

DRC Suicides

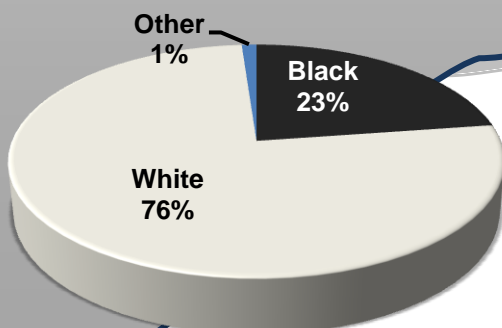
Correctional Institution Inspection Committee

September 23, 2013

Crisis Management and Suicide Prevention Policies

- Inmates are screened for risk of suicide at reception and upon transfer to new institutions.
- Staff who observe any inmate exhibiting signs of suicidal risk are required to stay with the inmate until the inmate can be transported to a designated safe cell.
- Prior to placement in segregation, all inmates must be asked a suicide questionnaire. If an inmate indicates suicidal thoughts, the inmate must be placed on constant watch, with a referral to mental health for further assessment.
- Crisis precautions such as Constant Watch, Close Watch, and Mental Health Observation are used to monitor at-risk inmates.
- Three levels of suicide awareness and prevention training are provided to staff when hired and during annual training. Staff assigned to specialized units must complete intensive training.

Suicides by Race



National Statistics 2000-2010*

- From 2000-2010, 1,994 inmates committed suicide in state prisons. Suicide was one of the five leading causes of death among inmates in all but two years.
- Male inmates accounted for 95 percent of all completed suicides.
- White inmates accounted for the majority of suicides among all racial categories, with 58 percent of all suicides, followed by Blacks and Hispanics.
- 32.8 percent of suicides were completed by inmates between 25 to 34 years of age, followed by inmates 35 to 44 years of age.
- Suicide accounted for a rate of 16 deaths per 100,000 nationally. States such as California, New York, and Illinois had rates higher than the national rate. Ohio had a rate of 12 per 100,000.

*<http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/mljisp0010st.pdf>

Key Statistics

The DRC experienced **88 completed suicides** from 2000 to present.

Inmates classified as **white accounted for 76.1 percent** of suicides.

Higher security and reception institutions generally experience more suicides.

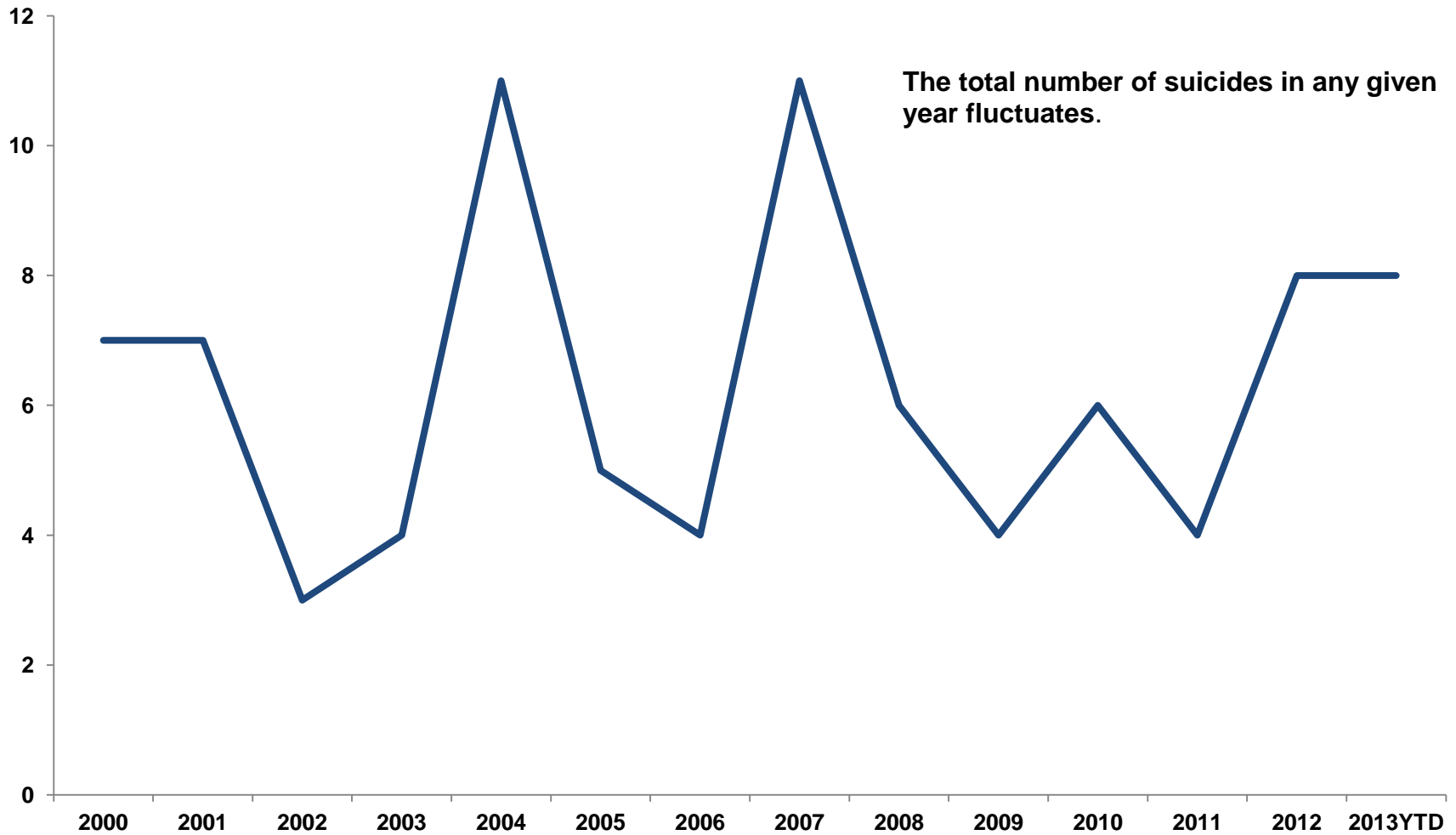
The average age of inmates who committed suicide was **35**.

