

**CRAWFORD COUNTY  
SUICIDE  
FATALITY REVIEW**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2023**

MARCH 2024



**CRAWFORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**  
PREVENT • PROMOTE • PROTECT



**CRAWFORD COUNTY  
SUICIDE PREVENTION  
COALITION**



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*Be the lifeline.*



If you or someone you know needs support now,  
**call or text 988 or chat**  
**988lifeline.org**



# ABOUT SOFR:

The purpose of the Suicide and Drug Overdose Fatality Review (SOFR) is to review and share information about both suicide and unintentional drug overdose deaths to gain a better understanding of the circumstances surrounding these deaths. Strengthening our knowledge improves our ability to take appropriate action.

The objective of the SOFR is to identify possible trends and develop local recommendations based on information collected through the SOFR process to prevent future suicide and drug overdose deaths. The SOFR team interacts quarterly, either in person or virtually. All suicide and unintentional drug overdose deaths of Crawford County residents are reviewed by the SOFR team.

Current SOFR membership includes:

- Crawford County Sheriff
- Bucyrus City Fire/EMS
- Crawford County Coroner's Office
- Crawford County Prosecutor's Office
- Crawford County Public Health
- Crawford-Marion ADAMH Board
- Wise Funeral Home

Sources of data include Death Certificates, Coroner/Medical Examiner Reports, Toxicology Reports, Police/Sheriff Reports, Obituaries, News, Social Media, Court Records, Medical Records, Mental Health Records and other treatment information, and EMS Reports.

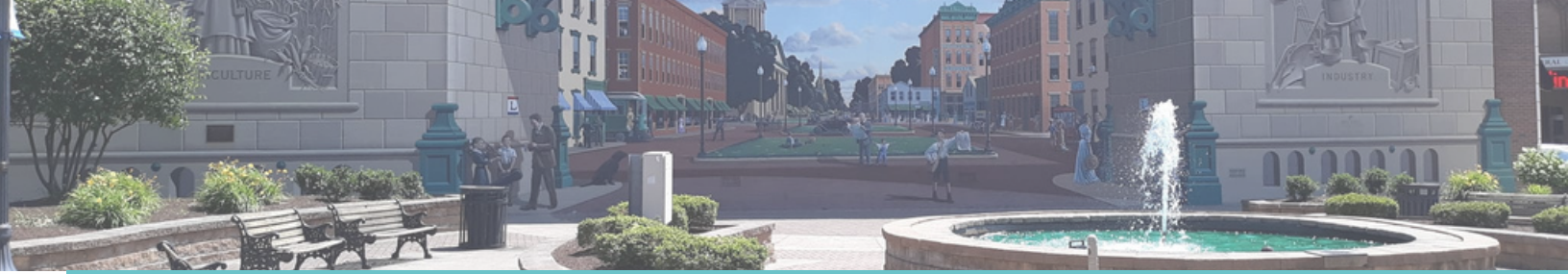
HIPAA regulations prevent access to or exchange of some protected health information. All SOFR participants are required to maintain confidentiality of information obtained throughout the process. Obtaining EMS records, autopsy and toxicology reports from deaths that occur out of county is often difficult.



