

National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS)

Reverse Site Visit

May 12-14, 2026

Westin Atlanta Perimeter North

7 Concourse Parkway, NE

Atlanta, Ga 30328

Tuesday May 12, 2026

8:00 am – 12:45 pm	Registration <i>Concourse Level Meeting Room Floor</i>	
Interim Progress Reviews (<i>Only applicable to states listed below</i>)		
8:00 am – 9:55 am	Delaware VDRS <i>Mercer Room</i>	Lori-Ann Walker (CDC) Katie Fowler, PhD (CDC) Delaware VDRS Staff
	Vermont VDRS <i>Concourse Room</i>	Joivita Bradford, MPH (CDC) Janet Blair, PhD, MPH (CDC) Vermont VDRS Staff
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Tennessee VDRS <i>Mercer Room</i>	Lori-Ann Walker (CDC) Kameron Sheats, PhD (CDC) Tennessee VDRS Staff
	Texas VDRS <i>Concourse Room</i>	Gabraelle Lane, MPH Grace Liu, MPH (CDC) Texas VDRS Staff
Optional Small Group Consultations (<i>Must have signed up in advance</i>)		
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	NVDRS Narrative Writing Consultation <i>Bernstein I</i>	Katie Fowler, PhD Katie Forsberg, MPH Kara Tsukerman, PhD Brenda Nguyen, MPH (30 min time slots, ~16 slots) NVDRS Science Officers (CDC)
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	NVDRS Impact Example Workshop Session <i>Bernstein II</i>	Sam McKeithan, MPH Sarah Roby, MPH Marissa Zwald, PhD Deanna Walters, PhD

	Data to Action: Efforts in Utah to Promote VDRS Data and Outreach to Prevention Partners	Gary Mower, MPH, CPM (UTVDRS)
2:45 pm – 3:15 pm	NVDRS Innovation: Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Public Health	Matthew Ritchey, PT, DPT, OCS, MPH <i>Acting Director of the Office of Public Health Data, Surveillance, and Technology (OPHDST)</i>
3:15 pm – 3:45 pm	NVDRS Innovation: Use of AI capabilities for NVDRS	Steven Sumner, MD (CDC)
3:45 pm – 3:55 pm	BREAK	
3:55 pm – 4:20 pm	National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Collaborating Office for Medical Examiners and Coroners (COMEC) Update	Carri Cottengim, PhD (CDC/NCHS/COMEC)
4:20 pm – 4:55 pm	State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (SUDORS) Update Partnering for Impact: Enhancing VDRS Data through Collaboration with OD2A (MTVDRS)	<i>Moderator: Jamar Barnes, MPH, CHES</i> Eliot Spector, MS (CDC) and Amanda Dinwiddie, MPH (CDC) Victoria Fontaine and Lauren Marshman, BCJ, NREMR (MTVDRS/SUDORS)
4:55 pm – 5:00 pm	Day 1 Evaluation & Adjourn	Janet Blair, PhD, MPH (CDC)
Day 1 - CONCURRENT SESSIONS		
5:15 pm – 7:15 pm	NVDRS Principal Investigators (PI) Meeting <i>(Optional)</i> <i>Concourse Ballroom</i>	NVDRS PIs
5:15 pm – 7:15 pm	NVDRS Abstractors Meeting <i>(Optional)</i> <i>Grand Ballroom</i>	NVDRS Abstractors

5:15 pm – 7:15 pm	NVDRS Epidemiologists Meeting <i>(Optional)</i> <i>Mercer Room</i>	NVDRS Epidemiologists
Wednesday May 13, 2026		
Day 2 - PLENARY SESSIONS Grand Ballroom		
8:25 am – 8:30 am	Overview of Day 2	Jamar Barnes, MPH, CHES (CDC)
8:30 am – 9:30 am	NVDRS Partners: Updates & Overview <i>(Interactive panel discussion)</i> National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS) National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) American Public Health Association (APHA) Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (IACME) Safe States Alliance	<i>Moderator:</i> <i>Mighty Fine, MPH (APHA)</i> Kristin Simpson, PMP (NAPHSIS) Kathy Pinneri, MD (NAME) Mighty Fine, MPH (APHA) Megan Sullivan, MSW (CSTE) John Fudenberg (IACME) Paul Bonta, MA (Safe States)
9:30 am – 9:45 am	BREAK	
9:45 am – 10:45 am	Working with Law Enforcement: Outreach & Relationship Building <i>(Interactive panel discussion)</i> International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)	<i>Moderator: Joivita Bradford, MPH (CDC)</i> Jennifer Styles, MPH (IACP)

