

2017-2018

# Delaware County Suicide Report

PREPARED BY THE  
DELAWARE GENERAL  
HEALTH DISTRICT



Hope. Awareness. Change.

# Delaware General Health District



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Published 11/26/2019

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## INTRODUCTION

Suicide, or intentional self-harm, is death caused by a person's own actions. Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States (ranked #10 overall) as well as in Ohio (2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death in youth age 10-24). In Delaware County, suicide prevention efforts are led by Helpline's Delaware Suicide Prevention Coalition.

The Delaware Suicide Prevention Coalition is a collaboration of community agencies, schools, and law enforcement dedicated to the mental health and wellness of our community. The coalition strives to increase awareness about suicide as a public health problem that can be prevented. The ultimate goal of the coalition is to reduce the stigma associated with suicide in order to increase each person's ability to seek help and prevent further loss of life.

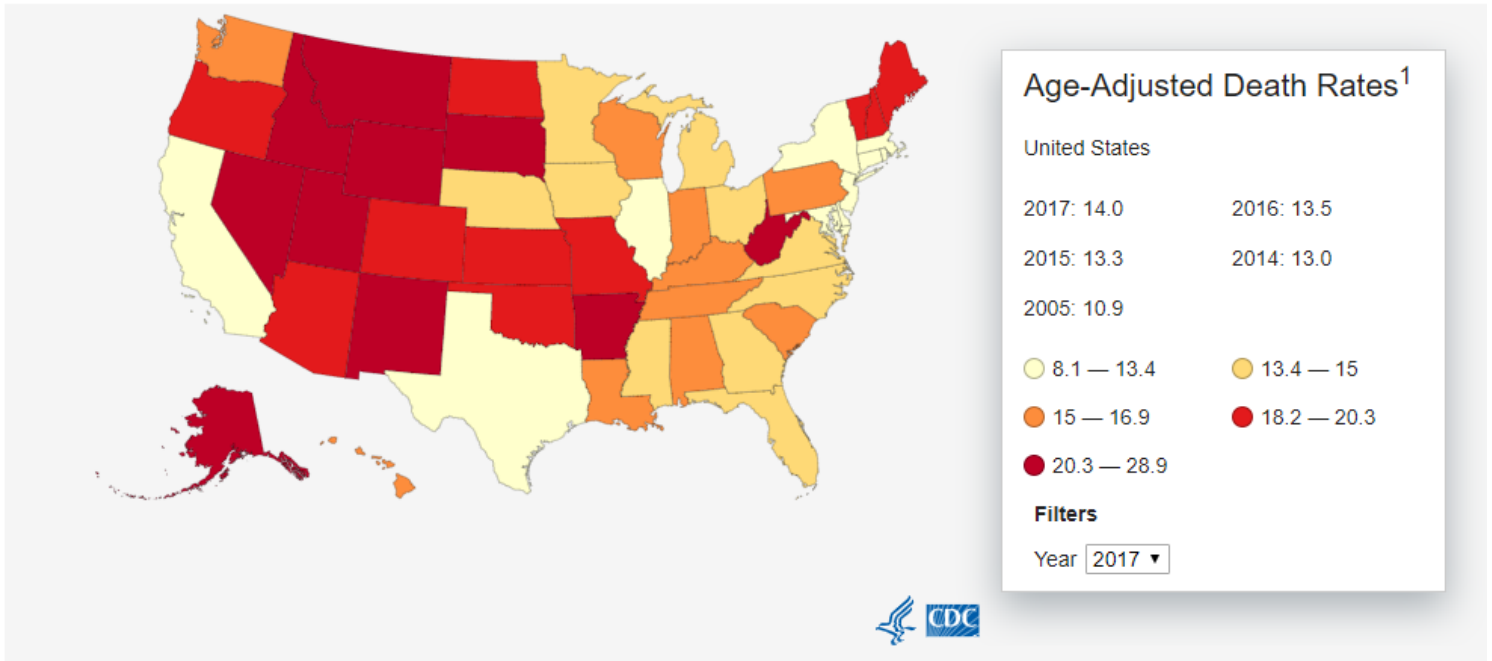
This report was created to inform and guide the coalition's prevention efforts as well as to serve as a resource for local data needs. This report will be updated as new data becomes available. Death data often requires a minimum of 6 months before death records are final and results can be published.



