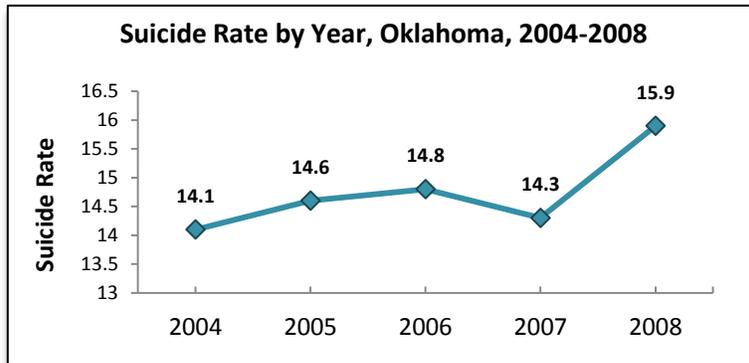


Oklahoma Suicide Fact Sheet, 2004-2008

SOURCE: Summary of Violent Deaths in Oklahoma; Oklahoma Violent Death Reporting System, 2004-2008

Statewide

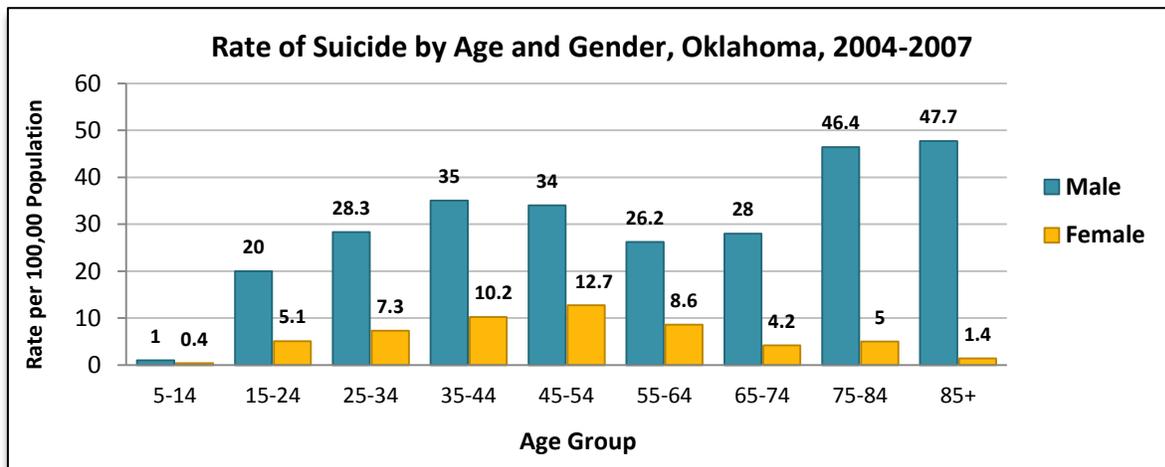
- Between the years of 2004-2008, 2,673 deaths by suicide were reported in Oklahoma.
- On average, 527 Oklahomans die by suicide every year.
- In 2004, the annual suicide rate in Oklahoma was 14.1. In 2008, the rate was 15.9, an increase of 13%.



- The annual rate of death by suicide in Oklahoma (2004-2008) is 14.8 (suicides per 100,000 people). In comparison, the suicide rate for the United States (2004-2007) is 11.2.
- Suicide comprises almost 58% of the reported violent deaths in Oklahoma.
- Of those that lost their lives to suicide, 23% had served in the US military.

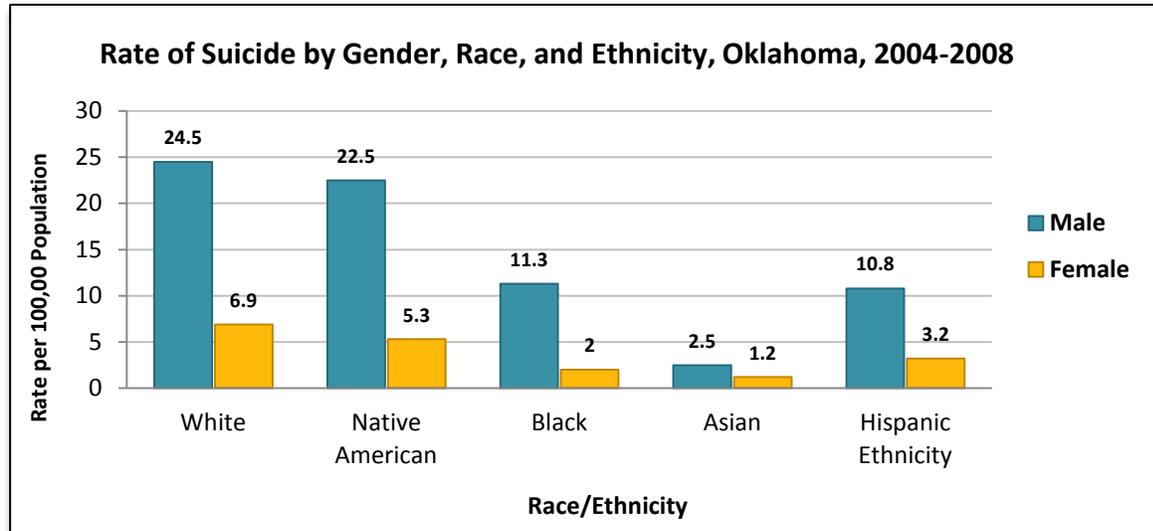
Gender

- 78% of suicide victims are male, 22% are female.
- The rate of suicide completion is higher for males than females across all categories of race and age.
- With a suicide rate of 46.6 per 100,000, the highest risk of suicide exists among males 75 and older.
- For females, the highest rate of suicide was for those between the ages of 35-54.



Race/Ethnicity

- The suicide rate is particularly high for white males (24.5).
- Native American males have a suicide rate of 22.5 per 100,000.
- Non-Hispanics (15.2) are almost twice as likely to die by suicide than Hispanics (7.2)



Method

- Between 2004 and 2008, firearms were used in 60% of suicide completions. Suicide by hanging/strangulation (19%) was a distant second in terms of method, with poisoning recorded as the means in 18% of the deaths by suicide.
- When examining men and women separately, a firearm is noted as the method of suicide for 65% of the cases for males, and 39% for females. For females, poisoning (39%) and firearms (39%) were the methods used most often.
- Prescription drugs were used in 69% of all suicides by poisoning.

Circumstances*

**More than one circumstance may have been associated with the death.*

- For those that suffered death by suicide, 18% had previously attempted suicide.
- Thirty-one percent of suicide victims had communicated their feelings or intentions regarding suicide to someone.
- For the victims about which the circumstances associated with the suicide was available, "current depressed mood" was cited in 43% of the cases of those that died by suicide.
- Thirty-three percent were reportedly experiencing intimate partner problems.
- In 30% (Men: 25%, Women: 45%) of the cases, the victims were suffering from a current mental health problem, and 27% had a physical health problem.
- Twenty-two percent had experienced a crisis in the past two weeks.

