

# Violent Deaths in Georgia, 2008-2012: Georgia Violent Death Reporting System

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## Introduction

Violent deaths, such as homicides and suicides, impact the lives of individuals, families, and communities in the United States (U.S.) and around the world. In 2012, worldwide, there were approximately 475,000 deaths by homicide (age-adjusted rate of 6.7 per 100,000 population) and 804,000 deaths by suicide (age-adjusted rate of 11.4 per 100,000 population) (WHO, 2014a; WHO, 2014b). In the U.S. during this period 16,688 people died by homicide (age-adjusted rate of 5.3 per 100,000 population) and more than 40,000 people died by suicide (age-adjusted rate of 13.0 per 100,000 population) (CDC, 2015a). To prevent violent deaths, we must understand the root causes of why they occur, who are being mostly affected, and how these types of violence impact the lives of communities and families. This can be achieved by collecting and linking accurate information about violent death incidents from multiple state and local data sources. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) implemented the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) in 2002 as a state based surveillance system to improve surveillance of violent deaths nationwide (CDC, 2014). NVDRS is the only state-based surveillance system that gathers data for each violent death incident (i.e., manner of death, circumstances, mental health status, relationship between victim and suspect, etc.) from multiple data sources into an anonymous database to provide more detailed information on each violent death (CDC, 2014). Georgia is one of 32 states currently participating in the NVDRS. The state-based program is referred to as the Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (GA-VDRS). GA-VDRS aims to: 1) inform decision makers and program planners about the magnitude and characteristics of violent deaths in Georgia, 2) improve violence prevention efforts and 3) monitor violent death burden and trends in Georgia.

The data sources used by the GA-VDRS include:

- Death certificates
- Medical examiner and/or coroner reports
- Police reports (Supplemental Homicide Reports)
- Crime laboratory records
- Emergency Medical Services trip reports
- Child Fatality Review

The GA-VDRS uses uniform data elements developed by NVDRS in collaboration with funded states.

## **Executive Summary**

The Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (GA-VDRS) is a statewide surveillance system that collects data on all homicides, suicides, deaths of undetermined intent, deaths resulting from legal intervention, and deaths resulting from unintentional firearm injuries in Georgia. The GA-VDRS' goals are to generate public health information on violent deaths and to provide evidence based information to assist in the development of programs, policies, and strategies to prevent violent deaths in Georgia.

### **Summary of GA-VDRS Findings, 2008-2012**

- From 2008 to 2012, 9,549 violent deaths were reported in Georgia - an average of over 1,900 violent deaths per year.
- Fifty-six percent (56%) of all violent deaths were due to suicide, while 34% were due to homicide.
- Ninety-six percent (96%) of victims were Georgia residents and 83% died in their county of residence.
- Fifty-eight percent (58%) of violent deaths occurred at the victim's residence: 70% of suicides and 37% of homicides.
- The age-adjusted violent death rate for males was more than three times higher than for females.
- Black males had the highest age-adjusted violent death rate.
- Firearms were the weapon type most commonly used.
- Among suicide victims with a known military status, 21% had served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

## Section 1: Overview of Violent Deaths

### VIOLENT DEATH DEFINITION

Violent deaths, as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO), are deaths that result from the “intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or a group or community that either results in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation” (WHO, 2002). The person using the force or power need only have intended to use force or power; they don’t necessarily need to intend to produce the consequence that actually occurred. The GA-VDRS captures violent deaths due to homicide, suicide, undetermined intent, unintentional firearm, and legal intervention, which are defined in Appendix A. The system excludes legal executions, legal assisted suicides, and deaths due to acts of war (although deaths due to terrorism are included).

### RESIDENT AND OCCURRENT CASES<sup>^</sup>

The GA-VDRS collects information on violent deaths among residents of Georgia, as well as violent deaths that occurred in Georgia regardless of the person’s state of residence<sup>^</sup> (occurrent cases).

- In Georgia, from 2008-2012 almost all (96%) violent deaths occurred among residents of Georgia.

Table 1a. Violent Deaths by Type, Georgia, 2008-2012			
Type of Case	Number	%	Rate per 100,000
Georgia Resident	9,150	95.8	18.7
Occurrent	363	3.8	<sup>§</sup>
Unknown State of Residency	36	0.4	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,549</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>18.7</b>

<sup>§</sup>Age-adjusted violent death rate cannot be calculated for occurrent cases.

--Age-adjusted violent death rate could not be calculated.

### MANNER OF DEATH

Table 1b. Number of Violent Deaths by Manner of Death, Georgia, 2008-2012			
Manner of Death	Number	%	Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000
Suicide	5,340	56.0	10.6
Homicide	3,231	34.0	6.2
Undetermined	836	8.8	1.6
Unintentional Firearm	73	0.8	*
Legal Intervention	69	0.7	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,549</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>18.7</b>

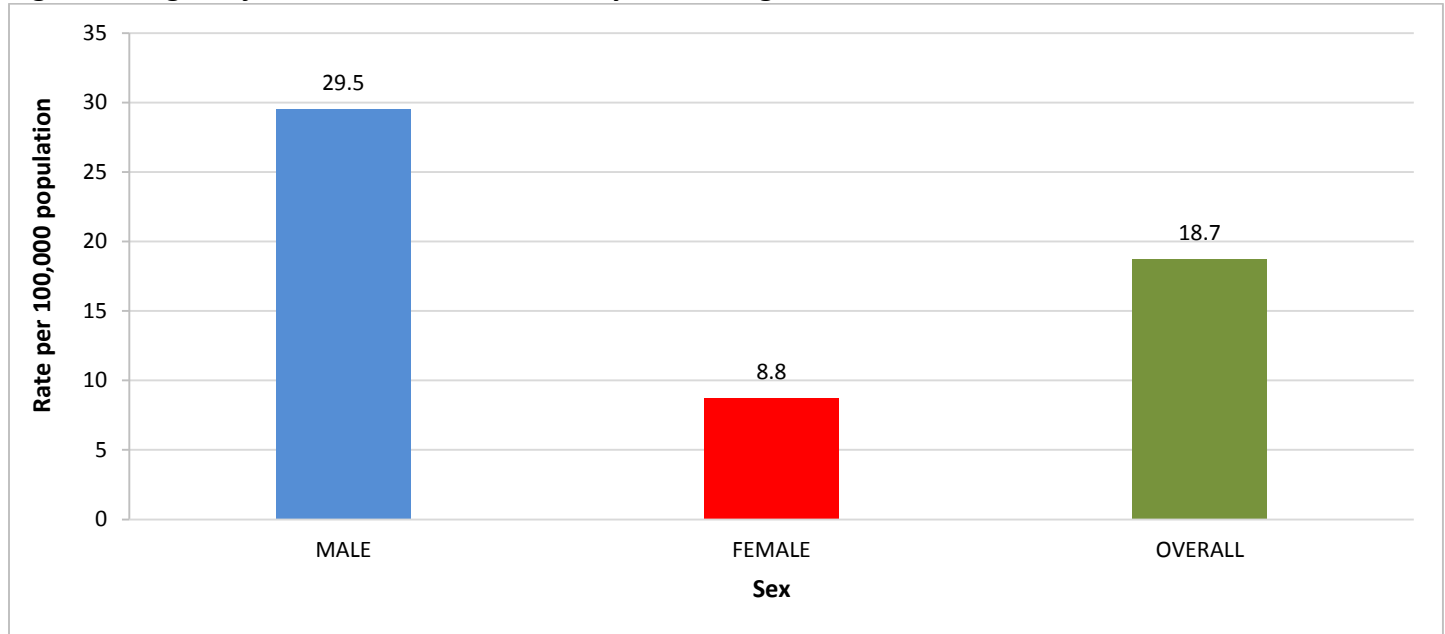
\*Age-adjusted mortality rate was < 1 per 100,000 population.

- Similar to national numbers, from 2008-2012, more than half (56%) of violent deaths in Georgia were due to suicides (CDC, 2015b).
- During this period, homicides accounted for one-quarter (25%) of violent deaths nationally and for more than one-third (34%) of violent deaths in Georgia. (CDC, 2015).
- Georgia’s total age-adjusted violent death rate (18.7 per 100,000 population) was lower than the national rate (19.6 per 100,000 population) for this period (CDC, 2015b).

<sup>^</sup>See Appendix B for Resident and Occurrent cases by county (Table B1).

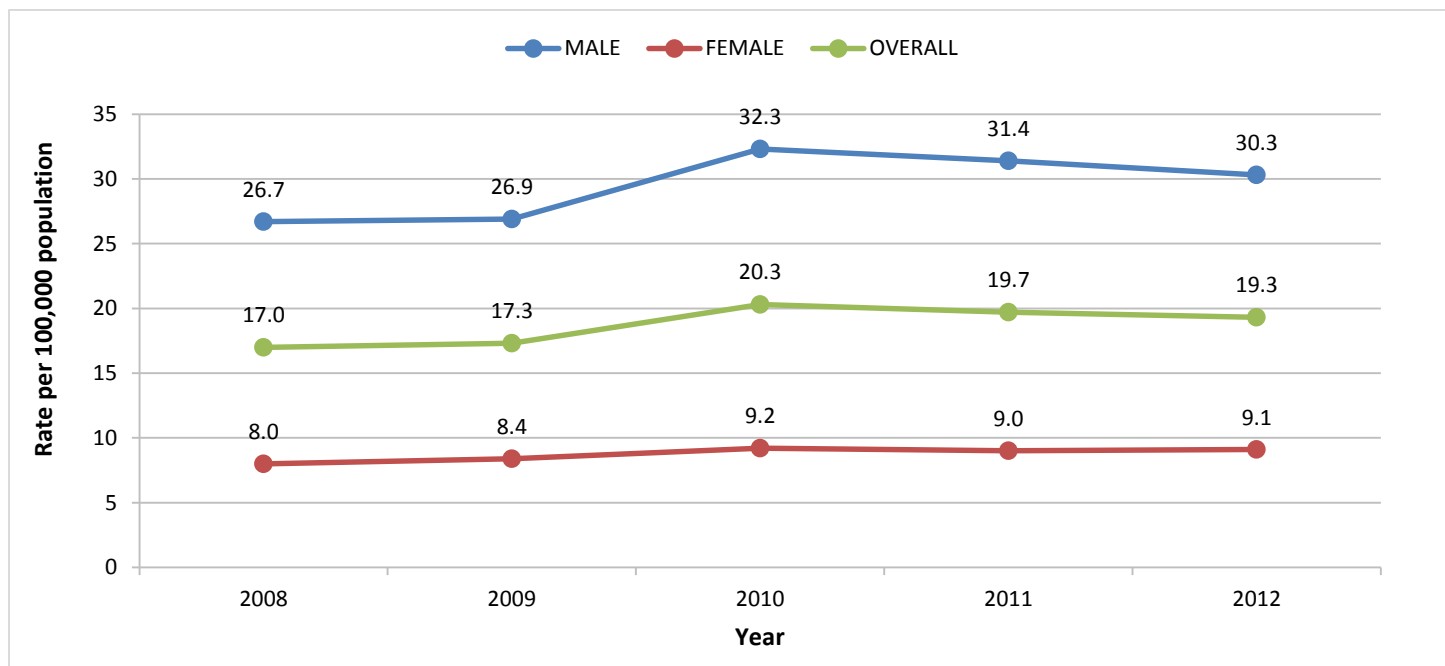
## SEX, AGE, AND RACE/ETHNICITY

Figure 1a. Age-Adjusted Violent Death Rate by Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012



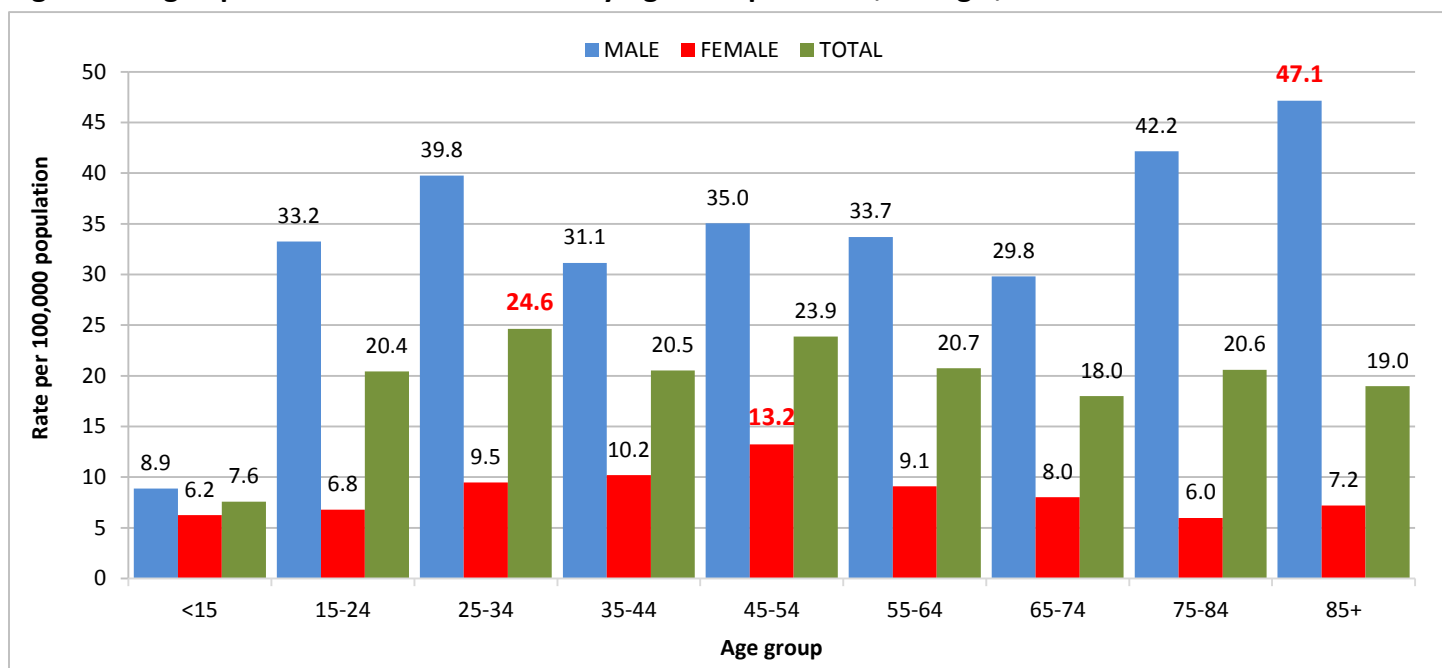
- From 2008 to 2012, the overall age-adjusted violent death rate was 18.7 per 100,000.
- The male violent death rate (29.5 per 100,000) was over three times greater than the female violent death rate (8.8 per 100,000).

