



# Suicide Fatality Report

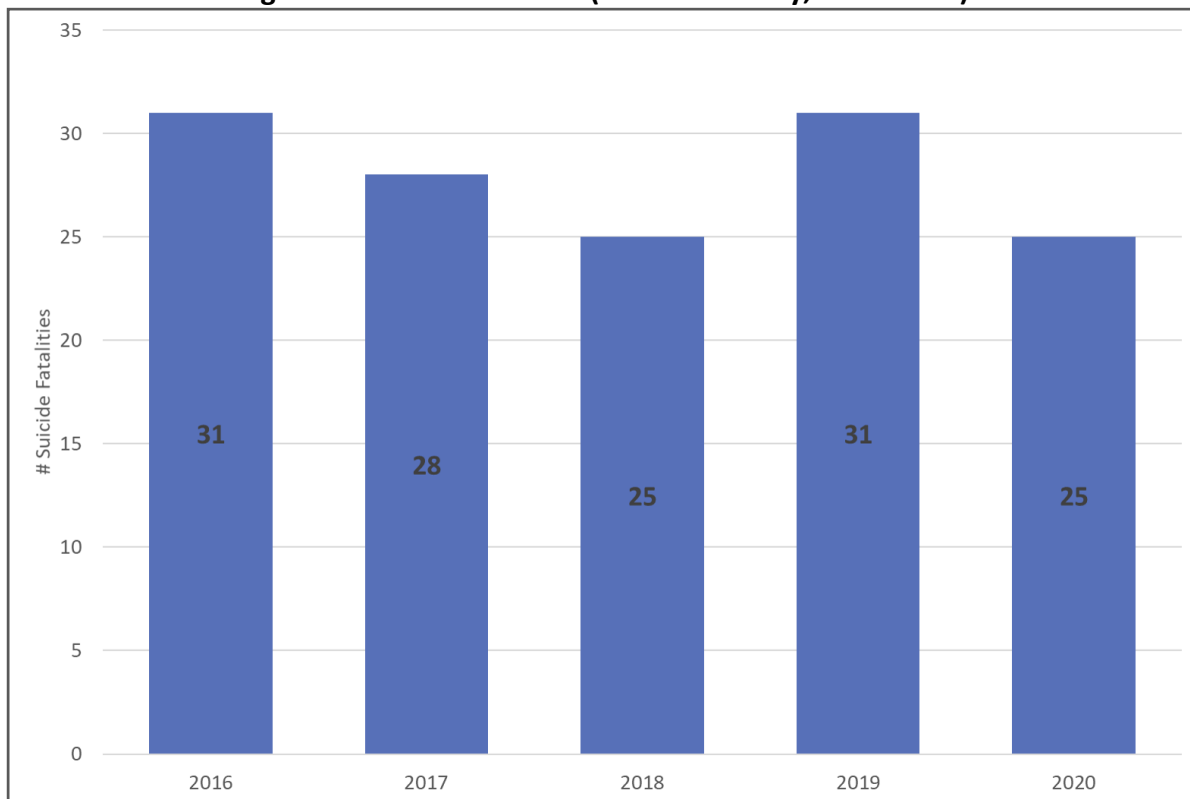
2016-2020

8/10/2021

This report contains information about suicide fatalities that occurred between 2016 and 2020 among Medina County, OH residents. Suicide is defined as a death that is caused from a self-inflicted injury and requires explicit evidence of intent to die such as a suicide note or verbal threat, a history of previous attempts, or an act with implicit intent.

Suicide is one of the five leading causes of death among Medina County residents who are between the ages of 1 and 59 years. In the past 5 years, there were a total of 140 suicides and the overall age-adjusted mortality rate was 77.8 fatalities per 100,000 residents. There has been some annual fluctuation in the number of suicides but overall there are no clear trend emerging.

**Figure 1. Suicide Fatalities (Medina County, 2016-2020)**



\*Fatality data are from the Ohio Department of Health Department of Vital Statistics Mortality Records. Data were extracted on 6/7/2021. Data from 2020 are considered preliminary and subject to change as more information is added.

