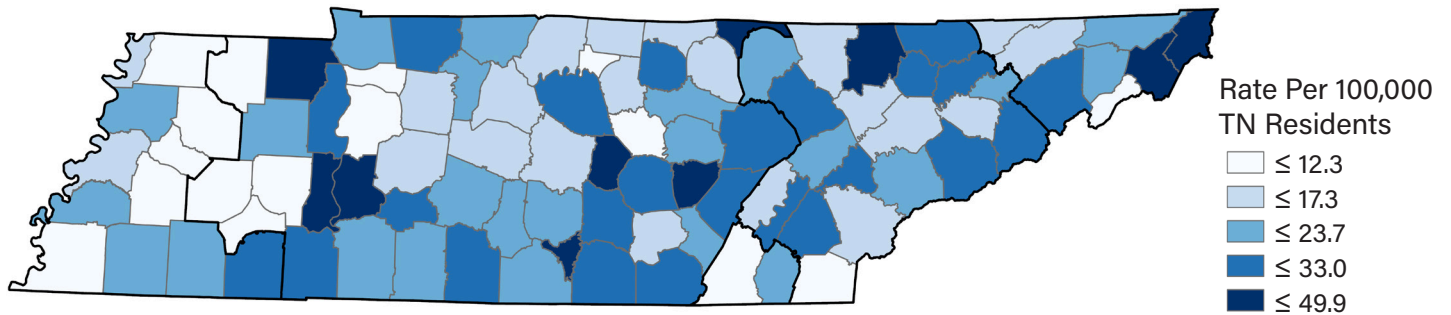




Quick Facts: Suicide in Tennessee | 2020

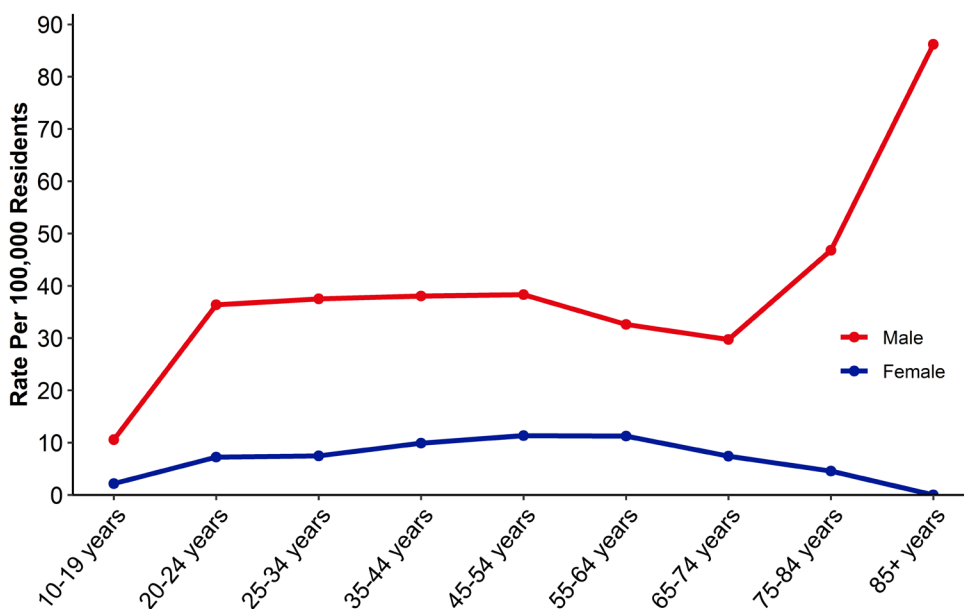
The Tennessee Violent Death Reporting System (TNVDRS) helps state and local officials understand why violent deaths occur by linking data from medical examiner, law enforcement, and vital statistics records. It is the only data system for homicide and suicide that pools data on violent deaths and their circumstances from multiple sources into one anonymous database. TNVDRS collects over 600 unique data elements to provide context on violent deaths occurring in our state including: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths of undetermined intent. For more information or to request additional data, please contact us at TN.VDRS@tn.gov

Suicide Rates by County of Injury | TNVDRS, 2020



Of the 2,209 violent deaths in TN in 2020, 1,220 were deaths due to suicide (55.2%). TNVDRS classifies cases by geographical location of injury; county-level data was unavailable for fewer than five cases.

