

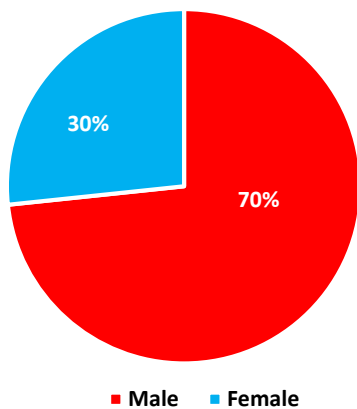
BACKGROUND

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania is an urban county with a population of approximately 1.22 million people (592,000 males and 633,000 females). In 2016, Allegheny County had 187 suicide deaths (131 males and 56 females) at a rate of 15.3 suicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Allegheny County Medical Examiner's Office and Allegheny County law enforcement to gather detailed information about each violent death. Below are some results of that collaboration.

In Allegheny County, approximately 4 suicide deaths occurred every week.

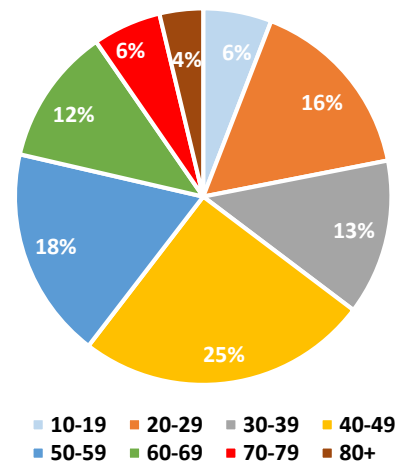
Characteristics of Suicide Victims

Sex of Victims:

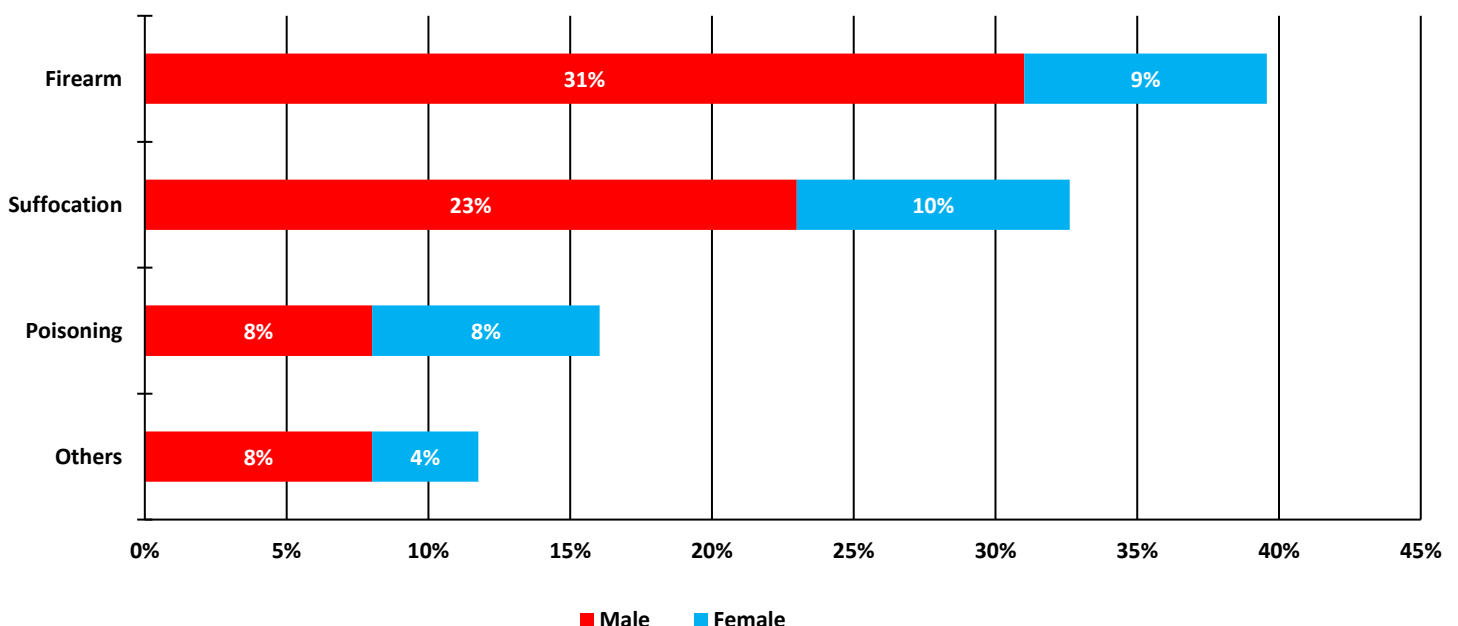


- In Allegheny County, males were two and a half times more likely to die by suicide than females.
- Allegheny residents, ages 40-49 were over two times more likely to die by suicide compared to Pennsylvania residents, ages 40-49.
- Overall, suicide rates in Allegheny County were higher than the state average:
Allegheny Rates: 15.2 deaths per 100,000 residents (Males 22.3 and Females 8.5).
Pennsylvania Rates: 11.0 deaths per 100,000 residents (Males 17.2 and Females 5.1).