<b>Table 1: Cause of Suicide Fatalities Classified (Medina County, 2016-2020)</b>			
<b>Description</b>	<b>ICD 10 Codes</b>	<b>Number of Fatalities</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Discharge of firearms	X72-X74	76	54.3%
Hanging, strangulation, and suffocation	X70	41	29.3%
Self-poisoning by exposure to drugs and other biological substances	X61-X62; X64	11	7.9%
Jumping from a high place	X80	<5	-
Self-poisoning by unspecified liquid substances and their vapors	X69	<5	-
Self-poisoning by gases and vapors	X67	<5	-
Sequelae* of intentional self-harm	X870	<5	-
All other and unspecified means and their sequelae*	X78, X81, X83	6	4.3%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>140</b>	
*Sequelae refers to conditions that occur as the result of a disease or injury			

Table 1 displays suicide fatalities by means indicated based on ICD 10 codes provided in the death record. Guns are used in more than half of suicide fatalities (54.3%), a third (29.3%) are from hanging, strangulation, and suffocation, and 7.9% are from self-poisoning using drugs or other biological substances.

Regardless of the means of suicide, 13.6% of all suicide fatalities (19 individuals) had a controlled substance or drug indicated in the death record. Of those who had a drug indicated at time of death, 6 (31.6%) had alcohol, 6 (31.6%) had prescription opiates, and fewer than 5 had benzodiazepines, barbituates, cocaine, methamphetamine, fentanyl, and 5 (26.3%) had other, unspecified drugs indicated. Overall, and 8 (42.1%) had more than one substance or drug indicated.

**Figure 2. Suicide Fatalities by Gender and Year of Death (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

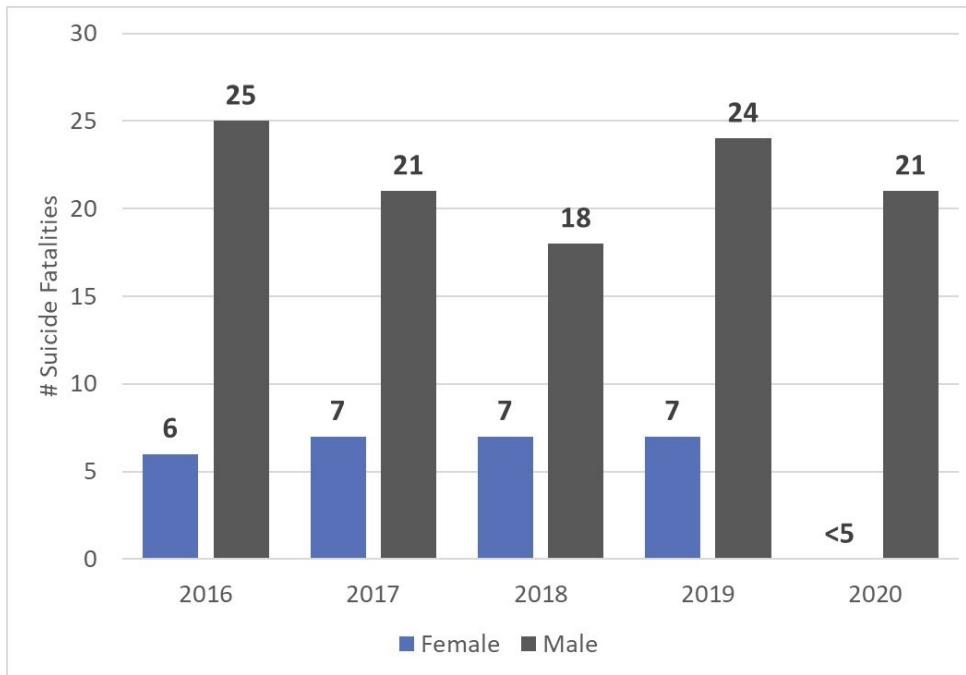


Figure 2 displays suicide fatalities by gender and year of death. The crude mortality rate for males (123.4 per 100,000 males) was about four times as high as it was for females (34.6 per 100,000 females). Over time, the disparity in the number of fatalities among males and females had decreased between 2016 and 2018 but widened substantially in 2019 and 2020. Data for females in 2020 was not presented because fewer than 5 fatalities were observed.