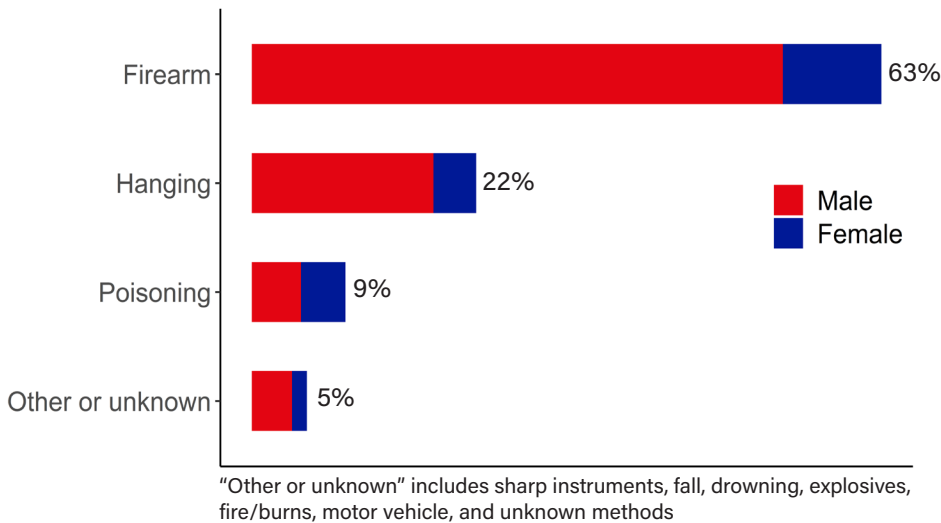
Sex-Specific Rates by Age | TNVDRS, 2020



Males had a higher suicide rate than females, regardless of age. The highest rate for males was 86.2 per 100,000 among males 85 years and older. The highest rate for females was 11.3 per 100,000 among females between the ages of 45 and 54.

The majority of all individuals who died by suicide in 2020 were identified as non-Hispanic (NH) white residents (87.4%). NH white males had higher rates than other racial/ethnic groups in TN (32.3 per 100,000).

Method of Death by Sex | TNVDRS, 2020

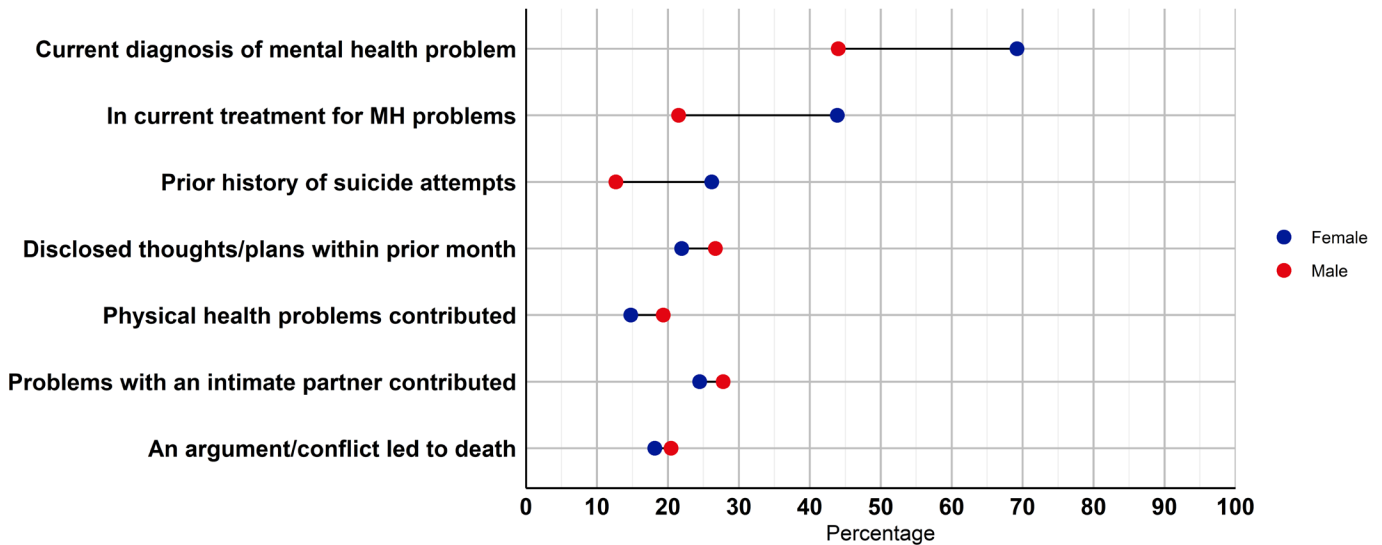


After firearms, hanging and poisoning were the second and third leading methods of suicide.

The majority of males died by firearm suicide (66.2% of all males who died by suicide in 2020), followed by hanging (22.6%) and poisoning (6.1%).

The largest percentage of females died by firearm suicide (49.2% of all females who died by suicide in 2020), followed by poisoning (22.1%) and hanging (21.3%).

Suicide Circumstances by Sex | TNVDRS, 2020



Of individuals with sufficient information to collect circumstance variables, 44.0% of males and 69.2% of females had a current mental health diagnosis. Twenty-one percent (21.5%) of males and 43.9% of females were in current treatment for a mental health problem.

Females (26.2%) were more likely than males (12.6%) to have a history of prior suicide attempts. Males (26.7%) were slightly more likely than females (21.9%) to have disclosed suicidal thoughts or plans within the month prior to injury. Males (19.4%) were also more likely than females (14.8%) to have physical health problems considered to have contributed to death.

Almost twenty-eight percent (27.8%) of males and 24.5% of females had problems with a current or previous intimate partner that contributed to death. Twenty percent (20.4%) of males and 18.1% of females had an argument or conflict that led to death. For 59.8% of males and 67.4% of females that had an argument prior to injury, the injury occurred within 24 hours.