The **median length of time served was 1.8 years** prior to suicide.

Suicides generally happen in **segregation or general population cells**. **Hanging is the most common method** of suicide.

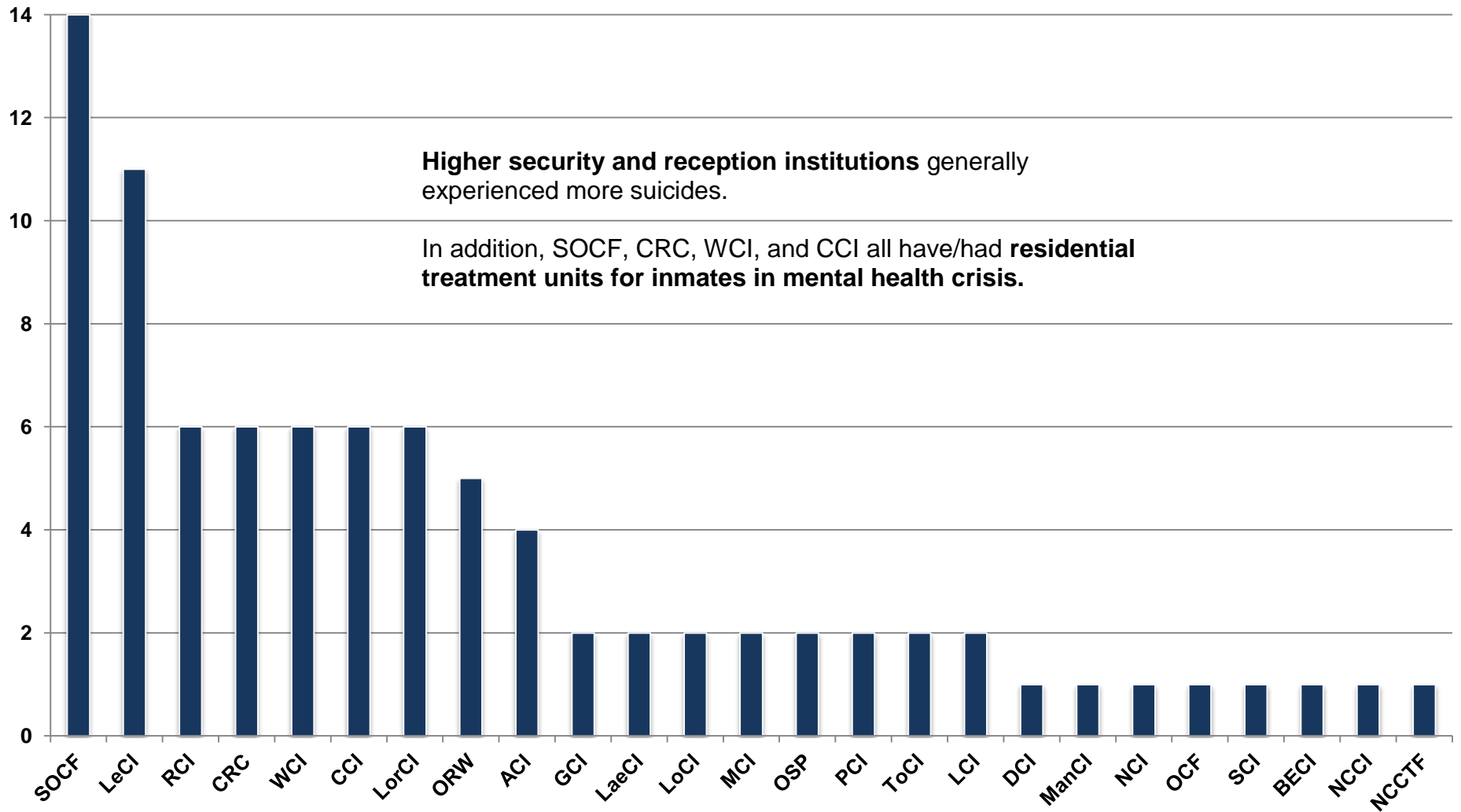
Ohio is **below the national rate** of prison suicide.

Suicides by Year* CY 2000 to present



*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Suicides by Institution CY 2000 to present




* Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation.

