

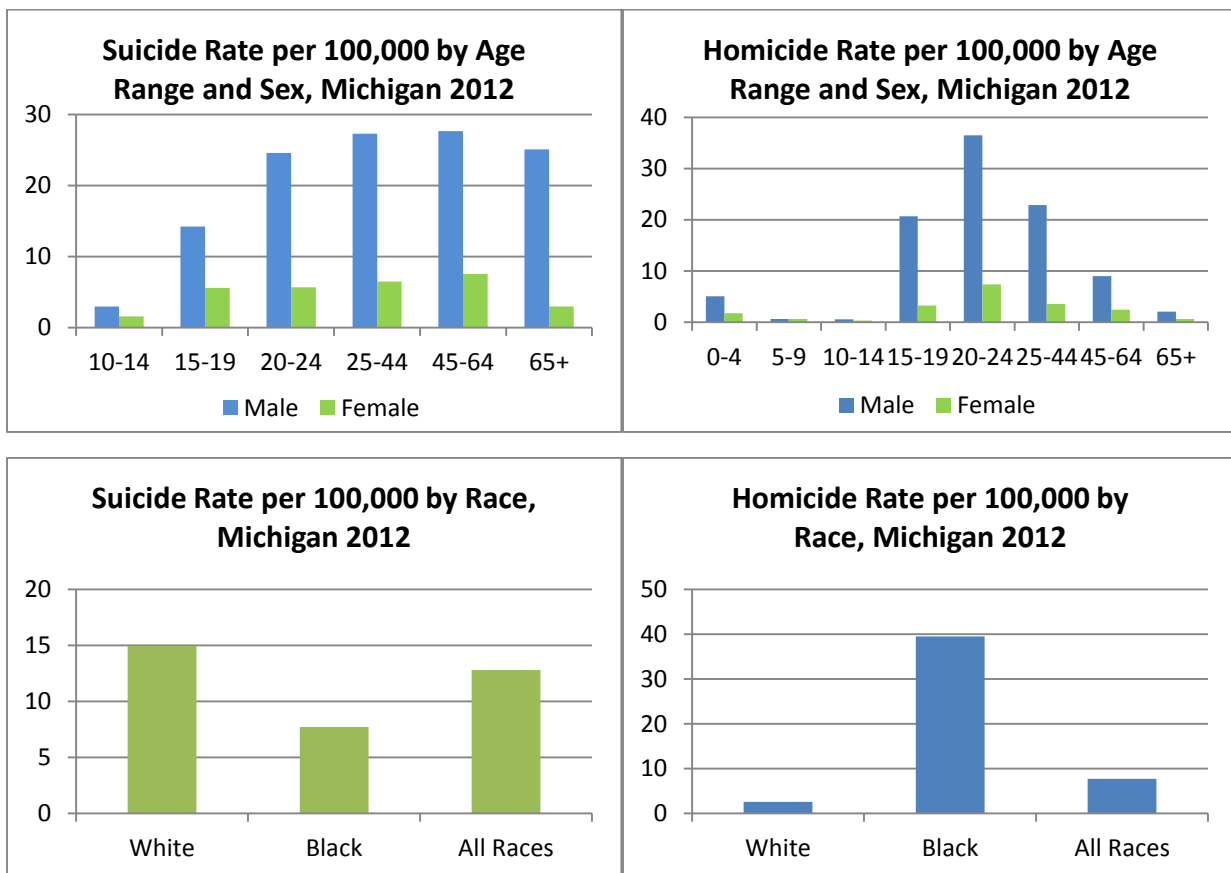
## Michigan Violent Deaths, 2012

### Introduction

Approximately 50,000 people die annually in the United States from violence-related injuries; about 2300 of these deaths occur in Michigan. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Michiganders aged 15-34 and homicide is the third leading cause of death in that age range. For 5-14 year olds suicide is the third leading cause of death and homicide ties for fourth. The Michigan Violent Death Reporting System (MiVDRS)<sup>1</sup> collects and links data from multiple data sources to help stakeholders develop public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths.

### Data

In Michigan in 2012 there were 1265 known suicides, 763 known homicides, 275 deaths of undetermined intent involving poisoning or trauma, and one unintentional firearm death, for a total of 2304 violent deaths.



<sup>1</sup>MiVDRS website: [http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71548\\_54879-279986--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71548_54879-279986--,00.html)

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Firearms were the most common weapon used in suicide deaths (51.2%), followed by hanging (32.2%) and poisoning (15.0%).

Firearms were even more commonly used in homicides (81.0%), followed by sharp instrument (8.4%), blunt instrument (4.2%), and personal weapons (3.2%).



MiVDRS received autopsy reports with toxicology information for less than half (905) the violent deaths in 2012.

Alcohol, benzodiazepines, and opiates were the most commonly found substances in suicide deaths.

Marijuana and alcohol were most commonly found in homicide victims.

The table below shows toxicology results reported to MiVDRS.

Toxicology Results for Violent Deaths, Michigan 2012						
Substance	Suicide			Homicide		
	# Tested	# Positive	% Positive	# Tested	# Positive	% Positive
Alcohol	368	108	29.3%	514	152	29.6%
Amphetamine	357	6	1.7%	507	8	1.6%
Anticonvulsants	342	24	7.0%	505	6	1.2%
Antidepressants	355	78	22.0%	506	10	2.0%
Antipsychotic	337	15	4.5%	502	3	0.6%
Barbiturates	358	15	4.2%	506	2	0.4%
Benzodiazepines	370	107	28.9%	509	56	11.0%
Carbon Monoxide	34	13	38.2%	24	10	41.7%
Cocaine	355	24	6.8%	508	61	12.0%
Marijuana	364	77	21.2%	525	273	52.0%
Muscle Relaxant	309	17	5.5%	498	6	1.2%
Opiates	371	106	28.6%	509	75	14.7%