

Connecticut Violent Mortality Dashboard (2021)



A Brief prepared on March 18, 2025.

Purpose

The Connecticut Violent Mortality Dashboard is an interactive mapping dashboard that allows users to visualize Connecticut's violent deaths geographically and by select demographic characteristics. Violent deaths are defined as deaths that were deemed to be either a homicide or a suicide. The motivation for this project is to more fully and dynamically display Connecticut's violent deaths in hopes of encouraging and measuring interventions and solutions.

As can be seen by Figure 1, which shows all violent deaths in Connecticut in 2021, violent deaths occur throughout the state. Where orange circles are larger, a community has experienced a higher number of violent deaths. When a user is accessing the dashboard itself, these numbers can also be expressed as rates, so that the town's population can be accounted for. You can also see violent death by the victim's town of residence or town of injury. Please note that while counts are accurate, rates are based on estimates of the population. Users should use caution when interpreting rates for small towns or areas. Population estimates are subject to normal measurement error.

Users can see deaths by manner (suicide or homicide), gun relevance (all, gun-related, not gun-related), death year (2020-2024), and the death rate year (please ensure the proper year is selected as population counts can vary from year-to-year). Depending on how these 4 variables are selected, the demographic variables below (victim age distributions, quarter distributions, victims' marital status, sex, place of death, race, veteran status, and level of education, and the Town bar charts) will dynamically change. Given the UConn ARMS Center's focus on gun injury, the graphics contained in this report will focus on gun-related deaths, but the dashboard contains both gun and non-gun related deaths.

According to The Connecticut Violent Death Reporting System, in 2021 Connecticut had the following age adjusted rates: Overall homicide rate of 5.0 per 100,000; firearm homicide rate of 3.6 per 100,000; Non- firearm homicide rate of 1.4 per 100,000; overall suicide rate of 9.7 per 100,000; firearm suicide rate of 2.7 per 100,000; Non- firearm suicide rate of 7.0 per 100,000. Therefore, the total violent death rate in Connecticut in 2021 was 14.7 per 100,000, while the overall firearm death rate was 6.3 per 100,000 and the overall non-firearm violent death rate was 8.4 per 100,000. Users interested in additional information about Connecticut's Violent Deaths, should visit The Connecticut Violent Death Reporting System (CTVDRS).

Data from this project come from the Connecticut State Office of Vital Records and were requested using the Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) Data Request Form for Non-Confidential Data. Data is currently available for 2020-2024.

The dashboard was created by Dr. Peter Chen and Congcong Miao (UConn Department of Geography, Sustainability, Community, and Urban Studies). We thank them for their excellent partnership and technical skills.

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This project was solely funded by the UConn ARMS Center. The dashboard effort was led by Drs. Kerri Raissian and Jennifer Dineen (UConn ARMS). The project was technically supported by Dr. Peter Chen and Congcong Miao (UConn Department of Geography, Sustainability, Community, and Urban Studies).

Figure 1: All Violent Deaths

Figure 1 shows a mapping of all the violent death counts (homicides and suicides) in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of injury. Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury, and Bridgeport had the highest violent death counts.

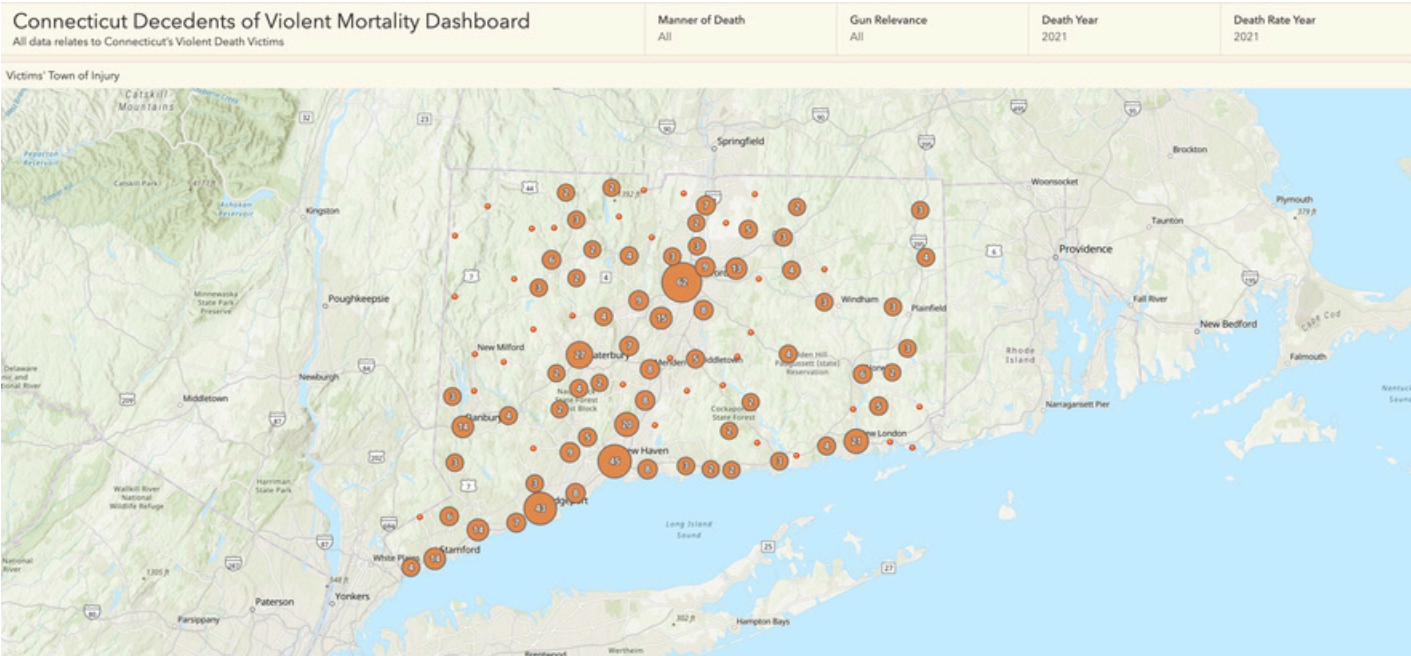


Figure 2: Death Count by Year and Quarter

Figure 2 shows the death count of all manner of violent deaths from 2020-2023 by quarter. In 2021, the death counts were as follows: in Q1, there were 119 deaths; in Q2 there were 144 deaths; in Q3 there were 141 deaths; in Q4 there were 127 deaths.



Figure 3 shows the death count of all manner of violent deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of residence. Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Hamden, and Waterbury experienced the highest counts of violent deaths.

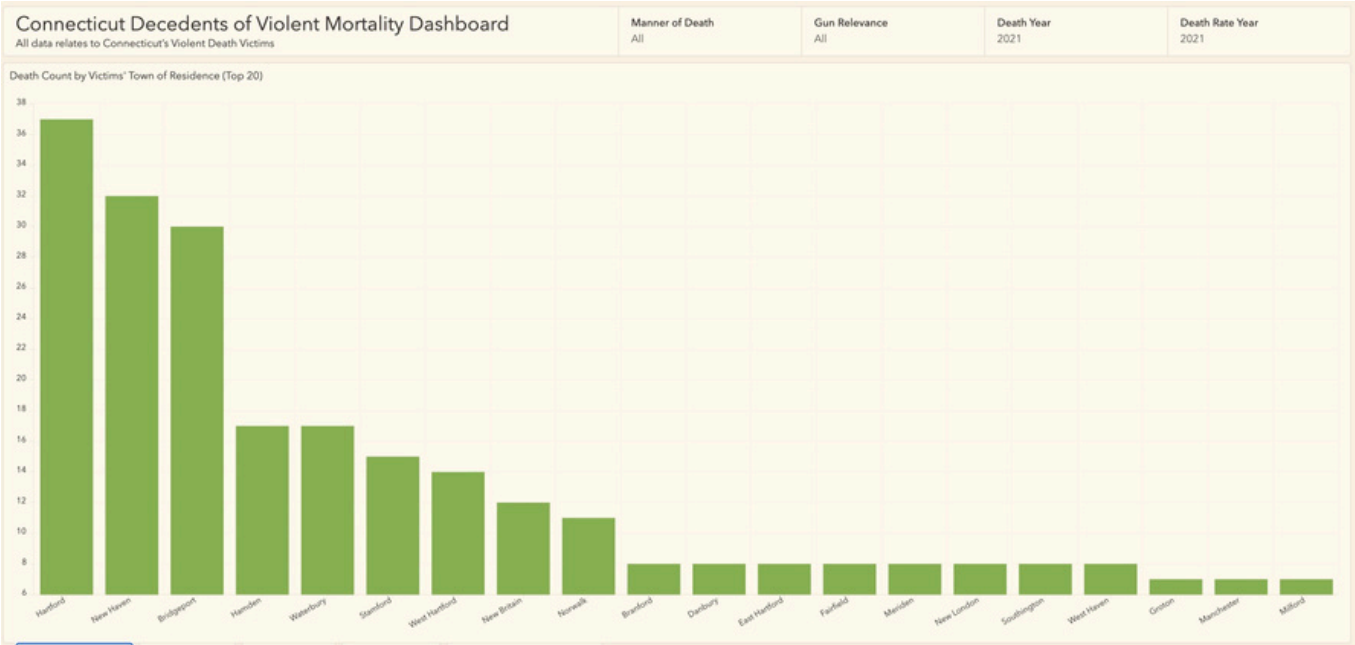


Figure 4: All Violent Deaths by Town of Injury

Figure 4 shows the death count of all manner of violent deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of injury. Residents of Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Waterbury, and Hamden experienced the highest counts of violent deaths.

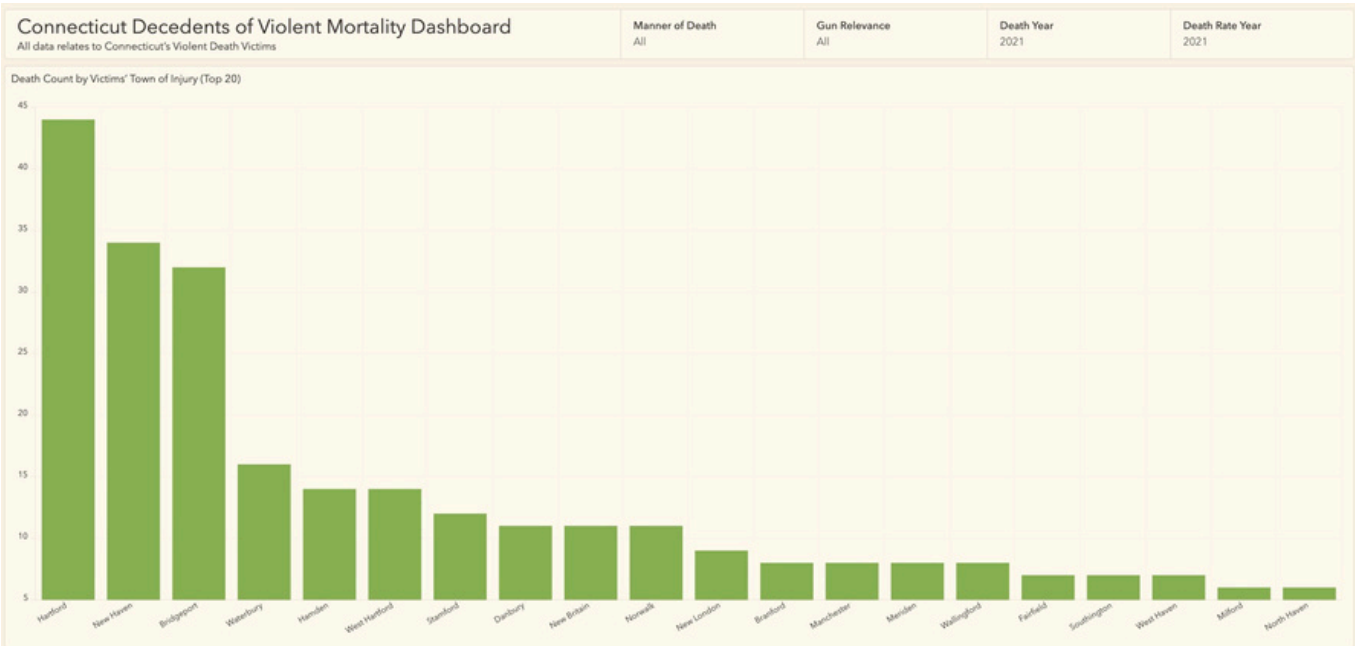


Figure 5: All Manner of Gun Deaths

Figure 5 shows a map of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of injury. Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury and Bridgeport had the highest count of gun deaths.

