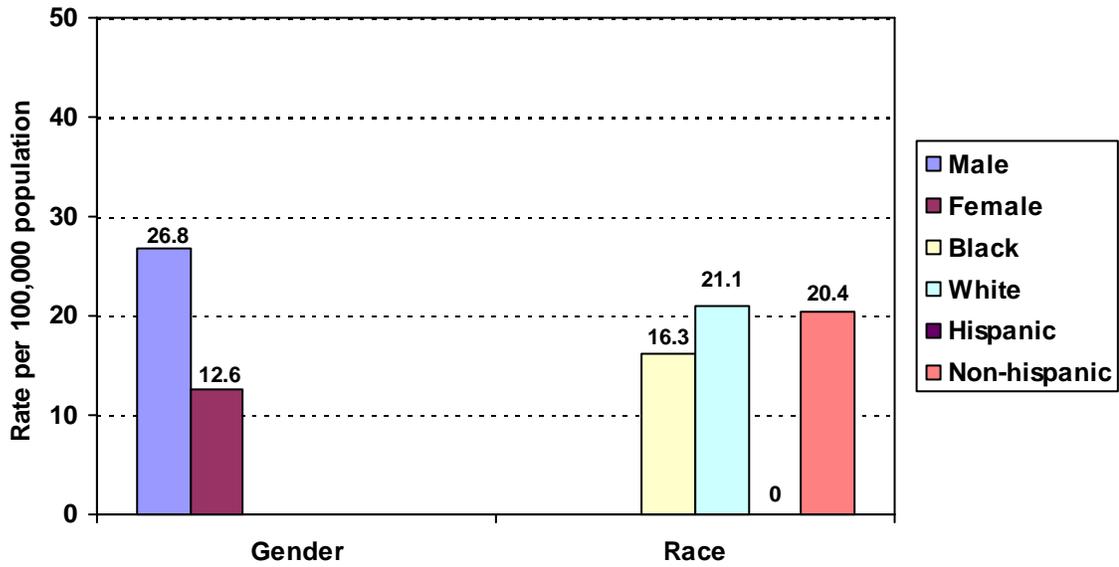
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SECTION I: OVERALL

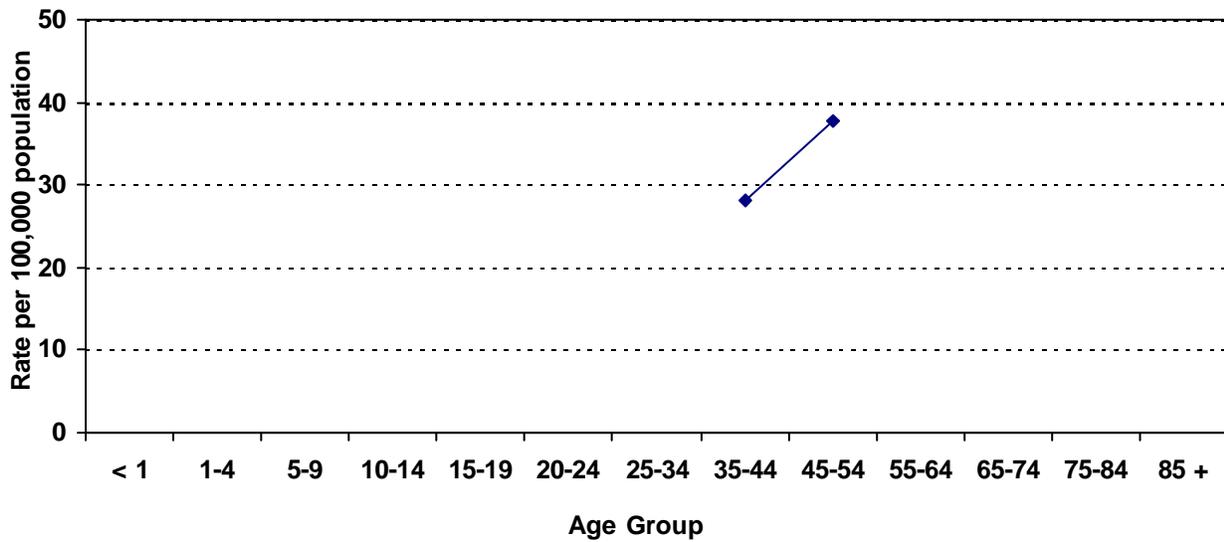
Table 1: Gender, Race, and Age Group of Violent Death Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007					
		Number	%	Rate	CI
Gender					
	Male	29	67.4	26.8	17.0 - 36.6
	Female	14	32.6	12.6	6.0 - 19.2
Race					
	American Indian	0	0	*	*
	Asian	0	0	*	*
	Black	10	23.3	16.3	6.2 - 26.4
	White	33	76.7	21.1	13.9 - 28.3
Hispanic					
	Hispanic	1	2.3	*	*
	Non-Hispanic	42	97.7	20.4	14.2 - 26.6
Age Group					
	< 1	0	0	*	*
	1 - 4	0	0	*	*
	5 - 9	0	0	*	*
	10 - 14	2	4.7	*	*
	15 - 19	4	9.3	*	*
	20 - 24	3	7	*	*
	25 - 34	4	9.3	*	*
	35 - 44	10	23.3	28.1	10.7 - 45.5
	45 - 54	12	27.9	37.8	16.4 - 59.2
	55 - 64	4	9.3	*	*
	65 - 74	2	4.7	*	*
	75 - 84	2	4.7	*	*
	85 +	0	0	*	*
Total Deaths		43	100		