**Hope. Awareness. Change.**

For more information on the Delaware County Suicide Coalition, please contact Sarah Jefferson, Suicide Prevention Manager, Helpline, [sjefferson@helplinedelmor.org](mailto:sjefferson@helplinedelmor.org), 740-363-1836, ext. 112

## Suicide Mortality by State



Suicide mortality varies widely across both US states and regions. In 2017, Ohio reported 1740 deaths by suicide, ranking 33<sup>rd</sup> in the US for most deaths by suicide (age-adjusted rate 14.8/100,000). Nationally, New York State reported the lowest suicide age-adjusted rate (8.1 deaths/100,000) and Montana reporting the greatest rates (28.9/100,000)<sup>2</sup>.

Regional trends can be seen with higher rates in the Western US and Alaska, as well as the far North-Eastern portion of the country. A full breakdown of state rates can be found on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics website: <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/suicide-mortality/suicide.htm>

<sup>1</sup> The number of deaths per 100,000 total population

<sup>2</sup> Stats of the State - Suicide Mortality. (2019, January 10). Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/suicide-mortality/suicide.htm>

## OHIO DATA

When compared to the US, Ohio experienced higher death rates in select subpopulations. These subpopulations included: males, people who identify as Asian or Black, and those age 25-34, 35-44, 55-64.

Below is a trend summary for deaths by Suicide in Ohio<sup>3</sup>.

Deaths by Suicide: Ohio and US Statistics		
Ohio Subpopulations	OH Rate*	US Rate*
Gender		
Female	6.1	6.2
Male	23.8**	22.2
Race/Ethnicity		
Asian	8.7**	6.9
Black	7.5**	6.1
Hispanic	6.8	6.8
White	15.7	15.7
Age		
15-24	12.8	13.1
25-34	20.1**	16.5
35-44	18.1**	17.3
45-54	19.7	19.7
55-64	20.4**	18.7
65-74	14.8	15.3
75-84	14.8	15.3
85+	18.5	19.0

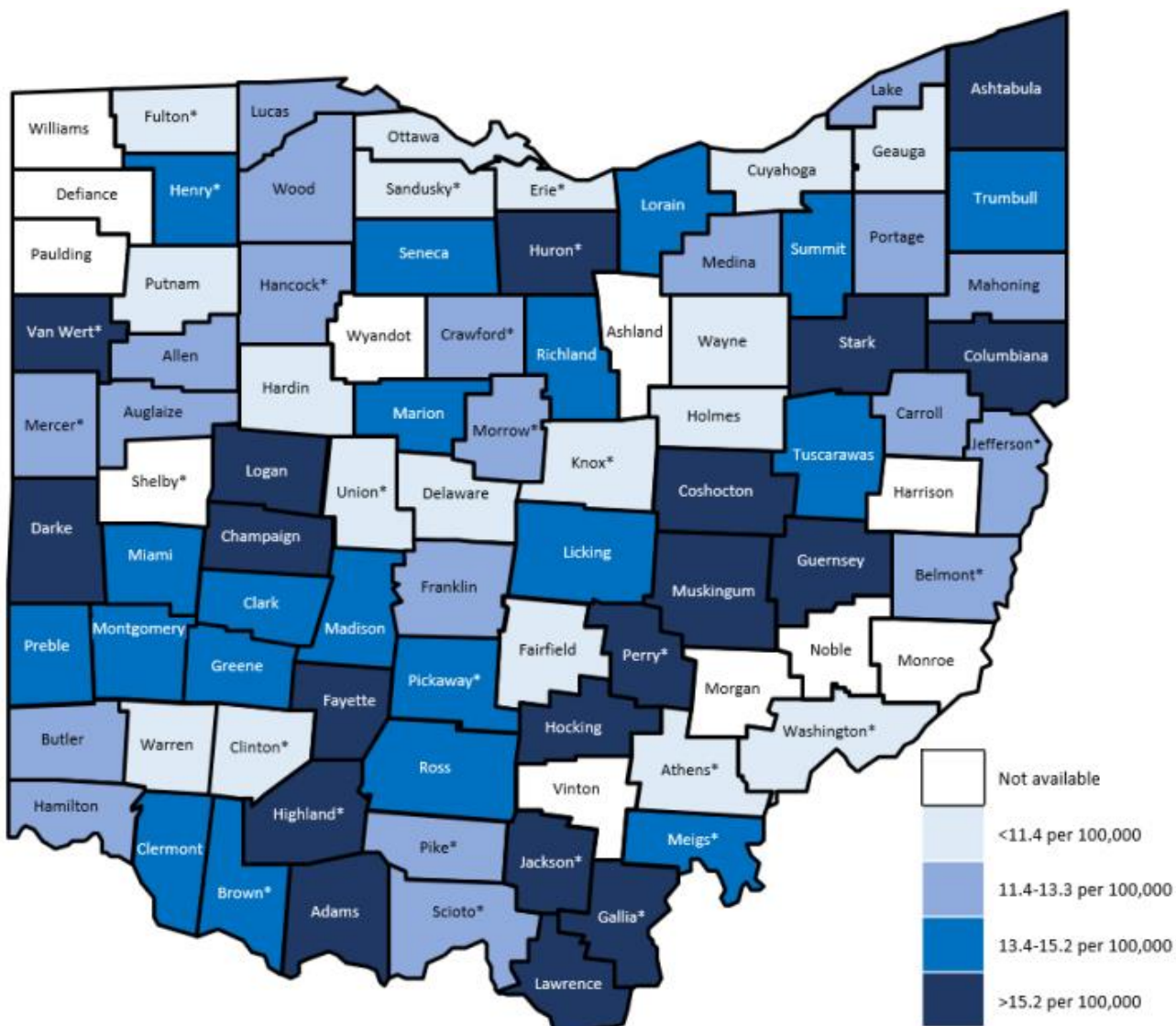
\* The number of deaths per 100,000 total population

