

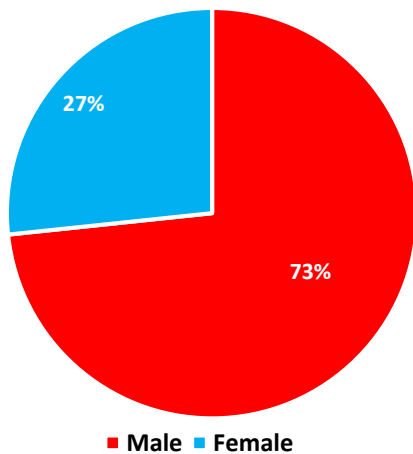
BACKGROUND

Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania is an urban county with a population of approximately 1.57 million people (742,000 males and 825,000 females). In 2016, Philadelphia had 165 suicide deaths (121 males and 44 females) at a rate of 10.5 suicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Philadelphia County Medical Examiner’s Office and the Philadelphia Police Department to gather detailed information about each violent death. Below are some results of that collaboration.

In Philadelphia County, approximately 3 suicide deaths occurred every week.

Characteristics of Suicide Victims

Sex of Victims:

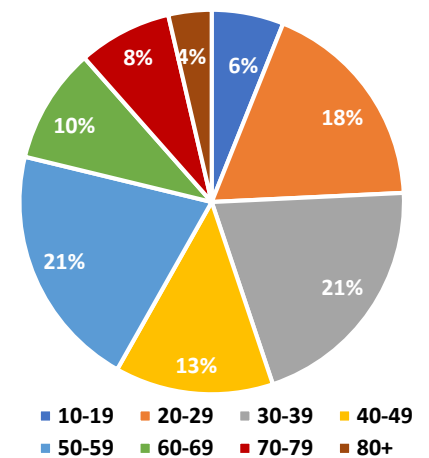


- Data showed that males were over three times more likely to die by suicide than females.
- Philadelphia residents, aged 80 and older, were less likely to die by suicide compared to Pennsylvania residents, aged 80 and older.
- Overall, suicide rates in Philadelphia County were lower than the state average:

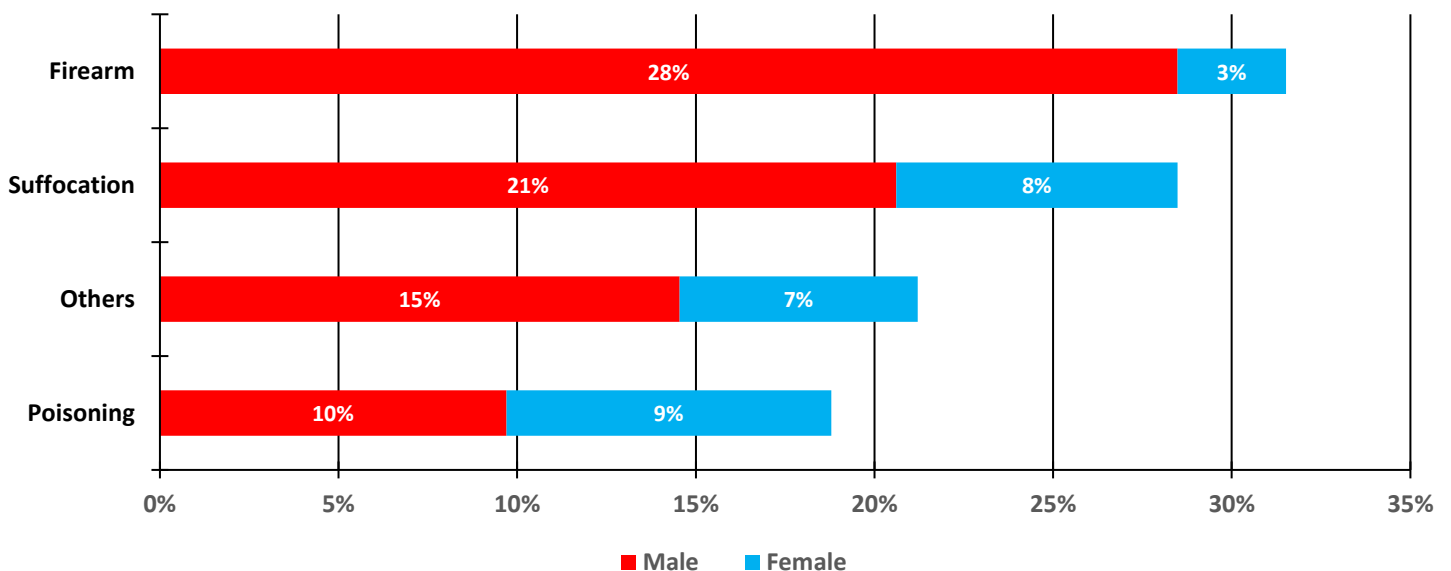
Philadelphia Rates: 10.1 deaths per 100,000 residents (Males 16.3; Females 5.0).

Pennsylvania Rates: 11.0 deaths per 100,000 residents (Males 17.2; Females 5.1).

