Overview of the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS)

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What Do We Know About Violence?

• >55,000 Americans died from violence in 2004

• Violence is a particular scourge of the young:
  – Homicide is the second leading cause of death in the 15-24 yrs. age group.
  – Suicide is the second leading cause of death in the 25-34 yrs. age group.
For NVDRS Surveillance Purposes, a Violent Death Is One Classified As:

- Suicide (including terrorism)
- Homicide (including terrorism)
- Events of undetermined intent
- Unintentional firearm injury
- Legal intervention (excluding executions)
Homicide, Suicide, Undetermined, and Legal Intervention Deaths per State, 2004

- A mean of 1,100 per year
- Smallest numbers: 89 ND, 113 VT, 115 WY
- Largest numbers: 6,271 CA
                    3,985 TX
                    3,584 FL
Four Principal Data Sources

- Death certificates
- Law Enforcement/Police reports including Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHRs) or National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) records
- Coroner and medical examiner records
- Crime lab reports
A Fifth Data Source: Child Fatality Review Teams (CFR)

- CFR merge data on child deaths from the 4 primary sources and multiple others
- They have a particular interest in uncovering violent deaths
- They offer unique information on the victim’s household, caregivers, supervision, and previous contacts with the system
Flow of Information for the National Violent Death Reporting System

Occurrence of a violent death

- Med. Exam/Coroner
- Crime Lab
- Police

State Health Dept

Death certificate

Completed Case

CDC

Completed Case

State agencies
Other Fed. agencies
General public
Researchers
NVDRS States

- FY 02 (6 states)
- FY 03 (7 states)
- FY 04 (4 states)
- CA funded to collect data in 4 counties
Collaboration Opportunities

Fourteen of the NVDRS states are also funded under CORE

CA    MD    SC
CO    NM    UT
GA    OK    VA
KY    OR    WI
MA    RI

Safer • Healthier • People
Each state is required to:

- Hire a program coordinator to establish an injury focal point in the state department of health
- **Conduct basic surveillance (primarily through vital statistics** and hospital discharge data sets)
- Establish an injury community planning group
- Develop/update a state injury prevention and control plan
- Host an annual symposium addressing one of the state violence and injury prevention priorities
- Support violence and injury prevention partners
For Additional Information, Contact:

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Questions?