

# Suicide Statistics in Kansas | 2015-2018 (ages 18-24)

An analysis from the Kansas Violent Death Reporting System among people ages 18 to 24: 2015-2018

## Mental Health & Substance Abuse

- Almost 1 in 2 (46%) were identified as having current depressed mood and about 2 in 5 had mental health problems at the time of death;
  - 3 in 4 of those with mental health problems listed depression or dysthymia.
- About 3 in 10 had a substance use (non-alcohol) problem
- About 1 in 5 had had an alcohol problem

## Interpersonal

- Nearly 2 in 5 (37%) had intimate partner problems
- 1 in 5 had an argument or conflict that led to the person's death

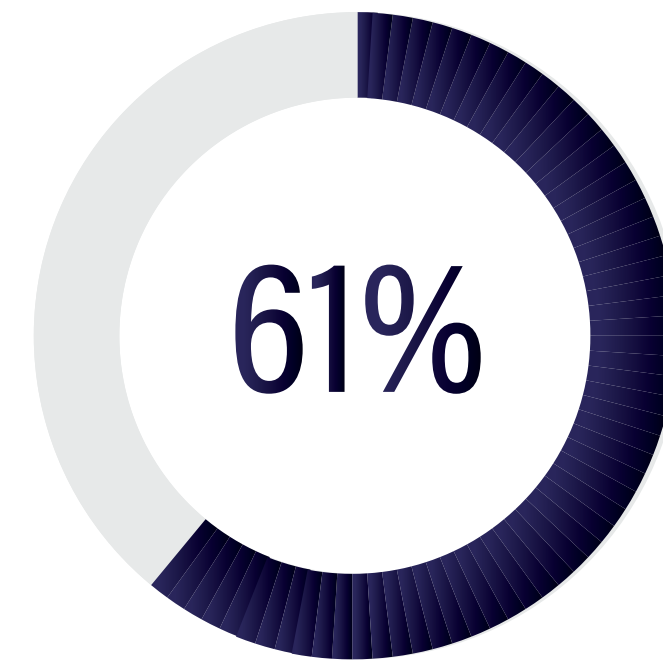
## Life Stressor

About 1 in 10 had recent criminal legal problems

## Suicide Specific

- About 2 in 5 had a history of suicidal thoughts
- About 1 in 3 had left a suicide note
- About 1 in 4 told someone their thoughts and/or plans to die by suicide within the last month.

Alcohol (38%), marijuana (36%) and amphetamines (18%) were the three most commonly present substances amongst those that were tested. Alcohol and marijuana were not the cause of death for any of these suicides.



More than 3 in 5 (61%) of the total 414 violent deaths<sup>1</sup> among people 18 to 24 years and old in Kansas were suicides

From 2015 to 2018, there has been a 66% increase in suicide deaths among young adults aged 18-25

1. A death from the intentional use of physical force or power against oneself, another person or against a group or community that includes: suicide, homicide, legal intervention, unintentional firearm, and undetermined death.



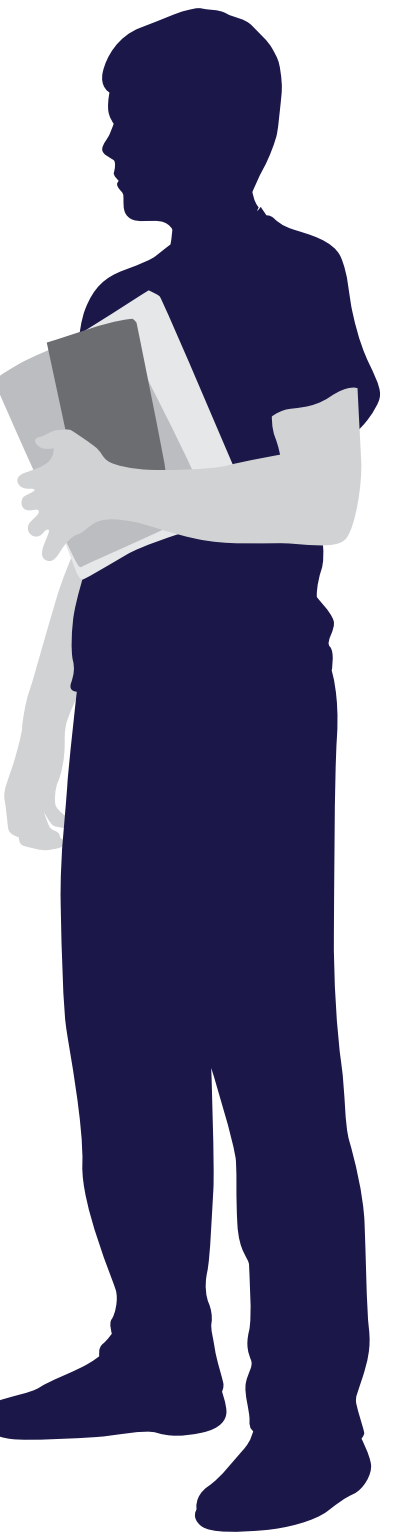
- 13% of those ages 18 to 24 who died by suicide had 12th grade education or less
  - About half (49%) had high school diploma or GED
  - 31% had some college credit
  - 7% had any higher educational degree (associate's, bachelor's, master's or doctorate)
- In 2018, suicide was the 2nd leading cause of death among people ages 18-24 in Kansas
  - About 82% of suicide deaths were among males, who had 3.7 times the suicide rate of females.
  - Most suicides (66%) were among non-Hispanic Whites, but young adults of the American Indian/Alaska Native race had the highest# rate of deaths (51.1 per 100,000 persons)
  - Residents in Rural\* counties had a standardized mortality rate of 22.6 per 100,000 persons and residents in Urban\* counties had a rate of 19.3 per 100,000