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Overall Violent Death Rates by Gender and Race,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



**Overall Violent Death Rates by Age,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

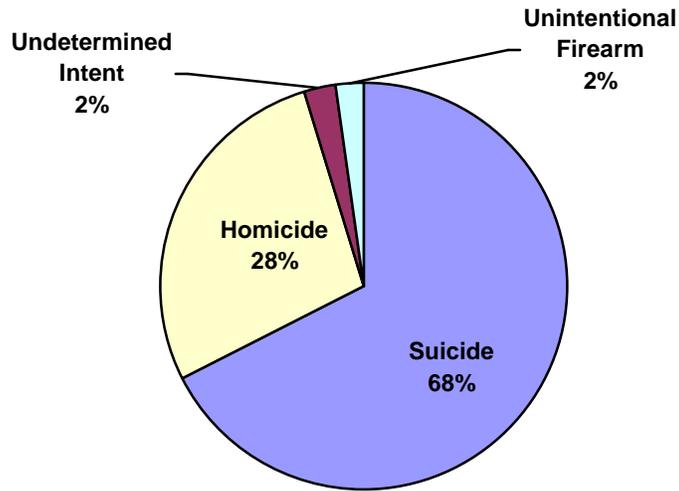


Note: Some values are zero or not available due to low count so the lines appear "broken".

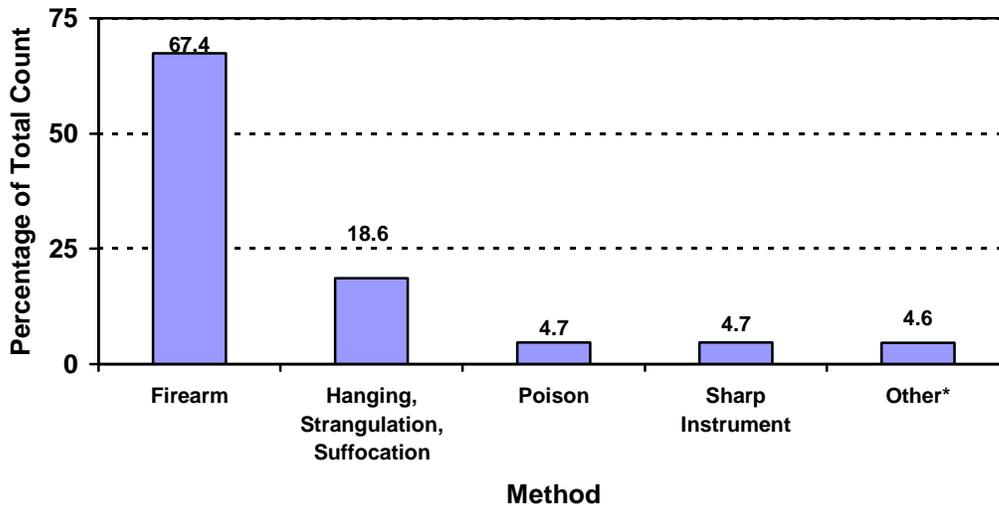
Table 2: Manner and Method of Violent Death Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

		Number	%
Manner of Death			
	Suicide	29	67.4
	Homicide	12	27.9
	Undetermined Intent	1	2.3
	Unintentional Firearm	1	2.3
Method			
	Firearm	29	67.4
	Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	8	18.6
	Poisoning	2	4.7
	Sharp Instrument	2	4.7
	Blunt Instrument	1	2.3
	Drowning	1	2.3
Total Deaths		43	100

**Manner of Violent Death,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



**Method of Death for Overall Violent Deaths,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



* Other methods include: blunt instruments, unarmed assaults, falls, drowning, fires or burns, violent shaking, motor vehicles, other transport vehicles, intentional neglect and other unspecified methods.

Table 3: Race by Gender of Violent Death Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Race	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Black	7	24.1	24.1	6.3 - 41.9	3	21.4	*	*	10	23.3
White	22	75.9	28.1	16.3 - 39.9	11	78.6	14.1	5.8 - 22.4	33	76.7
Total Deaths	29	100			14	100			43	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Race by Gender of Violent Death Victims,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

