Department of Health

2023

Ohio Suicide Report

Suicide Deaths in Ohio

Suicide was the second-leading cause of death among Ohioans ages 10-14 and 20-34 and the 12th-leading cause of death in Ohio overall.

In 2023, there were 1,777 suicide deaths in Ohio. This was a 1% decrease in the number of deaths from 2022.

Figure 1. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Suicide Deaths by Year, Ohio, 2014-2023**
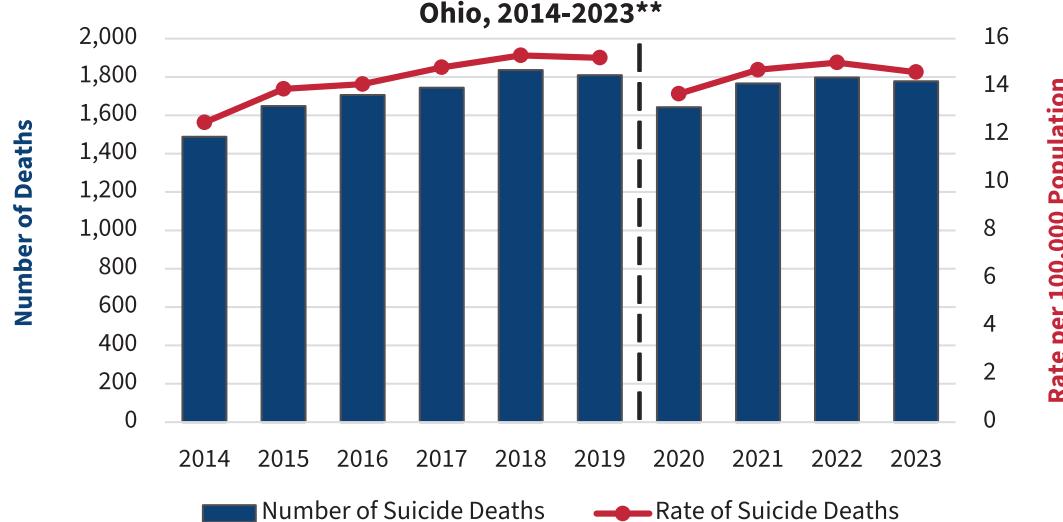
In 2023, Ohio's age-adjusted rate of 14.6 suicide deaths per 100,000 population also marked a decrease from the age-adjusted rate of 15.0 suicide deaths per 100,000 population seen in 2022. Age-adjusted rate of deaths per population is a conventional statistical adjustment done in accordance with CDC standards to account for the difference in expected death rates among different age ranges.

Figure 2. Number of Suicide Deaths by Quarter, Ohio, 2021-2023
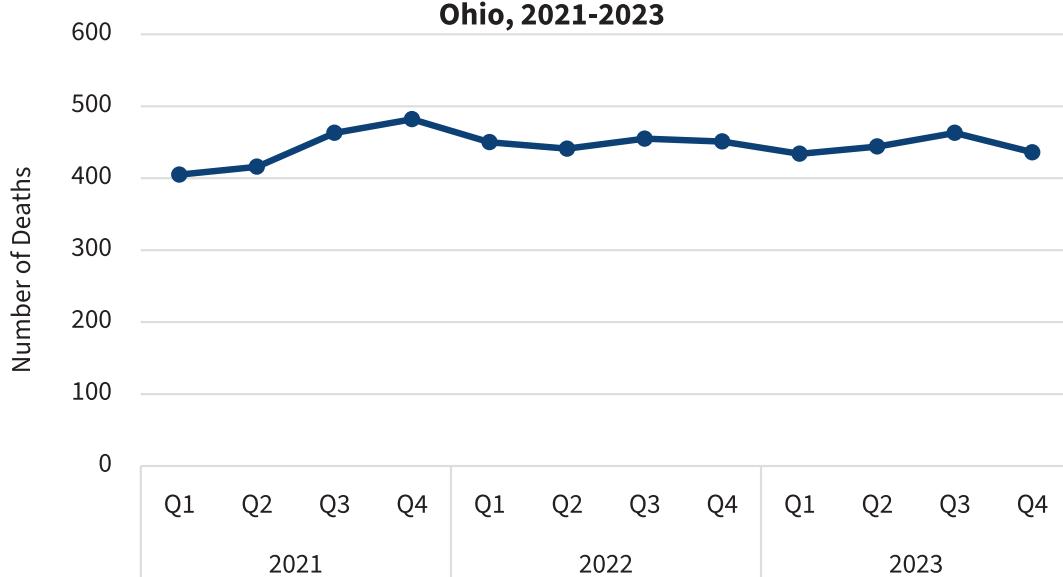
The number of suicide deaths increased each quarter in 2021.

In 2022 and 2023, the number of suicide deaths by quarter remained relatively steady, ranging from 434 to 463 deaths per quarter.

**At the time of this report, population files from the federal government reflecting new national standards and methodologies were available for 2020 through 2023 only. Because of this change, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) advises caution in comparing these rates to those from years prior to 2020, as indicated by the segmented line in the graphic.

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section (VIESS). Includes Ohio residents who died due to suicide (underlying cause of death International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision [ICD-10], codes X60-X84, Y87.0, *U03.)

FAST FACTS

- In 2023, 1,777 Ohioans died by suicide, a 1% decrease from 2022, compared with a national decrease of <1%.[1]

- From 2022 to 2023, Black non-Hispanic females and White non-Hispanic females had the largest decreases in the rate of suicide deaths (both -6%).

- In 2023, Ohioans aged 45-54 years had the highest rate of suicide deaths.

- Among males in 2023, those aged 75 years and older had the highest rate of suicide deaths.

- Firearms were involved in more than half of all suicide deaths.

- From 2022 to 2023, the number of suicide deaths by drug poisoning increased 11%.

