The Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (GA-VDRS) is a state-wide surveillance system that collects information on violent deaths (homicides, suicides, deaths of undetermined intent, deaths resulting from legal intervention, and deaths resulting from unintentional firearm injuries). GA-VDRS provides evidence-based information to assist programs, policies, and strategies to prevent violent deaths in Georgia. This document focuses on homicides reported among adolescents and young adults (defined as those 10-24 years of age) from years 2011-2017.

- 1,398 homicides were reported among adolescents and young adults (those 10-24 years of age) from 2011-2017.
- 86% of homicide victims were males.
- Overall, non-Hispanic black males had the highest homicide rate (39.3 per 100,000), followed by Hispanic males (7.1 per 100,000), non-Hispanic black females (4.5 per 100,000), non-Hispanic white males (3.5 per 100,000). Hispanic females (1.5 per 100,000) and non-Hispanic white females (1.5 per 100,000), among adolescents and young adults 10-24 years of age.
- Non-Hispanic black males 20-24 years of age had the highest homicide rate (68.4 per 100,000 population) and were 14.5 times more likely to be victims of homicide compared to their non-Hispanic white male counterparts.

- Over 9 out of 10 (93%) homicides among males and 8 out of 10 homicides among females, involved a firearm.
- Nearly 9 out of every 10 (87%) homicide victims among adolescents (10-19 years of age) and 91% of homicide victims among young adults (20-24 years of age), involved a firearm.
- Females homicide victims were 7.8 times more likely to die by strangulation compared to males, and 1.1 times more likely to die by a sharp instrument.
- Nearly half (45%) of homicide victims among Georgia adolescents and young adults occurred at home (i.e., house, apartment, etc.).

- Overall, the homicide rate among Georgia adolescents and young adults 10-24 years of age increased by 42% from 2011-2017.
- The homicide rate among Georgia adolescent and young adult males increased by 51% from 2011-2017.
- The homicide rate among Georgia adolescent and young adult females decreased by 5% from 2011-2017.
- Non-Hispanic black adolescent and young adult males had the highest increase in homicide rate (69%) from 2011-2017, followed by non-Hispanic black adolescents and young adult females (50%), and Hispanic adolescents and young adult males (29%).

For more information on GA-VDRS, please visit: www.dph.georgia.gov/GVDRS.
CIRCUMSTANCES:

HOMICIDES AMONG ADOLESCENTS & YOUNG ADULTS IN GEORGIA, 2011-2017

GA-VDRS collects information about circumstances surrounding the violent death incident. Examples of this circumstantial information could be an altercation, history of abuse, mental health issues, substance abuse problems, etc. This section focuses on circumstances surrounding homicide victims among Georgia adolescents and young adults 10-24 years of age from 2011-2017.

Among homicides with known circumstances, by age group:

- The most reported circumstance among adolescents 10-19 years of age was criminal involvement (46%) which indicates that criminal behaviors (i.e., drug involvement, gang related, hate crime, prostitution, stalking) played a role in the homicide.
  - Among those related to criminal involvement, 41% of adolescent and 44% of young adult homicides reported another crime in progress, indicating a crime was in progress at the time of the homicide.
- The most reported circumstance among young adults 20-24 years of age was alteration (45%), indicating the victim was in a physical or verbal alteration prior to the homicide.
  - Among those involved in alteration, 33% of adolescent and 38% of young adult homicides reported an argument or conflict that led to the victim’s death.

Among homicides with known circumstances, by sex:

- The most reported circumstance among adolescent and young adult males 10-24 years of age was criminal involvement (45%) that is criminal behaviors (i.e., drug involvement, gang related, hate crime, prostitution, stalking, etc.) played a role in the homicide.
- The most reported circumstance among adolescent and young adult females was relationship problem (48%), indicating the victim had a relationship problem with someone such as intimate partner, family, friend/colleague, etc. prior to the homicide.
  - Nearly 2 out of every 5 (38%) adolescents and young adults female homicide victim reported intimate partner violence.
  - Nearly 2 out of every 5 (38%) adolescent and young adult male homicides and 48% adolescents and young adult female homicides reported an argument or conflict that led to the victim’s death.

Among homicides with known circumstances, by race/ethnicity:

- Altercation (44%) was the most reported homicide circumstance among non-Hispanic black adolescents and young adults 10-24 years of age, indicating the victim was in a physical or verbal alteration prior to the homicide.
  - Of those who reported alteration, 37% were non-Hispanic black adolescents and young adults involved in argument or conflict that led to the victim’s death.
- One out of every 4 (25%) non-Hispanic white adolescents and young adults reported a relationship problem, indicating the victim had a relationship problem with someone such as intimate partner, family, friend/colleague, etc. prior to the homicide.
  - Intimate partner violence was indicated among 14% of non-Hispanic white adolescents and young adults, while 5% of non-Hispanic white adolescents and young adults reported a history of abuse (i.e., intimate partner abuse, neglect as a child, etc.)

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