

Texas Violent Death Reporting System

Texas joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Violent Death Reporting System in January 2019.

The Texas Violent Death Reporting System (TVDRS) uses a national system to link violent death data. This includes suicides, homicides, accidental firearm deaths, and undetermined violent deaths.

TVDRS collects information on:

- **Who** is involved;
- **What** are the circumstances;
- **When** it happened;
- **Where** it happened; and
- **Why** it occurred.



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**Our mission is to use violent death data
to make decisions that save lives.**

TVDRS data is used to:

- **Inform decision makers** about the scale, trends, and characteristics of violent death.
- **Educate communities** about the circumstances that lead to violence.
- **Improve** violence prevention programs and efforts.

Please submit questions to tvdrs@dshs.texas.gov

Linking Data to Save Lives

Law enforcement, justices of the peace, and medical examiners collect valuable information about violent deaths. When we link this data, we can see complete picture of the death.

TVDRS collects data from:

- Death certificates,
- Justice of the peace inquests,
- Medical examiner reports,
- Law enforcement incident reports, and
- Autopsy and toxicology reports.



TVDRS removes personal details and puts the data into one database.

Together, this information can show:

- Relationship problems,
- Mental health conditions and treatment,
- Toxicology results, and
- Life stressors, recent money or work problems, or physical health issues.

Decision makers and program planners can use this information in violence prevention efforts.

**Texas
Violent
Death
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Texas Department of State Health Services

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For more information, visit: dshs.texas.gov/injury-prevention/texas-violent-death-reporting-system