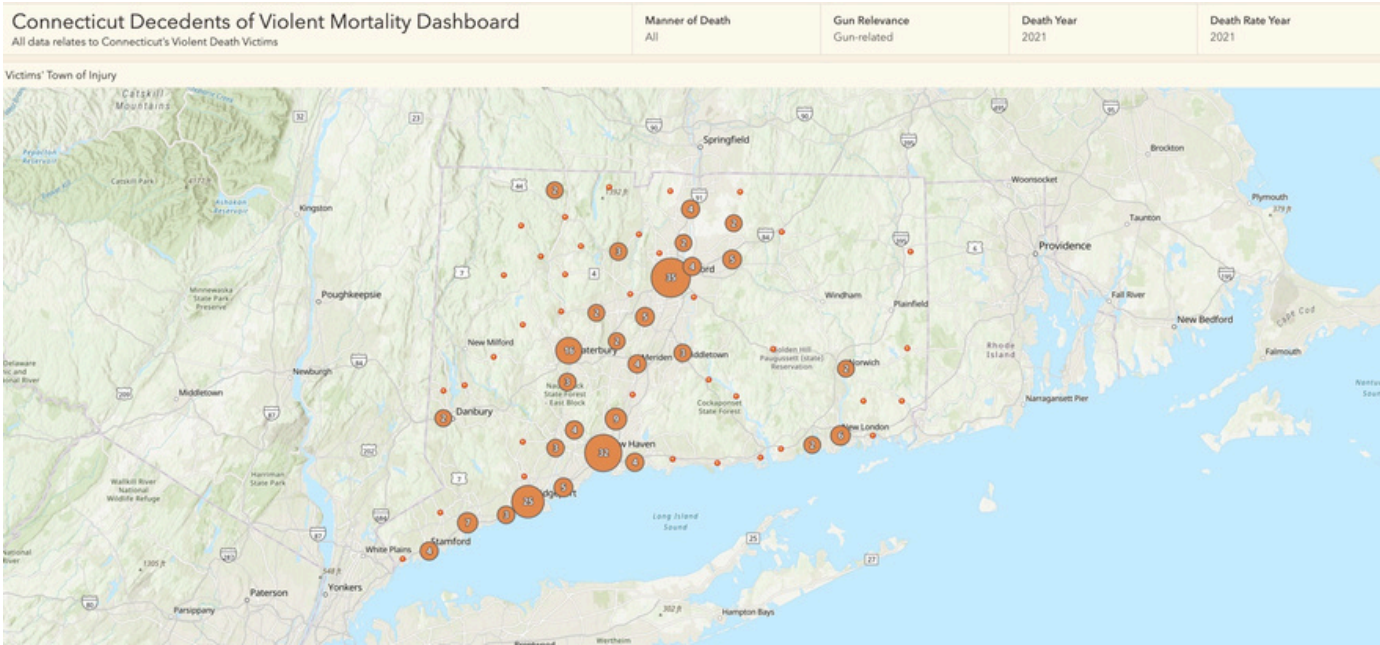


Figure 6: Gun Death Count by Year and Quarter

Figure 6 shows the death count of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by quarter. In Q1, there were 51 deaths; in Q2 there were 67 deaths; in Q3 there were 66 deaths; in Q4 there were 47 deaths.



Figure 7: Gun Death Count by Town of Residence

Figure 7 shows the death count of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of residence. Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Hamden, and Waterbury had the highest counts of gun death.

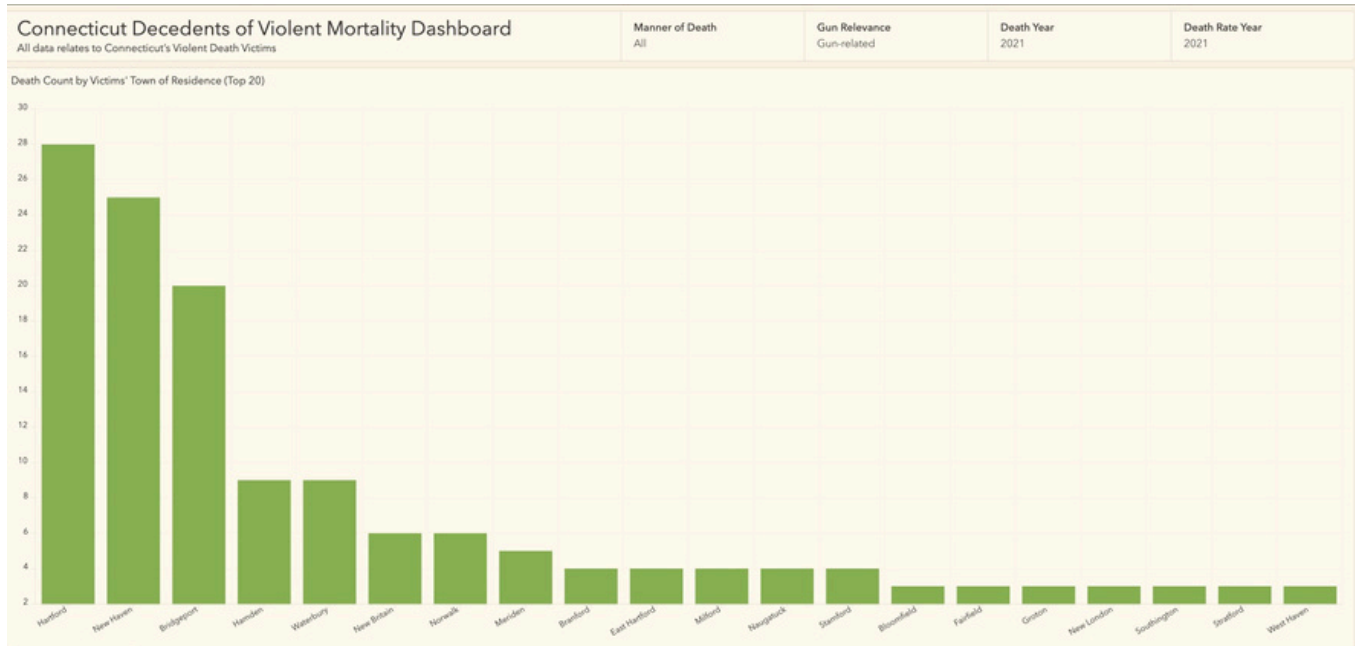


Figure 8: Gun Death Count by Town of Injury

Figure 9 shows the death count of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of injury. Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Waterbury, and Norwalk had the highest counts of gun death.

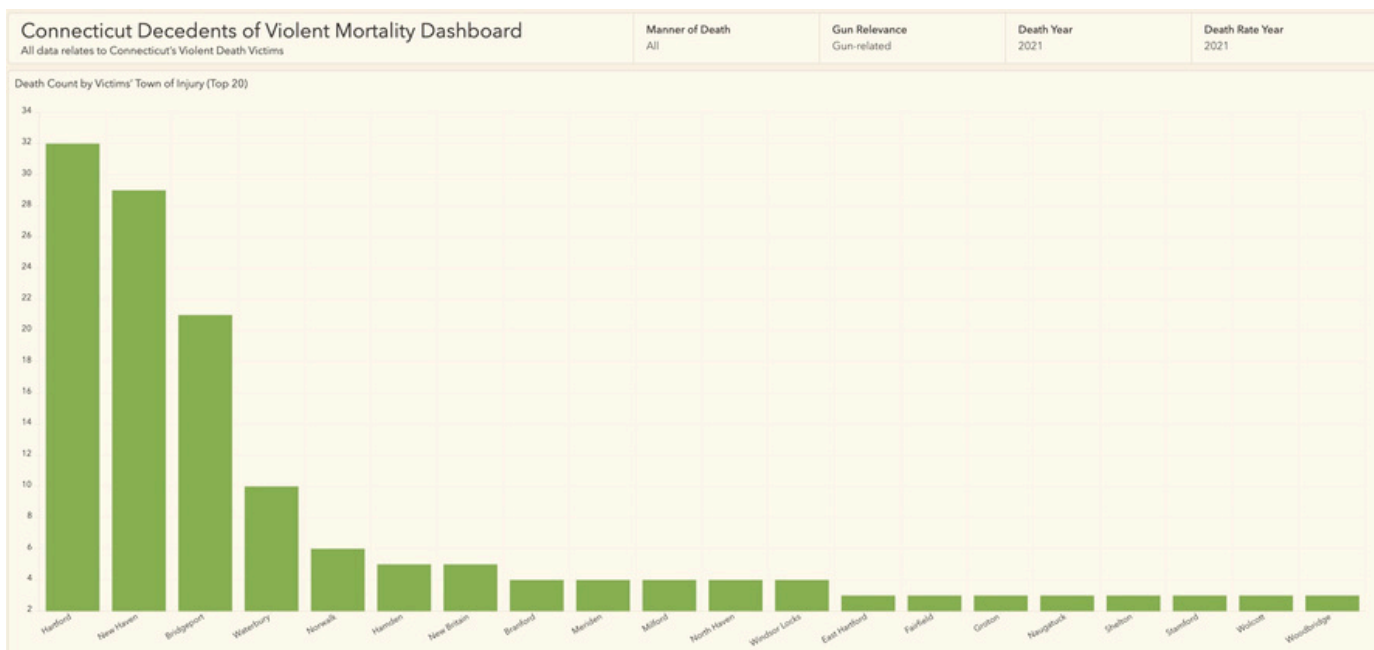


Figure 9: Gun Death Count by Sex

Figure 9 shows the proportion of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' sex. Males accounted for 89.61% of all manner of gun deaths, while females accounted for 10.39%.

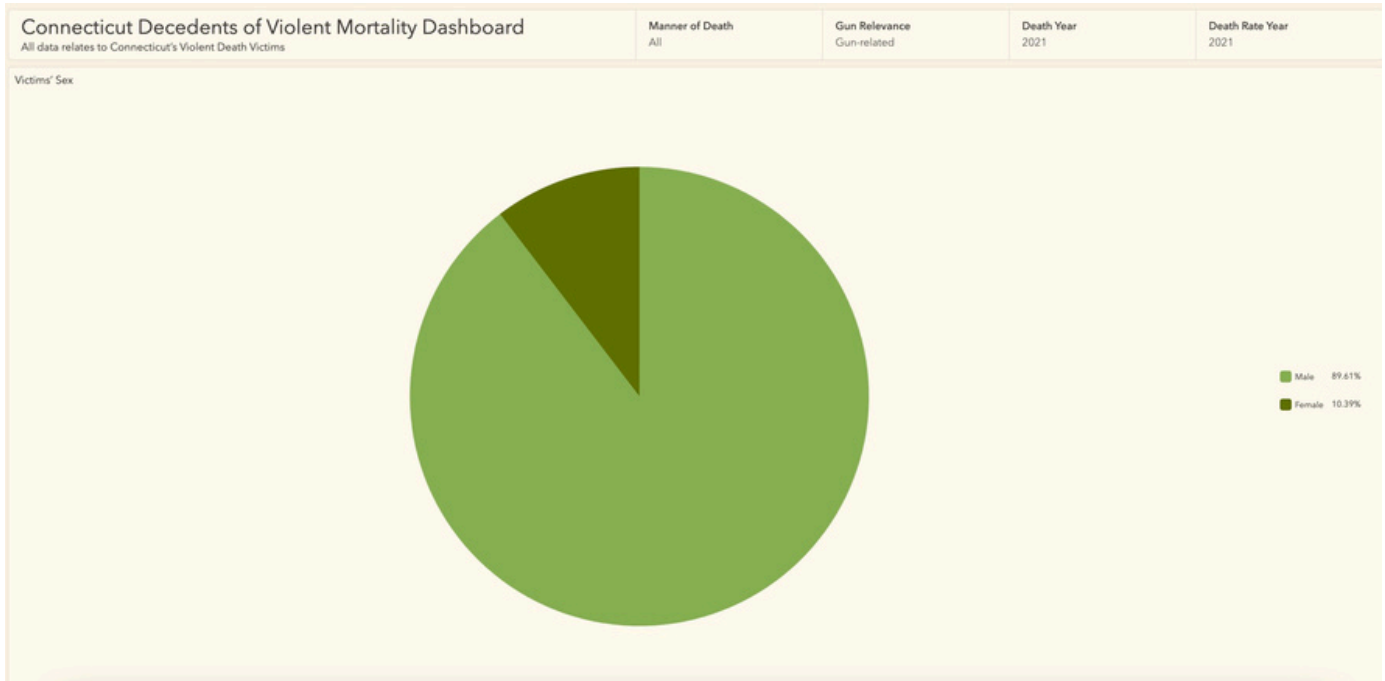


Figure 10: Gun Death Count by Race

Figure 10 shows the proportion of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' race. Individuals identified as White accounted for 48.05% of gun deaths, while those identified as Black accounted for 35.06%.