# NARRATIVE SUMMARY

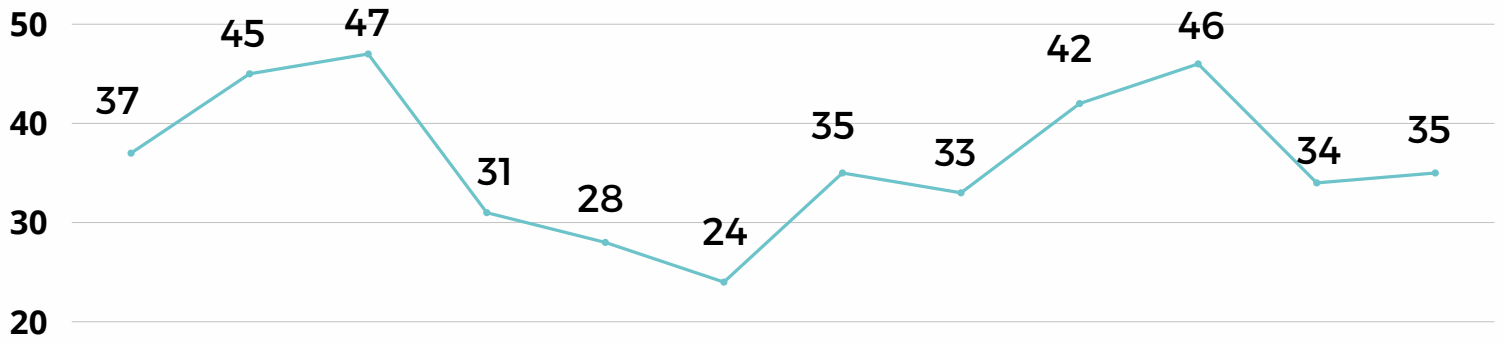
- There were 10 suicide deaths (7 males and 3 females) in 2023.
- Five of the decedents lived within the 44833 (Galion area) zip code, three from 44820 (Bucyrus area), one from 44827 (Crestline area) and one from 44887 (Tiro area).
- Ages of decedents ranged from 16 to 71 years. The average age of decedent was 46 years.
- Home was identified as the most frequent location of injury (70% of the instances).
- Five of the deaths were caused by gunshot wounds, two were deaths by hanging, one was an intentional vehicle collision with a fixed object, and two were intentional overdoses of prescription medications.
- The highest education level obtained for any of decedents was a Master's degree. Five of the cases had received their high school diploma or GED, two had attended 9th through 12th grade but had not received a diploma, one held an associate degree and one listed as having attended some college courses but no degree.
- None of the decedents were veterans.
- Three of the decedents had history with law enforcement.
- Two of the ten decedents had been involved with known previous mental health treatment.
- Six of the ten decedents had made preparations prior to death.
- Seven of the ten decedents had been involved in a known crisis at time of death.
- In 2023, the total number of Crawford County resident suicide ideations/attempts reporting to an ER or urgent care center was 437 instances ranging from 6 to 81 years of age. (Compared to 388 ideations in 2022 and 293 ideations in 2021.)



