



Suicide Mortality in the Americas

REGIONAL REPORT 2010-2014

PAHO



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Suicide Mortality in the Americas. Regional Report 2010–2014

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Introduction

In 2010, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) published the first regional report on suicide mortality in the Americas (1), which evaluated the period 2000–2004; followed by the second report, published in 2014 (2), which analyzed the period 2005–2009. This report is the third in the series, evaluating the period 2010–2014.

This report provides a general description of suicide mortality in the Region of the Americas and by subregions and countries. It analyzes the distribution of suicide according to age, sex, and methods used, along with the changes in suicide from 2000 to 2014. This report is limited to the study of mortality as, in most countries, no record of self-harm exists, due to lack of appropriate surveillance systems.

Although suicide prevention has advanced, in recent decades, suicide in the Americas continues to be an important contributor to the global burden of disease. As an example, in the Region, the years of life lost (YLL) to suicide compared with all causes of death for individuals 10–24 years of age increased from 6.9% in 1990 to 8.8% in 2014 (3). Furthermore, suicide in the Americas principally impacts the young and working-age population; 60% of suicides are among persons between ages 15 and 50, corresponding to 75% of YLL (4). Figures 1 and 2 show YLL by age and its greater impact on the younger population.

Epidemiological data serve as a foundation to support suicide prevention initiatives, demonstrating that there is a need to increase, systematize, and guarantee the quality of national data on suicide deaths, especially in low- and middle-income countries (5, 6).

Restricting access to potentially lethal means that can be used for suicide is a key component of suicide prevention programs. The study of suicide methods, such as the most-utilized method according to sex, age, and other demographic characteristics, contributes to creating appropriate prevention policies. These include, for example, limiting access to pesticides and firearms, placing safety barriers in subways and on bridges, and controlling the sale of medications. The consumption of alcohol is an important risk factor for suicide; it can facilitate suicidal intent and cause illness that leads to suicide. Yet, death certificates only include alcohol when the blood levels are compatible with a direct cause by poisoning, not as an associated factor, causing important underreporting. Alcohol is commonly used together with other suicide methods such as firearms, suffocation, and drowning.

In May 2013, the 66th World Health Assembly adopted the first mental health action plan in the history of the World Health Organization (WHO). This plan proposed to reduce suicide rates by

10% by the year 2020 and emphasized that “suicide rates tend to be underreported owing to weak surveillance systems, a misattribution of suicide to accidental deaths, as well as its criminalization in some countries. Nevertheless, most countries are showing either a stable or an increasing trend in the rate of suicide, while several others are showing long-term decreasing trends” (7).

Toward the end of 2014, WHO launched the report *Preventing Suicide: A Global Imperative* (5), in which the WHO Director-General, Dr. Margaret Chan, stated, “Every suicide is a tragedy. It is estimated that over 800,000 people die by suicide and that there are many suicide attempts for each death. The impact on families, friends, and communities is devastating . . . Unfortunately, suicide all too often fails to be prioritized as a major public health problem.”

WHO reports a global annual age-adjusted suicide rate of 11.4 per 100,000 population. However, the global report highlights a significant amount of underreporting. Suicide data collection is a complex process involving various institutions and services, including the police. In countries with sub-par mortality records, suicides are not counted. Suicide is often additionally misclassified under death due to other causes (5).

For every suicide death, there are many more non-lethal acts of self-harm. Studies on the Americas have found a lifelong suicide attempt prevalence of between 2% and 5% (8). It is important to note that a history of previous suicide attempts is the most important risk factor for suicide in the general population. For this reason, good suicide prevention programs require a record of those with previous suicidal behavior; this in turn requires a surveillance system with rapid availability of collected data. It has been demonstrated that, besides mental illness, there are other risk factors associated with suicide; therefore, preventive measures should not solely focus on the health sector; instead, the response should be multisectoral. For example, the harmful consumption of alcoholic beverages can be reduced with regulatory measures aimed at limiting access, increasing prices, prohibiting advertisement, and reducing the days, locations, hours, and density of points of sale (9). Effective measures to prevent suicide include reducing access to potentially lethal means, responsible information from the mass media, protection of those at risk of suicide, and the early identification and treatment of mental disorders (7).

Many people who self-harm belong to vulnerable or marginalized social groups. PAHO has placed special attention on exchanging experiences with indigenous communities about suicide prevention and the understanding these communities have about mental health, general well-being, and suicide (10).

The WHO action plan for addressing the mental health gap has provided a collection of technical guides, based on scientific evidence, to augment and improve the availability of mental health services, especially in resource-limited settings. These programs focus on a set of prioritized conditions, suicidal behavior among them, and direct training toward non-specialized health workers, especially

at the primary care level. In addition, WHO has modules for the management of other problems that are linked to self-harm, such as depression and alcohol use disorders (7, 11).

A national suicide prevention strategy with an associated action plan is necessary for tackling the problem of suicidal behavior. Without this, it is likely that efforts will not be appropriately organized, will have limited impact, or will not be sustainable over time. Nevertheless, there are positive examples and lessons learned from countries around the world that show a variety of adopted plans and selected indicators. In all cases, a focus toward risk evaluation and effective surveillance systems is essential (9).

The current PAHO Strategic Plan 2020–2025 includes suicide as one of the indicators to evaluate in the Region of the Americas (12). Suicide mortality rate is also included as an indicator under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, Target 3.4, which aims, by 2030, to reduce by one-third premature mortality from noncommunicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being (13).

In the Americas, national governments have recognized the magnitude of the problem and, in the framework of the Plan of Action on Mental Health (14) adopted by the PAHO 53rd Directing Council, gave PAHO/WHO the mandate to strengthen technical cooperation in this area. This report is part of the efforts to disseminate information that reflects the reality of suicidal behavior and serves as a foundation for action.

Methodology

The suicide mortality information used in this report originates from the PAHO/WHO regional mortality database, updated annually from national databases. Due to quality criteria, deaths due to unknown causes were proportionally redistributed to other categories by sex and age group. In the same way, deaths of ill-defined causes (International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th edition [ICD-10] codes R95–R99) and lethal events of undetermined intent (ICD-10 codes Y10–Y34) were proportionally redistributed and corrected according to the level of underregistration.

Suicide mortality was based on reported intentional self-harm deaths (ICD-10 codes X60.0–X84.9, Y87.0). Suicide mortality rates per 100,000 population were calculated using each country's annual population estimate from the United Nations. To obtain stable suicide rates, the number of suicides was averaged by the estimated population for each five-year period, respectively. In some countries, suicide data were not available for every year, so rates were calculated based on the years with available data; this permitted the inclusion of almost every country and territory in the Region. Table 1 provides a list of the countries and territories that had years with no available mortality data.

This report corresponds to the five-year period between 2010 and 2014. In some cases, comparisons are drawn with the previous five-year periods 2000–2004 and 2005–2009. Suicide rates are presented both standardized and non-standardized by age. Age-adjusted rates were calculated based on the world standard population using five-year age intervals. This age-adjustment process corrects for differences in population structure by age, facilitating comparisons between subregions and countries and over time (15).

Suicide mortality data were analyzed by sex and age. The female-males suicide ratio was estimated with the number of suicide deaths in males per 100,000 population divided by the number of suicide deaths in females per 100,000 population. If sex had no effect on suicide, the proportion would equal 1.0. If the ratio is greater than 1.0, there were more deaths from suicide in males, while a ratio of less than 1.0 indicates a greater number of suicide deaths in females. In cases where the number of suicide deaths in either sex was zero, 0.1 was added to the number of suicides for both groups for the corresponding calculation.

The method of suicide was compared based on the percentage of each method in relation to the total number of suicides. The method groups were derived using the following ICD-10 categories:

1. Poisoning by exposure to and use of drugs, medications, alcohol, and other biologic substances (X60–X65);
2. Poisoning by exposure to pesticides and other chemical substances (X66–X69);
3. Hanging, strangling, and asphyxiation (X70);
4. Drowning and submersion (X71);
5. Firearm discharge (X72–X74);
6. Intentional self-harm by explosive material, smoke, fire, steam, hot vapor, and hot objects (X75–X77);
7. Intentional self-harm by sharp object (X78);
8. Intentional self-harm by blunt object, motor vehicle crash, and other specified means (X79, X82–X83);
9. Intentional self-harm by jumping or lying in front of a moving vehicle (X80–X81);
10. Intentional self-harm by unspecified means (X84).

Poisoning as a suicide method, unlike in prior reports, was separated into two categories: by pesticides and other chemical products, and by alcohol or drug intoxication. This division is important, given that these two categories of poisoning differ significantly globally in their characteristics, prevalence, and intervention modalities for prevention. Analysis of suicide method was not examined by age-standardization.

The ranking of suicide among all causes of death was determined using the Global Burden of Diseases (GBD) level-three disease categorization. The GBD includes 151 categories of disease (15).

This report uses the same division of subregions of the Americas as the previous report (2):

- **North America:** Canada, United States of America, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands;
- **Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico:** Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama;
- **South America:** Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of);
- **Non-Hispanic Caribbean:** Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Dominica, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

All countries in Latin America and the Caribbean that provided mortality data for the 2010–2014 period are included, with the exception of those that appear under North America. The data on suicide mortality in the Americas and by subregion are presented in the Results section. The Appendix includes data by country.

Due to some changes in the methodology of this report, slight differences may exist in the reported rate of suicide from the two previous reports. This is essentially due to the distribution of deaths of ill-defined and unknown causes and lethal events of undetermined intent, along with the estimated underregistration of deaths.

Results

OVERVIEW OF SUICIDE IN THE REGION OF THE AMERICAS

With an annual average of 81,746 suicide deaths in the period 2010–2014 and an age-adjusted suicide rate of 9.3 per 100,000 population (age-unadjusted rate of 9.6), suicide continues to be a public health problem of great relevance in the Region (Table 2).

In the period 2010–2014, 55.8% of suicide deaths in the Region occurred in North America. The age-adjusted suicide rate was also highest in North America (12.8 per 100,000 population), which along with the non-Hispanic Caribbean (9.8) was higher than the regional rate, while the other two subregions had rates lower than the regional rate (6.7 in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico; 6.9 in South America). The age-adjusted suicide rate for Latin America and the Caribbean was 6.9 per 100,000 population.

CHANGES IN SUICIDE RATES BETWEEN 2000 AND 2014

Using age-adjusted rates, it appears the rate of suicide in the Americas stayed relatively stable during the 15 years between 2000 and 2014. In Latin America and the Caribbean, a small decrease in the suicide rate was seen (from 7.2 in 2000–2004 to 6.9 in 2010–2014), whereas there was an increase during that time period in North America (from 11.3 in 2000–2004 to 12.8 in 2010–2014) (Table 3).

Analysis of sex-specific data shows no significant changes in suicide rates at the regional level. Both sexes showed increased suicide rates in North America, while in Latin America and the Caribbean there was a small decrease among males but no change among females.

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF SUICIDE AS A PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF DEATH

One method of evaluating the importance of suicide as a public health problem consists of determining its relative contribution to total deaths. Suicide was the 21st leading cause of death in the Americas (1.4% of total deaths), the 18th among males, and the 35th among females in the period 2010–2014. The largest contribution was in North America, where suicide ranked 17th, while in Latin America and the Caribbean it ranked 25th. In the other subregions, suicide ranked between 22nd and 26th (Table 4). Compared with previous five-year periods, an uptrend was seen in the ranking of suicide among other causes of death, from 22nd in 2000–2004 to 20th in 2010–2014 (Table 5).

Among people aged 10–44 years, suicide ranked third as cause of death in the Americas in the period 2010–2014, while among those aged 45–59, suicide ranked 12th. Suicide ranks higher as a cause of death in North America compared with Latin America and the Caribbean in all age groups and both sexes (Table 6).

Suicide comprised 13.3% of the total deaths by external causes in the Americas in 2010–2014. This proportion varied by sex, age, and subregion; in males the proportion was 13.5% while in females it was 12.7%. The percentage was markedly higher in North America (22.1%) than in Latin America and the Caribbean (8.8%). By age, the highest percentages corresponded to the age groups 45–59 (18.9%) and 60–69 (17.4%) (Table 7).

GENDER AND SUICIDE

In the Americas, similarly to the rest of the world, suicide rates continue to be higher among males than females. Age-adjusted suicide rates in the Region in 2010–2014 were 14.9 per 100,000 population in males and 4.0 per 100,000 in females. In North America, the rate was 20.1 for males and 5.8 for females, while in Latin America and the Caribbean it was 11.3 and 2.8 per 100,000 for males and females, respectively (Table 2). The global rate was 15.0 among males, similar to the regional rate, and 8.0 among females, twice the regional rate.

About 79% of the total suicide deaths in the Americas are among males. On average, the age-adjusted female-males ratio was 3.7 in the Region, 3.5 in North America, and 4.0 in Latin America and the Caribbean. Among the subregions, the female-males ratio was highest in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico at 4.4. The ratio was 3.9 in South America and 3.6 in the non-Hispanic Caribbean.

At the regional level, in all age groups, males had higher rates of suicide. The highest female-males ratio was in people aged 70 and older (7.8), whereas the lowest female-males ratio was in the 10–19 years age group (2.1) (Table 8).

AGE AND SUICIDE

In the Region of the Americas, the highest rate of suicide per 100,000 population was among people aged 45–59 (13.6), followed by those aged 70 and older (13.5), then those aged 60–69 (12.2) (Table 9). In North America, the highest rate of suicide was among those aged 45–59, at 20.3, compared with 8.1 for the same age group in Latin America and the Caribbean. The group with the highest rate of suicide in Latin America and the Caribbean was those aged 70 and older (10.4), as it also was in the subregions of Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico and South America. However, in

the non-Hispanic Caribbean, the highest rate was in the 25–44 years age group (13.1). At the global level, suicide rates are lowest among those under 15 years and highest among those aged 70 and older, for both males and females.

Figure 3 shows suicide rates for each of the subregions by five-year age groups. In North America, there is a steady increase in suicide rates, peaking at age 50–54, with a smaller increase starting at age 75. For Latin America and the Caribbean, the rate of suicide increases up to age 20–24 and subsequently plateaus until it begins to rise again at age 75–79; a similar pattern is seen for South America. The same pattern is seen for Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico, except the rise from the plateau begins at age 60–64. In the non-Hispanic Caribbean, the suicide rate increases up to age 45–49 and then begins to fall.

Among males in the Americas, the highest rate of suicide per 100,000 population was in the 70 years and older age group (27.2), followed by age groups 45–59 (21.2) and 60–69 (20.2) (Table 10). The highest rate of suicide was among those aged 70 and older in both North America (32.2) and Latin America and the Caribbean (21.0). In the other subregions, the highest rate of suicide for males was among those aged 70 and older, with the exception of the non-Hispanic Caribbean, where the highest rate was in the 25–44 years age group.

Figure 4 shows the suicide rates for each of the subregions by five-year age groups for males. In North America, there is a steady increase in the suicide rate up to age 50–54, followed by a drop until age 60–64, and a subsequent rise to its highest point in the oldest age group. For Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico and South America, the suicide rate increases up to age 20–24 and subsequently plateaus until it begins to rise again at age 60–64. In the non-Hispanic Caribbean, the suicide rate increases up to age 45–49 and then has a second spike at age 80–84.

Among females in the Americas, the highest rate of suicide per 100,000 population was in the 45–59 age group (6.4), followed by age groups 60–69 (4.9) and 25–44 (4.4) (Table 11). In North America the highest rate of suicide was among those aged 45–59 (10.3). The highest rate of suicide for females in Latin America and the Caribbean was among those aged 20–24 (3.6), as it also was in the two subregions of Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico (3.6) and the non-Hispanic Caribbean (6.6). In South America, the highest rate among females was shared by the two age groups of 20–24 (3.5) and 45–59 (3.5).

Figure 5 shows suicide rates for each of the subregions by five-year age groups for females. In North America there is a steady increase in the suicide rate up to age 50–54 and then a steady decline. For Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico and South America, the suicide rate increases up to age 15–19 and then decreases until age 25–29, where it subsequently plateaus. In the non-Hispanic Caribbean, the suicide rate increases up to age 15–19 and then continues to fall.