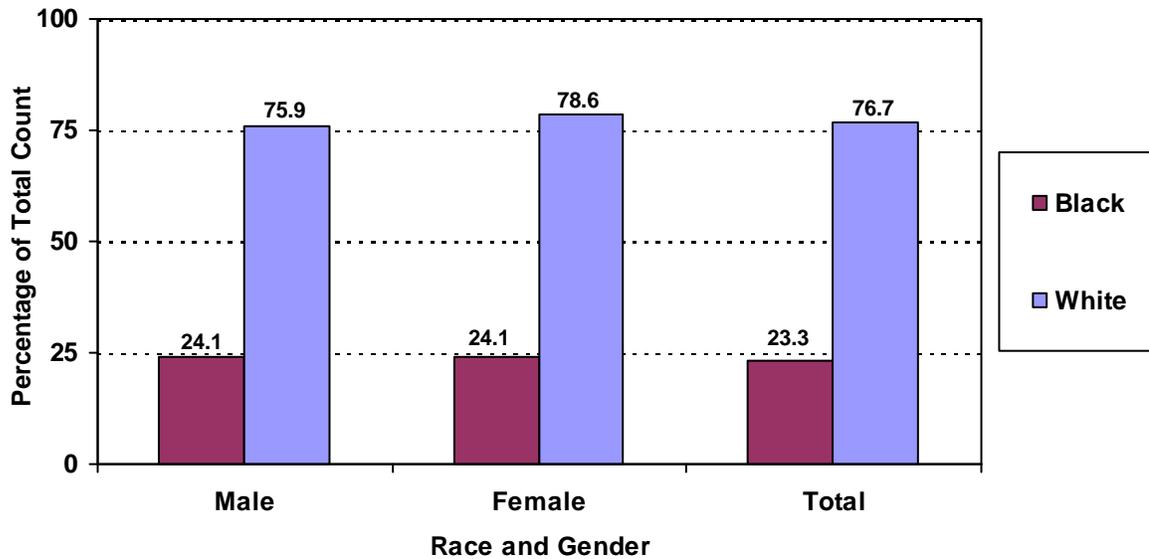
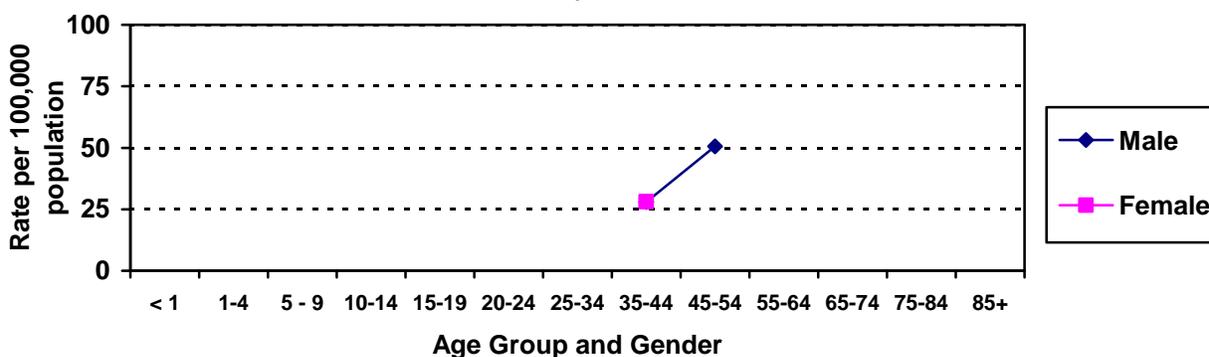


Table 4: Age Group by Gender of Violent Death Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Age Group	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
10 - 14	1	3.4	*	*	1	7.1	*	*	2	4.7
15 - 19	3	10.3	*	*	1	7.1	*	*	4	9.3
20 - 24	3	10.3	*	*	0	0	*	*	3	7.0
25 - 34	4	13.8	*	*	0	0	*	*	4	9.3
35 - 44	5	17.2	28.0	3.5 - 52.5	5	35.7	28.1	3.4 - 52.8	10	23.3
45 - 54	8	27.6	50.6	15.6 - 85.6	4	28.6	*	*	12	27.9
55 - 64	1	3.4	*	*	3	21.4	*	*	4	9.3
65 - 74	2	6.9	*	*	0	0	*	*	2	4.7
75 - 84	2	6.9	*	*	0	0	*	*	2	4.7
Total Deaths	29	100			14	100			43	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

Overall Violent Death Rates by Age Group and Gender of Victims, Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007



Note: Some values are zero or not available due to low count so the lines appear "broken".

SECTION II: SUICIDE

Table 5: Gender, Race, and Age Group of Suicide Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007					
		Number	%	Rate	CI
Gender					
	Male	19	65.5	20.4	11.2 - 29.6
	Female	10	34.5	10.3	3.9 - 16.7
Race					
	American Indian	0	0	*	*
	Asian	0	0	*	*
	Black	1	3.4	*	*
	White	28	96.6	20.7	13.0 - 28.4
Hispanic					
	Hispanic	0	0	*	*
	Non-Hispanic	29	100.0	16.2	10.3 - 22.1
Age Group					
	10 - 14	0	0	*	*
	15 - 19	2	6.9	*	*
	20 - 24	2	6.9	*	*
	25 - 34	2	6.9	*	*
	35 - 44	8	27.6	22.4	6.8 - 38.0
	45 - 54	9	31.0	28.3	9.8 - 46.8
	55 - 64	4	13.8	*	*
	65 - 74	1	3.4	*	*
	75 - 84	1	3.4	*	*
	85 +	0	0	*	*
Total Deaths		29	100		

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Suicide Rates by Gender and Race,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