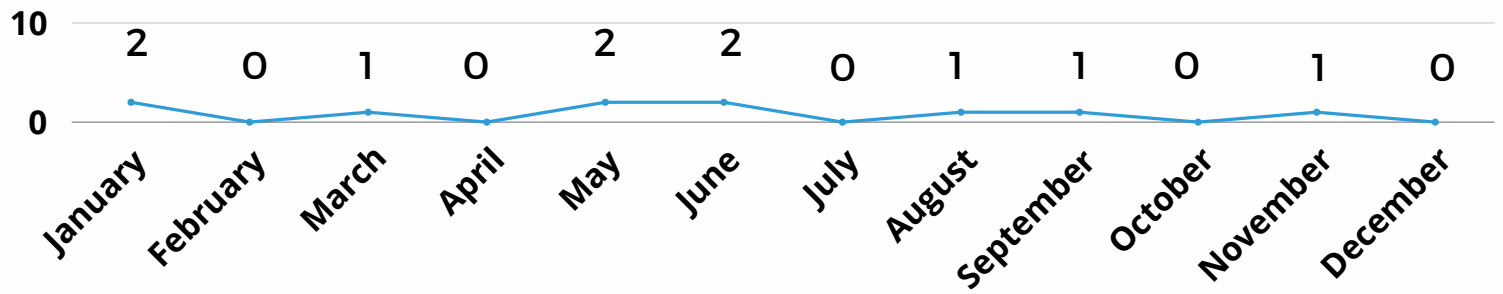


# 2023 SUICIDE IDEATIONS & DEATHS PER MONTH

Total # Suicide Ideations/Attempts per Month



Suicide Deaths per Month



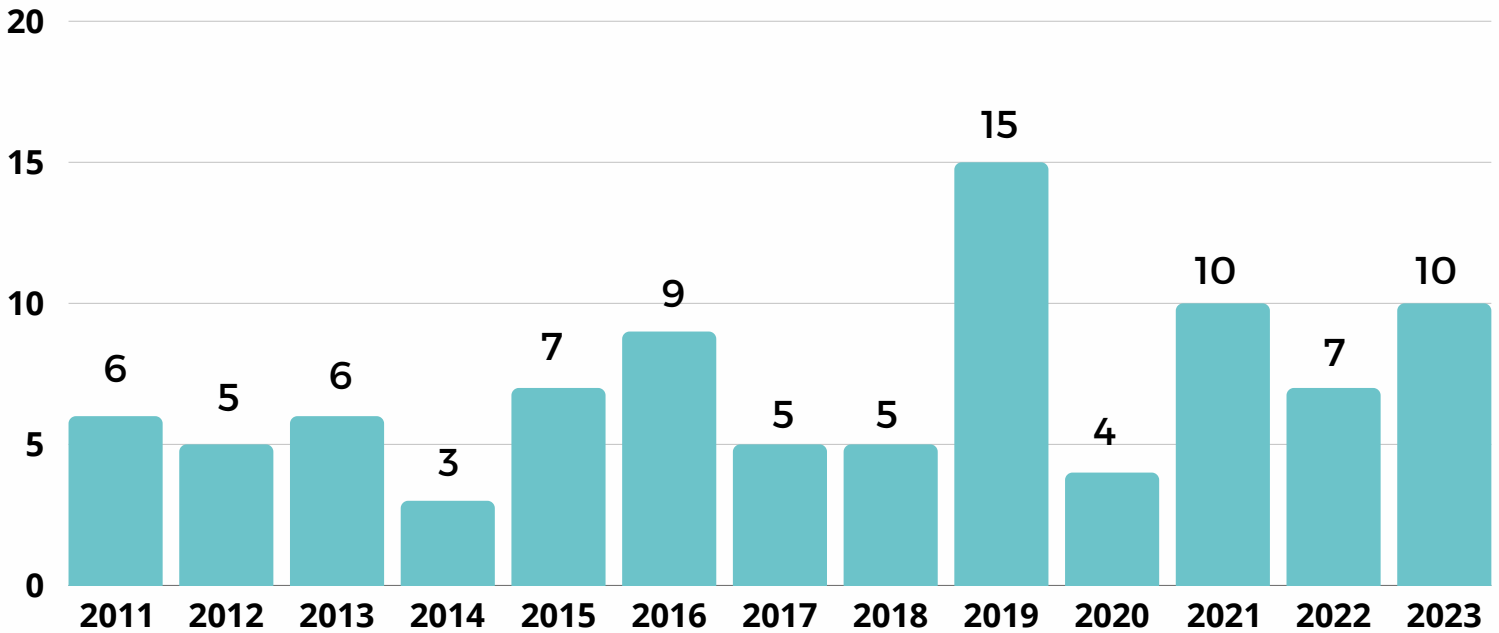
2023	Ideations	Deaths
January	37	2
February	45	0
March	47	1
April	31	0
May	28	2
June	24	2
July	35	0
August	33	1
September	42	1
October	46	0
November	34	1
December	35	0

Suicide Ideation Data was extracted from EpiCenter surveillance system that classified the chief complaint in real-time. This surveillance data captured Crawford County residents that presented to an ER or Urgent Care Center anywhere in Ohio.

Mortality data is provided by the Ohio Department of Health from the Ohio Public Health Data Warehouse. The Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations or conclusions.



# 2011 - 2023 NUMBER OF SUICIDE DEATHS



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# 2023 SUICIDE IDEATIONS/ATTEMPTS SUMMARY