SUICIDE METHODS

As shown in Figure 6, suffocation (43.6%), firearms (31.0%), poisoning with drugs and alcohol (9.1%), and poisoning with pesticides and chemicals (7.5%) were the four methods most used for suicide in the Region of the Americas in the five-year period 2010–2014. Together, these represented 91% of all suicides. However, there are variations by subregion, as shown in Table 12.

North America had the highest proportion of suicide deaths from firearms (46.9%), a much higher proportion than in the other subregions. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the most-used method was suffocation (64.7%), generally by hanging. By subregion, in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico (70.2%) and South America (63.4%), the highest proportion of suicide deaths was by suffocation. In the non-Hispanic Caribbean, the most common method was poisoning with pesticides and chemicals (56.0%).

Comparing the three successive five-year periods, a small decrease in usage of firearms and an increase in suffocation can be seen in the Americas. Most notably, suffocation as a method of suicide increased in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico; the non-Hispanic Caribbean; and South America. Suffocation was consistently the most commonly used suicide method in Latin America and the Caribbean in the three 5-year periods between 2000 and 2014. Mortality due to firearms primarily decreased in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico; the non-Hispanic Caribbean; and South America (Table 12).

It is worth highlighting the change over time in the proportion of suicides due to poisoning. A reduction in suicides by pesticides and chemicals was seen in all subregions, with the exception of the non-Hispanic Caribbean, which may be due to the implementation of suicide prevention programs in some countries with high rates of suicide mortality related to the free availability of pesticides. An increase in poisonings related to the consumption of drugs and alcohol was found in some subregions but not others.

The chosen method of suicide varied between males and females. In males, the most common suicide method in the Region was suffocation (45.5%); equally in Latin America and the Caribbean (67.8%) and the subregions of Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico (73.4%) and South America (66.4%). However, firearms were the most-used method in North America (52.4%), whereas poisoning with pesticides or chemicals was the most frequent method used by males in the non-Hispanic Caribbean (53.4%) (Table 13).

For males, the percentage of suicides due to suffocation increased in all subregions between 2000 and 2014. In contrast, suicides by firearms decreased in all subregions. Poisoning by drugs and alcohol increased in the Region as a whole, with increases seen in North America and South America, while a decrease was noted in the non-Hispanic Caribbean. Poisoning by pesticides and chemicals decreased in all subregions except for the non-Hispanic Caribbean.

In females, suffocation was also the most commonly used suicide method in the Region (37.2%), followed by poisoning with drugs or alcohol (22.3%), firearms (18.3%), and poisoning with pesticides or chemicals (10.4%). In the subregional analysis, the use of drugs or alcohol was the principal method in North America (32.9%), while in the non-Hispanic Caribbean, poisoning with pesticides or chemicals (65.1%) was most used. Suffocation was the most common method in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico (56.8%) and in South America (52.2%) (Table 14).

For females, the percentage of suicides due to suffocation increased in all subregions between 2000 and 2014. As in males, suicides by firearms decreased in all subregions. Poisoning by drugs and alcohol remained relatively stable over time in the in the Region, with a small increase in South America and a decrease in the non-Hispanic Caribbean. As in males, poisoning by pesticides and chemicals decreased in all subregions except for the non-Hispanic Caribbean.

Among the major gender differences in suicide methods in the Region of the Americas are that the proportion of suicides by firearms was approximately twice as high in males than females, whereas the percentage of suicides using drugs or alcohol was four times higher among females. The proportion of suicides by poisoning with pesticides or chemicals was higher among females, while the proportion by suffocation was higher among males.

Suicide by fire was an important cause of death in the five-year period 2000–2004, particularly among females in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico (11.6%) and the non-Hispanic Caribbean (7.0%). In 2010–2014, this method of suicide reduced substantially to 4.6% and 1.4% of female suicides in those same two subregions, respectively (Table 15). Less common forms of suicide – such as drowning, cutting, and by blunt force or automobile and other causes – showed little change over time but showed differences by sex (Table 16).

Suicide methods also varied according to age and subregion. In general, in the Americas, people under 60 years of age had a higher probability of suicide from suffocation, while those aged 60 and above more commonly used firearms (Figure 7). In North America, firearms were the most frequently used method among the different age groups, with the exception of adolescents and children, who used suffocation most frequently. In Latin America and the Caribbean, suffocation was the principal method of suicide in every age group; likewise, in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico and in South America. In the non-Hispanic Caribbean, poisoning with pesticides and chemicals was the most-used method in every age group except for children.

Among males in the Americas, the probability of suicide by firearms increased with age, and by age 60 the majority of suicides were no longer by suffocation but by firearms (Figure 8). In North America, firearms are the most frequently used method among the different age groups over the age of 19. In Latin America and the Caribbean, suffocation was the principal method of suicide in every age group; likewise, in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico and in South America. In the non-Hispanic Caribbean, poisoning with pesticides and chemicals was the most-used method

among those aged 20–59 and those over 70; whereas suffocation was the most common method among those under age 20 and in the 60–69 age group (Figure 8).

The pattern of suicide method by age is different for females and males. Among females in the Americas, suffocation was the most common method, except among those aged 45–69, where poisoning by drugs and alcohol was more common (Figure 9). Although firearms were the third most frequently used method of suicide, the proportion increased with age. In North America, suffocation was the most frequently used method of suicide up to age 24, whereas from that age onwards, poisoning by drugs and alcohol becomes the most frequent method. The use of firearms as a method of suicide consistently increased with age, whereby the proportion by age 70 was nearly the same as that for poisoning with drugs and alcohol. In Latin America and the Caribbean, suffocation is the most frequent method of suicide in every age group in all subregions except the non-Hispanic Caribbean, where poisoning with pesticides and chemicals was the most frequently used method across all age groups. In the Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico subregion in particular, fire as a method of suicide increased with age and by age 70 is the second most common method used, reaching 15.6% (Figure 9).

COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

The Appendix provides detailed information on suicide for individual countries and territories in the Region of the Americas. Table 17 shows age-adjusted suicide rates among countries and territories with the highest rates of mortality over the past three 5-year periods in alphabetical order. These 12 countries and territories accounted for 68% of all suicides in the Americas. Guyana and Suriname had the highest rates of suicide in the Region. Suicide rates over time had varied patterns in different countries. For example, the suicide rate in Guyana and the United States of America increased over time, while Argentina, French Guiana, and Nicaragua had steadily decreasing rates over time. Figures 10–12 show the marked variability in suicide rates among countries and territories of the Americas. Suicide rates in all countries and territories were markedly lower among females than males; accordingly, the scale per 100,000 population for females is adjusted in Figure 12.

VALIDITY AND LIMITATIONS OF THE DATA

The findings in this report should be interpreted bearing in mind certain limitations, some of which also applied in the publications on the two previous five-year periods (1, 2, 16).

- In some countries of the Region, mortality records are incomplete or delayed in the WHO database, which is to say that not every year evaluated is covered. Table 1 details the years for which countries did not report mortality data.

- Some countries recognize limitations and deficiencies in the primary record or classification of deaths.
- Suicides represent an unknown portion of unregistered deaths, and it is probable those countries with a high percentage of unregistered deaths have a larger number of unincluded suicide deaths.
- Deaths from external causes of undetermined intention are the lethal events in which legal or medical authorities cannot attribute the cause of death to homicide, suicide, or accident (Table 18). The determination of intention in order to classify a death as suicide is affected by legal regulations, which can vary between countries. Sociocultural elements and stigma also influence whether some deaths are or are not classified as suicide.
- In this report, some methodological criteria designed to improve the quality of the analysis were introduced; however, this makes it difficult to compare data with previous reports. For this reason, suicide rates were recalculated in most tables that draw comparisons with previous reports (2000–2009).
- Comparisons with global rates serve as a basis for reference but should be regarded with caution as the methodology of the WHO Global Report (5) differs from this report.
- Data and indicators obtained for this report do not always align with official national reports for reasons attributable to the methodology and time periods studied.

The problem of poor mortality data quality is not exclusive to suicide; however, considering the stigma and illegality of suicidal behavior in some countries, it is likely that there are more issues with poor recording and misclassification in suicide cases than in other causes of death. Moreover, the registration of suicide is a complex process that involves both medical and legal aspects, and includes various authorities (5).

Global comparisons

Suicides in the Region of the Americas make up 10.2% of the world total. The suicide rate in the Americas of 9.3 per 100,000 population is lower than the global rate of 11.4 (5). In 2012, at the global level, 1.4% of all deaths were suicides, ranking 15th as cause of death and confirming suicide as an important public health issue. In the Americas, suicide also represented 1.4% of all deaths but ranked 21st among causes of death. The proportion of suicides is greater in high-income countries (1.7%) than in low- and middle-income countries (1.4%). At the global level, WHO reported that among the 172 Member States with more than 300,000 population, the average female-males ratio was 3.2, slightly lower than that of the Americas (3.7). The WHO report *Preventing Suicide: A Global Imperative* (5) recognized that the data on suicide methods are limited in many countries. In high-income countries, on a global level, hanging is the most used method (50% of suicides) and firearms the second most used method (18%). North America has a markedly higher proportion of suicide with firearms (47%). One of the most common suicide methods in low- and middle-income countries, particularly in those with a high proportion of rural population that work in agriculture, is poisoning with pesticides or chemicals.

Final considerations

RELEVANT EPIDEMIOLOGICAL DATA

- Suicide continues to be a significant public health problem in the Region of the Americas.
- Approximately 82,000 people in the Americas died from suicide annually in 2010–2014, representing an age-adjusted rate of 9.3 per 100,000 population; 14.9 for males and 4.0 for females.
- Suicides in the Americas accounted for 10% of the world total.
- Rates of suicide mortality remained relatively stable in the Americas between 2000 and 2014.
- In the period 2010–2014, 56% of suicide deaths in the Region occurred in North America, which had the highest suicide rate at 12.8 per 100,000 population. The rate in Latin America and the Caribbean was 6.9.
- Suicide was the 21st principal cause of death in the Region; the 18th among males and the 35th among females. It climbed from the 22nd position in 2000–2004 to 20th in 2010–2014 when the comparison is limited to the same countries. It was the third leading cause of death among those aged 10–44 years.
- Males represented 79% of all suicide deaths in the Region. The female-males ratio of suicide mortality is 3.7 in the Americas.
- Age was a risk factor. In the Region, males aged 45 years and older had an increasing rate of suicide, with the highest rate among those 75 and older. Among females, the highest rates of suicide in the Americas were in the age group of 45–59.
- The most common suicide method was suffocation (generally by hanging) with 44% of deaths by this cause; followed by firearms (31%), intoxication with drugs and alcohol (9%), and poisoning with pesticides or chemicals (7%). In North America, firearms were the most common method of suicide, and in the non-Hispanic Caribbean it was poisoning with pesticides or chemicals.
- Suicide with pesticides or chemicals and with drugs or alcohol was a significant problem, especially in some countries in the Region.

KEY POINTS

- In Latin America and the Caribbean, it is essential that national suicide prevention programs be developed, especially in those countries with higher suicide rates. This report identifies 12 countries in the Region of the Americas with high suicide rates compared with the regional average, and where two-thirds of the suicide deaths are concentrated.

- Strengthening information systems and surveillance of suicidal behavior is required. Improving mortality registries alone is not sufficient. It is also necessary to develop registries of suicidal behavior and implement follow-up mechanisms in high-risk cases. There are initiatives in the Region, such as the Observatory of Suicidal Behavior of Central America and the Dominican Republic, which has been cosponsored by PAHO and the Central American Integration System (17).
- National systemic evaluation of available epidemiological data, including risk factors, is essential for suicide prevention programs.
- This report identifies the most frequent suicide methods. The availability of firearms is an important risk factor, particularly in North America. Access to pesticides in rural areas is another risk factor, especially in the non-Hispanic Caribbean. Alcohol and drug abuse need to be monitored for early identification and attention. Each method of suicide may require specific preventive interventions. For example, WHO has produced the SAFER technical package, which describes five high-impact strategies that can help governments reduce the harmful use of alcohol and its related health consequences, such as suicide (18).
- Countries should revise their existing legal framework regarding the availability of services and resources to prevent and address the problem of suicidal behavior.

Suicide should become a public health priority in the Americas. Some countries have already demonstrated that political will and well-structured programs successfully reduce suicide rates. This report presents a general overview and description of suicide at the regional level. This highlights WHO's commitment to tackling, in partnership with Member States, this health problem.

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Tables

Table 1. Countries and territories with years not reporting mortality data

Country	Years unreported
Anguilla	2007
Antigua and Barbuda	2010, 2011
Aruba	2003
Bahamas	2003–2005
Barbados	2014
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2000–2014
Cayman Islands	2011, 2012, 2014
Cuba	2000
Curaçao	2000, 2008–2014
Dominica	2000
Dominican Republic	2014
French Guiana	2000
Grenada	2000, 2001
Guatemala	2000–2004
Haiti	2000–2014
Honduras	2000–2014
Jamaica	2007, 2008
Netherland Antilles	2000–2014
Saint Lucia	2007
Trinidad and Tobago	2013, 2014
Turks and Caicos Islands	2010, 2011
Uruguay	2011
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2014
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	2011–2014
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	2013–2014

Table 2. Suicide rates per 100,000 population in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	Non-standardized			Age-standardized		
	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male
Region of the Americas	9.58	4.10	15.20	9.31	4.00	14.93
North America	13.93	6.20	22.03	12.83	5.76	20.13
Latin America and the Caribbean	6.87	2.80	10.95	6.87	2.79	11.25
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	6.68	2.51	10.49	6.66	2.51	11.05
South America	6.91	2.89	11.06	6.89	2.86	11.24
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	9.80	4.34	15.48	9.77	4.34	15.57

Table 3. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by five-year groups, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2000–2014

Region and subregions	Non-standardized			Age-standardized		
	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004
Both sexes						
Region of the Americas	9.68	9.18	8.85	9.38	9.03	8.95
North America	13.93	12.73	12.06	12.83	11.73	11.27
Latin America and the Caribbean	6.96	6.87	6.75	6.94	7.02	7.21
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	6.99	6.70	5.99	6.90	6.65	6.55
South America	6.91	6.93	7.03	6.89	7.08	7.43
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	9.80	7.08	9.10	9.77	10.05	9.49
Female						
Region of the Americas	4.14	3.84	3.63	4.03	3.78	3.65
North America	6.20	5.42	4.86	5.76	5.01	4.54
Latin America and the Caribbean	2.82	2.80	2.82	2.81	2.81	2.88
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	2.58	2.61	2.43	2.58	2.46	2.54
South America	2.89	2.91	2.95	2.86	2.91	2.99
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	4.34	1.38	4.01	4.34	4.40	4.0
Male						
Region of the Americas	15.37	14.67	14.23	15.05	14.83	14.69
North America	22.30	20.26	19.50	20.13	18.73	18.35
Latin America and the Caribbean	11.11	11.04	10.79	11.37	11.82	11.94
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	10.99	10.87	9.63	11.47	12.07	10.85
South America	11.06	11.06	11.23	11.24	11.64	12.31
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	15.48	12.96	15.48	15.57	16.00	15.23

Note: Curaçao and Guatemala were not included due to data not being available in each five-year period.

Table 4. Ranking and percentage contribution (in parentheses) of suicide among other causes of death, by sex, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	Both sexes	Female	Male
Region of the Americas	21 (1.4)	35 (0.6)	18 (1.9)
North America	17 (1.6)	29 (0.7)	8 (2.5)
Latin America and the Caribbean	25 (1.1)	44 (0.5)	20 (1.5)
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	22 (1.1)	42 (0.5)	16 (1.6)
South America	26 (1.0)	43 (0.5)	20 (1.4)
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	23 (1.3)	36 (0.6)	16 (1.8)

Table 5. Ranking of suicide among other causes of death, by sex, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2000–2014

Region and subregions	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004
	Both sexes			Female			Male		
Region of the Americas	20	22	22	35	38	37	18	17	16
North America	17	18	19	29	31	33	8	11	13
Latin America and the Caribbean	24	25	25	42	46	45	20	20	23
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	20	23	23	40	43	46	16	17	19
South America	26	26	26	43	45	46	20	20	22
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	23	22	24	36	36	39	16	16	17

Note: Curaçao and Guatemala were not included due to data not being available in each five-year period.