Suicides by Gender CY 2000 to present



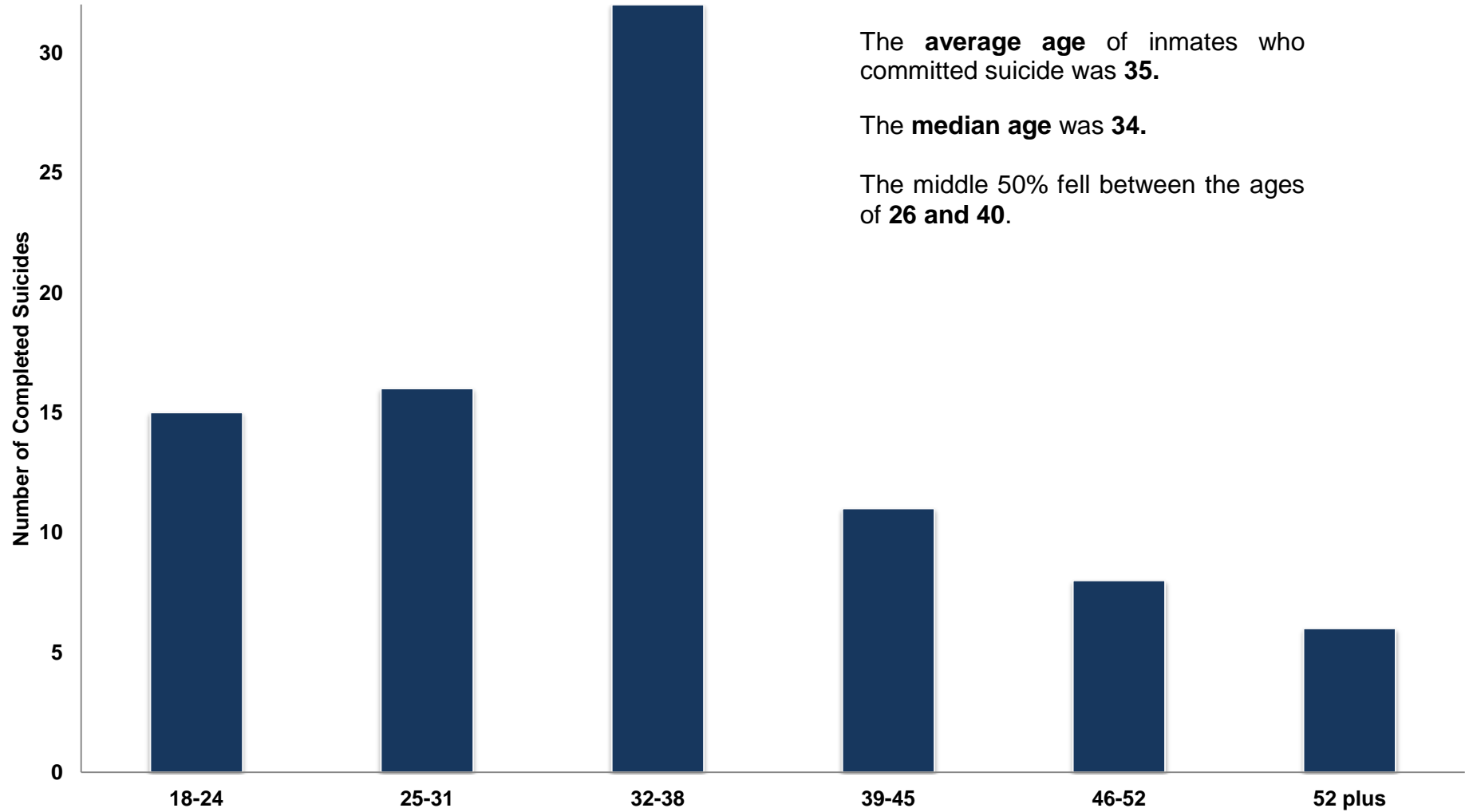
Completed
Suicides



	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 YTD	Total
	100	122	106	116	91	64	60	49	36	36	780
Suicide Attempts											
	21	18	20	11	10	8	13	8	1	6	116

*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. The female suicide attempts consist only of ORW, FPRC, and NEPRC. Suicide attempts have reportedly decreased significantly due to two factors: (1) improved suicide precautionary measures and (2) a change in how certain behaviors are reported in terms of whether the person intended to end his life.

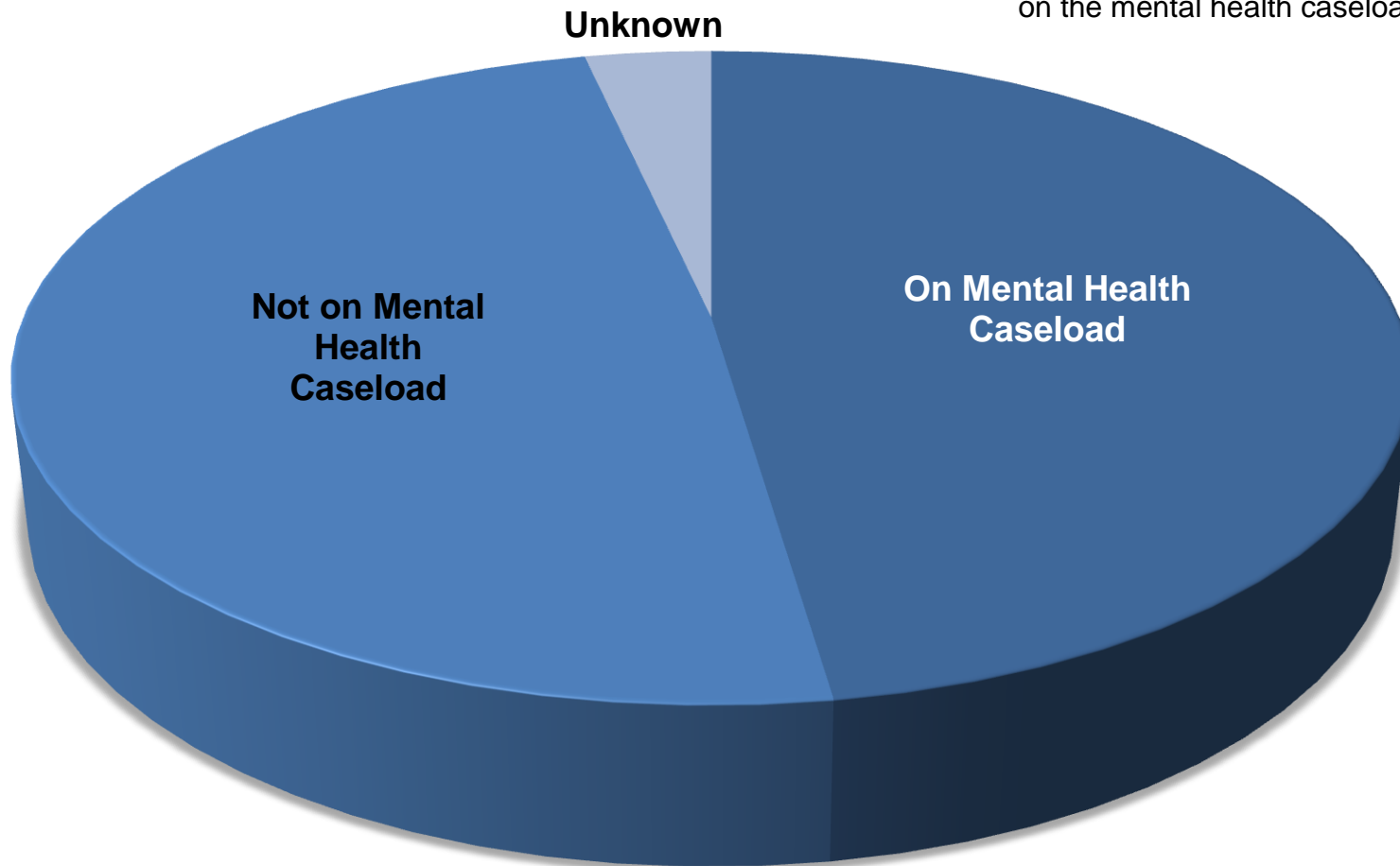
Suicides by Age of Inmate CY 2000 to present



