

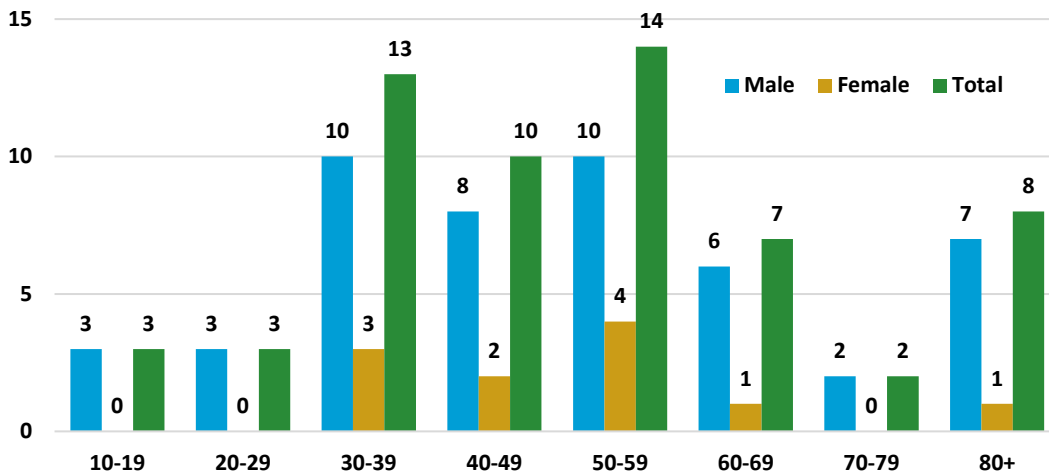
**SUICIDE DEATHS IN CARBON COUNTY, 2018-2020**

**BACKGROUND**

Carbon County, Pennsylvania is a rural county with a 2018-2020 combined population of 193,000 people (96,000 males and 97,000 females). During 2018-2020, Carbon County had 60 suicide deaths (49 males and 11 females) which occurred at a rate of 31.1 suicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, the Carbon County Coroner’s Office, and Carbon County law enforcement to gather detailed information about each violent death. Below are some results of those collaborations. For more information about the PAVDRS program, please call 717-787-5900 or email [RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov](mailto:RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov)

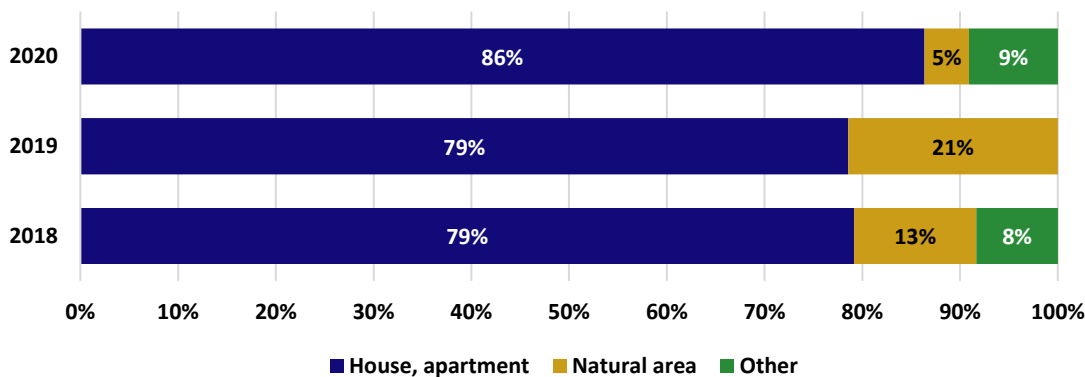
- During 2018-2020, Carbon County averaged almost 2 suicide deaths per month.
- Males in Carbon County were over 4 times more likely to die by suicide than females. Nationally, males die by suicide at a rate of approximately 4 times that of females<sup>1</sup>.
- Overall, suicide rates in Carbon County during this time span were higher than the state average:  
**Carbon County Crude Rates:** 14.5 deaths per 100,000 population (males 50.8 and females 11.4)  
**Pennsylvania Rates:** 14.6 deaths per 100,000 population (males 23.5 and females 5.9)<sup>1</sup>

**Sex-specific Suicide Counts by Age:**



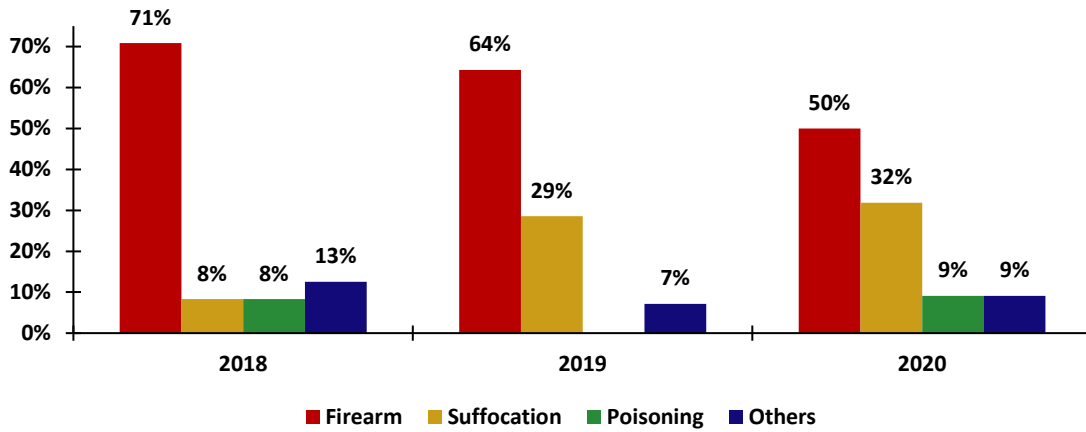
- During 2018-2020, males ages 30-59 and 50-59 had the highest number of suicide deaths.