	National Sheriffs' Association (NSA)	Deputy Chief Mitch Cunningham, MA (ret.) (NSA)
	Small & Rural Law Enforcement Executives Association (SRLEEA)	Michael Brown (SRLEEA)

Day 2 - CONCURRENT SESSIONS
(See session descriptions in attendee folders)

TRACK 1 Grand Ballroom		TRACK 2 Concourse Ballroom	
10:45 am – 11:45 am	<p>Substances and Suicide – Insights from Toxicology and Drug Data <i>Moderator: Kara Tsukerman, PhD</i></p> <p>Use of Toxicology Reports to Examine Substances Used in Poisoning-related Suicides among US Health Care Workers - Victor Soupene, PhD (IA-VDRS)</p> <p>Cannabis presence in New Jersey suicides - Atlas Scagnelli and Bretta Jacquemin, MPH (NJVDRS)</p> <p>Blood Alcohol Concentration Level and the Association between Unintentional Drug Overdose and Violent Deaths in Rhode Island - Jonathan Barkley, MPH (RIVDRS)</p>	10:45 am – 11:45 am	<p>Abstractor Self-Care <i>Moderator: Kameron Sheats, PhD</i></p> <p>Caring for the Data Stewards: A Trauma-Informed Approach to Workforce Support in Violent Death Surveillance - Mamie Lush, MA and Rishad Ahmed, MBA, PhD (NEVDRS)</p> <p>Helping the Helpers: Building Resilience through Practice - Amanda Bundek MS, NREMT (DEVDRS)</p>
11:45 am – 1:00 pm LUNCH (On Your Own) / Optional Focus Group: “Deep Dive into NVDRS Data Modernization” with Marissa Zwald, PhD and Steve Sumner, MD			
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	<p>From Surveillance to Solutions: NVDRS-Driven Approaches to Prevention <i>Moderator: Grace Liu, MPH</i></p> <p>Using the Louisiana Violent Death Reporting System to Measure</p>	1:00 pm – 1:45pm	<p>Enhancing Violent Death Reporting Through Law Enforcement and Public Safety Collaboration <i>Moderator: Brenda Nguyen, MPH</i></p>

	<p>Firearm-Related Deaths among Minors - Lauren Dyer, MPH(LAVDRS)</p> <p>Finding Your Voice: A Novel Intervention for Female Veterans at Risk for Self-Directed Violence - Sabrina Brown, DrPH (KYVDRS)</p>		<p>Tips for Law Enforcement Engagement: Navigating Law Enforcement Culture and Mindset - Jeff Wilhelm (KSVDRS)</p> <p>Collaborating with Public Safety Data Partners - Kate Chamberlin (MAVDRS)</p>
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	<p>VDRS Partnership Case Studies <i>Moderator: Sonya Strider, PhD, MPH</i></p> <p>A Data-Community Partnership for Statewide Impact - Caroline Judd, MPH (DEVDRS)</p> <p>Enhancing Georgia Violence Data for Public Health Intervention - Elizabeth Blankenship, MPH (GAVDRS)</p> <p>Jurisdictional Boundaries and VDRS Analysis - Sophia Ringering, MPH and Jeffrey Wilhelm (KSVDRS)</p> <p>Leveraging the Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting System Data Dashboard to Enhance Veteran Suicide Prevention Efforts - Lindsay Emer, PhD (WIVDRS)</p>	1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	<p>Improving Surveillance Quality <i>Moderator: Katie Forsberg, MPH</i></p> <p>Evaluating the Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting System Using CDC Surveillance Attributes: A Mixed-Methods Assessment for Suicide Prevention - Lindsay Emer, PhD (WIVDRS)</p> <p>Streamlining Case Initiation of Violent Deaths in Puerto Rico: A Pilot Experience with STEVE and NAPHSIS - Mario O. Font Martin MP, MS, PPL (PRVDRS)</p> <p>Challenges in Abstracting Cases Involving Delayed Deaths from Non-Fatal Injuries - Erin Graf and Georgette Lavetsky, MHS (MDVDRS)</p> <p>Analyzing Circumstances in Missouri Violent Deaths by Reporting Source - Cassady Palmer, MPA (MOVDRS)</p>
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	BREAK		
3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	<p>Where We Live and Where We Work: VDRS Insights into Suicide and Homicide Across States <i>Moderator: Janet Blair, PhD MPH</i></p> <p>Analysis of Homicide and Suicide Deaths in Rural Illinois Counties 2022-2023: Data from IVDRS</p>	3:30 pm – 4:15 pm	<p>Decoding the ‘Other Circumstances’ Text Box: Multi-state Findings and Categorization Strategies <i>Moderator: Katie Fowler, PhD</i></p> <p>A Regional Review of Entries into the Other Circumstances Text Box: A</p>

