

Suicide Facts – 2004

Introduction

The present report provides a description of suicide deaths that occurred in New Brunswick during the 2004 calendar year.

Findings

- A total of 88 suicide deaths were recorded in New Brunswick in 2004; 70 males and 18 females, about a 4-fold difference between genders.

Table 1 shows the number of suicide deaths and death rates by age group and gender for the years 2003 and 2004.

- Male suicide rates decreased in 2004 compared to 2003 while female suicide rates increased during the same period, although for both groups the difference in rates was not statistically significant.
- Male suicide rates continue to be much higher than female rates.
- The highest suicide rate for males was in the 80+ age group (30.5 per 100,000 population) whereas for females, suicide rate was highest in the 25 to 34 year age group (10.1 per 100,000 population).

Table 1. Suicide deaths and death rate* by age group and gender, New Brunswick, 2003 and 2004

Age Group	Year	Male		Female		Both	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
0-9 years	2004	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2003	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
10-14 years	2004	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
	2003	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
15-19 years	2004	3	11.8	0	0.0	3	6.1
	2003	1	3.9	3	12.4	4	8.0
20-24 years	2004	5	19.1	0	0.0	5	9.9
	2003	5	19.2	1	4.1	6	11.9
25-34 years	2004	13	26.4	5	10.1	18	18.2
	2003	8	16.1	0	0.0	8	8.0
35-49 years	2004	23	25.3	8	8.8	31	17.1
	2003	29	31.5	6	6.6	35	19.1
50-64 years	2004	16	22.5	5	6.9	21	14.6
	2003	19	27.6	5	7.1	24	17.3
65-79 years	2004	7	20.5	0	0.0	7	9.4
	2003	11	32.6	1	2.5	12	16.2
80+ years	2004	3	30.5	0	0.0	3	10.5
	2003	1	10.4	0	0.0	1	3.6
All	2004	70	18.9	18	4.7	88	11.7
	2003	74	20.0	16	4.2	90	12.0

*per 100,000 population, based on population estimates, Statistics Canada, November 30, 2004

Note: Suicide deaths exclude non-residents and New Brunswickers who committed suicide outside the province.

Table 2. Suicide Death Rate* by Community Mental Health Centre and Gender, New Brunswick, 2003 and 2004

CMHC	Male		Female		Both sexes	
	Rate		Rate		Rate	
	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003
Moncton	13.9	17.9	7.3	4.9	10.5	11.3
Richibucto	12.3	18.4	12.8	12.8	12.6	15.6
Saint John	9.9	13.3	4.7	0.0	7.2	6.4
St. Stephen	14.6	14.6	7.0	7.0	10.8	10.7
Sussex	17.2	25.8	0.0	0.0	8.7	13.0
Fredericton	15.9	14.4	0.0	1.6	7.9	7.9
Woodstock	22.9	9.2	0.0	4.6	11.5	6.9
Edmundston	39.7	78.5	6.3	6.2	22.5	41.4
Grand Falls	26.8	13.4	13.3	0.0	20.0	6.6
Campbellton	42.0	23.8	11.6	5.8	26.6	14.6
Bathurst	15.7	30.9	5.1	15.0	10.3	22.8
Caraquet	22.2	21.8	0.0	4.4	11.1	13.1
Miramichi	37.7	20.7	4.2	4.2	20.9	12.5
N.B.	18.9	20.0	4.7	4.2	11.7	12.0

* per 100,000 population, based on population estimates, Statistics Canada, November 30, 2004

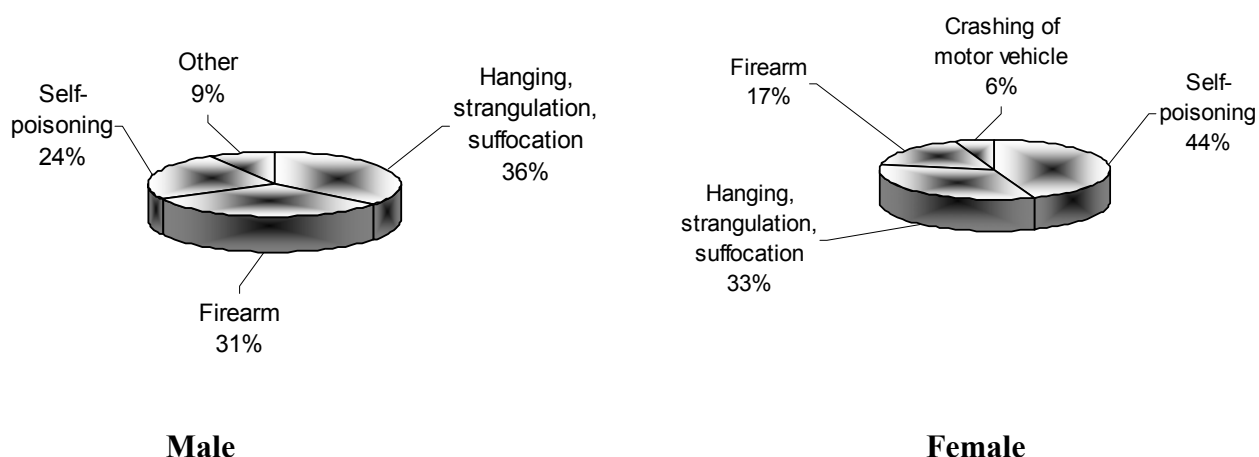
Notes: a) Rates are based on place of residence, not place of occurrence of death.

b) Rate differences should be interpreted with caution because of the small numbers involved.

Figure 1 presents a breakdown of suicide methods by gender for 2004.

- The most common method used by males to commit suicide in 2004 was hanging, strangulation or suffocation (36%), followed by firearm (31%). This finding is similar to the results found in the previous year in which hanging, strangulation or suffocation was the most common method used (43%), followed by firearm (30%).
- The most common method used by females to commit suicide in 2004 was self-poisoning (44%), followed by hanging, strangulation or suffocation (33%). This finding is different from the results found in the previous year in which hanging, strangulation or suffocation was the most common method used (44%), followed by self-poisoning (31%).

Figure 1. Methods of suicide by gender, New Brunswick, 2004



References:

1. New Brunswick Department of Health (2006). Vital Statistics.
2. New Brunswick Department of Health (2006). Provincial Epidemiology Service. Suicide Facts 2003.