[1]Source: National Center for HealthStatistics, Provisional Multiple Causeof Death Data on CDC WONDER https://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd.html (Accessed Oct. 18, 2024)

Mechanism

From 2022 to 2023:
- The number of suicide deaths by firearm decreased 1%, from 1,046 to 1,031 deaths.
- The number of suicide deaths by suffocation (e.g., hanging) decreased 7%, from 438 to 407 deaths.
- The number of suicide deaths by drug poisoning increased 11%, from 156 to 173 deaths.

Figure 3. Number of Suicide Deaths by Mechanism, Ohio, 2019-2023
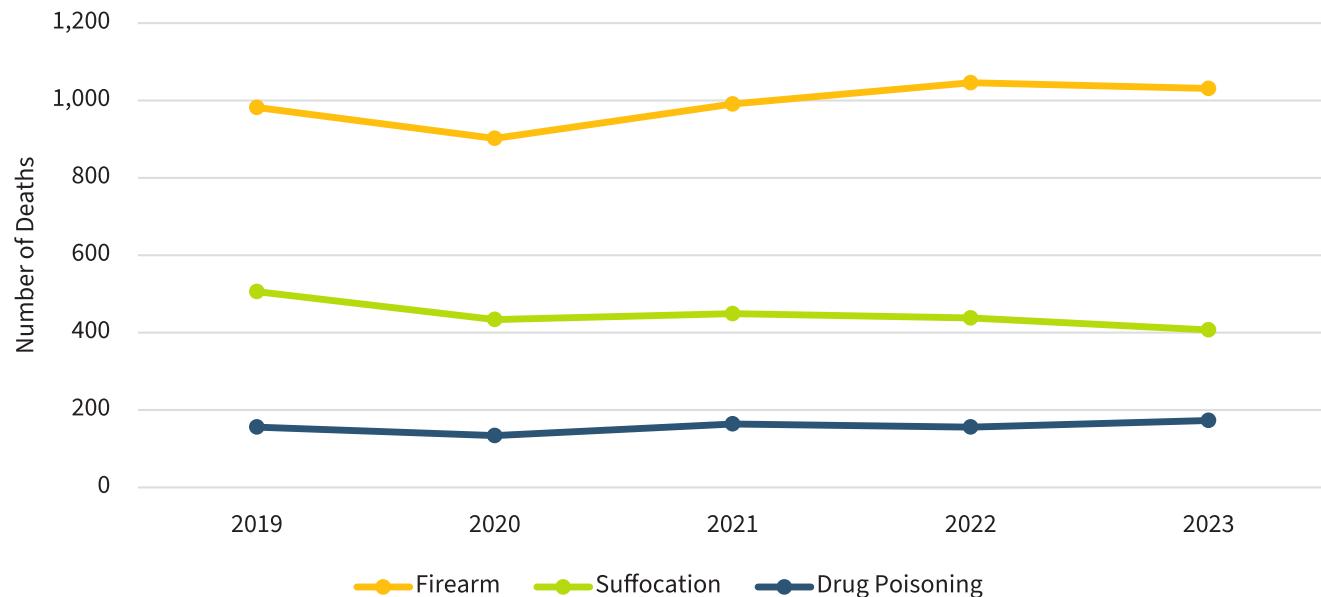
**Figure 4. Percentage of Suicide Deaths by Mechanism and Sex, Ohio, 2023**
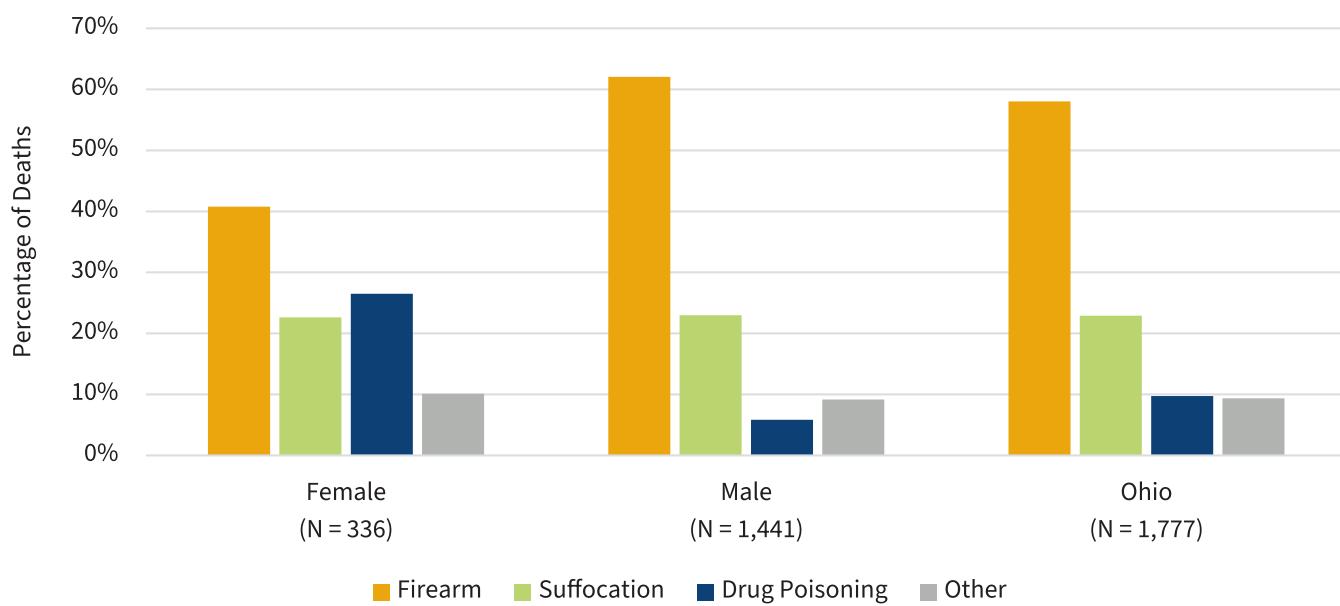
In 2023, firearm was the leading mechanism of suicide deaths among both females and males; however, the percentage of suicide deaths by firearm was notably higher among males (62%) compared with females (41%).