Figure 1b. Age-Adjusted Violent Death Rates by Year and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012



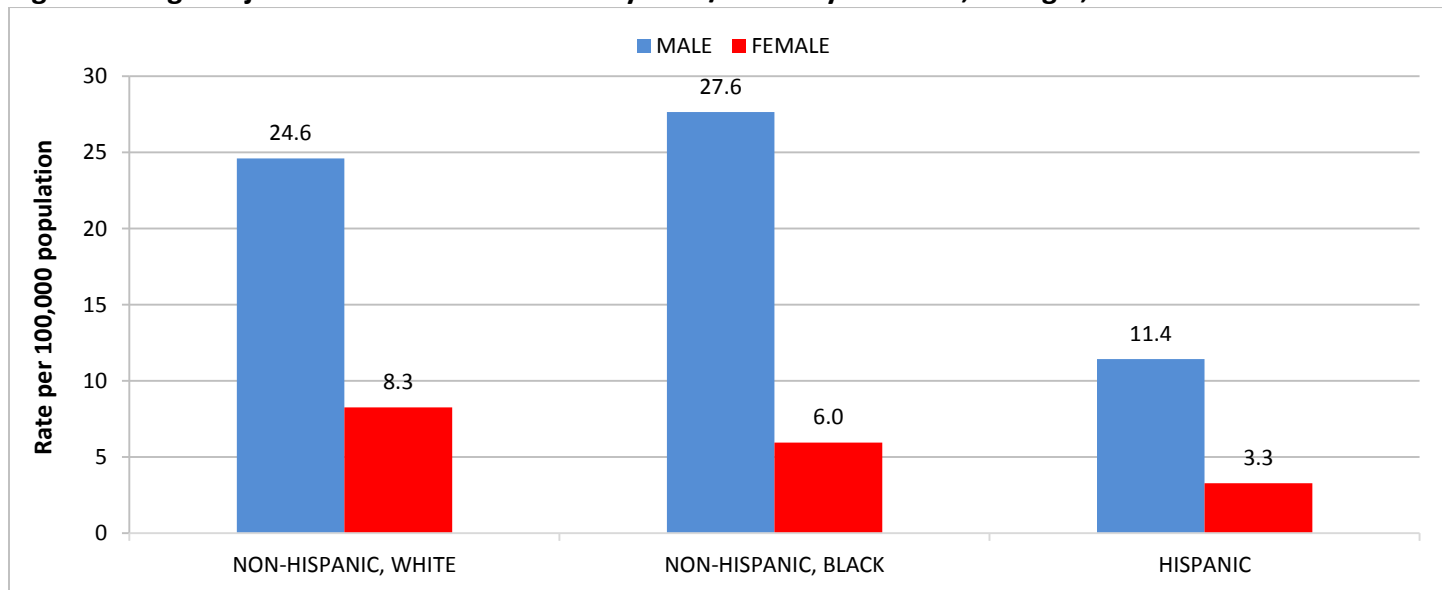
- The overall age-adjusted violent death rate increased by 12% from 2008 to 2012.
- During this period, the age-adjusted violent death rate increased by 11% and 12% for males and females, respectively.

**Figure 1c. Age-Specific Violent Death Rates by Age Group and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



- The overall age-specific violent death rate was highest among 25-34 year olds during 2008 to 2012.
- Males over 85 years old had the highest overall age-specific violent death rate.
- Among females, 45-54 year olds had the highest age-specific violent death rate.
- The age-adjusted violent death rate among 45-54 year old males was 2.6 times that of females.

**Figure 1d. Age-Adjusted Violent Death Rates by Race/Ethnicity<sup>+</sup> and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



<sup>+</sup> Other races excluded due to insufficient data.

- Overall, non-hispanic black males had the highest age-adjusted violent death rate, which was 12% higher than for non-hispanic white males.
- The age-adjusted violent death rate for non-hispanic white females was 39% higher than for non-hispanic black females.



## PLACE OF INJURY

- The place where the fatal injury occurred was known for 90% of all violent deaths in Georgia during 2008-2012.
- Among those with a known place of injury, nearly 75% occurred in a house, apartment, or rooming house, including the driveway, porch, yard, or garage.

<b>Table 1c. Number of Violent Deaths by Known Place of Injury, Georgia, 2008-2012</b>		
<b>Place of Injury</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
House, apartment, rooming house, including driveway, porch, yard, or garage	6,416	74.7
Street/road, sidewalk, alley	431	5.0
Motor vehicle	319	3.7
Natural area	247	2.9
Parking lot/public parking garage	220	2.6
Hotel/motel	211	2.5
*Other	621	7.2
Jail, prison, detention facility	126	1.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,591</b>	<b>100.0</b>

\*Includes: abandoned location, medical facility, railroad tracks, supervised residential facility, synagogue/church/temple, industrial/construction areas, office building, education institution, residential school, sports/athletic area, childcare center, bank/ATM location, liquor store, public transportation or station, bar/nightclub, other commercial establishment, parking lot, farm, service station, park/playground/public use area, highway/freeway, and bridge.

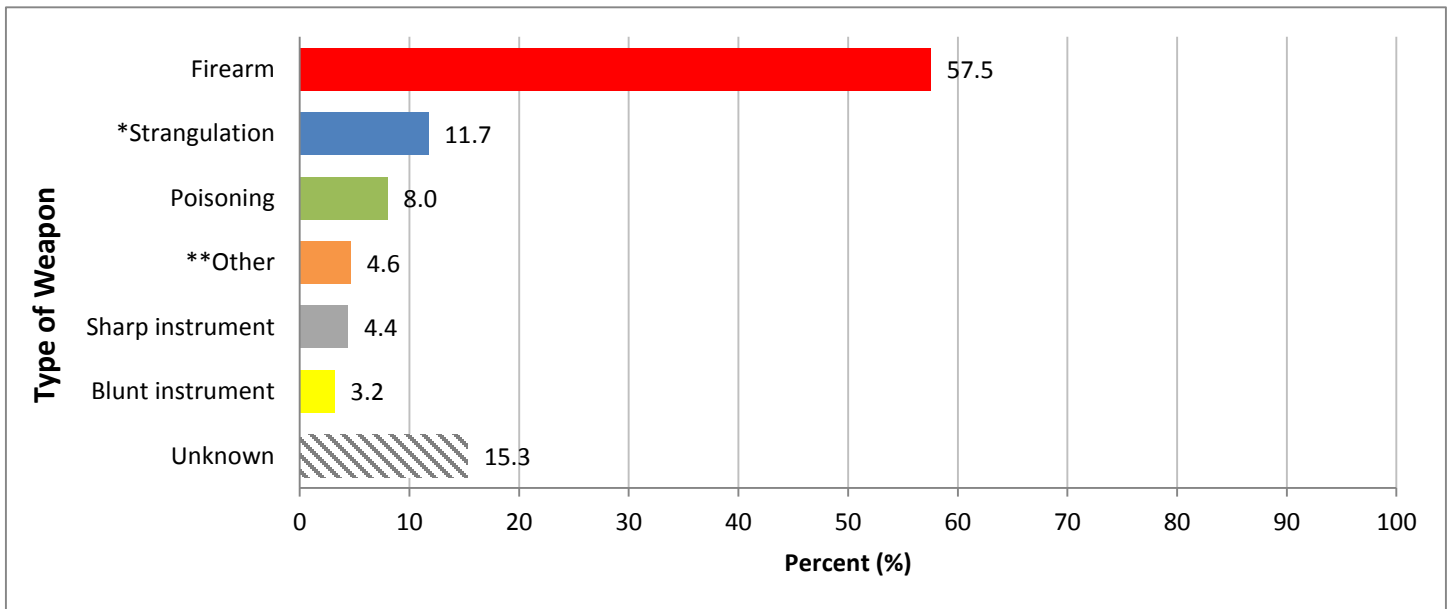
## TOP TEN CITIES OF INJURY

<b>Table 1d. Number of Violent Deaths by Known City of Injury, Georgia, 2008-2012</b>		
<b>City</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>
Atlanta	1,044	10.9
Savannah	284	3.0
Marietta	244	2.6
Macon	216	2.3
Decatur	200	2.1
Lawrenceville	200	2.1
Augusta-Richmond	175	1.8
Columbus	152	1.6
College Park	109	1.1
Stone Mountain	104	1.1

- The city of Atlanta had the highest number of violent deaths from 2008-2012, followed by Savannah.

## TYPE OF WEAPON

Figure 1e. Percent of Violent Deaths by Type of Weapon<sup>#</sup> Used, Georgia, 2008-2012



<sup>#</sup>Weapons are not mutually exclusive. Some deaths may include more than one weapon.

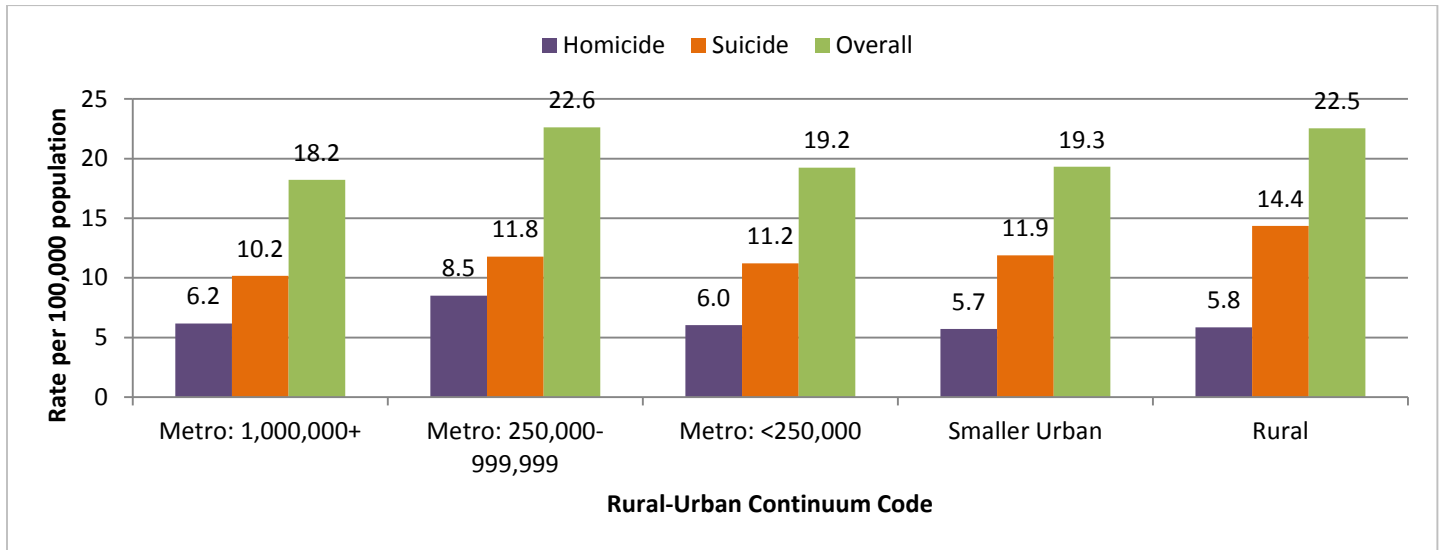
\*Includes hanging and suffocation

\*\*Includes: personal weapons, falls, fire or burns, drowning, motor vehicle, intentional neglect, shaking, biological weapons, explosive, and non-powder gun.

- Overall, 15.3% of violent death victims were fatally injured by an unknown weapon.
- Firearms (57.5%) were the most common weapon used to fatally injure violent death victims, followed by hanging, strangulation, or suffocation (11.7%).

## RURAL-URBAN STATUS

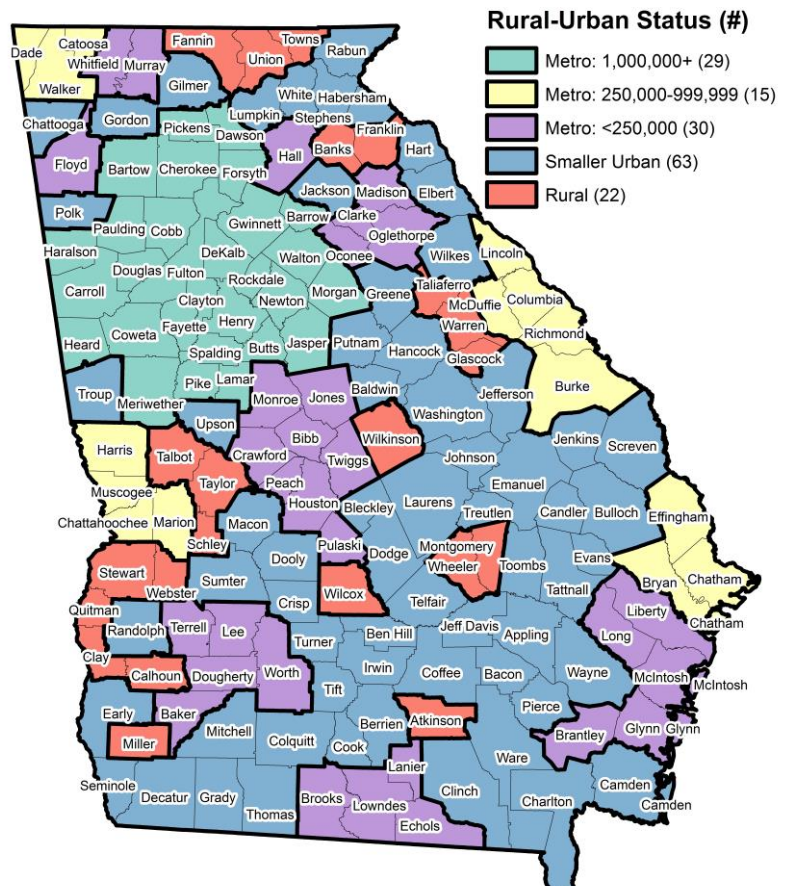
Figure 1e. Age-Adjusted Homicide and Suicide Rates by Rural-Urban Status\*, Georgia, 2008-2012



\*Rural-Urban Status established using Rural-Urban Continuum Codes (cf. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rurality/RuralUrbCon/>)

- Rural and Metro areas with 250,000 to 999,000 population had the highest age-adjusted **violent death** rate.
- Smaller urban areas had the lowest age-adjusted **homicide** rate.
- Metro areas with 250,000 to 999,999 population had the highest age-adjusted **homicide** rate.
- Metro areas with more than 1,000,000 population had the lowest age-adjusted **suicide** rate.
- Rural areas had the highest age-adjusted **suicide** rate.

