

Suicides, homicides top violent death cause list

A new report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides a detailed summary of a full year of data from 16 states, including Oregon, concerning all types of violent deaths collected by the CDC’s National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS).

The report provides information about the circumstances surrounding these violent deaths.

The report shows that the majority of violent deaths were suicides (56.1 percent), followed by homicides and deaths involving legal interventions (29.6 percent), violent deaths of undetermined intent (13.3 percent), and unintentional firearm deaths (0.7 percent).

Other overall findings include:

*Rates of violent death were highest for persons ages 20 to 24.

*Rates of violent death by suicide were highest for persons 75 to 84 and 45 to 54 (17.0 and 16.9 respectively).

*Mental health problems were the most commonly noted circumstance for suicide.

*Despite the high prevalence of mental health problems among suicide victims, only a third were known to be receiving treatment at the time of death.

*Suicides by current and former military personnel comprised 20 percent of all suicides.

*The home was the most common location of violent death for all manners of death.

*Homicides were precipitated primarily by an argument over something other than money or property or in conjunction with another crime.

*Alcohol intoxication was involved in many violent deaths: Of the victims tested for alcohol (76 percent), nearly 60 percent were above the legal limit of 0.08 BAC at the time of death.

*Relationship problems or intimate partner violence (IPV) were precipitating factors for many forms of vio-

lence.

*Nineteen percent of all homicides were precipitated by IPV.

*Fifty-two percent of all female homicides were precipitated by IPV compared with 9 percent of all male homicides.

*Thirty-two percent of all suicides were precipitated by a problem with an intimate partner.

“NVDRS captures information such as treatment status, diagnoses, employment status, and the results of toxicology screening for the presence of alcohol, antidepressants, and other drugs at the time of death,” said Dr. Mel Kohn, Oregon state epidemiologist.

“Having these data at our fingertips can provide information that will help us better understand factors associated with violent death, and we can use that information to develop and implement prevention programs.”

NVDRS data indicate clear variations in risk of death from violence-related injuries during 2005, and suggests some prevention opportunities to reduce violent deaths. For example:

*Relationship problems or intimate partner conflict were precipitating factors for many forms of violence. Programs designed to enhance social problem-solving and coping skills, and skills dealing with stressful life events have potential to reduce violence.

*Prevention programs and efforts aimed at addressing mental health problems may reduce some of the precipitating factors for violence.

*Programs and efforts to increase education and outreach about warning signs for violence are important for prevention.

States participating in the report besides Oregon are Alaska, Colorado, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Wisconsin, and Virginia.



Some volunteer and staff firefighters from Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) were taken on a tour of Rough & Ready Lumber Co. on Tuesday, April 15. The intent is to let firefighters familiarize themselves with water supplies, hazards and other appropriate concerns. As part of continual training, firefighters have toured a number of valley sites including Shop Smart Food Warehouse, Art’s Red Garter and Junction Inn. (Photo by Dale & Elaine Sandberg, IVFD Media Dept.)

CJ man arrested on charges including assaulting police

A 20-year-old Cave Junction man faces multiple charges including two counts of assaulting a police officer in connection with an incident in rural Grants Pass.

City police said that Michael Anthony Wright is charged with harassment, interfering with a police officer, resisting arrest, two counts of assault on a police officer, attempt assault on a police officer, second-degree assault, and interfering with a police animal.

In connection with the Monday, April 21 incident shortly prior to 1 a.m., he is in

Josephine County Jail.

Police said that they responded to a report of a man hitting a woman. They were located on a field next to the end of S.W. McDonald Lane, and the suspect struck Officer Jeff Gaunt with some items and ran.

A chase ensued, and Wright was tased. He continued struggling, and fled through a fence.

Gaunt and his K-9 partner, *Denny*, tracked the suspect to a brushy area, and he again tried to escape. He was treated for minor injuries, including a dog bite.

Flying disc thieves nabbed in GP

After teen-agers complained of being threatened by two men with knives, two Grants Pass men were arrested by city police on charges that include menacing.

Arrested were Richard L. Williams, 36; and Christo-

pher C. Williams, 33.

Besides menacing, in connection with taking a Frisbee from a juvenile person, they were charged with first-degree robbery, third-degree theft, and possession of less than 1 ounce of marijuana.

Tales from the Police Blotter

(Editor’s Note: Factual information for ‘Blotter’ is provided by official law enforcement agencies. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.)
* * *

Tuesday, April 15

*Tibetan temple bells valued at \$600 were reported stolen from a Deer Creek Road residence.

*From the 38000 block of Redwood Hwy. came a report of an explosion which shook the complainant’s trailer.

*Daniel Thomas Grebisz was cited on charges of driving with a suspended license (DWS), and driving without insurance.

*At 4:44 p.m. a woman

phoned to complain that someone was in her vehicle taking her things.

*Brianna Cammaroto, 16, was cited on charges of DWS and no liability insurance. Cammaroto was warned for attempting to elude, and her vehicle was impounded.

*William R. Davis III, 24, was cited on charges of DWS and no liability insurance on Redwood Hwy. at Eight Dollar Mountain Road at 7:52 p.m.

*Gunshots were reported in the 700 block of Caves Hwy. at 9:25 p.m.

*On Caves Hwy. at 9:40 p.m. a driver was warned about driving too fast for conditions. And a small amount of marijuana was seized.

*In the 100 block of S.

Redwood Hwy. at 10:37 p.m., Sean Kelly McKinney, 43, was cited on charges of DUII, no operator’s permit, making an unsafe turn and refusing a breath test.

Wednesday, April 16

*Several drivers were warned about speeding during the morning rush.

*At 10:47 a.m. a man was reported having a seizure at Lake Selmac.

*A smoldering vehicle was discovered in the brush a half-mile beyond Upper Deer Creek Road at 12:36 p.m.

*On Forest Creek Road a resident reported finding a man lying in a ditch. Apparently intoxicated, the man later sat up and found a ride home, and no further assistance was deemed necessary.

*A backfiring vehicle was determined as responsible for an “explosion” heard in the vicinity of S. Old Stage Road at 6:32 p.m.

*An absent home owner phoned to say that his real estate agent informed him of apparent trespassing by transients at his Cave Junction residence. It was noted that the toilet had been used “several times.”

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ONE DOLLAR

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Dart Tournament 7 p.m.

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Open invitation to all Merchants in the Illinois Valley

Invited speaker: Sheriff Gil Gilbertson
April 30th, 6:30 p.m.

Our Josephine county Sheriff, Gil Gilbertson will be here to give us badly needed input on how better to protect our businesses since we don't have a local police force, what we can expect from the Sheriff's Office, with its limited funds, and how we can deal with the transient problem here.



This is an excellent opportunity to learn from Gil, and to ask questions about these issues.

We are all very aware of how much the vandalism is costing us, and some of it is not insured. We need to know exactly what we can do to help ourselves.

The IVMA is sponsoring this presentation so that our merchants in the valley will have a better handle on these issues and to support a safer, and more prosperous climate for us all in the future.

Please join us at the Josephine County building for his talk, and we can also do some business networking to share ideas on these matters.

Sponsored by the IVMA
(Illinois Valley Merchants Association)

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