



# Violent Death Reporting System Initial Findings: 2019

## Violent Death Facts

- Suicide is the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in Montana and the top cause of violent death. In 2019, the suicide rate was 31.9 deaths per 100,000 in Montana compared to 13.9 deaths in the United States
- A firearm was the most common mechanism for all violent deaths (56.3%) followed by hanging, strangulation, or suffocation (19.8%).
- Men were 2.7 times more likely to die of any violent death than women in 2019, and 2.9 times more likely to die by suicide than women.

*If you are in a crisis and want help, call the Montana Suicide Prevention Lifeline*

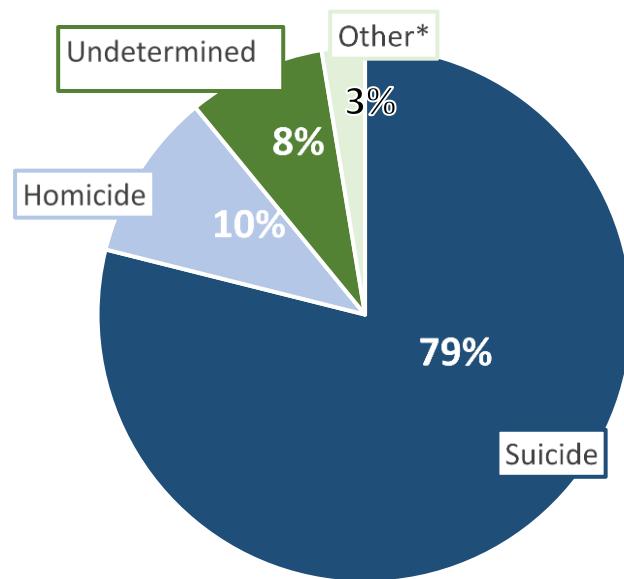
1-800-273-TALK  
(1-800-273-8255)

Or text "MT" to 741 741

MT-VDRS collects data regarding violent deaths from death certificates, medical examiner reports, law enforcement reports and other health and legal documents. MT-VDRS links multiple source data documents to enable prevention specialists to better understand each violent death.

Suicide was the most common cause of violent death in Montana in 2019; 79% of violent deaths were suicides. 10% of all violent deaths in 2019 were homicides, followed by violent deaths of an undetermined intent at 8%.

## Causes of Violent Death, Montana, 2019



*\*Other category includes deaths where individuals are killed by law enforcement acting in the line of duty and unintentional self-inflicted firearm-related deaths*

## CONTACTS

Alyssa Johnson  
MT-VDRS Principal Investigator  
406-444-0752

William "Buck" Herron  
MT-VDRS Program Coordinator  
406-444-3138

Kristin Costa  
Forensic Data Abstractor  
406-444-1310