Map 1a. Rural-Urban Status\* by Georgia County



\*Rural-Urban Status established using Rural-Urban Continuum Codes (cf. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Rurality/RuralUrbCon/>)

## PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICTS\*

### Public Health Districts of Injury

Public Health District of Injury	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Accidental Firearm	Legal Intervention
3-2 Fulton	496	673	113	8	14
3-5 DeKalb	289	418	66	**	**
3-4 East Metro (Lawrenceville)	481	204	63	**	7
9-1 Coastal (Brunswick)	373	247	38	7	**
4 LaGrange	416	166	74	6	**
3-1 Cobb-Douglas	405	125	71	**	6
1-1 Northwest (Rome)	405	90	60	**	7
6 East Central (Augusta)	271	233	44	7	**
5-2 North Central (Macon)	304	196	44	9	**
2 North (Gainesville)	346	79	37	**	**
10 Northeast (Athens)	309	83	34	**	**
7 West Central (Columbus)	213	158	40	**	**
8-2 Southwest (Albany)	201	120	19	**	**
9-2 Southeast (Waycross)	207	106	22	**	**
1-2 North Georgia (Dalton)	219	41	30	**	**
3-3 Clayton (Jonesboro)	92	129	25	**	**
8-1 South (Valdosta)	140	85	18	**	**
5-1 South Central (Dublin)	82	45	8	**	**
Unknown/ Missing	91	33	30	**	**

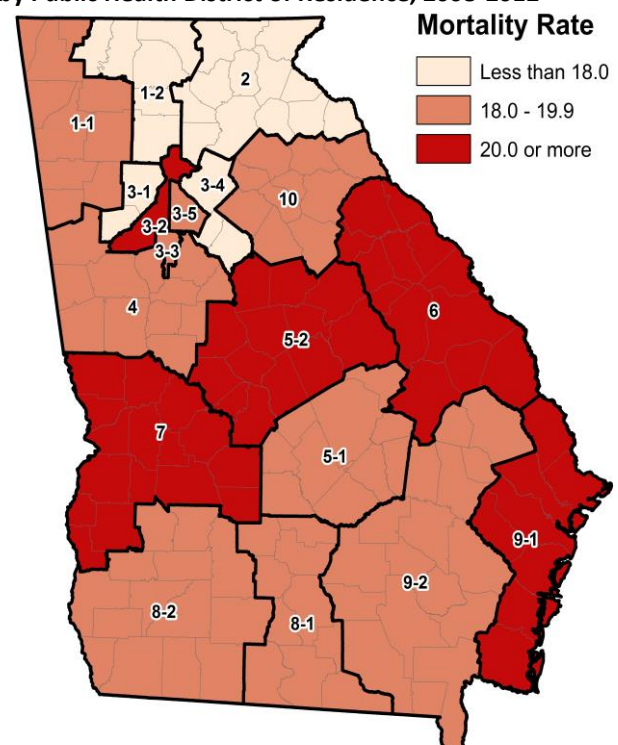
\*\*The number of deaths was 5 or fewer and has been suppressed to retain confidentiality.

- Suicides were most frequent in Fulton and East Metro Public Health districts.
- Homicides were most frequent in Fulton and DeKalb Public Health districts.
- Deaths of undetermined intent were most frequent in Fulton and LaGrange Public Health districts.

### Public Health District of Residence\*

- The age-adjusted violent death rate was greatest in District 6 East Central (Augusta), followed by District 9-1 Coastal (Savannah), District 3-2 Fulton, District 7 West Central (Columbus), and District 5-2 North Central (Macon) (Map 1b).
- District 1-2 North Georgia (Dalton) had the lowest age-adjusted violent death rate, followed by the District 2 North (Gainesville), District 3-1 Cobb-Douglas, and District 3-4 East Metro (Lawrenceville) (Map 1b).

**Map 1b. Age-Adjusted Violent Death Mortality Rate Status by Public Health District of Residence, 2008-2012**



\*See Appendix C for a list of counties within each public health district (Table C2) and crude and age-adjusted violent death rates by public health district of residence (Table C1).

## JUDICIAL DISTRICTS\*

### Judicial District of Injury

Table 1f. Number of Violent Deaths by Judicial District of Injury and Manner of Death, Georgia, 2008-2012					
Judicial District of Injury	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Accidental Firearm	Legal Intervention
District 1	562	342	58	11	7
District 2	328	217	35	6	**
District 3	406	290	68	10	**
District 4	322	443	72	**	**
District 5	496	673	113	8	14
District 6	527	303	103	6	8
District 7	872	235	144	6	14
District 8	254	135	28	6	**
District 9	851	251	100	8	11
District 10	631	309	85	7	**
Unknown/ Missing	91	33	30	**	**

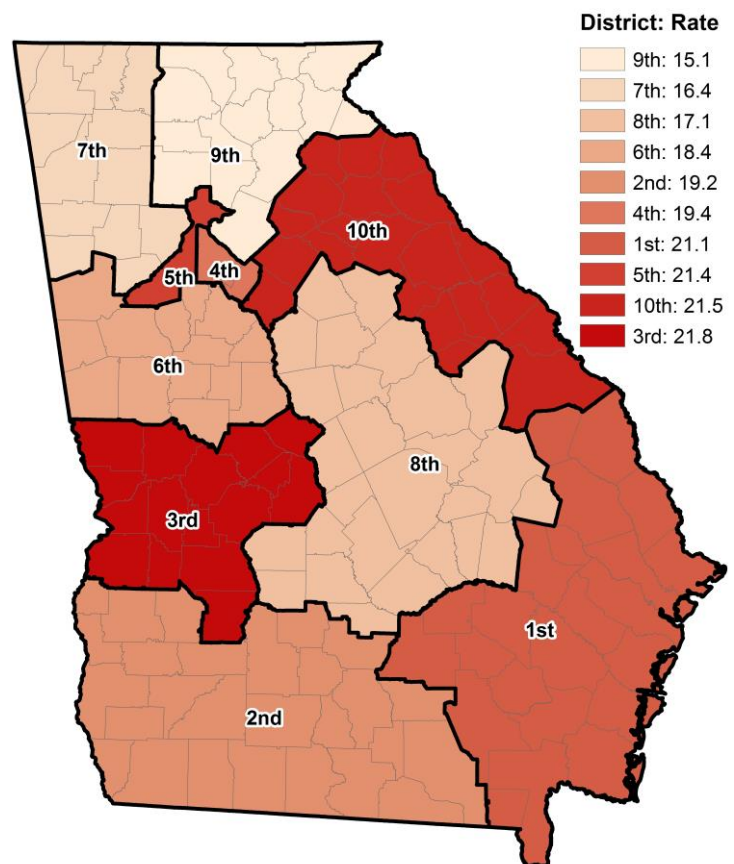
\*\*The number of deaths was 5 or fewer and has been suppressed to retain confidentiality.

- Overall, District 5 had the highest number of violent deaths, followed by District 7.
- Homicides were most frequent in District 5 and District 4.
- Suicides were most frequent in District 7 and District 9.

### Judicial District of Residence\*

- District 9 had the lowest age-adjusted violent death mortality rate, followed by District 7 (Map 1c).
- District 3 had the highest age-adjusted violent death mortality rate, followed by District 10 and District 5 (Map 1c).

Map 1c. Age-Adjusted Violent Death Mortality Rate Status by Judicial District of Residence, 2008-2012



\*See Appendix D for a list of counties within each judicial district (Table D2) and crude and age-adjusted violent death rates by judicial district of residence (Table D1).

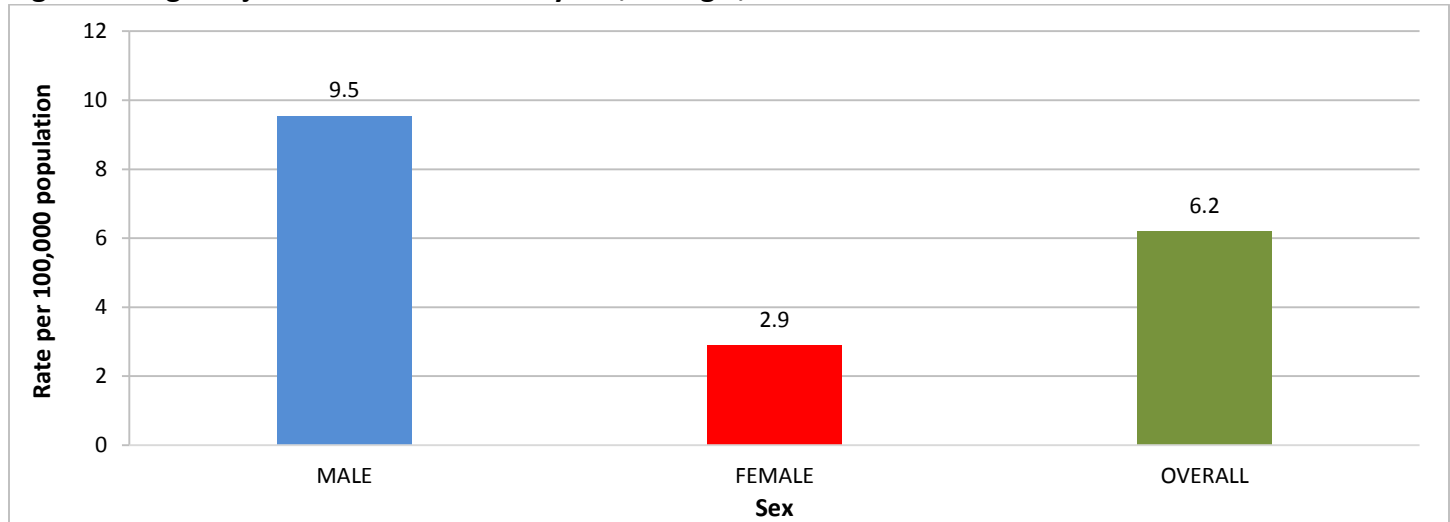
## Section 2: Homicides

### HOMICIDE DEFINITION

NVDRS defines homicide as a death resulting from the intentional use of force or power, threatened or actual, against another person, group, or community. Sufficient evidence must indicate that the use of force was intentional.

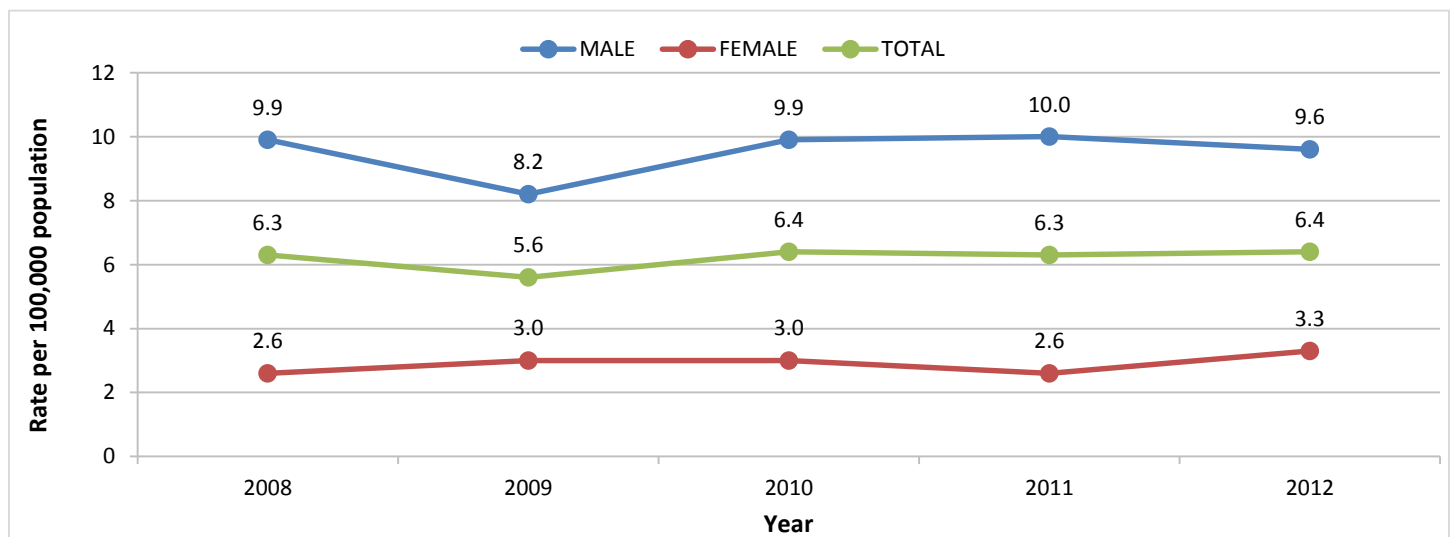
### SEX, AGE, AND RACE/ETHNICITY

**Figure 2a. Age-Adjusted Homicide Rate by Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



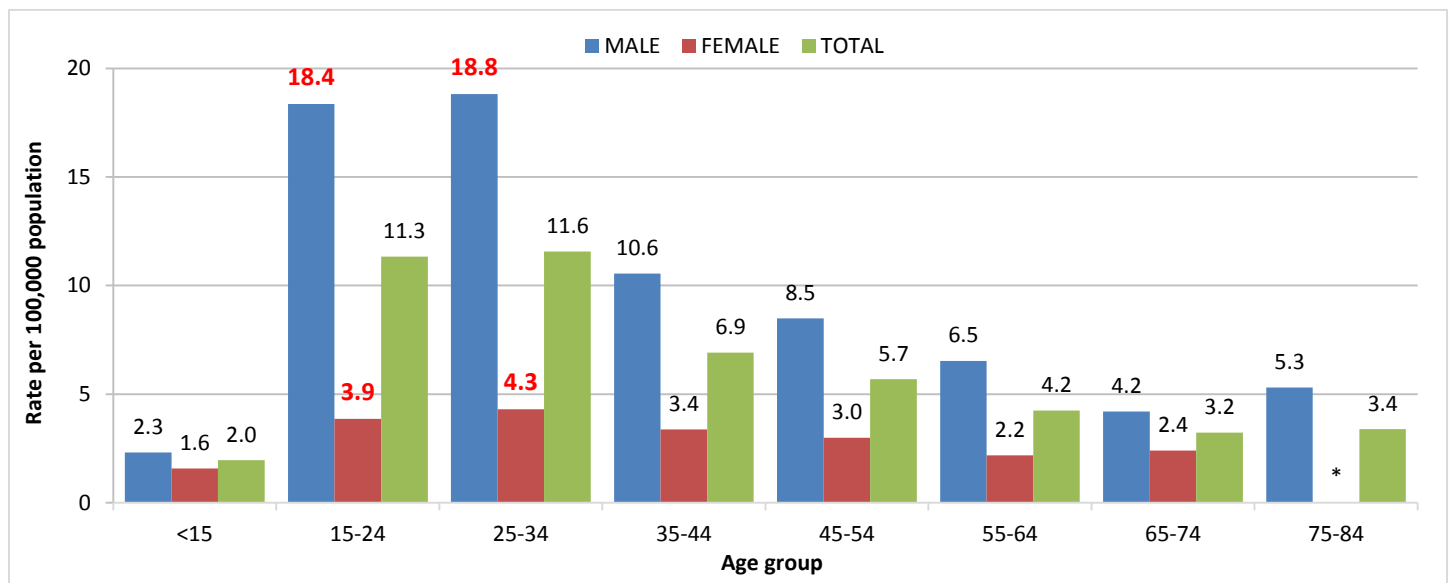
- From 2008 to 2012, the overall age-adjusted homicide death rate was 6.2 per 100,000.
- Overall, the male homicide death rate (9.5 per 100,000) was over three times greater than the female homicide death rate (2.9 per 100,000).

**Figure 2b. Age-Adjusted Homicide Rate by Year and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



- The overall age-adjusted homicide rate remained constant from 2008 to 2012.
- During this period, the age-adjusted homicide rate decreased by 3% for males. However, it increased by 27% for females.