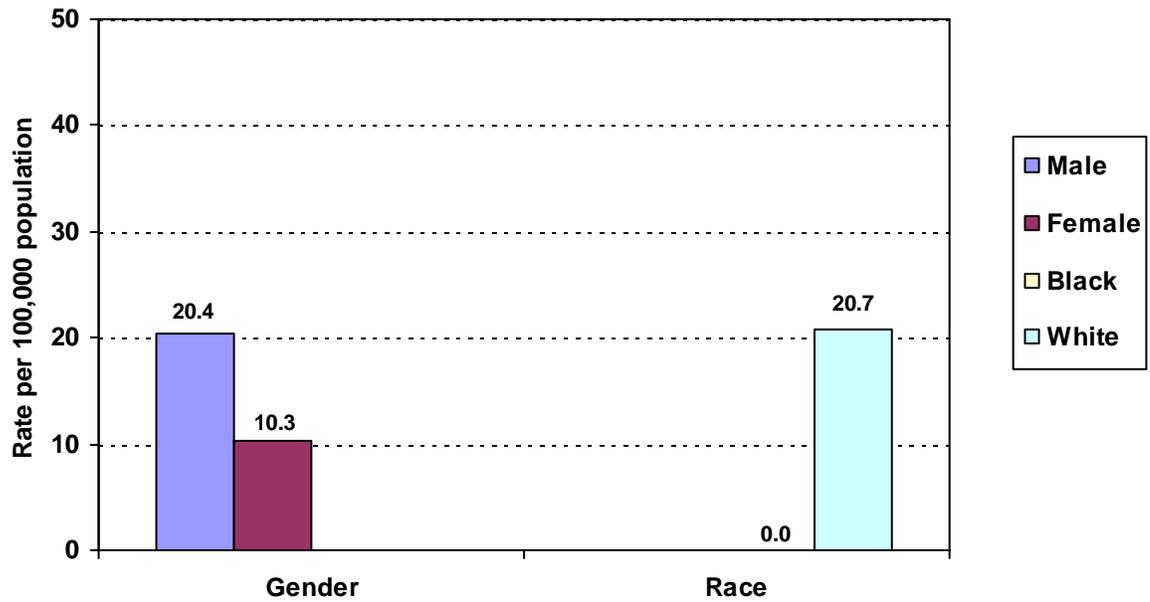


Table 6: Method of Death for Suicide Deaths in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007			
		Number	%
Method			
	Firearm	20	69.0
	Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	7	24.1
	Drowning	1	3.4
	Poisoning	1	3.4
Total Deaths		29	0

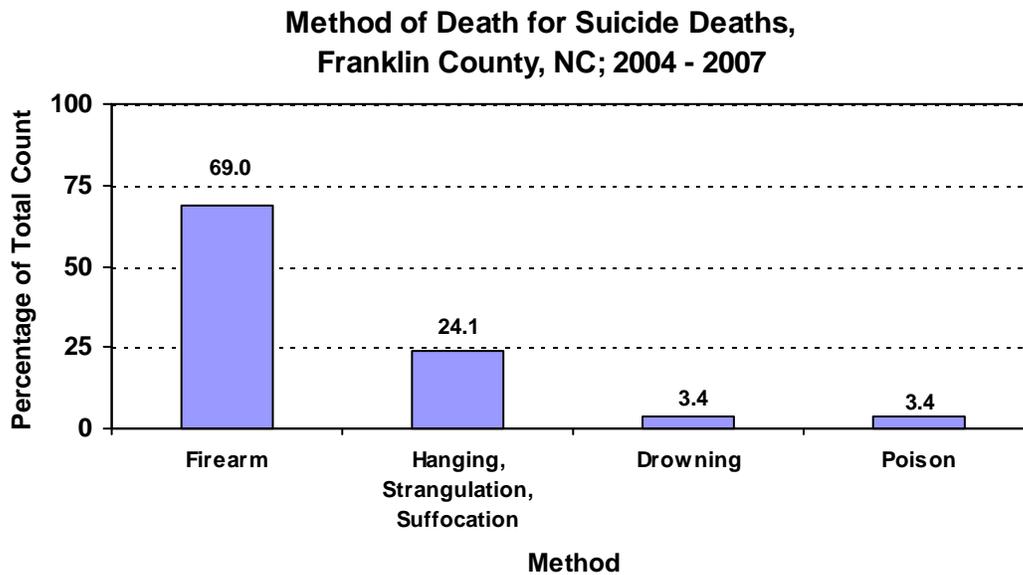


Table 7: Race by Gender of Suicide Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Race										
Black	1	5.3	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	3.4
White	18	94.7	26.7	14.4 – 39.0	10	100	14.8	5.6 – 24.0	28	96.6
Total Deaths	19	100			10	100			29	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Race by Gender of Suicide Victims,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

