

Suicide in Oklahoma, 2016

- In 2016, there were 812 suicides by Oklahoma residents, 647 males and 165 females. Suicides comprised 68% of all violent deaths.
- The mean age of victims was 45 years; victims ranged in age from 11 to 96.
- Males had a higher suicide rate than females, regardless of age group. The suicide rate peaked for males 85 years and older at 83.3 per 100,000 (Figure 1).
- For females, the suicide rate peaked in the 35 to 44 age group with a rate of 17.7 per 100,000 (Figure 1).
- The suicide rate among American Indian, non-Hispanics was slightly higher than White, non-Hispanics and almost 4 times higher than Asian and Black, non-Hispanics (Figure 2).
- 32% of suicide victims had a positive blood alcohol content (BAC) at the time of death; 24% of all BACs were $\geq 0.08\%$.

Figure 1. Gender-Specific Suicide Rates by Age Group, Oklahoma, 2016

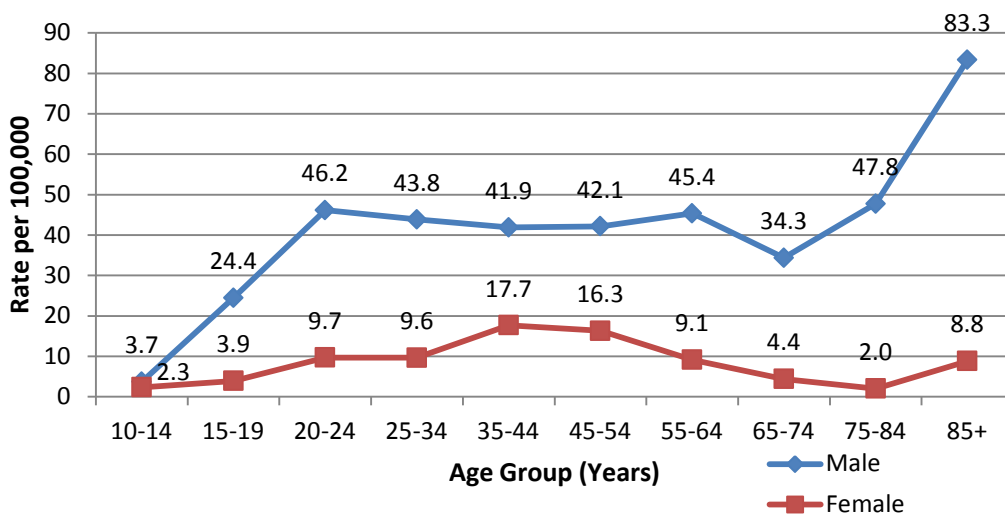
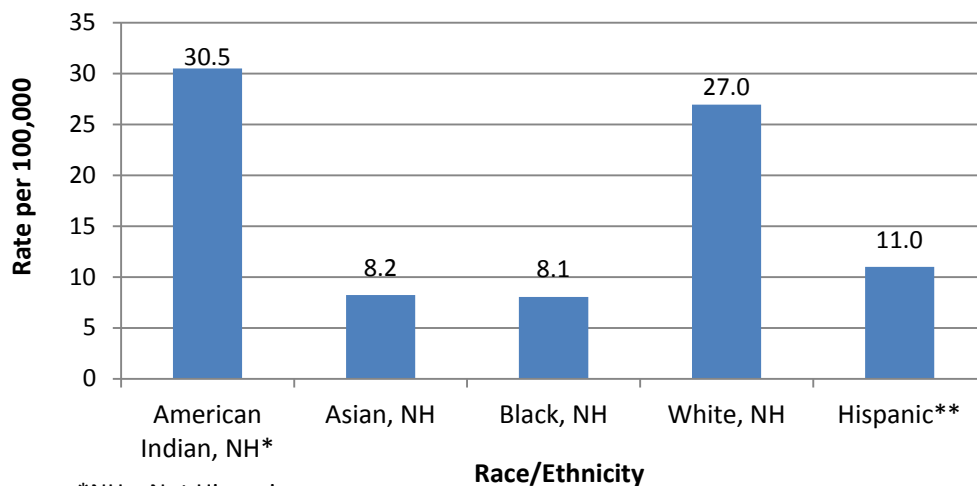


Figure 2. Suicide Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Oklahoma, 2016