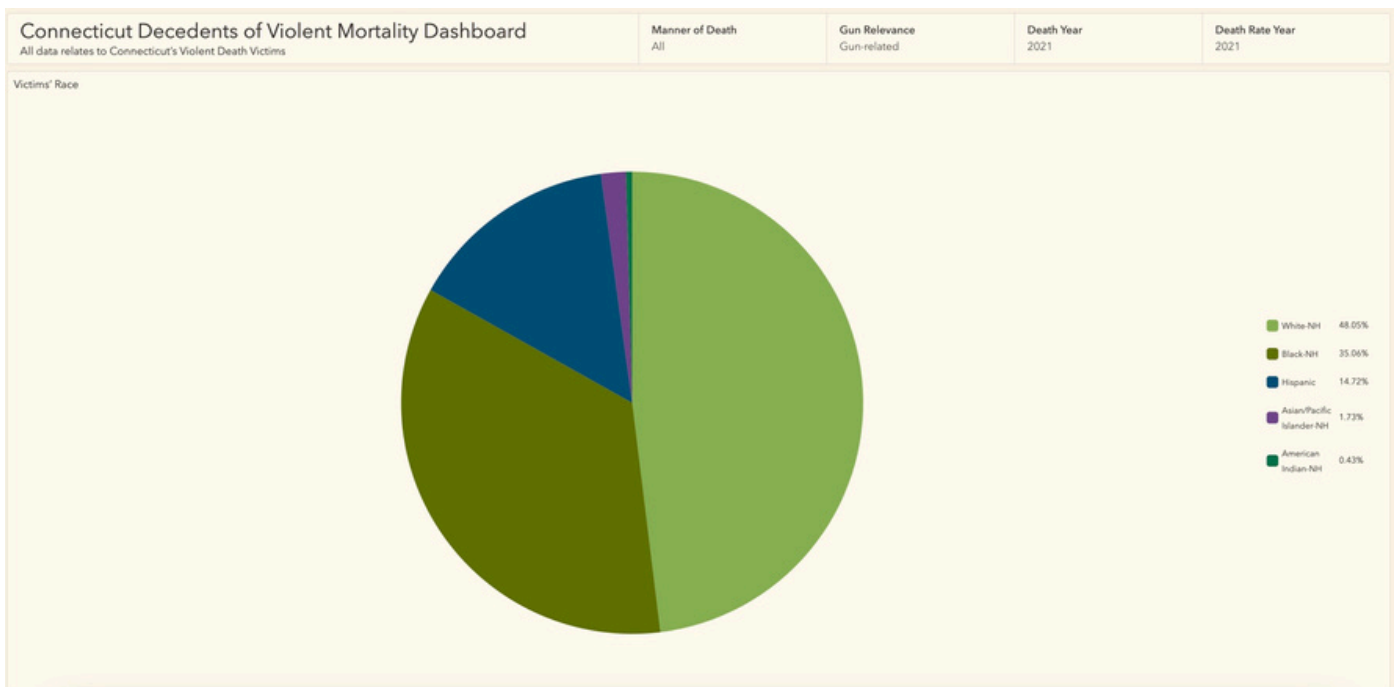


Figure 11: Gun Death Count by Veteran Status

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Figure 11 shows the proportion of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' veteran status. Non-veterans accounted for 86.58% of gun deaths.

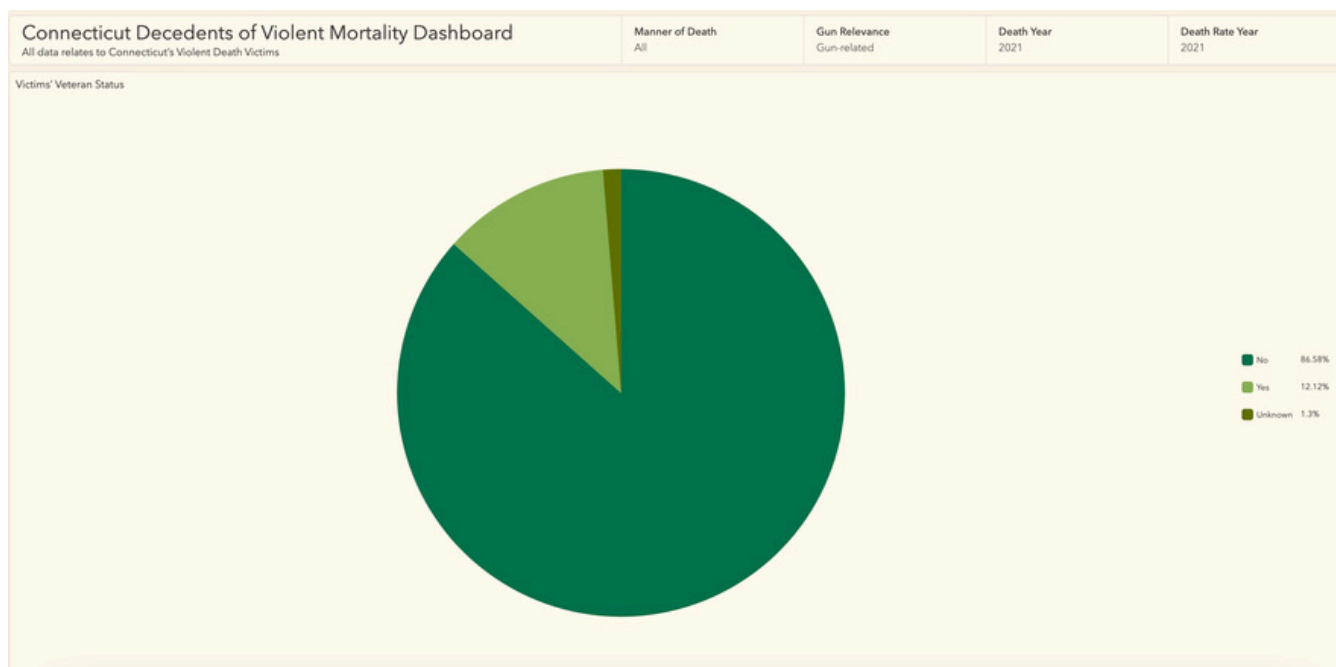


Figure 12: Gun Death Count by Marital Status

Figure 12 shows the proportion of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' marital status. Individuals who never married accounted for the highest number of gun deaths, at 60.43%.

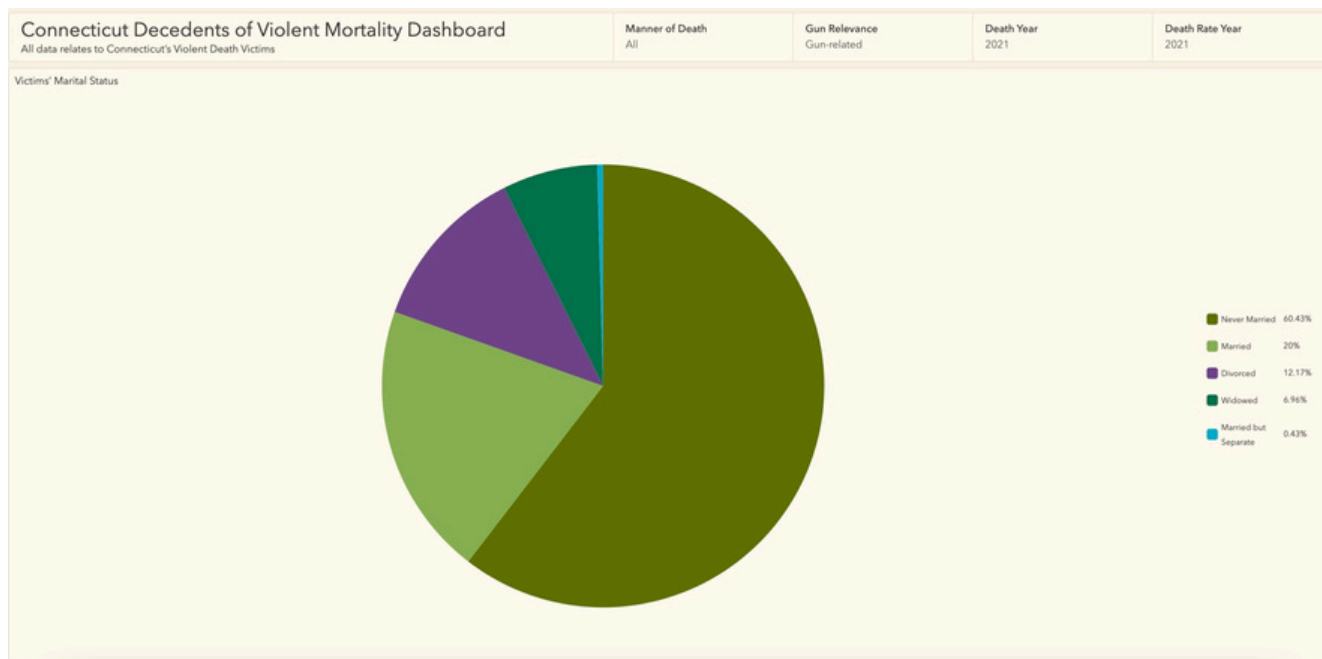


Figure 13: Gun Death Count by Education

Figure 13 shows the proportion of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' educational background. High school graduates accounted for the highest number of gun deaths, at 53.71%.