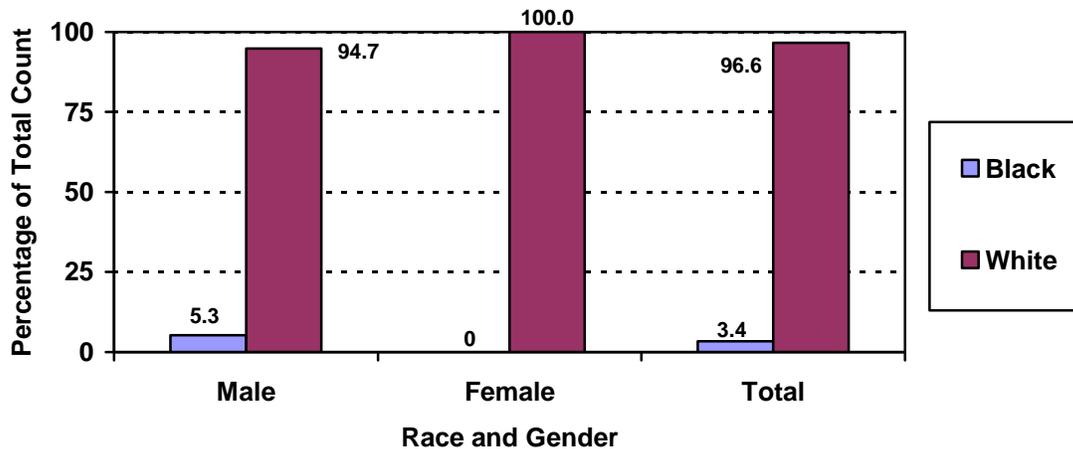
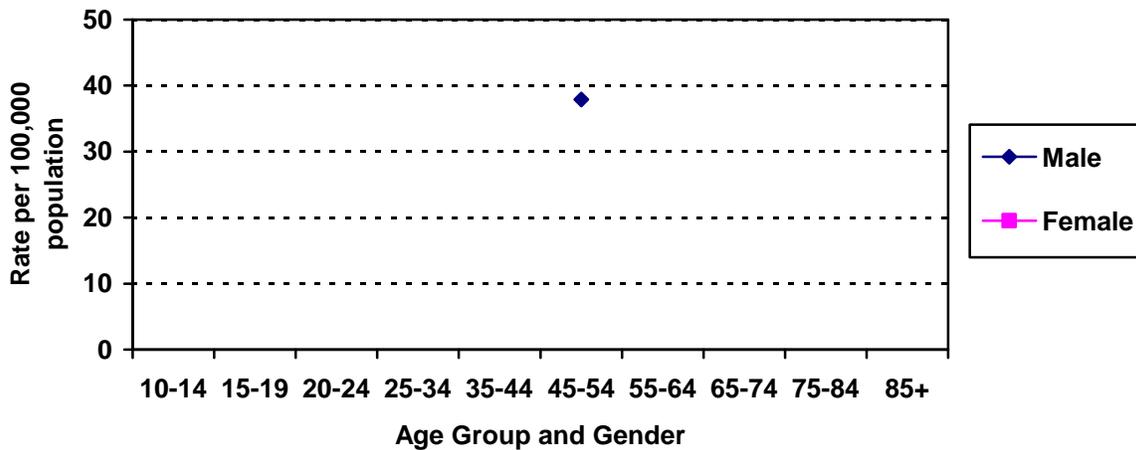


Table 8: Age Group by Gender of Suicide Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Age Group	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
15 - 19	2	10.5	*	*	0	0	*	*	2	6.9
20 - 24	2	10.5	*	*	0	0	*	*	2	6.9
25 - 34	2	10.5	*	*	0	0	*	*	2	6.9
35 - 44	4	21.1	*	*	4	40.0	*	*	8	27.6
45 - 54	6	31.6	37.9	7.6 - 68.2	3	30.0	*	*	9	31.0
55 - 64	1	5.3	*	*	3	30.0	*	*	4	13.8
65 - 74	1	5.3	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	3.4
75 - 84	1	5.3	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	3.4
Total Deaths	19	100			10	100			29	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Suicide Rates by Age Group and Gender of Victims,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



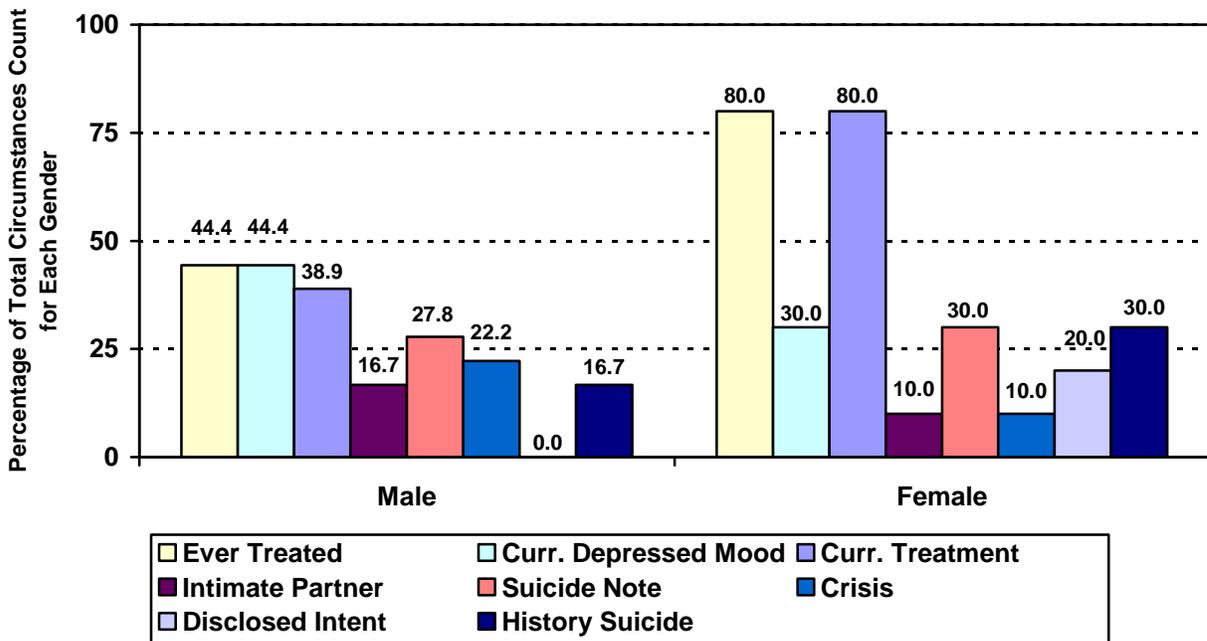
Note: Some values are zero or not available due to low count so the lines appear "broken".