Table 6. Ranking and percentage contribution (in parentheses) of suicide among other causes of death, by age, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Both sexes							
Region of the Americas	49 (0.1)	3 (7.6)	3 (8.0)	3 (5.9)	12 (2.5)	29 (0.9)	49 (0.2)
North America	38 (0.2)	2 (16.7)	2 (16.8)	2 (11.9)	6 (4.2)	23 (1.3)	43 (0.3)
Latin America and the Caribbean	49 (0.1)	3 (5.9)	3 (5.8)	5 (3.8)	22 (1.4)	38 (0.5)	56 (0.2)
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	60 (0.1)	3 (7.3)	4 (6.8)	8 (3.8)	22 (1.3)	30 (0.5)	57 (0.2)
South America	47 (0.2)	3 (5.3)	3 (5.4)	5 (3.8)	22 (1.4)	41 (0.5)	56 (0.2)
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	44 (0.3)	3 (8.7)	3 (7.9)	4 (5.1)	14 (1.9)	31 (0.7)	52 (0.2)
Female							
Region of the Americas	61 (0.1)	3 (8.5)	3 (7.2)	7 (4.0)	22 (1.6)	37 (0.5)	59 (0.1)
North America	52 (0.1)	2 (13.3)	3 (11.9)	2 (7.6)	12 (2.7)	28 (0.7)	56 (0.1)
Latin America and the Caribbean	64 (0.1)	3 (7.5)	4 (5.7)	13 (2.5)	35 (0.7)	56 (0.2)	66 (0.1)
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	67 (0.1)	3 (8.3)	4 (5.9)	17 (2.2)	35 (0.5)	55 (0.2)	65 (0.0)
South America	57 (0.1)	3 (7.0)	4 (5.5)	12 (2.5)	35 (0.8)	53 (0.2)	65 (0.1)
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	... (0.0)	1 (11.4)	4 (7.6)	10 (2.9)	29 (0.9)	40 (0.3)	65 (0.1)
Male							
Region of the Americas	42 (0.2)	3 (7.3)	3 (8.3)	3 (6.7)	9 (3.1)	24 (1.2)	37 (0.4)
North America	30 (0.3)	2 (18.3)	2 (18.5)	2 (14.2)	3 (5.1)	17 (1.7)	34 (0.5)
Latin America and the Caribbean	45 (0.2)	3 (5.3)	3 (5.8)	5 (4.4)	18 (1.7)	30 (0.7)	45 (0.3)
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	57 (0.1)	4 (6.8)	4 (7.0)	7 (4.4)	15 (1.8)	26 (0.8)	43 (0.3)
South America	41 (0.2)	3 (4.8)	3 (5.4)	4 (4.3)	17 (1.7)	32 (0.7)	48 (0.3)
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	36 (0.5)	3 (7.3)	3 (8.0)	4 (6.4)	11 (2.6)	26 (0.9)	43 (0.3)

Table 7. Percentage contribution of suicide among external causes of death, by sex and age, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	Total	5–9	10–19	20–24	25–44	45–59	60–69	70+
Both sexes								
Region of the Americas	13.3	0.5	11.9	11.2	13.3	18.9	17.4	8.1
North America	22.1	0.6	24.5	22.3	25.7	29.0	26.6	9.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	8.8	0.4	9.4	8.2	8.8	10.9	10.5	6.0
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	9.5	0.2	13.0	10.5	9.1	10.4	10.4	5.9
South America	8.5	0.5	8.1	7.3	8.6	10.9	10.4	6.0
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	14.8	1.9	18.4	13.2	15.9	18.4	15.3	6.8
Female								
Region of the Americas	12.7	0.3	19.9	16.4	17.5	20.5	14.6	2.6
North America	15.1	0.3	23.5	19.7	22.6	24.4	19.7	3.0
Latin America and the Caribbean	10.4	0.2	18.9	14.8	13.5	14.5	9.1	2.1
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	10.1	0.2	22.2	16.7	12.6	11.8	8.6	1.8
South America	10.4	0.3	17.1	13.8	13.7	15.3	9.2	2.2
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	16.4	0.0	36.3	23.7	22.1	19.6	14.1	2.8
Male								
Region of the Americas	13.5	0.6	10.1	10.4	12.5	18.4	18.4	12.8
North America	25.6	0.8	24.9	23.0	26.7	31.0	29.6	16.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	8.5	0.5	7.4	7.4	8.2	10.2	10.9	9.1
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	9.3	0.2	10.5	9.6	8.7	10.1	10.9	9.1
South America	8.0	0.6	6.4	6.6	7.9	10.1	10.8	9.0
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	14.4	2.9	13.0	11.4	14.9	18.2	15.6	10.4

Table 8. Female-males suicide ratio, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Regions and subregions	Non-standardized	Age-standardized	5–9	10–19	20–24	25–44	45–59	60–69	70+
Region of the Americas	3.7	3.7	3.6	2.1	4.2	3.9	3.3	4.1	7.8
North America	3.6	3.5	5.0	2.9	4.3	3.4	2.9	3.7	7.9
Latin America and the Caribbean	3.9	4.0	3.2	1.8	2.0	4.5	4.1	5.0	17.0
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	4.2	4.4	2.2	1.7	4.0	5.2	5.4	5.3	8.4
South America	3.8	3.9	3.4	1.9	4.2	4.3	3.7	4.9	7.3
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	3.6	3.6	27.3	1.2	2.7	4.2	5.2	4.3	6.2

Table 9. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, both sexes, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	5–9	10–19	20–24	25–44	45–59	60–69	70+
Region of the Americas	0.03	4.58	10.73	10.74	13.64	12.15	13.47
North America	0.03	5.04	13.86	15.83	20.28	15.53	15.97
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.04	4.37	9.20	8.03	8.09	8.55	10.44
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	0.02	4.48	9.04	7.54	7.54	8.57	11.10
South America	0.04	4.28	9.21	8.15	8.20	8.50	10.19
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	0.08	5.55	12.29	13.06	12.04	10.33	9.73

Table 10. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, males, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	5–9	10–19	20–24	25–44	45–59	60–69	70+
Region of the Americas	0.05	6.17	17.16	17.13	21.22	20.21	27.17
North America	0.05	7.41	22.22	24.40	30.39	25.18	32.24
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.05	5.61	7.12	13.22	13.30	14.85	20.99
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	0.03	5.65	14.33	12.73	13.07	14.76	21.70
South America	0.07	5.58	14.74	13.27	13.22	14.82	20.74
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	0.15	6.03	17.91	21.47	20.50	17.19	18.72

Table 11. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, females, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Region of the Americas	0.01	2.92	4.10	4.39	6.41	4.90	3.48
North America	0.01	2.55	5.12	7.19	10.30	6.73	4.06
Latin America and the Caribbean	0.02	3.08	3.61	2.93	3.24	2.97	1.24
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	0.01	3.27	3.62	2.46	2.43	2.81	2.59
South America	0.02	2.94	3.54	3.09	3.54	3.00	2.83
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	0.00	5.05	6.57	5.10	3.97	4.00	3.00

Table 12. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by five-year groups, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, both sexes, 2000–2014

Region and subregions	2010-2014	2005-2009	2000-2004	2010-2014	2005-2009	2000-2004
	Suffocation			Firearm		
Region of the Americas	43.7	40.5	36.2	31.1	32.0	35.4
North America	27.4	25.8	23.5	46.9	46.9	49.7
Latin America and the Caribbean	64.7	58.4	51.0	10.7	13.9	18.7
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	70.2	62.6	55.3	8.2	10.4	12.4
South America	63.4	57.2	49.9	11.9	15.6	21.4
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	35.2	34.6	31.9	2.5	3.8	4.1
	Poisoning drug/alcohol			Poisoning pesticide/chemical		
Region of the Americas	9.1	9.0	7.9	7.3	9.8	11.3
North America	13.9	14.3	12.6	3.3	4.4	5.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	2.9	2.5	2.4	12.6	16.5	18.0
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	2.3	1.7	2.2	14.1	18.7	22.5
South America	3.2	2.7	2.4	10.6	14.7	15.3
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	2.1	3.1	3.5	56.0	53.3	53.4

Note: Curaçao and Guatemala were not included due to data not being available in each five-year period.

Table 13. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by five-year groups, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, males, 2000–2014

Region and subregions	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004
	Suffocation			Firearm		
Region of the Americas	45.5	42.7	38.4	34.7	35.7	39.2
North America	27.8	26.7	24.4	52.4	52.3	54.7
Latin America and the Caribbean	67.8	61.9	54.9	12.2	15.6	20.8
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	73.4	67.5	60.7	9.5	11.4	13.9
South America	66.4	60.6	53.3	13.7	17.5	23.8
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	38.1	38.3	35.1	3.1	4.7	4.8
	Poisoning drug/alcohol			Poisoning pesticide/chemical		
Region of the Americas	5.5	5.4	4.7	6.5	8.5	9.7
North America	8.4	8.5	7.6	3.3	4.4	5.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.8	1.6	1.4	10.5	13.6	14.7
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	1.2	0.9	1.1	11.7	15.4	19.0
South America	2.0	1.8	1.5	8.7	11.7	12.0
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	1.7	2.3	3.0	53.4	50.3	51.1

Note: Curaçao and Guatemala were not included due to data not being available in each five-year period.

Table 14. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by five-year groups, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, females, 2000–2014

Region and subregions	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004
	Suffocation			Firearm		
Region of the Americas	37.2	32.4	27.6	18.3	18.5	21.1
North America	26.1	22.4	20.1	28.0	27.3	30.3
Latin America and the Caribbean	52.8	45.1	36.1	4.8	7.4	10.6
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	56.8	48.3	34.2	2.9	4.7	6.2
South America	52.2	44.8	37.2	5.6	8.5	12.5
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	25.2	22.0	20.9	0.4	0.8	1.9
	Poisoning drugs/alcohol			Poisoning pesticides/chemicals		
Region of the Americas	22.3	22.4	20.1	10.4	14.7	17.3
North America	32.9	35.2	32.4	3.3	4.6	5.8
Latin America and the Caribbean	7.3	6.2	6.1	20.4	27.5	30.4
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	6.8	6.2	6.6	24.0	29.0	36.1
South America	7.6	6.2	5.9	17.7	25.8	27.4
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	3.5	5.9	5.1	65.1	63.7	61.3

Note: Curaçao and Guatemala were not included due to data not being available in each five-year period.

Table 15. Fire as a percentage of total methods of suicide, by five-year groups, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, by sex, 2000–2014

Region and subregions	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004
	Female			Male		
Region of the Americas	1.8	2.1	3.0	0.5	0.6	0.6
North America	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.5
Latin America and the Caribbean	3.5	3.8	5.5	0.7	0.8	0.8
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	4.6	6.6	11.6	0.5	0.5	0.8
South America	3.1	2.9	3.2	0.8	0.8	0.8
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	1.4	2.5	7.0	0.6	0.6	0.6

Table 16. Drowning, cutting, jumping, and blunt force, automobile, or other specified, as percentage of total methods of suicide, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, by sex, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	Drowning	Cutting	Jumping	Blunt/ auto/ other specified	Drowning	Cutting	Jumping	Blunt/ auto/ other specified
	Female				Male			
Region of the Americas	1.7	1.3	4.3	0.8	0.8	1.7	2.9	0.7
North America	1.8	1.5	4.4	0.8	0.9	2.0	3.5	0.7
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.5	1.0	4.1	0.7	0.7	1.4	2.0	0.6
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	0.6	0.8	1.9	0.1	0.3	1.1	1.1	0.2
South America	1.9	1.1	4.9	0.9	0.9	1.5	2.4	0.8
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	1.3	0.3	1.9	0.4	0.3	0.5	1.3	0.2

Table 17. Age-standardized suicide rates per 100,000 population, by five-year groups 2000–2014, both sexes, in the 12 countries of the Americas with highest suicide rate in 2010–2014

Countries and territories	2010–2014	2005–2009	2000–2004
Argentina	9.43	10.63	9.55
Canada	11.64	12.15	11.44
Chile	11.82	11.74	12.69
Cuba	11.66	14.11	11.60
El Salvador	11.02	13.03	11.04
French Guiana	9.36	13.01	11.69
Guyana	39.18	31.18	34.79
Nicaragua	11.01	17.53	13.32
Suriname	35.85	30.38	38.89
Trinidad and Tobago	14.73	15.21	13.64
United States of America	13.04	11.22	11.82
Uruguay	17.22	17.01	16.06

Table 18. Percentage of external causes of death due to suicide in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	Both sexes	Female	Male
Region of the Americas	13.3	12.7	13.5
North America	22.1	15.1	25.6
Latin America and the Caribbean	8.8	10.4	8.5
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	9.5	10.1	9.3
South America	8.5	10.4	8.0
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	14.8	16.4	14.4

Figures

Figure 1. Years of life lost (YLL), by age group, in the Region of the Americas, males, 2014

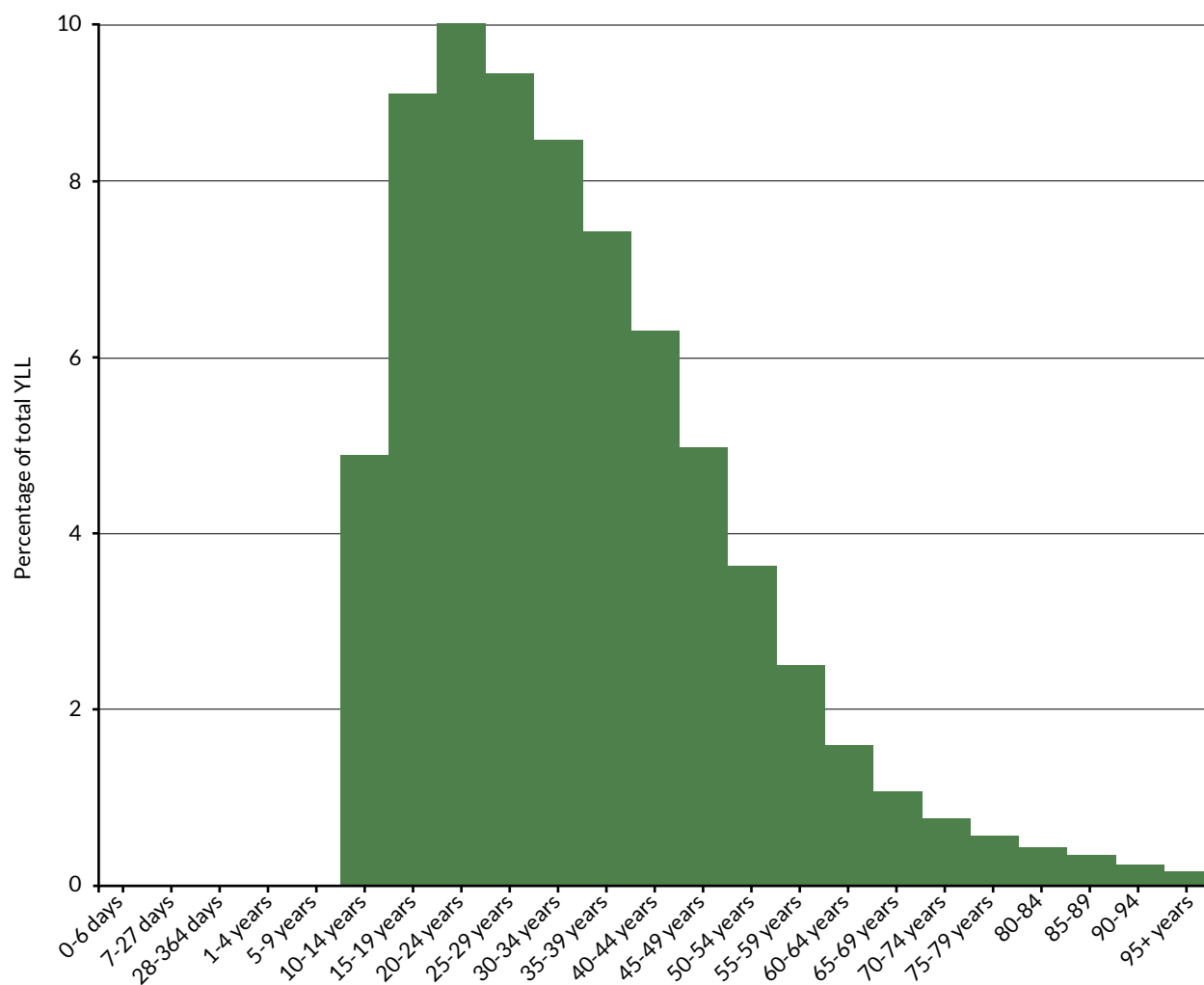


Figure 2. Years of life lost (YLL), by age group, in the Region of the Americas, females, 2014

