



Preventing Firearm Suicide

The BulletPoints Project

October 2020

Epidemiology of Suicide

Firearm Injury in the US

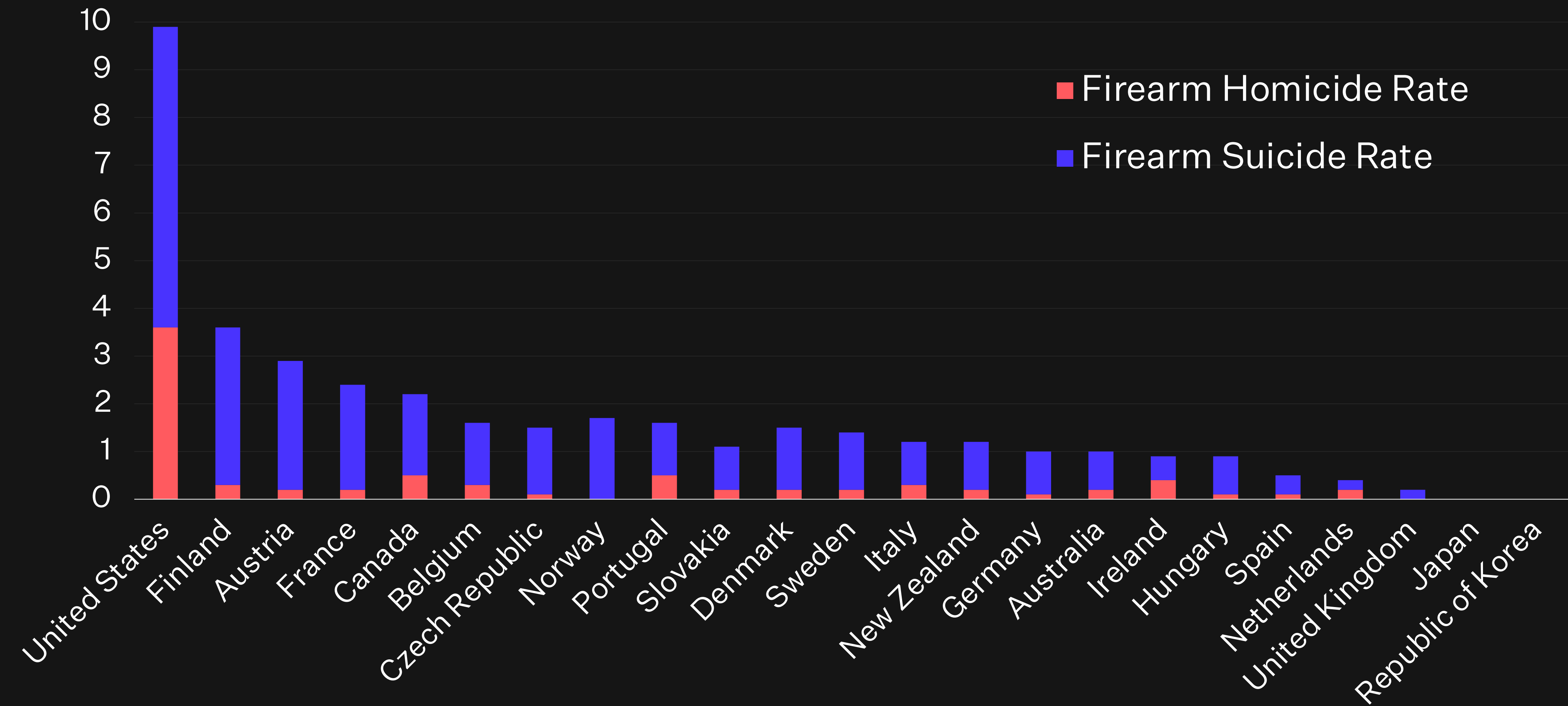
US, 2009-2018:

- 337,957 deaths from firearm violence (homicide, suicide)
- 350,586 total firearm deaths

US, 2018:

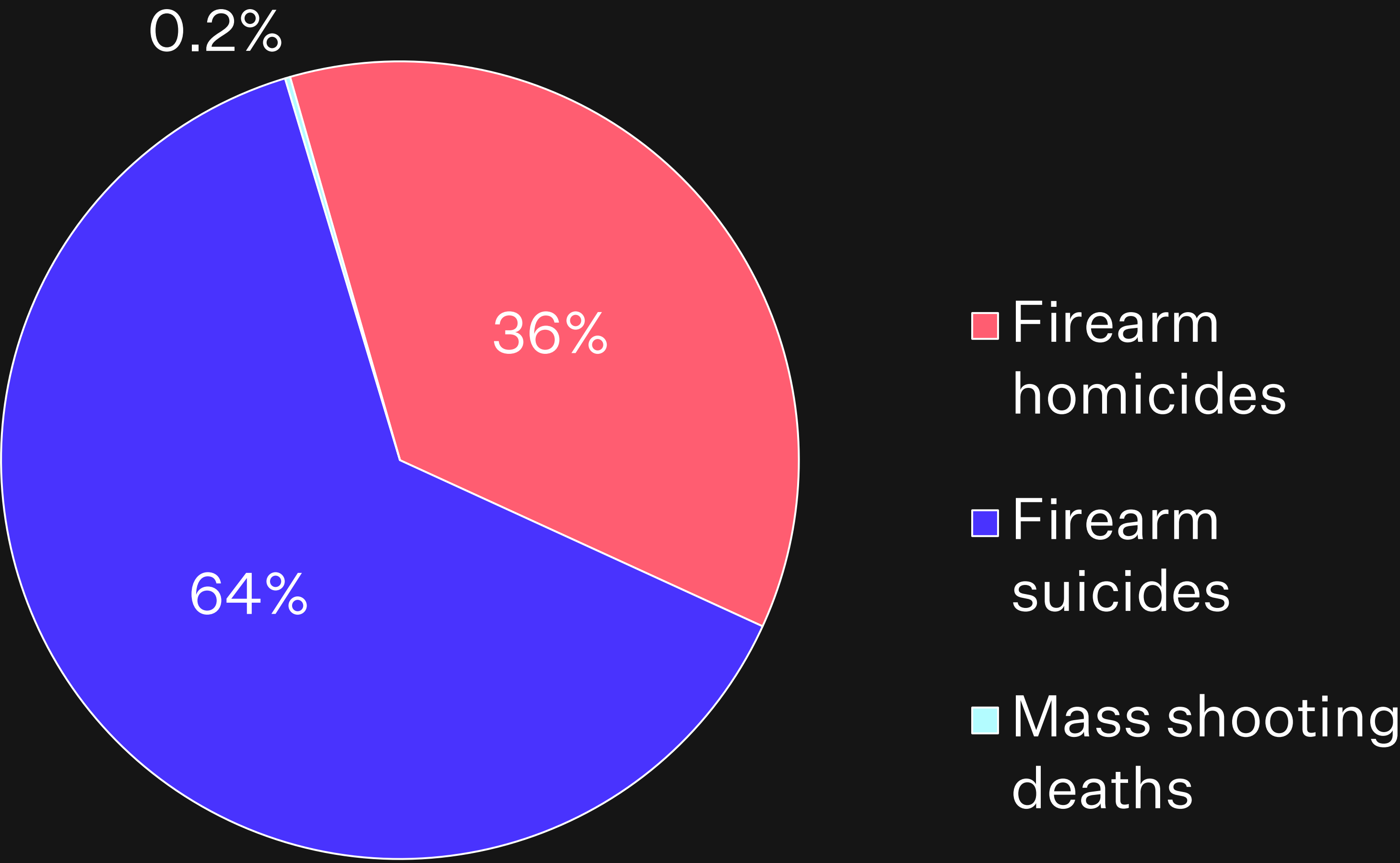
- 38,390 deaths from firearm violence

Death Rates from Firearm Homicide and Suicide, OECD Nations 2010

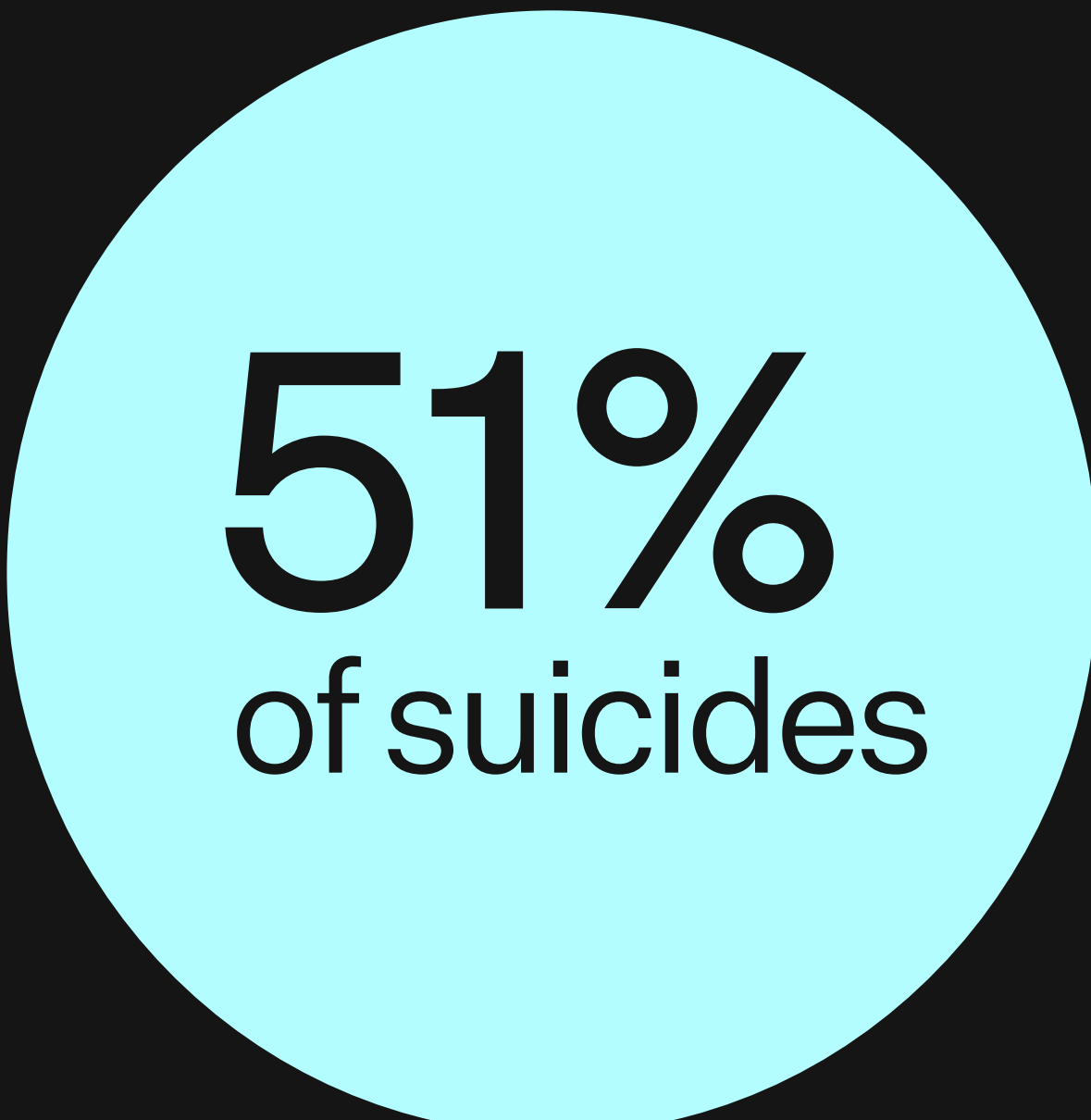


Data from Grinshteyn & Hemenway 2016

2018 Firearm Fatalities

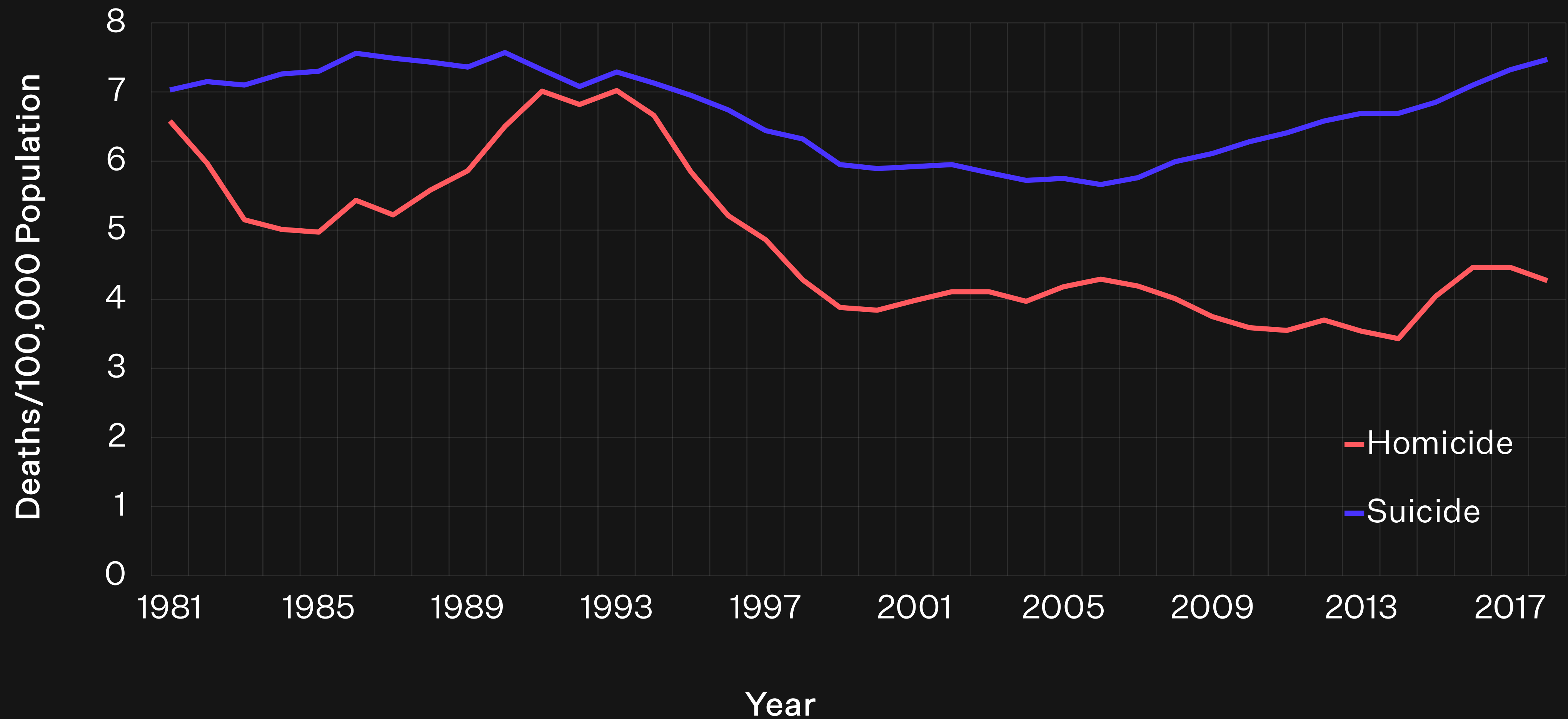