Table 9: Circumstances of Suicide Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Victim Circumstances						
Current depressed mood	8	44.4	3	30.0	11	39.3
Current treatment for mental illness	7	38.9	8	80.0	15	53.6
Ever treated for mental illness	8	44.4	8	80.0	16	57.1
Alcohol problem	2	11.1	1	10.0	3	10.7
Other substance problem	4	22.2	1	10.0	5	17.9
Left a suicide note	5	27.8	3	30.0	8	28.6
Disclosed intent to commit suicide	0	0	2	20.0	2	7.1
History of suicide attempts	3	16.7	3	30.0	6	21.4
Crisis in past two weeks	4	22.2	1	10.0	5	17.9
Physical health problem	5	27.8	0	0	5	17.9
Intimate partner problem	3	16.7	1	10.0	4	14.3
Other relationship problem	3	16.7	0	0	3	10.7
Job problem	2	11.1	0	0	2	7.1
School problem	0	0	0	0	0	0
Financial problem	2	11.1	0	0	2	7.1
Suicide of family or friend in past 5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other death of friend/ family	0	0	1	10.0	1	3.6
Recent criminal/ legal problem	1	5.6	2	20.0	3	10.7
Other legal problems	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perpetrator of interpersonal violence in past month	1	5.6	0	0	1	3.6
Victim of interpersonal violence in past month	0	0	0	0	0	0

* Circumstances are only available for 1,000 of the 1,085 suicide deaths where age was ≥ 10 . The denominator of the percentage is the total number of suicide victims for each gender category who had circumstance data available. Each suicide victim may have 0 to many circumstances.

**Circumstances by Gender for Suicide Victims,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



* Note: Multiple options are available therefore such responses add up to more than 100%. This figure does not include all circumstances.

Table 10: Mental Illnesses Under Treatment at the Time of Suicide in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007			
	Male	Female	Total
	Number	Number	Number
Mental Illness			
Depression/ Dysthymia	6	5	11
Unknown	2	1	3
Schizophrenia	0	2	2
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	1	0	1

SECTION III: HOMICIDE

Table 11: Gender, Race, and Age Group of Homicide Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007					
		Number	%	Rate	CI
Gender					
	Male	8	66.7	7.4	2.3 - 12.5
	Female	4	33.3	*	*
Race					
	American Indian	0	0	*	*
	Asian	0	0	*	*
	Black	9	75.0	14.7	5.1 - 24.3
	White	3	25.0	*	*
Hispanic					
	Hispanic	1	8.3	*	*
	Non-Hispanic	11	91.7	5.4	2.2 - 8.6
Age Group					
	< 1	0	0	*	*
	1 - 4	0	0	*	*
	5 - 9	0	0	*	*
	10 - 14	2	16.7	*	*
	15 - 19	2	16.7	*	*
	20 - 24	0	0	*	*
	25 - 34	2	16.7	*	*
	35 - 44	2	16.7	*	*
	45 - 54	2	16.7	*	*
	55 - 64	0	0	*	*
	65 - 74	1	8.3	*	*
	75 - 84	1	8.3	*	*
	85 +	0	0	*	*
Total Deaths		12	100		

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

Homicide Rates by Gender and Race,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