\*\*Indicates Ohio has a higher rate than the US

<sup>3</sup> Suicide in Ohio. (2019). Retrieved from <https://www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/Suicide/state/OH>

When comparing counties across Ohio, Delaware County ranks in the lowest tier with less than 11.4 deaths by suicide per 100,000 residents. The highest age-adjusted rates can be found in Guernsey County (27.4 per 100,000) and the lowest in Delaware (7.4 per 100,000)<sup>4</sup>.

Age-adjusted rates of suicide, 2013-2015, Ohio Violent Death Reporting System 2015 Annual Report



Rates are not calculated for counties with <5 cases to avoid unstable estimates.

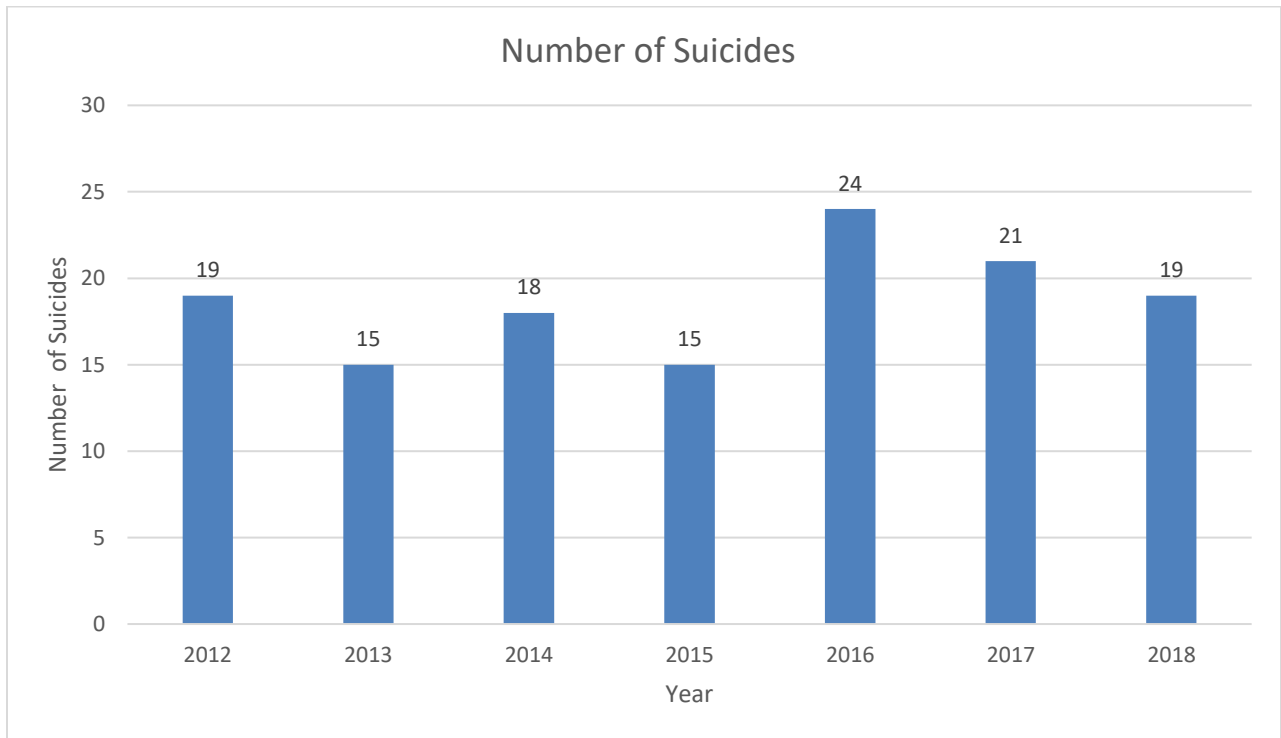
\*Rates based on <10 cases should be interpreted with caution.

Sources: ODH, OH-VDRS and Vital Statistics

<sup>4</sup> Ohio Violent Death Reporting System 2015 Annual Report. (2015). Retrieved from [https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/f6130982-7b08-4822-a3bc-2ea5e2fb5696/OHVDRS-2015-Final.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT\\_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18\\_M1HGKIK0N0JO00Q9DDDDM3000-f6130982-7b08-4822-a3bc-2ea5e2fb5696-mklreeh](https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/wcm/connect/gov/f6130982-7b08-4822-a3bc-2ea5e2fb5696/OHVDRS-2015-Final.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_M1HGKIK0N0JO00Q9DDDDM3000-f6130982-7b08-4822-a3bc-2ea5e2fb5696-mklreeh)

## DELAWARE COUNTY DATA

Delaware County has experienced relatively stable mortality counts since 2012. There was a sharp increase in 2016 with 24 deaths, with counts returning to expected ranges (15-20 deaths) in 2017. This report will examine the years 2017 and 2018 in greater detail.



The following tables and charts will illustrate the 2017, 2018, and combined 2017/2018 deaths by suicide in Delaware County. Data is collected from the Ohio Department of Health Secure Data Warehouse. Data includes deaths of Delaware County residents, regardless of place of death.