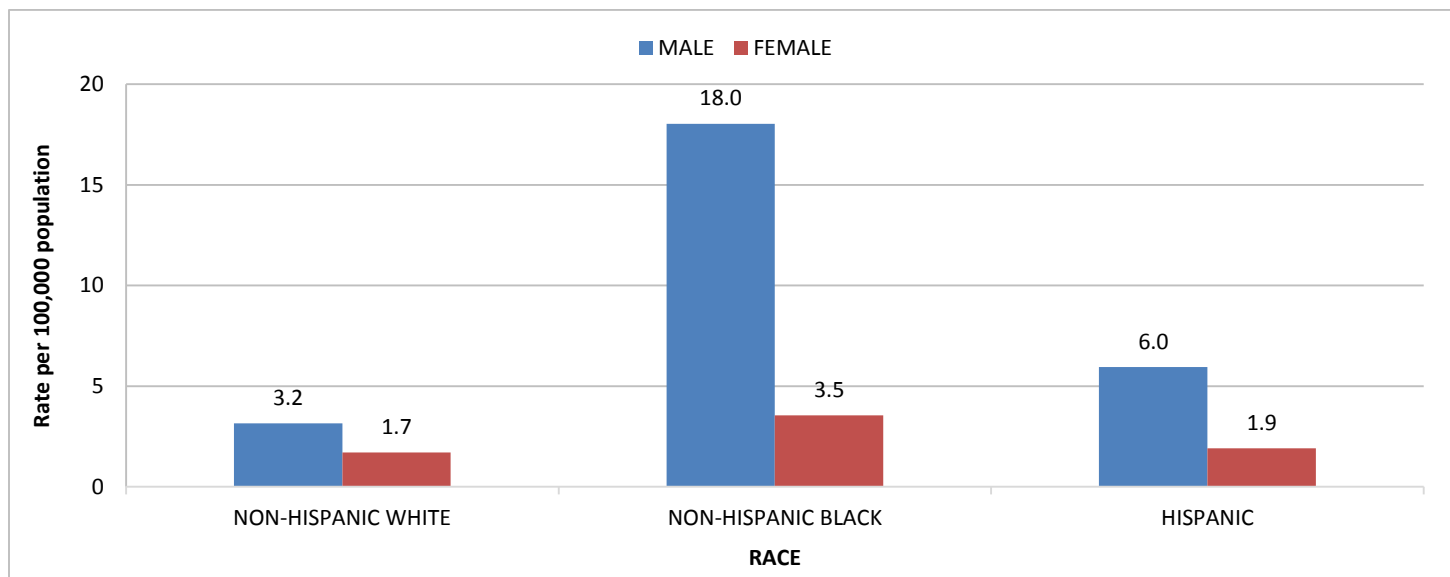
**Figure 2c. Age-Specific Homicide Rate by Age Group and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



\*Age-specific mortality rate was not calculated where number of deaths was <25.

- Overall and among males, the age-specific homicide rate was highest among 15-24 and 25 to 34 years age group.
- Among females, 15-24 and 25-34 years olds had the highest age-specific homicide rates.
- Males had 4.4 and 3.7 times the age-specific homicide rate among 15-24 and 25-34 year olds, respectively.

**Figure 2d. Age-Adjusted Homicide Rates by Race<sup>+</sup> and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**

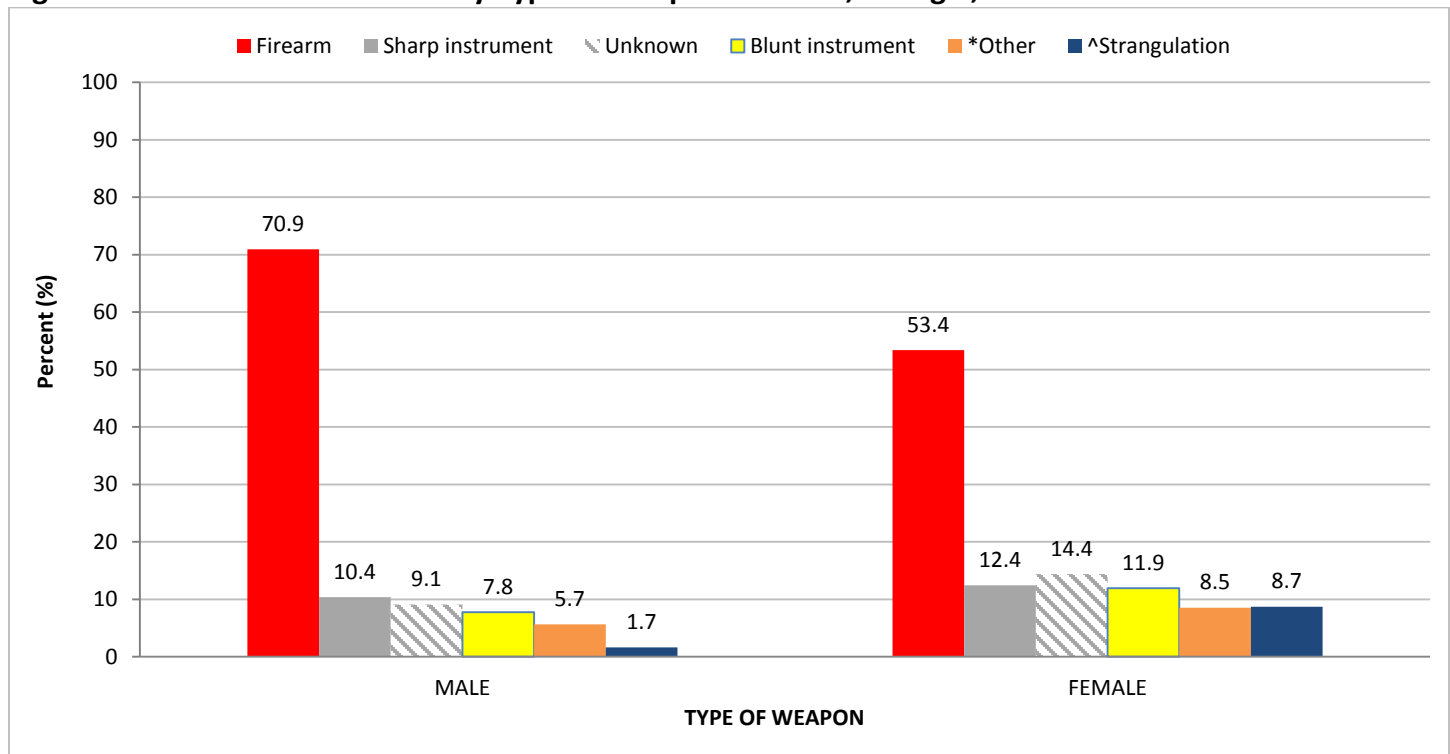


<sup>+</sup>Other races excluded due to insufficient data.

- Non-Hispanic black males had the highest age-adjusted homicide rate which was nearly six times greater than that for non-hispanic white males.
- Non-Hispanic black females had over twice the age-adjusted homicide rate as non-hispanic white females.

## TYPE OF WEAPON

**Figure 2e. Percent of Homicides by Type of Weapon<sup>#</sup> and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



<sup>#</sup>Weapons are not mutually exclusive. Some incidents may include more than one weapon.

<sup>^</sup>Includes hanging and suffocation

\*Includes: poisoning, falls, fire/burns, drowning, motor vehicle, intentional neglect, shaking, personal weapons, explosive, other transportation vehicle, non-powder gun, and other.

- Overall, 9.1% of male and 14.4% of female homicide victims were fatally injured by an unknown weapon.
- Firearms were the most common weapon used to fatally injure male and female homicide victims: 70.9% and 53.4%, respectively.
- The proportion of female homicide victims that died from hanging, strangulation, or suffocation was more than four times greater than that of male victims.



## CIRCUMSTANCES

- Circumstances were known for 77% of homicide incidents that occurred in Georgia during 2008-2012.

<b>Table 2a. Percent of Homicides by Known Circumstances* , Georgia, 2008-2012 (N=2,492 )</b>	
<b>Circumstance</b>	<b>%</b>
Precipitated by another crime	35.4
Gang-related	16.4
Argument or conflict	16.2
Intimate partner violence	12.6
Other crime in progress	12.3
Intimate partner problem	9.4
Drug involvement	9.2
Drug trade	8.1
Assault	5.3
Drive-by shooting	3.8
Family Stressors	3.6

\*Circumstances were not mutually exclusive.

- The most frequent circumstance for homicides was being precipitated by another crime, followed by gang-related activity.

## TOXICOLOGY

- Toxicology tests were performed on 51% (1,638) of homicide victims in Georgia during 2008-2012.
- Of the tested victims with results available (1,291), 61% (789) did not test positive for any toxic substances.

<b>Table 2b. Percent of Homicide Victims with Positive Toxicology* Results by Drug Type, Georgia, 2008-2012 (N=1,638)</b>	
<b>Drug Type</b>	<b>%</b>
Alcohol	26.3
Marijuana	15.5
Cocaine	13.8
Benzodiazepines	10.3
Opiates	6.3
Amphetamines	4.0
Antidepressants	1.0

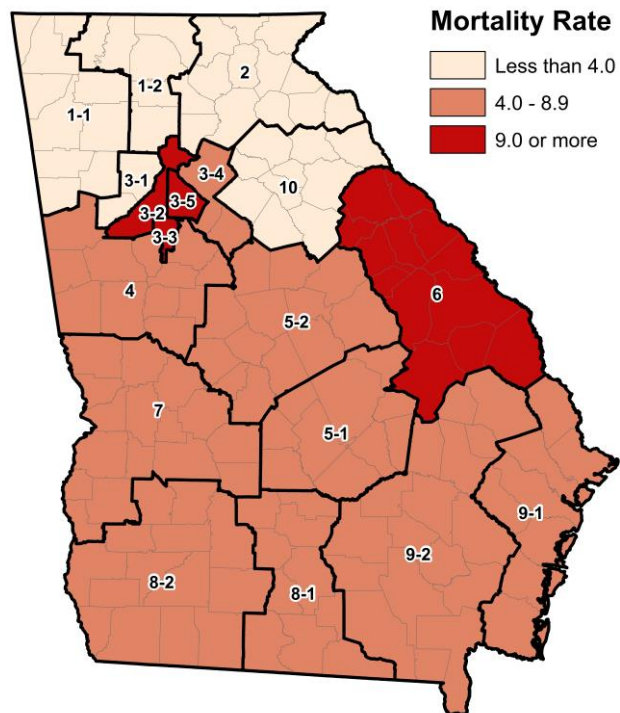
\*Toxicology tests were not mutually exclusive

- Alcohol and marijuana were the drugs most frequently detected among homicide victims who were tested.
- Among those who tested positive for alcohol, 18% had a blood alcohol level (BAC) above the adult legal limit in Georgia (BAC  $\geq$  0.08%).

## PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE\*

- The age-adjusted homicide mortality rate was greatest in the East Central (Augusta) district (District 6), followed by the DeKalb district (District 3-5), the Fulton district (District 3-2), and the Clayton district (District 3-3) (Map 2a).
- North Georgia (Dalton) district (District 1-2) had the lowest age-adjusted homicide mortality rate, followed by the North (Gainesville) district (District 2), the Northwest (Rome) district (District 1-1), the Cobb-Douglas district (District 3-1), and the Northeast (Athens) district (District 10) (Map 2a).

Map 2a. Age-Adjusted Homicide Mortality Rate Status by Public Health District of Residence, 2008-2012

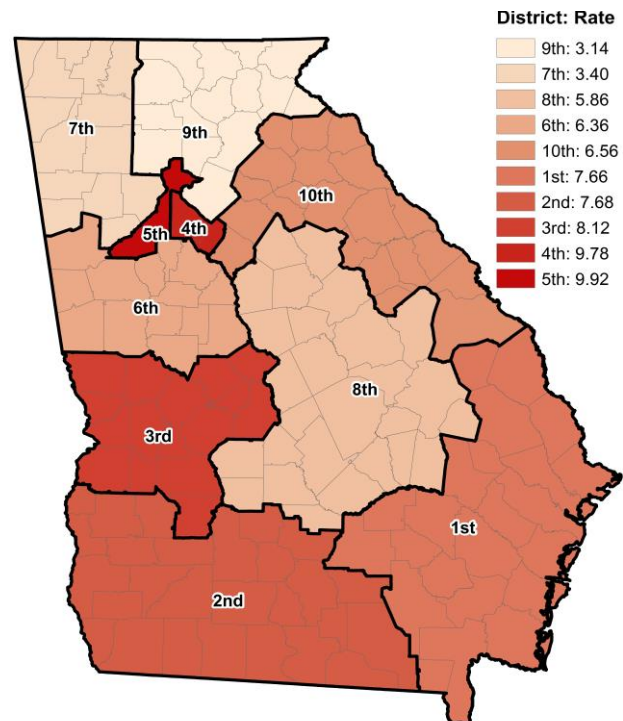


Source: Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (2008-2012).

## JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE\*\*

- The age-adjusted homicide mortality rate was greatest in the 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, followed by the 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> District (Map 2b).
- The 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District had the lowest homicide rate, followed by the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial Districts.

Map 2b. Age-Adjusted Homicide Mortality Rate Status by Public Health District of Residence, 2008-2012



Source: Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (2008-2012).

\*See Appendix C for crude and age-adjusted homicide mortality rates by public health district of residence.

\*\*See Appendix D for crude and age-adjusted homicide mortality rates by judicial district of residence.

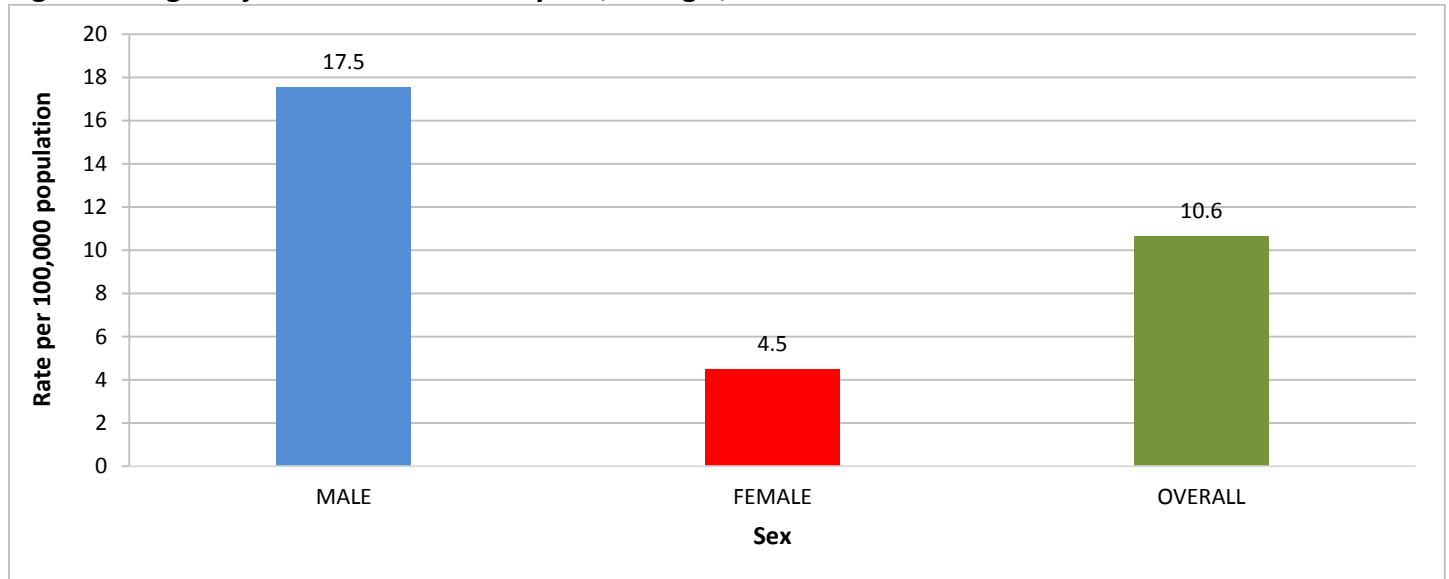
## Section 3: Suicides

### SUICIDE DEFINITION

NVDRS defines suicide as a death resulting from intentional use of force against oneself. It is only included in the GA-VDRS database when sufficient evidence indicates that the use of force was intentional.