*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

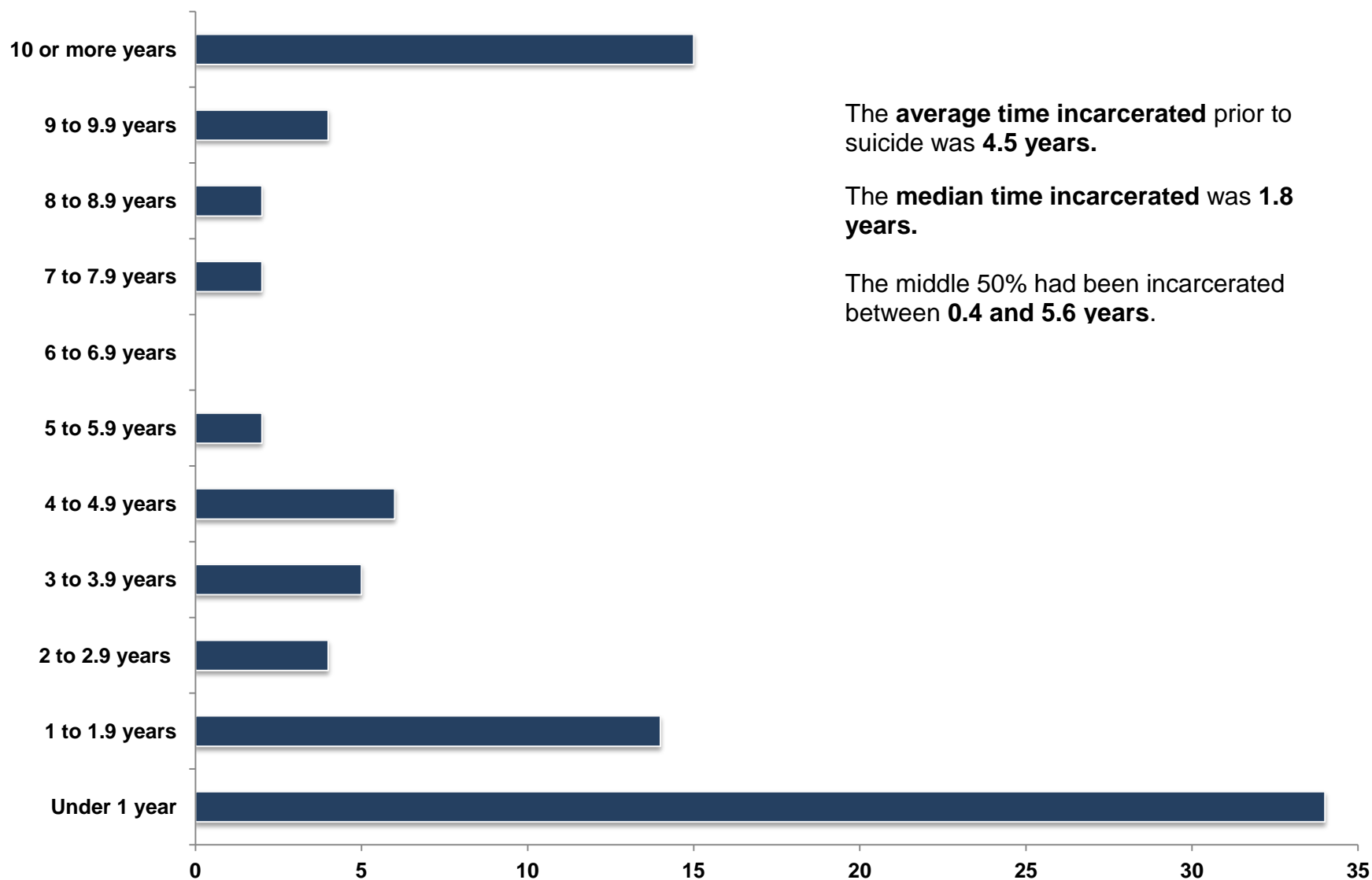
Suicides by Mental Health Caseload Status* CY 2000 to present

Suicide is **not more common** for inmates on the mental health caseload.



