



Fulton, Defiance, Henry, Williams Counties, Ohio

www.4countysuicideprevention.org

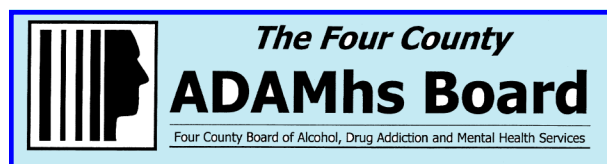
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Preventing Suicide Through Education and Awareness

Four County Suicide Data

10 Year Summary 2008-2017



Four County 2008- 2017 Suicide Data Summary

Suicide is a major public health issue that causes immeasurable suffering and loss to individuals, families and communities. During the period of 2008-2017, the total number of suicide deaths in Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties, Ohio was 185. This raw data was collected from the death certificates through local health departments with deaths reported by residence, regardless of where the death occurred. The highest number of suicides in the four-county area continues to be among middle-aged residents aged 40-59 year olds (44%), which follows state and national trends. (1) Males represent 84% of the area deaths, with firearms (39%) being the primary means.

Unlike other causes of death, the majority of area suicides (71%) occurred in the home of the deceased. This often results in the body being discovered by a loved one. This fact supports the continued need for postvention support and trauma informed care for survivors. To meet this need the Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition (FCSPC), in partnership with the Four County ADAMhs Board, developed the local Four County L.O.S.S. Team (Local Outreach to Survivors of Suicide) in 2015. As a part of the first response, the L.O.S.S. team works to prevent future suicide deaths by interrupting the cycle of negative coping that puts survivors at a higher risk for taking their own lives. This postvention approach to suicide helps to support survivors from the very moment of their loss, by providing important information and connection to needed services. In addition to the LOSS call, support is also provided to those bereaved by suicide in the form of follow-up telephone calls, the Survivors of Suicide support group, and the annual Survivor's Day Event. Since its inception, the Four County L.O.S.S. Team has responded to more than 50 deaths by suicide throughout Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties.

In 2018, the Center for Disease Control released a report demonstrating that from 1999 to 2017, suicide rates in the U.S. rose by 30%, with rates specific to Ohio rising by a staggering 36%. (2) Clearly there is more work to be done in order to prevent deaths by suicide. With this focus, the Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition's initiatives in 2018 included an ongoing awareness campaign targeting the reduction of suicide deaths by firearms, Mental Health First Aid trainings designed to educate lay community members in recognizing and managing mental health crisis, and the Signs of Suicide program designed to educate middle and high school youth on how to identify suicidal risk factors in themselves and their peers, among others. All of these efforts are designed to support the FCSPC's firm belief that even one suicide death in our four-county area is too many.

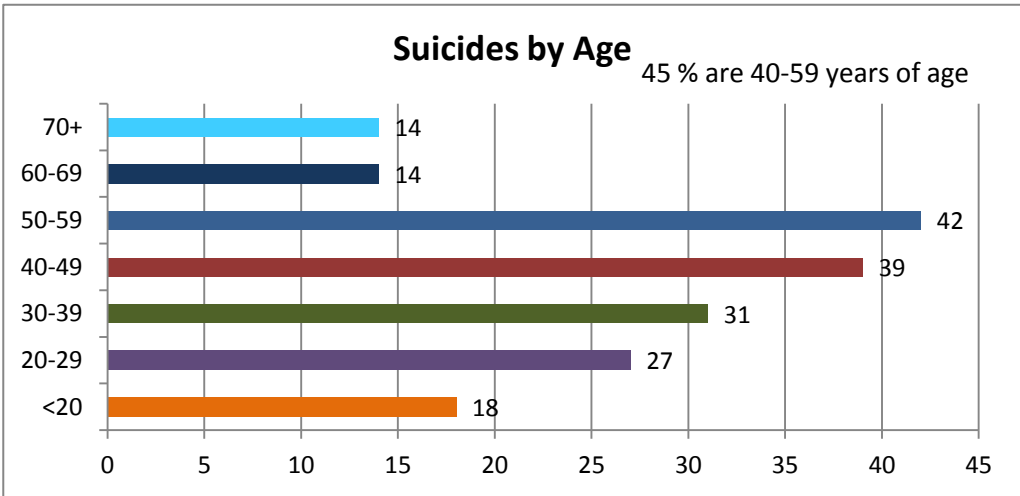
For more information on the Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition visit:

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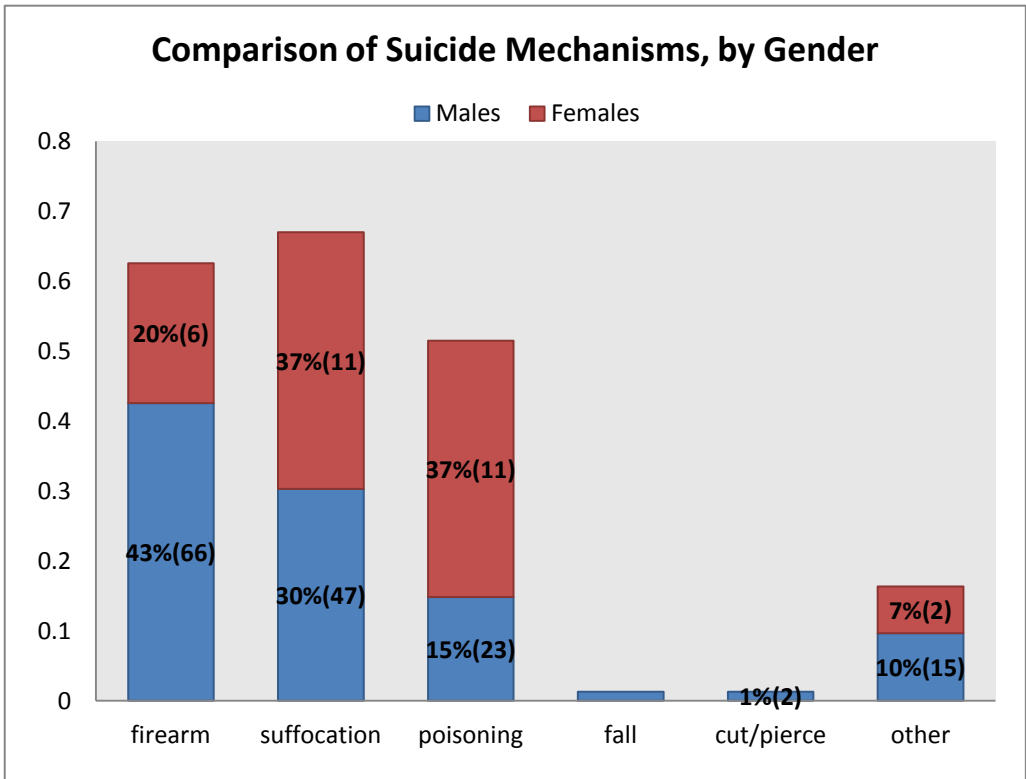
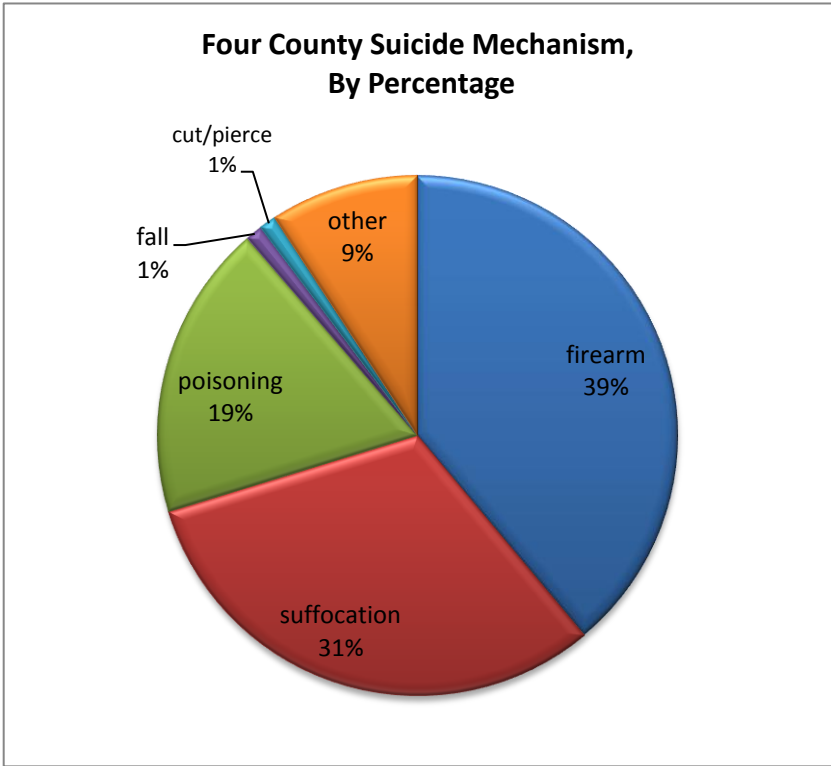
Suicide Deaths by County