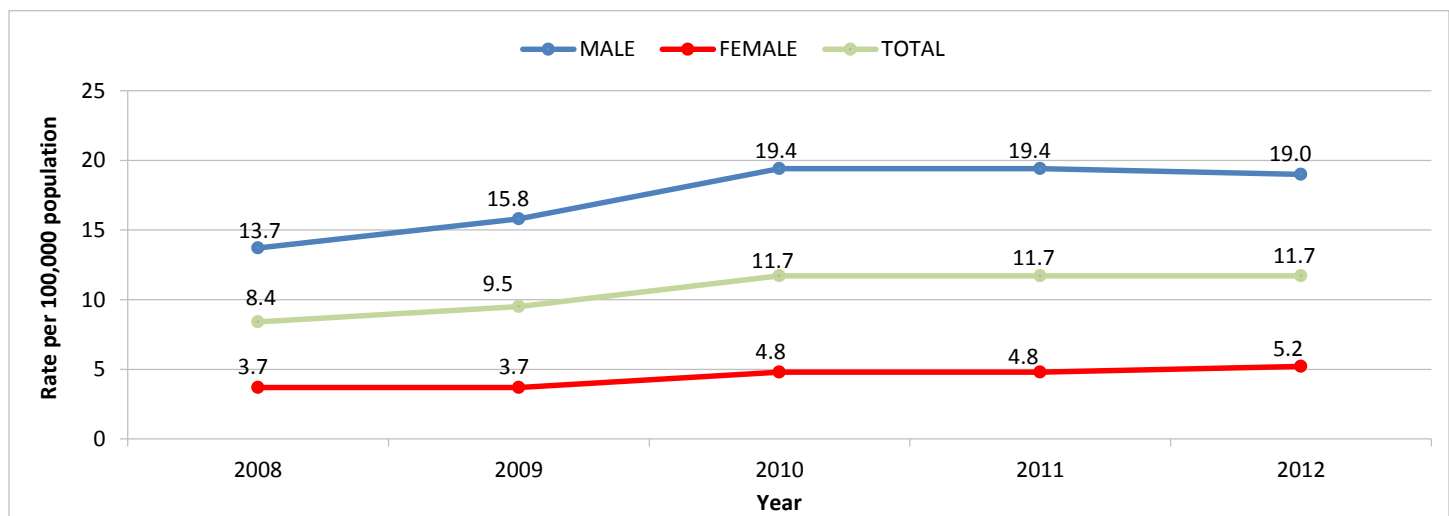
### SEX, RACE/ETHNICITY, AND AGE

**Figure 3a. Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates by Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



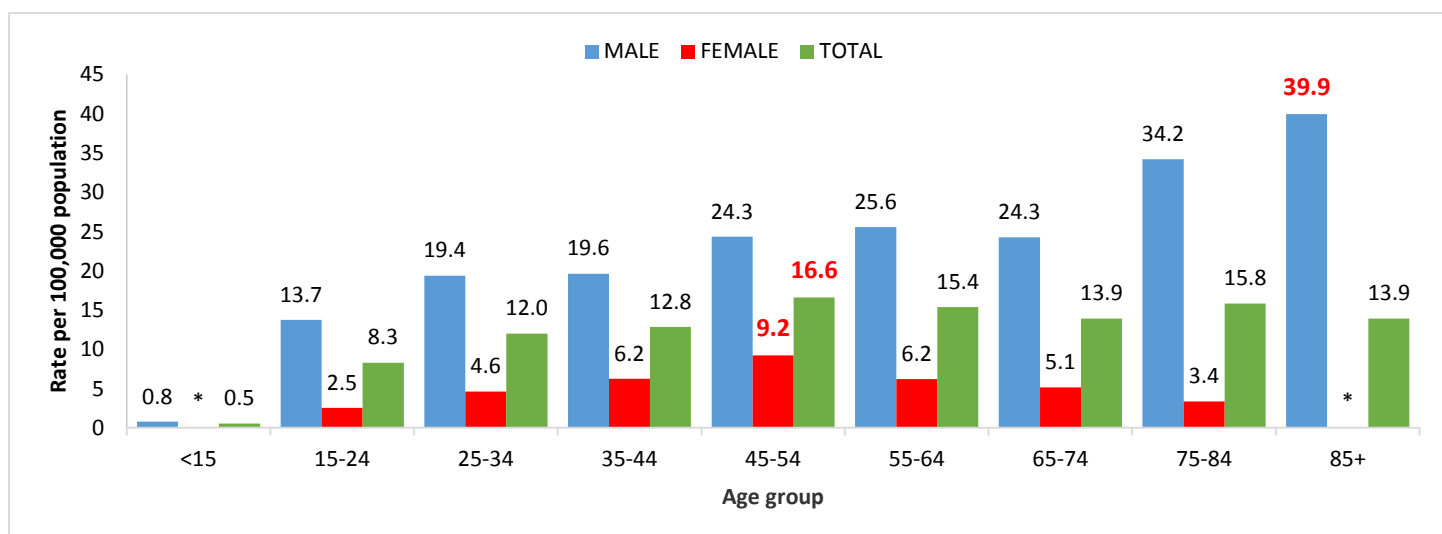
- From 2008 to 2012, the overall age-adjusted suicide death rate was 10.6 per 100,000.
- The overall age-adjusted suicide rate for males (17.5 per 100,000 population) was nearly four times higher than for females (4.4 per 100,000 population).

**Figure 3b. Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates by Year and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



- Between 2008 and 2012, the age-adjusted suicide rate increased by 39% for males and by 40% for females.

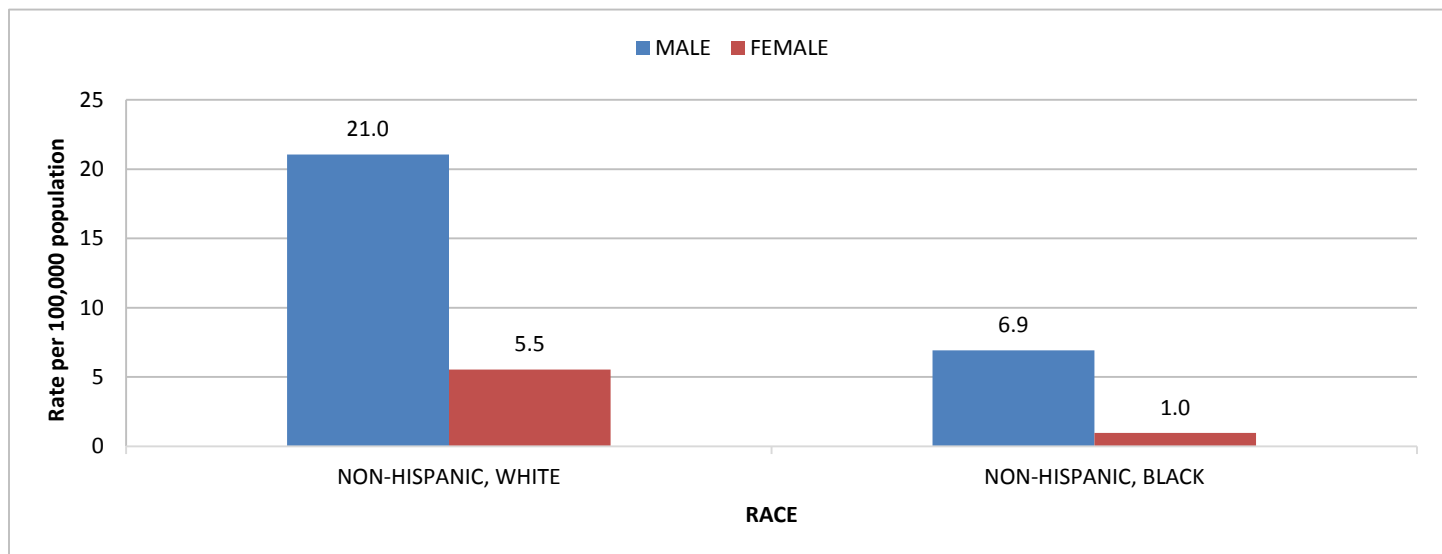
**Figure 3c. Age-Specific Suicide Rates by Age Group and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



\*Age-specific mortality rate was not calculated where number of deaths was <25.

- The overall age-specific suicide rate was highest among those 45-54 years old.
- Among males, suicide rates increased with age, with the greatest age-specific suicide rate being among those over 85 years old.
- Among females, the age-specific suicide rate is greatest for the 45 to 54 year old age group and declines with age.
- Males 45 to 54 years of age had 2.6 times the age-specific suicide rate as females.
- When comparing males to females, the age-specific suicide rate ratio increased with each age group after the 45 to 54 year old group.

**Figure 3c. Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates by Race\* and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**

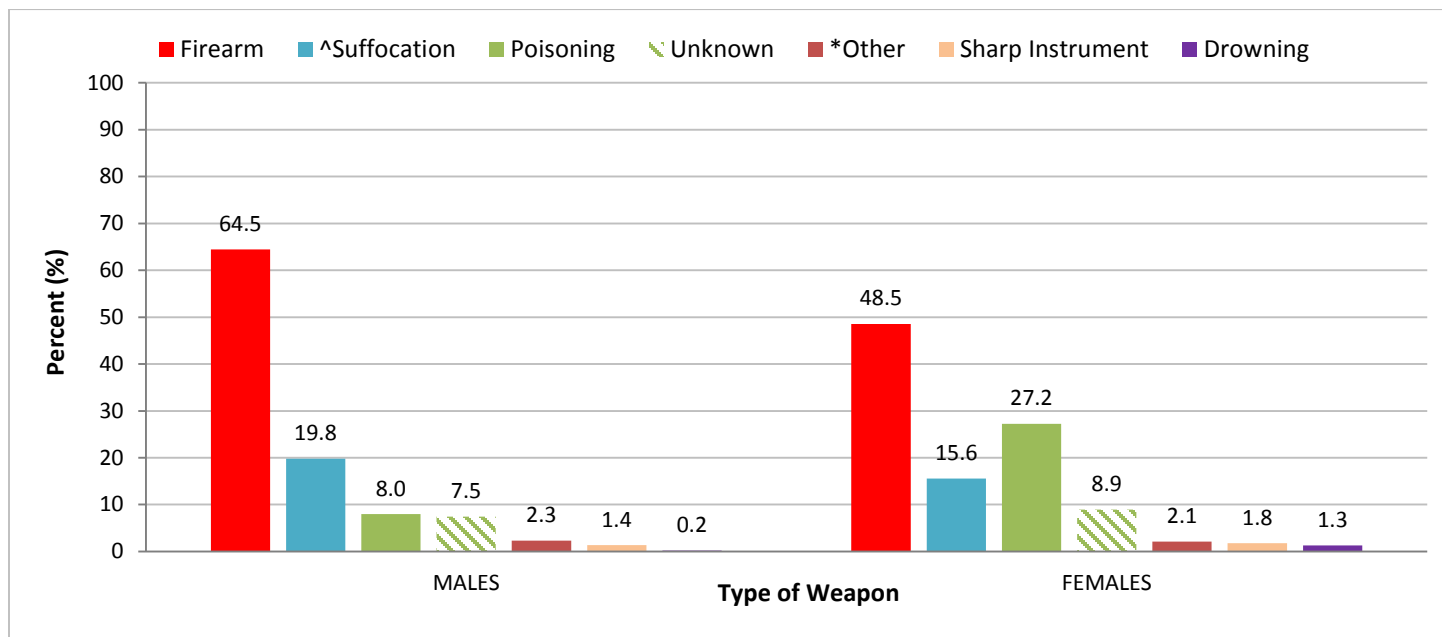


\* Other races/ethnicities excluded due to insufficient data.

- Non-Hispanic White males had the highest age-adjusted suicide rate and more than three times the suicide rate as non-hispanic black males.
- Non-Hispanic white females were more than five times more likely to complete suicide than non-hispanic black females.

## TYPE OF WEAPON

**Figure 3e. Percent of Suicides by Type of Weapon<sup>#</sup> and Sex, Georgia, 2008-2012**



<sup>#</sup>Weapons are not mutually exclusive. Some incidents may include more than one weapon.

<sup>^</sup>Includes hanging and strangulation

<sup>\*</sup>Includes: falls, fire/burns, motor vehicle, other transportation vehicle, personal weapons (males), explosives (males), biological weapons, blunt instrument, drowning (males), personal weapons (males), and other.

- Overall, 7.5% of male and 8.9% of female suicide victims were fatally injured by an unknown weapon.
- Firearms were the most common weapon used to fatally injure male and female suicide victims: 64.5% and 48.5%, respectively.
- The proportion of female suicide victims that died from poisoning was 3.4 times greater than that of male victims.

## CIRCUMSTANCES

- Circumstances information was available in 87% of suicide cases in Georgia during 2008-2012.

<b>Table 3a. Percent of Suicides by Known Circumstances*, Georgia, 2008-2012 (N=4,669)</b>	
<b>Circumstance</b>	<b>%</b>
Depressed mood	34.5
Mental health problem	29.0
Physical health problem	24.3
Disclosed suicidal thoughts or intent to complete suicide	22.1
History of mental health/substance abuse treatment	21.7
Intimate partner problem	25.3
Depression/dysthymia	12.2
Job problem	10.5
Alcohol problem	10.0
Non-alcohol related substance abuse problem	9.4
History of suicide attempts	8.5
Financial problem	8.0

\*Circumstances were not mutually exclusive.

- The most frequent suicide circumstance was being in a depressed mood, followed by having mental health problems.

## TOXICOLOGY

- Toxicology tests were performed on 44% (2,377) of suicide victims in Georgia during 2008-2012.
- Of the tested victims with results available (1,590), 57% (907) did not test positive for any toxic substance.

<b>Table 3b. Percent of Suicide Victims with Positive Toxicology Results by Drug Type*, Georgia, 2008-2012 (N = 2,377)</b>	
<b>Drug Type</b>	<b>%</b>
Antidepressants	42.1
Alcohol	33.2
Benzodiazepines	24.5
Opiates	13.6
Cocaine	5.0
Amphetamines	4.2
Marijuana	3.5
Barbiturates	1.3

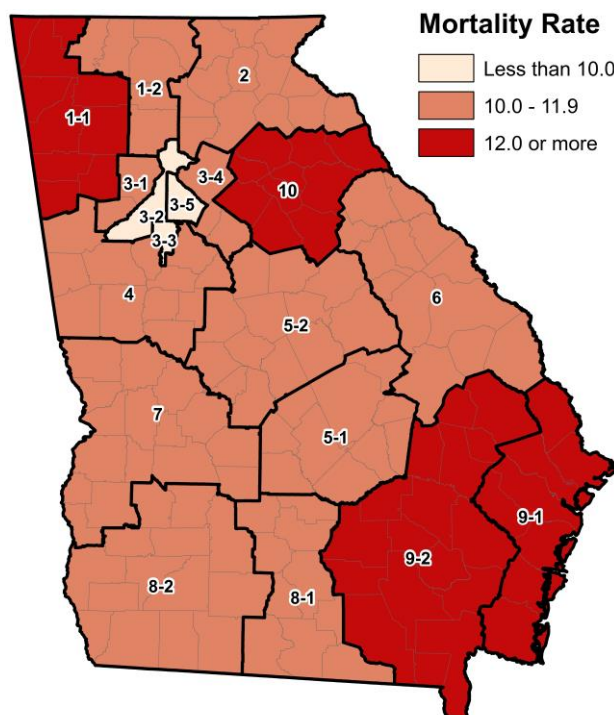
\*Toxicology tests were not mutually exclusive

- Antidepressants were the substances most frequently present among suicide victims who were tested.
- Among those who tested positive for alcohol, 24% had a blood alcohol level (BAC) above the adult legal limit in Georgia (BAC  $\geq$  0.08%).

## PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE\*

- The age-adjusted suicide mortality rate was greatest in District 10 Northeast (Athens), followed by District 1-1 Northwest (Rome), District 9-1 Coastal (Savannah), and District 9-2 Southeast (Waycross).
- District 3-3 Clayton (Morrow) had the lowest age-adjusted suicide mortality rate, followed by District 3-5 DeKalb and District 3-2 Fulton.

Map 3a. Age-Adjusted Suicide Mortality Rate Status by Public Health District of Residence, 2008-2012

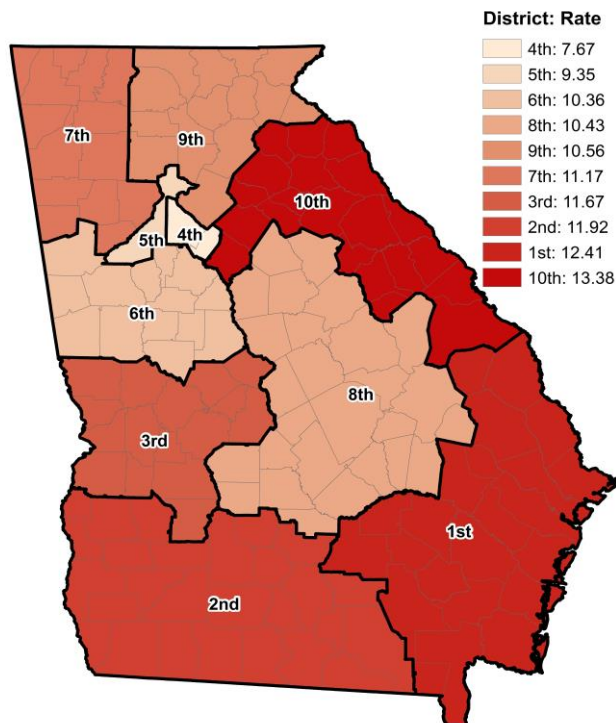


Source: Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (2008-2012).

## JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF RESIDENCE\*

- The age-adjusted suicide mortality rate was greatest in the 10<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, followed by the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Districts (Map 3b).
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District had the lowest age-adjusted suicide rate, followed by the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Judicial Districts (Map 3b).

Map 3b. Age-Adjusted Suicide Mortality Rate Status by Public Health District of Residence, 2008-2012



Source: Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (2008-2012).

## Appendix A: Technical Notes

### GA-VDRS Methods

#### Case Identification

Case identification is based upon the manner of death listed on the death certificate.

An incident is recorded for each death categorized as suicide, homicide, undetermined manner of death, legal intervention, and unintentional firearm. Additional information from law enforcement and coroners/medical examiners reports are collected, matched, and merged with records in the violent death reporting system database. The county of injury is the primary focus of the data collection effort. This data element assists in determining occurrent cases compared to resident cases.

To identify violent death cases to be included in the database, the NVDRS (including the GVDRS) uses the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision (ICD-10) codes for the underlying cause of death.

**Table A1. ICD-10 codes used in the National Violent Death Reporting System**

Manner of Death	Death ≤1 Year After Injury	Death >1 Year After Injury
Intentional self-harm (suicide)	X60--X84	Y87.0
Assault (homicide)	X85--X99, Y00--Y09	Y87.1
Event of undetermined intent	Y10--Y34	Y87.2, Y89.9
Unintentional exposure to inanimate mechanical forces (firearms)	W32--W34 Y35.0--Y35.4, Y35.6--Y35.7	Y86 determined to be attributable to firearms
Legal intervention excluding executions, (Y35.5)	U01, U03	Y89.0
Terrorism	--	U02



## Primacy among Data Sources

Data sources may not always agree about every fact of a given incident. A way to identify what is likely the best available information among different sources is needed. Therefore, the data sources have been ranked in terms of their likely accuracy for each data element.

The term used for the ranking is “primacy.” The source with 1<sup>st</sup> primacy is considered most reliable for a given variable and will be the source of choice. Lower primacy sources are the most reliable after 1<sup>st</sup> primacy and can be used when a higher-primacy source is not available. For example, sex of the victim is taken first from the death certificate (DC), second from the coroner/medical examiner report (CME), and finally from police reports (PR). When different sources have complete but discordant data, the simplest approach is to use primacy. Table A2 shows the variables used for this report and the primacy given to each.

**Table A2. Variables\* by CDC Document Type<sup>+</sup> Primacy Rules**

Variable	Primacy 1	Primacy 2	Primacy 3
Person Type	CME	DC	PR
Age	DC	CME	PR
Age Type	DC	CME	PR
Sex	DC	CME	PR
Race	DC	CME	PR
Ethnicity	DC	CME	PR
Resident Address	CME	DC	PR
Resident State	DC	CME	PR
Resident County	DC	CME	PR
Military Status	DC		
Marital Status	DC	CME	
Date of Death	DC	CME	PR
Death Place	DC	CME	
Death State	DC	CME	PR
Cause of Death	DC		
Manner of Death	CME	DC	PR
Date of Injury	DC	CME	PR
Place of Injury	PR	CME	
Injury Address	DC	CME	PR
Injury State	DC	CME	PR
Injury County	DC	CME	PR
Injury City	DC	CME	PR
At Home	CME	PR	
Toxicology	CME		
Alcohol Tests	CME		
Weapon Type	CME	PR	DC
Circumstances	CME	PR	CFR

\*This table does not list all the variables found in NVDRS.

<sup>+</sup>DC = Death Certificate; CME = Coroner/Medical Examiner Report;  
PR = Police Report; CFR = Child Fatality Review

## Glossary

**Age-Adjusted Mortality Rate per Year:** number of resident violent deaths recorded during the calendar year divided by the resident population of the jurisdiction, as defined in official U.S. Census figures, and multiplied by the age-specific weights. The weighted rates are then summed across the age groups to give the age-adjusted rate, and multiplied by 100,000 for a rate per 100,000 population. It is a mortality rate statistically modified to eliminate the effect of different age distributions in the different populations.

**Asphyxiation:** a condition due to lack of oxygen to breathe and resulting in death.

**Blunt instrument:** a weapon that does not have a sharp or penetrating point, such as a club or a bat.

**Brawl:** three or more persons involved in a mutual, physical fight. The brawl may or may not escalate to involve weapons. This excludes one-sided physical fight or a fight between only two people.

**Crude Mortality Rate per Year:** number of resident violent deaths recorded during the calendar year divided by the resident population of the jurisdiction, as defined in official U.S. Census figures, and multiplied by 100,000 for a rate per 100,000 population.

**Current depressed mood:** identifies victims who were documented as having a current depressed mood by a family member or someone close to the victim. The depressed mood may be part of a clinical depression or a short-term sadness.

**Current Mental Health Problem:** victims who were identified as having a mental health problem. Diagnoses include: depression/dysthymia, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, anxiety disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, attention deficit disorder (ADD) or hyperactivity disorder, eating disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, other (specified in diagnosis text), including mental retardation, autism, personality disorders, Alzheimer's, etc.

**Current Treatment for Mental Health Problem:** victims who were in current treatment for a mental health problem in the last two months. Treatment includes seeing a psychiatrist, psychologist, medical doctor, therapist, or other counselor for a mental health or substance abuse problem; receiving a prescription for an antidepressant or other psychiatric medication; or residing in an inpatient or halfway house facility for mental health problems. Treatment also includes past treatment, unless noted that the problem has been resolved. Mental health problems include those disorders and syndromes listed in the DSM-IV (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Revision) and alcohol and other substance dependence.

**Drowning:** death resulting from oxygen deprivation while being submerged/ immersed under water or other liquid.

**Drugs:** ever using either cocaine, heroin, methamphetamine, ecstasy, or injecting drugs.

**Fall:** death resulting from a fall, push, or jump from a high place.

**Homicide:** Homicide is defined as a death resulting from the intentional use of force or power, threatened or actual, against another person, group, or community. A preponderance of evidence must indicate that the

use of force was intentional. Such deaths resulting from legal intervention are included in a separate category below. Two special scenarios the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) regards as homicides are included in the NVDRS Definition: (1) arson with no intent to injure a person, and (2) a stabbing with intent unspecified. Specific scenarios that should be classified as homicide:

- Deaths when the suspect intended to only injure rather than kill the victim
- Deaths resulting from heart attacks induced when someone uses force or power against the decedent
- A death resulting from a weapon that discharges unintentionally while being used to control or frighten the victim
- Deaths that result when a person kills an attacker in self-defense
- Deaths labeled “justifiable homicides” where the person committing the homicide was not a law enforcement officer
- Death that result from a variation of Russian roulette where one person aims a partially loaded gun at another person and pulls the trigger knowing that there was at least some chance that the gun would fire
- Death attributed to “child abuse” without an intent being specified
- Death of a child after birth that results from a direct injury due to violence sustained prior to birth
- Death that results from an intentional act of neglect or omission by one person against another

**Legal intervention death:** death when the decedent was killed by a police officer or other peace officer (persons with specified legal authority to use deadly force), including military police, acting in the line of duty. Specific scenarios that should be classified as legal interventions include: “justifiable” and “criminal” homicides meeting the above definition.

**Military Status:** victims identified in the death certificate as ever served in the U.S. Armed Forces. The U.S. Armed Forces comprises five armed service branches: Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, and Navy.

**Personal weapons:** includes the body, such as fists, feet, or hands used as a weapon.

**Poisoning:** weapon including drugs (prescription, street, or alcohol), toxins, chemical substances, or gas (such as carbon monoxide).

**Sharp instrument:** weapons that have a cutting edge or penetrating point, such as a knife, razor, chisel, or broken glass.

**Suffocation:** condition of being deprived of oxygen and synonymous with asphyxiation.

**Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID):** deaths in infants less than 1 year of age that occur suddenly and unexpectedly, and whose cause of death is not immediately obvious prior to investigation.

**Suicide:** A suicide is a death resulting from the intentional use of force against oneself. A preponderance of evidence should indicate that the use of force was intentional. Specific scenarios that should be classified as suicide:

- A person engaged in a suicidal act, then changed his mind, but still died as a result of the act
- A person intended only to injure rather than kill himself (e.g., a man shot himself in the leg with intent to injure but severed the femoral artery and died)
- Assisted suicide involving passive assistance to the decedent (e.g., supplying only means or information needed to complete the act)

- Intentional, self-inflicted deaths committed while under the influence of a mind-altering drug taken voluntarily
- Intentional, self-inflicted deaths committed while under the influence of a mental illness

**Suicide attempt:** was defined as either attempting suicide more than once in the past 12 months or attempting suicide with injury in the past 12 months.

**Undetermined manner of death:** death resulting from the use of force or power against oneself or another person, for which the evidence indicating one manner of death is no more compelling than the evidence indicating another manner of death. Specific scenarios that should be classified as undetermined manner of death are:

- Coroner or medical examiner ruling that states: “accident or suicide,” “accident or homicide,” “undetermined,” “open verdict,” or “jumped or fell”
- Self-inflicted injuries when the records give no evidence or opinions in favor of either unintentional or intentional injury.

**Unintentional firearm injury death:** death resulting from a penetrating injury or gunshot wound from a weapon that uses a powder charge to fire a projectile when there was a preponderance of evidence that the shooting was not intentionally directed at the victim. Specific scenarios that should be classified as unintentional firearm deaths:

- Celebratory firing that was not intended to frighten, control, or harm anyone
- A person shoots himself when using a gun to frighten, control, or harm another person
- A child less than the age of 6 shoots himself or another person
- A soldier who is shot during field exercises in peacetime
- A person mistakenly thinks a gun is unloaded and shoots himself or another person while fooling around with it
- A child who dies after birth from an unintentional firearm injury that is sustained prior to birth, i.e., in utero

**Victimization:** either being bullied, physically hurt by girlfriend or boyfriend, being threatened or injured with a weapon in the past 12 months, or missing school because feeling unsafe in the past 30 days.

**Violent behavior:** either carrying a weapon in the past 30 days or being involved in a physical fight in the past 12 months.

## Appendix B: Violent Death Mortality Number and Rate by County, Georgia, 2008-2012

Table B1. Number of Violent Deaths by County of Injury and County Residency Status\*, Georgia, 2008-2012

COUNTY OF INJURY	# DEATHS	COUNTY RESIDENT	COUNTY OCCURRENT	
		#	#	Percent (%) of County Cases
APPLING	21	19	**	\$
ATKINSON	6	6	**	\$
BACON	16	15	**	\$
BAKER	**		**	\$
BALDWIN	31	27	**	\$
BANKS	16	13	**	\$
BARROW	70	63	7	10.0
BARTOW	110	96	11	10.0
BEN HILL	14	9	**	\$
BERRIEN	23	19	**	\$
BIBB	215	196	17	7.9
BLECKLEY	22	20	**	\$
BRANTLEY	10	9	**	\$
BROOKS	18	14	**	\$
BRYAN	27	22	**	\$
BULLOCH	52	42	9	17.3
BURKE	30	24	**	\$
BUTTS	40	30	10	25.0
CALHOUN	**	**	**	\$
CAMDEN	54	46	6	11.1
CANDLER	12	6	6	50.0
CARROLL	96	89	6	6.3
CATOOSA	47	39	7	14.9
CHARLTON	12	9	**	\$
CHATHAM	347	313	30	8.6
CHATTAHOOCHEE	7	7	**	\$
CHATTOOGA	23	21	**	\$
CHEROKEE	126	113	12	9.5
CLARKE	120	98	22	18.3
CLAY	7	**	**	\$
CLAYTON	250	184	63	25.2
CLINCH	8	7	**	\$
COBB	510	445	62	12.2
COFFEE	54	51	**	\$
COLQUITT	59	53	**	\$
COLUMBIA	89	79	10	11.2