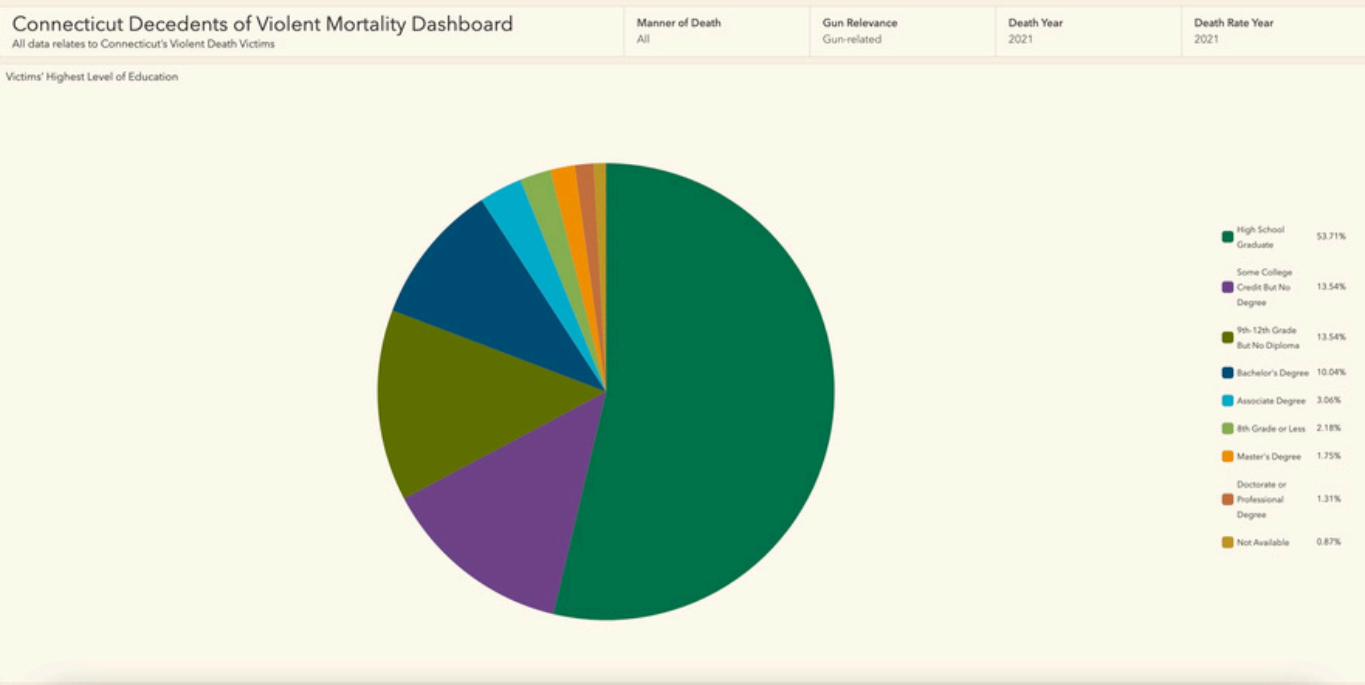


Figure 14: Gun Death Count by Place of Death

Figure 14 shows the proportion of all manner of gun deaths in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' place of death. Of those shot by a gun, 39.39% died in a hospital, 37.66% died at home, and 22.94% died in other places.

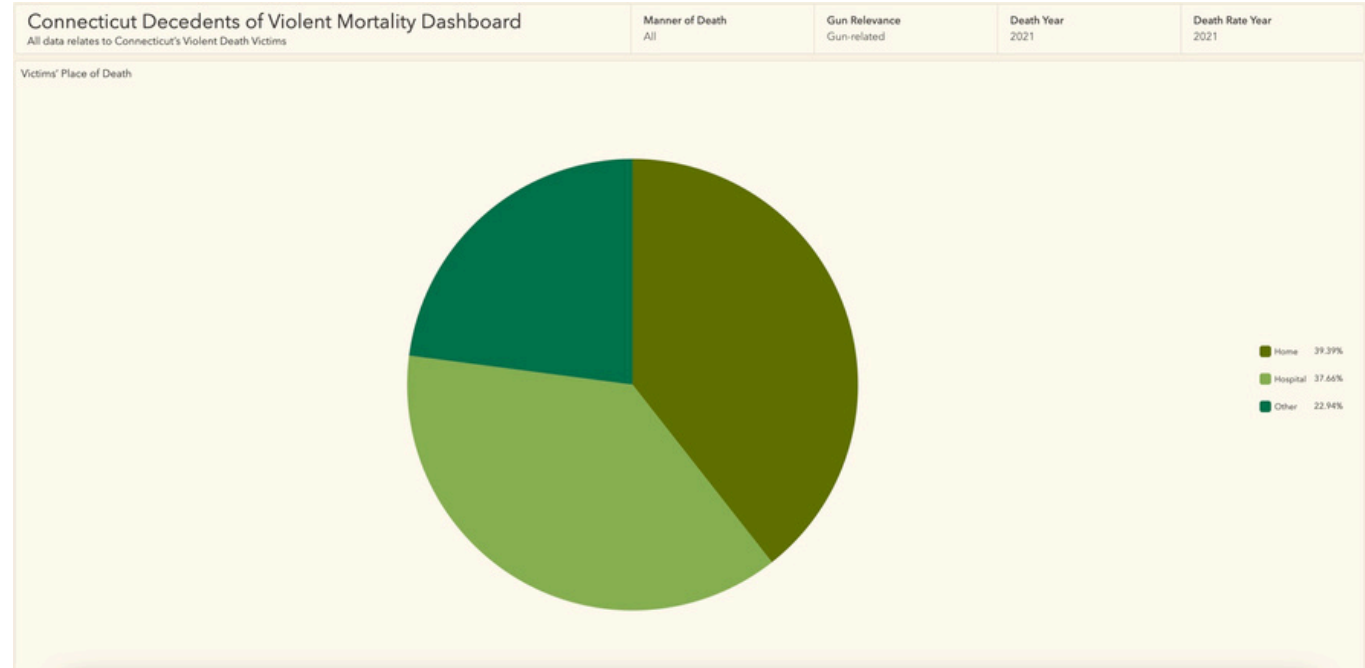


Figure 15: Gun Homicide

Figure 15 shows the death count of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims’ town of injury. Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury, and Bridgeport had the highest counts of gun homicide.

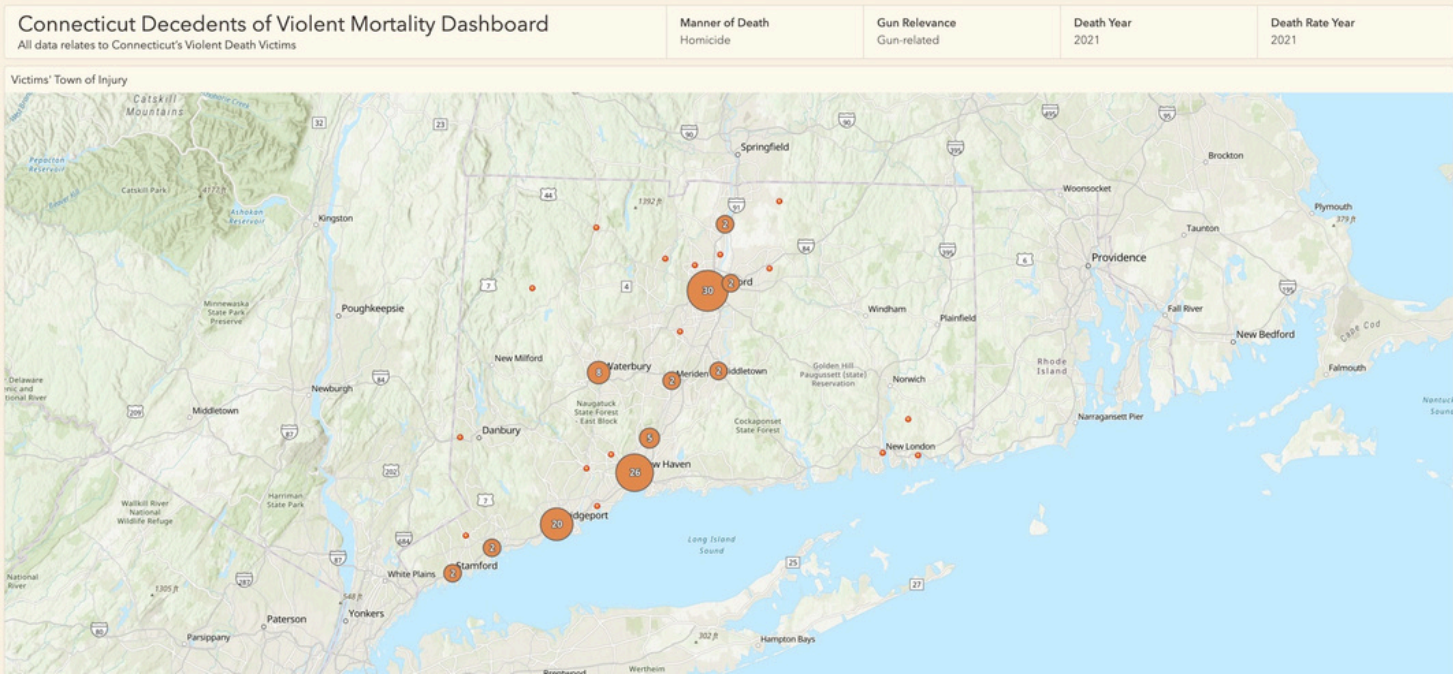


Figure 16: Gun Homicide Count by Year and Quarter

Figure 16 shows the death count of all manner of gun homicides in Connecticut in by quarter. For the year 2021, in Q1, there were 22 deaths; in Q2 there were 39 deaths; in Q3 there were 31 deaths; in Q4 there were 22 deaths.



Figure 17: Gun Homicide by Town of Residence

Figure 17 shows the death count of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of residence. Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Hamden, and Waterbury, had the highest counts of gun homicide.

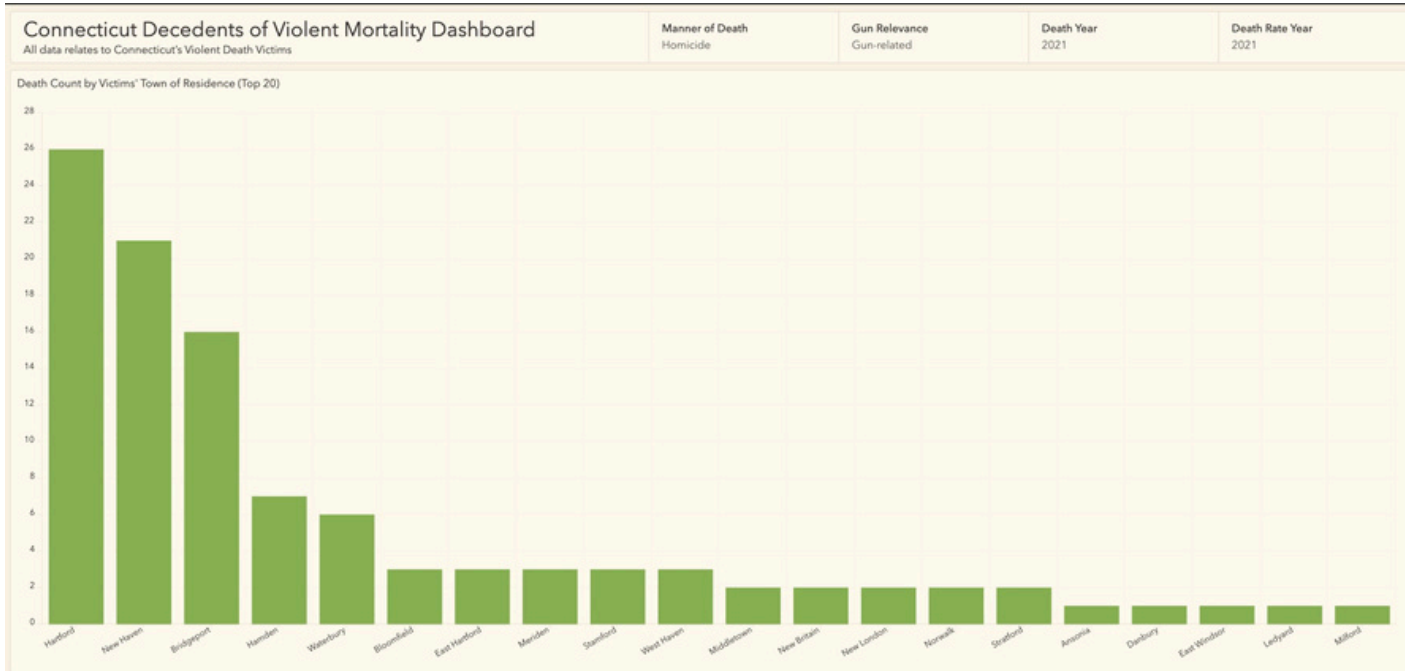


Figure 18: Gun Homicide by Town of Injury

Figure 18 shows the death count of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of injury. Hartford, New Haven, Waterbury, Bridgeport, and Hamden had the highest counts of gun homicide.

