



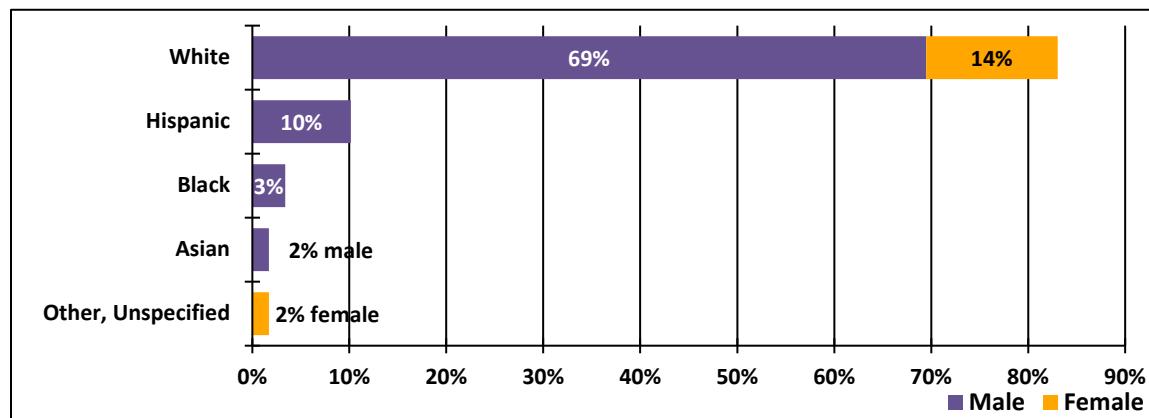
## SUICIDE DEATHS IN LANCASTER COUNTY, 2022

### BACKGROUND

Lancaster County, Pennsylvania is an urban county with a population of more than 556,000 people (274,000 males and 282,000 females). In 2022, Lancaster County had 59 suicide deaths (41 males and 8 females) which occurred at a rate of 11 suicide deaths per 100,000 people. The Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System (PAVDRS) worked closely with the Bureau of Health Statistics and Registries, the Lancaster County Coroner's Office, and Lancaster County law enforcement to gather detailed information about each violent death. Below are some key findings from those collaborations.

- In 2022, there was at least one suicide death per week in Lancaster County.
- In Lancaster County, males were over five times more likely to die by suicide than females.
- Overall, suicide rates in Lancaster County were lower than the state average:
  - Lancaster Rates:** 10 deaths per 100,000 residents (males 18 and females 3).
  - Pennsylvania Rates:** 13 deaths per 100,000 residents (males 23 and females 6).

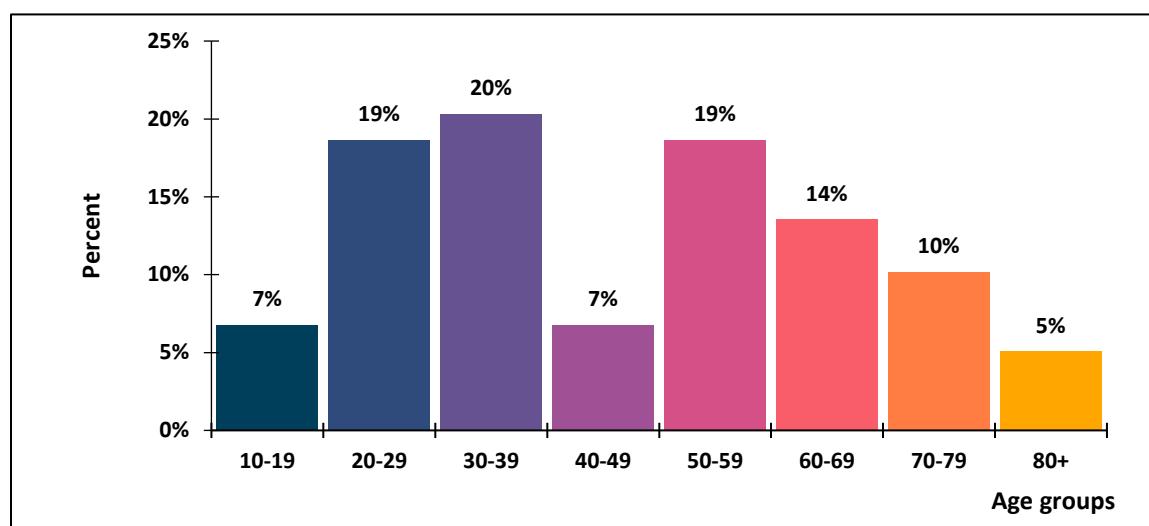
### Race\*/Ethnicity and Sex of People who Died by Suicide



- White, non-Hispanic males accounted for 69% of all suicide victims in Lancaster County in 2022.

