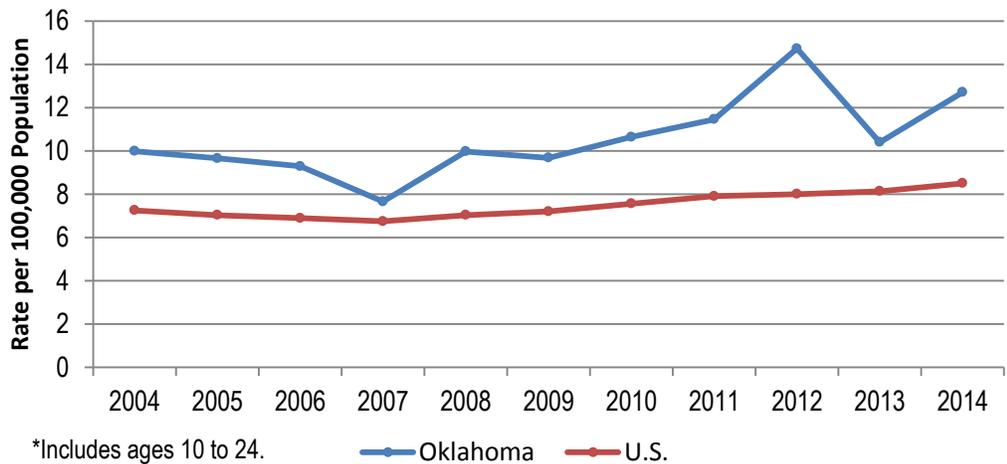


## Youth Suicide in Oklahoma, 2010 - 2014

Figure 1. Youth\* Suicide Rates by Year, U.S. and Oklahoma, 2004-2014



\*Includes ages 10 to 24.

Source: WISQARS

- From 2010 – 2014, 480 suicides occurred among youth 10 – 24 years of age.
- The mean age of victims was 20 years; victims ranged in age from 11 to 24; 57% of the deaths were among youth 20-24 years of age
- From 2004-2014, Oklahoma's youth suicide rate (10.6) was 41% higher than the U.S. rate (7.5). After 2007, both the U.S. and the Oklahoma youth suicide rates were on an increasing trend (Figure 1).
- Eighty-one percent of youth suicides were among males.
- Compared to other races, both genders of American Indians 15-19 and 20-24 years of age had the highest rates of suicide, 16.7 and 25.9, respectively (Table 1).
- American Indian males 20-24 years of age had the highest rate (42.4) of suicide of any racial, ethnic, or gender group.
- Among Hispanics, males 20-24 years of age had the highest rate of suicide at 19.1.

Table 1. Youth Suicide Rates\*\* by Age, Gender, Race, and Ethnicity, Oklahoma, 2010-2014

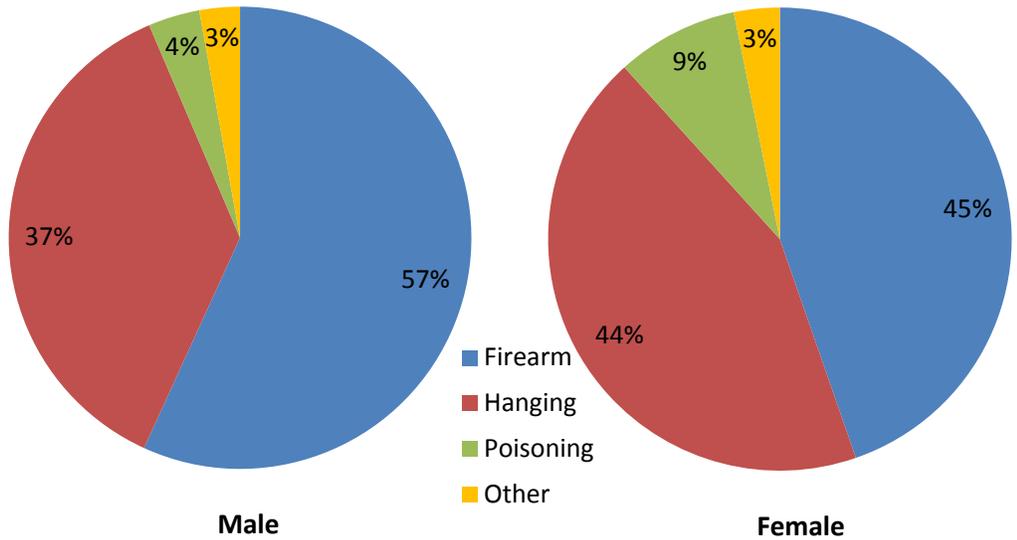
	White		American Indian		African American		Hispanic*	
	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate	N	Rate
<b>Male</b>								
10-14	§	§	§	§	§	§	§	§
15-19	100	20.6	25	27.3	§	§	§	§
20-24	136	25.3	35	42.4	25	31.6	17	19.1
<b>Females</b>								
10-14	§	§	§	§	§	§	§	§
15-19	21	4.7	5	5.7	§	§	§	§
20-24	40	7.8	7	8.8	5	6.9	6	8.1
<b>Both Genders</b>								
10-14	25	2.7	5	2.6	5	3.5	§	§
15-19	121	12.9	30	16.7	6	4.1	15	9.5
20-24	176	16.8	42	25.9	30	19.8	23	14.1