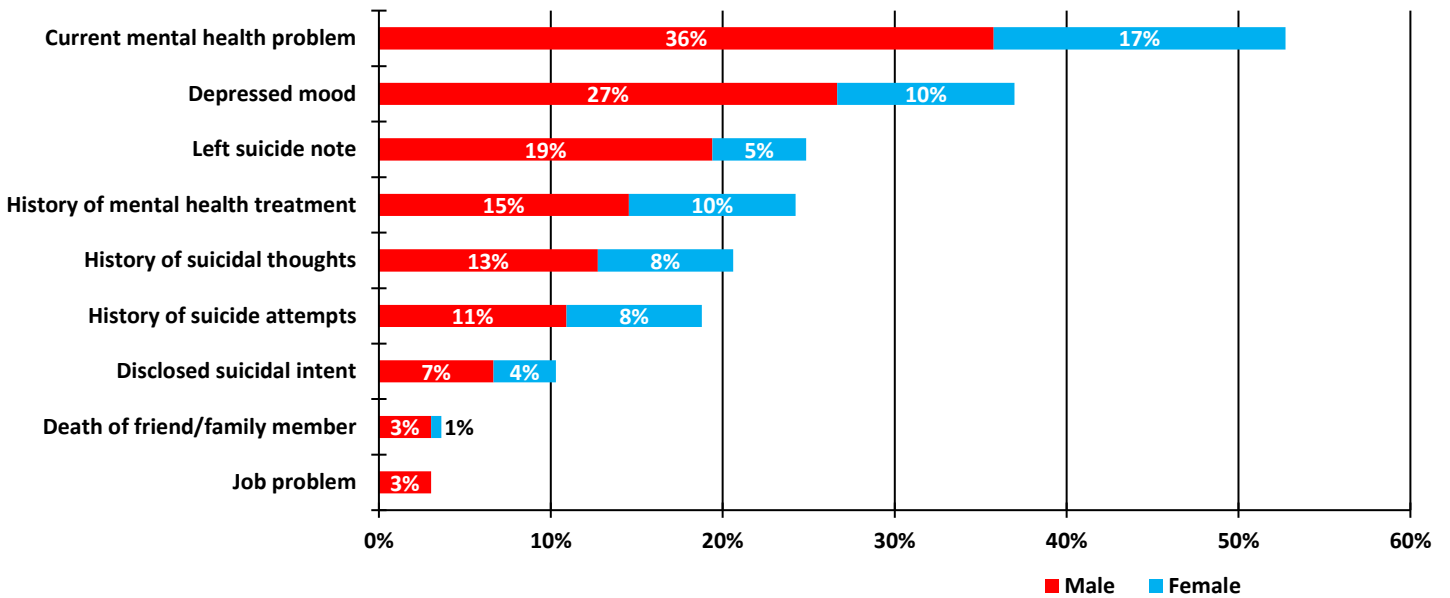
Age of Victims:



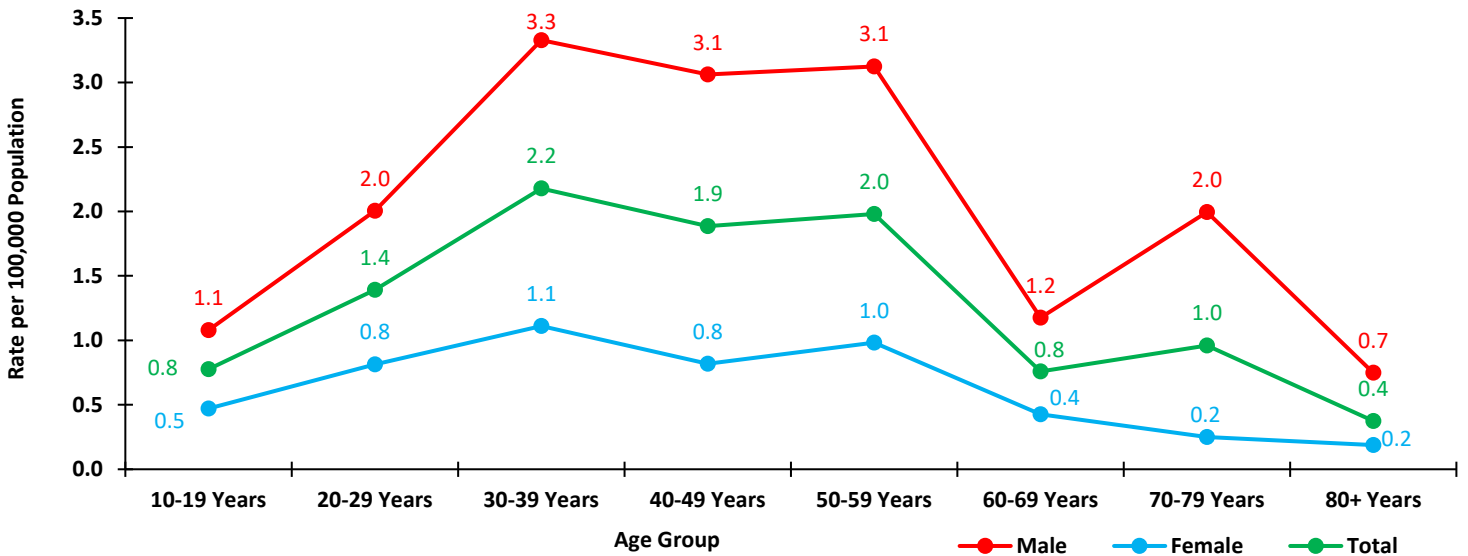
Percentage of All Suicide Deaths due to the Leading Causes by Gender:



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

This report was supported by Cooperative Agreement Number CE19-1905 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.