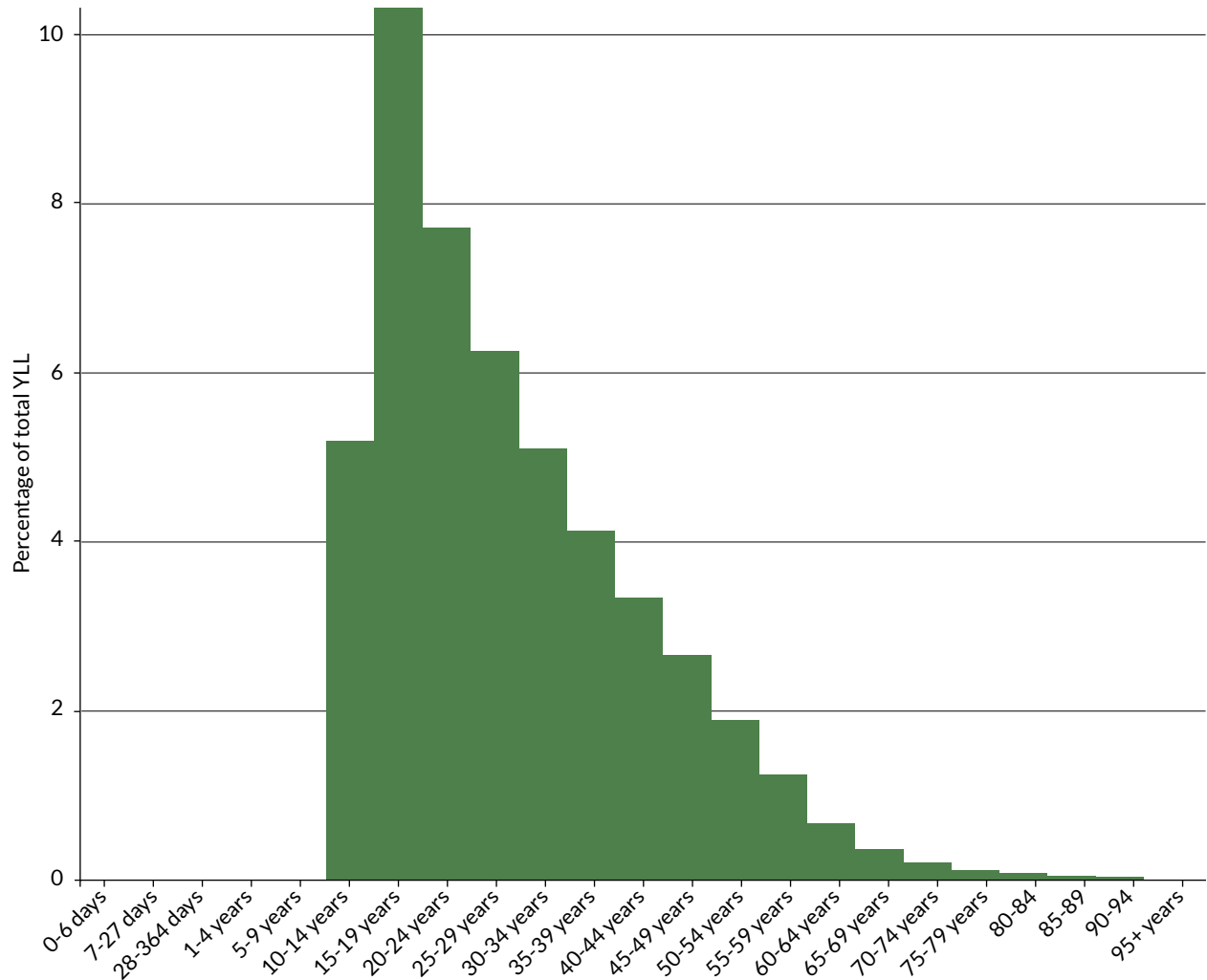


Figure 3. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, both sexes, 2010–2014

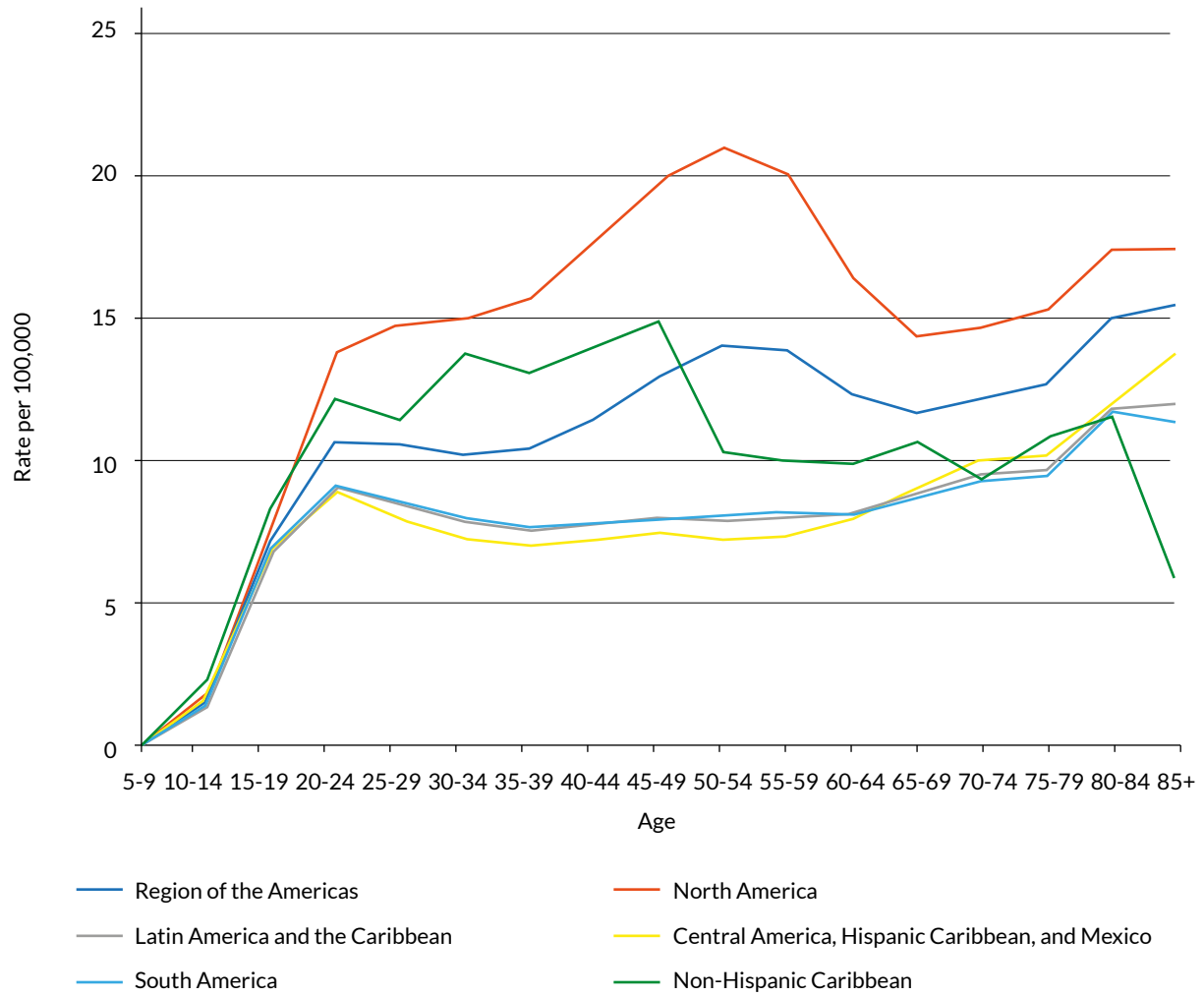


Figure 4. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, males, 2010–2014

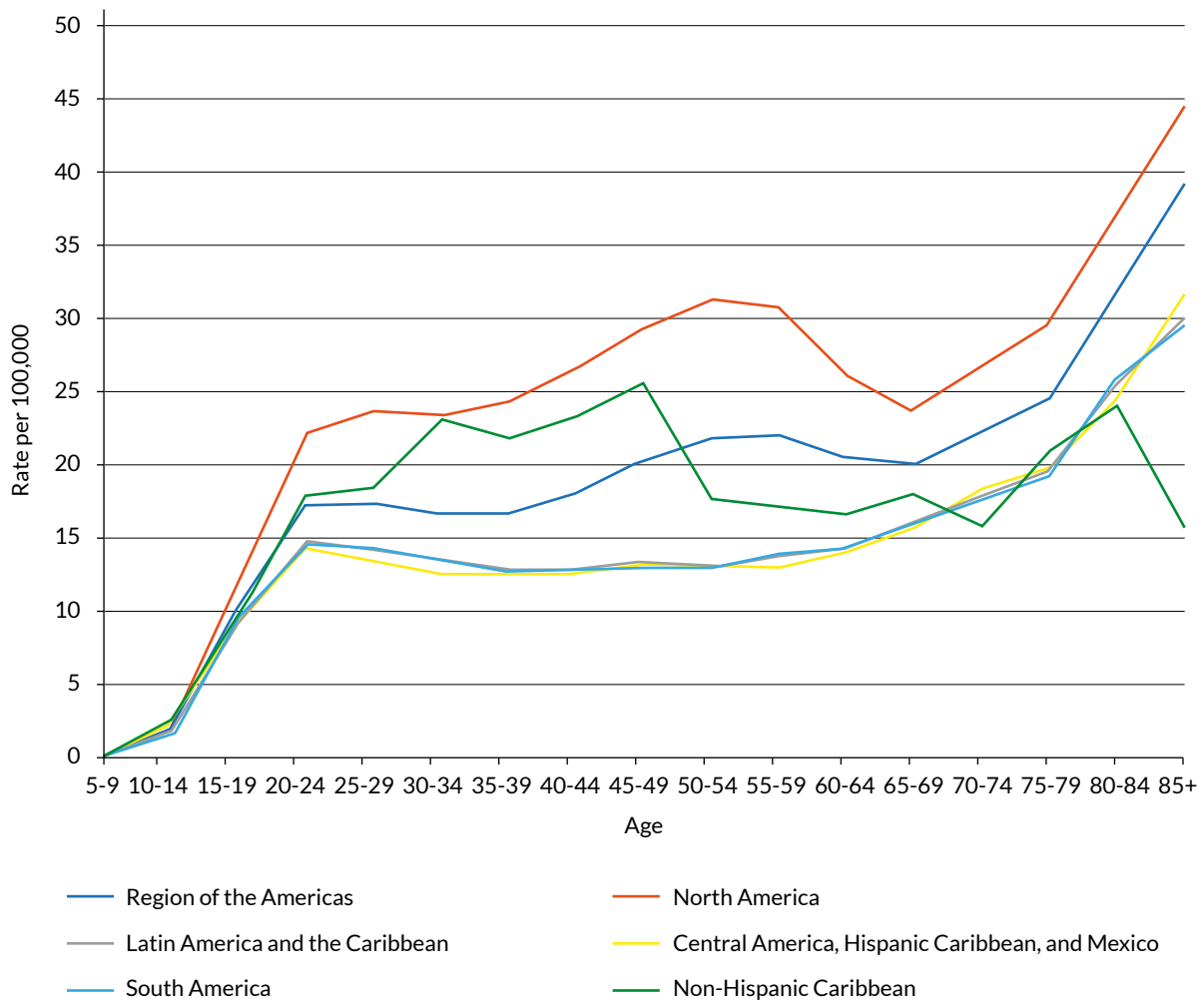
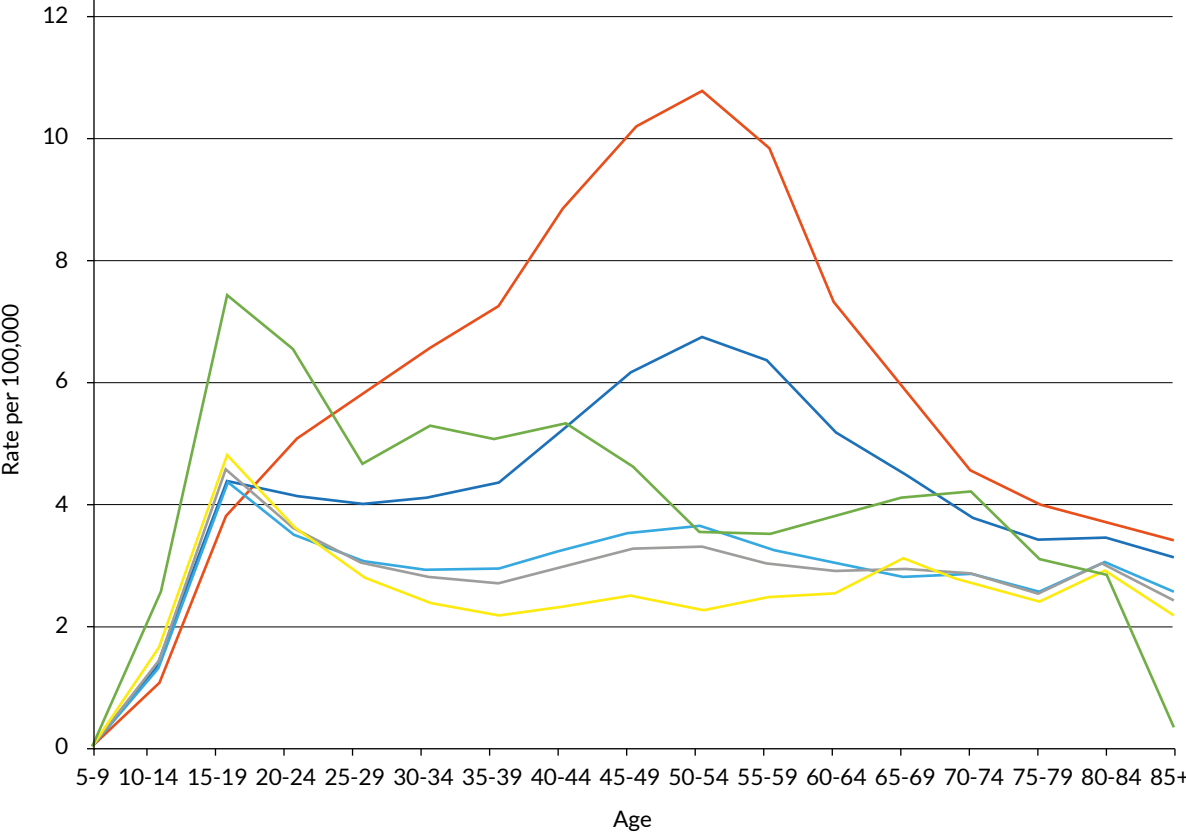


Figure 5. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, females, 2010–2014



- Region of the Americas
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- South America
- North America
- Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico
- Non-Hispanic Caribbean

Figure 6. Method of suicide in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, both sexes, 2010–2014