**Males: 201**

**Females: 236**

**Overall Minimum Age: 6**

**Overall Maximum Age: 81**

**Overall Average Age: 28**



## Zip Code:

**44820: 171**

**44833: 173**

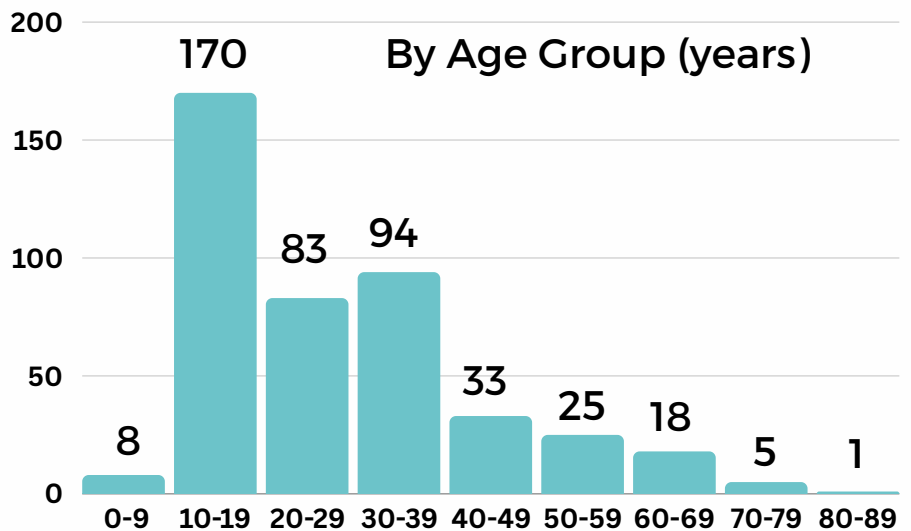
**44827: 74**

**44854: 12**

**44887: 5**

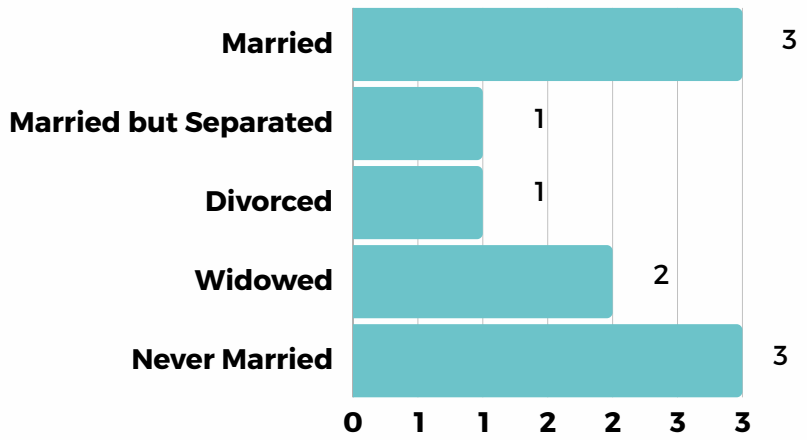
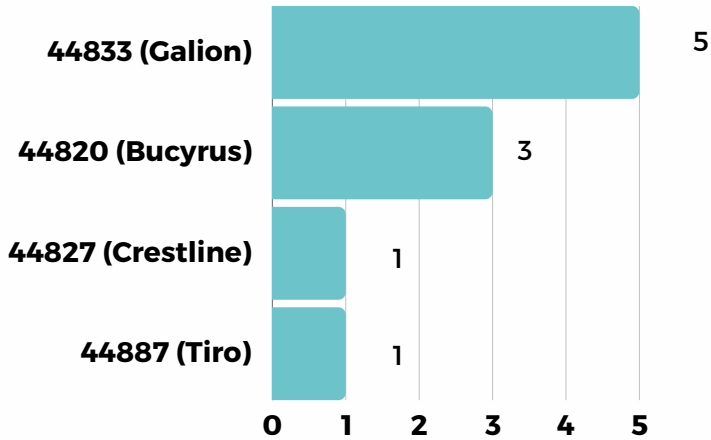
**44825: 1**