Data collected for this report comes from a variety of the Ohio Department of Health's Secure Data Warehouse. This data reflects only deaths of Delaware County residents

Topics covered will include, total counts, age, sex, race, time of year, education level, military experience, marital status, time of death, cause of death, other significant conditions, and place of death.

*These data were provided by the Ohio Department of Health. The Department specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations, or conclusions.*



## 2017 DELAWARE COUNTY DATA

In 2017, there were a total of **21** Delaware County residents who died by suicide. The following data tables describe demographics and relevant details from the 2017 deaths. Each table will contain the actual number (n) of individuals who fall into each category as well as the percent (%) of the total which apply to each category.

### 2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Age Distribution**

Age	N	%
Under 15	0	0%
Under 18	1	5%
15-24	2	10%
25-44	7	33%
45-64	9	43%
65+	3	14%
<b>Age Range</b>		
		16-73
<b>Average Age</b>		
		48
<b>Median Age</b>		
		49

### 2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Gender**

Gender	N	%
Male	15	71%
Female	6	29%

### 2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Race**

Race	N	%
White	18	86%
Black	2	9%
Asian	1	5%

### 2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Military Service (active or retired)**

Military Service	N	%
Yes	3	14%
No	18	86%

2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Educational Attainment**

<b>Education</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
8 <sup>th</sup> grade or less	0	0%
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma	2	9%
High school graduate, GED	4	19%
Some college, no degree	6	29%
Associate's degree	2	9%
Bachelor's Degree	5	24%
Master's Degree	1	5%
Doctorate or professional degree	1	5%

