

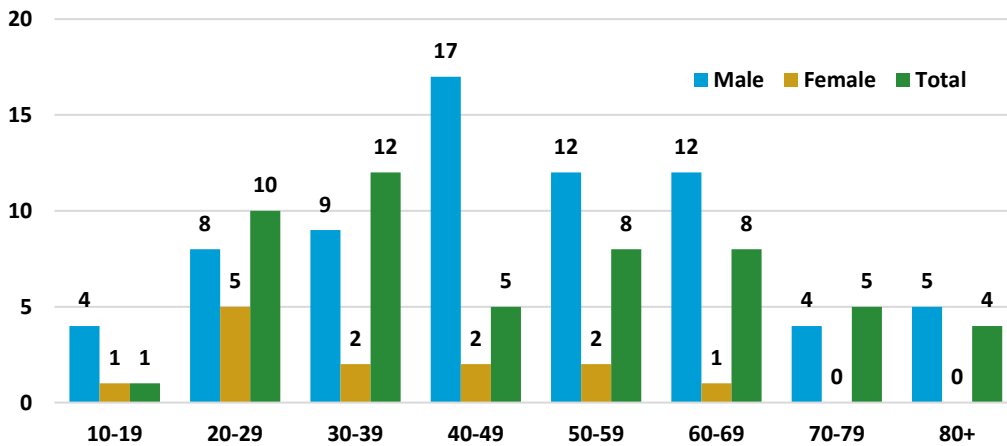
SUICIDE DEATHS IN SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, 2018-2020

BACKGROUND

Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania is a rural county with a 2018-2020 combined population of 426,000 people (219,000 males and 207,000 females). During 2018-2020, Schuylkill County had 84 suicide deaths (71 males and 13 females) which occurred at a rate of 19.7 suicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, the Schuylkill County Coroner’s Office, and Schuylkill 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

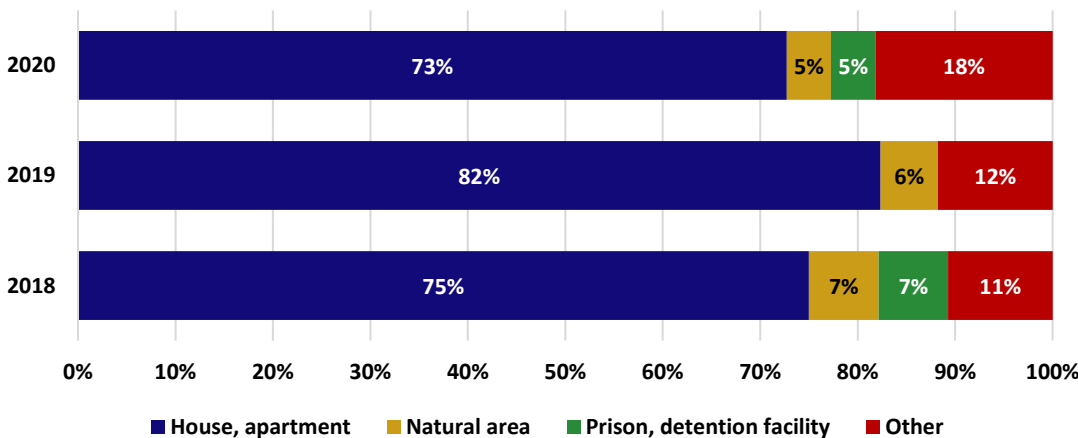
- During 2018-2020, Schuylkill County averaged over 2 suicide deaths per month.
- Males in Schuylkill County were almost 5 times more likely to die by suicide than females. Nationally, males die by suicide at a rate of approximately 4 times that of females¹.
- Overall, suicide rates in Schuylkill County during this time span were higher than the state average:
Schuylkill County Crude Rates: 19.7 deaths per 100,000 population (males 32.4 and females 6.3)
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 6% of all suicide deaths.