**44860: 1**

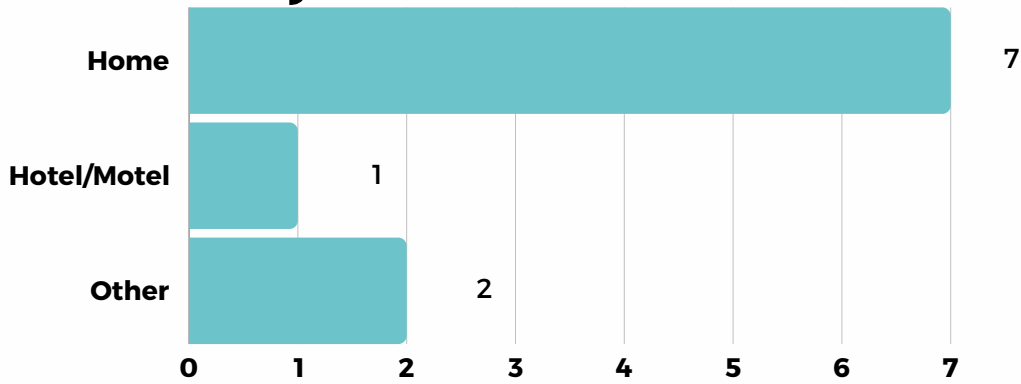




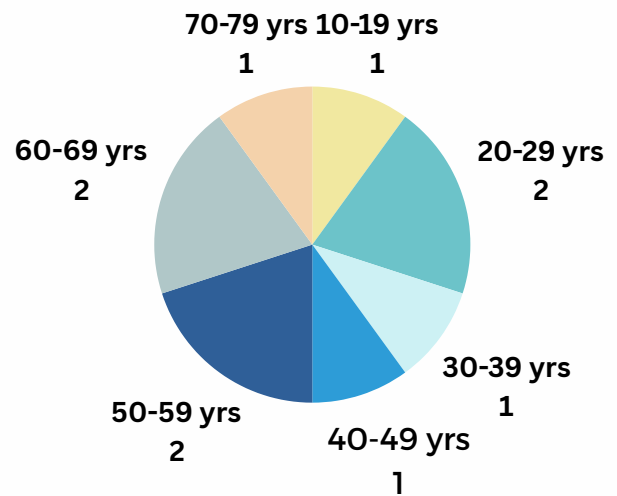
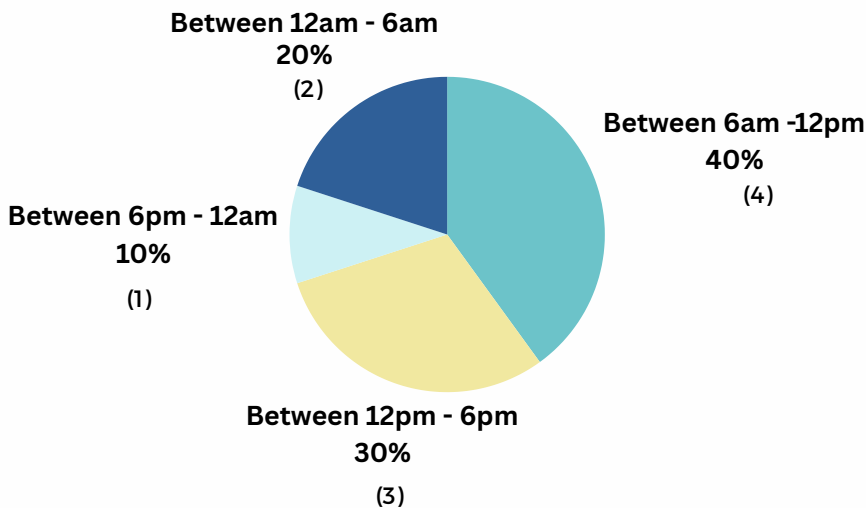
# RESIDENCY & RELATIONSHIP STATUS



