

Suicide in Oklahoma, 2015

- In 2015, there were 773 suicides by Oklahoma residents, 600 males and 173 females. Suicides comprised 66% of all violent deaths.
- The mean age of victims was 46 years; victims ranged in age from 11 to 98.
- Males had a higher suicide rate than females, regardless of age group. The suicide rate peaked for males 85 years and older at 69.2 per 100,000 (Figure 1).
- For females, the suicide rate peaked at ages 45-54 at a rate of 14.4 per 100,000 (Figure 1).
- The suicide rate among American Indian, non-Hispanics was slightly higher than White, non-Hispanics and 3 times higher than Asian and Black, non-Hispanics (Figure 2).
- 31% of suicide victims had a positive blood alcohol content (BAC) at the time of death; 21% of all BACs were ≥ 0.08 mg/dL.

Figure 1: Gender-Specific Suicide Rates by Age Group, Oklahoma, 2015

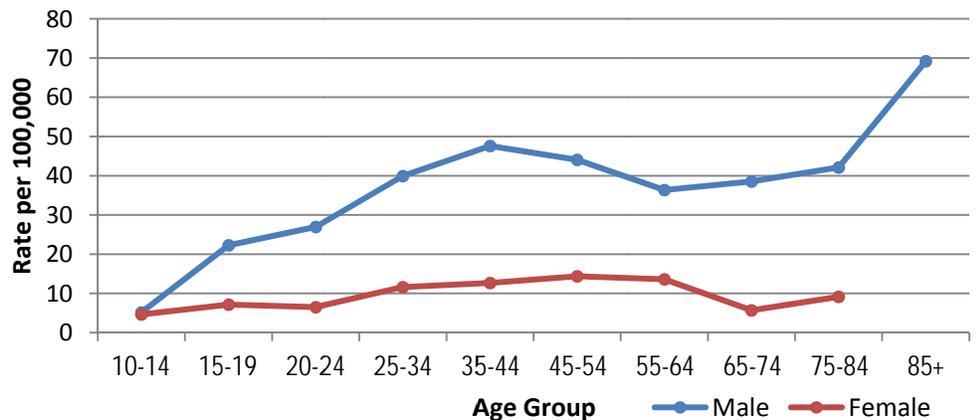
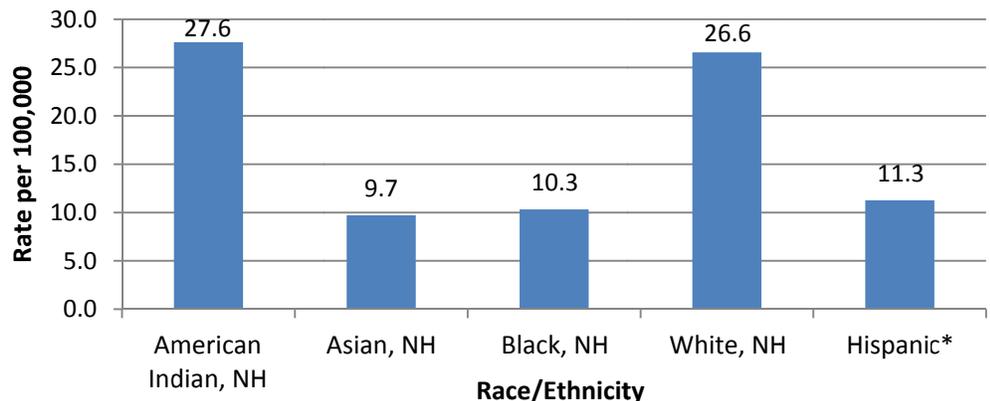