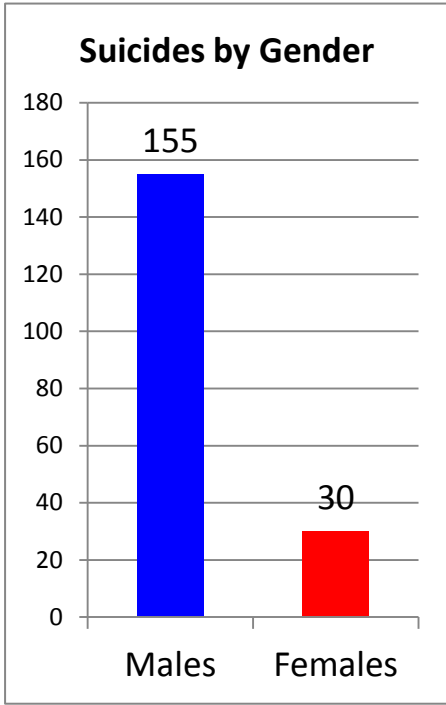
	<u>Defiance</u>	<u>Fulton</u>	<u>Henry</u>	<u>Williams</u>	<u>Total</u>
2008	5	6	2	8	21
2009	9	4	5	4	22
2010	3	8	3	3	17
2011	3	4	5	8	20
2012	1	9	1	3	14
2013	1	5	3	2	11
2014	4	5	4	4	17
2015	5	3	5	1	14
2016	7	8	2	6	23
2017	9	5	3	9	26
Total	47	57	33	48	185



Suicide Location

Decedent's Home	132	71%
Highway/Street	11	6%
Train Track	6	3%
Hotel	5	3%
Other	31	17%
Total	185	100%

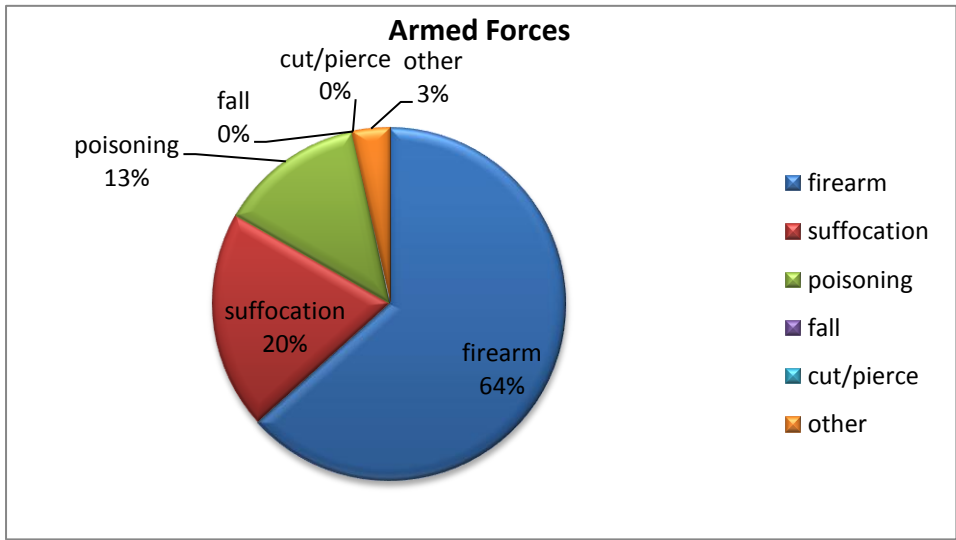




Deaths per Year

2008	21
2009	22
2010	17
2011	20
2012	14
2013	11
2014	17
2015	14
2016	23
2017	26

2017 represented a 10 year high in the total number of suicide deaths in the four-county area.



(1) CDC, *Suicide Among Adults Aged 35–64 Years — United States, 1999–2010*, Weekly May 3, 2013/ 62(17); 321-325. Available at http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6217a1.htm?s_cid=mm6217a1_w

(2) CDC, *Suicide Rising Across the US; More Than a Mental Health Concern* - National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, June 7, 2018. Available at <https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/suicide/index.html>

Report compiled by Tonie S. Long, QI Director at the Four County ADAMhs Board

