

# 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.

It collects information on:

- who is involved
- what are the circumstances
- when it happened
- where it happened
- why it occurred

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](mailto:tvdrs@dshs.texas.gov)



TEXAS  
Health and Human  
Services

Texas Department of State  
Health Services

# 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
- autopsy and toxicology reports

Personal details are removed and the data is put into one database.

Together, this information can show:

- relationship problems
- mental health conditions and treatment
- toxicology results
- life stressors, recent money or work problems, or physical health issues

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

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*Texas Department of State Health Services*