\* Population density in persons per square mile (ppsm); rural: less than 39.9 ppsm; urban 40.0 or more ppsm  
#Rate is unstable for American Indian/Alaska Native due to small population



## Top 3 Occupation Groups (% of total workers 18- 24 years old, both sexes)

- Unpaid (24.9%)<sup>†</sup>
- Transportation/Material Moving (11.6%)
- Sales (10.7%)



## Occupations at higher risk



Male workers in transportation/material moving had the highest suicide rate, 8.1 per 100,000

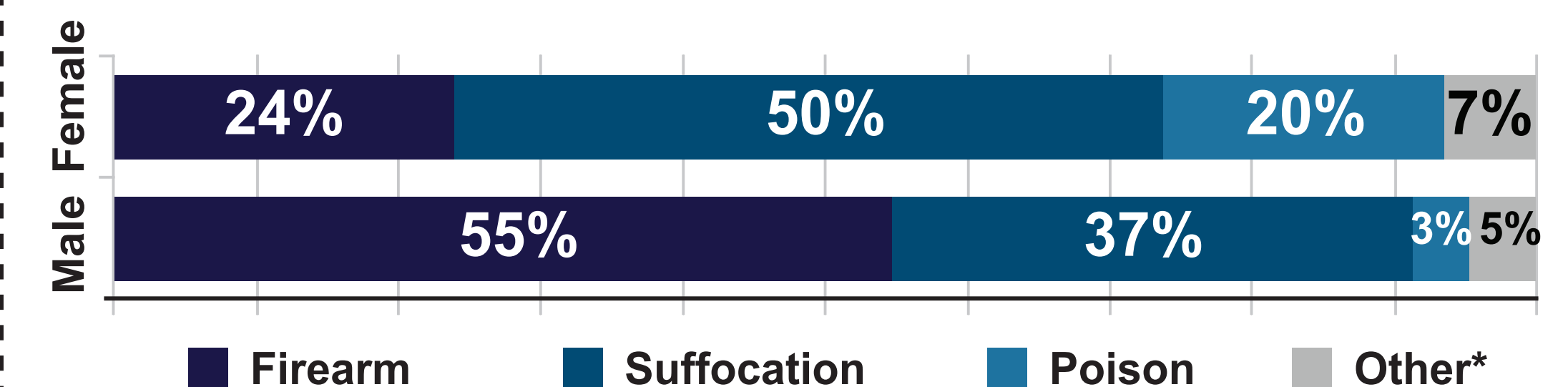
Due to low counts, the rates for female occupations are unstable and not reported.

†Unpaid: housewife, homemaker, student, disabled, volunteer, patient, inmate, and those who did no work

## Causes of death

Firearms were more commonly used in males and suffocation more common in females in this age group

## Mechanism of Suicide Death by Sex, 2015-2018, 18-24 years



\* Cut/pierce, drowning, fall, fire, transportation, or others

About 11 per 100,000 18- to 24-year-old Veterans died by suicide, which was 4.1 times the rate of non-veterans (2.7 per 100,000)

