

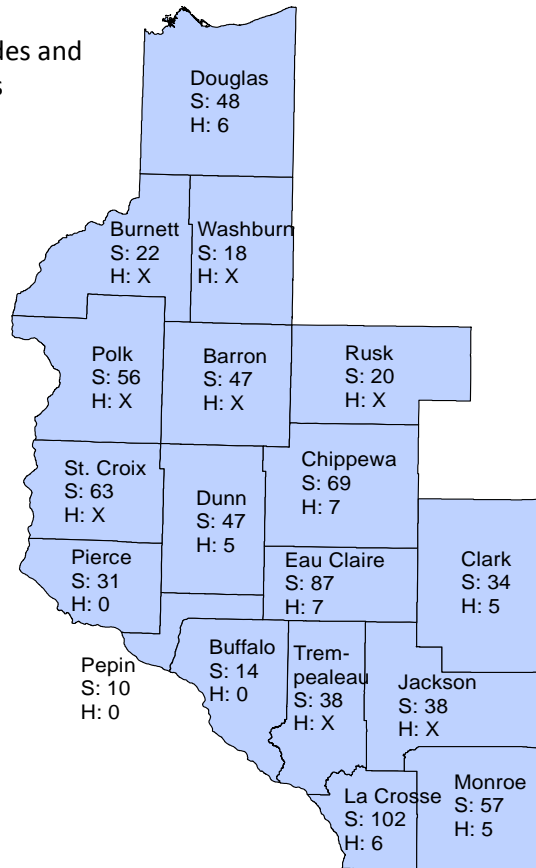
Violent Deaths Among WI Western Residents (2004-2011)

From Wisconsin Violent Death Reporting System



Number of Suicides and Homicides

S = Suicide
H = Homicide
X indicates less than 5



VIOLENT DEATH OVERVIEW

State of WI

For every 100,000 residents:

- 17 died by violent death
- 12 died by suicide
- 3 died by homicide
- 1 died by other violent means

WI's Western Region

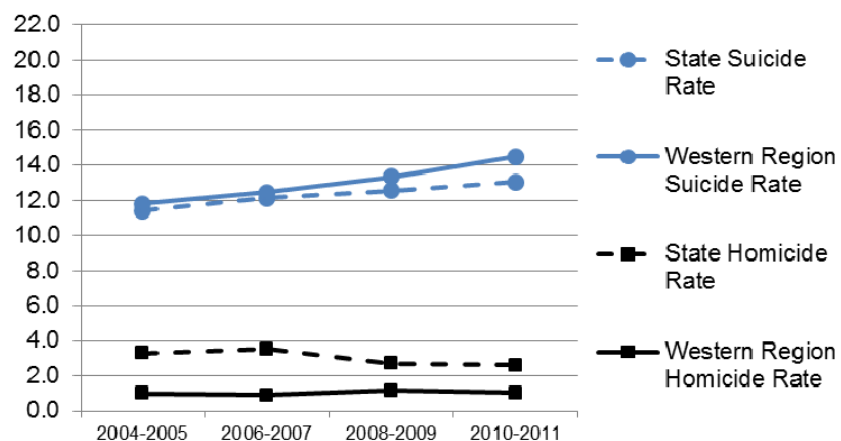
For every 100,000 residents:

- 16 died by violent means
- 13 died by suicide
- 1 died by homicide
- 1 died by other violent means

RATES OF VIOLENT DEATH OVER TIME (2004-2011)

- Rates of suicide** have increased for the state and the region.
- Rates of homicide have decreased for the state and remained stable for the region.

Rates of Violent Death Over Time (per 100,000 in population)



**Suicide rates are for the entire population, but are typically calculated for the 10 and older population. Suicide rates presented here are comparable to the other violent death rates, but are lower than the true suicide rate.



CHARACTERISTICS: WESTERN SUICIDE DEATHS

AGE

- Greatest proportion occurred among 45 to 54-year-olds (21%), followed by 35 to 44-year-olds (17%)

SEX

- More occurred among males (81%) than females (19%)

TOP 3 MEANS

- Primarily involved firearms (56%), hanging/strangulation/suffocation (23%), or poisoning (17%)

TOP 3 CIRCUMSTANCES

- Primarily involved current depressed mood (60%), current or prior mental health issue (51%), and/or interpersonal problem (45%)

CHARACTERISTICS: WESTERN HOMICIDE DEATHS

AGE

- Greatest proportion occurred among victims aged 25 to 34 (22%) and victims aged 35 to 44 (22%)

SEX

- More victims were male (54%) than female (46%)

TOP 3 MEANS

- Primarily involved firearms (46%), sharp instruments (15%), or personal weapons (e.g., beating; 10%)

TOP 3 CIRCUMSTANCES

- Primarily involved interpersonal problem (44%), intimate partner violence-related (40%), and/or alcohol involved (35%)

WESTERN REGION IN COMPARISON TO THE STATE

- Suicides – higher percent of deaths involving firearms
- Homicides – higher percent of deaths involving interpersonal problems

PREVENTION

Overall, changes in suicide and homicide rates have been modest. Improvement in these rates is warranted considering their costs to society. Examining the characteristics of these deaths, the following may be important to consider for prevention strategies:

- Improving mental health and the availability of services
- Promote strategies to improve firearm safety
- Improving personal relationships and methods to decrease interpersonal conflict
- Decreasing alcohol and other substance issues
- Tailoring interventions to specific age groups or sexes to enhance their effectiveness