



Suicide and Homicide Remain Important Public Health Problems According to New Data from the National Violent Death Reporting System

Key Findings

New data published in the [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#) (MMWR) from the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) show that relationship problems, specifically issues between intimate partners, often occur before suicides and homicides. Other findings include:

- Intimate partner problems also were cited as leading to a high percentage of male suicides and female suicides (31.2% and 25% respectively).
- Overall, mental health problems were the most commonly noted circumstance for suicide deaths, with 38.3% described as experiencing a depressed mood at the time of their deaths.
- Suicide and homicide rate for males was nearly four times that for females.
- Blacks counted for half (52.7%) of homicide deaths and had the highest rate followed by American Indians/Alaskan Natives and Hispanics.
- Homicide rates were highest among those aged 20-24 years, followed by those aged 25-29 years.
- 222 violent deaths were due to lethal force by law enforcement (coded as legal intervention).
- Among legal intervention deaths, rates were highest between the ages of 30-34 and 20-24 years, and among males, especially black males.

These findings emphasize the need for early prevention efforts that reduce risk for perpetration and improve skills for resolving conflicts without violence. The Division of Violence Prevention focuses on primary prevention of intimate partner violence to foster healthy, respectful, nonviolent relationships starting early in life to help prevent problems before they occur.

The deaths due to lethal force by law enforcement are highlighted in a [New England Journal of Medicine](#) article. The article explores the true magnitude of the problem and circumstances associated with these events and how a public health approach can help address this issue.

The Data System

The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) provides a detailed summary of data from 17 states that collected statewide data in 2013 (Alaska, Colorado, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin). The NVDRS can help identify populations that are particularly affected by violence. The system provides information for specific types of violent deaths and identifies common factors that span multiple types of violence to better explain the context in which a death occurs. This system pools data from death certificates, coroner/medical examiner reports, and law enforcement records into a usable, anonymous database. Linking this information provides a clearer understanding of circumstances surrounding violent deaths and what prevention efforts are needed to save lives.

Help Spread the Word!

NVDRS can help identify populations particularly affected by violence. The system provides both information for specific types of violent deaths and identifies common factors that span multiple types of violence to better understand the context in which these deaths occur. These data provide the foundation for building successful strategies to prevent violence so that all communities are safe and free from violence and people can live life to their full potential.

Facebook

Do you know who is most at-risk for violent death? Newly released @CDCMMWR NVDRS data tells us that in 2013, adults younger than 65, males, and minorities were:

<http://bit.ly/2b3WOQA>

To stop violent deaths from happening in the first place, we must first know the facts. The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) identifies common factors that span multiple types of violence. 2013 NVDRS MMWR Comm. Summary now available:

<http://bit.ly/2b3WOQA>

The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) can help identify populations particularly affected by violence so we can better tailor our prevention efforts. Check out 2013 NVDRS MMWR Communication Summary: <http://bit.ly/2b3WOQA>

Twitter

Just released! New #NVDRS data showing in 2013, adults < 65, males, & minorities most at risk for violent death: <http://bit.ly/2b3WOQA>

Violence can be prevented. #NVDRS identifies common factors that span multiple types of violence. 2013 #MMWR data available now: <http://bit.ly/2b3WOQA>

#NVDRS helps put the pieces of info of violent deaths together to inform prevention efforts. New #MMWR data released: <http://bit.ly/2b3WOQA>

Learn More

- [Surveillance for Violent Deaths — National Violent Death Reporting System, 17 States, 2013](#)
- [Assessing Homicides by and of U.S. Law-Enforcement Officers](#)
- [National Violent Death Reporting System](#)
- [NVDRS Fact Sheet](#)
- [NVDRS Overview](#)



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