COOK	20	15	**	\$
COWETA	95	92	**	\$
CRAWFORD	11	7	**	\$
CRISP	31	28	**	\$
DADE	17	14	**	\$
DAWSON	30	24	6	20.0
DECATUR	32	28	**	\$
DEKALB	781	611	156	20.0
DODGE	18	16	**	\$
DOOLY	**	**	**	\$
DOUGHERTY	96	81	15	15.6
DOUGLAS	98	85	13	13.3
EARLY	16	14	**	\$
ECHOLS	6	**	**	\$
EFFINGHAM	40	34	6	15.0
ELBERT	27	25	**	\$
EMANUEL	33	29	**	\$
EVANS	7	**	**	\$
FANNIN	27	22	**	\$
FAYETTE	47	44	**	\$
FLOYD	105	100	**	\$
FORSYTH	92	81	10	10.9
FRANKLIN	18	14	**	\$
FULTON	1304	976	310	23.8
GILMER	20	17	**	\$
GLASCOCK	**	**	**	\$
GLYNN	97	87	7	7.2
GORDON	52	45	7	13.5
GRADY	26	26	**	\$
GREENE	11	11	**	\$
GWINNETT	612	526	80	13.1
HABERSHAM	28	25	**	\$
HALL	118	102	15	12.7
HANCOCK	11	10	**	\$
HARALSON	43	36	7	16.3
HARRIS	26	22	**	\$
HART	23	20	**	\$
HEARD	14	13	**	\$
HENRY	165	142	23	13.9
HOUSTON	134	122	12	9.0
IRWIN	**	**	**	\$
JACKSON	50	41	9	18.0
JASPER	20	17	**	\$
JEFF DAVIS	13	13	**	\$
JEFFERSON	14	12	**	\$
JENKINS	6	**	**	\$
JOHNSON	7	**	**	\$

JONES	15	10	**	\$
LAMAR	12	7	**	\$
LANIER	6	**	**	\$
LAURENS	33	31	**	\$
LEE	24	19	**	\$
LIBERTY	66	59	6	9.1
LINCOLN	8	8	**	\$
LONG	22	9	13	59.1
LOWNDES	102	87	14	13.7
LUMPKIN	19	15	**	\$
MCDUFFIE	17	15	**	\$
MCINTOSH	19	19	**	\$
MACON	**	**	**	\$
MADISON	31	29	**	\$
MARION	17	14	**	\$
MERIWETHER	17	12	**	\$
MILLER	**	**	**	\$
MITCHELL	16	11	**	\$
MONROE	31	25	**	\$
MONTGOMERY	7	**	**	\$
MORGAN	14	9	**	\$
MURRAY	25	24	**	\$
MUSCOGEE	260	231	21	8.1
NEWTON	82	72	10	12.2
OCONEE	16	15	**	\$
OGLETHORPE	19	16	**	\$
PAULDING	97	91	6	6.2
PEACH	35	31	**	\$
PICKENS	26	22	**	\$
PIERCE	17	16	**	\$
PIKE	22	17	**	\$
POLK	33	29	**	\$
PULASKI	12	11	**	\$
PUTNAM	23	20	**	\$
QUITMAN	**	**	**	\$
RABUN	30	25	**	\$
RANDOLPH	10	8	**	\$
RICHMOND	317	283	32	10.1
ROCKDALE	64	49	15	23.4
SCHLEY	**	**	**	\$
SCREVEN	11	9	**	\$
SEMINOLE	10	9	**	\$
SPALDING	63	59	**	\$
STEPHENS	23	19	**	\$
STEWART	**	**	**	\$
SUMTER	15	14	**	\$
TALBOT	12	12	**	\$

TALIAFERRO	**	**	**	\$
TATTNALL	26	21	**	\$
TAYLOR	7	**	**	\$
TELFAIR	15	12	**	\$
TERRELL	8	8	**	\$
THOMAS	34	29	**	\$
TIFT	45	39	**	\$
TOOMBS	22	18	**	\$
TOWNS	12	10	**	\$
TREUTLEN	9	9	**	\$
TROUP	67	61	6	9.0
TURNER	9	7	**	\$
TWIGGS	10	9	**	\$
UNION	25	20	**	\$
UPSON	28	22	6	21.4
WALKER	39	38	**	\$
WALTON	83	77	6	7.2
WARE	32	27	**	\$
WARREN	**	**	**	\$
WASHINGTON	11	11	**	\$
WAYNE	33	30	**	\$
WEBSTER	**		**	\$
WHEELER	8	**	**	\$
WHITE	33	29	**	\$
WHITFIELD	72	62	10	13.9
WILCOX	8	8	**	\$
WILKES	7	**	**	\$
WILKINSON	8	7	**	\$
WORTH	18	18	**	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	9393	7920	1371	14.6

\*151 deaths had an unknown county of injury. County Residency status does not show unknown values. Hence, the number of county resident and occurrent deaths does not add up to the number in the county of injury.

\*\*Cells where the number of deaths was 5 or fewer has been suppressed to retain confidentiality.

§ Percentages were not reported for counties with 5 or fewer occurrent deaths.



**Table B2. Crude and Age-Adjusted Violent Death Rates per 100,000 by County of Residence, Georgia, 2008-2012**

COUNTY	NUMBER	CRUDE RATE PER 100,000	AGE-ADJUSTED PER 100,000	COUNTY	NUMBER	CRUDE RATE PER 100,000	AGE-ADJUSTED PER 100,000
APPLING	22	24.2	24.9	JEFFERSON	13	*	*
ATKINSON	**	*	*	JENKINS	**	*	*
BACON	15	*	*	JOHNSON	**	*	*
BAKER	**	*	*	JONES	13	*	*
BALDWIN	32	14.1	13.3	LAMAR	**	*	*
BANKS	17	*	*	LANIER	**	*	*
BARROW	77	21.6	22.5	LAURENS	36	15.0	15.5
BARTOW	107	21.9	22.5	LEE	25	15.6	15.2
BEN HILL	**	*	*	LIBERTY	71	23.1	21.9
BERRIEN	22	24.6	24.9	LINCOLN	**	*	*
BIBB	204	26.1	26.4	LONG	**	*	*
BLECKLEY	20	31.0	28.0	LOWNDES	99	18.1	19.2
BRANTLEY	12	*	*	LUMPKIN	16	*	*
BROOKS	15	*	*	MCDUFFIE	31	28.5	29.0
BRYAN	30	18.7	20.2	MCINTOSH	15	*	*
BULLOCH	49	13.8	15.9	MACON	18	*	*
BURKE	28	24.3	25.3	MADISON	28	19.9	19.8
BUTTS	34	28.3	28.3	MARION	**	*	*
CALHOUN	**	*	*	MERIWETHER	16	*	*
CAMDEN	49	19.9	20.6	MILLER	**	*	*
CANDLER	**	*	*	MITCHELL	16	*	*
CARROLL	104	18.4	18.9	MONROE	27	20.9	20.6
CATOOSA	43	13.4	13.5	MONTGOMERY	**	*	*
CHARLTON	**	*	*	MORGAN	**	*	*
CHATHAM	331	25.1	24.8	MURRAY	28	14.0	14.0
CHATTAHOOCHEE	**	*	*	MUSCOGEE	239	24.9	24.7
CHATTOOGA	22	16.7	16.8	NEWTON	95	19.0	19.4
CHEROKEE	134	12.4	12.7	OCONEE	21	12.7	12.6
CLARKE	108	18.4	22.3	OGLETHORPE	16	*	*
CLAY	**	*	*	PAULDING	116	16.7	18.5
CLAYTON	247	18.3	18.4	PEACH	39	28.5	29.1
CLINCH	**	*	*	PICKENS	27	17.7	17.3
COBB	527	14.9	15.2	PIERCE	17	*	*
COFFEE	52	24.9	25.1	PIKE	24	27.2	27.7
COLQUITT	53	23.1	23.9	POLK	34	16.3	16.6
COLUMBIA	89	14.9	15.1	PULASKI	12	*	*
COOK	19	*	*	PUTNAM	22	21.2	19.9
COWETA	108	16.9	16.9	QUITMAN	**	*	*
CRAWFORD	**	*	*	RABUN	28	34.0	33.3
CRISP	29	25.5	26.1	RANDOLPH	11	*	*

<b>DADE</b>	15	*	*	<b>RICHMOND</b>	301	30.0	29.5
<b>DAWSON</b>	27	24.2	24.5	<b>ROCKDALE</b>	68	16.0	16.3
<b>DECATUR</b>	28	19.8	20.2	<b>SCHLEY</b>	**	*	*
<b>DEKALB</b>	741	20.3	19.8	<b>SCREVEN</b>	14	*	*
<b>DODGE</b>	19	*	*	<b>SEMINOLE</b>	12	*	*
<b>DOOLY</b>	**	*	*	<b>SPALDING</b>	67	20.9	21.2
<b>DOUGHERTY</b>	87	18.3	18.7	<b>STEPHENS</b>	21	16.3	17.2
<b>DOUGLAS</b>	105	16.0	16.6	<b>STEWART</b>	**	*	*
<b>EARLY</b>	14	*	*	<b>SUMTER</b>	13	*	*
<b>ECHOLS</b>	**	*	*	<b>TALBOT</b>	12	*	*
<b>EFFINGHAM</b>	38	14.3	14.4	<b>TALIAFERRO</b>	**	*	*
<b>ELBERT</b>	26	25.8	25.9	<b>TATTNALL</b>	26	21.0	20.3
<b>EMANUEL</b>	32	27.9	28.9	<b>TAYLOR</b>	**	*	*
<b>EVANS</b>	**	*	*	<b>TELFAIR</b>	13	*	*
<b>FANNIN</b>	25	21.6	21.3	<b>TERRELL</b>	**	*	*
<b>FAYETTE</b>	56	10.4	11.0	<b>THOMAS</b>	35	15.4	15.3
<b>FLOYD</b>	106	22.0	22.4	<b>TIFT</b>	44	20.8	21.3
<b>FORSYTH</b>	93	10.4	11.2	<b>TOOMBS</b>	22	15.8	16.2
<b>FRANKLIN</b>	18	*	*	<b>TOWNS</b>	12	*	*
<b>FULTON</b>	1099	21.8	21.4	<b>TREUTLEN</b>	**	*	*
<b>GILMER</b>	22	15.4	14.8	<b>TROUP</b>	73	22.1	22.4
<b>GLASCOCK</b>	**	*	*	<b>TURNER</b>	**	*	*
<b>GLYNN</b>	93	23.7	23.9	<b>TWIGGS</b>	11	*	*
<b>GORDON</b>	50	18.5	18.5	<b>UNION</b>	23	21.6	21.8
<b>GRADY</b>	28	22.1	22.6	<b>UPSON</b>	24	17.6	17.3
<b>GREENE</b>	12	*	*	<b>WALKER</b>	43	13.0	12.7
<b>GWINNETT</b>	622	15.2	15.9	<b>WALTON</b>	96	22.3	22.8
<b>HABERSHAM</b>	30	13.8	13.9	<b>WARE</b>	30	16.6	17.0
<b>HALL</b>	119	12.8	13.1	<b>WARREN</b>	**	*	*
<b>HANCOCK</b>	**	*	*	<b>WASHINGTON</b>	12	*	*
<b>HARALSON</b>	37	25.7	25.9	<b>WAYNE</b>	31	20.8	20.5
<b>HARRIS</b>	24	15.5	14.9	<b>WEBSTER</b>	**	*	*
<b>HART</b>	21	17.0	15.9	<b>WHEELER</b>	**	*	*
<b>HEARD</b>	13	*	*	<b>WHITE</b>	31	23.7	25.0
<b>HENRY</b>	199	19.8	20.6	<b>WHITFIELD</b>	63	12.9	13.5
<b>HOUSTON</b>	133	19.1	19.2	<b>WILCOX</b>	**	*	*
<b>IRWIN</b>	**	*	*	<b>WILKES</b>	**	*	*
<b>JACKSON</b>	50	16.1	15.9	<b>WILKINSON</b>	**	*	*
<b>JASPER</b>	18	*	*	<b>WORTH</b>	19	*	*
<b>JEFF DAVIS</b>	15	*	*	<b>UNKNOWN</b>	20	&	&

\* Rates were not reported for counties with less than 20 deaths.

\*\*The number of deaths was 5 or fewer and has been suppressed to retain confidentiality.

& Rates by county could not be calculated where county was unknown.

**Table B3. Crude and Age-Adjusted Homicide Mortality Rates per 100,000 population and Number by County of Residence, Georgia, 2008-2012**

COUNTY	NUMBER	CRUDE RATE PER 100,000	AGE-ADJUSTED PER 100,000	COUNTY	NUMBER	CRUDE RATE PER 100,000	AGE-ADJUSTED PER 100,000
APPLING	6	*	*	JEFFERSON	7	*	*
ATKINSON	**	*	*	JENKINS	**	*	*
BACON	**	*	*	JOHNSON	**	*	*
BAKER	**	*	*	JONES	**	*	*
BALDWIN	12	*	*	LAMAR	7	*	*
BANKS	**	*	*	LANIER	**	*	*
BARROW	9	*	*	LAURENS	8	*	*
BARTOW	19	*	*	LEE	**	*	*
BEN HILL	**	*	*	LIBERTY	17	*	*
BERRIEN	**	*	*	LINCOLN	**	*	*
BIBB	103	13.2	13.4	LONG	13	*	*
BLECKLEY	**	*	*	LOWNDES	33	6.0	6.1
BRANTLEY	**	*	*	LUMPKIN	**	*	*
BROOKS	6	*	*	MCDUFFIE	11	*	*
BRYAN	**	*	*	MCINTOSH	6	*	*
BULLOCH	13	*	*	MACON	8	*	*
BURKE	18	*	*	MADISON	**	*	*
BUTTS	18	*	*	MARION	**	*	*
CALHOUN	**	*	*	MERIWETHER	8	*	*
CAMDEN	10	*	*	MILLER	**	*	*
CANDLER	**	*	*	MITCHELL	**	*	*
CARROLL	24	4.2	4.3	MONROE	7	*	*
CATOOSA	**	*	*	MONTGOMERY	**	*	*
CHARLTON	**	*	*	MORGAN	**	*	*
CHATHAM	144	10.9	10.4	MURRAY	**	*	*
CHATTAHOOCHEE	**	*	*	MUSCOGEE	93	9.7	9.4
CHATTOOGA	6	*	*	NEWTON	20	4.0	4.0
CHEROKEE	11	*	*	OCONEE	**	*	*
CLARKE	37	6.3	6.8	OGLETHORPE	**	*	*
CLAY	**	*	*	PAULDING	7	*	*
CLAYTON	121	8.9	8.5	PEACH	10	*	*
CLINCH	**	*	*	PICKENS	6	*	*
COBB	107	3.0	3.0	PIERCE	**	*	*
COFFEE	9	*	*	PIKE	**	*	*
COLQUITT	23	10.0	10.3	POLK	9	*	*
COLUMBIA	17	*	*	PULASKI	**	*	*
COOK	**	*	*	PUTNAM	**	*	*
COWETA	20	3.1	3.1	QUITMAN	**	*	*
CRAWFORD	**	*	*	RABUN	**	*	*
CRISP	16	*	*	RANDOLPH	**	*	*
DADE	**	*	*	RICHMOND	146	14.5	14.2

DAWSON	**	*	*	ROCKDALE	24	5.6	5.7
DECATUR	13	*	*	SCHLEY	**	*	*
DEKALB	403	11.1	10.4	SCREVEN	7	*	*
DODGE	6	*	*	SEMINOLE	**	*	*
DOOLY	**	*	*	SPALDING	21	6.5	6.7
DOUGHERTY	41	8.6	8.5	STEPHENS	**	*	*
DOUGLAS	15	*	*	STEWART	**	*	*
EARLY	6	*	*	SUMTER	7	*	*
ECHOLS	**	*	*	TALBOT	**	*	*
EFFINGHAM	7	*	*	TALIAFERRO	**	*	*
ELBERT	**	*	*	TATTNALL	9	*	*
EMANUEL	12	*	*	TAYLOR	**	*	*
EVANS	**	*	*	TELFAIR	9	*	*
FANNIN	**	*	*	TERRELL	**	*	*
FAYETTE	7	*	*	THOMAS	9	*	*
FLOYD	21	4.4	4.4	TIFT	17	*	*
FORSYTH	12	*	*	TOOMBS	8	*	*
FRANKLIN	**	*	*	TOWNS	**	*	*
FULTON	639	12.7	11.9	TREUTLEN	**	*	*
GILMER	**	*	*	TROUP	19	*	*
GLASCOCK	**	*	*	TURNER	**	*	*
GLYNN	39	10.0	10.4	TWIGGS	**	*	*
GORDON	11	*	*	UNION	**	*	*
GRADY	**	*	*	UPSON	6	*	*
GREENE	**	*	*	WALKER	**	*	*
GWINNETT	147	3.6	3.6	WALTON	16	*	*
HABERSHAM	**	*	*	WARE	12	*	*
HALL	23	2.5	2.5	WARREN	**	*	*
HANCOCK	**	*	*	WASHINGTON	**	*	*
HARALSON	6	*	*	WAYNE	11	*	*
HARRIS	**	*	*	WEBSTER	**	*	*
HART	**	*	*	WHEELER	**	*	*
HEARD	**	*	*	WHITE	9	*	*
HENRY	27	2.7	2.8	WHITFIELD	13	*	*
HOUSTON	34	4.9	4.9	WILCOX	**	*	*
IRWIN	**	*	*	WILKES	**	*	*
JACKSON	**	*	*	WILKINSON	**	*	*
JASPER	**	*	*	WORTH	6	*	*
JEFF DAVIS	**	*	*	UNKNOWN	18	&	&

\* Rates were not reported for counties with less than 20 deaths.