# LOCATION OF INJURY

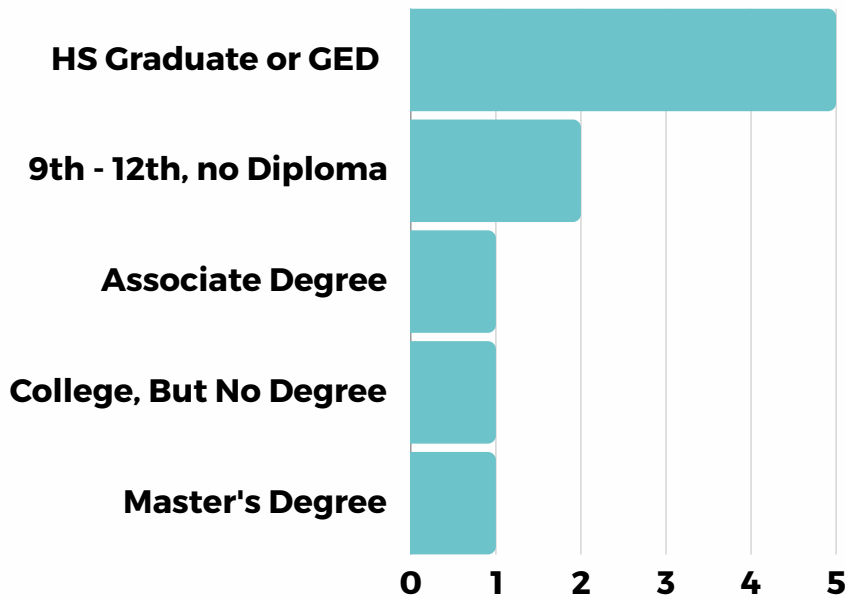


# TIME OF DEATH & AGE RANGES OF DECEDENTS



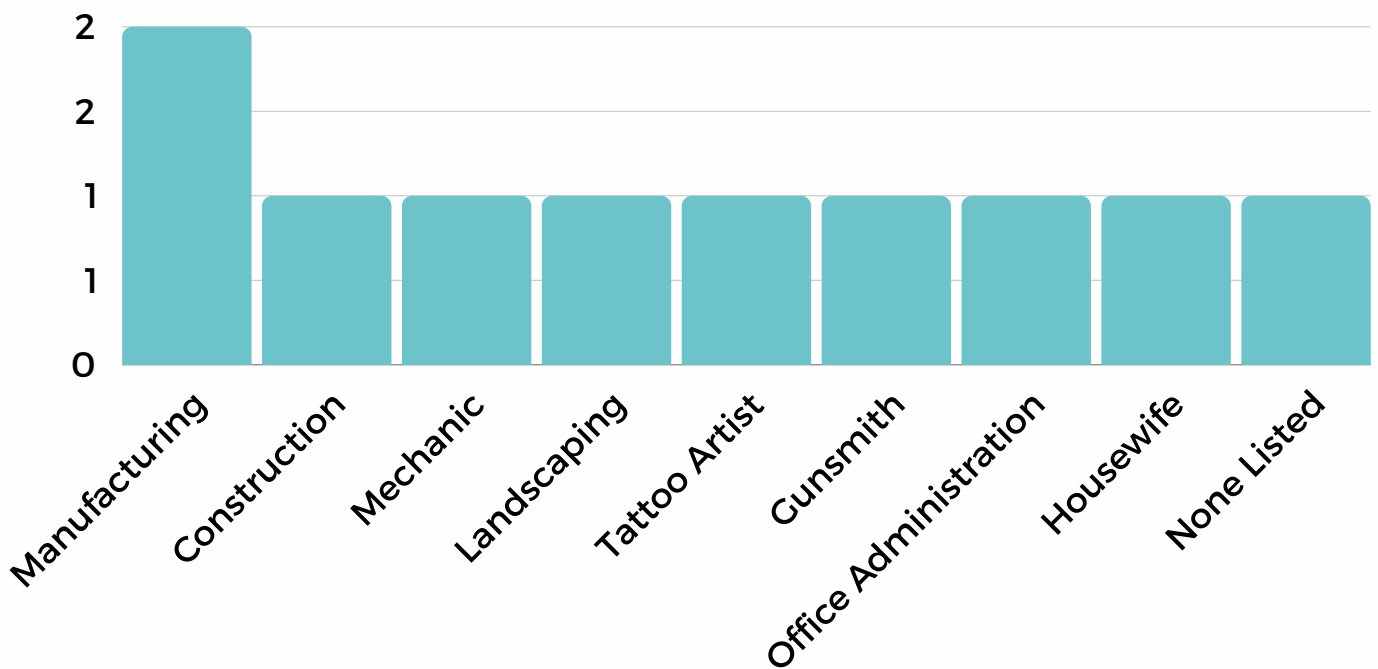


# EDUCATION



**Five of the decedents had graduated high school or held a GED. Two of the decedents had attended high school, but did not receive a diploma. One of the decedents had attended some college classes, but did not hold a degree. One completed an Associate Degree and one had their Master's Degree.**

