

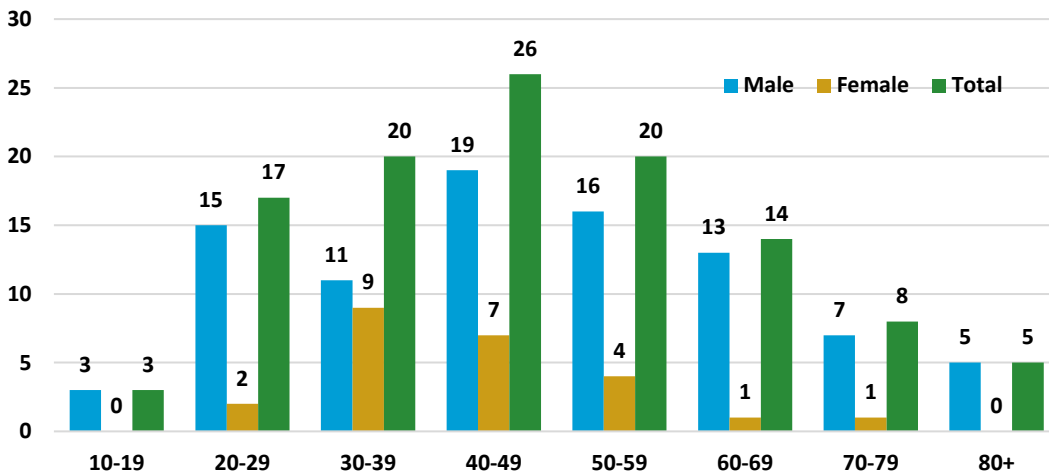
SUICIDE DEATHS IN LACKAWANNA COUNTY, 2018-2020

BACKGROUND

Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania is an urban county with a 2018-2020 combined population of 636,000 people (310,000 males and 326,000 females). During 2018-2020, Lackawanna County had 113 suicide deaths (89 males and 24 females) which occurred at a rate of 17.8 suicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, the Lackawanna County Coroner’s Office, and Lackawanna 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

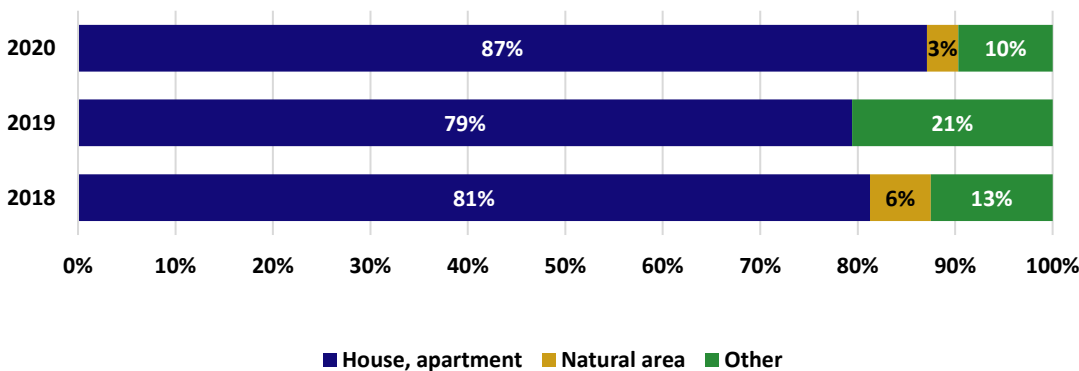
- During 2018-2020, Lackawanna County averaged almost 3 suicide deaths per month.
- Males in Lackawanna County were almost 4 times more likely to die by suicide than females. Nationally, males die by suicide at a rate of approximately 4 times that of females¹.
- Overall, suicide rates in Lackawanna County during this time span were higher than the state average:
Lackawanna County Crude Rates: 17.8 deaths per 100,000 population (males 28.7 and females 7.4)
Pennsylvania Rates: 14.6 deaths per 100,000 population (males 23.5 and females 5.9)¹

Sex-specific Suicide Counts by Age:



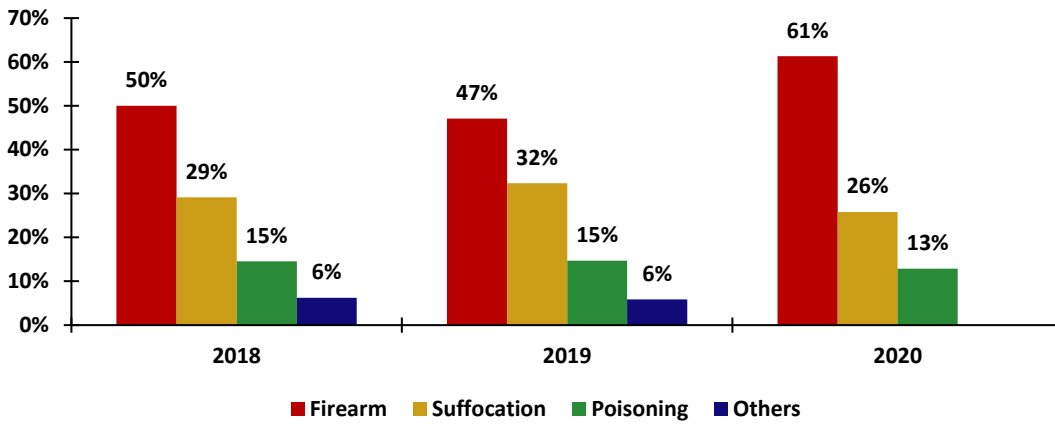
- During 2018-2020, males ages 40-49 had the highest number of suicide deaths.
- Teen victims accounted for 3% of all suicide deaths.

Location of Suicide Victims:



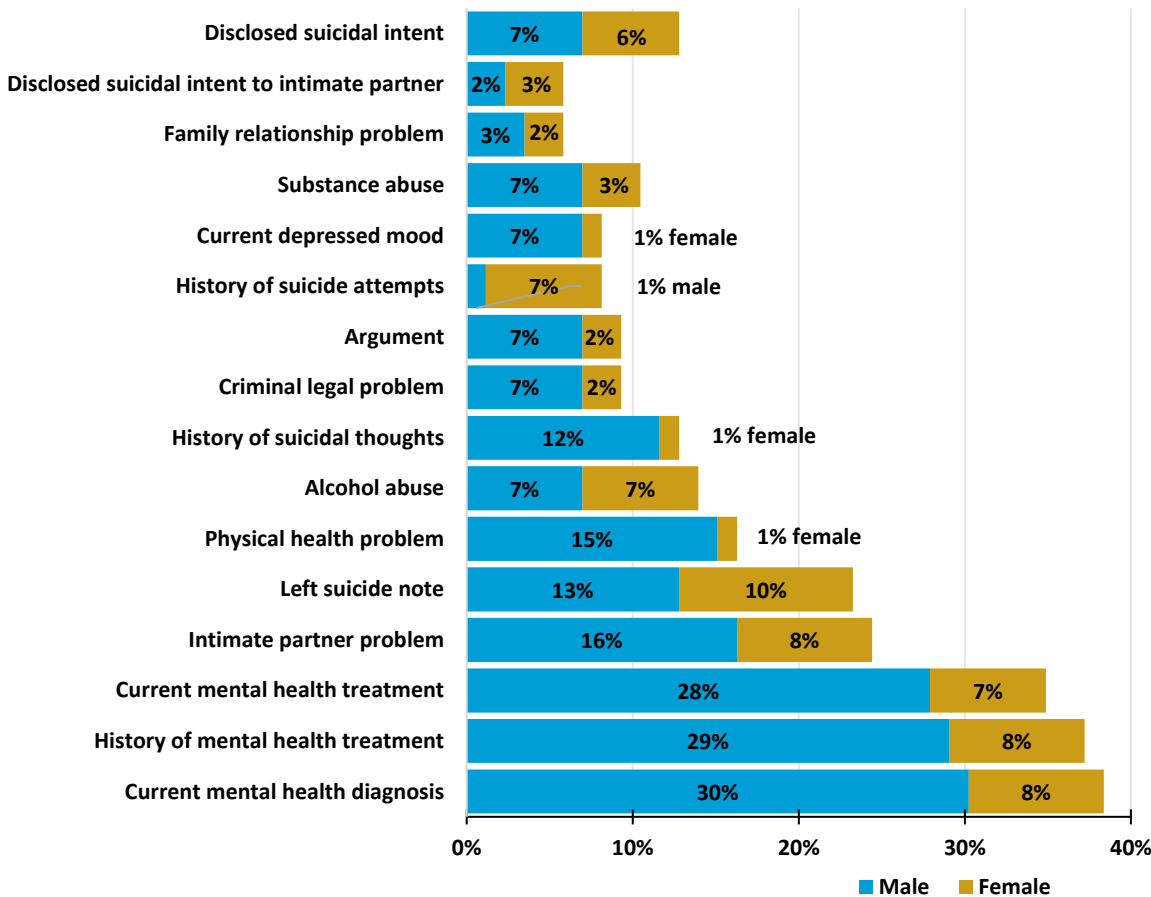
- Approximately 80% of suicides occurred in a house or apartment during 2018-2020.

Leading Cause of Suicide Deaths:



- Suicides by firearm decreased by 3% from 2018-2019 but increased by 14% from 2019-2020.

Most Common Precipitating Circumstances:



- Thirteen percent of suicide victims disclosed suicidal intent in the month before their death.
- Thirty-five percent of suicide victims received mental health or substance abuse treatment in the two months before their death.
- Thirty-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>