\*Non-Hispanic

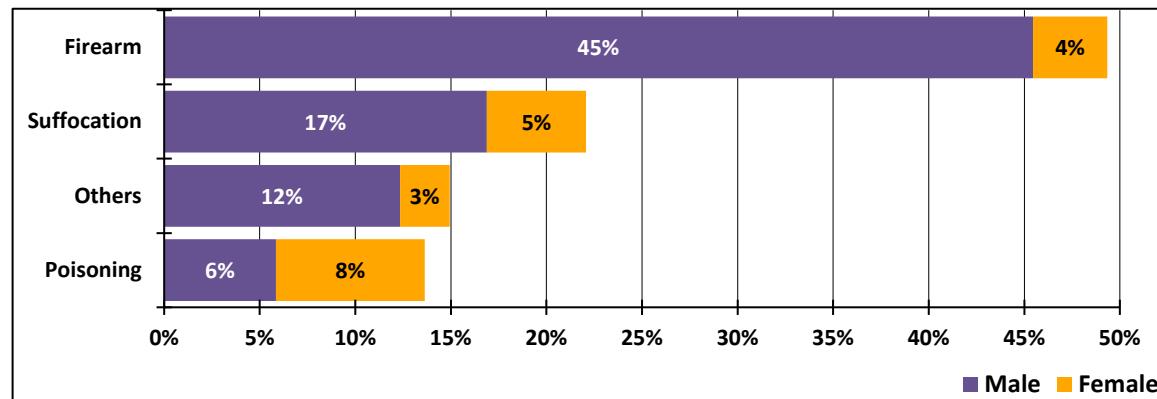
### Age of People who Died by Suicide



- The 30-39 age group had the highest percentage of all persons who died by suicide.
- The 80+ age group had the lowest percentage of all persons who died by suicide.

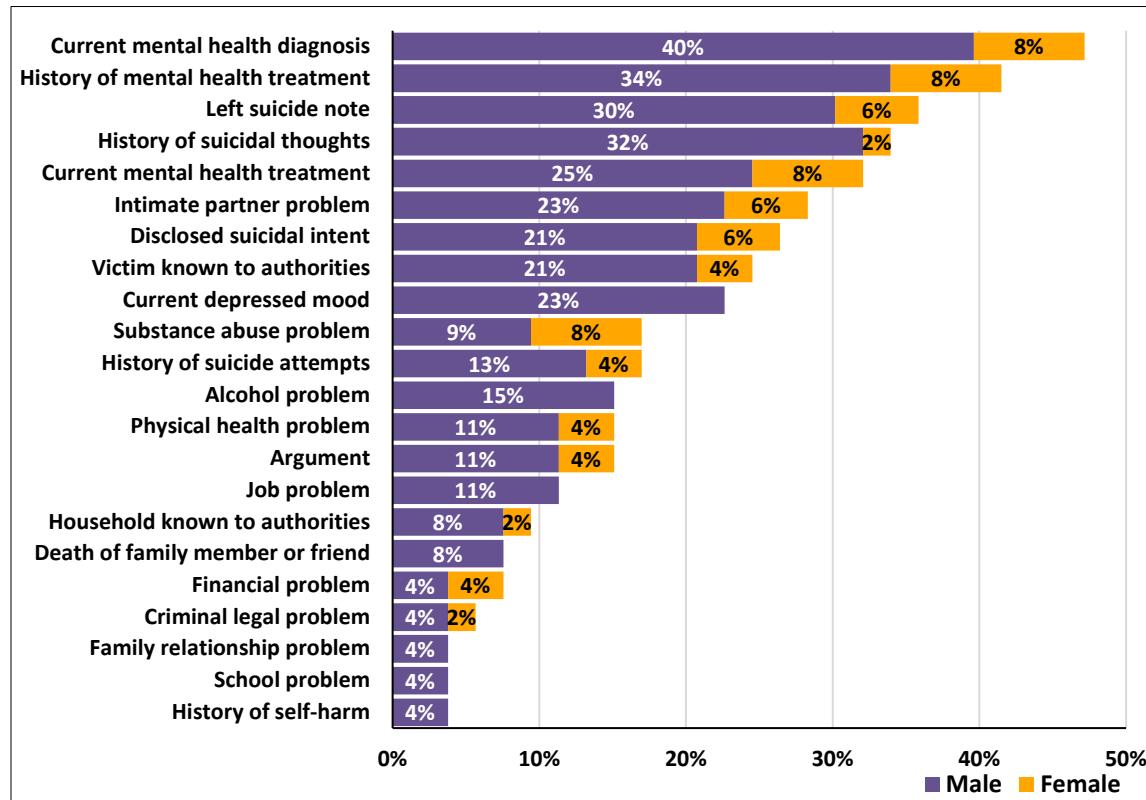


## Leading Cause of Suicide Deaths by Sex



- Firearms were involved in 49% of suicides in Lancaster County in 2022.
- “Other” causes of suicide include sharp instruments.

## Most Common Precipitating Circumstances



- At least 48% of people who died by suicide had a diagnosed mental health problem.
- Approximately 42% of people who died by suicide received mental health treatment some time in their past.
- At least 33% of people received mental health treatment within two months of their death by suicide.

Note: The denominator for Most Common Precipitating Circumstances is the sum of records with coroner/medical examiner and law enforcement circumstantial data. Circumstantial information is not available for all deaths. Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

The PAVDRS is a state level surveillance system funded and overseen by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The program is part of the National Violent Death Reporting System. The PAVDRS collects data on suicides, homicides, deaths of undetermined intent and accidental firearm deaths. The program collects data from death certificates, coroners/medical examiners, and law enforcement. PAVDRS/NVDRS data are used for research, policymaking, and to inform violence prevention programs and strategies to enhance community safety. For more information, please visit the [PAVDRS webpage](#) or email [RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov](mailto:RA-DHPAVDRS@pa.gov)

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