In 2018, firearms were the mechanism in

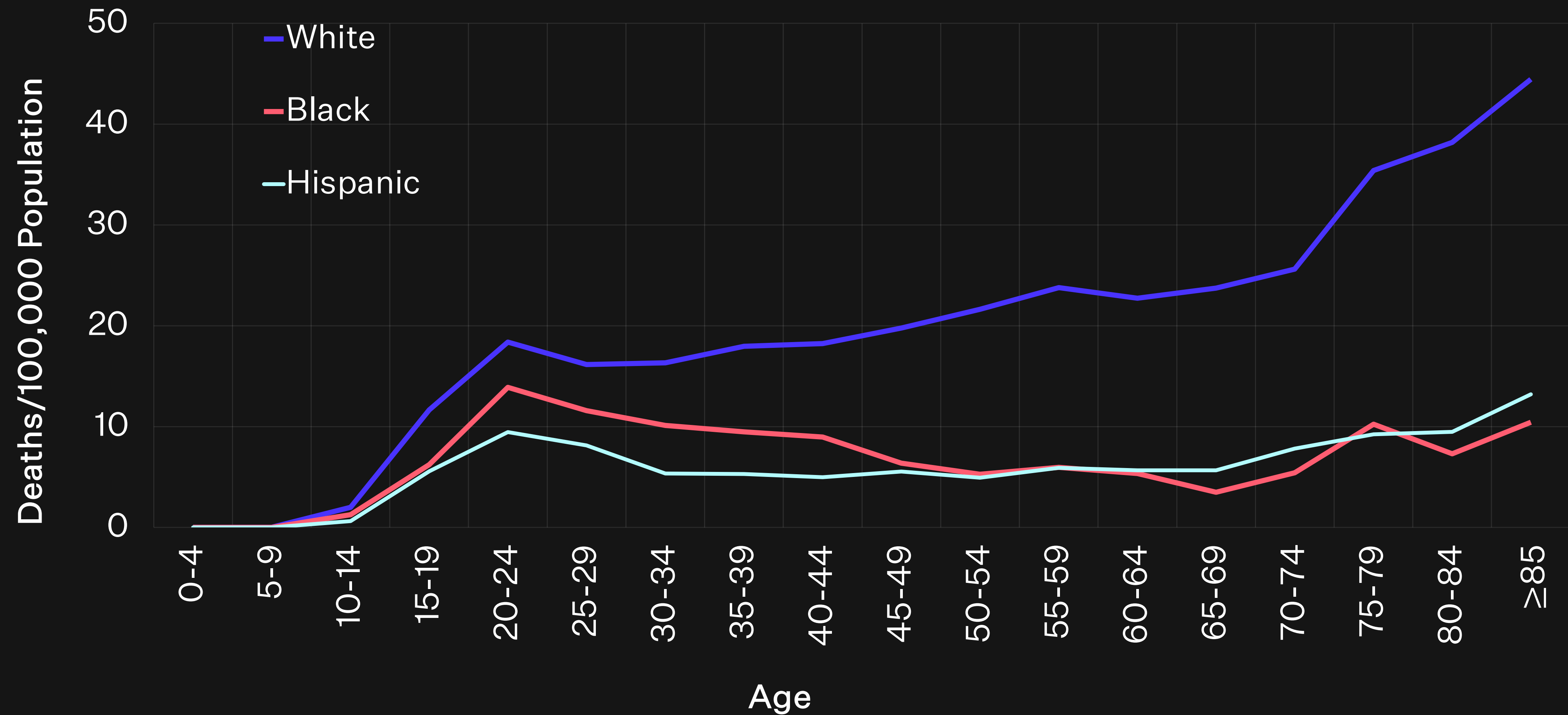


51%
of suicides

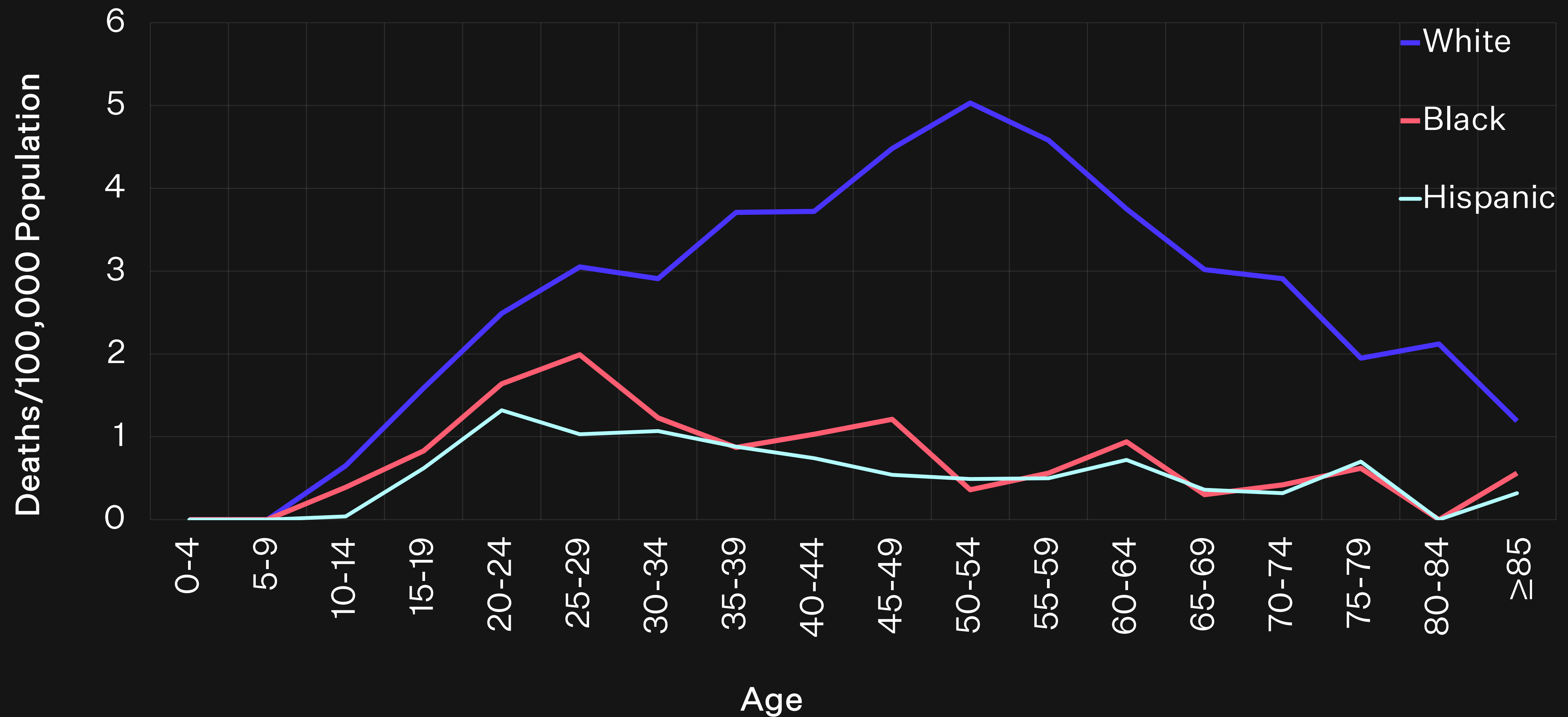
Death Rates from Firearm Suicide and Homicide, 1981-2018



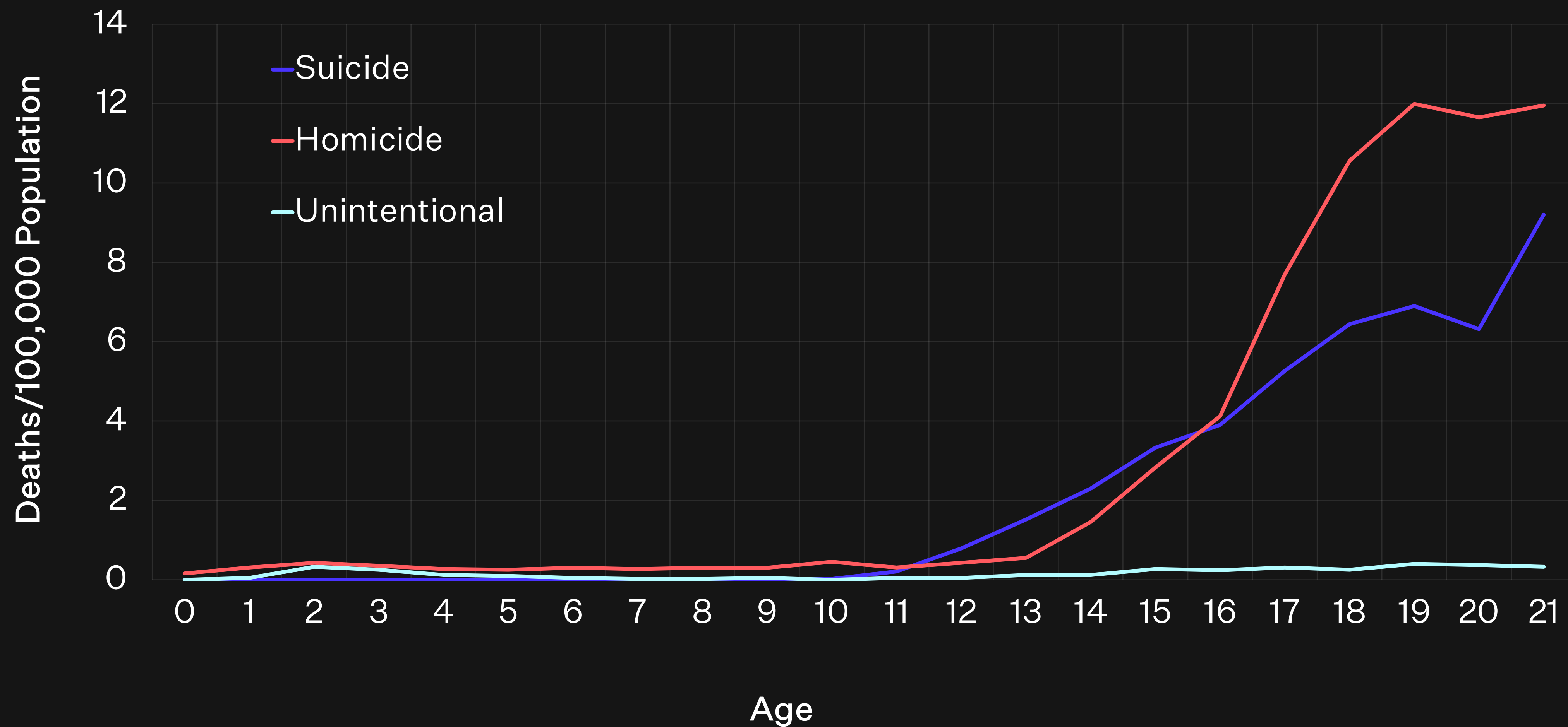
Death Rates from Firearm Suicide Males, 2018



