GA-VDRS Goals

1. Inform county representatives, public health professionals and programs.
2. Provide data to guide violence prevention efforts in Georgia.
3. Evaluate violence prevention programmatic activities.
4. Participate in providing violent death data to national organizations.
6. Provide data for violent death research.

Thank you to all Sheriff’s Offices, Police Departments, and Coroners’ and Medical Examiners’ Offices that contributed data to the GA-VDRS.

Visit us online at:
http://dph.georgia.gov/GVDRS

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Scientific Based Data to Support

- Decision Making
- Injury Prevention & Intervention
- Research & Analysis
- Training & Awareness
- Violence Reduction
The Georgia Violent Death Reporting System (GA-VDRS) is a federally funded project that aims to identify deaths within Georgia such as:

- Suicide
- Homicide
- Legal Intervention
- Undetermined Intent
- Accidental Firearm
- Terrorism

### GA-VDRS Data Sources

Information is collected from:

- Death Certificates
- Medical Examiners and/or Coroner’s Reports
- Police Reports
- Crime Laboratory Reports
- Toxicology Reports
- Child Fatality Review

Number of Violent Deaths by Manner of Death, 2008-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manner of Death</th>
<th>Violent Deaths</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>5,340</td>
<td>55.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>3,231</td>
<td>33.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undetermined</td>
<td>836</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidental Firearm</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal Intervention</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,549</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Percent of Violent Deaths by Manner of Death, 2008-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circumstance</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suicide</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depressed mood</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health problem</td>
<td>29.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate partner problem</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical health problem</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disclosed suicidal thoughts</td>
<td>22.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Homicide</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precipitated by another crime</td>
<td>35.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gang-related</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argument or conflict</td>
<td>16.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate partner violence</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime in progress</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Percent of Violent Deaths by Type of Weapon* Used and Manner of Death, 2008-2012

- Poisoning: 12% Homicide, 3% Suicide
- Strangulation**: 19% Homicide, 6% Suicide
- Other: 19% Homicide, 5% Suicide
- Blunt Instrument: 9% Homicide, 5% Suicide
- Unknown: 10% Homicide, 8% Suicide
- Sharp Instrument: 11% Homicide, 12% Suicide
- Firearm: 61% Homicide, 5% Suicide

*Some violent deaths may include more than one weapon.
**Includes hanging and suffocation.

### Percent of Violent Deaths with Positive Toxicology Results by Drug Type*, 2008-2012

- Antidepressants: 1% Homicide, 42% Suicide
- Amphetamines: 4% Homicide, 4% Suicide
- Opiates: 14% Homicide, 6% Suicide
- Benzodiazepines: 25% Homicide, 10% Suicide
- Cocaine: 14% Homicide, 5% Suicide
- Marijuana: 16% Homicide, 4% Suicide
- Alcohol: 33% Homicide, 26% Suicide

*Among victims who had toxicology tests (Homicide: 51%; Suicide: 44%)

### Percent of Violent Deaths by Top 5 Circumstances and Manner of Death, 2008-2012

- Precipitated by another crime: 35.4% Homicide, 5% Suicide
- Gang-related: 16.4% Homicide, 16% Suicide
- Argument or conflict: 16.2% Homicide, 14% Suicide
- Intimate partner violence: 12.6% Homicide, 12% Suicide
- Crime in progress: 12.3% Homicide, 10% Suicide

### Percent of Violent Deaths by Type of Weapon* Used and Manner of Death, 2008-2012

- Poisoning: 12% Homicide, 3% Suicide
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*Some violent deaths may include more than one weapon.
**Includes hanging and suffocation.

### Age-Adjusted Homicide Rate by County of Residence, Georgia, 2008-2012

The highest homicide rates occurred among residents of metropolitan areas (e.g., Atlanta, Savannah, Augusta, Albany, and Macon).

### Age-Adjusted Suicide Rate by County of Residence, Georgia, 2008-2012

The highest suicide rates occurred among residents of rural Georgia counties.