§ Suppressed due to low numbers

\*Hispanic ethnicity is not a racial category

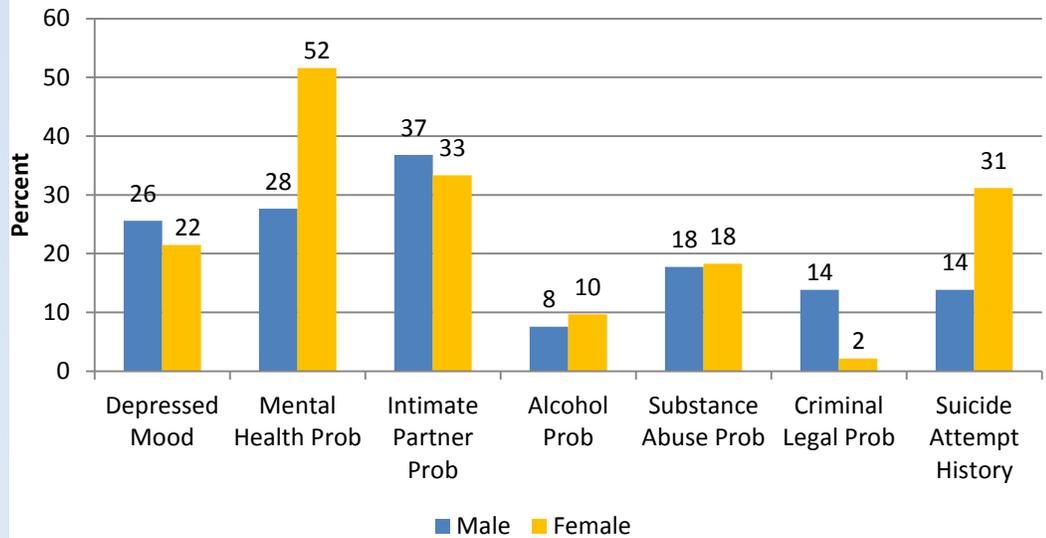
\*\* Rates per 100,000 population.

**Figure 2. Method of Youth Suicide by Gender, Oklahoma, 2010-2014**



\*Other methods include sharp/blunt instruments, fall, fire, other transportation

**Figure 3. Youth Suicide Circumstances\* by Gender, Oklahoma, 2010-2014**



\*More than one circumstance may have been associated with a suicide.

- Firearms were used in 55% of youth suicides, hanging in 38%, poisoning in 5%, and other methods were used in 3% of the deaths.
- Among males and females, firearms were the leading method of suicide; males had a higher percentage than females, 57% and 45%, respectively (Figure 2).
- Females had a higher percentage of hanging and poisoning as a method of suicide as compared to males.
- Among males, the leading circumstances of suicide were intimate partner problem (37%), mental health problem (28%), and depressed mood (26%) (Figure 3).
- Among females, the leading circumstances of suicide were mental health problem (52%), intimate partner problem (33%), and depressed mood (22%).
- Females more often had a history of suicide attempt than males, 31% and 14%, respectively.
- A suicide note was left by 40% of females and 27% of males.
- 30% of youth suicide victims had a positive blood alcohol content (BAC) at the time of death; 23% of BACs were  $\geq$  0.08 mg/dL.

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The Oklahoma Violent Death Reporting System (OKVDORS) is a statewide surveillance system for suicides, homicides, undetermined manner deaths, unintentional firearm injury deaths and legal intervention deaths. Data are collected from medical examiner reports, death certificates, law enforcement reports, and child fatality review data. The data are included in the National Violent Death Reporting System and can be accessed at <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/>.