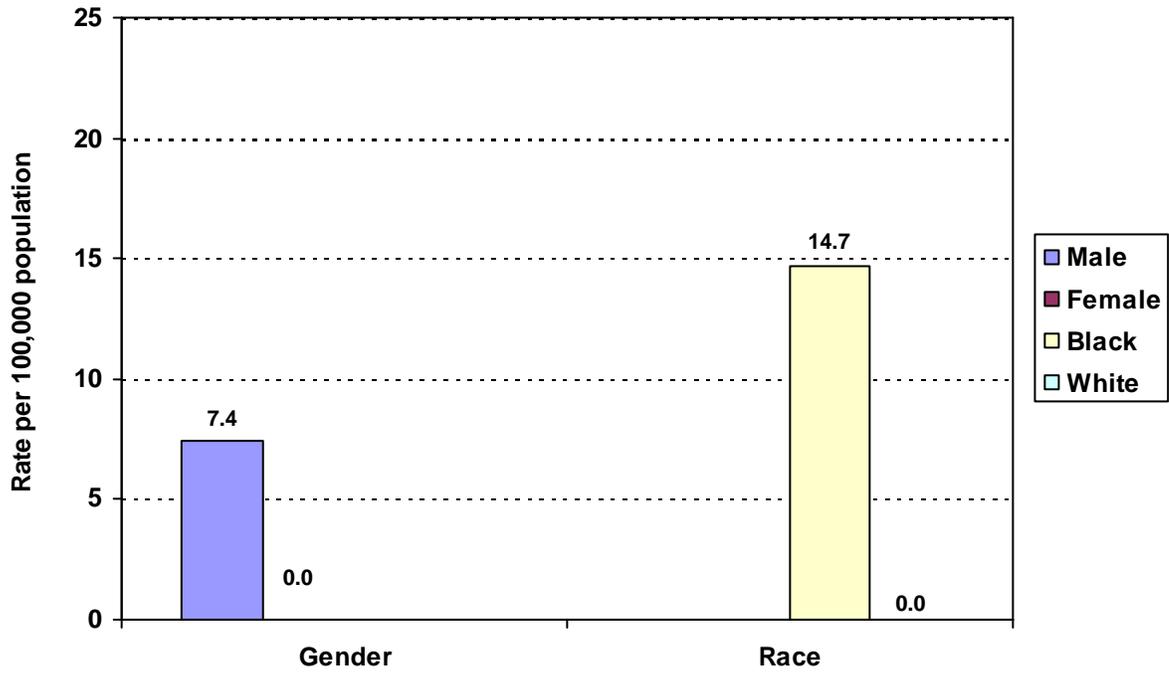
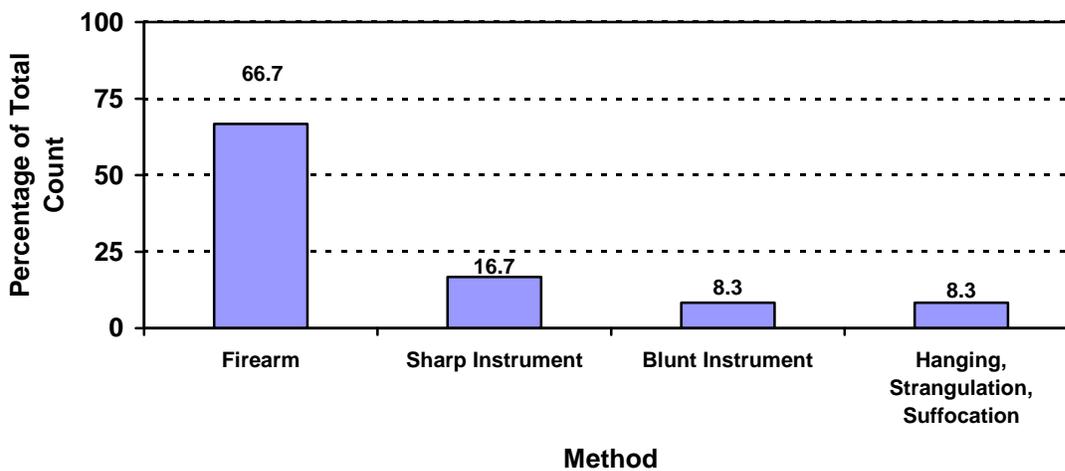


Table 12: Method of Death for Homicide Deaths in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007			
Method		Number	%
	Firearm	8	66.7
	Sharp Instrument	2	16.7
	Blunt Instrument	1	8.3
	Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	1	8.3
Total Deaths		12	0

**Method of Death for Homicide Deaths,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



* Other methods include: sharp and blunt instruments, unarmed assaults, fires or burns, drowning, motor vehicles, violent shaking, intentional neglect, and other unspecified methods.

Table 13: Race by Gender of Homicide Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Race	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
Black	6	75.0	20.6	4.1 - 37.1	3	75.0	*	*	9	75.0
White	2	25.0	*	*	1	25.0	*	*	3	25.0
Total Deaths	8	100			4	100			12	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Race by Gender of Homicide Victims,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

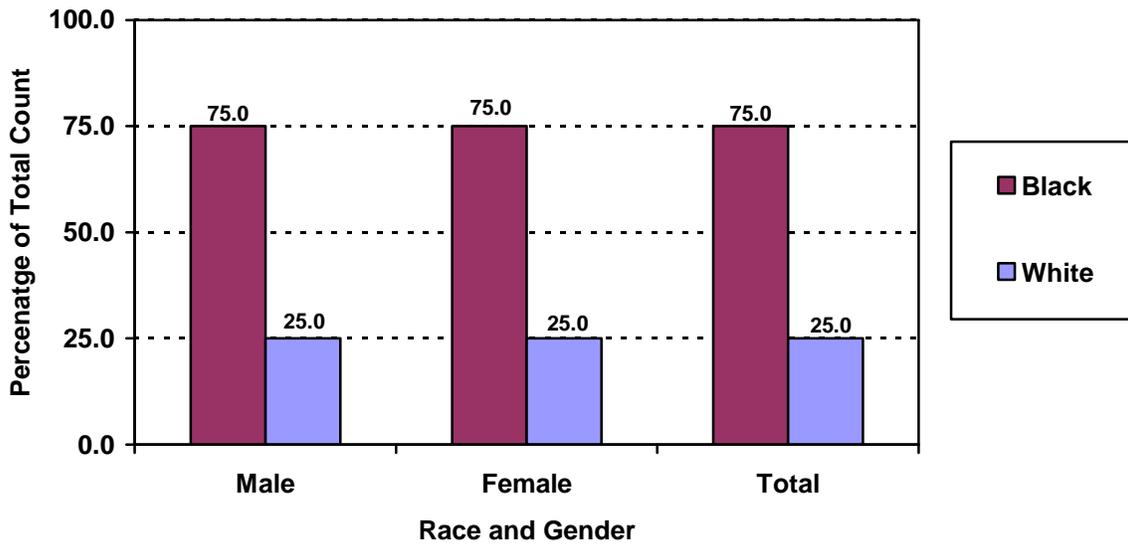
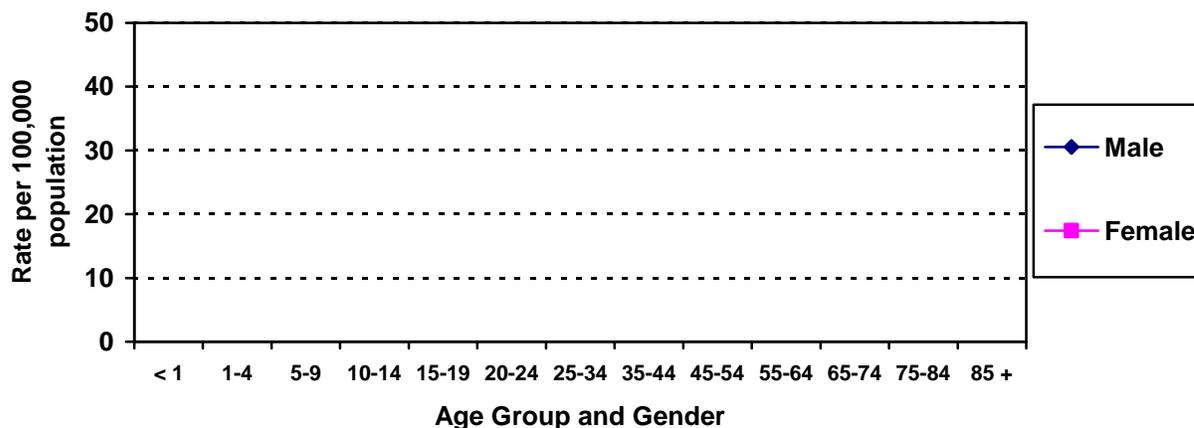