2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Marital Status**

<b>Marital Status</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Never married	5	24%
Married	13	62%
Divorced	1	5%
Widowed	2	9%

2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Time of Year**

<b>Time of Year</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
January-March	2	9%
April-June	6	29%
July-September	7	33%
October-December	6	29%

2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Time of Death**

<b>Time of Death</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
12:01 AM-6 AM	1	5%
6:01 AM-12:00 Noon	2	9%
12:01 PM-6:00 PM	9	43%
6:01 PM-12:00 Midnight	9	43%

2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Cause of Death**

Cause of Death	N	%
Firearm	7	33%
Jumping from high place	0	0%
Jumping/lying in front of moving object	0	0%
Poisoning	3	14%
Self-inflicted incised wound	2	9%
Suffocation/hanging	8	38%
Redacted*	1	5%

\*information not available in records

2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Significant Conditions\***

Significant Conditions	N	%
Alcohol use/alcohol in system	3	14%
Chronic pain	1	5%
Depression	9	43%
LSD in system	1	5%
Cancer	1	5%
Recent suicidal threats	1	5%
None noted	9	43%

\* individuals may have had more than one condition noted in death record, total % will not equal 100%

2017 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Place of Death (Location Type)**

Place of Death	N	%
Barn	1	5%
Basement	1	5%
Business	1	5%
Garage	2	9%
Indoors	1	5%
Maintenance building	1	5%
Outdoors	2	9%
Residence	10	47%
Vehicle	1	5%
None noted	1	5%

## 2018 DELAWARE COUNTY DATA

In 2018, there were a total of **19** Delaware County residents who died by suicide. The following data tables describe demographics and relevant details from the 2018 deaths. Each table will contain the actual number (n) of individuals who fall into each category as well as the percent (%) of the total which apply to each category.

### 2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Age Distribution**

Age	N	%
<b>Under 15</b>	1	5%
<b>Under 18</b>	2	10.5%
<b>15-24</b>	4	21%
<b>25-44</b>	4	21%
<b>45-64</b>	7	37%
<b>65+</b>	4	21%
<b>Age Range</b>		
		14-86
<b>Average Age</b>		
		48.6
<b>Median Age</b>		
		51

### 2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Gender**

Gender	N	%
<b>Male</b>	14	74%
<b>Female</b>	5	26%

### 2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Race**

Race	N	%
<b>White</b>	17	89%
<b>Black</b>	0	0%
<b>Asian</b>	1	5%
<b>Unknown</b>	1	5%

### 2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Military Service (active or retired)**

Military Service	N	%
<b>Yes</b>	3	16%
<b>No</b>	16	84%

2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Educational Attainment**

Education	N	%
8 <sup>th</sup> grade or less	1	5%
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma	1	5%
High school graduate, GED	8	42%
Some college, no degree	3	16%
Associate's degree	1	5%
Bachelor's Degree	2	10.5%
Master's Degree	1	5%
Doctorate or professional degree	2	10.5%

2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Marital Status**

Marital Status	N	%
Never married	7	37%
Married	7	37%
Divorced	4	21%
Widowed	1	5%

2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Time of Year**

Time of Year	N	%
January-March	7	37%
April-June	3	16%
July-September	6	31.5%
October-December	3	16%

2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Time of Death**

Time of Death	N	%
12:01 AM-6 AM	2	10.5%
6:01 AM-12:00 Noon	2	10.5%
12:01 PM-6:00 PM	8	42%
6:01 PM-12:00 Midnight	6	31.5%
Unknown	1	5%

2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Cause of Death**

Cause of Death	N	%
Firearm	4	21%
Jumping from high place	0	0%
Jumping/lying in front of moving object	0	0%
Poisoning	4	21%
Self-inflicted incised wound	0	0%
Suffocation/hanging	9	47%
Redacted	2	10.5%

