

Built on Partnerships

The main sources of information on violence-related deaths in Alaska are:

- Alaska Health Analytics & Vital Records Section
- Office of the State Medical Examiner
- Alaska Department of Public Safety
- Alaska Bureau of Investigations
- State-wide law enforcement agencies: Alaska State Trooper posts, local police departments and Village Public Safety Officers
- Records from the state's emergency medical system, hospitals and clinics
- News media reports and articles
- Other relevant documents



For more about the Alaska VDRS, please visit the AK VDRS website at <http://www.epi.hss.state.ak.us/injury/akvdrs/>

Alaska Violent Death Reporting System
State of Alaska
Department of Health & Social Services
Division of Public Health
Section of Epidemiology

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The Alaska Violent Death Reporting System

A Public Health Approach to Developing Prevention Strategies for Alaska



*Michael J. Dunleavy, Governor
State of Alaska*

*Adam Crum, Commissioner
Department of Health & Social Services*

Anne Zink, MD, MPH, Chief Medical Officer

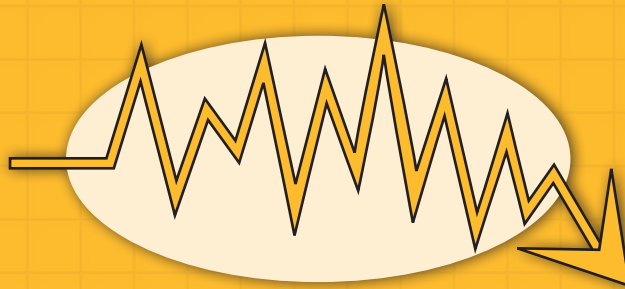
*Heidi Hedberg, Director
Division of Public Health*

The Alaska Violent Death Reporting System is a centralized source of information about violence-related deaths that occur in Alaska. The data are gathered from key sources throughout the state by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and are analyzed to summarize information that can be shared with both state and national organizations.

Before the Alaska Violent Death Reporting System was established in 2002, Alaska violent death data was scattered among several organizations across the state. While the data was of high quality, it was departmentalized and it was difficult to get a clear, concise picture of the size, trends and patterns of the violent death problem in our state.

Today this centralized database provides state and local agencies easily accessible information they need to answer fundamental questions about patterns and trends in violent deaths. In addition, Alaska contributes its data to the National Violent Death Reporting

System, which pools valuable data from across the nation. In so doing, Alaska makes information available to those who develop prevention strategies that will help reduce the current number of violent deaths in our state and the nation.



The Scope of the Alaska Violent Death Reporting System

The database collects information based on the manner of death. It specifically targets:

- Homicides
 - Suicides
 - Accidental firearm-related shootings
 - Legal Interventions
 - Terrorism-related deaths
 - Undetermined cause of death
- based on NVDRS guidelines

Alaska Violent Death Reporting System Summary Reports

AKVDRS summary reports are available to government agencies and other organizations involved in violent death prevention and awareness to develop strategies to reduce violent deaths at the local, state or national level. Please contact:

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