



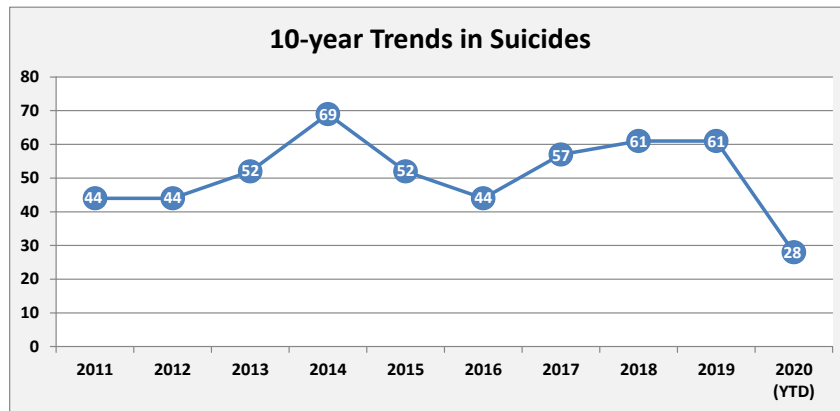
Trends in Suicides

Report Date: July 22, 2020

The DC Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) investigated a total of **207** suicides from January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020. This report examines demographic variables along with cause of death.

Figure 1 and 2: Trends in Suicides

Although not a steady trend, the number of suicides in the District have increased since 2011 (Fig. 1). When examining the data from March to June, COVID-19 does not appear to have an impact on the number of suicides investigated by the OCME (Fig. 2).



Year	# of Deaths
2017	23
2018	22
2019	24
2020	17

Figure 3: Suicides by Cause of Death

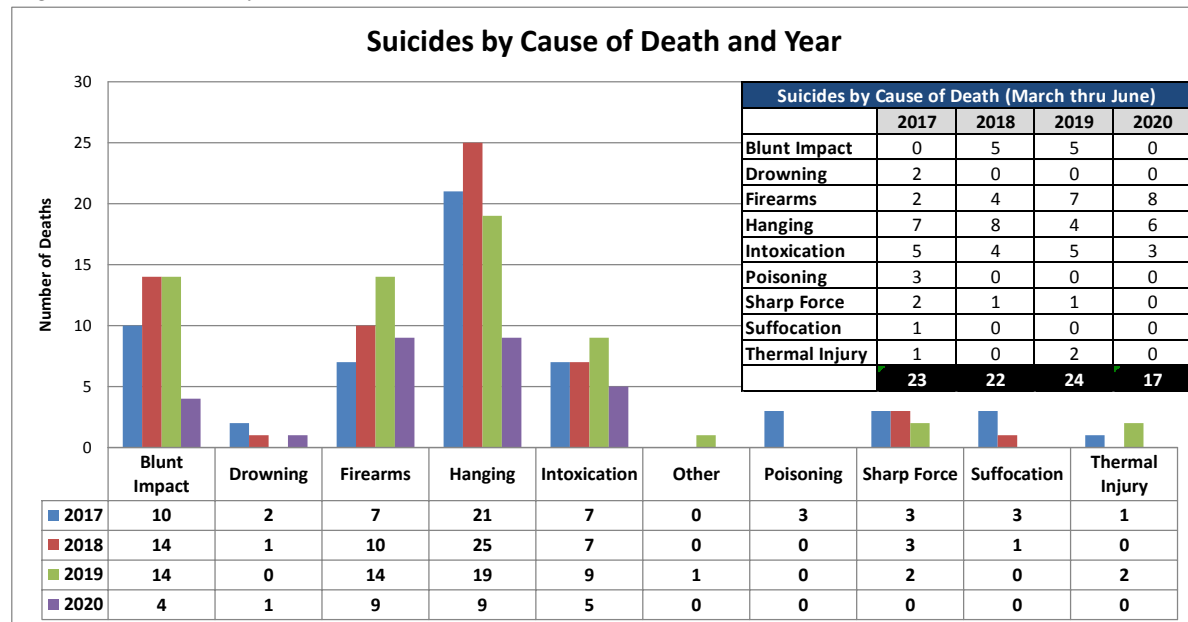


Figure 4: Demographic Breakdown of Suicides

Overall, suicides were most prevalent among people ages 20-29, followed by 30-39 and 50-59. In addition, suicides have been more prevalent among males than females. However, prevalence among racial/ethnic groups varies across years.

Demographic Breakdown of Suicides (2017 - 2020 YTD)				
	2017 (n=57)	2018 (n=61)	2019 (n=61)	2020 (n=28)
Age Category				
Under 9	0	0	0	1
10-19	3	6	6	1
20-29	18	10	12	6
30-39	11	15	13	4
40-49	7	7	10	5
50-59	8	11	9	4
60-69	7	7	6	3
70+	3	5	5	4
Race				
Black	25	16	30	13
White	27	37	25	9
Other	5	8	6	6
Gender				
Female	17	17	23	7
Male	40	44	38	21

Figure 5: Jurisdiction of Residence

Overall, sixty-nine percent of the decedents that died due to suicide were residents of the District of Columbia. Suicides were most prevalent in wards 6, 4, and 1. However, there are variations in prevalence across the four years. Given the small number of deaths per ward, the ward level data is not displayed.

Jurisdiction	2017	2018	2019	2020
DC	41	46	39	16
MD	4	4	15	5
VA	3	7	1	4
Other	5	4	3	2
Homeless	4	0	2	1
Unknown	0	0	1	0