In contrast, suicide by drug poisoning accounted for a higher percentage of suicide deaths among females (26%) compared with males (6%) in 2023.

Mechanism

In 2023:
- Firearm was the leading mechanism of suicide deaths among all age groups shown below. Those aged 65 and older had the highest percentage of firearm-involved suicide deaths (75%).
- Those aged 35-44 had the highest percentage of suffocation-involved suicide deaths (37%).
- The percentage of suicide deaths by drug overdose peaked at the ages of 45-54 (16%).

Figure 5. Percentage of Suicide Deaths by Mechanism and Age, Ohio, 2023
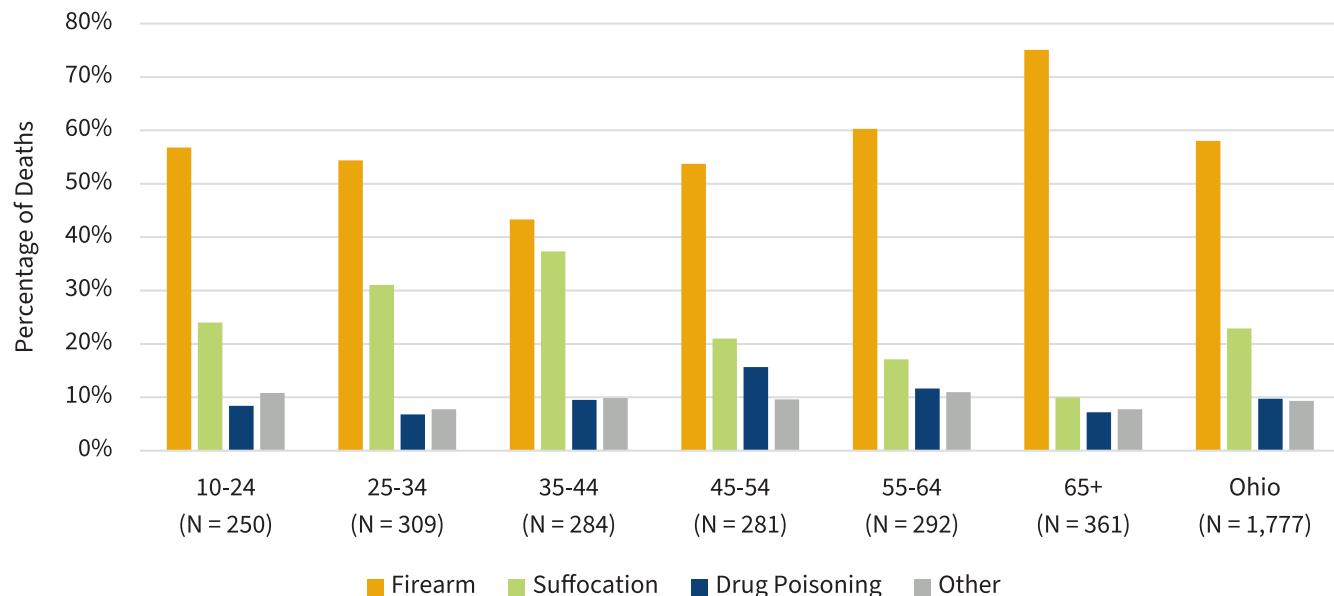
Figure 6. Percentage of Suicide Deaths by Mechanism and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2023
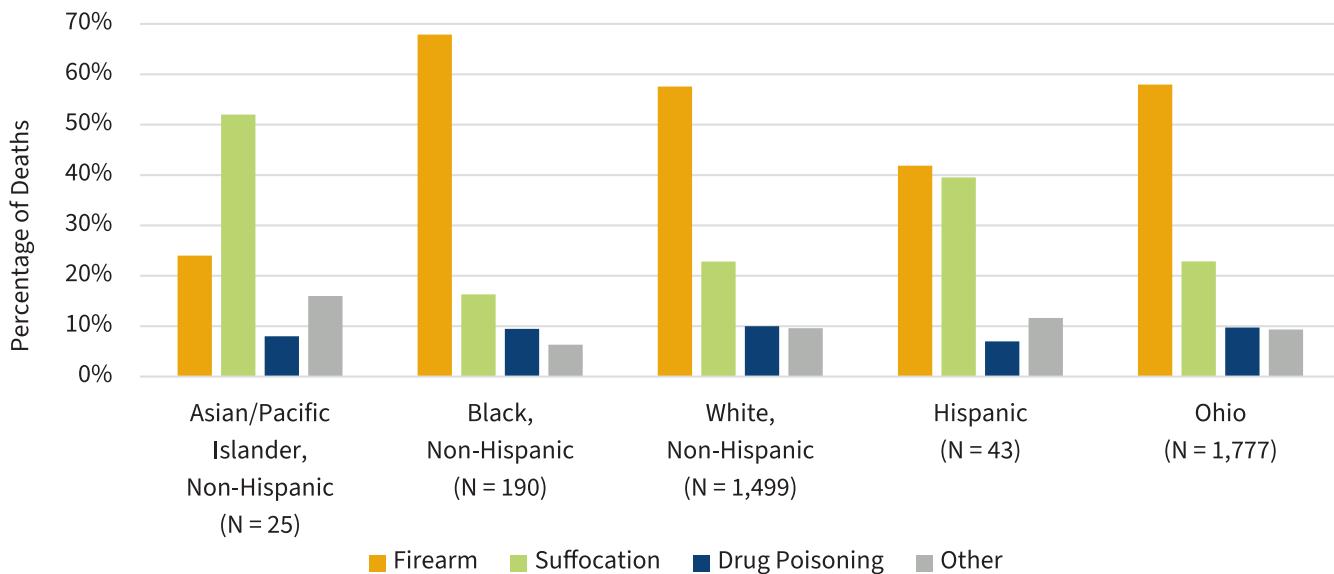
In 2023:
- The percentage of suicide deaths by firearm was highest among the Black non-Hispanic population (68%), followed by the White non-Hispanic population (58%).
- The percentage of suicide deaths by suffocation was highest among the Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic population (52%).
- The percentage of deaths by drug poisoning was highest among the White non-Hispanic population (10%).

