

# LINKING DATA TO SAVE LIVES

How CDC's NATIONAL VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM data can help prevent violent deaths.

**Violence** is a major PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM.

In the US,  
**SEVEN  
PEOPLE  
PER HOUR**  
die a  
violent  
death

In 2017, more than  
**19,500 PEOPLE**  
DIED BY  
**HOMICIDE**



In 2017, more than  
**47,000 PEOPLE**  
DIED BY  
**SUICIDE**



These deaths cost the economy nearly  
**\$90 BILLION**  
IN MEDICAL CARE AND  
LOST WORK ALONE.

## The TRUE TOLL of violent deaths

*the burden on the criminal justice system, erosion of entire communities, and the long-term physical, psychological, and emotional consequences on victims and their families*

**is immeasurable.**

## Preventing Violent Deaths Starts with KNOWING THE FACTS

The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) is the only state-based reporting system that links information from multiple sources in a usable, anonymous database.

NVDRS brings together data on the **WHO, WHEN, WHERE, and HOW** of violent deaths to help us better understand **WHY** they occurred.

## NVDRS Collects Detailed Information from...



Law Enforcement Reports



Death Certificates



Coroner/Medical Examiner Reports  
(Including Toxicology Reports)

Data are collected in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia.

## What KIND of Data Does NVDRS Collect?

NVDRS covers all types of violent deaths, in all settings, for all age groups. Over 600 data elements are captured, including:

- Location of injury
- Characteristics of victim
- Relationship of victim to suspect
- Weapons used
- Toxicology reports
- Alcohol or substance abuse
- Mental health problems and treatment
- Intimate partner violence
- Physical health problems
- Relationship problems
- Problems with job or finances

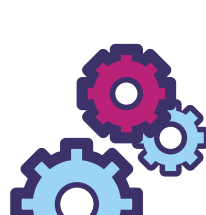
## How Can NVDRS Data be Used to Prevent Violent Deaths?



**INFORM DECISION MAKERS**  
about the magnitude, trends, and characteristics of violent deaths



**EDUCATE COMMUNITIES**  
about circumstances that contribute to violence



**HELP DECISION MAKERS AND PROGRAM PLANNERS**  
develop and enhance comprehensive violence prevention efforts to maximize benefits.

For more information, including how to access the NVDRS database, visit

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nvdrs/index.html>