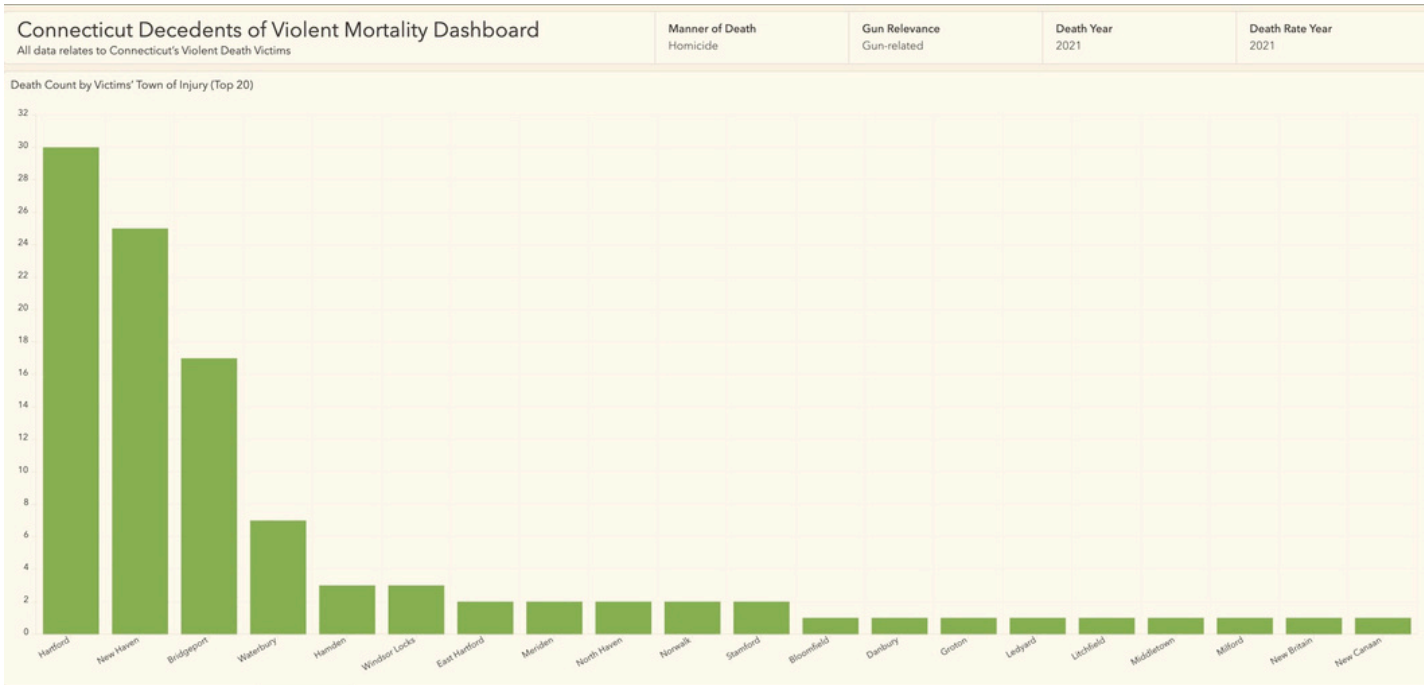


Figure 19: Gun Homicide by Sex

Figure 19 shows the proportion of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' sex. Males accounted for 85.09% of gun homicides.

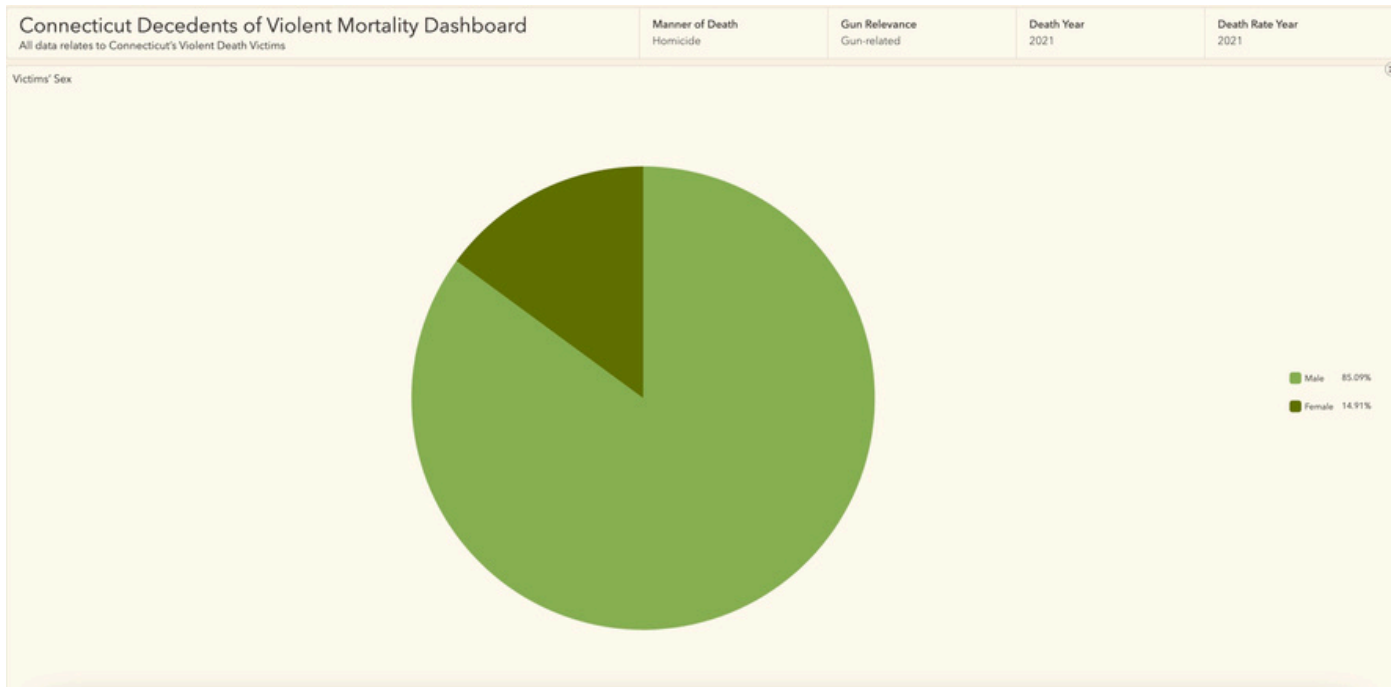


Figure 20: Gun Homicide by Race

Figure 20 shows the proportion of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' race. Decedents identified as Black accounted for 61.4% of homicides.

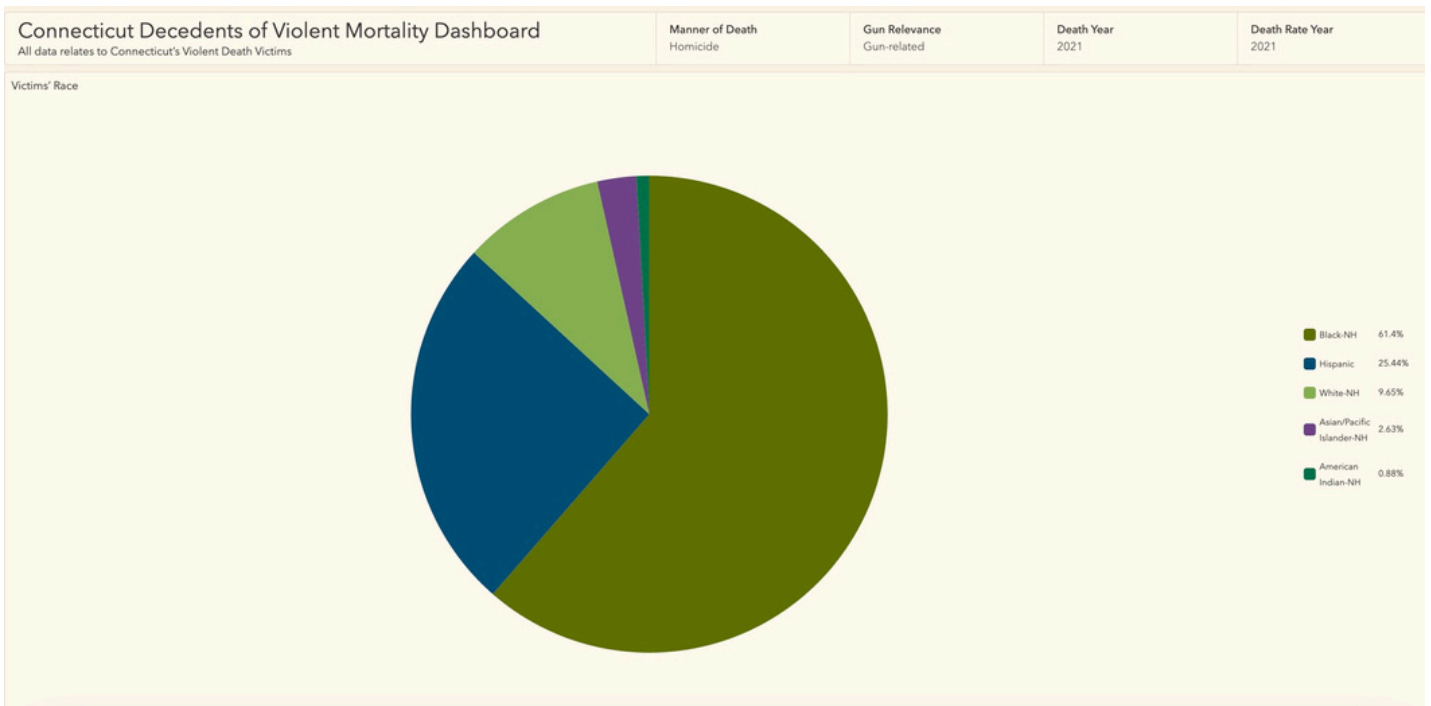


Figure 21: Gun Homicide by Marital Status

Figure 21 shows the proportion of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' marital status. Decedents who never married accounted for 86.84% of gun homicides.

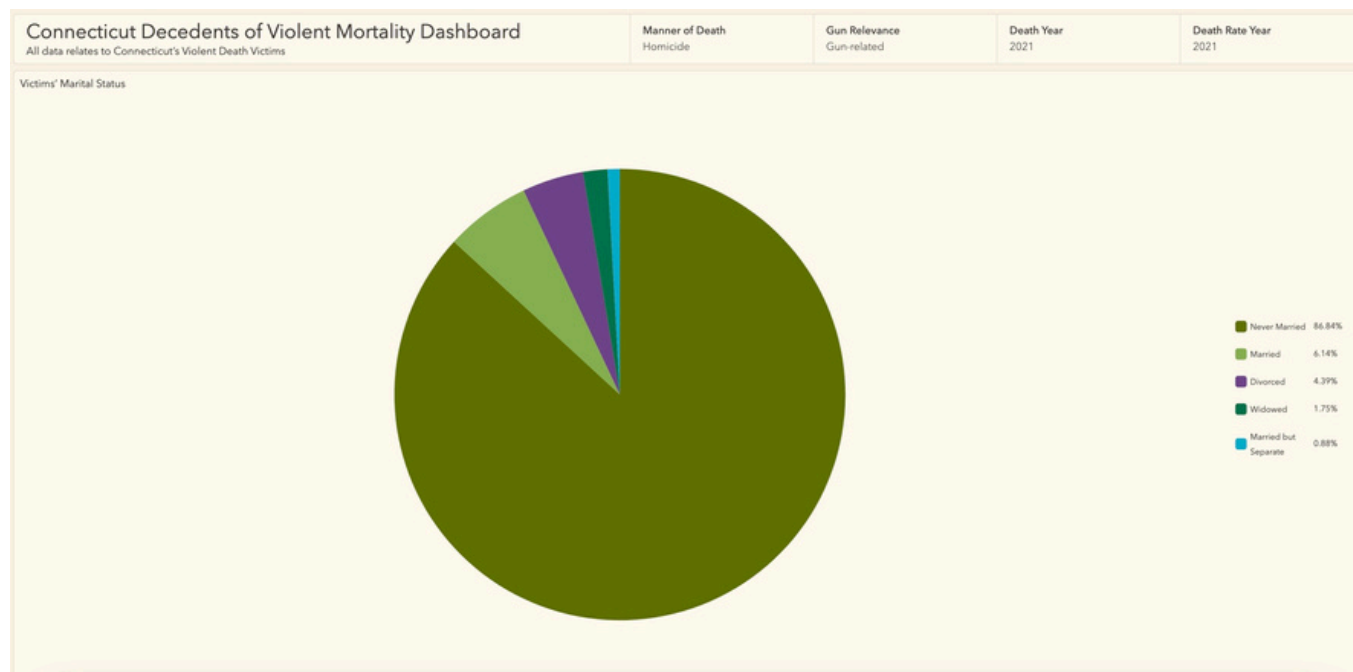


Figure 22: Gun Homicide by Veterans Status

Figure 22 shows the proportion of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' veteran status. Non-veterans accounted for 96.49% of the gun homicides.