This data reflects updated national standards used in the creation of race categories. Caution should be used when comparing data to that of previous reports using a different methodology to categorize race. Other race and ethnicity groups are not presented due to small numbers.

Mechanism Summaries

Table 1. Number and Percentage of Suicide Deaths by Mechanism, Ohio, 2019-2023

Mechanism	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Firearm	982	54%	902	55%	991	56%	1,046	58%	1,031	58%
Suffocation	506	28%	434	26%	449	25%	438	24%	407	23%
Drug Poisoning	156	9%	134	8%	164	9%	156	9%	173	10%
Other	165	9%	172	10%	162	9%	157	9%	166	9%
Total Suicide Deaths[1]	1,809		1,642		1,766		1,797		1,777	

[1]Total includes all suicide deaths among Ohio residents.

Table 2. Number and Percentage of Drug Poisoning-Related Suicide Deaths by Substance[1], Ohio, 2019-2023

Drug Categories[1]	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Opioids	45	29%	41	31%	52	32%	42	27%	53	31%
Stimulants[2]	11	7%	13	10%	24	15%	26	17%	18	10%
Benzodiazepines	24	15%	15	11%	22	13%	19	12%	26	15%
Total Drug Poisoning-Related Suicide Deaths	156		134		164		156		173	

[1]Multiple drugs may be involved in drug poisoning-related suicide deaths. Individual deaths may be reported in more than one category.
[2]The stimulant drug category includes cocaine and psychostimulants. Psychostimulants include methamphetamine and other psychostimulants with potential for abuse (ICD-10 code T43.6).

Table 3. Number of Suicide Deaths by Demographics and Mechanism, Ohio, 2022-2023

Demographics	Firearm		Suffocation		Drug Poisoning		Other		Total Suicide Deaths[1]	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Age										
10-24	148	142	80	60	19	21	19	27	266	250
25-34	171	168	103	96	21	21	22	24	317	309
35-44	150	123	99	106	28	27	39	28	316	284
45-54	138	151	69	59	36	44	30	27	273	281
55-64	168	176	46	50	31	34	25	32	270	292
65+	270	271	41	36	21	26	22	28	354	361
Sex										
Female	131	137	109	76	87	89	35	34	362	336
Male	915	894	329	331	69	84	122	132	1,435	1,441
Race/Ethnicity										
Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	3	6	16	13	2	2	0	4	21	25
Black, Non-Hispanic	110	129	40	31	11	18	23	12	184	190
White, Non-Hispanic	900	863	358	342	137	150	130	144	1,525	1,499
Hispanic	20	18	16	17	6	3	4	5	46	43
Total Suicide Deaths[1]	1,046	1,031	438	407	156	173	157	166	1,797	1,777

This data reflects updated national standards used in the creation of race categories. Caution should be used when comparing data to that of previous reports using a different methodology to categorize race. Other race and ethnicity groups are not presented due to small numbers.
[1]Total includes all suicide deaths among Ohio residents.

Demographics: Age and Sex

In 2023, Ohioans aged 45-54 had the highest rate of suicide deaths (20.1 per 100,000 population), followed closely by those aged 25-34 (19.9 per 100,000 population).

From 2022 to 2023:
- Ohioans aged 55-64 had the largest increase in the rate of suicide deaths (10%), followed by the those aged 45-54 (4%).
- Ohioans aged 35-44 had the largest decrease in the rate of suicide deaths (-11%), followed by youth aged 10-24 (-6%).

