

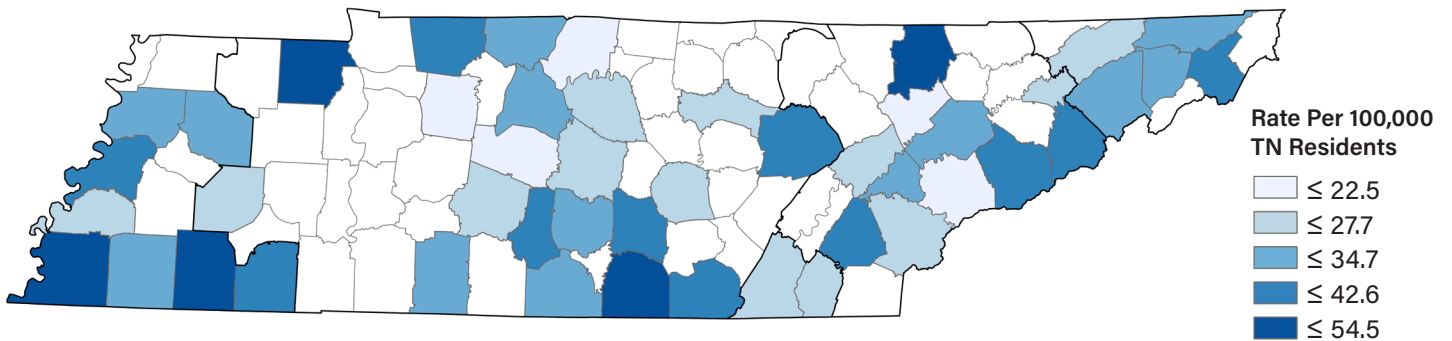


# TENNESSEE VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM

## Quick Facts: What is TNVDRS?

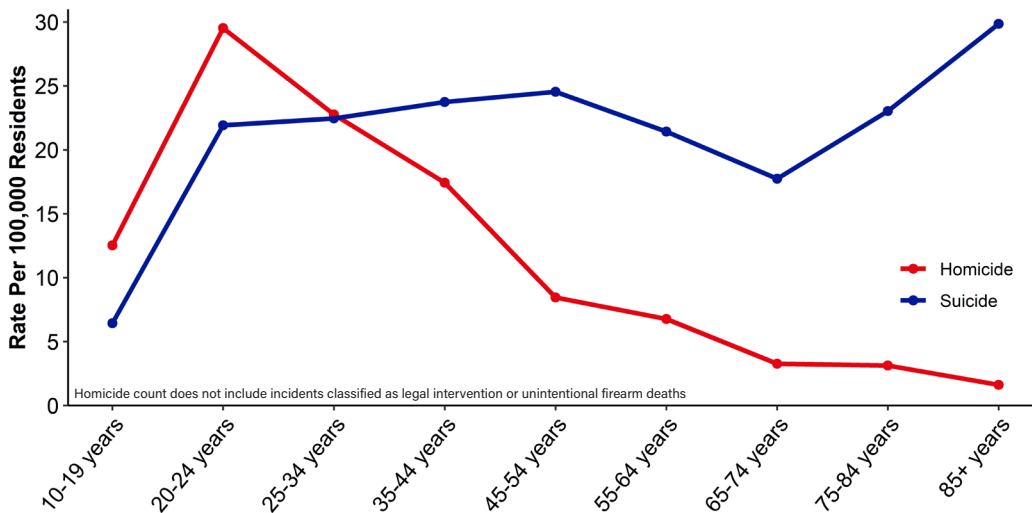
The Tennessee Violent Death Reporting System (TNVDRS) helps state and local officials understand why violent deaths occur by linking data from medical examiner, law enforcement, and vital statistics records. It is the only data system for homicide and suicide that pools data on violent deaths and their 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 [TN.VDRS@tn.gov](mailto:TN.VDRS@tn.gov)

### Violent Death Rates by County of Injury | TNVDRS, 2020



There were 2,206 violent deaths in TN in 2020 with available county-level injury data. Counties not shaded had fewer than 10 violent deaths included in TNVDRS for this year.