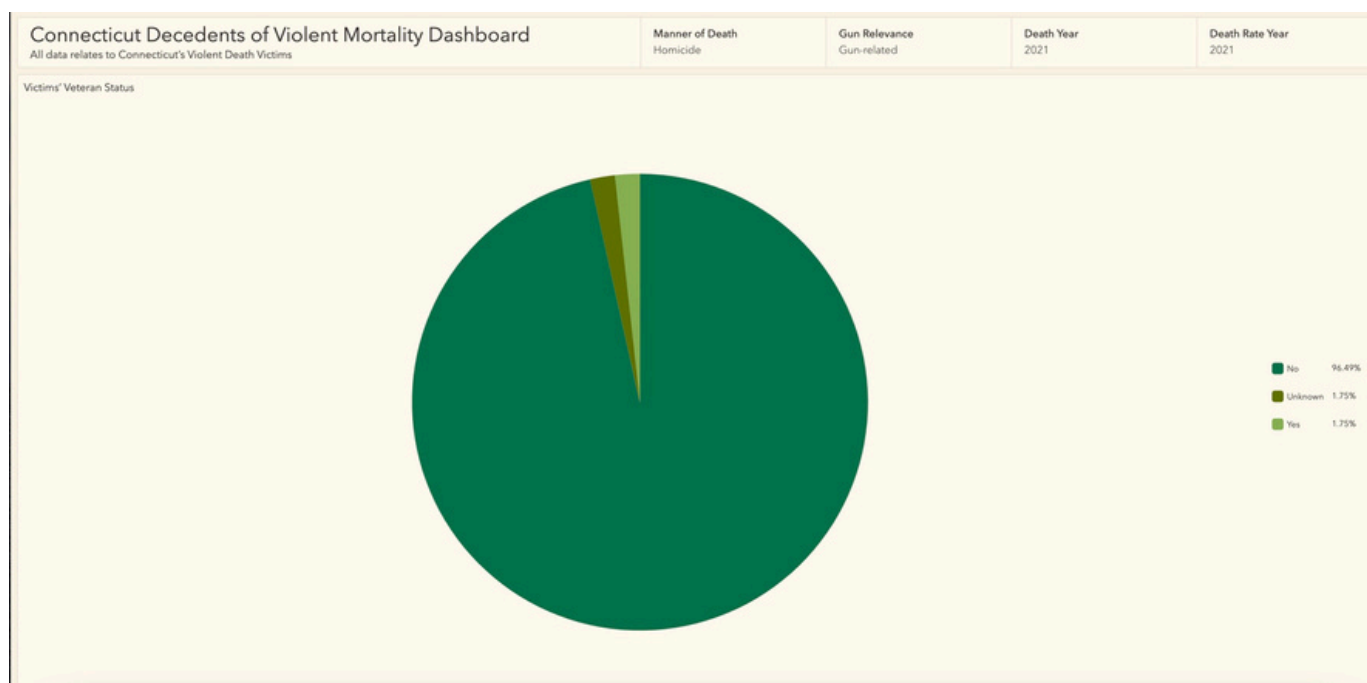


Figure 23: Gun Homicide by Education

Figure 23 shows the proportion of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' education level. High school graduates accounted for the highest count of gun homicides, at 54.87%.

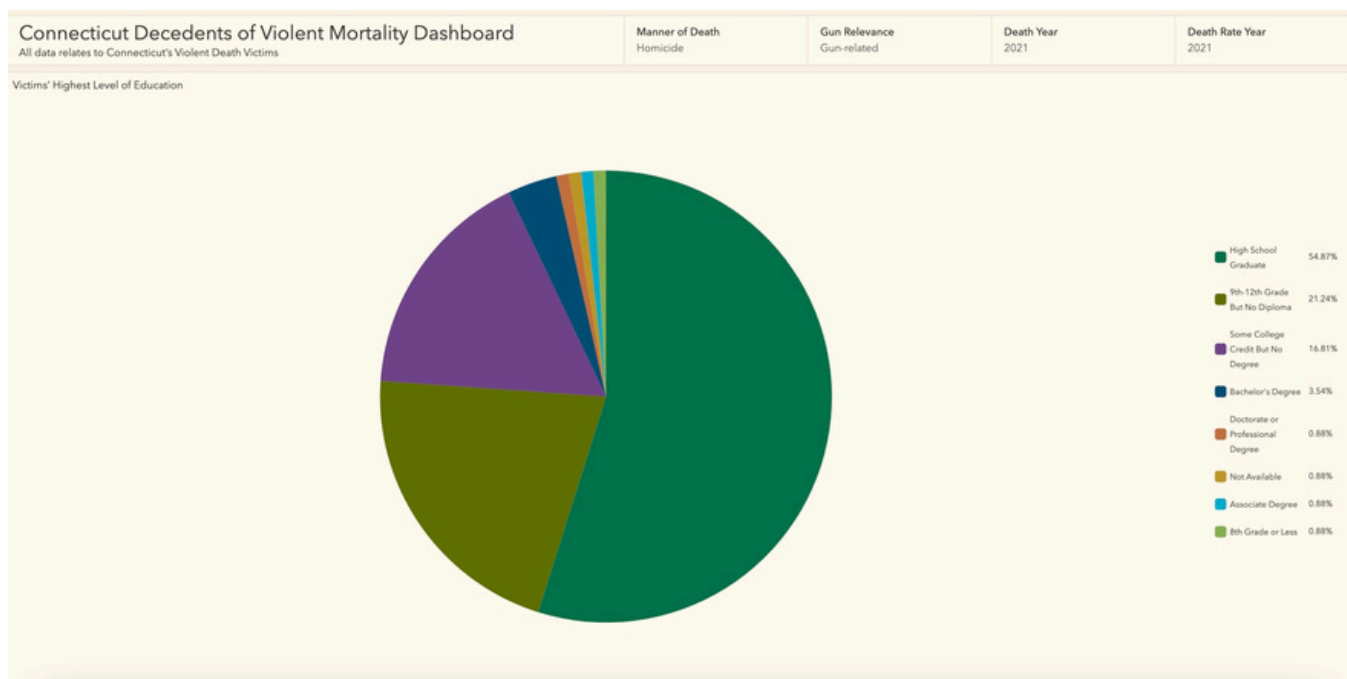


Figure 24: Gun Homicide by Place of Death

Figure 24 shows the proportion of all gun homicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' place of death. Of all gun homicides, 64.04% of decedents died at the hospital.

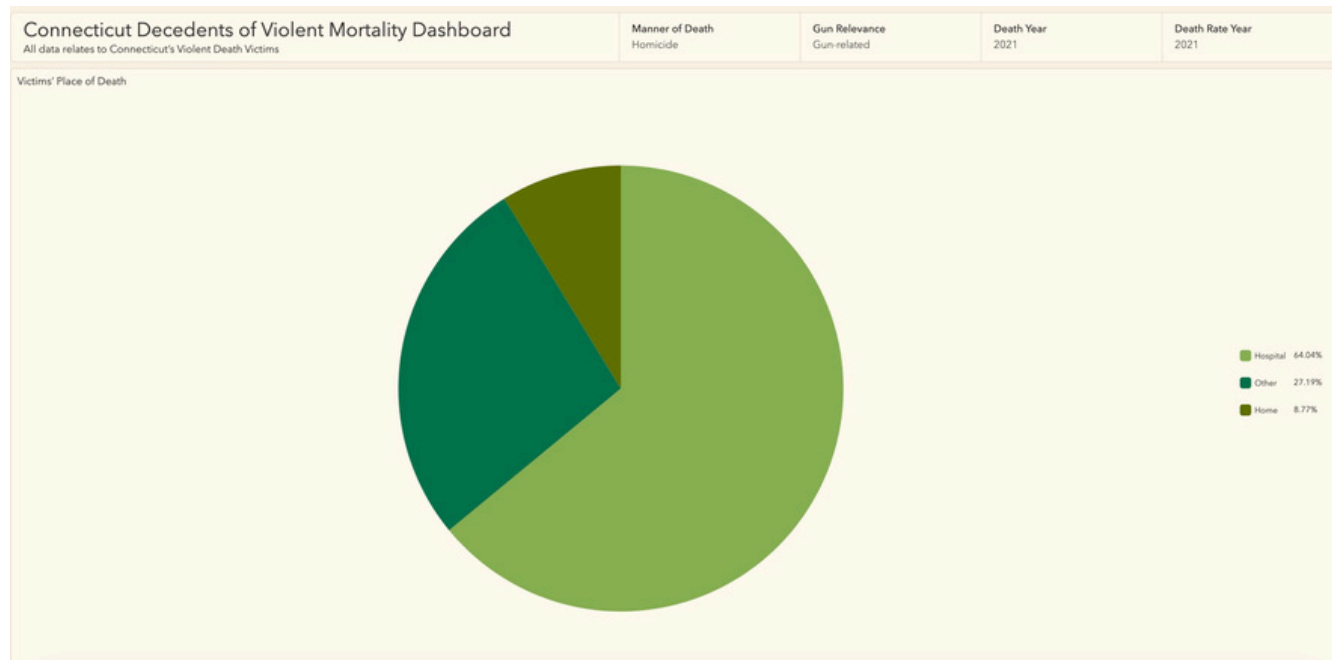


Figure 25: Gun Suicide

Figure 25 shows a mapping of gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of residence. Waterbury and New Haven had the highest rates of gun suicide.

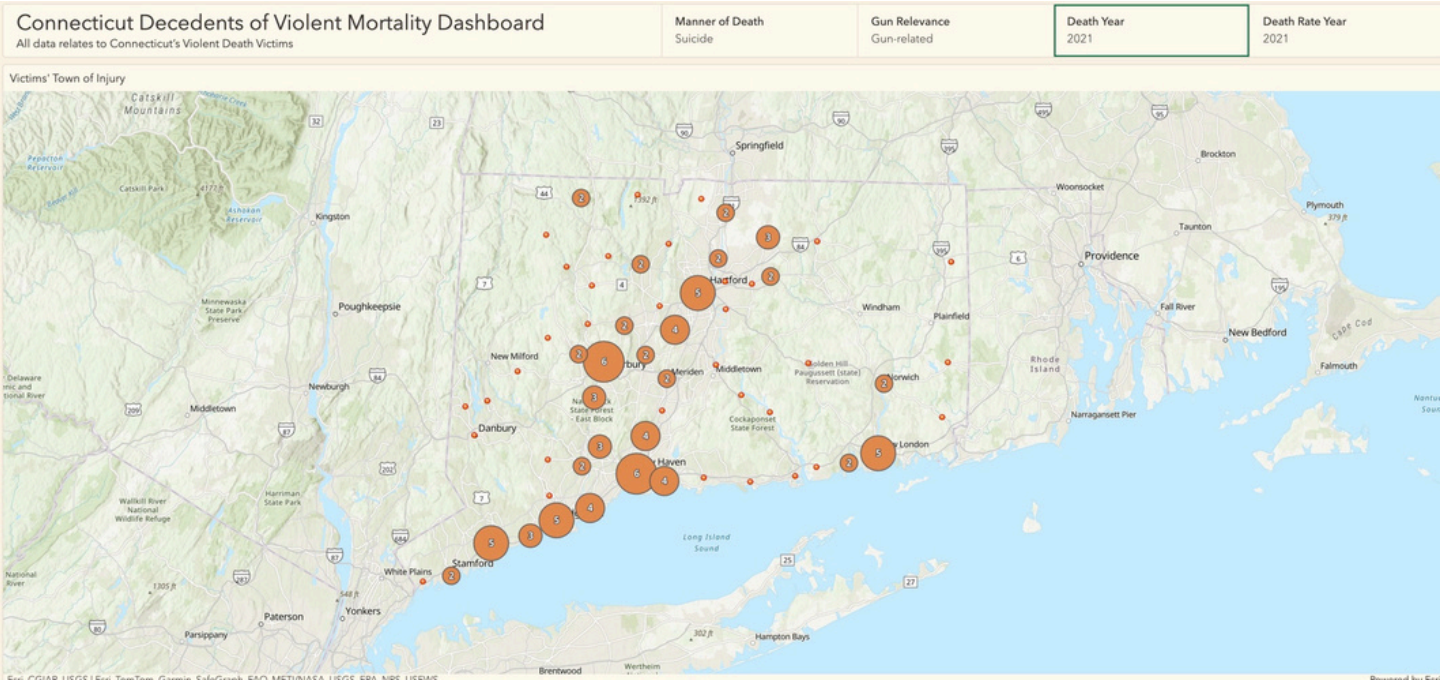


Figure 26: Gun Homicide Count by Year and Quarter

Figure 26 shows the death count of all manner of gun suicides in Connecticut. For the year 2021, in Q1, there were 29 deaths; in Q2 there were 28 deaths; in Q3 there were 35 deaths; in Q4 there were 25 deaths.