2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Significant Conditions\***

Significant Conditions	N	%
Alcohol use/alcohol in system	2	10.5%
Depression	10	53%
Heart Disease	1	5%
Recent suicidal threats	0	0%
None noted	5	26%
Redacted	2	10.5%

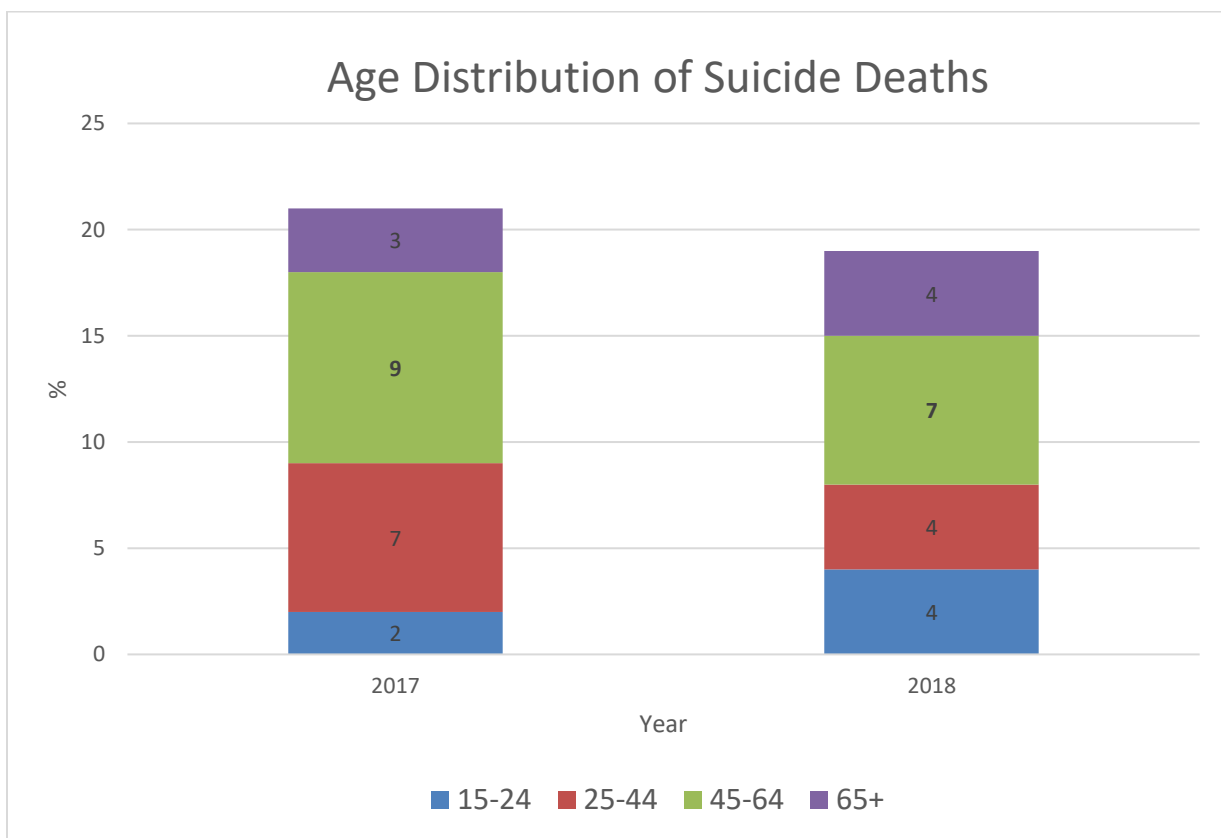
\* individuals may have had more than one condition noted in death record, total % will not equal 100%

2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Place of Death (Location Type)**

Place of Death	N	%
Basement	1	5%
Bathroom	2	10.5%
Bedroom	2	10.5%
City park	1	5%
Hotel/motel	2	10.5%
Residence	9	47%
None noted	2	10.5%

## 2017/2018 COMBINED: AGE 45-64

In Delaware County, the age-group with the highest number of deaths by suicide is age 45-64. In 2017/2018, there were a total of **16** Delaware County residents, age 45-64, who died by suicide. The following data tables describe demographics and relevant details. Each table will contain the actual number (n) of individuals who fall into each category as well as the percent (%) of the total which apply to each category.