### Age-Specific Manners of Death | TNVDRS, 2020

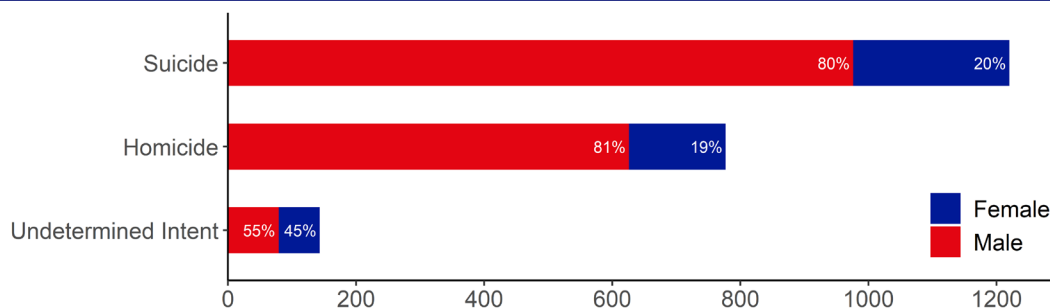


The homicide rate was higher than the suicide rate among individuals age 10 to 24. For all other ages, the suicide rate was higher than the homicide rate.

Individuals aged 20 to 24 had the highest homicide rate at 29.5 per 100,000, and individuals aged 85 years and older had the highest suicide rate at 29.9 per 100,000.

The majority of all individuals included in TNVDRS in 2020 were identified as non-Hispanic (NH) white residents (64.2%), followed by NH black residents (30.4%). NH black males had higher rates of violent death than other racial/ethnic groups in TN (103.1 per 100,000).

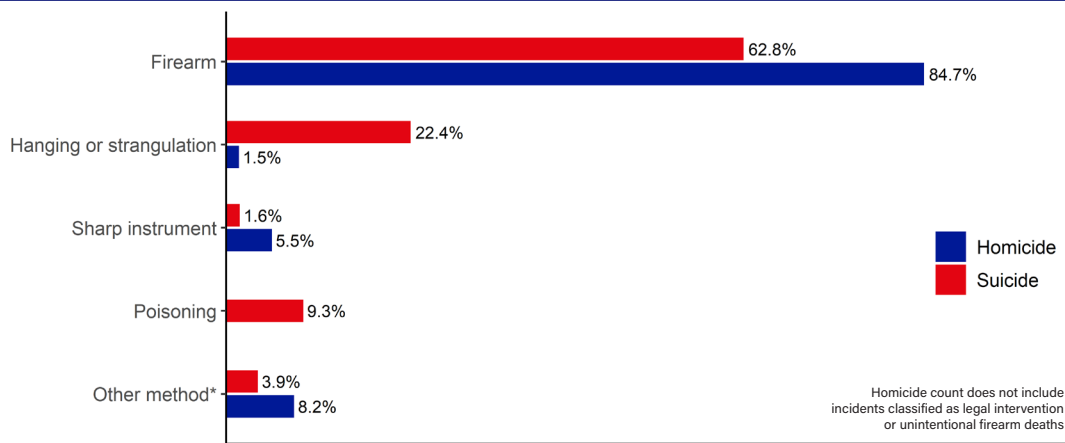
## Sex-Specific Manners of Death | TNVDRS, 2020



About fifty-five percent (55.2%) of violent deaths in TN in 2020 were due to suicide, 35.2% were due to homicide, and 6.5% were due to undetermined intent. Four out of five suicide deaths and homicide deaths were male, while slightly more than half of deaths due to undetermined intent were male.

An additional 1.8% were due to legal intervention, and 1.3% were unintentional firearm deaths. These manners are not shown due to low counts when differentiated by sex and are classified separately from homicides.

## Method of Death by Manner | TNVDRS, 2020



The majority of deaths due to suicide were firearm deaths (62.8%), followed by hanging (22.4%) and poisoning (9.3%).

The majority of homicides were due to firearms (84.7%), followed by sharp instrument (5.5%).

Homicide count does not include incidents classified as legal intervention or unintentional firearm deaths

\* Includes personal weapons, fall, drowning, blunt instrument, and other methods with low counts

## Why are TNVDRS counts unique?

There are three geographic elements collected in mortality data: residence location, injury location, and death location. A death is included in the TNVDRS dataset if the location of *injury* is in the state of Tennessee.

Many deaths share residence, injury, and/or death location, but depending on which one a dataset uses in its definition, it may include deaths that a different dataset leaves out.

This means that TNVDRS collects information beneficial to understanding how resources should be allocated because our data allows an understanding of how geographical jurisdictions are impacted by violent death in addition to how individuals are affected.