	<p>- Kathleen Conlon Wasik and Antigone Kouvelis (ILVDRS)</p> <p>County-Level Trends and Demographic Characteristics of Suicides Among Construction Occupations in NH: 2015–2023 Retrospective Analysis</p> <p>- Djelloul Fourar-Laïdi, MBA, MS, MA (NHVDRS)</p> <p>Data from Vermont’s Violent Death Reporting System Informs Suicide Prevention Efforts across the State</p> <p>- Emily Scott, PhD and Grace Yu, MPH (VTVDRS)</p>		<p>Colorado, Massachusetts, and Washington State Snapshot, 2015-2023</p> <p>- Candace Bretsch (COVDRS)</p> <p>Process of Categorizing “Other Circumstances” in Utah Aimed at Prevention Opportunities</p> <p>- Gary Mower, MPH, CPM (UTVDRS)</p>
4:15 pm	Day 2 Evaluation & Adjourn	Jamar Barnes, MPH, CHES (CDC)	
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	CDC Meeting with NVDRS Principal Investigators and Program Managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CDC Staff - NVDRS Principal Investigators - NVDRS Program Managers - <i>Optional for other state NVDRS program staff</i> <p><i>Grand Ballroom</i></p>	

Thursday May 14, 2026		
Day 3 - PLENARY SESSIONS		
Grand Ballroom		
8:25 am – 8:30 am	Overview of Day 3	Janet Blair, PhD, MPH (CDC)
8:30 am – 9:15 am	<p>Applying Epidemiological Methods to Violence Prevention</p> <p>The New York Violent Death Reporting System and Early Career Epidemiologists: Developing Skills for a New Generation</p>	Leah Hines, MPH; Michael Bauer, MS; Jancarlos "JC" Guzman, MPH (NYVDRS)

	<p>Suicides among Construction and Extraction Workers — Findings from the National Violent Death Reporting System, 2022-2023</p> <p>Investigation of an Increase in Fatal and Nonfatal Assaults - Jackson, Mississippi</p>	<p>Emilia Pawlowski, PhD, MS (CDC)</p> <p>Nhia Vang, DNP, BSN, RN (CDC)</p>
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Making Friends with Data: A Data in Action Workshop	Kathleen Conlon Wasik (ILVDRS)
10:15 am – 10:30 am	BREAK	
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	<p>NVDRS Dashboards, Visualization, and Communication</p> <p>An Interactive Dashboard to Share Patterns of Los Angeles County Suicide Deaths Amongst Youth Ages 10-24 Years</p> <p>From Surveillance to Action: Disseminating NVDRS Data Through Dashboards and Practice-Based Products in Puerto Rico</p> <p>Developing a VDRS Dashboard in South Carolina</p> <p>WA-VDRS County Dashboards</p>	<p><i>Moderator: Atousa Rezaei, PharmD (CDC)</i></p> <p>Michelle Chan, MPH (CalVDRS)</p> <p>Mario O. Font Martin, MP, MS, PPL and Nicole Vega Reyes (PRVDRS)</p> <p>Slone Taylor, MPH (SCVDRS)</p> <p>Chelsea Barth, MPH and David Tobin (WA-VDRS)</p>
12:00 pm – 1:15 pm	LUNCH (On your own)	
1:15 pm – 2:45 pm	A Collaborative Session on NVDRS and Advancing Violence Epidemiology in Real-Time (AVERT) Data Linkages	<p><i>Moderator: Gabriela Lane, MPH (CDC)</i></p> <p>Nisha George, MPH (CDC)</p> <p>Will Baker-Robinson, MS (OR-AVERT)</p> <p>Amy Bailey, MPH (Safe States)</p>
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Day 3 Evaluation & Closing Remarks	Janet Blair, PhD, MPH (CDC)