**Location of Suicide Victims:**



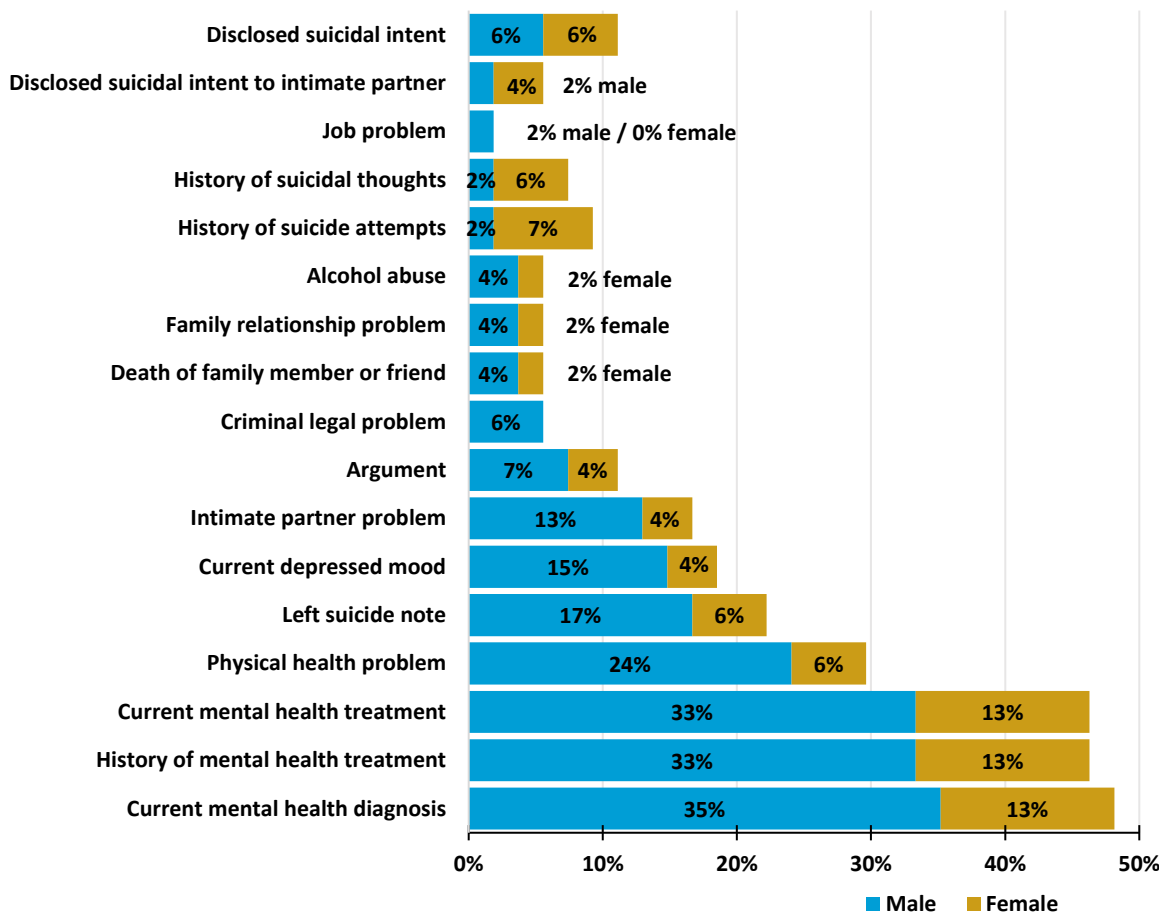
- Seven suicide victims were discovered in natural locations, such as wooded areas, during 2018-2020.

**Leading Cause of Suicide Deaths:**



- Suicides by firearm trended downward while suicides by suffocation and hanging, trended upward over the 3-year period.

**Most Common Precipitating Circumstances:**



- Twelve percent of suicide victims disclosed suicidal intent in the month before their death.
- Forty-six percent of suicide victims received mental health or substance abuse treatment in the two months before their death.
- Forty-eight percent of all suicide victims had a diagnosed mental health problem at the time of death.

**Notes:** The denominator for Most Common Precipitating Circumstances is the sum of CME and LE records that have information about the circumstances associated with the violent death. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, WISQARS, Fatal Injury Reports, National, Regional and State: <https://wisqars.cdc.gov/fatal-reports>