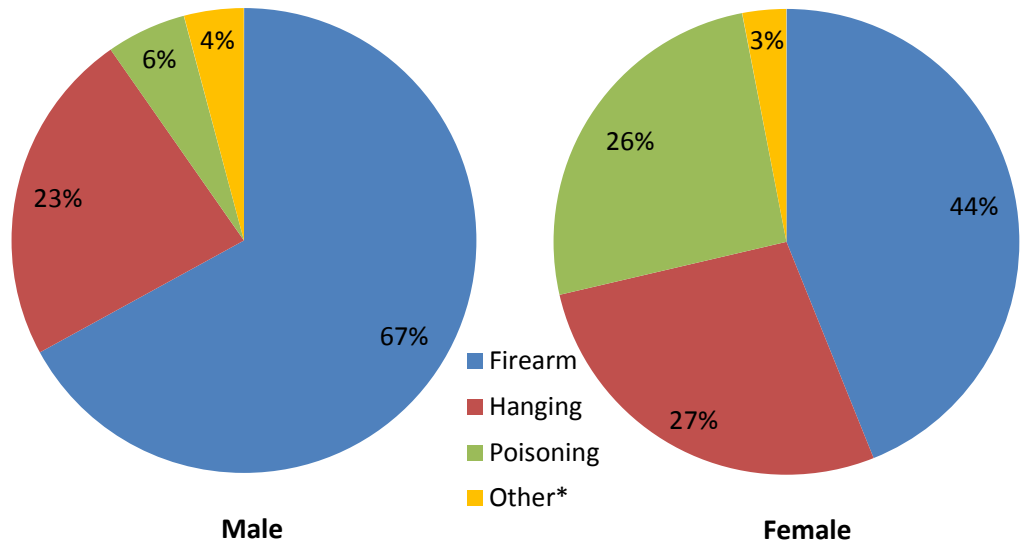


*NH = Not Hispanic

**Hispanic ethnicity is not a racial category.

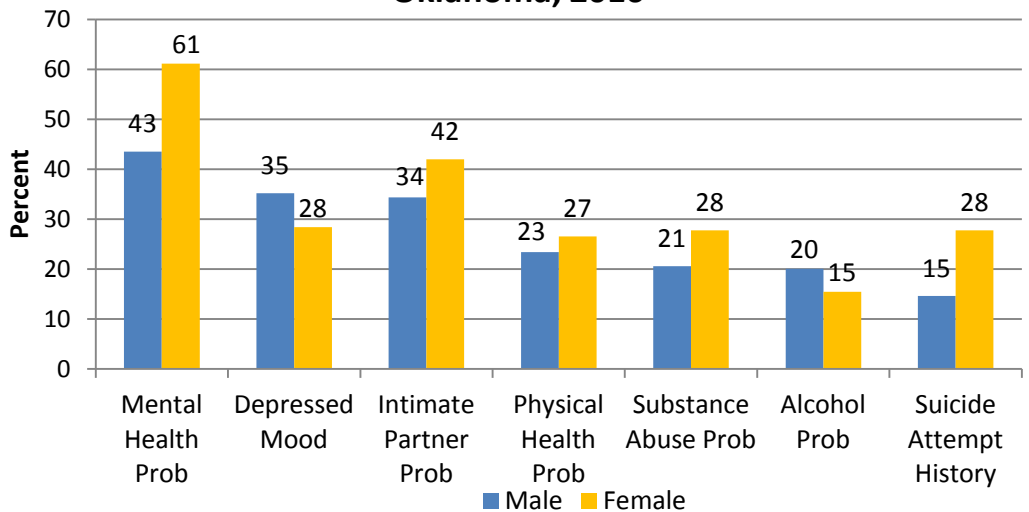
- Among males and females, firearms were the leading method of suicide; males had a higher percentage than females, 67% and 44%, respectively (Figure 3).
- Females had a higher percentage of poisoning as a method of suicide as compared to males, 26% and 6%, respectively (Figure 3).
- Among males, the leading circumstances of suicide were mental health problems (43%), depressed mood (35%), and intimate partner problems (34%) (Figure 4).
- Among females, the leading circumstances of suicide were mental health problems (61%) and intimate partner problems (42%) (Figure 4).
- Females more often had a history of suicide attempt than males, 28% and 15% respectively (Figure 4).
- A suicide note was left by 44% of females and 32% of males.

Figure 3. Method of Suicide by Gender, Oklahoma, 2016



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

Figure 4. Suicide Circumstances* by Gender, Oklahoma, 2016



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

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The Oklahoma Violent Death Reporting System (OKVDRS) 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, and law enforcement reports. The data are included in the National Violent Death Reporting System and can be accessed at <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/>.