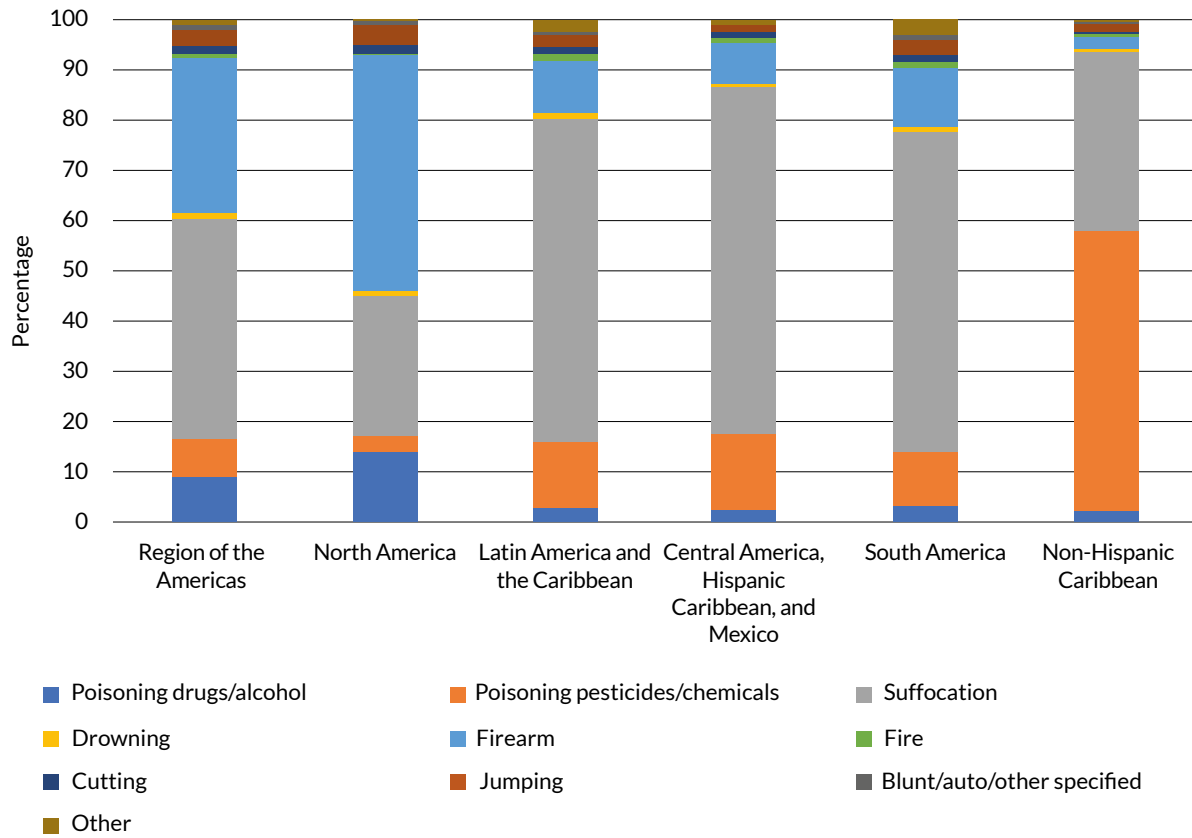
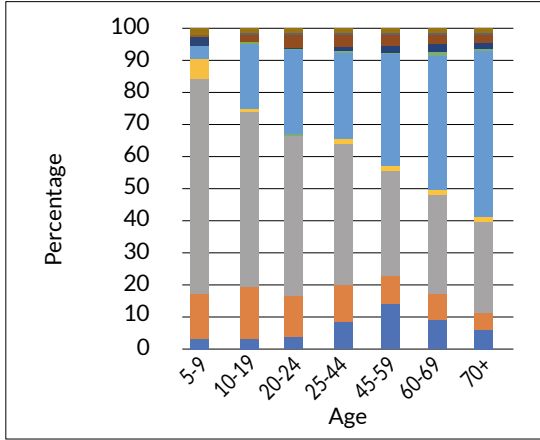
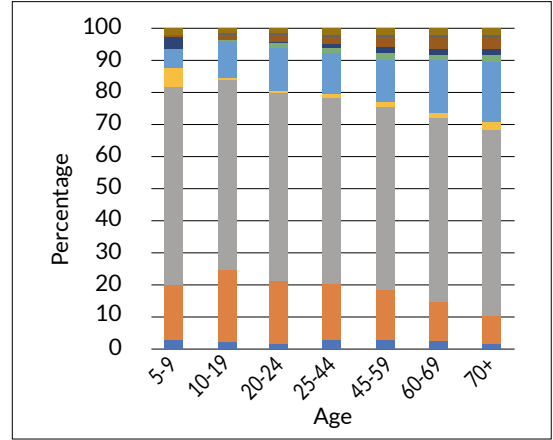


Figure 7. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, both sexes, 2010–2014

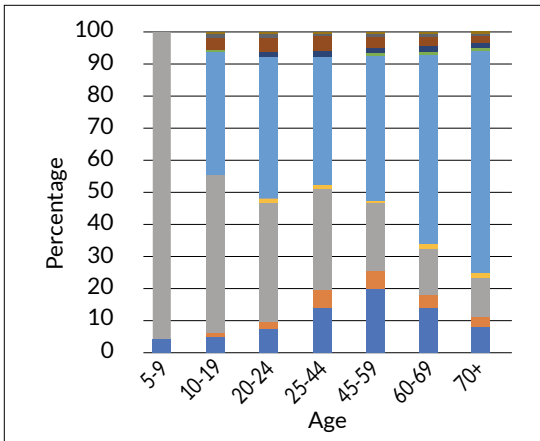
Region of the Americas



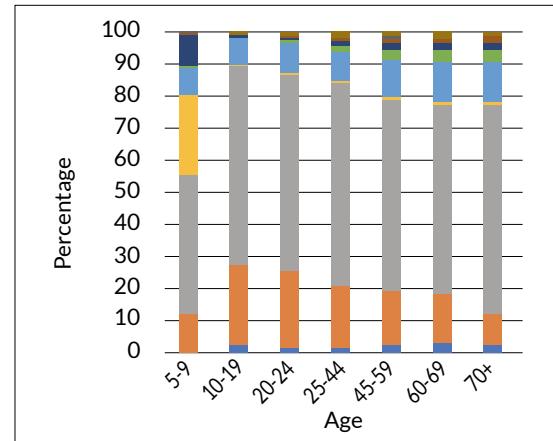
Latin America and the Caribbean



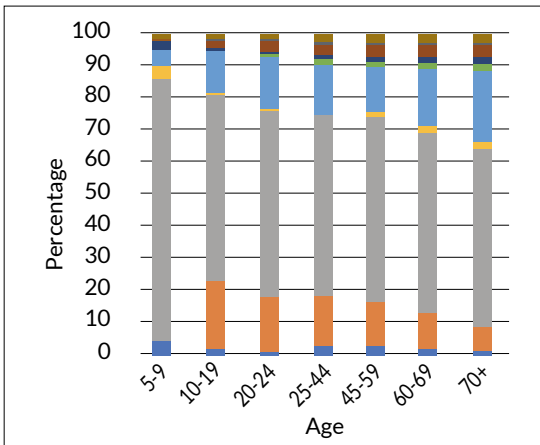
North America



Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico



South America



Non-Hispanic Caribbean

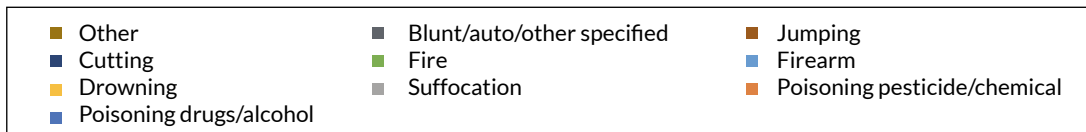
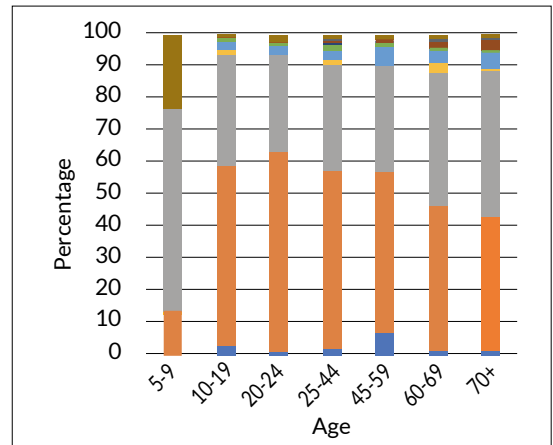
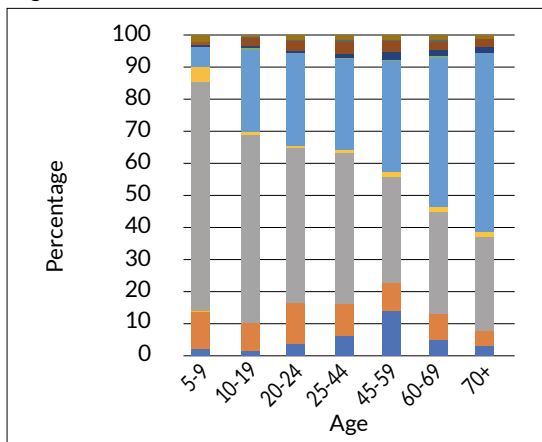
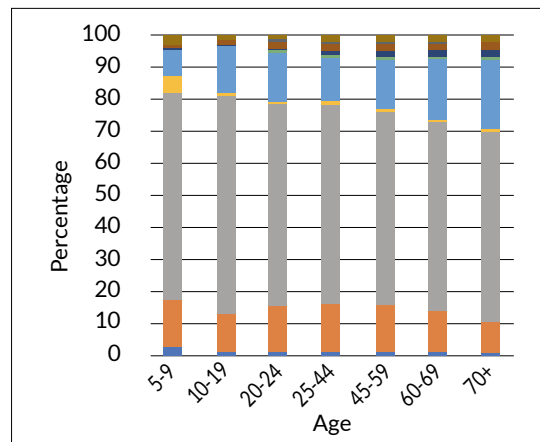


Figure 8. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, males, 2010–2014

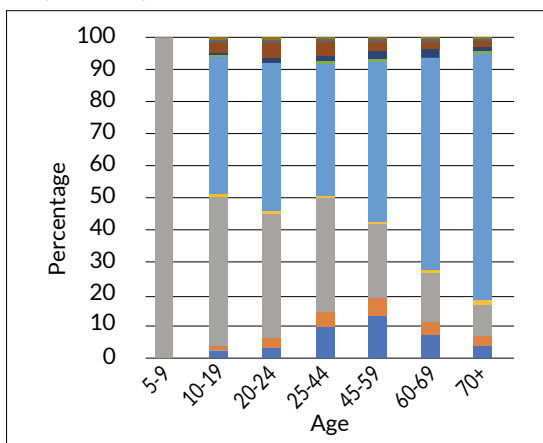
Region of the Americas



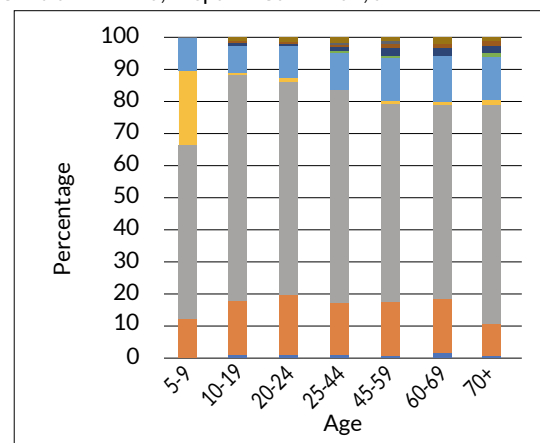
Latin America and the Caribbean



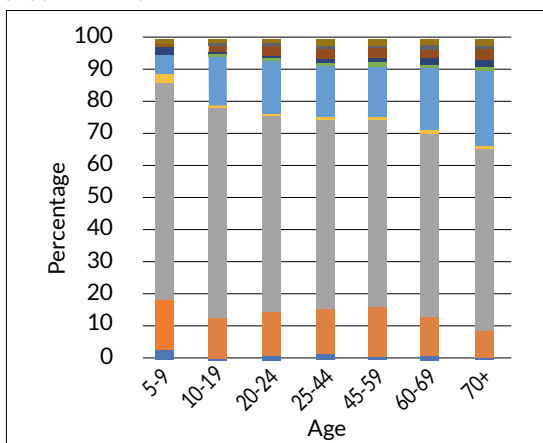
North America



Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico



South America



Non-Hispanic Caribbean

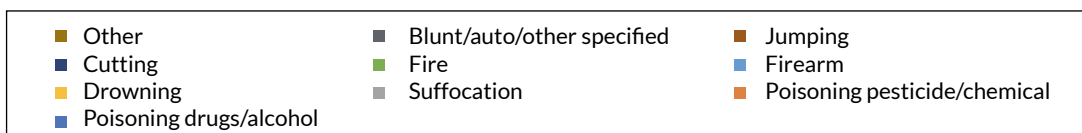
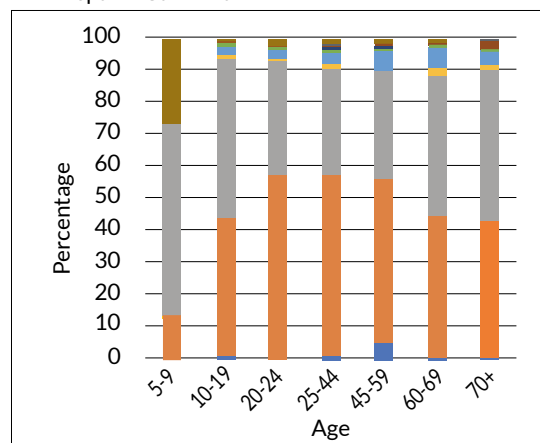
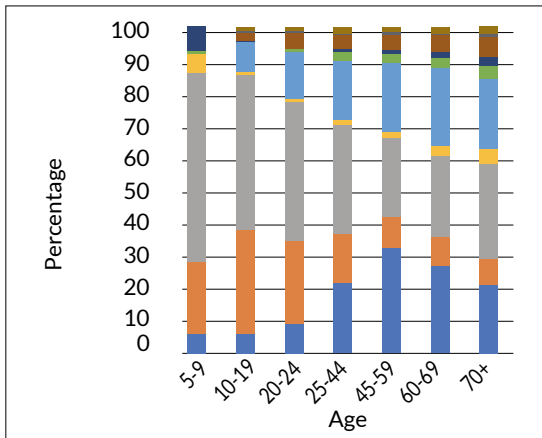
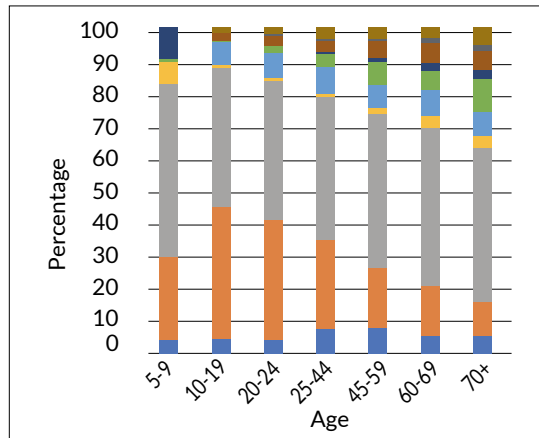


Figure 9. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, females, 2010–2014