# OCCUPATION

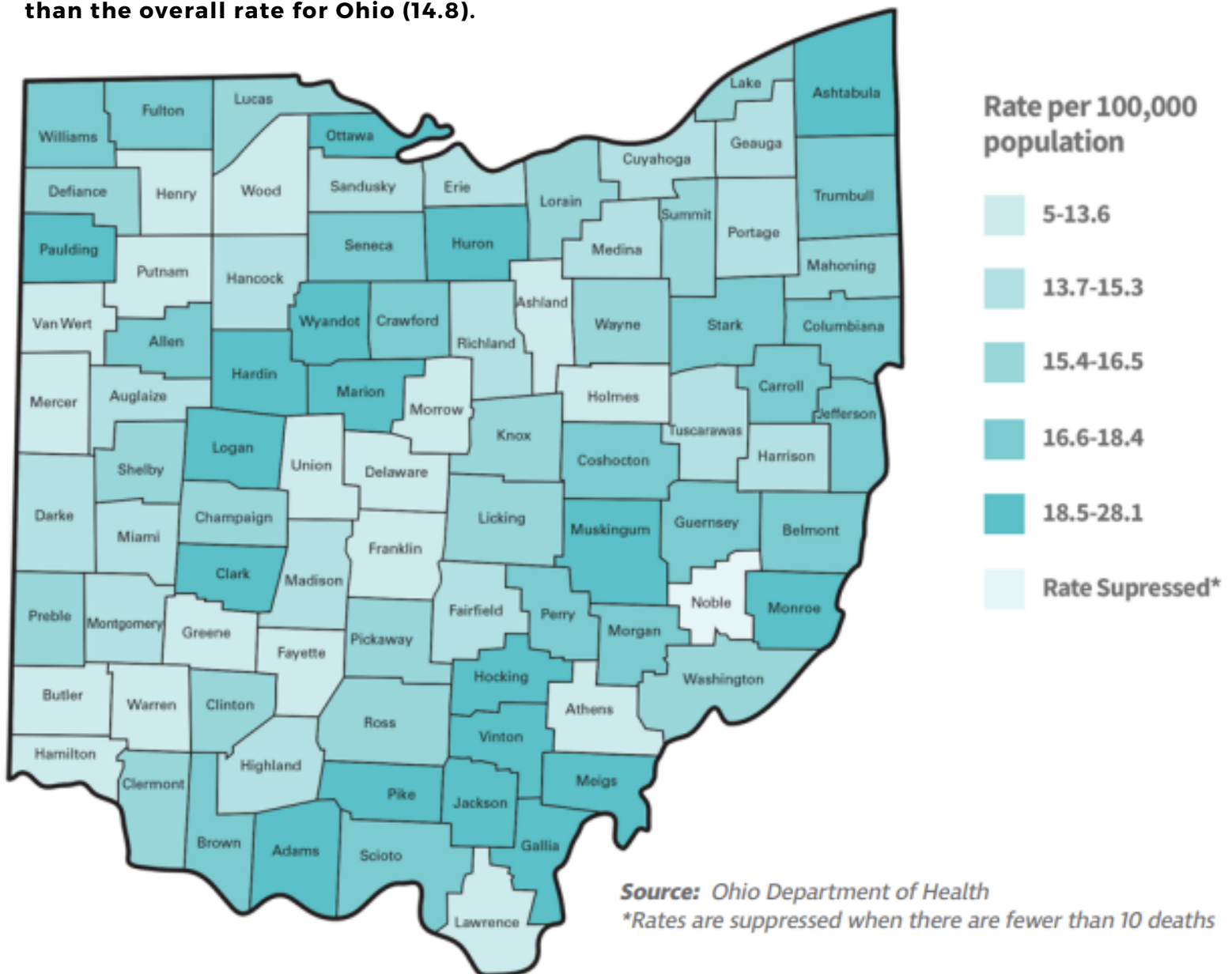






# OHIO AVERAGE AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE DEATH RATE BY COUNTY (2017-2021)

From 2017 to 2021, Gallia County had the highest suicide rate (28.1). Holmes County had the lowest suicide rate (5.0). Crawford County had a rate of 17.1 per 100,000 population, higher than the overall rate for Ohio (14.8).



The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation reports that in Ohio, nearly 1/3 of adults are affected by symptoms of anxiety or depression and five people die by suicide every day (2024).

