

What is SD-VDRS?

The South Dakota Violent Death Reporting System (SD-VDRS) is a CDC-funded anonymous surveillance system that collections information on suicides, homicides, deaths of undetermined intent, unintentional firearm deaths, and legal intervention deaths that occur in the state. Information collected comes from multiple data sources: death certificates, coroner reports, toxicology reports, and law enforcement reports. The purpose of this program is to use data to provide a clearer understanding of violent deaths and guide state and local prevention efforts in South Dakota. South Dakota began collecting data in 2019 from Minnehaha and Pennington county.

Violent Deaths in Minnehaha and Pennington County, 2019

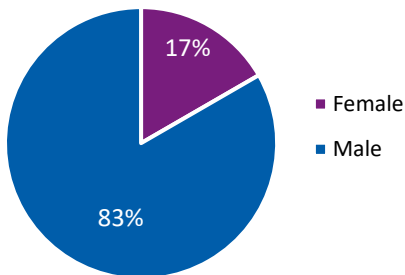
- 73 violent deaths in Minnehaha and Pennington county
- Of the 73 deaths, 82% were suicides, 15% were homicides, and 3% undetermined

Suicide in Minnehaha and Pennington County, 2019

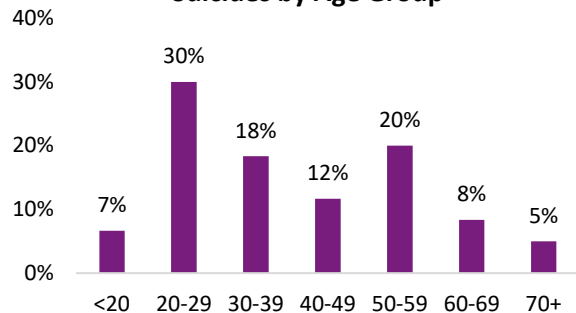
60 suicide deaths

in Minnehaha and Pennington county

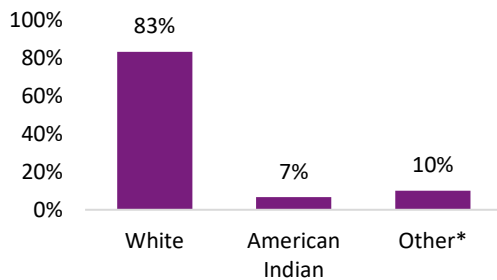
Suicides by Sex



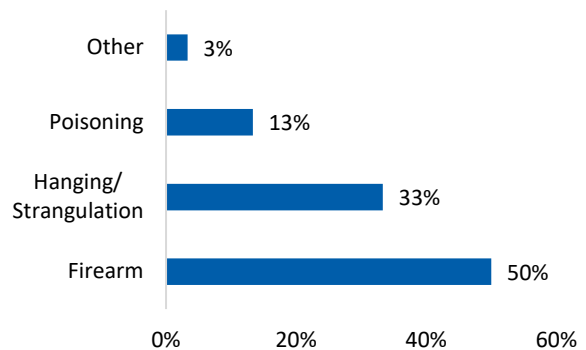
Suicides by Age Group



Suicides by Race



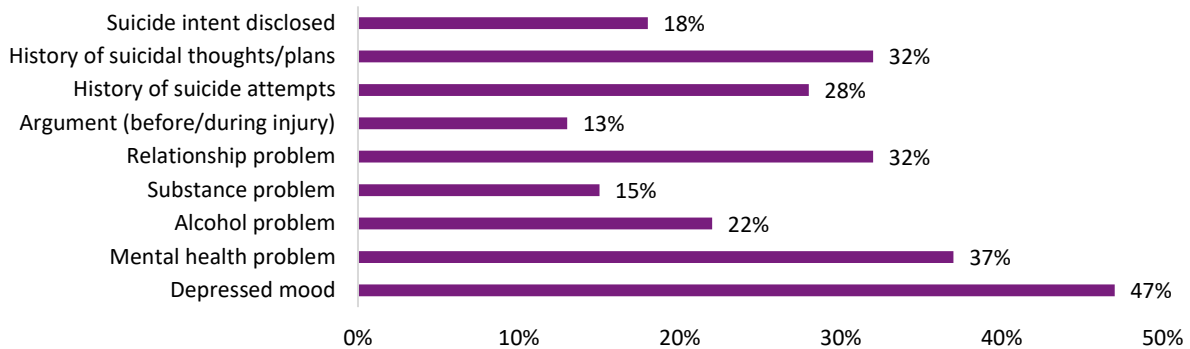
Suicide Methods



*Other includes Asian, Black, and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

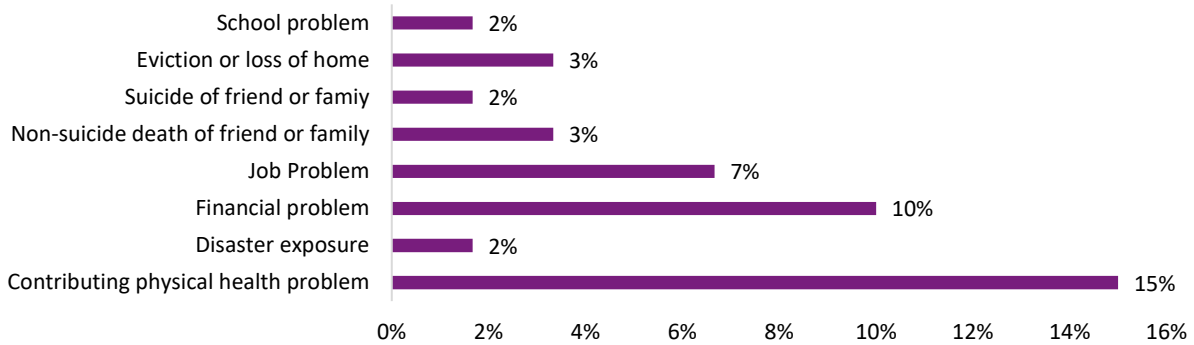
Factors Contributing to Suicide Deaths

Contributing circumstances surrounding suicide deaths were documented in the records by coroners and/or law enforcement.



Life Stressors Contributing to Suicide Deaths

35% of suicides had a life stressor documented in the coroner and/or law enforcement records.



Note: Persons who died by suicide may have had multiple circumstances. It is possible that other circumstances could have been present and not diagnosed, known, or reported.

Suicide Prevention

Suicide is a serious public health problem that can have lasting harmful effects on individuals, families, and communities. While the causes of suicide are complex and determined by multiple factors, the goal of suicide prevention is to reduce factors that increase risk and increase factors that promote resilience. Ideally, prevention addresses all levels of influence: individual, relationship, community, and societal. Collaborative partnerships between state agencies and communities to implement evidence-based interventions will help promote awareness of suicide and encourage a commitment to social change. For more information, please visit sdsuicideprevention.org