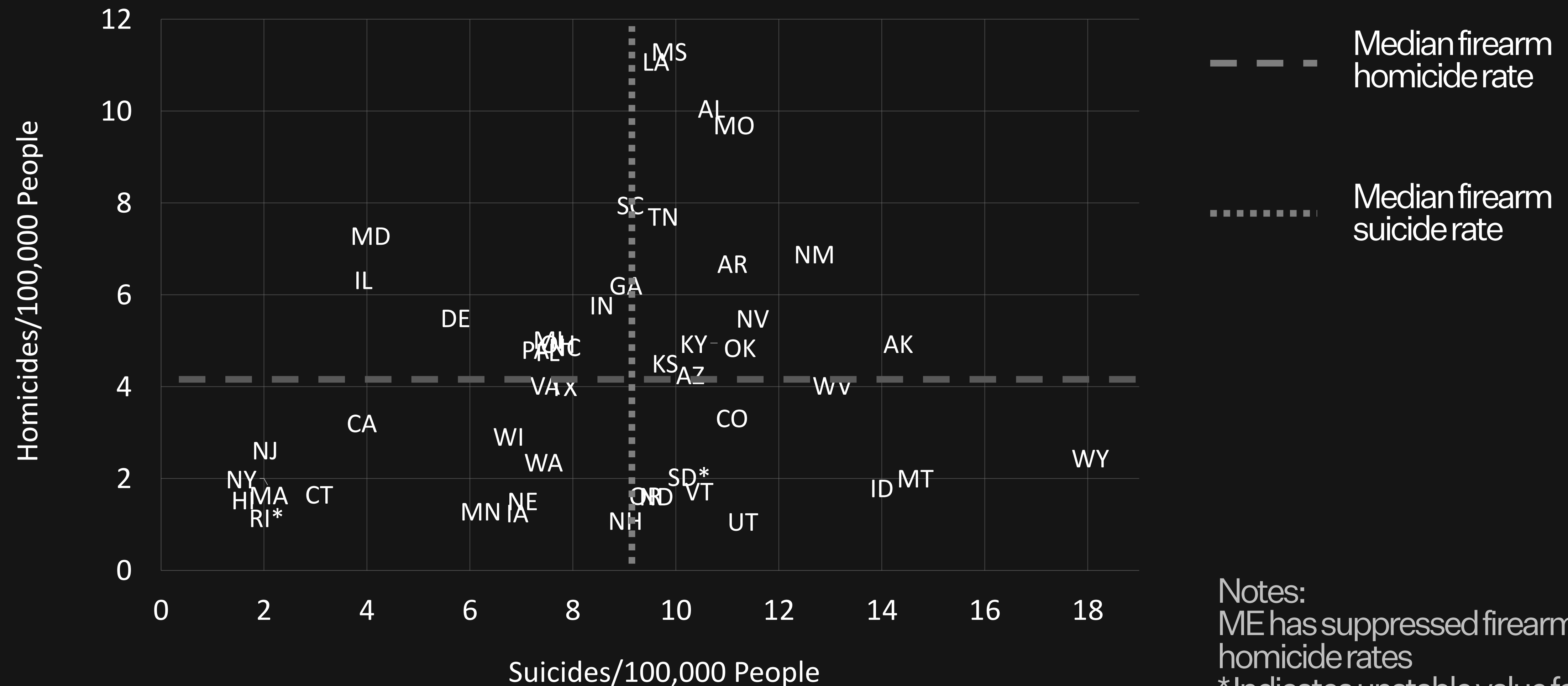
Death Rates from Firearm Suicide Females, 2018



Death Rates from Firearms Children, 2018



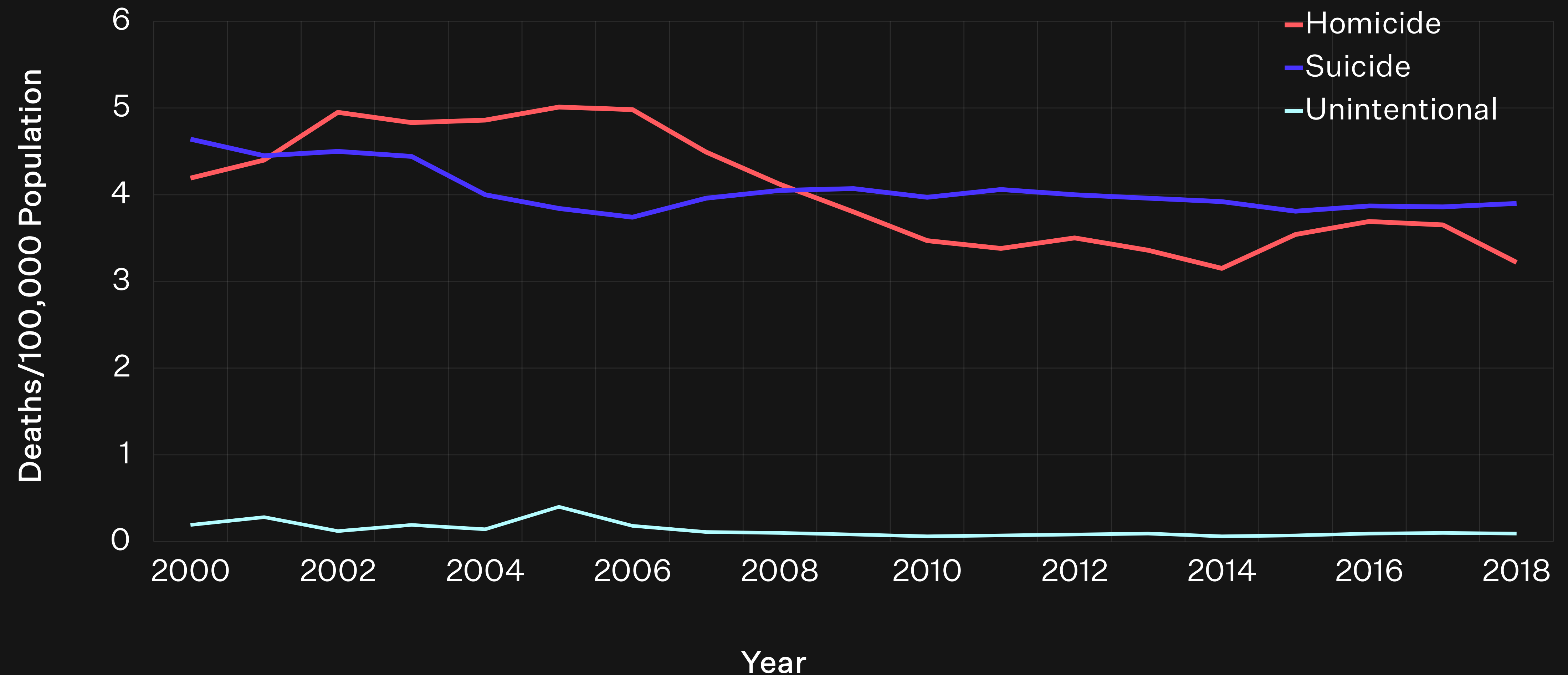
Age-Adjusted Firearm Homicide & Suicide Rates by State, 2018



Data from CDC WISQARS

Notes:
ME has suppressed firearm homicide rates
* Indicates unstable value for firearm homicide