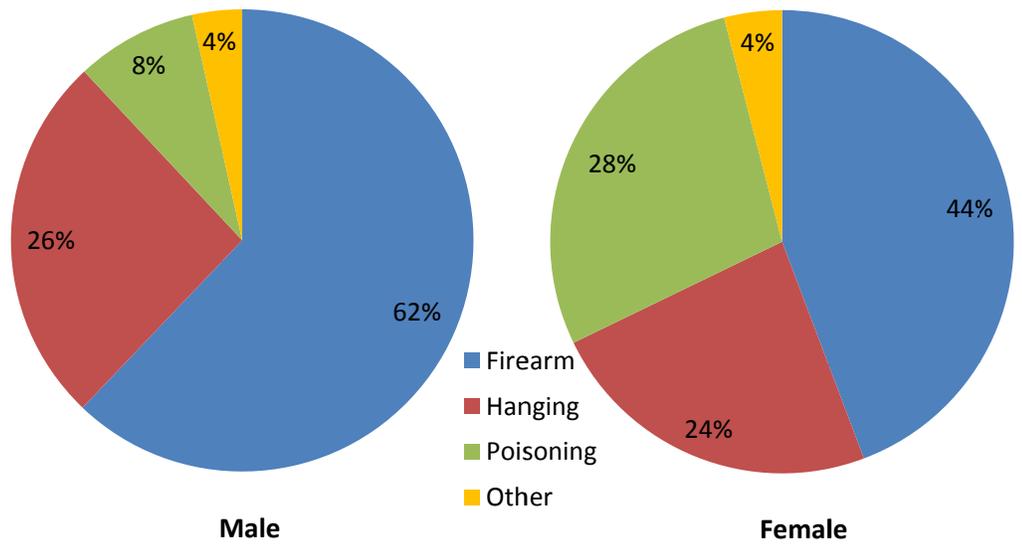
Figure 2: Suicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Oklahoma, 2015



*Hispanic ethnicity is not a racial category.

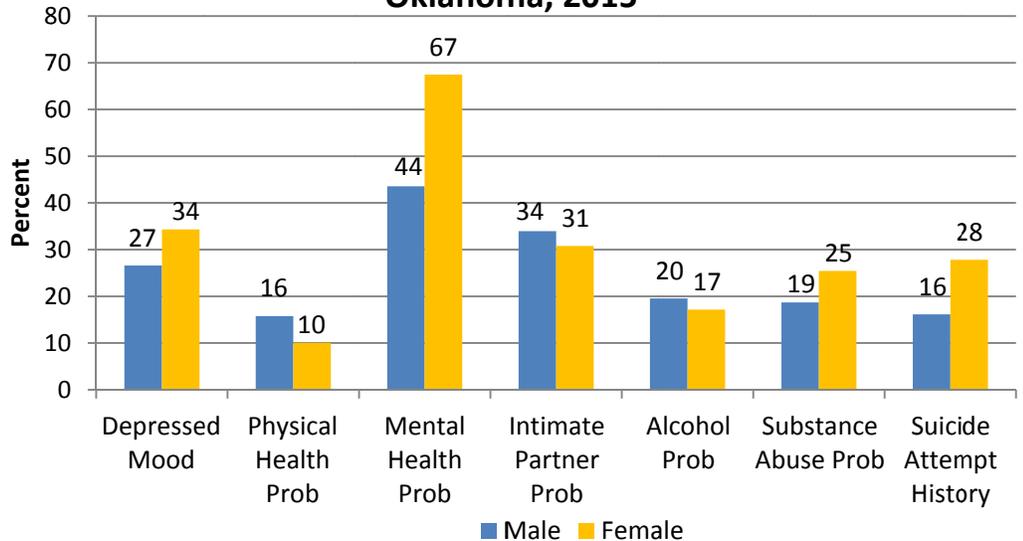
- Among males and females, firearms were the leading method of suicide; males had a higher percentage than females, 62% and 44% of use, respectively (Figure 3).
- Females had a higher percentage of poisoning as a method of suicide as compared to males, 28% and 8%, respectively (Figure 3).
- Among males, the leading circumstances of suicide were mental health problems (44%), intimate partner problems (34%), and depressed mood (27%) (Figure 4).
- Among females, the leading circumstances of suicide were mental health problems (67%), depressed mood (34%), and intimate partner problems (31%) (Figure 4).
- Females more often had a history of suicide attempt than males, 28% and 16% respectively (Figure 4).
- A suicide note was left by 44% of females and 27% of males.

Figure 3. Methods of Suicide by Gender, Oklahoma, 2015



*Other methods include sharp instruments, falls, fires, and other transportation.

Figure 4. Suicide Circumstances* by Gender, Oklahoma, 2015



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

Prepared by: Suhayb Anwar, MPH
Injury Prevention Service