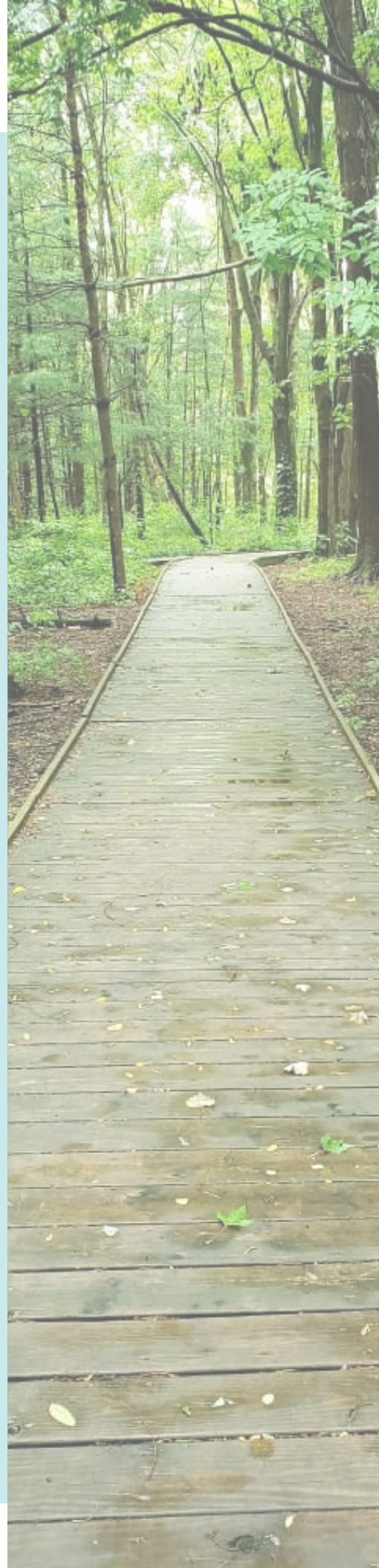
# NEXT STEPS

Suicide prevention is an important component of any community. Suicide death is preventable. Connecting to needed mental health treatment and supports are necessary to reduce suicide ideations and deaths.

## NOTED TRENDS - 10 Cases

Upon reviewing the 2023 unintentional suicide deaths, the SOFR team noted the following:

- Seven of the ten cases were involved in a known crisis at time of death. (Four were relationship issues.)
- Six of the ten decedents had made preparations prior to death.
- Only two of the cases (20%) indicated the individual had been referred to treatment previously.
- Home was the most common location listed as place of injury (7 out of 10).
- All of the decedents were alone at time of death.
- 50% of the suicide deaths used firearms, 20% were the result of suffocation, 20% were the result of intentional overdose of prescription medications, and 10% was the result of an intentional vehicle collision with a fixed object.
- Three of the cases had a criminal history.
- None of the decedents were a Veteran.
- The number of female ideations is slightly higher than the males, but the completion rate is much higher for males.
- The average age for deaths by suicide was 46 years of age while the average age for suicide ideations was 28 years of age.



# NEXT STEPS

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The SOFR team discussed the following recommendations for the Crawford County community:

- **Explore more options for trainings on social media impacts on youth** for both parents and youth.
- **Continue providing the Handle With Care** training with schools and law enforcement that interact with those that have experienced trauma.
- **Continue the QPR trainings** to help employers recognize the signs someone is struggling and empower friends/family members to engage conversations.
- **Reduce stigma** towards getting mental health treatment and increase messaging on treatment options available.
- **Promote 988** through a variety of outlets and ensure community partners are sharing the 988 info as well.

## CONSIDERATIONS

The Healthy People 2030 target for the United States is to reduce the suicide death rate from 14.1 deaths per 100,000 population to 12.8 per 100,000 population. Ohio's suicide death rate is currently 14.8 and Crawford County is 17.1 deaths per 100,000 populations. (Ohio Department of Health)





CRAWFORD COUNTY  
**SUICIDE PREVENTION  
COALITION**

## WHO CAN HELP PREVENT SUICIDE?

- Friends/family members
- Local community leaders
- Faith-based organizations
- Employers
- School staff
- Coaches
- Mental Health providers
- Social services agencies
- Anyone! You!

Help us bring suicide prevention conversations and services to your neighborhood.



If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org)

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Visit the Crawford County Suicide Prevention Coalition Facebook page for local meeting information and updates. Or call (419)562-7288 to learn more on how you can get involved.

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