



Wyoming Institute  
of Population Health

# 2023 Annual Report



**LARAMIE COUNTY SUICIDE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM**

## **MAIN AUTHORS**

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## **SUICIDE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM**

American Medical Response, Member  
Cheyenne Fire Rescue, Member  
Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, Chair  
Cheyenne Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Member  
Cheyenne Vet Center, Member  
Cheyenne-Laramie County Public Health, Member  
Cheyenne Police Department, Member  
Datacorp, Member  
Department of Family Services, Member  
F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Member  
Grace for 2 Brothers, Member  
Healthworks, Member  
Interfaith Representative, Member  
Laramie County Coroner's Office, Chair  
Laramie County School District #1, Member  
Laramie County Sheriff's Office, Member  
LIV Health, Member  
Recover Wyoming, Member  
Volunteers of America, Northern Rockies, Member  
Wyoming Air National Guard, Member  
Wyoming Army National Guard, Member  
Youth Alternatives, Member

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

On behalf of the Suicide Fatality Review Team of Laramie County, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to those who allowed us to review the death of their loved ones. Their willingness to share information with our team has guided the recommendations developed through this process and would not be possible without their support.

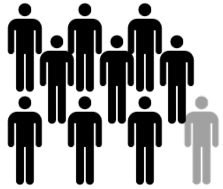
# 2022 SUICIDE<sup>1</sup> STATISTICS

22



There was a slight decrease in total suicides (24 in 2021).

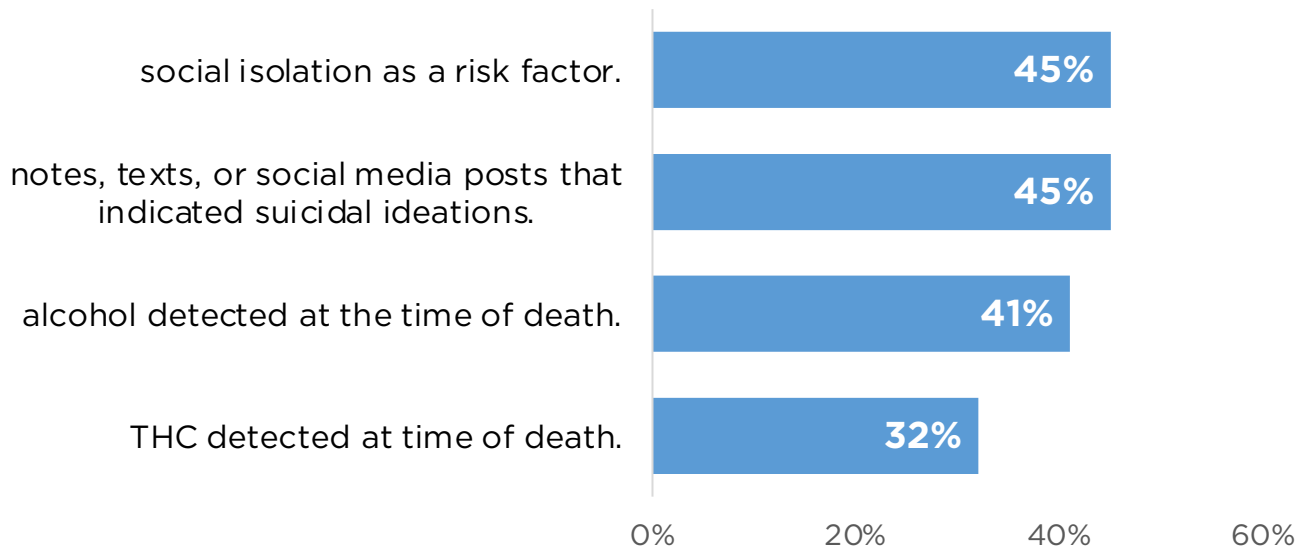
The **Laramie County** suicide rate is nearly **2x** the US suicide rate.



Males accounted for 9 out of 10 suicides and the average age at death<sup>2</sup> was **43.**

Firearms were used in **86%** of Laramie County suicides.

Common risk factors identified among suicides include those who had.....



73%

of individuals had a **crisis in the two weeks prior to death** with the most common crises being an intimate partner problem, mental health problem, or an alcohol problem.

<sup>1</sup>Suicides included on this report include only those suicides investigated by the Laramie County Coroner's Office and may not include deaths that occurred in other Wyoming Counties or States.

<sup>2</sup> Suicides occurred across all age groups: 18 and under, 19 - 65, and 65 and older.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations from this process have led to the development of prevention and intervention strategies across a continuum of care designed to reduce suicide and suicidal behaviors in Laramie County. Four reviews were conducted, and 14 cases were reviewed in the second year.

### »» PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACROSS LARAMIE COUNTY

#### **Offer Suicide Prevention Training**

- First responder agencies
- Business/industrial organizations
- Outpatient healthcare providers
- Employment agencies

#### **Provide Education on Substance Use and Suicide**

- Educate local and state policymakers on substance use and suicide, including concerns related to Title 25 and treatment access

### »» IMPROVE COMPREHENSIVE CARE COORDINATION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Use innovative care delivery programs to improve behavioral healthcare transitions across Laramie County agencies
- Coordinate with law enforcement to identify appropriate resources for welfare checks

### »» INCREASE DIVERSITY OF PERSPECTIVES ON SUICIDE FATALITY REVIEW TEAM

- Continually review Consent for Release of Confidential Information form to ensure all relevant partners are included
- Connect with partners to assess interest in participating in the SFR Team

### »» CREATE A SAFE AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS

- Provide high-quality care in a safe and respectful environment for the LGBTQ community
- Enhance strategic partnerships with organizations working with service members, veterans, and their families
- Focus on providing appropriate resources to organizations serving individuals with chronic conditions
- Disseminate information related to financial assistance programs to increase access to care



## BACKGROUND

Suicide is a preventable public health crisis that affects every Laramie County citizen. Effective programs and services exist, prevention works, and help is available. The Laramie County Suicide Fatality Review team identifies gaps in the existing system of care to enhance services for persons at risk for suicide in Laramie County. Our Suicide Fatality Review (SFR) is a multidisciplinary group of professionals that evaluates the circumstances leading to suicide to improve community supports that lessen risk of suicide across the community. The purpose of the SFR is to identify needs and gaps in our community and provide recommendations on how to better implement prevention and intervention strategies, to mitigate the needs and gaps. The SFR team, assisted by the Laramie County Community Partnership (LCCP), Behavioral Health Action Team, and community partners have developed a better understanding of suicide deaths and opportunities to address preventable causes of suicide through this work.

## PROCESS

The SFR team follows the standard process below for each review. This process is not intended to seek errors on the part of specific individuals or agencies. It is used to determine if all pertinent questions the team has about the circumstances of the death have been answered. Service provision questions are intended to identify areas of improvement and to ensure those who may be affected by a suicide receive needed support services. Reviews are conducted for all suicides occurring in Laramie County with next of kin consent.

1. Share, question, and clarify all case information
2. Discuss the investigation
3. Discuss the delivery of services
4. Identify risk and protective factors
5. Recommend system improvements
6. Identify and take action to implement prevention or intervention recommendations
7. Determine final steps for concluding the current case review.

IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING OR NEED HELP, PLEASE

**TALK TO SOMEONE.**

YOU CAN REACH THE 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE BY CALL, TEXT, OR CHAT AT 988. THEY PROVIDE 24/7, FREE, AND CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE IN DISTRESS AND PREVENTION AND CRISIS RESOURCES FOR YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES.

**988** SUICIDE & CRISIS  
LIFELINE





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