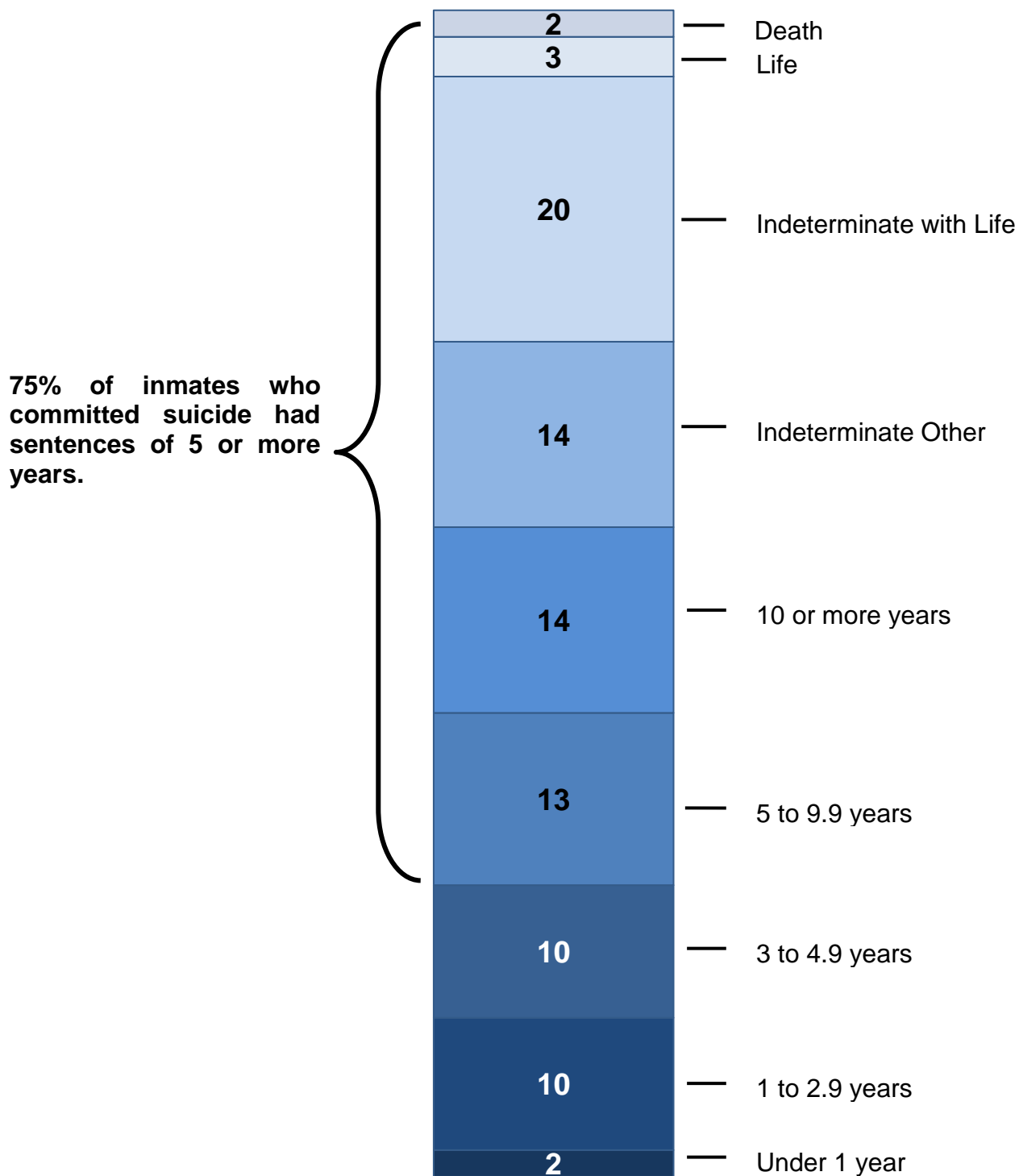
*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. Data excludes the two most recent suicides.

Suicides by Time Incarcerated Prior to Suicide* CY 2000 to present



*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

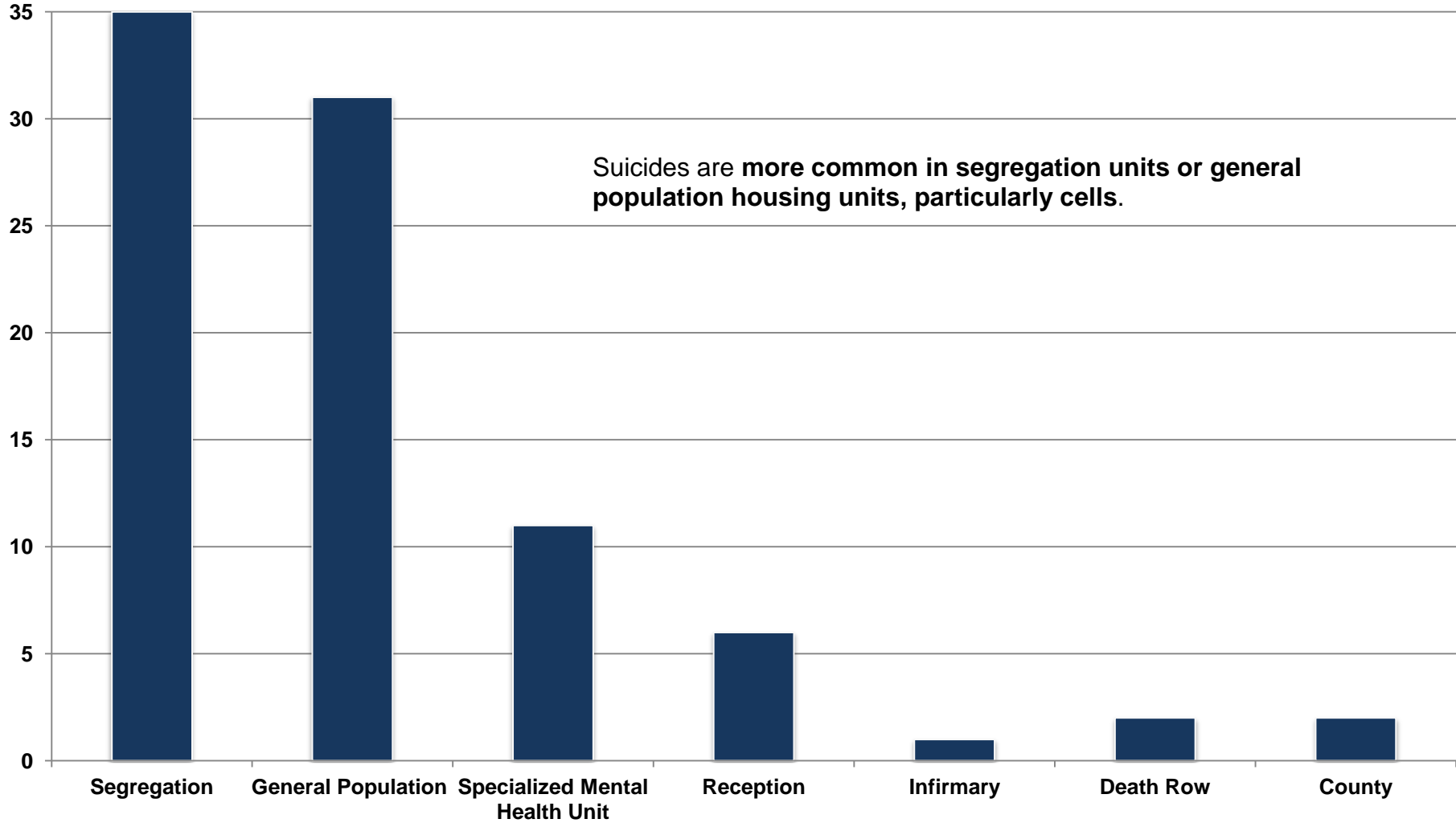
Length of Sentence for Inmates that Committed Suicide CY 2000 to present