Table 14: Age Group by Gender of Homicide Victims in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Age Group	Male				Female				Total	
	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%	Rate	CI	Number	%
10 - 14	1	12.5	*	*	1	25.0	*	*	2	16.7
15 - 19	1	12.5	*	*	1	25.0	*	*	2	16.7
20 - 24	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
25 - 34	2	25.0	*	*	0	0	*	*	2	16.7
35 - 44	1	12.5	*	*	1	25.0	*	*	2	16.7
45 - 54	1	12.5	*	*	1	25.0	*	*	2	16.7
55 - 64	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
65 - 74	1	12.5	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	8.3
75 - 84	1	12.5	*	*	0	0	*	*	1	8.3
85 +	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	*	0	0
Total Deaths	8	100			4	100			114	100

* The number of deaths was zero or too small to support the calculation of a rate.

**Homicide Rates by Age Group and Gender of Victims,
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**



Note: Some values are zero or not available due to low count so the lines appear "broken".

**Table 15: Circumstances of Homicides in
Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007**

		Number	%
Event Circumstances			
	Intimate partner violence related	5	55.6
	Other argument, abuse, or conflict	4	44.4
	Drug involvement	0	0
	Argument over money or property	0	0
	Jealousy (Lovers Triangle)	0	0
	Precipitated by another serious crime	0	0
Victim Characteristics			
	Victim used a weapon	1	11.1
	Victim was a bystander	1	11.1
	Justifiable self defense	0	0

The denominator of the percentage is the total number of homicide victims who had circumstance data available. Each homicide victim may have anywhere from zero to many circumstances.

Table 17: Type of Weapon by Manner of Death in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007

Weapon Type	Manner of Death										Total	
	Suicide		Homicide		Unintentional Firearm		Legal Intervention		Undetermined Intent			
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Firearm	20	69.0	8	66.7	1	100.0	0	0	0	0	29	67.4
Sharp Instrument	0	0	2	16.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4.7
Blunt Instrument	0	0	1	8.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.3
Poisoning	1	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.0	2	4.7
Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation	7	24.1	1	8.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	18.6
Drowning	1	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2.3
Total Deaths	29	100	12	100	1	100	0	0	1	100	43	100

Table 18: Type of Firearm by Manner of Death in Franklin County, NC; 2004 - 2007
For Firearm Deaths only

Firearm Type	Manner of Death										Total	
	Suicide		Homicide		Unintentional Firearm		Legal Intervention					
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Handgun	15	75.0	2	25.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	58.6
Rifle	3	15.0	3	37.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	20.7
Shotgun	2	10.0	2	25.0	1	100.0	0	0	0	0	5	17.2
Unknown Firearm Type	0	0	1	12.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3.4
Total Deaths	20	100.0	8	100.0	1	100.0	2	100	29	100.0	29	100.0

GLOSSARY

Adult	Person was 18 years of age or older on date of death.
Child	Person was less than 18 years of age on date of death.
Legal intervention	Decedent was killed by a police officer or some other peace officer, including military police, acting in the line of duty. Includes legal executions.
Occurrent death	Death occurred in NC. Decedent may or may not have been a NC resident at the time of death.
Peace officer	Person with specified legal authority to use deadly force.
Rates	Calculated as count x 100,000/population.
Resident death	Victim was a NC resident at the time of death and the death occurred in NC. All deaths reported in this report are resident deaths.
Undetermined intent	A death resulting from the use of force or power against oneself or another person for which the evidence indicating the manner of death was not sufficient to determine intent.
Violent death	Intentional use of physical force or power against oneself, another person, or against a group or community. Deaths meeting this definition include suicides, homicides, and legal interventions.



State of North Carolina • Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor
Department of Health and Human Services
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary
Division of Public Health • Jeffrey P. Engel, State Health Director
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