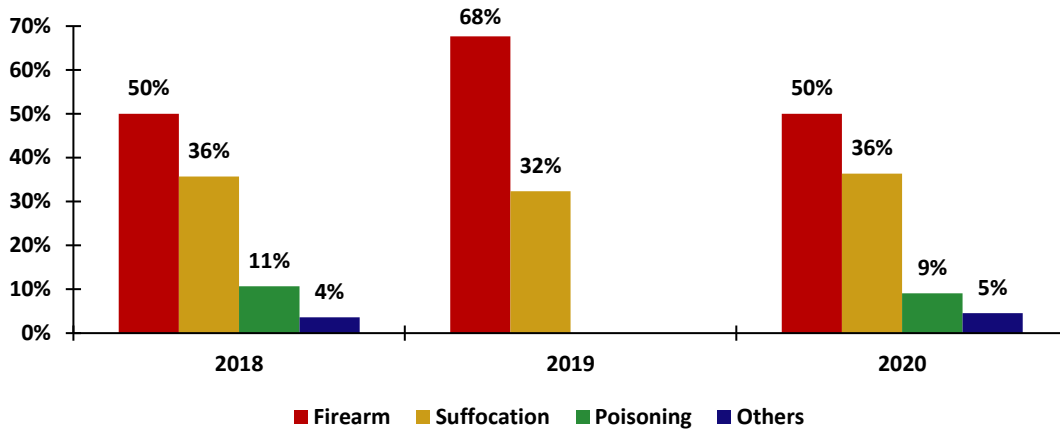
Location of Suicide Victims:



- Most suicides occurred in the victim’s house or apartment.
- Three suicides occurred in a prison or detention facility during 2018-2020.

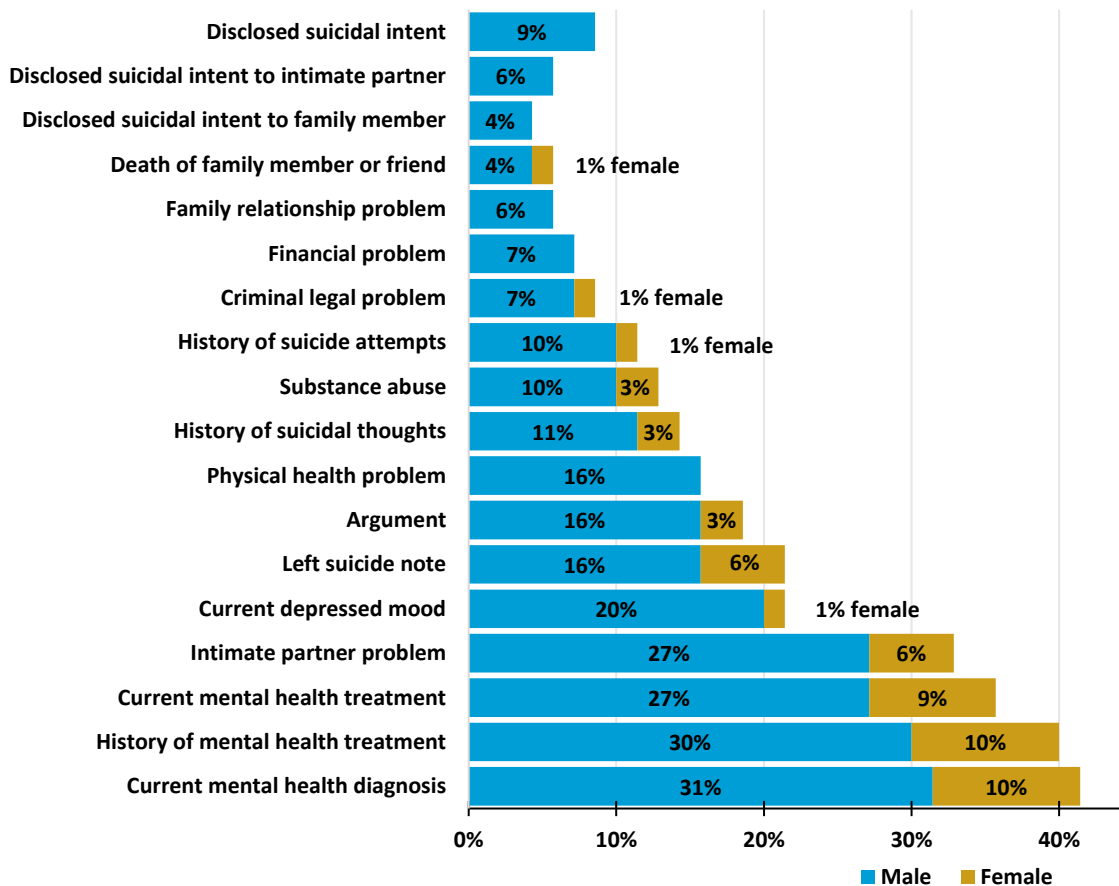
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Leading Cause of Suicide Deaths:



- From 2018-2020, suicides by firearm increased by 18% and then decreased by 18%, returning to the original level.
- During 2018-2020, suicides by hanging and suffocation decreased by 4% then increased by 4%, returning to the original level.

Most Common Precipitating Circumstances:



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