*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

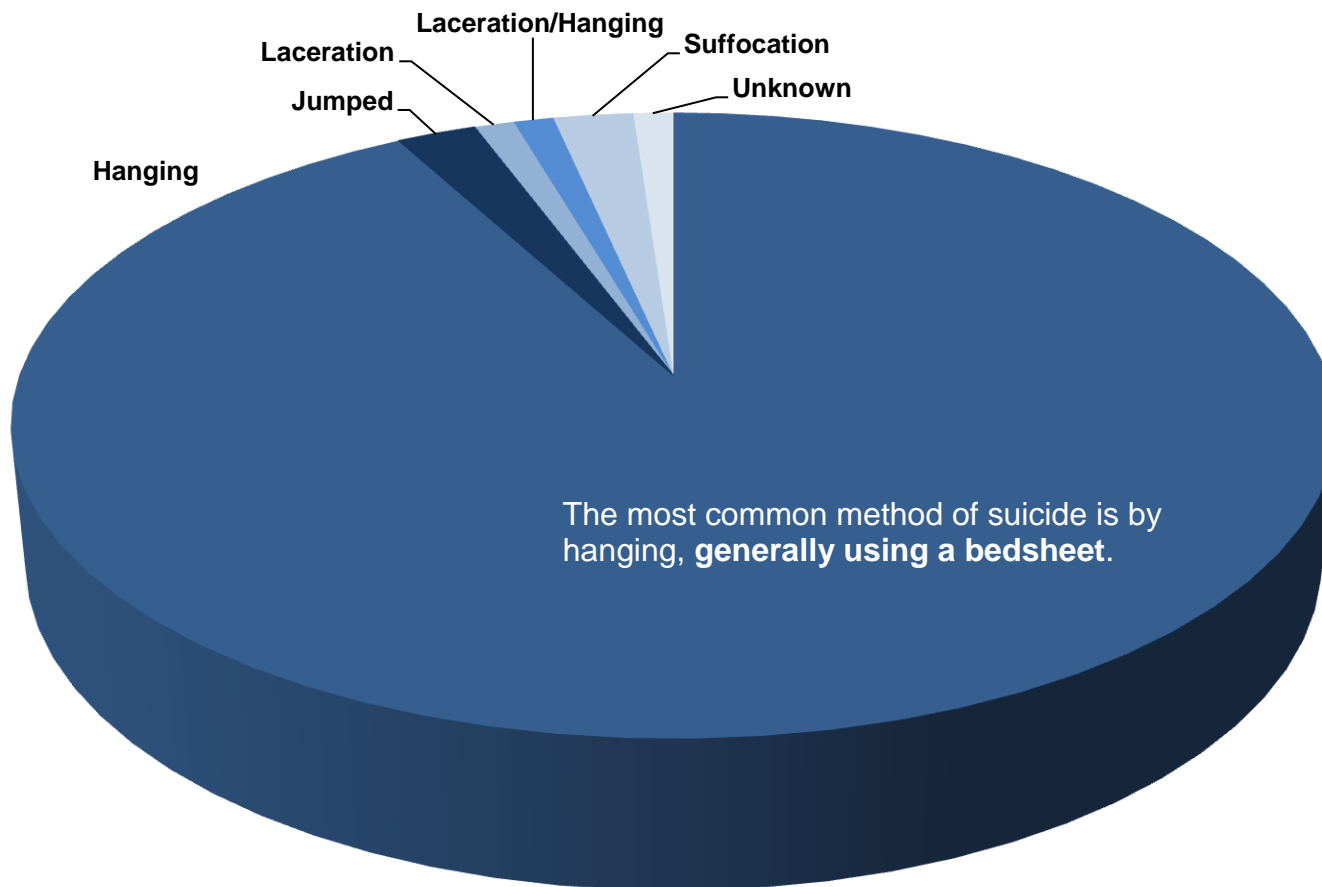
**"Indeterminate Other" includes any sentence with a minimum and a maximum of less than life.