Figure 27: Gun Suicide by Town of Residence

Figure 27 shows the death count of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of residence. Branford, Bridgeport, New Britain, New Haven, and Norwalk had the highest counts of suicide.

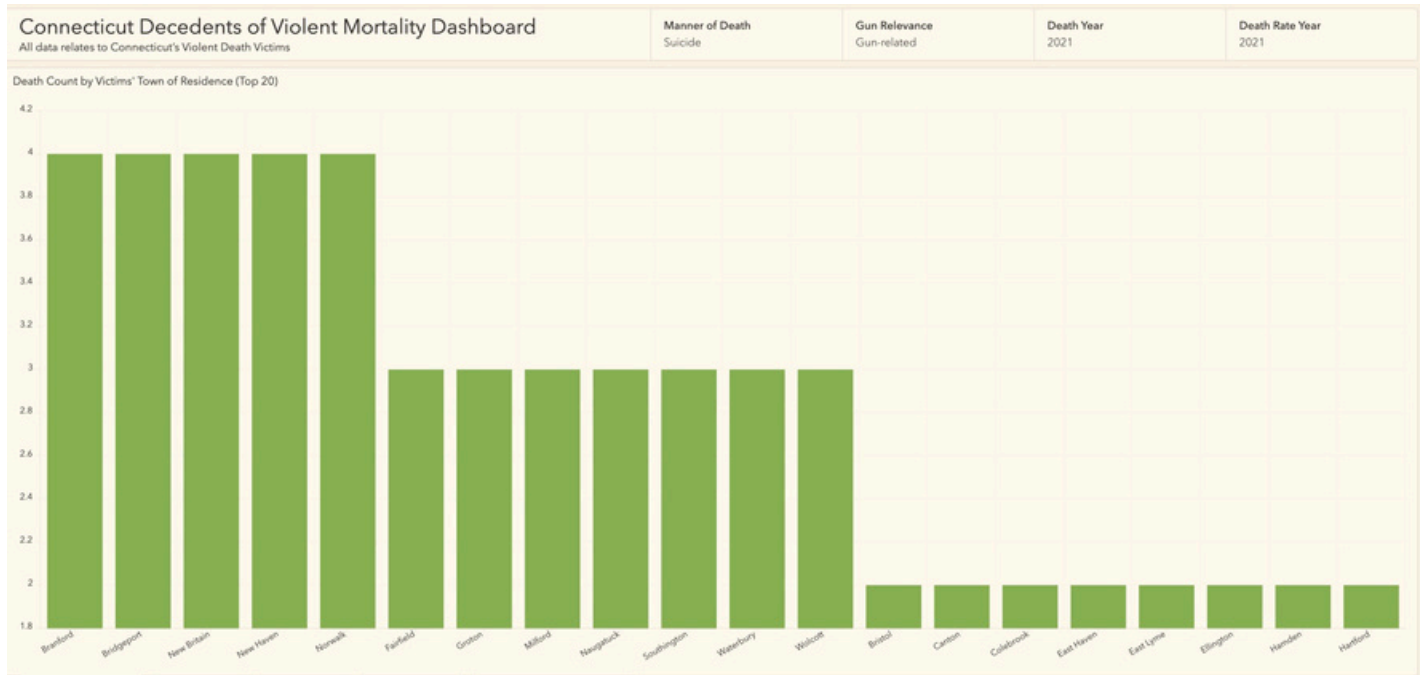


Figure 28: Gun Suicide Count by Town of Injury

Figure 28 shows the death count of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' town of injury. Branford, Bridgeport, New Britain, and New Haven had the highest counts of gun suicide.

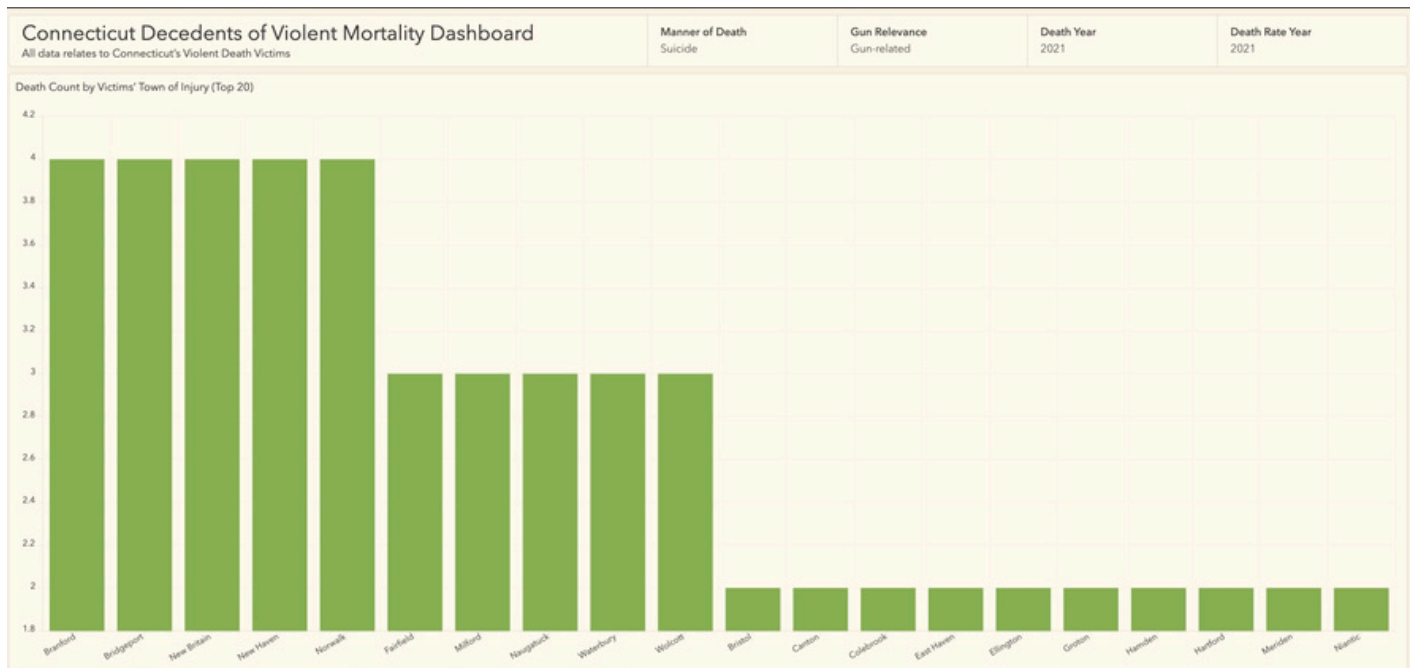


Figure 29: Gun Suicide by Sex

Figure 29 shows the proportion of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' sex. Males accounted for 94.02% of suicides.

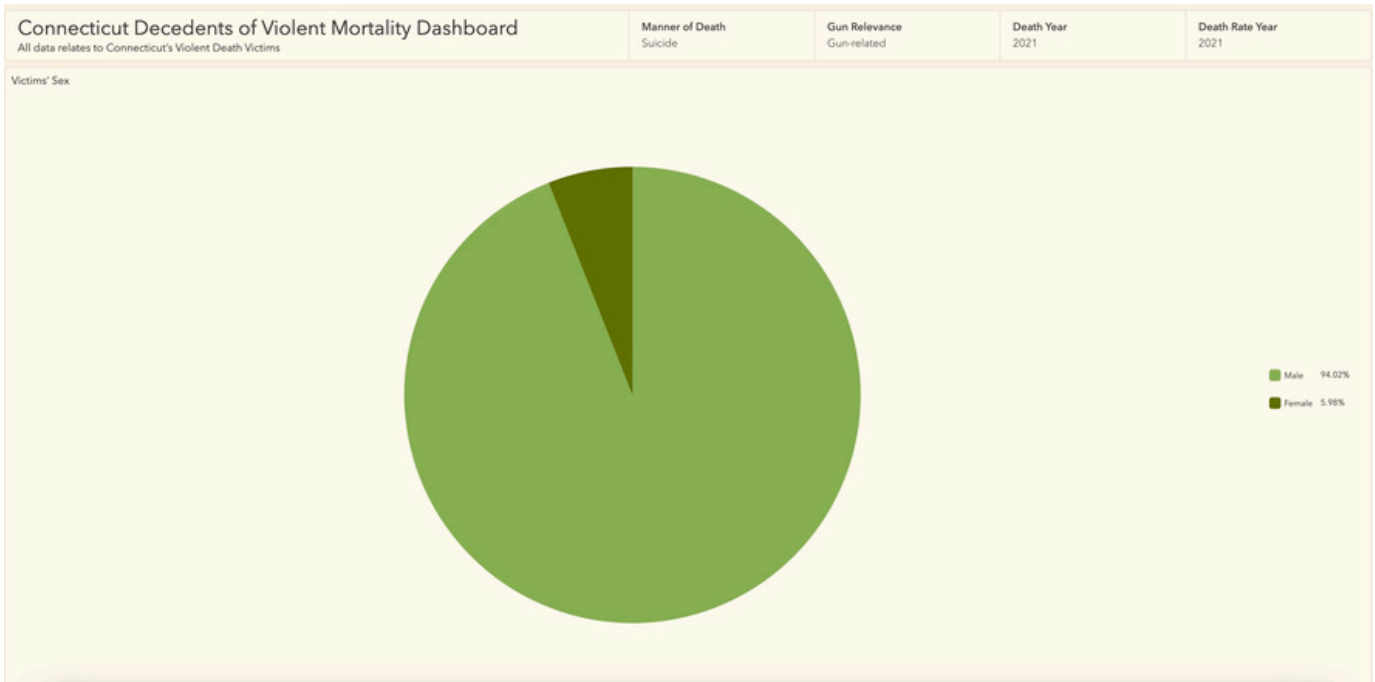


Figure 30: Gun Suicide by Race

Figure 30 shows the proportion of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' race. Decedents identified as White accounted for 85.04% of gun suicides.