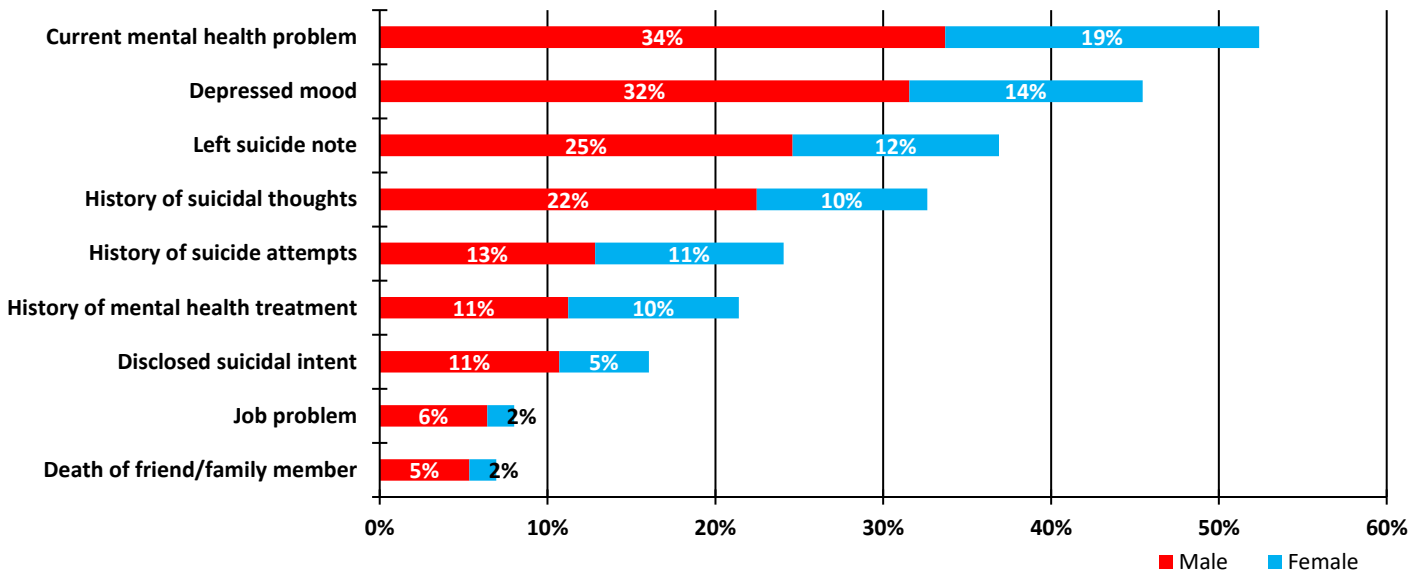
***Age of Victims:**



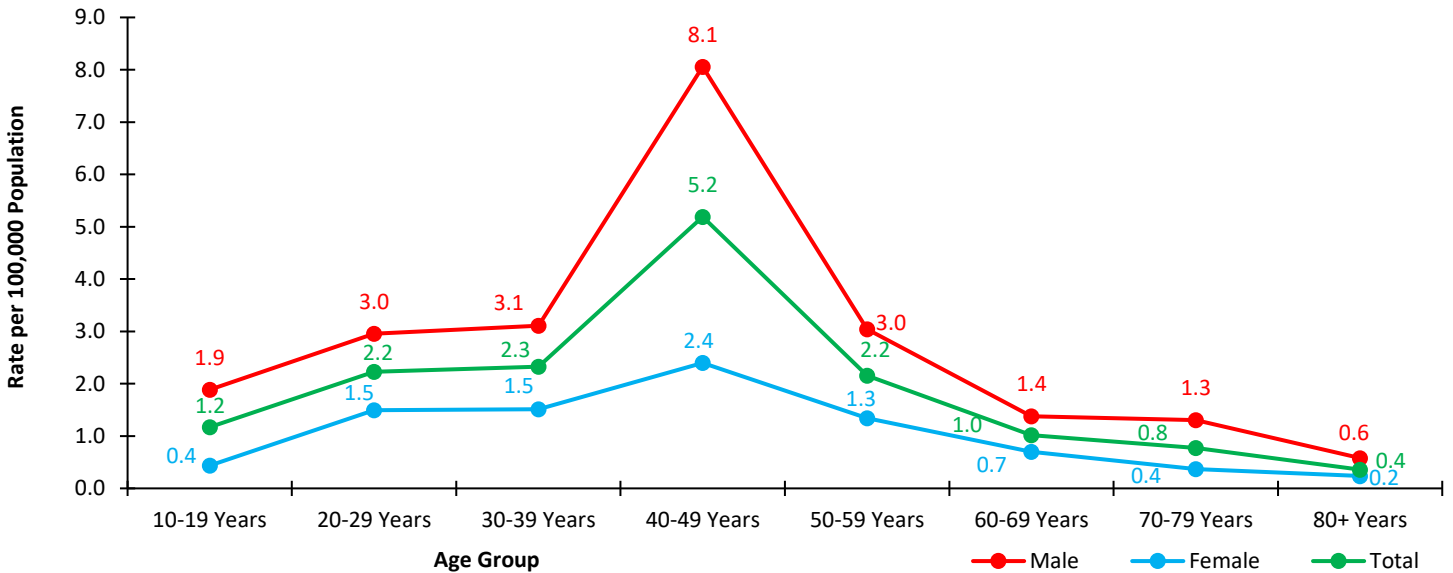
Percentage of All Suicide Deaths due to the Leading Causes by Gender:



Percentage of Suicide Victims Affected by Common Circumstances:



Age-Adjusted Rates:



PAVDRS is a state level surveillance system funded and overseen by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The program is part of the larger National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). There is now a Violent Death Reporting System in each of the 50 states and some U.S. territories. PAVDRS collects data on suicides, homicides, and deaths of undetermined intent. PAVDRS is required to collect data directly from death certificates, coroners/medical examiners, and law enforcement. The goal is to use these three sources to develop the most comprehensive understanding possible of each violent death. PAVDRS tries to understand what was going on in the victim’s life leading up to their death. PAVDRS/NVDRS data is used for research, policy-making, and ultimately to develop violence prevention programs and strategies that will enhance community safety. For more information about PAVDRS, please call 717-787-5900 or email RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov.

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