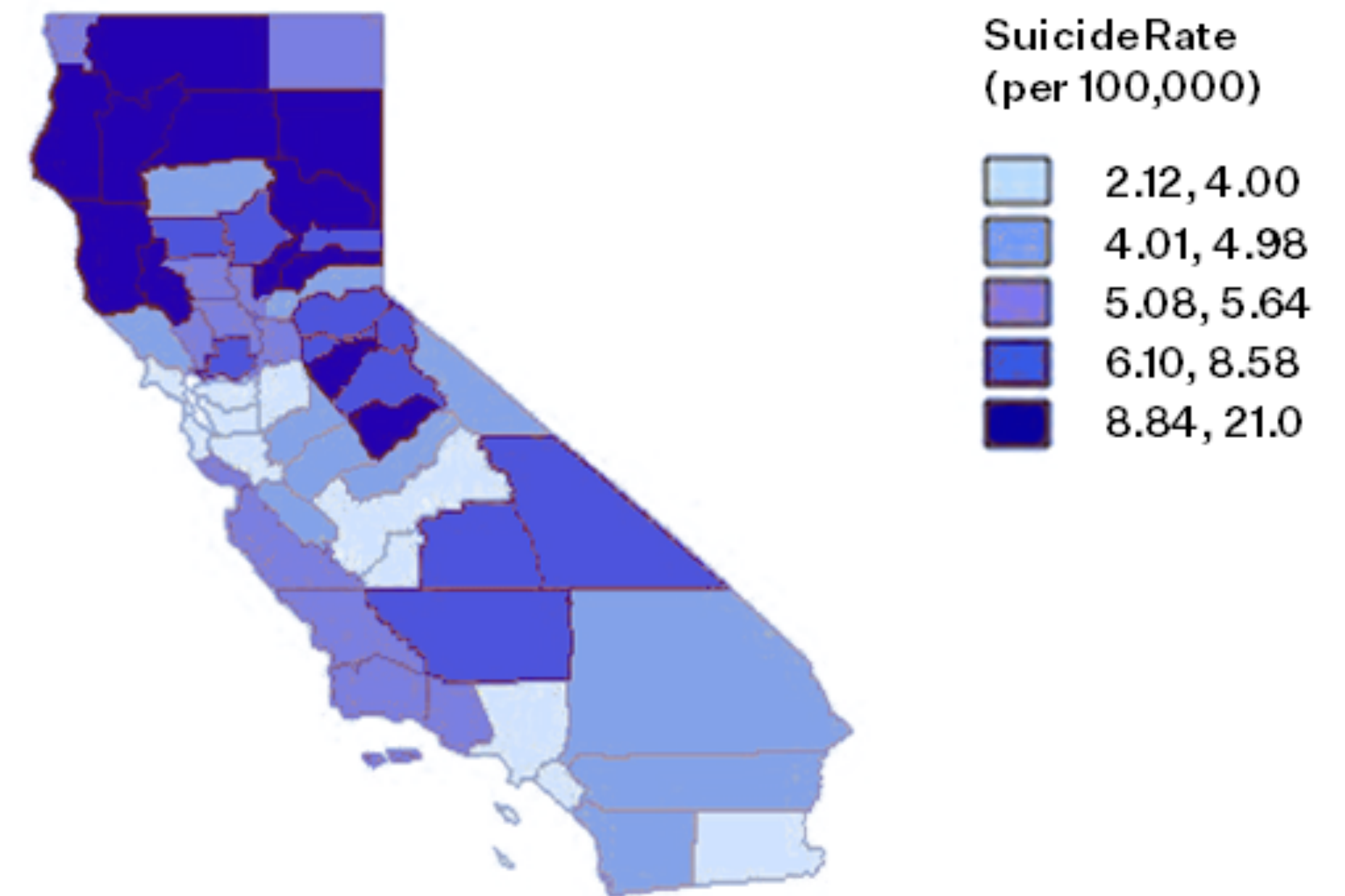
Death Rates from Firearms in California 2000-2018



Firearm Suicide Rates in California 2015

Significant variation by county

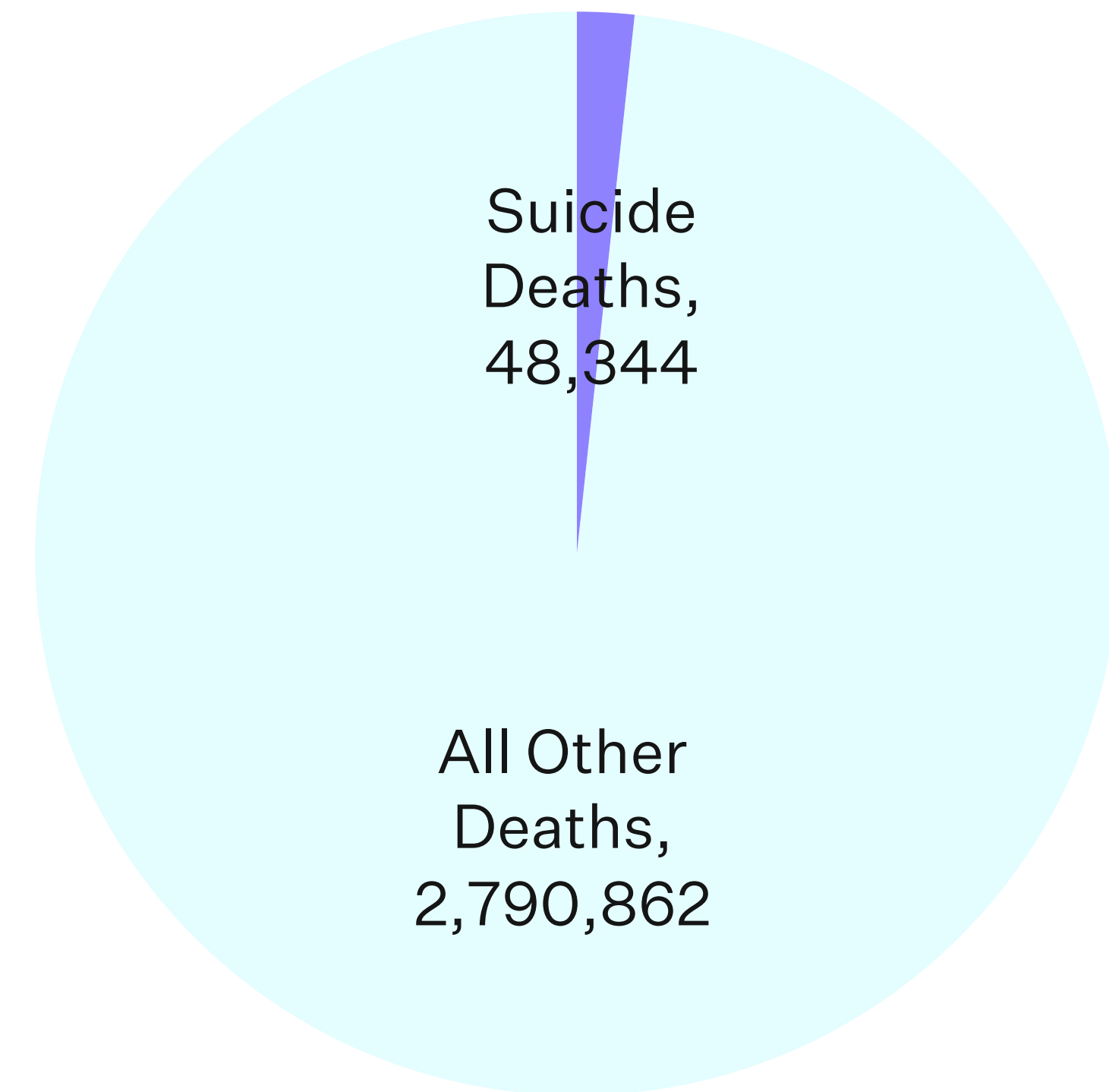
- Highest in rural counties
- Lowest in Bay Area, LA County



On suicide

How big is the public health problem?

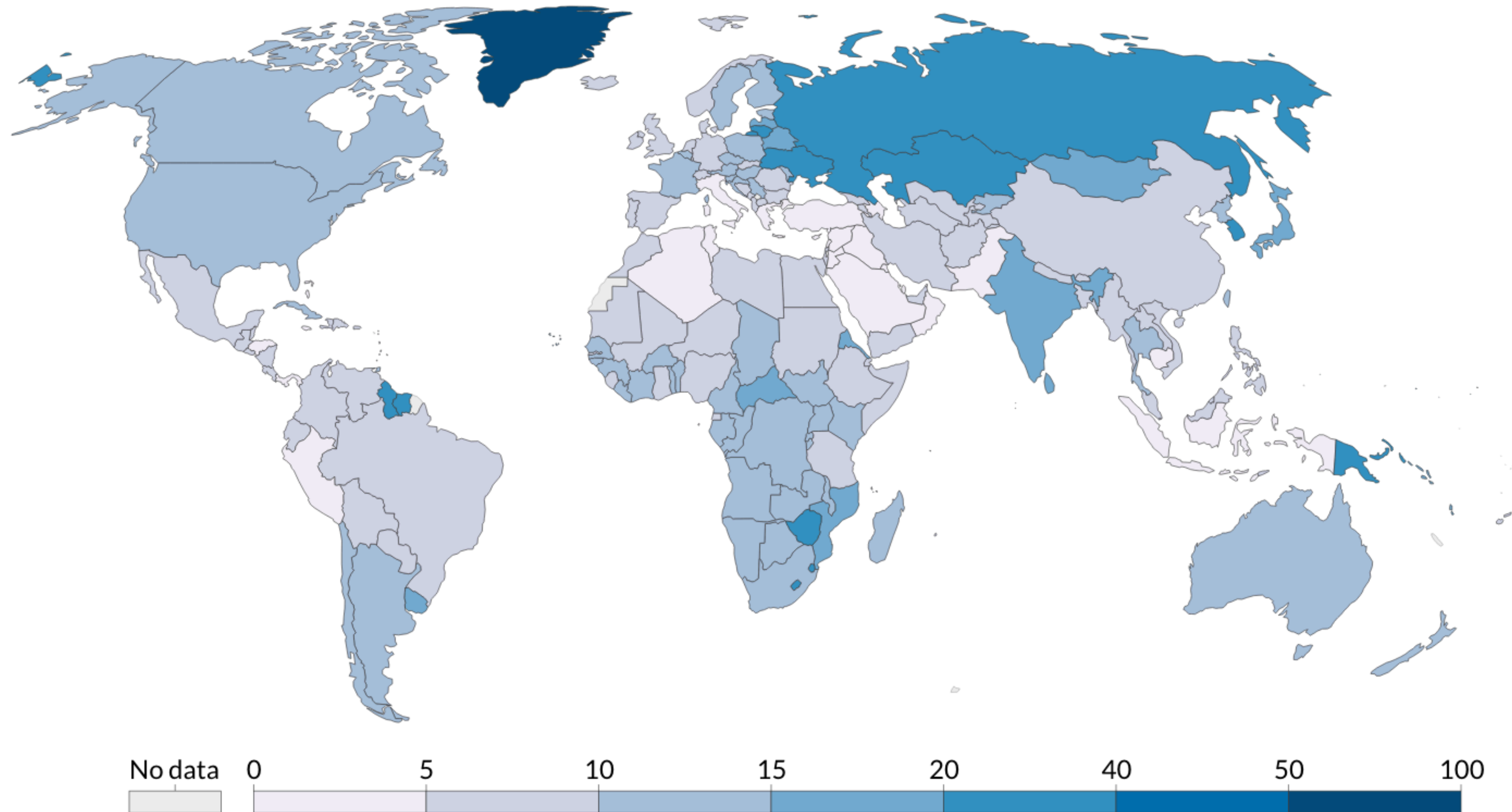
- 48,344 deaths by suicide in 2018
- On average, one suicide every 11 minutes
- 1,400,000 attempts estimated
- Among leading causes of death throughout lifespan