**Figure 7. Rate[1] of Suicide Deaths by Age Group and Year, Ohio, 2020-2023**
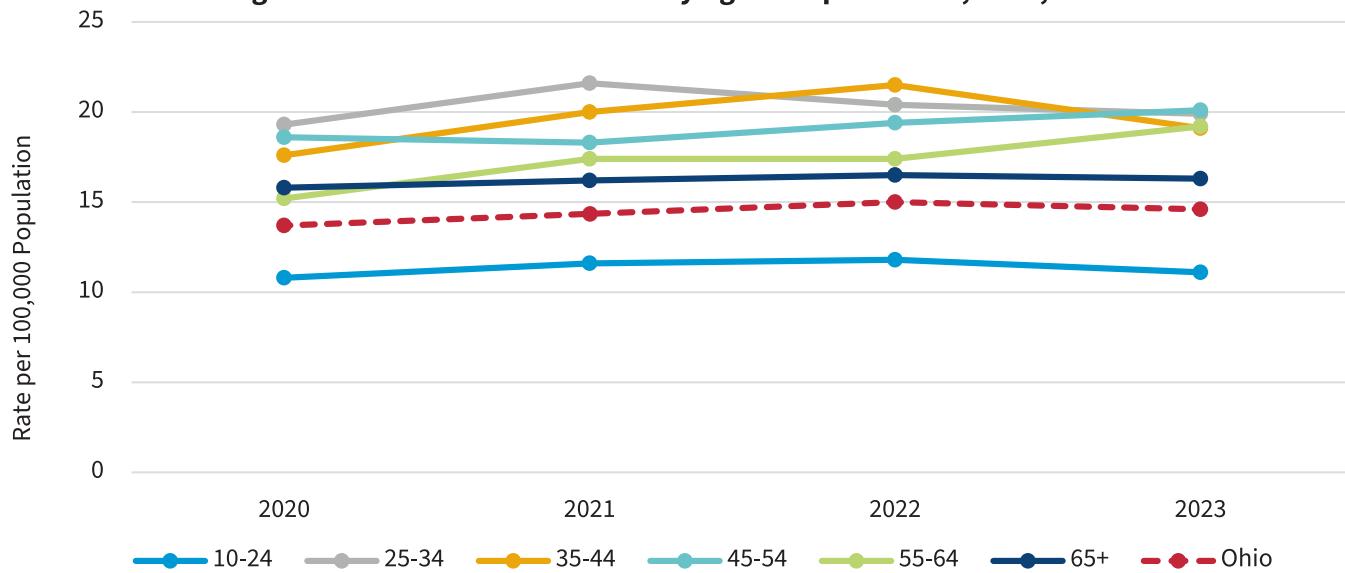
**Figure 8. Number of Suicide Deaths by Age and Sex, Ohio, 2023**
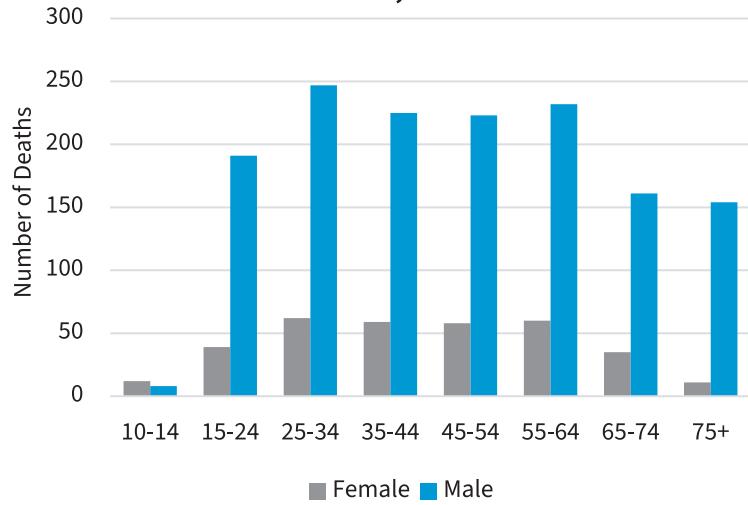
Figure 9. Rate of Suicide Deaths by Age and Sex, Ohio, 2023
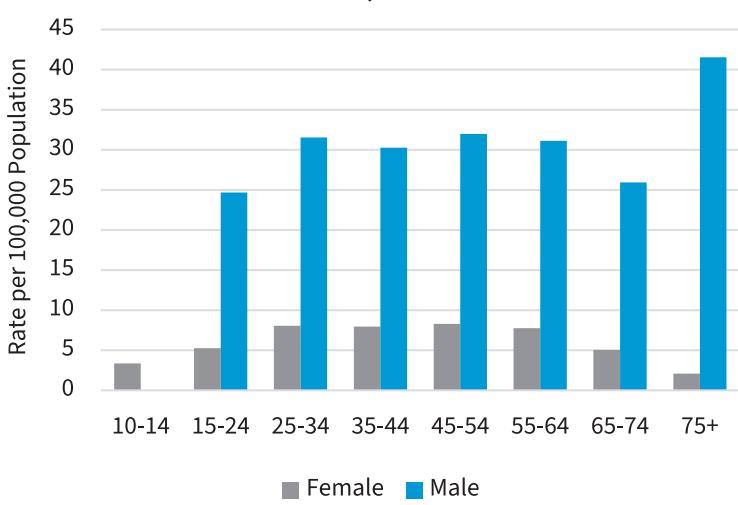
From 2022 to 2023, the number of suicide deaths among females decreased 7% compared with a 0.4% increase among males. In 2023, males accounted for 81% of total Ohio suicide deaths.

In 2023:
- Among males, those aged 25-34 had the highest number of suicide deaths, while those aged 75 years and older had the highest rate of suicide deaths.
- Among females, those aged 25-34 had the highest number of suicide deaths, while those aged 45-54 had the highest rate of suicide deaths.

[1] Rates presented for age groups are age-specific. Overall Ohio rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations.

Demographics: Race/Ethnicity

In 2023, the White non-Hispanic population continued to have the highest rate of suicide deaths.

From 2022 to 2023, the Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic population was the only race/ethnicity group for which the rate of suicide deaths increased (12%). Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic Ohioans accounted for 3% of the overall population and 1.4% of suicide deaths (N=25) in 2023.

From 2022 to 2023, suicide death rates among both the Black non-Hispanic and the White non-Hispanic populations decreased 2%, while the Hispanic population decreased 6%.

