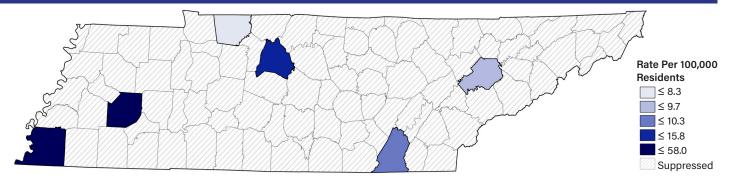
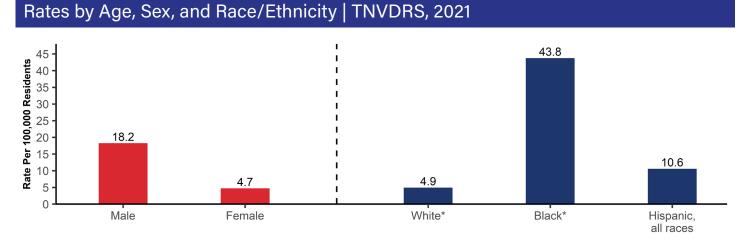


The Tennessee Violent Death Reporting System (TNVDRS) helps state and local officials understand why violent deaths occur by linking data from medical examiner, law enforcement, and vital statistics records. It is the only data system for homicide and suicide that pools data on violent deaths and their circumstances from multiple sources into one anonymous database. TNVDRS collects over 600 unique data elements to provide context on violent deaths occurring in our state including: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths of undetermined intent. For more information or to request additional data, please contact us at <u>TN.VDRS@tn.gov</u>

Homicide Rates by County of Injury | TNVDRS, 2021



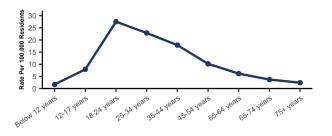
Of the 2,235 violent deaths in TN in 2021, 792 were homicides (35.4%). Counties not shaded had fewer than 10 homicide deaths included in TNVDRS for this year. No county had a statistically significant increase in homicide rate from 2020 to 2021.



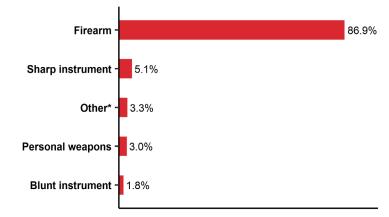
The mortality rate of homicide was 3.9 times higher for males than females (18.2 per 100,000 compared to 4.7 per 100,000), as shown above. We can also see that black individuals had a higher rate than white individuals (43.8 per 100,000 compared to 4.9 per 100,000). These groupings include Hispanic white and Hispanic black decedents respectively due to the available population groups for rate calculation. The homicide mortality rate for Hispanic decedents of all races was 10.6 per 100,000.

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Decedents below 12 years had the lowest homicide mortality rate at 1.7 per 100,000. For decedents aged 18 or higher at death, the average mortality rate was 13.5, and the figure to the right shows that the highest rate is among decedents aged 18 to 24, at 27.5 per 100,000.

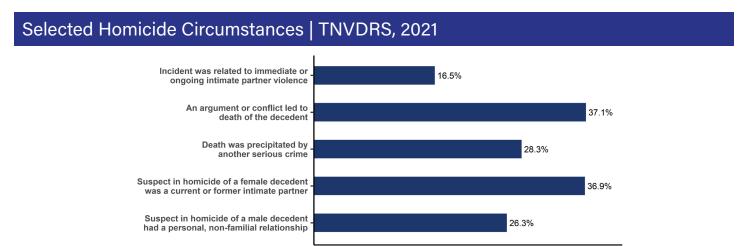


Method of Death | TNVDRS, 2021



The majority of homicide deaths are due to firearm (86.9%), followed by sharp instrument (5.1%). In 50.5% of firearm homicides, the firearm used was a handgun; the most common handgun was a semi-automatic pistol. Female homicide decedents who died due to firearm or sharp instrument were more likely to have wounds on the head, face, or neck than male homicide decedents. Non-Hispanic black decedents who died due to firearm or sharp instrument or sharp instrument were more likely to have more likely to have wounds on the head, face, or neck than male homicide decedents. Non-Hispanic black decedents who died due to firearm or sharp instrument were more likely to have wounds on the extremities, thorax, or spine than non-Hispanic white decedents.

TNVDRS had available toxicology information for 93.8% of homicide decedents in 2021; decedents were likely to have no substances present (17.5%), or to have positive results for marijuana (54.2%) or ethanol (26.9%).



The above figure shows the most common circumstances associated with each incident; sufficient data to collect circumstance information was available for 95.1% of decedents. Female decedents were more likely to die due to intimate partner violence. Non-Hispanic white decedents were more likely to have an argument leading to death than non-Hispanic black decedents. Male decedents were more likely to die in an incident precipitated by another serious crime; the most common precipitating crime was assault/homicide. When information about a suspect is known, female decedents are more likely to be killed by a current or former intimate partner, while male decedents are more likely to be killed by a suspect they have a non-familial relationship with.

TN Department of Health

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