

Gunshot Wounds Among Vermont Residents

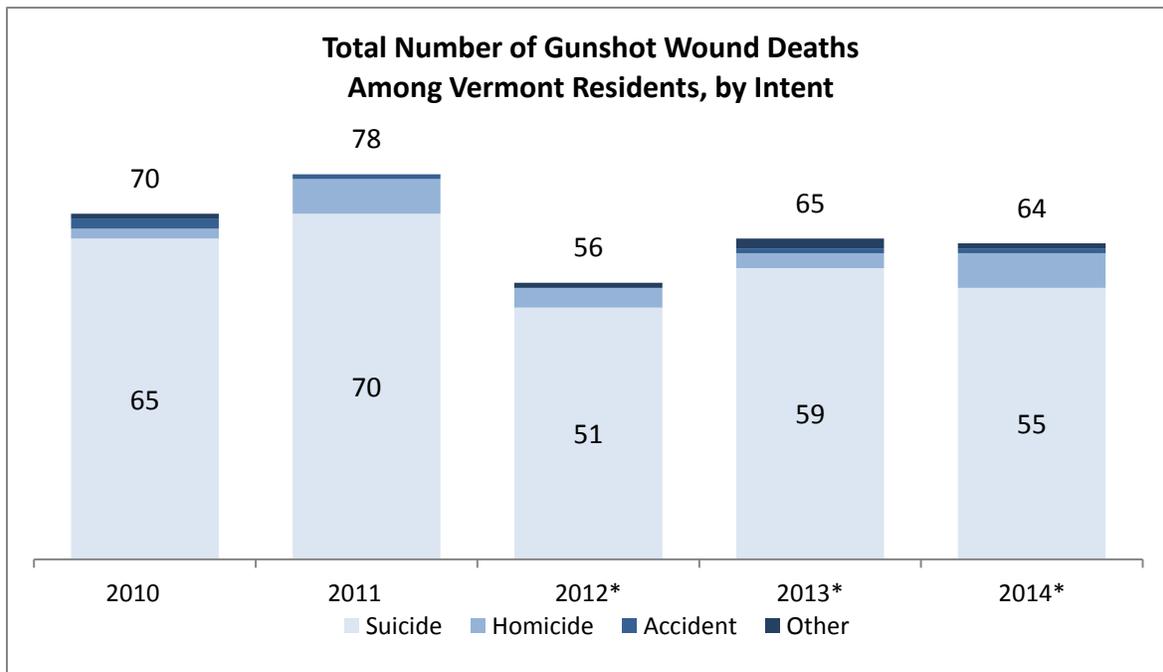
Vermont Injury Prevention Program

Background

Vermont has a slightly lower rate¹ of occurrence of gunshot wound death when compared to the U.S. (9.5 per 100,000 compared to 10.3 per 100,000 respectively in 2014). Further investigation into Vermont's gunshot wound incidents shows that most are to end one's life.

Gunshot Wound Deaths²

Between 2010 and 2014, 90% of all gunshot wound deaths among Vermont residents were a result of suicide. However, when looking at suicide in the same time period more than half, 55%, of all suicides were completed via gunshot wound. Gunshot wound and suicides deaths were similar in 2010 and 2014.



*Data from 2012-2015 is preliminary

Vermont Vital Statistics

Vermont males are more likely than females to suffer gunshot wound death, they are also more likely to end their lives, and are more likely to end their lives via gunshot wound. Between 2010 and 2014, approximately 87% of all gunshot wound deaths were male; more than 80% of all suicide deaths were male; and males make up 89% of gunshot wound suicide deaths.

From 2010-2014, six in ten (61%) Vermont deaths due to gunshot wounds were among those ages 45 and older; similar proportions of suicide (60%) and gunshot wound suicide deaths (64%) are also in this age range. During this time, youth (<18 years) represented about one in twenty gunshot wound and gunshot wound suicide deaths. This equates to 15 gunshot wound deaths, 11 of which were suicide.

Between 2010 and 2014, less than half of Vermont resident deaths occur in rural areas; however, most (60%) gunshot wound deaths occur in rural areas.

For information about Injury surveillance contact Leslie Barnard, MPH leslie.barnard@vermont.gov.

¹ Age adjusted to U.S. 2000 standard population.

² Source: Vermont Vital Statistics, data from 2012-2014 are considered preliminary.