2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Gender**

Gender	N	%
Male	10	62.5%
Female	6	37.5%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Race**

Race	N	%
White	16	100%
Black	0	0%
Asian	0	0%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Military Service (active or retired)**

Military Service	N	%
Yes	2	12.5%
No	14	87.5%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Educational Attainment**

Education	N	%
8 <sup>th</sup> grade or less	0	0%
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma	1	6%
High school graduate, GED	4	25%
Some college, no degree	3	19%
Associate's degree	1	6%
Bachelor's Degree	4	25%
Master's Degree	1	6%
Doctorate or professional degree	2	12.5%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Marital Status**

Marital Status	N	%
Never married	1	6%
Married	10	62.5%
Divorced	4	25%
Widowed	1	6%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Time of Year**

Time of Year	N	%
January-March	2	12.5%
April-June	4	25%
July-September	6	37.5%
October-December	4	25%



2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Time of Death**

Time of Death	N	%
12:01 AM-6 AM	1	6%
6:01 AM-12:00 Noon	2	12.5%
12:01 PM-6:00 PM	5	31%
6:01 PM-12:00 Midnight	7	44%
Unknown	1	6%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Cause of Death**

Cause of Death	N	%
Firearm	3	19%
Jumping from high place	0	0%
Jumping/lying in front of moving object	0	0%
Poisoning	5	31%
Self-inflicted incised wound	0	0%
Suffocation/hanging	8	50%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Significant Conditions\***

Significant Conditions	N	%
Alcohol use/alcohol in system	2	12.5%
Cancer	1	6%
Depression	8	50%
Heart Disease	1	6%
Recent suicidal threats	1	6%
None noted	6	37.5%

\* individuals may have had more than one condition noted in death record, total % will not equal 100%

2017/2018 Age 45-64 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Place of Death (Location Type)**

Place of Death	N	%
Bedroom	1	6%
Business	1	6%
City park	1	6%
Hotel/motel	1	6%
Indoors	2	12.5%
Outdoors	1	6%
Residence	11	69%

\* individuals may have had more than one location noted in death record, total % will not equal 100%

## 2017/2018 COMBINED: GENDER

In 2017/2018 there were **29** suicide deaths by males and **11** suicide deaths by females. The following data tables compare select characteristics by percent % of the total by gender.

### 2017/2018 Delaware County Resident Deaths by Suicide: **Select Characteristics by Gender**

	Male	Female*
<b>Age</b>		
<b>Age Range</b>	14-86	38-73
<b>Average Age</b>	45.5	56
<b>Median Age</b>	44	58
<b>Under 18</b>	3	0
<b>Race</b>		
<b>White</b>	86%	90%
<b>Black</b>	7%	0%
<b>Asian</b>	3%	10%
<b>Unknown</b>	3%	0%
<b>Marital Status</b>		
<b>Never married</b>	41%	0%
<b>Married</b>	52%	45%
<b>Divorced</b>	0%	45%
<b>Widowed</b>	7%	9%
<b>Educational Attainment</b>		
<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade or less</b>	3%	0%
<b>9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma</b>	10%	0%
<b>High school graduate, GED</b>	28%	36%
<b>Some college, no degree</b>	17%	36%
<b>Associate's degree</b>	7%	9%
<b>Bachelor's degree</b>	17%	18%
<b>Master's degree</b>	7%	0%
<b>Doctorate or professional degree</b>	10%	0%
<b>Time of Year</b>		
<b>Jan-March</b>	27.5%	9%
<b>April-June</b>	27.5%	9%
<b>July-September</b>	27.5%	45%
<b>October-December</b>	17%	36%
<b>Cause of Death</b>		
<b>Firearm</b>	34%	9%
<b>Jumping from high place</b>	0%	0%
<b>Jumping/lying in front of moving object</b>	0%	0%
<b>Poisoning</b>	10%	36%
<b>Self-inflicted incised wound</b>	3%	9%
<b>Suffocation/hanging</b>	41%	45%
<b>Redacted</b>	10%	0%

\*Numbers are small (n<20) and should be used with caution