Death rate from suicides, 2017

The annual number of deaths from suicide per 100,000 people.

Our World
in Data



Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease (GBD)

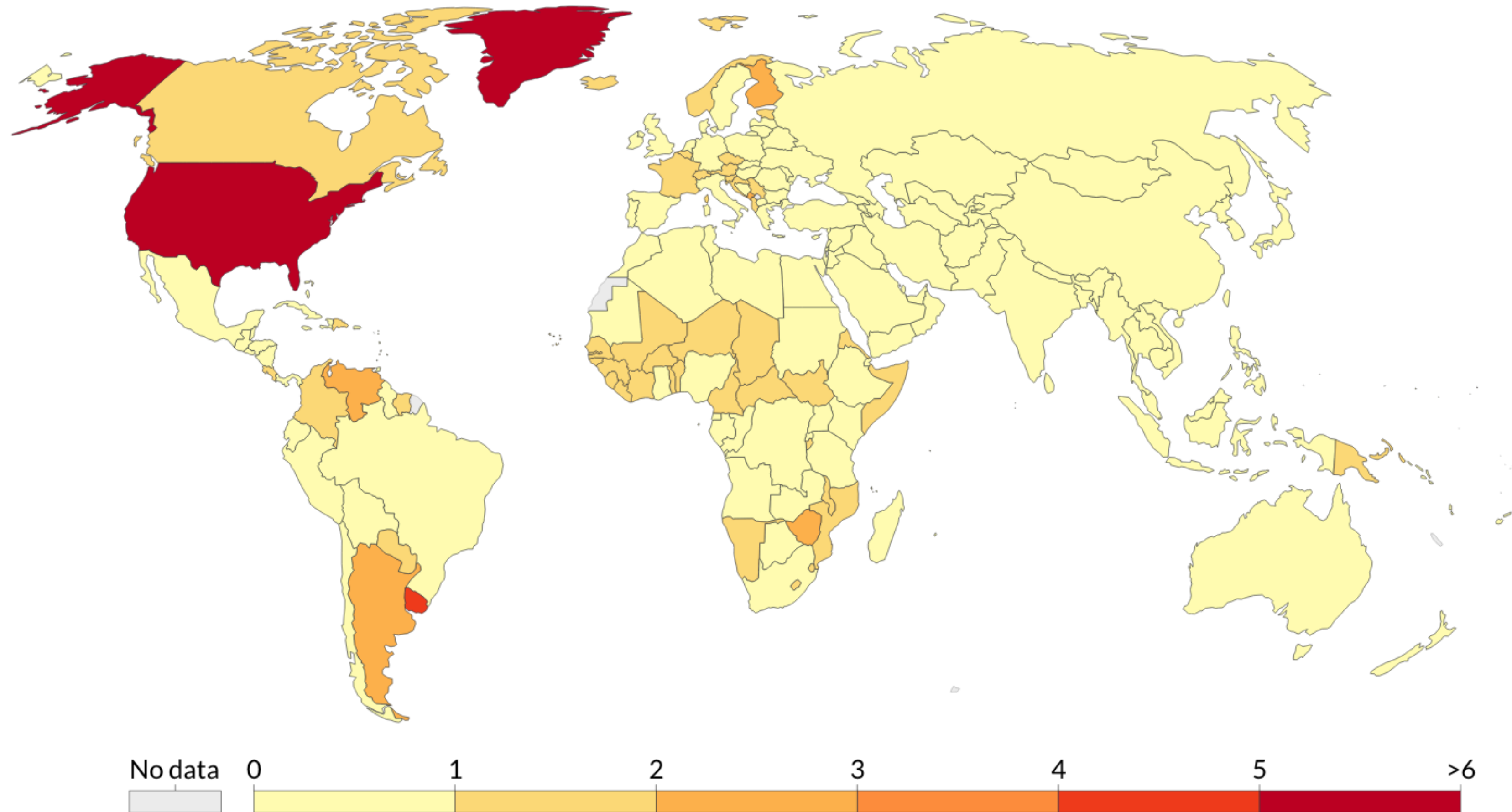
Note: To allow comparisons between countries and over time this metric is age-standardized.

CC BY

Suicide rate by firearm, 2017

Death rates from suicide using firearms, measured as the number of deaths per 100,000 people in a given population.