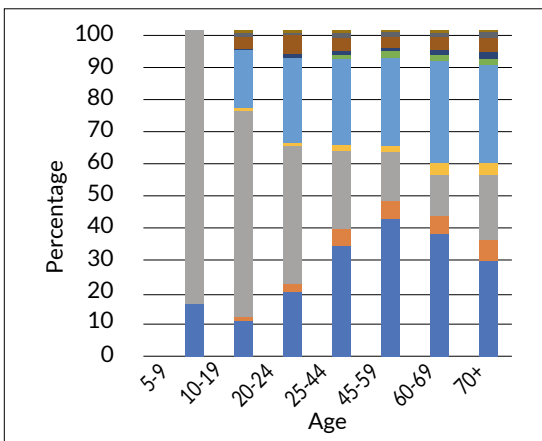
Region of the Americas



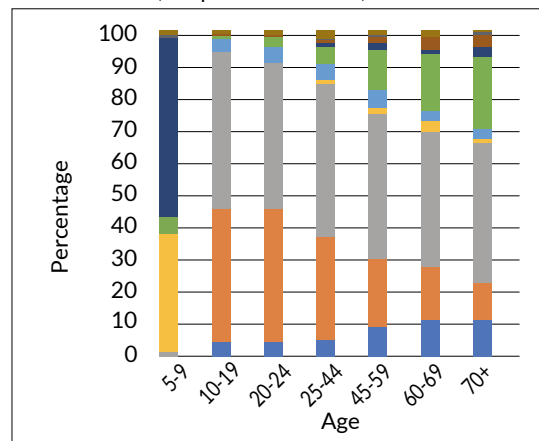
Latin America and the Caribbean



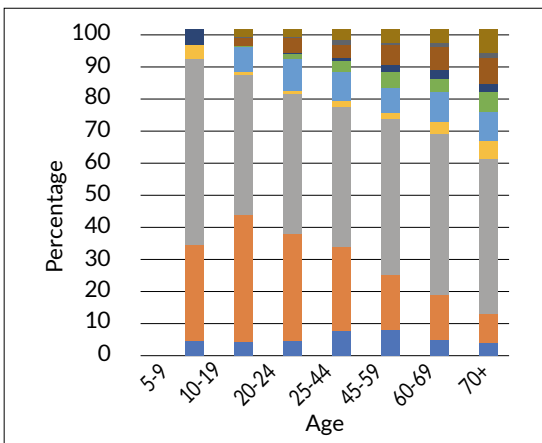
North America



Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico



South America



Non-Hispanic Caribbean

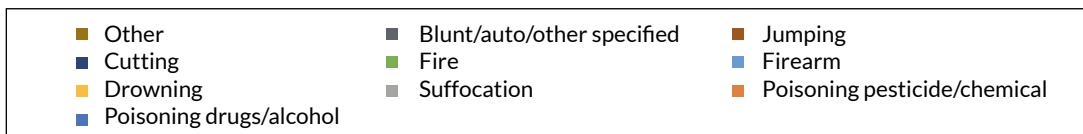
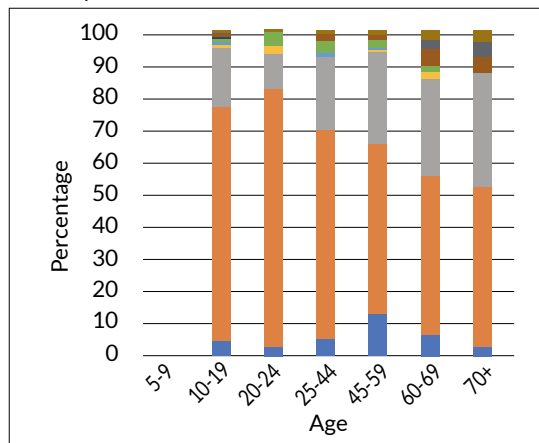


Figure 10. Suicide rates per 100,000 population in the Region of the Americas by countries, both sexes, 2010–2014

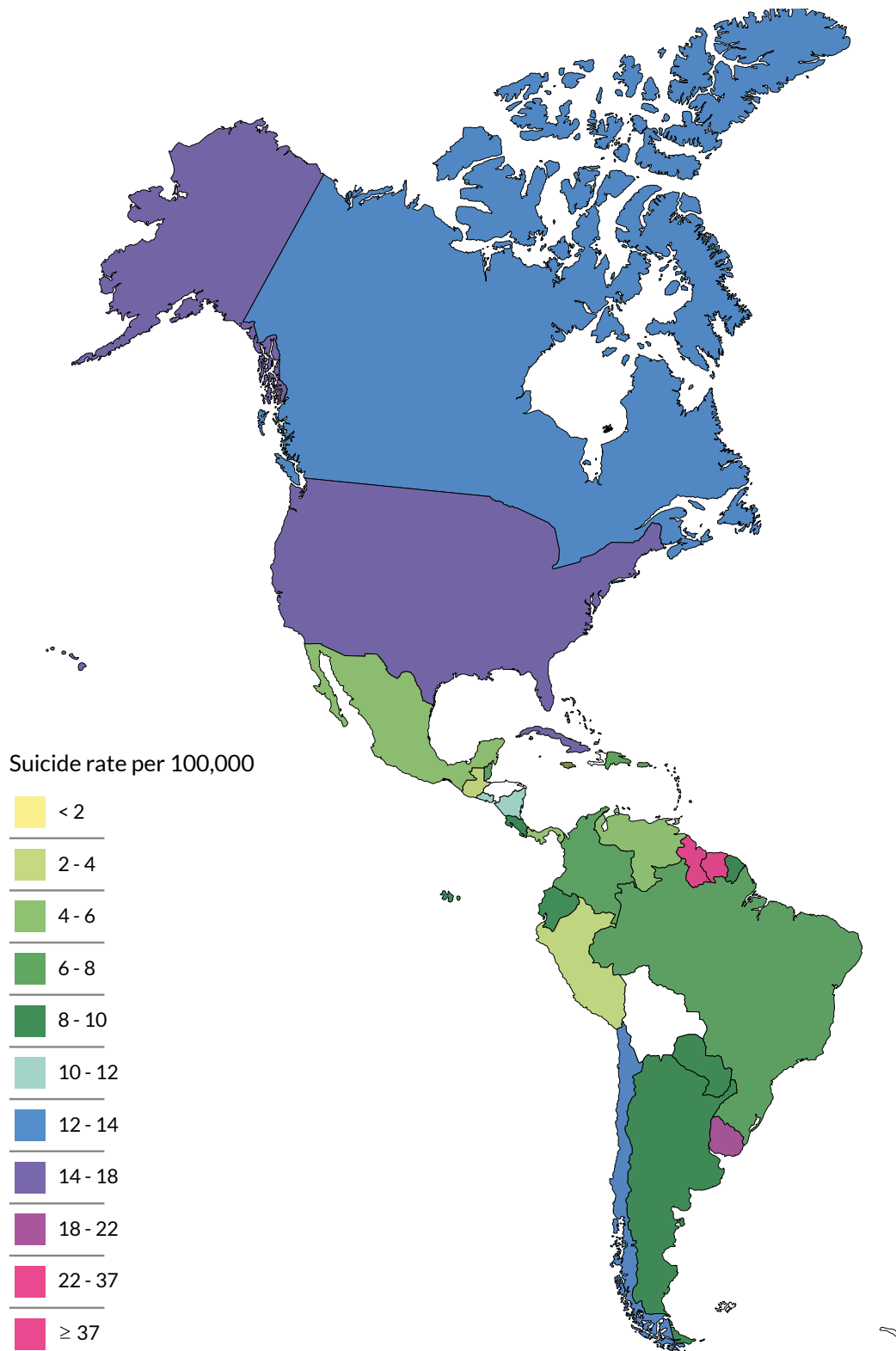


Figure 11. Suicide rates per 100,000 population in the Region of the Americas by countries, males, 2010–2014

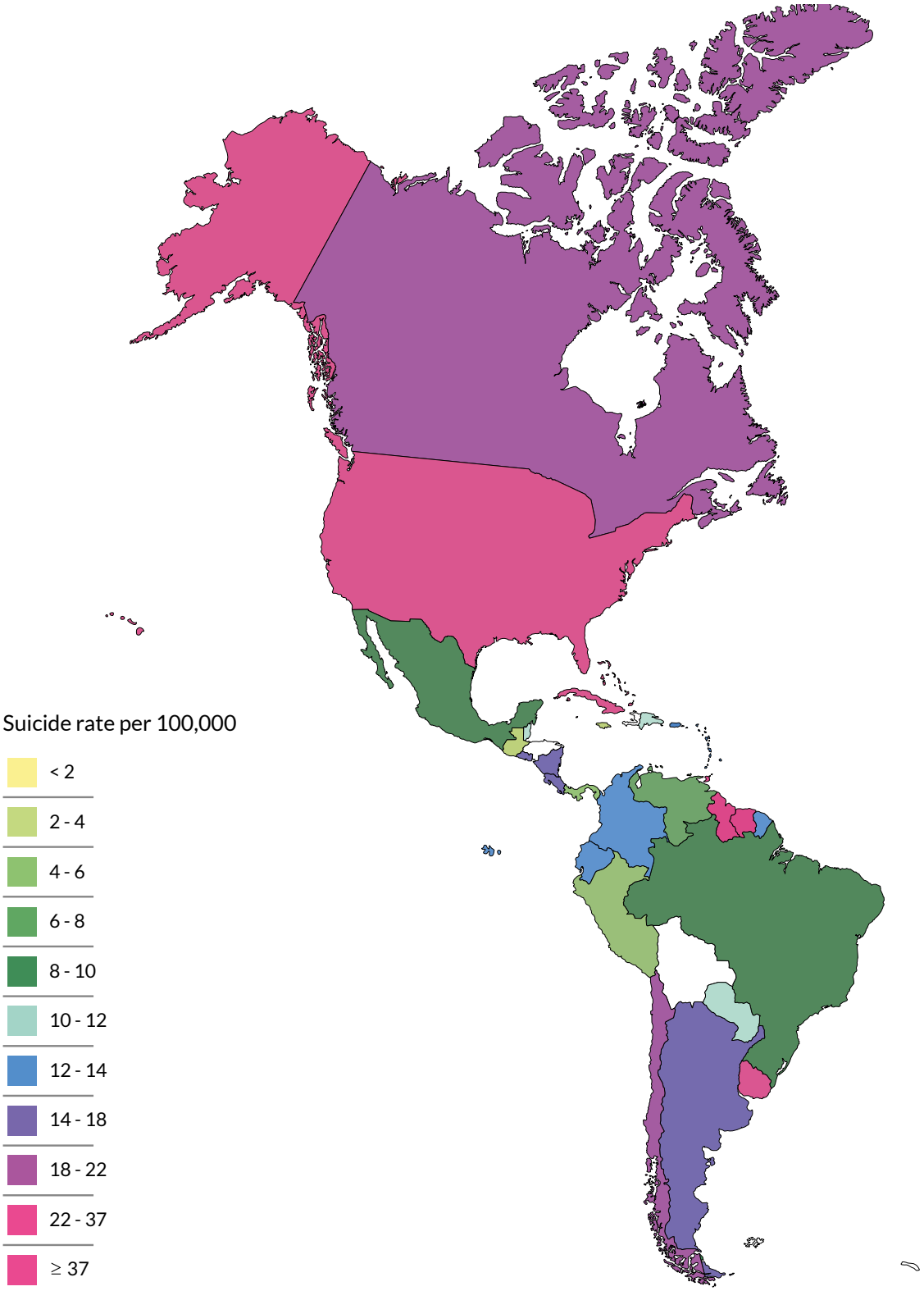
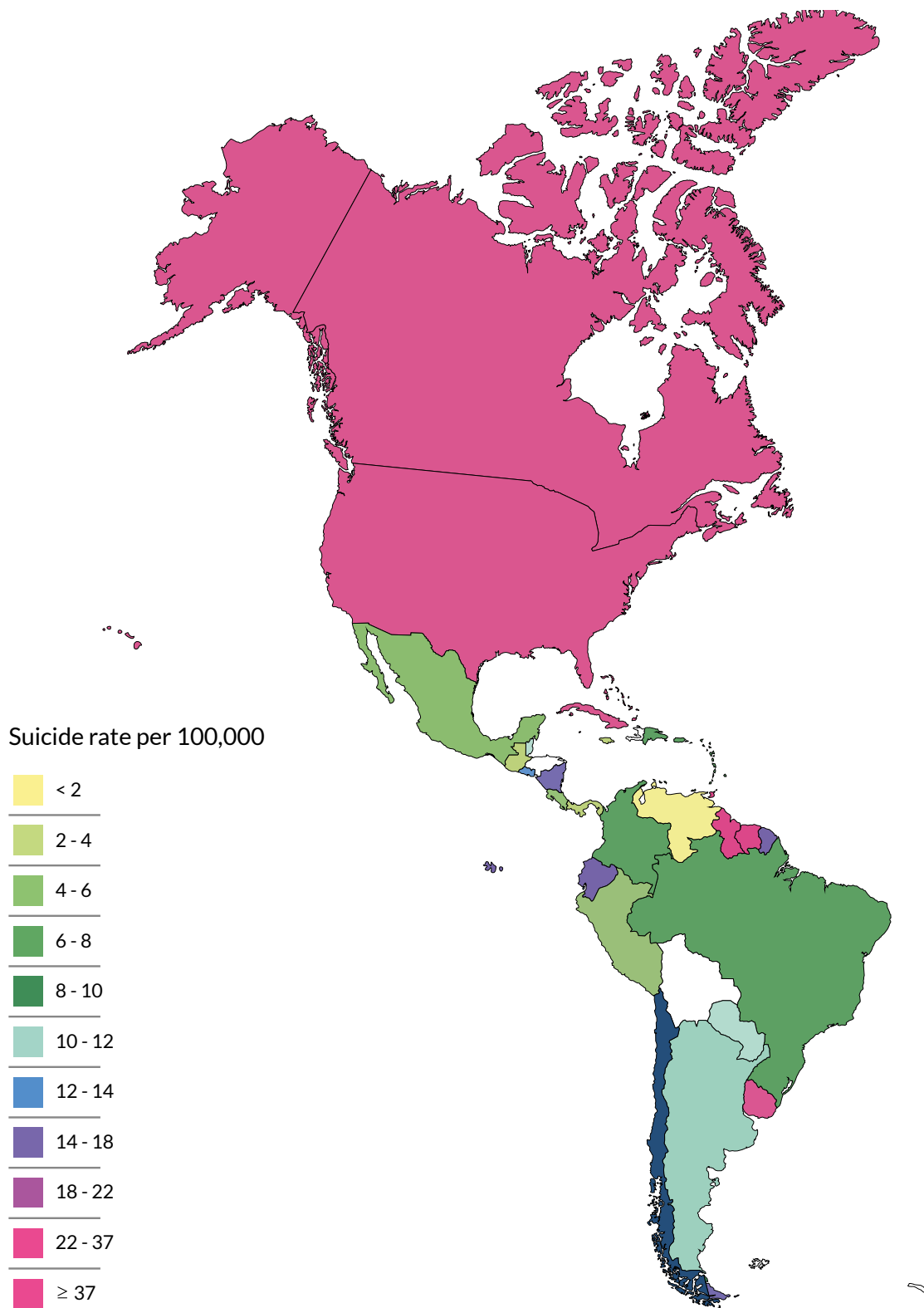


Figure 12. Suicide rates per 100,000 population in the Region of the Americas by countries, females, 2010–2014



Appendix tables

Table A1. Age-unadjusted and age-adjusted suicide rates per 100,000 population, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	Non-standardized			Age-standardized		
	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male
Anguilla	1.41	0.00	2.93	1.51	0.00	2.90
Antigua and Barbuda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63
Argentina	9.52	3.61	15.74	9.43	3.66	15.66
Aruba	5.47	3.16	8.03	5.03	3.01	7.22
Bahamas	1.66	0.85	2.52	1.56	0.83	2.43
Barbados	0.37	0.00	0.78	0.32	0.00	0.67
Belize	6.96	2.44	11.52	8.09	2.12	14.00
Bermuda	1.84	0.59	3.18	1.81	0.65	2.99
Brazil	6.24	2.65	9.97	6.18	2.59	10.09
Canada	12.93	6.57	19.41	11.64	6.08	17.29
Cayman Islands	2.03	0.00	4.17	2.08	0.00	4.22
Chile	12.31	4.43	20.38	11.82	4.32	19.70
Colombia	7.92	2.92	13.10	7.88	2.88	13.26
Costa Rica	8.66	2.56	14.76	8.47	2.50	14.52
Cuba	14.55	5.94	23.15	11.66	4.72	18.90
Dominica	4.29	0.60	7.93	4.10	0.59	7.49
Dominican Republic	6.89	2.53	11.30	7.53	2.64	12.61
Ecuador	8.73	4.73	12.74	8.70	4.55	12.96
El Salvador	10.73	4.44	17.87	11.02	4.28	19.32
French Guiana	9.00	4.80	13.22	9.36	4.78	14.15
Grenada	0.63	0.00	1.26	0.72	0.00	1.43
Guadeloupe	8.87	3.97	14.59	8.38	3.85	13.94
Guatemala	3.25	1.77	4.79	3.40	1.58	5.48
Guyana	36.85	17.33	56.33	39.18	17.28	61.82
Jamaica	0.75	0.11	1.39	0.77	0.11	1.47
Martinique	7.98	3.09	13.81	7.15	2.51	12.84
Mexico	5.52	2.06	9.03	5.57	2.01	9.28