Figure 10. Age-Adjusted Rate of Suicide Deaths by Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2020-2023
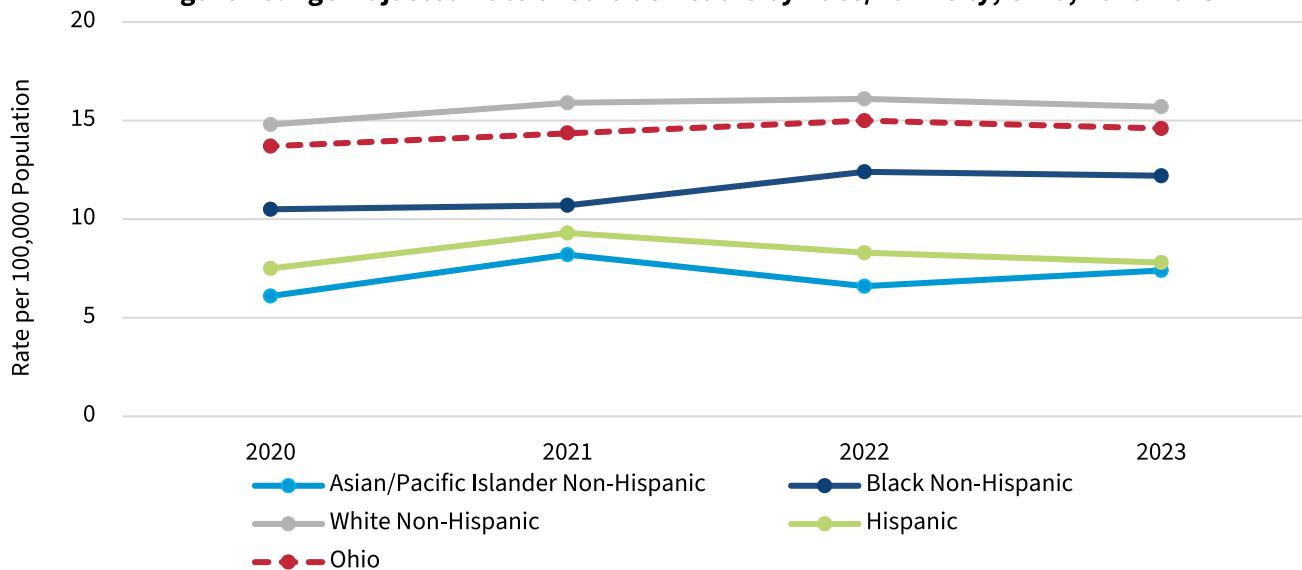
Figure 11. Age-Adjusted Rate of Suicide Deaths by Sex and Race/Ethnicity, Ohio, 2020-2023
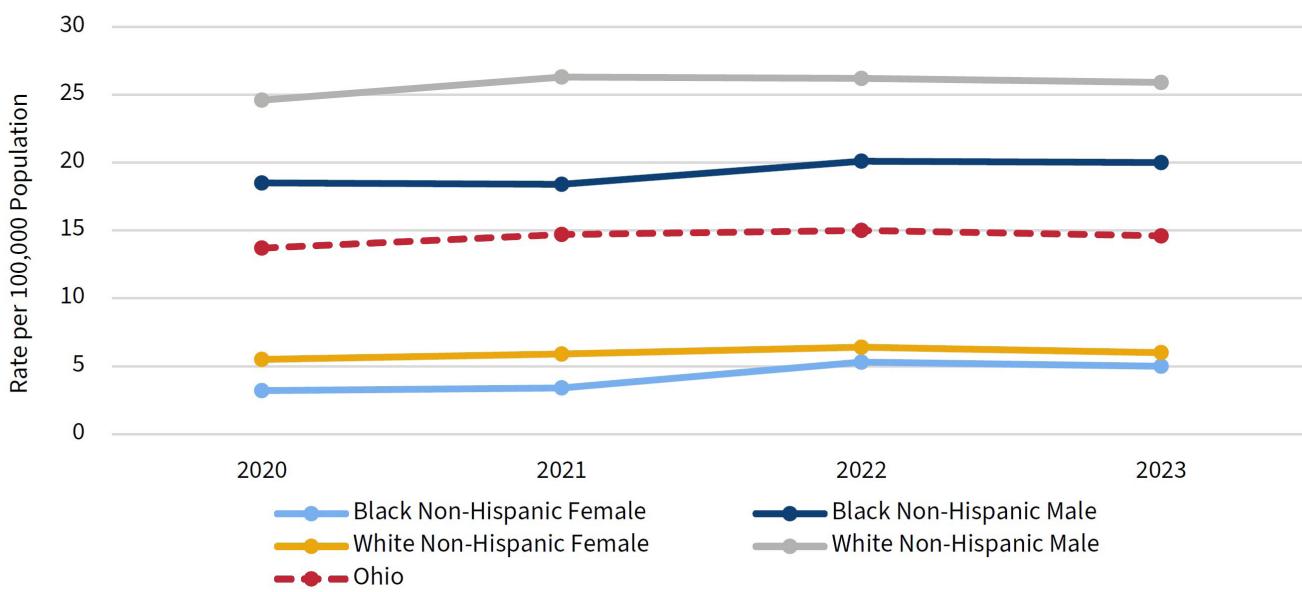
In 2023, White non-Hispanic males continued to have the highest rate of suicide deaths.

From 2022 to 2023:
- Black non-Hispanic females and White non-Hispanic females had the largest decreases in the rate of suicide deaths (both -6%).
- The rate of suicide deaths among White non-Hispanic males decreased 1%, while the rate among Black non-Hispanic males remained unchanged from the previous year.

This data reflects updated national standards used in the creation of race categories. Caution should be used when comparing data to that of previous reports using a different methodology to categorize race. Other race and ethnicity groups are not presented due to small numbers.

Demographic Summary

Table 4. Number and Rate of Suicide Deaths by Demographics, Ohio, 2019-2023

| Demographics	2019	2020		2021		2022		2023		2020-2023	
	Number	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[1]
Age											
5-9	1	0	.	0	.	1	.	0	.	1	.
10-14	31	26	3.4	24	3.2	26	3.5	20	2.7	96	3.2
15-24	224	221	14.6	236	15.8	240	16.0	230	15.2	927	15.4
25-34	305	300	19.3	336	21.6	317	20.4	309	19.9	1,262	20.3
35-44	304	254	17.6	291	20.0	316	21.5	284	19.1	1,145	19.6
45-54	303	270	18.6	261	18.3	273	19.4	281	20.1	1,085	19.1
55-64	297	245	15.2	277	17.4	270	17.4	292	19.2	1,084	17.3
65+	344	326	15.8	341	16.2	354	16.5	361	16.3	1,382	16.2
Sex											
Female	352	306	5.0	329	5.5	362	6.1	336	5.6	1,333	5.5
Male	1,457	1,336	22.8	1,437	24.4	1,435	24.4	1,441	24.1	5,649	23.9
Race/Ethnicity											
American Indian/Alaska Native, Non-Hispanic	2	2	.	1	.	0	.	3	.	6	.
Asian/Pacific Islander, Non-Hispanic	23	19	6.1	25	8.2	21	6.6	25	7.4	90	7.1
Black, Non-Hispanic	143	154	10.5	160	10.7	184	12.4	190	12.2	688	11.4
White, Non-Hispanic	1,581	1,415	14.8	1,517	15.9	1,525	16.1	1,499	15.7	5,956	15.6
Multiracial, Non-Hispanic	17	14	6.3	11	4.4	19	7.4	15	4.0	59	5.5
Hispanic	40	35	7.5	50	9.3	46	8.3	43	7.8	174	8.2
Race/Ethnicity and Sex											
Black Non-Hispanic Female	22	25	3.2	26	3.4	41	5.3	39	5.0	131	4.2
Black Non-Hispanic Male	121	129	18.5	134	18.4	143	20.1	151	20.0	557	19.3
White Non-Hispanic Female	316	264	5.5	282	5.9	300	6.4	278	6.0	1,124	6.0
White Non-Hispanic Male	1,265	1,151	24.6	1,235	26.3	1,225	26.2	1,221	25.9	4,832	25.7
Hispanic Female	7	9	.	11	3.9	10	3.6	7	.	37	3.4
Hispanic Male	33	26	11.5	39	14.5	36	13.2	36	12.9	137	13.0
Total Suicide Deaths[2]	**1,809**	**1,642**	**13.7**	**1,766**	**14.7**	**1,797**	**15.0**	**1,777**	**14.6**	**6,982**	**14.5**