**Table 2: Suicide Fatalities by Age Groups and Year of Death (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

Age Groups	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Totals	Rate*	Percent of Total
0-14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24 years	-	5	5	5	-	17	80.2	12.1%
25-44 years	9	9	8	9	10	45	108.2	32.1%
45-64 years	14	8	10	7	10	49	94.4	35.0%
65+ years	8	6	-	9	-	27	87.6	2.3%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>78.7</b>	

\*Rate is calculated per 100,000 population in that age group based on 2019 American Community Survey 5-year estimates

-Data are not presented when fewer than 5 fatalities were observed

Table 2 displays the number of suicide fatalities by age group and year of death. The 25-44 years age group had the highest rate of suicide fatalities with 45 fatalities (108.2 deaths per 100,000 individuals in that age group). There were fewer than 5 suicides among adolescents. Ages ranged from 13 to 85 years of age with an average age of 46.3 years.

**Table 3: Suicide Fatalities by Residential Zip Codes and Area (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

Zip Codes	Area	Number of Suicide Fatalities	Rate of Fatalities per 100,000*
44203	Norton (Border of Wadsworth)	0	0
44212	Brunswick	28	80.2
44215	Chippewa Lake	<5	-
44217	Creston	<5	-
44230	Doylestown (Border of Wadsworth)	0	0
44233	Hinckley	<5	65.4
44235	Homerville	0	0
44253	Litchfield	<5	-
44254	Lodi	9	186.2
44256	Medina	55	88.7
44273	Seville	5	68.1
44275	Spencer	<5	-
44280	Valley City	5	109.7
44281	Wadsworth	22	73.4
<b>Totals</b>		<b>140</b>	<b>78.7</b>

^Rate is calculated per 100,000 population based on 2019 American Community Survey 5-year estimates  
 -Data are not presented when fewer than 5 fatalities were observed.

Table 3 displays the number of suicide fatalities by the individuals' residential zip codes and area. The zip codes with the highest rate of fatalities were the following: 44254 (Lodi), 44280 (Valley City), and 44256 (Medina).

**Figure 3: Density of Suicide Fatalities Based on Location of Injury and Death (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

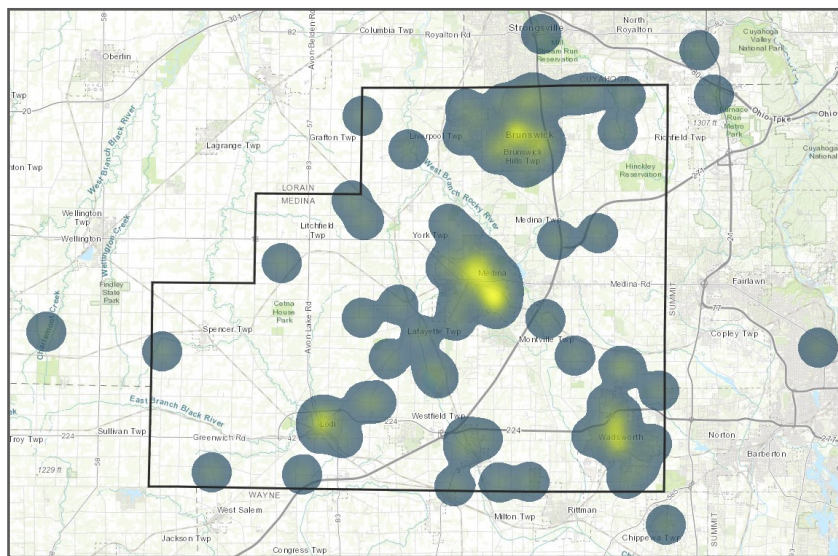


Figure 3 displays the density of locations of where suicide fatalities occurred (based on location of injury or location of death, if provided). One in five fatalities (18.5%) occurred outside of Medina County. In examining the location of death, 110 (78.6%) died in a home or other residence, 12 (8.6%) died outside in a park or wooded area, and 5 (3.6%) died in a vehicle or parking lot. Other locations indicated include barns, hotels, jail, overpasses, and railroad tracks.