Table A1. Continued

Countries and territories	Non-standardized			Age-standardized		
	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male
Montserrat	4.10	0.00	8.21	3.74	0.00	7.97
Nicaragua	11.43	5.30	17.80	11.01	4.85	17.71
Panama	5.04	1.33	8.73	5.13	1.33	8.99
Paraguay	8.43	5.95	10.84	8.18	5.57	10.77
Peru	2.93	1.85	4.01	2.96	1.80	4.17
Puerto Rico	7.23	2.21	12.69	6.59	2.06	11.76
Saint Kitts and Nevis	3.00	3.67	2.31	3.18	3.67	2.79
Saint Lucia	7.18	1.68	12.92	7.11	1.62	12.94
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	4.42	1.61	7.18	4.37	1.63	7.05
Suriname	35.09	19.08	51.04	35.85	19.14	53.45
Trinidad and Tobago	15.47	6.00	25.18	14.73	5.87	24.05
Turks and Caicos Islands	1.49	0.00	2.88	1.46	0.00	2.83
United States of America	14.21	6.20	22.44	13.04	5.77	20.57
Uruguay	18.52	7.82	30.11	17.22	7.26	28.37
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	4.38	1.41	7.38	4.52	1.42	7.81
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	8.83	5.83	12.12	8.86	5.27	12.97

Table A2. Female-males suicide ratio, by age group, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	Non-standardized	Age-standardized	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Anguilla	30.3	30.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	401.8	1.0
Antigua and Barbuda	1.0	7.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Argentina	4.4	4.3	2.6	5.5	4.6	3.3	4.9	10.3
Aruba	2.5	2.4	1.0	65.3	2.1	121.2	1.7	0.0
Bahamas	3.0	2.9	0.9	3.2	1.7	8.1	1.2	32.3
Barbados	8.8	7.7	1.0	1.0	7.3	27.6	1.0	1.0
Belize	4.7	6.6	0.4	2.9	8.7	17.6	384.4	197.4
Bermuda	5.4	4.6	1.0	96.3	1.0	49.6	56.3	1.0
Brazil	3.8	3.9	2.2	4.4	4.1	3.3	4.4	6.0
Canada	3.0	2.8	1.9	2.8	2.9	2.8	3.2	5.1
Cayman Islands	42.7	43.2	149.8	1.0	1.0	81.0	1.0	1.0
Chile	4.6	4.6	2.5	4.8	4.4	4.1	7.4	12.6
Colombia	4.5	4.6	1.8	4.3	5.5	6.2	7.3	17.1
Costa Rica	5.8	5.8	3.1	4.1	6.4	7.0	6.7	11.6
Cuba	3.9	4.0	2.1	3.7	5.2	3.6	3.0	5.2
Dominica	13.3	12.7	33.3	0.9	57.9	198.7	158.8	1.0
Dominican Republic	4.5	4.8	1.3	2.5	4.8	7.5	4.6	11.2
Ecuador	2.7	2.8	1.2	3.0	3.4	4.7	5.5	6.0
El Salvador	4.0	4.5	1.2	3.9	5.5	7.0	17.8	7.0
French Guiana	2.8	3.0	1.9	0.9	3.5	12.0	72.7	4.0
Grenada	13.6	15.3	20.7	1.0	13.8	1.0	87.8	1.0
Guadeloupe	3.7	3.6	1.7	9.9	2.6	4.2	8.3	5.8
Guatemala	2.7	3.5	0.9	3.3	4.0	7.8	9.3	21.8
Guyana	3.3	3.6	1.0	2.7	4.2	4.7	4.4	9.1
Jamaica	12.4	13.2	1.4	5.5	33.1	18.7	6.5	23.0
Martinique	4.5	5.1	5.5	188.3	5.7	2.7	3.0	7.6
Mexico	4.4	4.6	2.0	4.2	5.2	5.7	7.8	18.6
Montserrat	83.1	80.7	1.0	1.0	227.8	1.0	1.0	1.0
Nicaragua	3.4	3.6	1.1	3.9	5.3	6.6	5.5	20.8
Panama	6.6	6.8	2.3	5.2	9.5	7.6	45.0	7.6
Paraguay	1.8	1.9	1.0	1.9	2.4	1.9	3.6	5.8
Peru	2.2	2.3	1.1	1.7	2.4	3.9	4.8	2.9
Puerto Rico	5.7	5.7	3.3	12.2	4.4	5.2	8.1	17.7
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.0	1.0	221.3

Table A2. Continued

Countries and territories	Non-standardized	Age-standardized	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Saint Lucia	7.7	8.0	3.7	2.2	4.6	160.2	320.8	198.4
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	4.5	4.3	79.9	0.0	7.8	3.8	71.8	1.3
Suriname	2.7	2.8	0.7	2.5	3.2	3.9	3.4	7.2
Trinidad and Tobago	4.2	4.1	2.2	2.6	4.6	5.7	3.9	6.8
Turks and Caicos Islands	29.8	29.3	1.0	1.0	96.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
United States of America	3.6	3.6	3.1	4.5	3.4	3.0	3.8	8.3
Uruguay	3.8	3.9	3.5	5.9	3.8	3.1	3.4	7.0
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	5.2	5.5	2.2	5.6	6.7	6.6	6.3	7.2
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	2.1	2.5	1.0	227.9	3.1	0.8	3.3	1.2

Table A3. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, both sexes, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Anguilla	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.97	0.00
Antigua and Barbuda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.03	8.10	16.88	10.60	9.13	9.80	12.14
Aruba	0.00	0.00	3.33	8.58	5.58	10.08	5.65
Bahamas	0.00	0.62	2.24	1.51	3.24	1.70	1.22
Barbados	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	1.25	0.00	0.00
Belize	0.00	3.51	9.16	8.26	11.27	19.93	9.83
Bermuda	0.00	0.00	4.74	2.46	2.34	2.61	0.00
Brazil	0.03	2.48	6.72	7.77	8.32	8.17	9.60
Canada	0.02	5.85	12.46	14.28	19.06	12.92	11.06
Cayman Islands	0.00	7.41	0.00	0.00	3.87	0.00	0.00
Chile	0.01	5.87	14.90	15.00	15.55	13.54	15.06
Colombia	0.15	6.97	13.03	8.81	7.82	8.65	9.98
Costa Rica	0.07	4.39	11.15	11.56	10.51	9.25	7.44
Cuba	0.00	2.80	6.84	11.03	17.48	24.96	39.59
Dominica	0.00	1.66	6.35	2.87	10.38	7.94	0.00
Dominican Republic	0.06	2.27	5.87	9.18	10.22	14.40	12.98
Ecuador	0.00	10.13	14.39	9.48	7.80	8.95	8.16
El Salvador	0.08	7.10	17.94	15.31	9.93	11.16	11.40
French Guiana	0.00	12.38	10.64	11.12	7.81	3.68	12.27
Grenada	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.66	0.00	4.09	0.00
Guadeloupe	0.00	3.20	9.01	11.39	11.35	11.86	9.38
Guatemala	0.03	3.15	5.63	3.98	3.41	3.84	2.56
Guyana	0.44	19.77	48.91	49.14	57.32	37.75	46.57
Jamaica	0.00	0.43	0.23	1.16	0.88	1.03	0.99
Martinique	0.77	2.60	8.85	7.78	8.74	10.49	14.41
Mexico	0.00	4.54	8.74	6.69	5.82	5.57	6.15
Montserrat	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.84	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nicaragua	0.22	10.73	21.58	14.38	8.96	7.57	7.39
Panama	0.00	3.25	7.70	6.18	5.44	5.38	8.49
Paraguay	0.19	8.91	14.98	10.20	6.23	6.89	7.11
Peru	0.04	2.67	4.58	3.11	3.15	3.75	3.92
Puerto Rico	0.00	1.63	5.69	7.27	12.48	10.08	9.37
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.52	3.93	0.00	8.83

Table A3. Continued

Countries and territories	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Saint Lucia	0.00	3.02	5.93	9.32	7.83	15.34	8.71
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.00	3.99	2.06	5.72	5.46	3.51	7.62
Suriname	0.00	18.75	43.57	48.32	39.86	40.02	52.63
Trinidad and Tobago	0.00	7.76	22.08	20.03	16.07	15.62	15.32
Turks and Caicos Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.90	0.00	0.00	0.00
United States of America	0.03	5.01	14.12	16.12	20.51	15.90	16.66
Uruguay	0.00	7.81	21.18	20.06	22.05	24.10	31.34
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.02	3.04	6.26	5.26	4.75	5.83	7.53
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	0.00	0.00	10.82	14.94	10.27	9.80	7.04

Table A4. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, males, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Anguilla	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.18	0.00
Antigua and Barbuda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.06	11.66	28.33	17.45	14.28	17.16	27.71
Aruba	0.00	0.00	6.43	11.92	12.02	13.06	0.00
Bahamas	0.00	0.59	3.42	1.89	6.00	1.87	3.13
Barbados	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63	2.66	0.00	0.00
Belize	0.00	2.17	13.69	15.11	21.11	38.34	19.64
Bermuda	0.00	0.00	9.53	2.43	4.86	5.53	0.00
Brazil	0.04	3.37	10.86	12.59	13.12	14.02	18.85
Canada	0.02	7.61	18.23	21.19	28.07	19.89	20.41
Cayman Islands	0.00	14.88	0.00	0.00	8.00	0.00	0.00
Chile	0.03	8.28	24.33	24.35	25.15	24.93	33.66
Colombia	0.19	8.84	20.99	15.10	13.93	16.14	21.69
Costa Rica	0.14	6.58	17.72	19.92	18.56	16.37	14.84
Cuba	0.00	3.77	10.60	18.39	27.42	37.59	71.01
Dominica	0.00	3.23	6.18	5.69	19.77	15.78	0.00
Dominican Republic	0.11	2.52	8.40	15.36	18.21	23.98	24.97
Ecuador	0.00	11.11	21.37	14.70	13.00	15.52	15.00
El Salvador	0.10	7.71	29.13	27.95	19.31	23.95	21.95
French Guiana	0.00	16.03	10.19	17.62	14.28	7.17	21.34
Grenada	0.00	1.97	0.00	1.28	0.00	8.68	0.00
Guadeloupe	0.00	4.03	16.16	17.75	19.12	22.81	18.19
Guatemala	0.02	3.06	8.63	6.54	6.57	7.46	5.34
Guyana	0.85	19.73	71.41	79.81	94.55	63.30	92.30
Jamaica	0.00	0.50	0.45	2.32	1.77	1.80	2.20
Martinique	1.55	4.35	18.73	14.86	13.23	16.26	29.04
Mexico	0.00	6.02	13.98	11.26	10.19	10.11	13.08
Montserrat	0.00	0.00	0.00	22.68	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nicaragua	0.30	11.26	33.98	24.73	16.54	13.73	15.93
Panama	0.00	4.51	12.79	11.11	9.69	10.84	15.88
Paraguay	0.27	8.71	19.38	14.36	8.11	10.76	12.83
Peru	0.08	2.73	5.81	4.41	5.12	6.37	6.16
Puerto Rico	0.00	2.46	10.47	12.08	22.11	19.46	21.10
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.10	0.00	0.00	22.03

Table A4. Continued

Countries and territories	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Saint Lucia	0.00	4.75	8.19	15.56	15.92	31.98	19.74
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.00	7.89	0.00	9.98	8.47	7.08	8.76
Suriname	0.00	15.88	61.79	73.42	63.56	64.76	94.47
Trinidad and Tobago	0.00	10.68	31.88	32.97	27.57	25.46	31.01
Turks and Caicos Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
United States of America	0.05	7.46	22.79	24.92	30.76	25.90	33.87
Uruguay	0.00	12.00	35.83	31.77	33.93	39.03	68.90
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.05	4.16	10.56	9.19	8.38	10.40	14.86
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	0.00	0.00	22.69	23.62	9.29	15.54	7.90

Table A5. Suicide rates per 100,000 population, by age group, females, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Anguilla	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Antigua and Barbuda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.00	4.41	5.13	3.76	4.28	3.50	2.70
Aruba	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.66	0.00	7.50	9.54
Bahamas	0.00	0.64	1.05	1.13	0.74	1.55	0.00
Barbados	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Belize	0.00	4.85	4.70	1.73	1.20	0.00	0.00
Bermuda	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.49	0.00	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.01	1.55	2.49	3.04	3.92	3.18	3.13
Canada	0.02	3.99	6.44	7.32	10.05	6.25	3.96
Cayman Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chile	0.00	3.36	5.10	5.48	6.21	3.38	2.67
Colombia	0.10	5.02	4.89	2.73	2.23	2.20	1.27
Costa Rica	0.00	2.11	4.34	3.14	2.66	2.44	1.28
Cuba	0.00	1.76	2.86	3.51	7.65	12.67	13.56
Dominica	0.00	0.00	6.53	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dominican Republic	0.01	2.01	3.34	3.18	2.41	5.22	2.24
Ecuador	0.00	9.12	7.24	4.27	2.79	2.84	2.48
El Salvador	0.05	6.48	7.54	5.12	2.75	1.34	3.12
French Guiana	0.00	8.58	11.08	5.00	1.19	0.00	5.39
Grenada	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Guadeloupe	0.00	2.33	1.63	6.70	4.55	2.75	3.16
Guatemala	0.04	3.25	2.62	1.64	0.84	0.80	0.25
Guyana	0.00	19.82	26.40	18.98	19.91	14.49	10.15
Jamaica	0.00	0.36	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.27	0.00
Martinique	0.00	0.79	0.00	2.59	4.93	5.50	3.82
Mexico	0.00	3.01	3.34	2.18	1.78	1.30	0.70
Montserrat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nicaragua	0.13	10.17	8.82	4.69	2.50	2.49	0.77
Panama	0.00	1.94	2.46	1.17	1.27	0.24	2.08
Paraguay	0.12	9.12	10.41	5.88	4.28	2.95	2.21
Peru	0.00	2.60	3.33	1.80	1.32	1.33	2.15
Puerto Rico	0.00	0.75	0.86	2.72	4.27	2.41	1.19
Saint Kitts and Nevis	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.90	7.83	0.00	0.00

Table A5. Continued

Countries and territories	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Saint Lucia	0.00	1.27	3.68	3.39	0.00	0.00	0.00
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.00	0.00	4.15	1.27	2.26	0.00	6.75
Suriname	0.00	21.79	24.40	22.80	16.25	19.25	22.22
Trinidad and Tobago	0.00	4.77	12.08	7.13	4.82	6.59	4.54
Turks and Caicos Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
United States of America	0.01	2.44	5.04	7.23	10.40	6.84	4.10
Uruguay	0.01	3.44	6.04	8.42	11.09	11.50	9.90
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.00	1.88	1.87	1.36	1.26	1.65	2.05
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.55	11.16	4.65	6.35