Suicides by Location CY 2000 to present



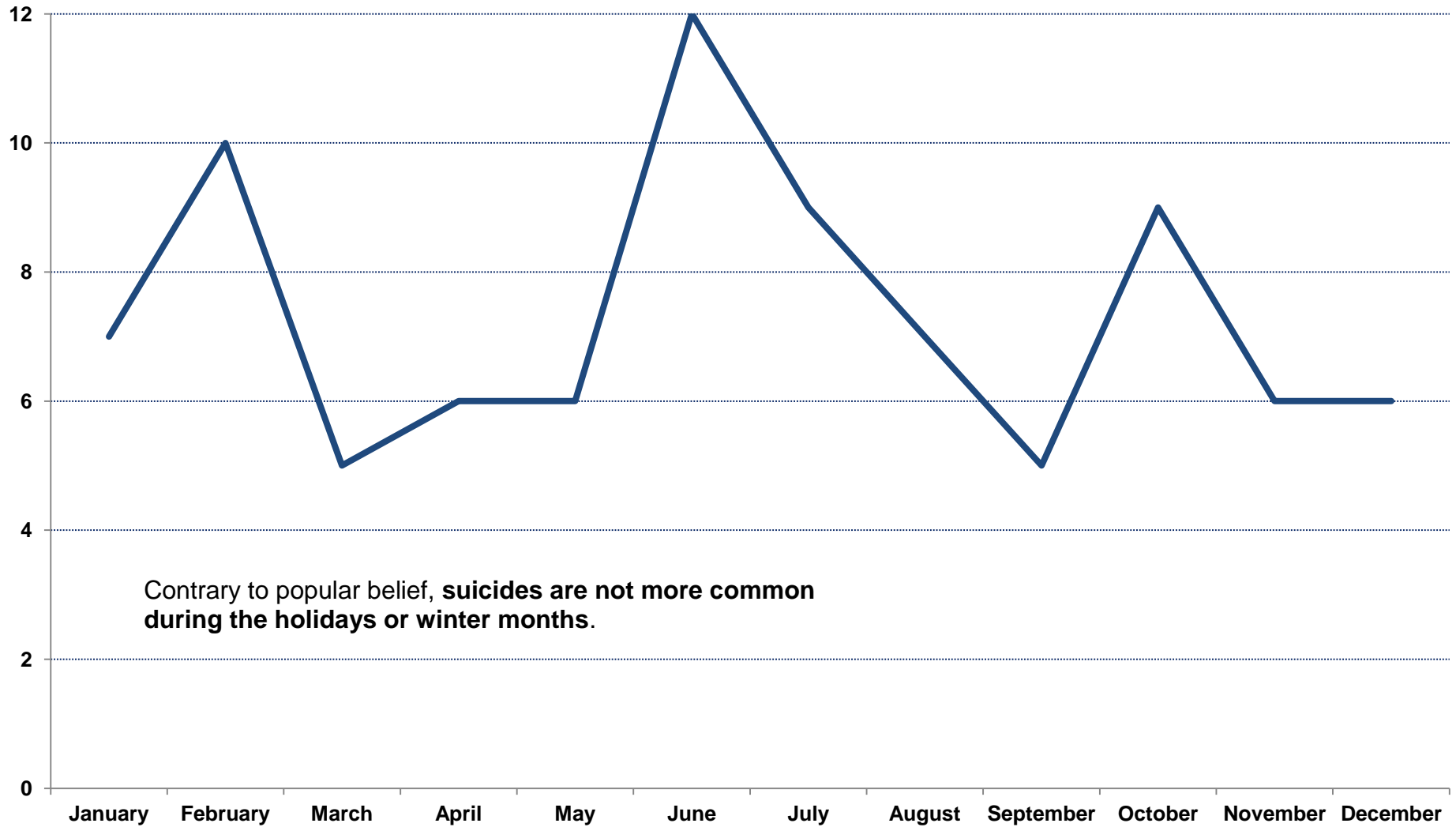
*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction. "Segregation" includes both segregation and segregation overflow. "General population" includes inmates housed in 5A or 4B units. "Specialized mental health unit" includes a residential treatment unit, Oakwood Correctional Facility, the Sugar Creek unit, and J4 at SOCF, which was serving as an intensive mental health unit.

Method of Suicide* CY 2000 to present



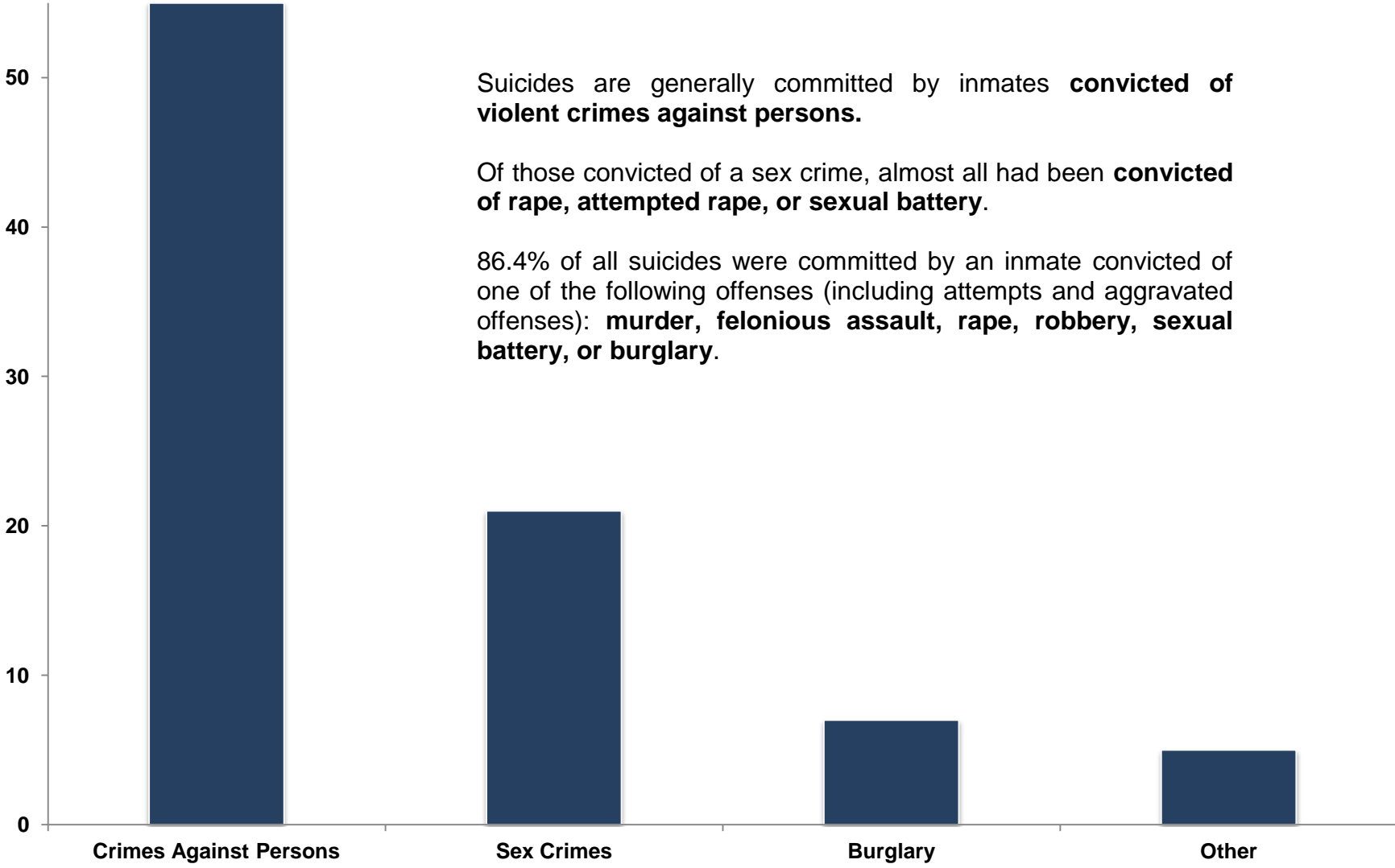
*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Suicides by Month* CY 2000 to present