Our World
in Data



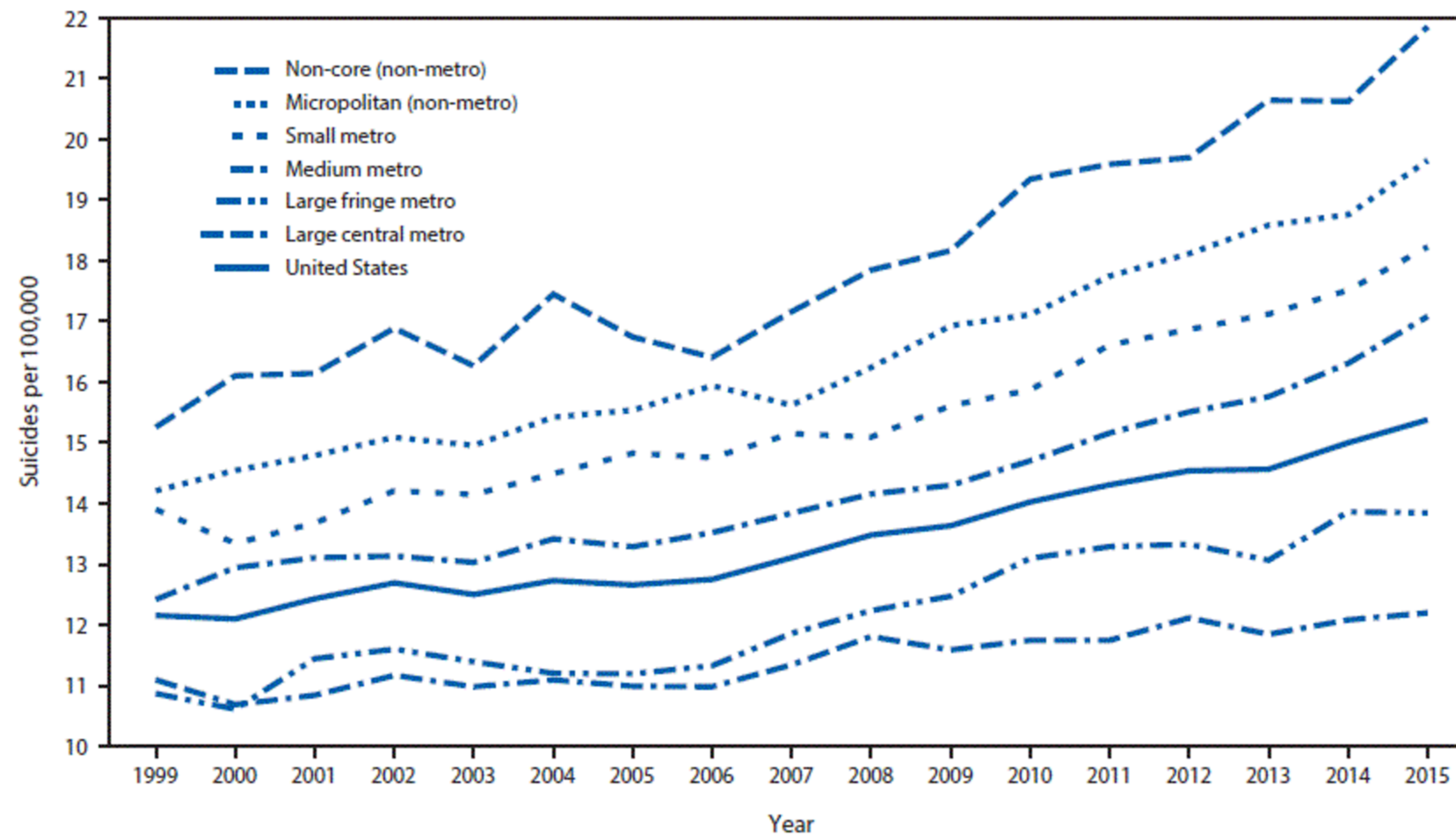
Source: IHME, Global Burden of Disease

Note: To allow comparisons between countries and over time this metric is age-standardized.

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Suicide trends

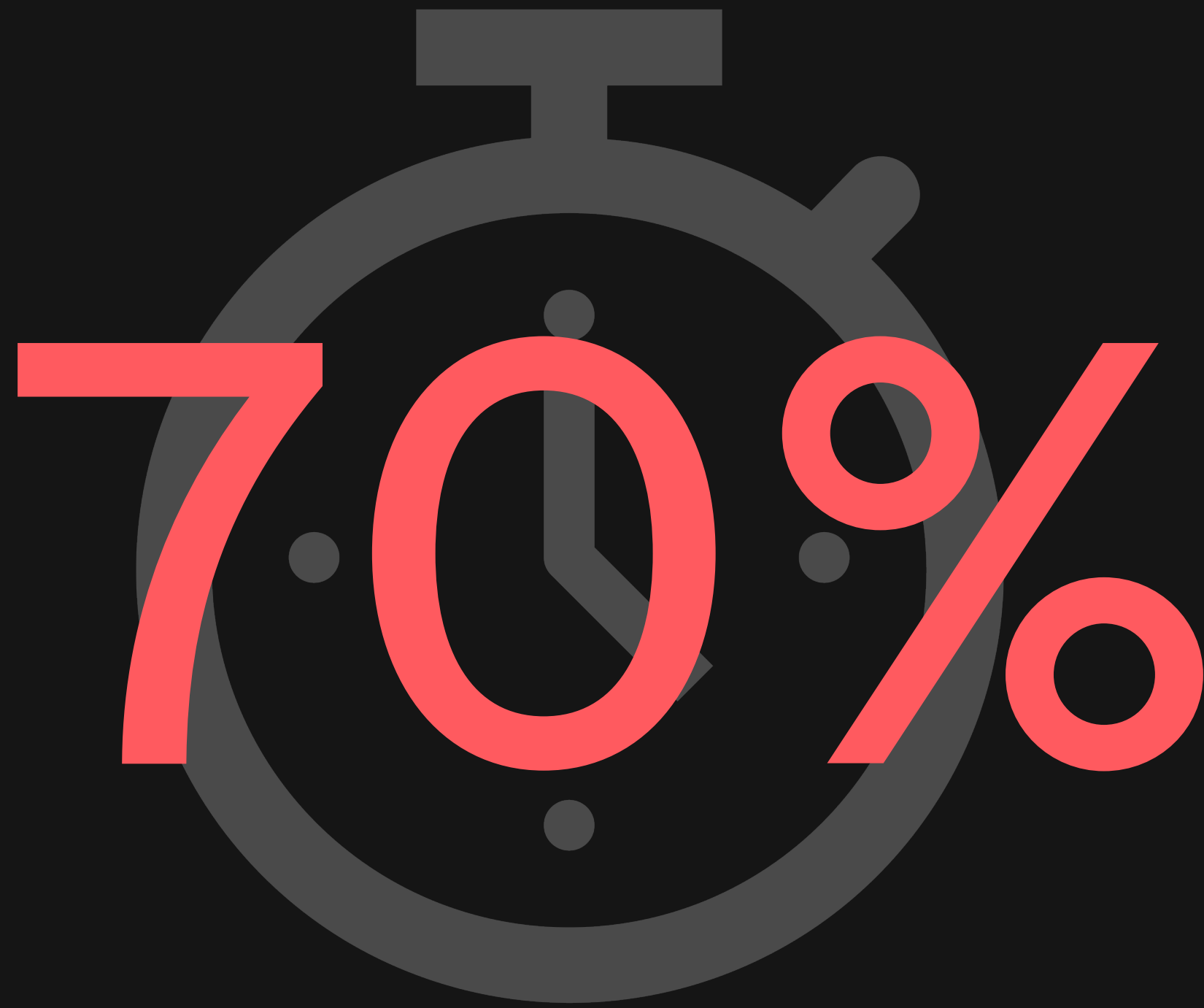
FIGURE. Suicide rates* by level of county urbanization[†] — United States, 1999–2015



* Per 100,000 residents aged ≥ 10 years, age-adjusted to the year 2000 U.S. standard.

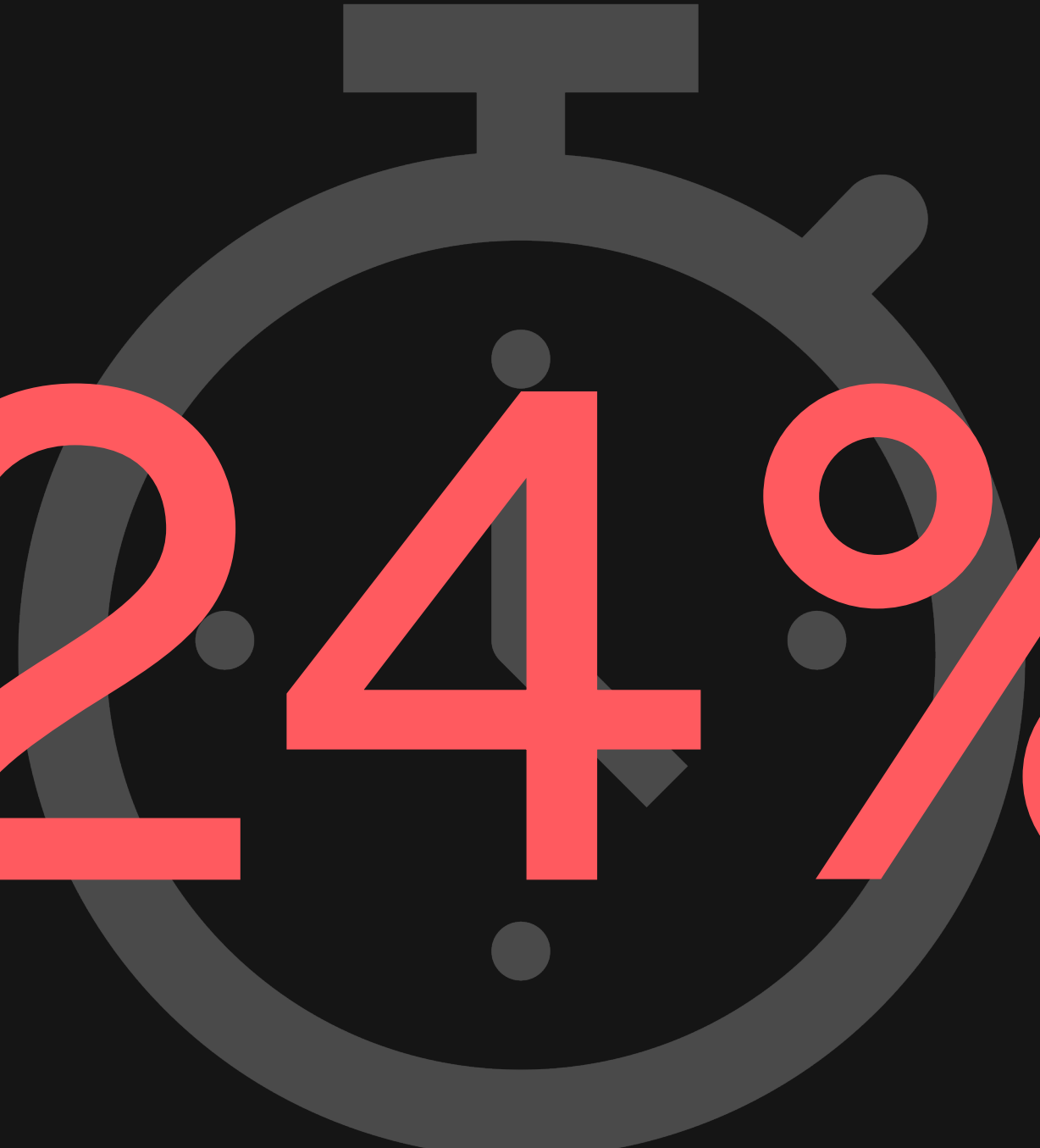
Source: CDC

Percentage of people who made near lethal suicide attempts that made the decision in less than an hour:



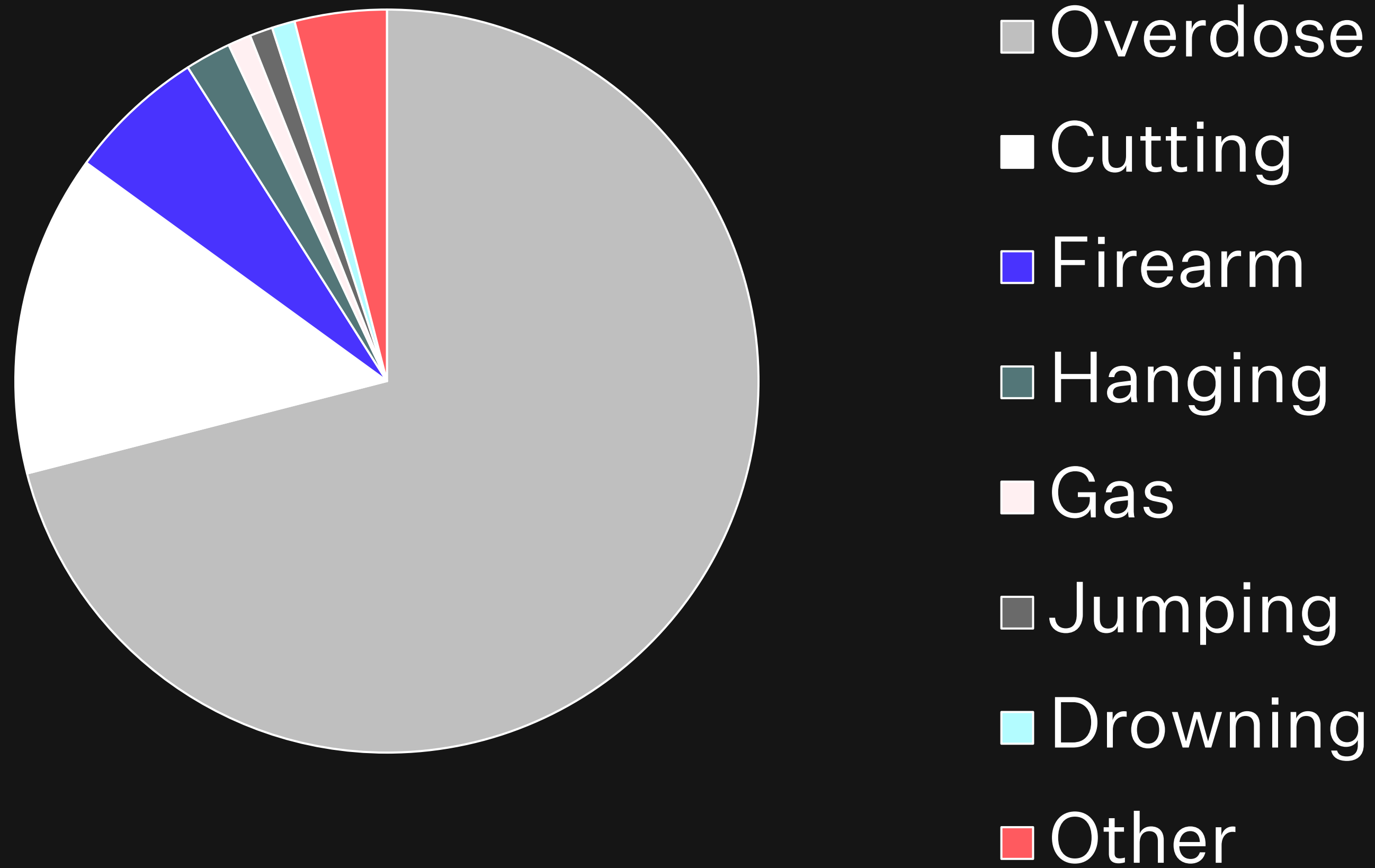
70%

Percentage of people who made near lethal suicide attempts that made the decision in *less than five minutes*:

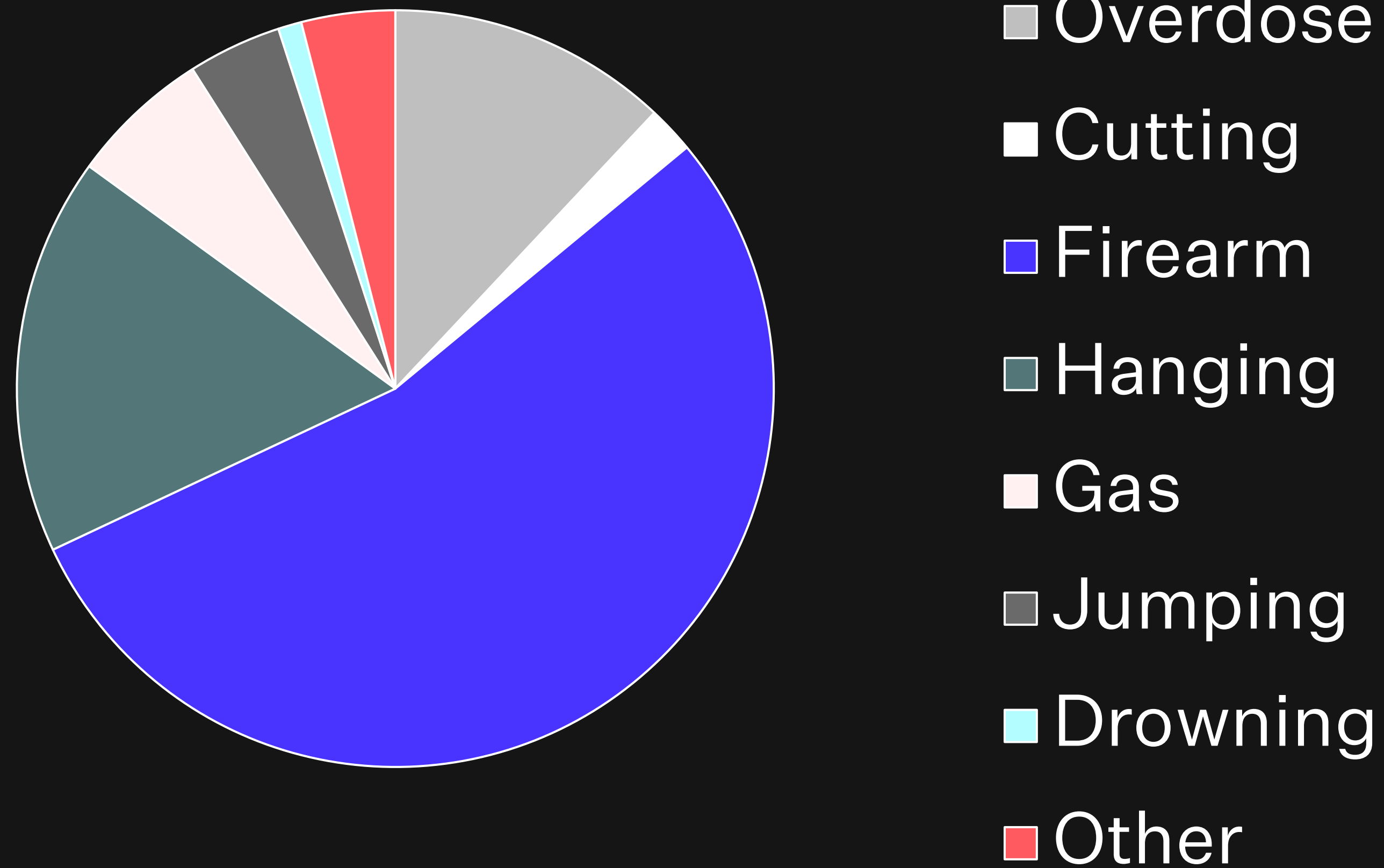


24%

Percentage of Attempts by Method



Percentage of Suicides by Method



85-90%

of suicide attempts by firearm
are fatal

A gun in the home increases the
odds of completed suicide

OR = 3.24

90%

of people who survive a serious
suicide attempt go on to die by
other means

References

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