

# Current Situation in Louisville: Suicide

<sup>1</sup>*Suicide is the intentionally self-inflicted injury that results in death*

Between January 2013 and September 2014, 186 Louisville residents have lost their lives as a result of a suicide.<sup>2</sup> Demographic information illustrates that 85% of the suicide victims were Caucasian, 12% were African American and 3% were Asian or Hispanic.

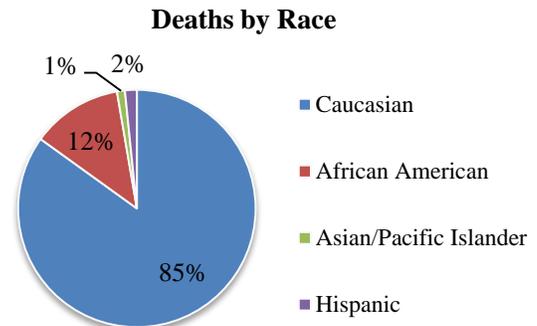


Figure 1: Suicide Deaths by Race

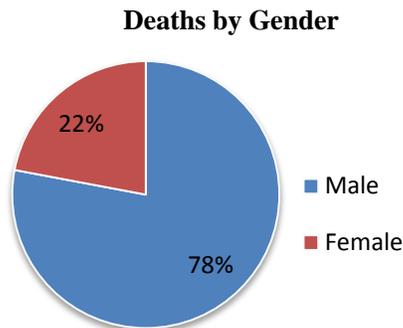


Figure 2: Suicide Deaths by Gender

The data shows that 78% of these deaths were male and 22% were female. Data findings illustrates that 89% were over the age of 24 years and 75% over the age of 34 years. The highest numbers of deaths were of adults between the ages of 55 to 64 years, however, that number is only two deaths away from the second highest number which was of adults between the ages of 35 to 44. This does not depict a clear distinction between the groups.

Identifying the race, gender, age and geographical location of those who have died helps detect who is dying so that resources and energy can be directed to where they can have the greatest impact. Figures 7 and 8 identify deaths by zip code and police patrol divisions.

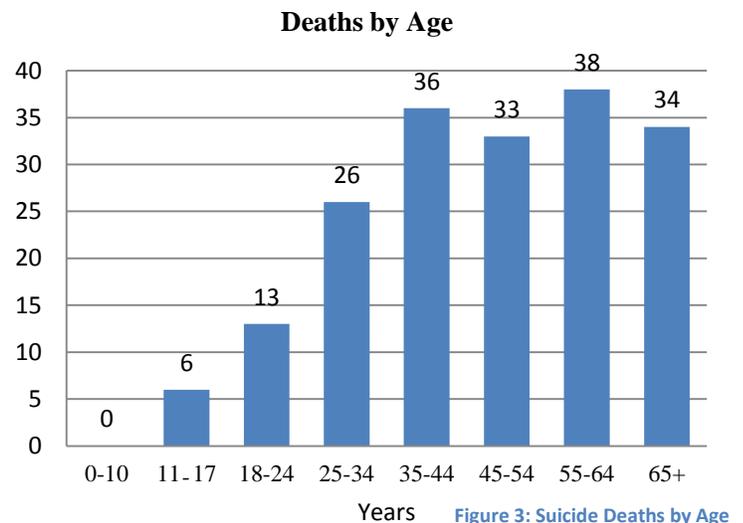


Figure 3: Suicide Deaths by Age

## Current Situation

<sup>1</sup> Center for Disease Control and Prevention-<http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/fatal/help/definitions.htm>

<sup>2</sup> All suicide data provided by LMPD Crime Data Center, Historical Homicide and Shooting Analysis Report (11-5-14) and Louisville Coroner's Office; data subject to change based on investigative findings and subsequent reclassification of crimes; all percentages approximated

# in Louisville: Suicide

Suicide deaths occur all across the city, however, data from both the Coroner’s Office and LMPD illustrate that certain areas of the city are impacted at higher numbers. Figure 7 represents the rate of suicides based on the zip code of the victim’s residence. This illustration only represents zip codes that have had five or more suicides between January 2013 and September 2014<sup>3</sup>.

This data illustrates that out of the 39 zip codes that make up Louisville Metro, 16 zip codes account for 73% of suicide victims. Zip code 40291 has the highest number of suicide victims and zip codes 40258 and 40218 had only two deaths less than the highest.

When compared to police patrol divisions, the zip codes with the highest number fall into the following divisions: 3, 4, 6, and 7, which is represented in the map below.

Given this current situation of suicides in Louisville, we have decided that emphasis be placed on programs, services, resources and/or initiatives that impact the following groups:

- Caucasians
- Males
- Residents 25 years of age and older
- Police Divisions 3,4,6, and 7

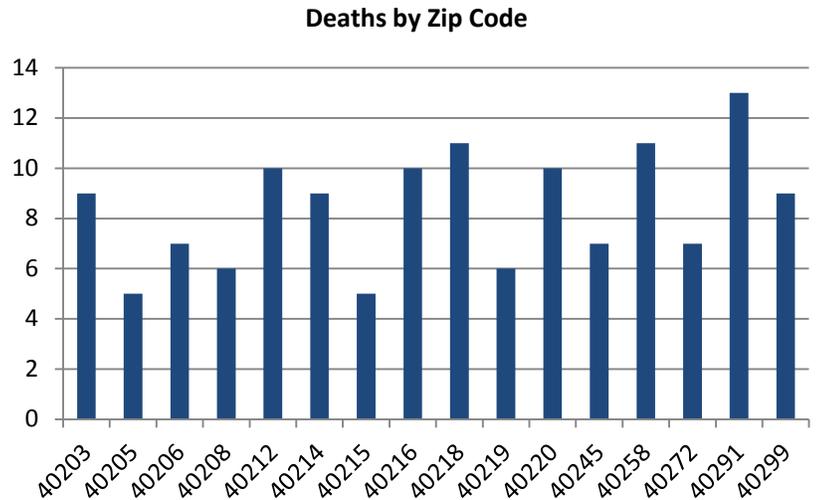


Figure 4: Suicide Deaths by Zip Code

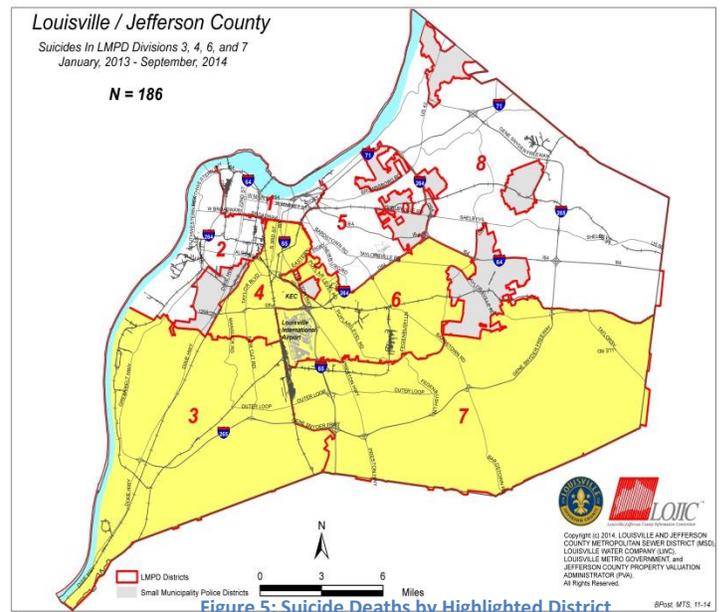


Figure 5: Suicide Deaths by Highlighted District

<sup>3</sup> See footnote 8