This data reflects updated national standards used in the creation of race categories. Caution should be used when comparing data to that of previous reports using a different methodology to categorize race. Other race and ethnicity groups are not presented due to small numbers.

[1]The death rates presented for age groups are age-specific. The death rates presented for sex and race/ethnicity are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations. Rates are suppressed when there are fewer than 10 total deaths.

[2]Total includes all suicide deaths among Ohio residents.

Demographics: County

Figure 12. Average Age-Adjusted Rate of Suicide Deaths by County[1], Ohio, 2020-2023

Death Rate per 100,000 Population

- 9.9 - 13.4
- 13.5 - 14.8
- 14.9 - 16.5
- 16.6 - 19.0
- 19.1 - 31.6
- Rate Suppressed*
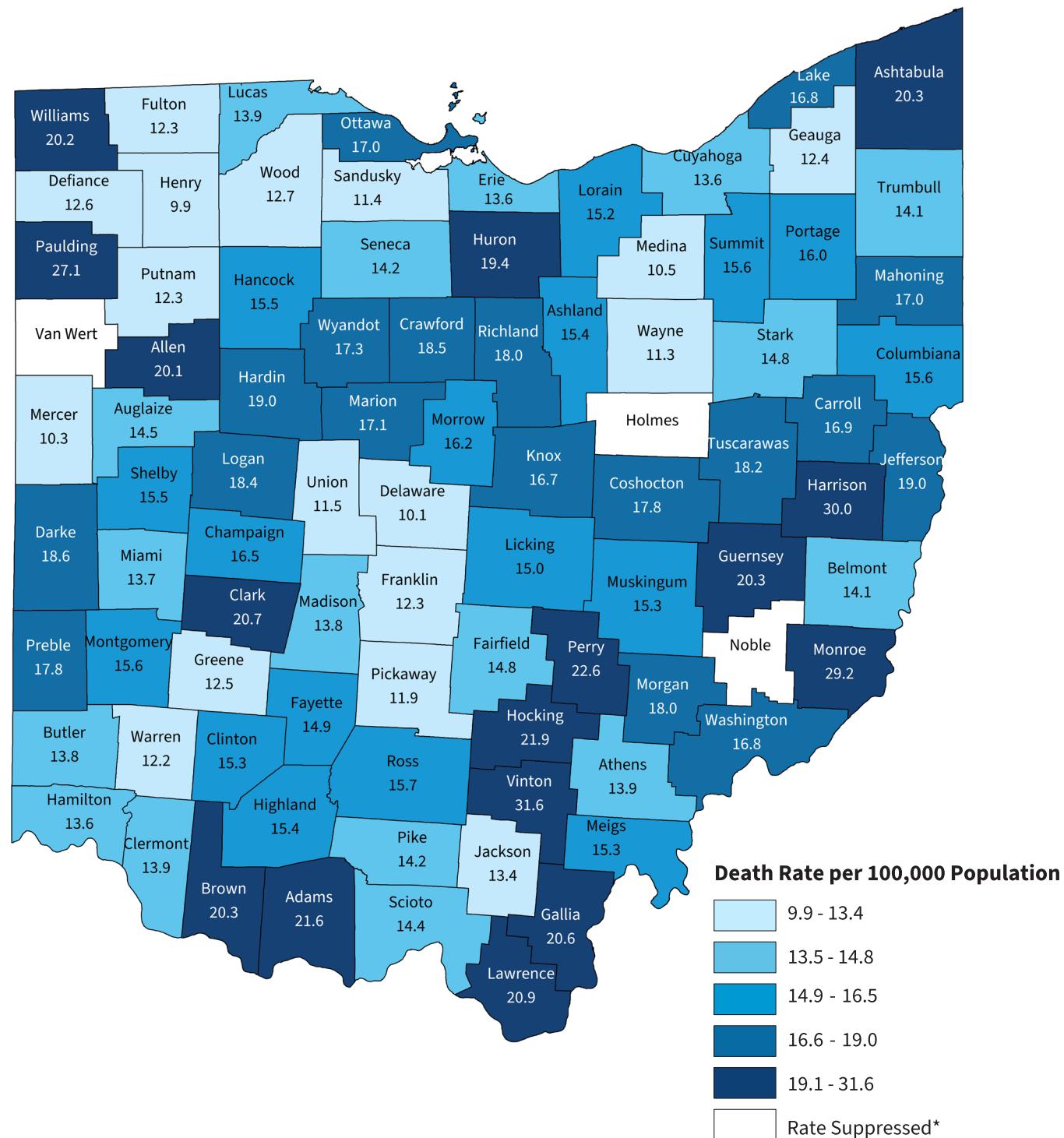
From 2020 to 2023, Vinton County had the highest suicide death rate (31.6 per 100,000 population).

Of the 16 counties with the highest suicide death rates, 14 were rural (11 rural, Appalachian and three rural, non- Appalachian).