*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Suicides by Most Serious Crime CY 2000 to present



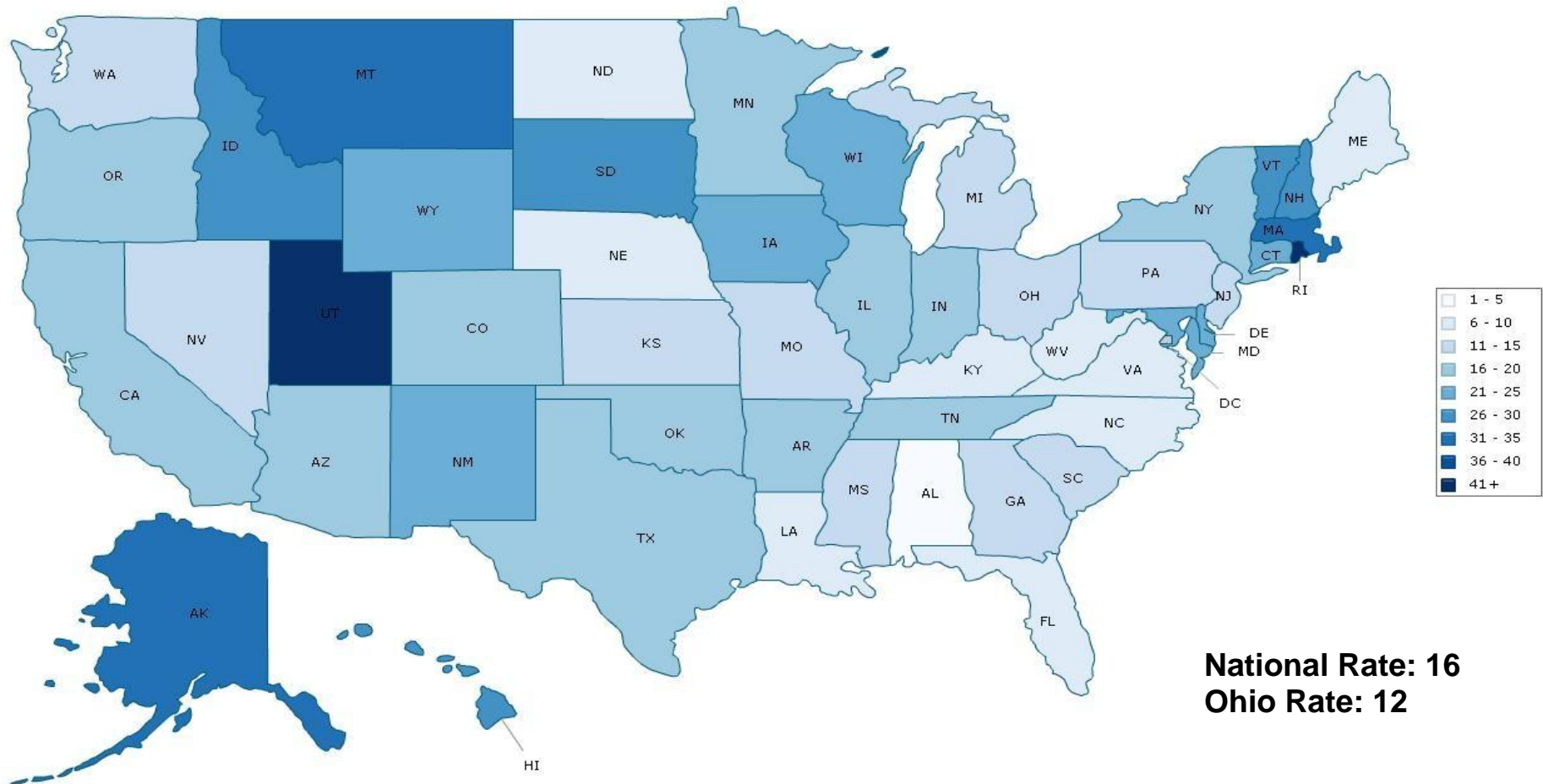
Suicides are generally committed by inmates **convicted of violent crimes against persons.**

Of those convicted of a sex crime, almost all had been **convicted of rape, attempted rape, or sexual battery.**

86.4% of all suicides were committed by an inmate convicted of one of the following offenses (including attempts and aggravated offenses): **murder, felonious assault, rape, robbery, sexual battery, or burglary.**

*Data provided by the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction.

Average Rate of Inmate Suicides per 100,000 State Prisoners CY 2000 to 2010*



*Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice. "Mortality in Local Jails and State Prisons, 2000-2010. Accessed at <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/mljisp0010st.pdf>