**Figure 3. Suicide Fatalities by Educational Attainment (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

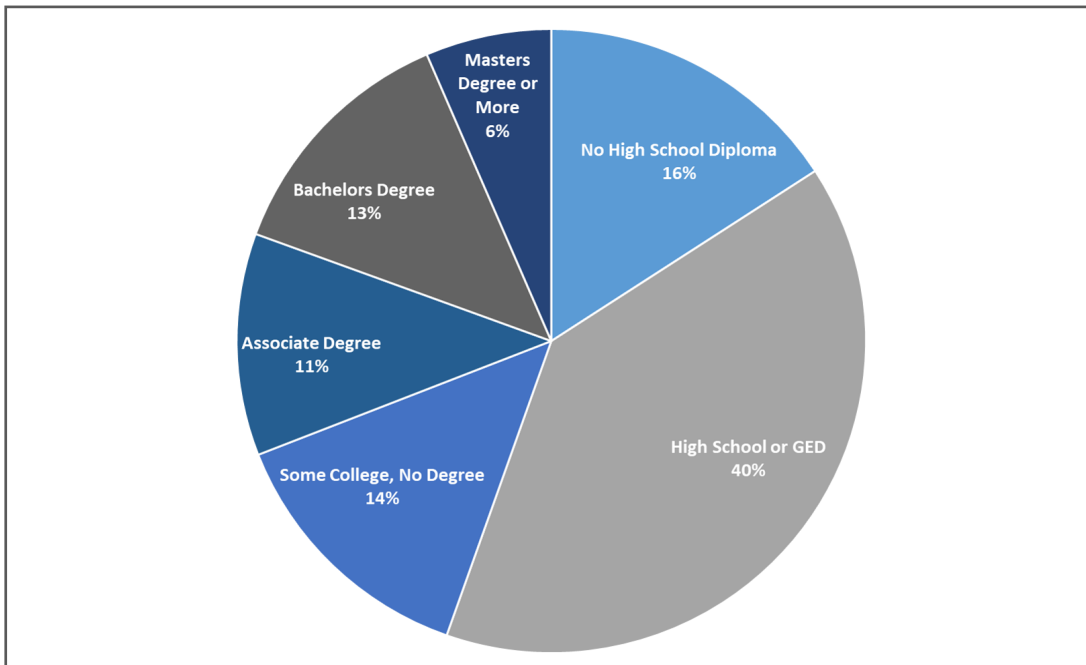


Figure 4 displays the number of suicide fatalities by educational attainment. Just over half of all suicide fatalities occurred among individuals who had an educational attainment of high school graduate or GED or less with 77 fatalities (55.0%) and the lowest number of fatalities occurred among individuals who a Master’s Degree or higher (6.4%).

**Table 4: Suicide Fatalities by Year and Marital Status (Medina County, 2016-2020)**

Marital Status	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Totals	Percentage of Fatalities
Divorced/ Separated	7	9	5	8	3	32	22.9%
Married	17	11	8	9	11	56	40.0%
Single	6	6	10	13	10	45	32.1%
Widowed	1	2	2	1	1	7	8.0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>140</b>	

Table 4 displays the number of suicide fatalities by year and marital status. The highest number of fatalities occurred among individuals who were married (40.0%). Individuals who were married or divorced/separated or widowed accounted for 30.9% of all suicide fatalities.

Questions about this report can be directed to the Medina County Health Department Epidemiologists, Brent Styer or Stephanie Moore, by calling 330-723-9688 option 2, or via email at [bstyer@medinahealth.org](mailto:bstyer@medinahealth.org) or [smoore@medinahealth.org](mailto:smoore@medinahealth.org).

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