Demographics: County

Table 5. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Suicide Deaths by County, Ohio, 2019-2023

County[1]	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 Rate[2]	2020-2023 Rate[2]
Ohio	1,809	1,642	1,766	1,797	1,777	14.6	14.5
Adams	8	3	8	8	4	.	21.6
Allen	10	30	18	14	17	16.9	20.1
Ashland	3	9	8	6	11	21.6	15.4
Ashtabula	16	16	25	14	26	25.5	20.3
Athens	11	7	9	9	9	.	13.9
Auglaize	4	6	7	7	6	.	14.5
Belmont	10	12	11	5	10	13.6	14.1
Brown	7	7	5	11	11	24.2	20.3
Butler	53	42	50	68	57	15.0	13.8
Carroll	4	6	5	4	5	.	16.9
Champaign	10	5	4	7	8	.	16.5
Clark	26	34	32	25	22	15.2	20.7
Clermont	43	31	28	32	31	13.9	13.9
Clinton	8	4	6	9	9	.	15.3
Columbiana	21	17	22	14	12	11.7	15.6
Coshocton	10	12	6	6	6	.	17.8
Crawford	15	4	10	7	10	22.7	18.5
Cuyahoga	186	171	172	163	191	14.9	13.6
Darke	5	9	8	9	12	22.5	18.6
Defiance	5	1	8	6	3	.	12.6
Delaware	27	25	23	26	15	6.8	10.1
Erie	14	7	13	10	13	15.5	13.6
Fairfield	22	18	30	22	27	16.3	14.8
Fayette	2	1	6	2	7	.	14.9
Franklin	153	143	168	168	183	13.6	12.3
Fulton	5	5	6	6	6	.	12.3
Gallia	10	6	7	6	4	.	20.6
Geauga	12	16	9	14	8	.	12.4
Greene	19	21	18	21	21	12.4	12.5
Guernsey	6	8	7	10	7	.	20.3
Hamilton	110	101	117	136	98	11.4	13.6
Hancock	14	13	5	13	16	19.1	15.5
Hardin	9	5	5	5	7	.	19.0
Harrison	1	5	3	7	3	.	30.0
Henry	4	4	0	4	3	.	9.9

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to suicide (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X60-X84, Y87.0, *U03).
[1]County is determined by county of residence.
[2]Death rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations. Rates are suppressed when there are fewer than 10 total deaths.

Demographics: County

Table 5. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Suicide Deaths by County, Ohio, 2019-2023

County[1]	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 Rate[2]	2020-2023 Rate[2]
Ohio	**1,809**	**1,642**	**1,766**	**1,797**	**1,777**	**14.6**	**14.5**
Highland	7	8	7	6	11	20.1	15.4
Hocking	5	5	5	7	8	.	21.9
Holmes	1	4	1	1	2	.	.
Huron	14	8	13	14	9	.	19.4
Jackson	12	6	5	6	2	.	13.4
Jefferson	16	10	11	14	16	23.9	19.0
Knox	10	6	14	9	12	18.4	16.7
Lake	43	38	53	30	43	17.4	16.8
Lawrence	3	9	14	17	8	.	20.9
Licking	31	29	30	28	25	13.2	15.0
Logan	9	8	7	8	10	21.8	18.4
Lorain	51	44	51	48	54	16.9	15.2
Lucas	73	65	64	62	55	12.8	13.9
Madison	7	9	4	6	8	.	13.8
Mahoning	37	33	39	42	45	18.7	17.0
Marion	18	11	12	14	11	14.3	17.1
Medina	31	25	25	18	17	7.8	10.5
Meigs	4	1	6	4	2	.	15.3
Mercer	1	4	5	2	4	.	10.3
Miami	12	15	14	14	20	18.5	13.7
Monroe	4	4	3	5	3	.	29.2
Montgomery	91	82	77	92	93	17.4	15.6
Morgan	3	1	5	3	1	.	18.0
Morrow	2	7	6	8	1	.	16.2
Muskingum	17	10	12	14	15	15.2	15.3
Noble	1	0	1	0	4	.	.
Ottawa	11	4	5	12	7	.	17.0
Paulding	4	4	3	6	7	.	27.1
Perry	4	9	7	13	3	.	22.6
Pickaway	10	9	9	8	4	.	11.9
Pike	5	3	4	4	4	.	14.2
Portage	23	26	24	29	29	18.0	16.0
Preble	7	6	7	4	10	24.9	17.8
Putnam	3	4	2	6	3	.	12.3
Richland	11	18	21	33	21	16.6	18.0

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to suicide (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X60-X84, Y87.0, *U03).
[1]County is determined by county of residence.
[2]Death rates are age-adjusted to the 2000 U.S. standard population to allow a comparison of the overall risk of dying between different populations. Rates are suppressed when there are fewer than 10 total deaths.

Demographics: County

Table 5. Number and Age-Adjusted Rate of Suicide Deaths by County, Ohio, 2019-2023

County[1]	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2023 Rate[2]	2020-2023 Rate[2]
Ohio	**1,809**	**1,642**	**1,766**	**1,797**	**1,777**	**14.6**	**14.5**
Ross	10	14	6	14	14	17.5	15.7
Sandusky	8	6	10	3	8	.	11.4
Scioto	13	7	10	12	11	15.7	14.4
Seneca	14	8	5	10	7	.	14.2
Shelby	7	8	8	11	3	.	15.5
Stark	73	53	75	52	47	12.6	14.8
Summit	90	80	88	80	92	17.0	15.6
Trumbull	36	38	21	28	36	17.2	14.1
Tuscarawas	11	16	13	19	18	21.0	18.2
Union	7	8	5	9	8	.	11.5
Van Wert	3	0	3	3	2	.	.
Vinton	4	3	1	9	1	.	31.6
Warren	31	26	42	33	25	8.9	12.2
Washington	11	12	5	15	12	18.5	16.8
Wayne	24	14	17	8	14	11.3	11.3
Williams	8	7	6	7	8	.	20.2
Wood	11	9	20	20	17	12.0	12.7
Wyandot	4	3	4	3	5	.	17.3

Source: ODH Bureau of Vital Statistics. Analysis: ODH Violence and Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Section. Includes Ohio residents who died due to suicide (underlying cause of death ICD-10 codes X60-X84, Y87.0, *U03).
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