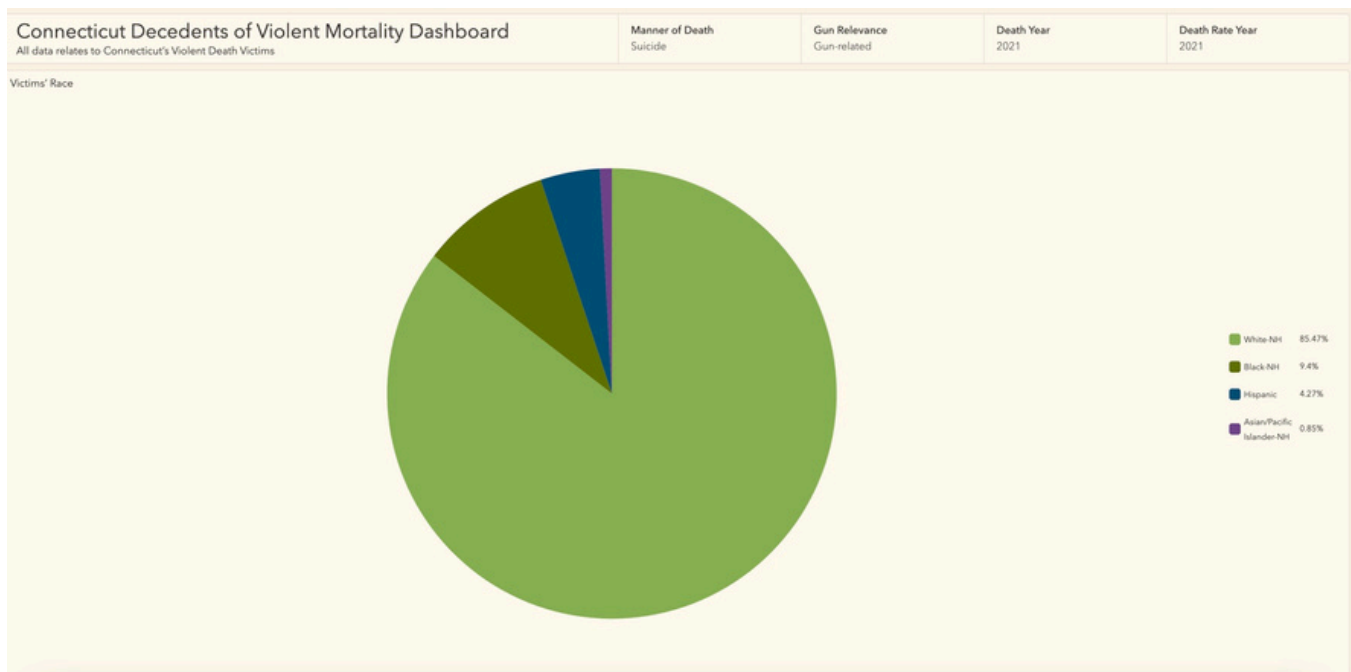


Figure 31: Gun Suicide by Marital Status

Figure 31 shows the proportion of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' marital status. Decedents who never married accounted for the highest percent of gun suicides, at 34.38%.

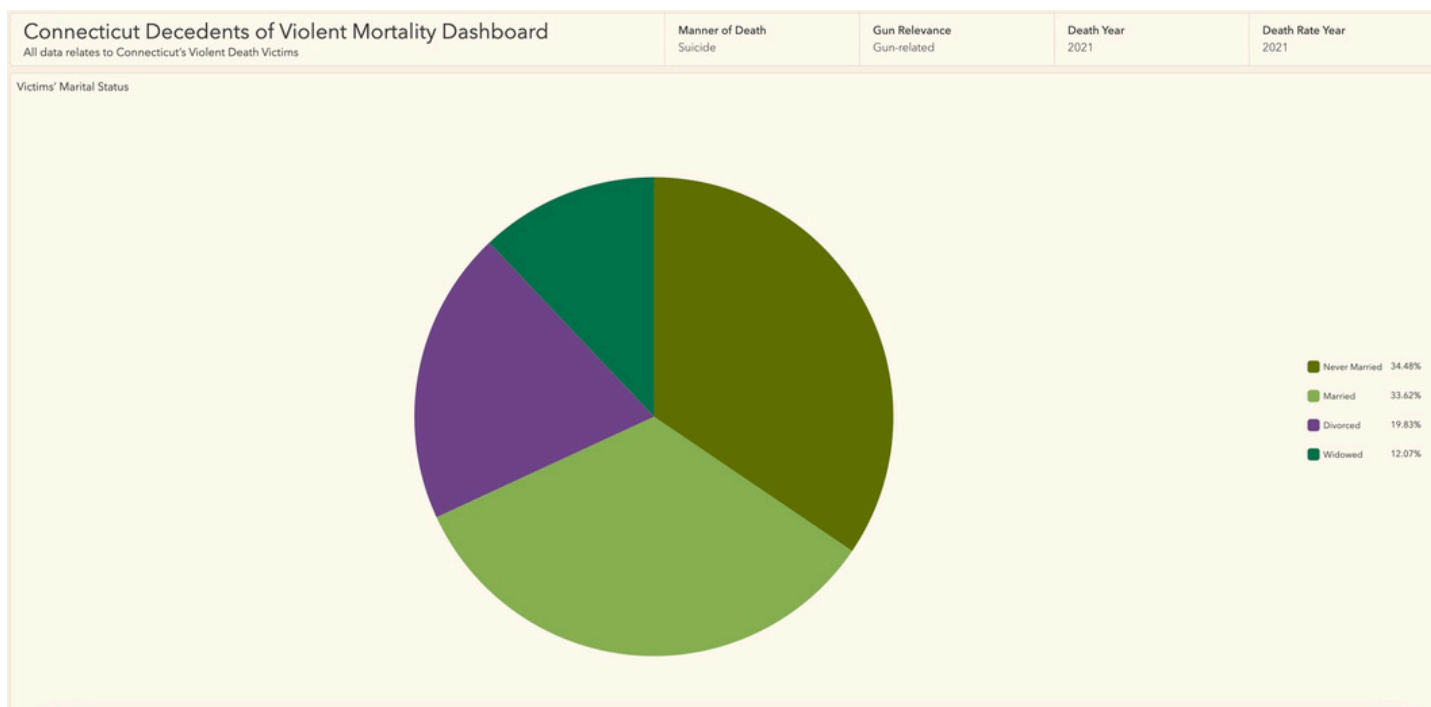


Figure 32: Gun Suicide by Veteran Status

Figure 32 shows the proportion of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' veteran status. Non-veterans accounts for 76.92% of gun suicides.

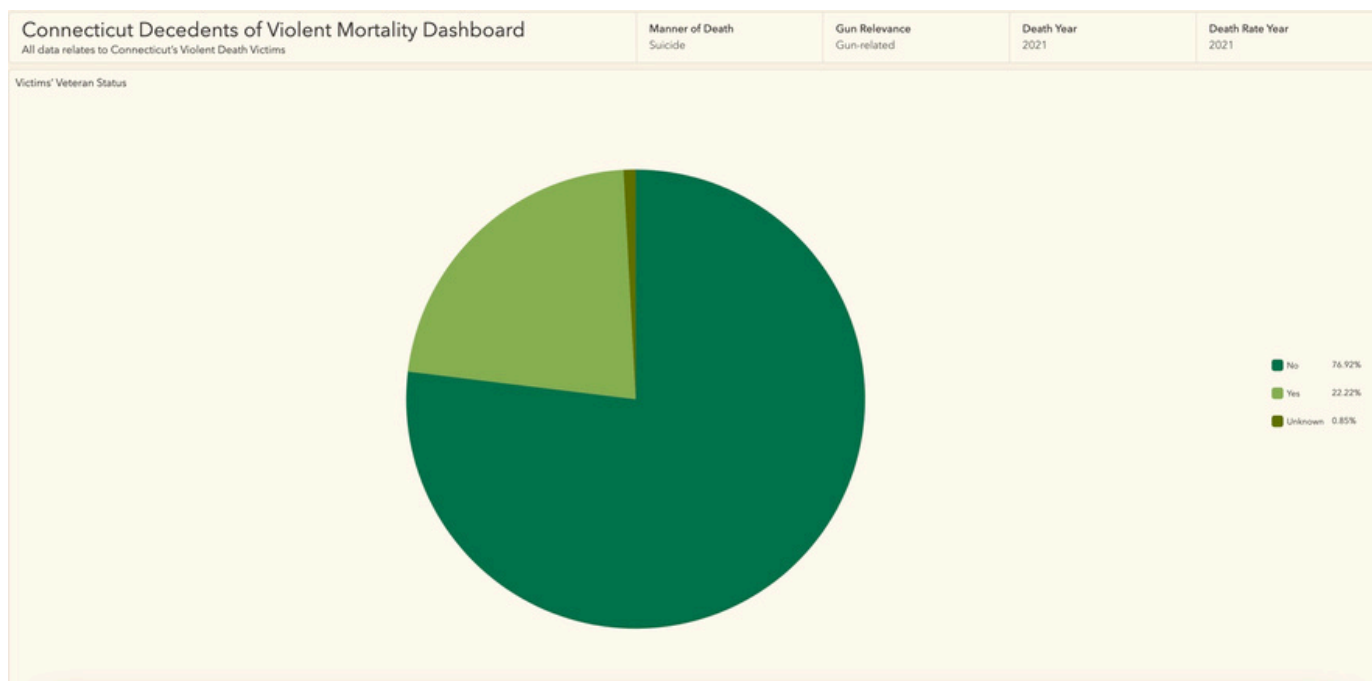


Figure 33: Gun Suicide by Education

Figure 33 shows the proportion of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' education level. High school graduates accounted for approximately half of all gun suicides, at 52.59%.

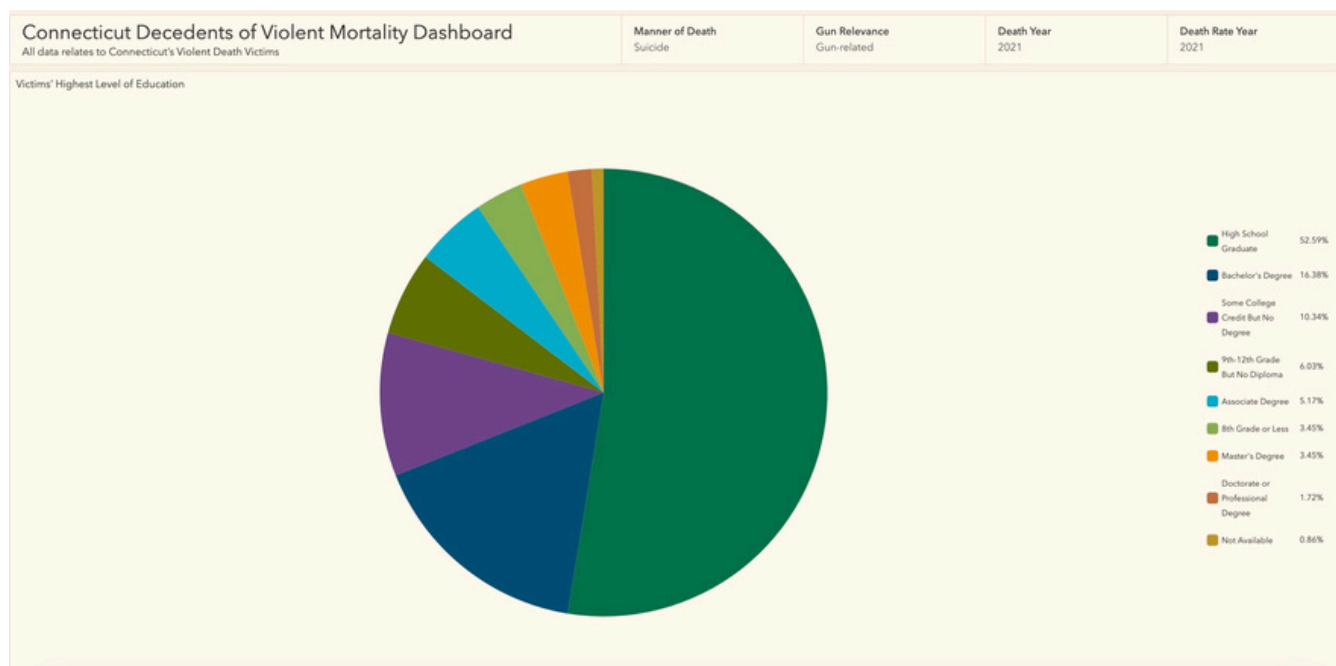


Figure 34: Gun Suicide by Place of Death

Figure 34 shows the proportion of all gun suicides in Connecticut in 2021 by the victims' place of death. Of all gun suicides, 69.23% of decedents died at home.