\*\*The number of deaths was 5 or fewer and has been suppressed to retain confidentiality.

& Rates by county could not be calculated where county was unknown.

**Table B4. Crude and Age-Adjusted Suicide Mortality Rates per 100,000 population and Number by County of Residence, Georgia, 2008-2012**

COUNTY	NUMBER	CRUDE RATE PER 100,000	AGE-ADJUSTED PER 100,000	COUNTY	NUMBER	CRUDE RATE PER 100,000	AGE-ADJUSTED PER 100,000
APPLING	14	*	*	JEFFERSON	**	*	*
ATKINSON	**	*	*	JENKINS	**	*	*
BACON	11	*	*	JOHNSON	**	*	*
BAKER	**	*	*	JONES	9	*	*
BALDWIN	18	*	*	LAMAR	**	*	*
BANKS	15	*	*	LANIER	**	*	*
BARROW	53	14.9	16.1	LAURENS	22	9.1	9.5
BARTOW	69	14.1	14.6	LEE	19	*	*
BEN HILL	6	*	*	LIBERTY	38	12.3	12.9
BERRIEN	16	*	*	LINCOLN	**	*	*
BIBB	82	10.5	10.8	LONG	6	*	*
BLECKLEY	16	*	*	LOWNDES	57	10.4	11.0
BRANTLEY	**	*	*	LUMPKIN	17	*	*
BROOKS	10	*	*	MCDUFFIE	16	*	*
BRYAN	19	*	*	MCINTOSH	11	*	*
BULLOCH	34	9.6	10.8	MACON	8	*	*
BURKE	11	*	*	MADISON	18	*	*
BUTTS	17	*	*	MARION	**	*	*
CALHOUN	**	*	*	MERIWETHER	9	*	*
CAMDEN	34	13.8	14.6	MILLER	**	*	*
CANDLER	8	*	*	MITCHELL	10	*	*
CARROLL	56	9.9	10.2	MONROE	17	*	*
CATOOSA	31	9.7	9.6	MONTGOMERY	**	*	*
CHARLTON	6	*	*	MORGAN	9	*	*
CHATHAM	160	12.2	12.4	MURRAY	17	*	*
CHATTAHOOCHEE	**	*	*	MUSCOGEE	121	12.6	12.9
CHATTOOGA	12	*	*	NEWTON	53	10.6	11.2
CHEROKEE	100	9.2	9.7	OCONEE	15	*	*
CLARKE	73	12.5	14.9	OGLETHORPE	13	*	*
CLAY	**	*	*	PAULDING	83	11.9	13.9
CLAYTON	91	6.7	7.4	PEACH	22	16.1	16.8
CLINCH	**	*	*	PICKENS	19	*	*
COBB	328	9.3	9.6	PIERCE	12	*	*
COFFEE	33	15.8	16.5	PIKE	17	*	*
COLQUITT	32	14.0	14.6	POLK	19	*	*
COLUMBIA	61	10.2	10.4	PULASKI	6	*	*
COOK	12	*	*	PUTNAM	19	*	*
COWETA	64	10.0	10.1	QUITMAN	**	*	*
CRAWFORD	6	*	*	RABUN	27	32.8	30.8
CRISP	11	*	*	RANDOLPH	**	*	*
DADE	12	*	*	RICHMOND	117	11.6	11.7

DAWSON	23	20.6	20.8	ROCKDALE	33	7.8	8.0
DECATUR	16	*	*	SCHLEY	**	*	*
DEKALB	282	7.7	7.8	SCREVEN	**	*	*
DODGE	9	*	*	SEMINOLE	6	*	*
DOOLY	**	*	*	SPALDING	36	11.2	11.4
DOUGHERTY	46	9.7	10.1	STEPHENS	14	*	*
DOUGLAS	72	11.0	11.6	STEWART	**	*	*
EARLY	7	*	*	SUMTER	6	*	*
ECHOLS	**	*	*	TALBOT	8	*	*
EFFINGHAM	28	10.5	10.7	TALIAFERRO	**	*	*
ELBERT	18	*	*	TATTNALL	15	*	*
EMANUEL	19	*	*	TAYLOR	**	*	*
EVANS	**	*	*	TELFAIR	**	*	*
FANNIN	19	*	*	TERRELL	**	*	*
FAYETTE	32	6.0	6.3	THOMAS	21	9.2	9.1
FLOYD	67	13.9	14.4	TIFT	23	10.9	11.3
FORSYTH	77	8.6	9.2	TOOMBS	13	*	*
FRANKLIN	11	*	*	TOWNS	10	*	*
FULTON	473	9.4	9.6	TREUTLEN	6	*	*
GILMER	15	*	*	TROUP	43	13.0	13.2
GLASCOCK	**	*	*	TURNER	6	*	*
GLYNN	51	13.0	12.8	TWIGGS	9	*	*
GORDON	33	12.2	12.4	UNION	16	*	*
GRADY	18	*	*	UPSON	17	*	*
GREENE	6	*	*	WALKER	31	9.3	9.0
GWINNETT	389	9.5	10.3	WALTON	61	14.2	14.5
HABERSHAM	17	*	*	WARE	17	*	*
HALL	74	7.9	8.4	WARREN	**	*	*
HANCOCK	**	*	*	WASHINGTON	9	*	*
HARALSON	34	23.6	24.0	WAYNE	16	*	*
HARRIS	20	12.9	12.6	WEBSTER	**	*	*
HART	18	*	*	WHEELER	**	*	*
HEARD	12	*	*	WHITE	19	*	*
HENRY	103	10.3	10.9	WHITFIELD	44	9.0	9.6
HOUSTON	83	11.9	12.1	WILCOX	6	*	*
IRWIN	**	*	*	WILKES	6	*	*
JACKSON	41	13.2	13.3	WILKINSON	**	*	*
JASPER	14	*	*	WORTH	11	*	*
JEFF DAVIS	8	*	*	UNKNOWN	25	&	&

\* Rates were not reported for counties with less than 20 deaths.

\*\*The number of deaths was 5 or fewer and has been suppressed to retain confidentiality.

& Rates by county could not be calculated where county was unknown.

## Appendix C: Violent Deaths by Public Health District of Residence

**Table C1. Overall Violent Death, Homicide and Suicide Crude and Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates per 100,000 population by Public Health District of Residence, Georgia, 2008-2012**

HEALTH DISTRICT	VIOLENT DEATH		HOMICIDE		SUICIDE	
	Crude	Age-Adjusted	Crude	Age-Adjusted	Crude	Age-Adjusted
1-1 NORTHWEST (ROME)	18.5	18.8	3.2	3.3	13.0	13.2
1-2 NORTH GEORGIA (DALTON)	14.0	14.2	1.9	1.9	10.2	10.4
2 NORTH (GAINESVILLE)	15.2	15.4	2.9	2.9	10.8	11.0
3-1 COBB-DOUGLAS	15.3	15.6	3.6	3.6	9.8	10.2
3-2 FULTON	21.9	21.5	10.6	9.9	9.2	9.3
3-3 CLAYTON	18.5	18.5	10.3	9.8	6.4	7.1
3-4 EAST METRO (LAWRENCEVILLE)	15.7	16.2	4.3	4.3	9.8	10.4
3-5 DEKALB	20.4	19.7	10.7	10.0	7.5	7.6
4 LAGRANGE	18.7	18.8	5.1	5.2	11.2	11.4
5-1 SOUTH CENTRAL (DUBLIN)	19.0	18.9	6.1	6.1	11.2	10.9
5-2 NORTH CENTRAL (MACON)	21.2	21.2	7.6	7.6	11.4	11.5
6-0 EAST CENTRAL (AUGUSTA)	24.6	24.7	10.5	10.5	11.7	11.9
7-0 WEST CENTRAL (COLUMBUS)	21.5	21.4	8.1	7.9	11.2	11.3
8-1 SOUTH (VALDOSTA)	19.7	20.0	6.7	6.6	11.3	11.6
8-2 SOUTHWEST (ALBANY)	19.5	19.8	7.0	7.2	11.1	11.3
9-1 COASTAL (SAVANNAH)	23.2	23.2	9.0	8.7	12.3	12.6
9-2 SOUTHEAST (WAYCROSS)	20.0	20.0	6.1	5.9	12.2	12.4
10 NORTHEAST (ATHENS)	19.4	19.7	3.8	3.7	13.8	14.2

**Table C2. Counties within each Public Health District**

HEALTH DISTRICT	COUNTIES
1-1 NORTHWEST (ROME)	Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson, Paulding, Polk, Walker
1-2 NORTH GEORGIA (DALTON)	Cherokee, Fannin, Gilmer, Murray, Pickens, Whitfield
2 NORTH (GAINESVILLE)	Banks, Dawson, Forsyth, Franklin, Habersham, Hall, Hart, Lumpkin, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White
3-1 COBB-DOUGLAS	Cobb, Douglas
3-2 FULTON	Fulton
3-3 CLAYTON	Clayton
3-4 EAST METRO (LAWRENCEVILLE)	Gwinnett, Newton, Rockdale
3-5 DEKALB	DeKalb
4 LAGRANGE	Butts, Carroll, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Henry, Lamar, Meriwether, Pike, Spalding, Troup, Upson
5-1 SOUTH CENTRAL (DUBLIN)	Bleckley, Dodge, Johnson, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Telfair, Treutlen, Wheeler, Wilcox
5-2 NORTH CENTRAL (MACON)	Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Hancock, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Monroe, Peach, Putnam, Twiggs, Washington, Wilkinson
6-0 EAST CENTRAL (AUGUSTA)	Burke, Columbia, Emanuel, Glascock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, Screven, Taliaferro, Warren, Wilkes
7-0 WEST CENTRAL (COLUMBUS)	Chattahoochee, Clay, Crisp, Dooly, Harris, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Quitman, Randolph, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Webster
8-1 SOUTH (VALDOSTA)	Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Tift, Turner
8-2 SOUTHWEST (ALBANY)	Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, Worth
9-1 COASTAL (SAVANNAH)	Chatham, Effingham
9-2 SOUTHEAST (WAYCROSS)	Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Evans, Glynn, Jeff Davis, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Pierce, Tattnall, Toombs, Ware, Wayne
10 NORTHEAST (ATHENS)	Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Morgan, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Walton

## Appendix D: Violent Deaths by Judicial District of Residence

Table D1. Overall Violent Death, Homicide and Suicide Crude and Age-Adjusted Mortality Rates per 100,000 population by Judicial District of Residence, Georgia, 2008-2012

JUDICIAL DISTRICT	VIOLENT DEATH		HOMICIDE		SUICIDE	
	<i>Crude</i>	<i>Age-Adjusted</i>	<i>Crude</i>	<i>Age-Adjusted</i>	<i>Crude</i>	<i>Age-Adjusted</i>
DISTRICT 01	21.0	21.1	7.9	7.7	12.1	12.4
DISTRICT 02	18.9	19.2	7.6	7.7	11.6	11.9
DISTRICT 03	21.7	21.8	8.2	8.1	11.5	11.7
DISTRICT 04	19.9	19.4	10.3	9.8	7.6	7.7
DISTRICT 05	21.8	21.4	10.6	9.9	9.2	9.3
DISTRICT 06	18.3	18.5	6.4	6.4	10.0	10.4
DISTRICT 07	16.1	16.4	3.3	3.4	10.9	11.2
DISTRICT 08	17.1	17.1	5.8	5.9	10.6	10.4
DISTRICT 09	14.7	15.1	3.1	3.1	10.2	10.6
DISTRICT 10	21.2	21.5	6.7	6.6	13.0	13.4

Table D2. Counties within each Judicial District

JUDICIAL DISTRICT	COUNTIES
DISTRICT 01	Appling, Bacon, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Charlton, Chatham, Coffee, Effingham, Evans, Glynn, Jeff Davis, Jenkins, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Pierce, Screven, Tattnall, Ware, Wayne
DISTRICT 02	Atkinson, Baker, Berrien, Brooks, Calhoun, Clay, Clinch, Colquitt, Cook, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Echols, Grady, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, Miller, Mitchell, Quitman, Randolph, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, Tift, Turner, Worth
DISTRICT 03	Bibb, Chattahoochee, Crawford, Harris, Houston, Lee, Macon, Marion, Muscogee, Peach, Schley, Stewart, Sumter, Talbot, Taylor, Webster
DISTRICT 04	DeKalb, Rockdale
DISTRICT 05	Fulton
DISTRICT 06	Butts, Carroll, Clayton, Coweta, Fayette, Heard, Henry, Lamar, Meriwether, Monroe, Pike, Spalding, Troup, Upson
DISTRICT 07	Bartow, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cobb, Dade, Douglas, Floyd, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Polk, Walker, Whitfield
DISTRICT 08	Baldwin, Ben Hill, Bleckley, Candler, Crisp, Dodge, Dooly, Emanuel, Greene, Hancock, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Jones, Laurens, Montgomery, Morgan, Pulaski, Putnam, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Twiggs, Washington, Wheeler, Wilcox, Wilkinson
DISTRICT 09	Cherokee, Dawson, Fannin, Forsyth, Gilmer, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Lumpkin, Pickens, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, White
DISTRICT 10	Banks, Barrow, Burke, Clarke, Columbia, Elbert, Franklin, Glascock, Hart, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, McDuffie, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Richmond, Taliaferro, Walton, Warren, Wilkes



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