Table A6. Method of suicide as percentage of total, both sexes, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	Suffocation	Poisoning drugs	Poisoning chemicals	Firearm	Fire	Jumping	Drowning	Cutting	Blunt force	Other
Anguilla	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Antigua and Barbuda	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Argentina	73.0	1.1	1.2	18.2	0.8	1.3	1.0	0.8	0.3	2.2
Aruba	65.8	11.4	15.2	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.0
Bahamas	82.9	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	7.3	0.0
Barbados	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Belize	62.3	2.6	20.5	7.9	0.8	1.8	3.1	1.2	0.0	0.0
Bermuda	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	16.7
Brazil	63.8	4.9	8.9	9.6	2.1	4.0	1.2	1.8	1.4	2.3
Canada	46.6	18.5	5.7	13.8	0.7	7.4	2.7	2.9	1.5	0.3
Cayman Islands	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chile	83.6	2.2	2.4	6.5	0.6	2.2	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.7
Colombia	49.0	2.1	20.6	19.5	0.5	4.1	1.0	2.1	0.3	0.9
Costa Rica	57.0	5.5	17.1	15.5	0.3	2.6	0.3	1.4	0.2	0.1
Cuba	75.7	5.0	4.0	1.8	7.0	3.5	0.6	1.8	0.4	0.1
Dominica	50.0	0.0	43.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.9
Dominican Republic	59.6	1.0	13.6	17.5	0.5	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.0	5.8
Ecuador	58.8	2.2	30.9	5.0	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.1	1.9
El Salvador	35.2	0.5	62.2	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1
French Guiana	59.5	1.0	11.5	21.3	0.0	1.3	1.0	1.0	0.0	3.3
Grenada	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guadeloupe	61.9	10.4	7.2	5.9	1.2	7.0	1.1	0.5	0.0	4.9
Guatemala	36.1	3.5	46.2	8.5	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.6	0.0	3.6
Guyana	28.3	1.8	68.0	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4
Jamaica	73.3	0.0	13.4	4.7	0.0	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1
Martinique	63.9	8.2	5.4	4.9	2.0	11.3	1.4	2.3	0.0	0.7
Mexico	77.6	1.7	7.4	9.7	0.2	0.9	0.3	1.1	0.1	1.1
Montserrat	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nicaragua	34.5	2.2	56.3	4.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.2	1.3
Panama	73.7	1.7	18.8	3.3	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.6
Paraguay	67.6	1.4	5.5	19.4	0.4	1.3	1.9	1.3	0.6	0.7

Table A6. Continued

Countries and territories	Suffocation	Poisoning drugs	Poisoning chemicals	Firearm	Fire	Jumping	Drowning	Cutting	Blunt force	Other
Peru	22.9	1.0	25.0	1.9	0.1	0.1	1.2	0.2	0.0	47.5
Puerto Rico	71.8	5.2	1.6	13.0	1.8	3.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.2
Saint Kitts and Nevis	73.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.5
Saint Lucia	39.3	0.0	55.8	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	45.9	4.5	49.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suriname	22.9	1.3	69.3	2.6	0.5	1.7	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.4
Trinidad and Tobago	32.1	0.8	63.2	1.0	1.2	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.0	0.0
Turks and Caicos Islands	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
United States of America	25.2	13.5	3.1	50.5	0.4	3.4	1.0	1.8	0.7	0.5
Uruguay	60.9	3.3	1.3	23.8	0.7	2.7	3.8	0.9	0.3	2.3
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	68.8	1.7	17.6	7.6	0.7	1.6	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.4
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	61.5	0.0	0.0	23.1	0.0	7.7	3.8	3.8	0.0	0.0

Table A7. Method of suicide as percentage of total, males, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	Suffocation	Poisoning drugs	Poisoning chemicals	Firearm	Fire	Jumping	Drowning	Cutting	Blunt force	Other
Anguilla	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Antigua and Barbuda	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Argentina	73.1	0.5	1.0	20.2	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.3	1.8
Aruba	78.2	5.5	10.9	5.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bahamas	81.8	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1	5.1	0.0
Barbados	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Belize	58.6	3.1	22.3	9.6	0.9	2.2	1.9	1.4	0.0	0.0
Bermuda	40.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	40.0	0.0	20.0
Brazil	68.1	3.1	7.1	11.0	1.2	3.1	0.9	1.9	1.4	2.0
Canada	48.3	12.2	6.3	17.8	0.7	7.2	2.3	3.2	1.5	0.3
Cayman Islands	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chile	84.8	1.0	2.3	7.4	0.5	1.8	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.7
Colombia	51.0	1.4	16.8	22.6	0.4	3.6	1.0	2.3	0.3	0.8
Costa Rica	58.4	3.7	16.1	16.9	0.2	2.5	0.4	1.5	0.2	0.1
Cuba	84.5	2.2	3.3	2.1	2.0	3.0	0.5	1.9	0.5	0.0
Dominica	46.3	0.0	46.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4
Dominican Republic	60.4	0.6	11.1	20.5	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.2	0.0	5.1
Ecuador	62.9	2.2	25.3	6.3	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	2.1
El Salvador	39.1	0.6	58.0	1.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
French Guiana	58.8	0.0	10.0	26.3	0.0	1.8	0.0	1.4	0.0	1.8
Grenada	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guadeloupe	67.8	5.6	6.4	7.7	0.8	4.5	0.0	0.7	0.0	6.5
Guatemala	41.2	3.0	38.8	11.1	0.0	0.1	1.7	0.8	0.0	3.4
Guyana	33.2	1.4	63.4	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Jamaica	71.1	0.0	14.5	5.0	0.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6
Martinique	66.3	6.0	4.3	6.2	1.7	10.8	0.9	2.9	0.0	0.9
Mexico	79.2	0.8	5.5	11.1	0.2	0.8	0.2	1.1	0.1	1.0
Montserrat	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nicaragua	39.8	1.3	50.4	5.2	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.7	0.1	1.5
Panama	75.6	1.6	16.8	3.7	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
Paraguay	67.6	0.3	3.8	22.4	0.6	1.4	1.4	1.7	0.5	0.5
Peru	24.5	0.9	23.9	2.5	0.1	0.1	1.3	0.2	0.0	46.4

Table A7. Continued

Countries and territories	Suffocation	Poisoning drugs	Poisoning chemicals	Firearm	Fire	Jumping	Drowning	Cutting	Blunt force	Other
Puerto Rico	72.5	4.1	1.7	14.4	1.7	2.6	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9
Saint Kitts and Nevis	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Saint Lucia	38.1	0.0	56.4	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.6
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	33.9	5.5	60.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suriname	25.2	1.6	65.8	3.4	0.4	1.9	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.4
Trinidad and Tobago	33.5	0.8	62.5	1.3	0.8	0.0	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0
Turks and Caicos Islands	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
United States of America	25.5	8.1	3.0	56.0	0.4	3.2	0.8	1.9	0.6	0.5
Uruguay	64.3	1.9	1.1	24.8	0.6	2.0	2.7	0.9	0.3	1.4
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	70.8	1.2	15.6	8.5	0.6	1.5	0.4	0.9	0.2	0.4
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	58.8	0.0	0.0	23.5	0.0	11.8	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table A8. Method of suicide as percentage of total, females, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	Suffocation	Poisoning drugs	Poisoning chemicals	Firearm	Fire	Jumping	Drowning	Cutting	Blunt force	Other
Anguilla	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Antigua and Barbuda	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Argentina	72.6	3.5	2.3	10.0	2.7	2.0	2.0	1.0	0.3	3.6
Aruba	37.5	25.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	12.5	0.0	0.0
Bahamas	86.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.7	0.0
Barbados	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Belize	58.6	3.1	22.3	9.6	0.9	2.2	1.9	1.4	0.0	0.0
Bermuda	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brazil	48.3	11.3	15.1	4.6	5.3	7.0	2.1	1.2	1.5	3.5
Canada	41.4	36.8	4.0	2.0	0.7	7.9	3.7	1.8	1.2	0.3
Cayman Islands	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chile	78.3	7.3	3.0	2.6	0.8	4.1	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.8
Colombia	40.3	5.1	37.2	6.1	0.7	6.3	1.1	1.7	0.4	1.2
Costa Rica	48.6	15.9	22.8	7.2	0.9	3.2	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.4
Cuba	41.4	16.0	6.9	0.4	26.5	5.6	1.2	1.4	0.4	0.3
Dominica	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dominican Republic	55.9	2.4	24.4	4.2	0.6	1.6	1.4	0.9	0.0	8.7
Ecuador	47.6	2.3	45.9	1.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.1	1.4
El Salvador	21.6	0.3	76.9	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
French Guiana	61.5	3.8	15.4	7.7	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.0	7.7
Grenada	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guadeloupe	43.0	25.4	10.0	0.0	2.2	14.9	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guatemala	23.0	4.8	65.3	1.9	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	4.1
Guyana	12.4	3.0	82.7	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.0
Jamaica	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Martinique	54.8	16.1	9.7	0.0	3.2	12.9	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mexico	70.6	5.2	16.0	3.9	0.2	1.3	0.4	0.8	0.1	1.5
Montserrat	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nicaragua	17.1	4.9	75.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.7
Panama	61.3	2.1	32.4	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0
Paraguay	67.5	3.4	8.7	13.9	0.0	1.1	2.8	0.5	0.8	1.2
Peru	19.5	1.1	27.5	0.5	0.0	0.3	1.1	0.1	0.0	49.8
Puerto Rico	68.5	11.0	1.0	5.5	2.0	5.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	3.0

Table A8. Continued

Countries and territories	Suffocation	Poisoning drugs	Poisoning chemicals	Firearm	Fire	Jumping	Drowning	Cutting	Blunt force	Other
Saint Kitts and Nevis	57.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.9
Saint Lucia	48.4	0.0	51.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suriname	16.9	0.5	78.5	0.5	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.5
Trinidad and Tobago	26.5	0.8	65.8	0.0	2.9	1.8	2.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Turks and Caicos Islands	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
United States of America	24.0	32.6	3.2	31.2	0.5	4.0	1.6	1.5	0.8	0.6
Uruguay	48.7	8.3	2.1	20.5	1.4	5.1	7.5	0.8	0.2	5.5
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	58.5	4.6	28.1	3.4	1.2	2.3	1.0	0.6	0.0	0.4
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	66.7	0.0	0.0	22.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	0.0

Table A9. Non-standardized suicide rates per 100,000 population, by five-year groups, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2000–2014

Countries and territories	2010–2014			2005–2009			2000–2004		
	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M
Anguilla	1.41	0.00	2.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.82	0.00	3.69
Antigua and Barbuda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.00	0.56	3.00	0.00	6.36
Argentina	9.52	3.61	15.74	9.68	3.75	15.92	10.72	4.30	17.48
Aruba	5.47	3.16	8.03	7.74	3.62	12.32	7.31	2.17	12.96
Bahamas	1.66	0.85	2.52	1.21	0.36	2.10	0.98	0.26	1.75
Barbados	0.30	0.00	0.62	1.20	0.10	2.41	1.00	0.24	1.83
Belize	6.96	2.44	11.52	5.61	1.67	9.53	8.08	3.34	12.76
Bermuda	1.84	0.59	3.18	2.55	0.62	4.62	2.33	1.29	3.46
Brazil	6.24	2.65	9.97	6.07	2.50	9.76	5.78	2.40	9.27
Canada	12.93	6.57	19.41	12.59	6.11	19.21	13.01	5.95	20.24
Cayman Islands	0.81	0.00	1.67	1.38	0.00	2.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chile	12.31	4.43	20.38	12.92	4.69	21.36	11.65	3.40	20.12
Colombia	7.92	2.92	13.10	7.85	3.24	12.61	8.36	3.90	12.95
Costa Rica	8.66	2.56	14.76	8.69	2.58	14.80	8.73	2.51	14.93
Cuba	14.55	5.94	23.15	13.59	6.01	21.16	12.42	6.53	18.29
Curaçao	...	...	...	2.86	2.04	3.82	6.14	2.16	10.69
Dominica	4.29	0.60	7.93	2.85	0.00	5.65	3.46	2.46	4.46
Dominican Republic	5.51	2.03	9.04	6.75	2.55	10.98	6.84	2.60	11.09
Ecuador	8.73	4.73	12.74	9.81	5.59	14.03	7.37	4.70	10.04
El Salvador	10.73	4.44	17.87	10.37	4.70	16.73	12.23	6.32	18.73
French Guiana	9.00	4.80	13.22	11.08	6.85	15.40	10.07	2.60	17.35
Grenada	0.63	0.00	1.26	2.20	0.85	3.57	1.44	0.00	2.92
Guadeloupe	8.87	3.97	14.59	10.26	4.85	16.23	9.57	3.58	16.01
Guatemala	3.25	1.77	4.79	4.64	2.32	7.09	...	...	...
Guyana	36.85	17.33	56.33	31.33	17.58	45.13	28.12	14.03	42.35
Jamaica	0.75	0.11	1.39	0.71	0.27	1.16	0.18	0.06	0.31
Martinique	7.98	3.09	13.81	9.25	2.83	16.74	9.74	3.30	17.14
Mexico	5.52	2.06	9.03	4.79	1.69	7.95	4.44	1.47	7.45
Montserrat	4.10	0.00	8.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nicaragua	11.43	5.30	17.80	13.78	6.74	21.07	17.55	9.57	25.79
Panama	5.04	1.33	8.73	7.21	1.95	12.44	7.52	2.29	12.68
Paraguay	8.43	5.95	10.84	7.78	5.63	9.87	7.32	5.57	9.02
Peru	2.93	1.85	4.01	2.23	1.44	3.02	2.28	1.31	3.27

Table A9. Continued

Countries and territories	2010-2014			2005-2009			2000-2004		
	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M
Puerto Rico	7.23	2.21	12.69	8.35	2.00	15.28	7.90	1.58	14.80
Saint Kitts and Nevis	3.00	3.67	2.31	2.29	1.10	3.51	2.26	0.00	4.58
Saint Lucia	7.18	1.68	12.92	2.59	0.00	5.31	8.32	4.22	12.62
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	4.42	1.61	7.18	6.59	1.22	11.86	6.21	0.82	11.51
Suriname	35.09	19.08	51.04	37.17	17.23	56.96	28.81	13.63	43.86
Trinidad and Tobago	9.28	3.60	15.11	14.23	5.05	23.62	14.76	6.74	22.92
Turks and Caicos Islands	0.90	0.00	1.73	1.03	0.00	1.98	2.42	0.00	4.68
United States of America	14.21	6.20	22.44	12.80	5.39	20.44	12.01	4.78	19.48
Uruguay	14.82	6.26	24.09	17.43	7.58	28.10	18.35	7.30	30.27
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	3.50	1.13	5.90	5.59	1.91	9.29	8.51	2.74	14.29
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.03	2.08	3.94
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	5.30	3.50	7.27	8.03	2.70	13.81	5.36	1.53	9.50

Table A10. Age-standardized suicide rates per 100,000 population, by five-year groups, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2000–2014

Countries and territories	2010–2014			2005–2009			2000–2004		
	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M
Anguilla	1.41	0.00	2.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.82	0.00	3.69
Antigua and Barbuda	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.27	0.00	0.56	3.00	0.00	6.36
Argentina	9.52	3.61	15.74	9.68	3.75	15.92	10.72	4.30	17.48
Aruba	5.47	3.16	8.03	7.74	3.62	12.32	9.14	2.71	16.20
Bahamas	1.66	0.85	2.52	1.51	0.45	2.63	1.64	0.43	2.92
Barbados	0.37	0.00	0.78	1.20	0.10	2.41	1.00	0.24	1.83
Belize	6.96	2.44	11.52	5.61	1.67	9.53	8.08	3.34	12.76
Bermuda	1.84	0.59	3.18	2.55	0.62	4.62	2.33	1.29	3.46
Brazil	6.24	2.65	9.97	6.07	2.50	9.76	5.78	2.40	9.27
Canada	12.93	6.57	19.41	12.59	6.11	19.21	13.01	5.95	20.24
Cayman Islands	2.03	0.00	4.17	1.38	0.00	2.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chile	12.31	4.43	20.38	12.92	4.69	21.36	11.65	3.40	20.12
Colombia	7.92	2.92	13.10	7.85	3.24	12.61	8.36	3.90	12.95
Costa Rica	8.66	2.56	14.76	8.69	2.58	14.80	8.73	2.51	14.93
Cuba	14.55	5.94	23.15	13.59	6.01	21.16	15.53	8.16	22.87
Curaçao	...	...	...	4.77	3.40	6.37	7.68	2.71	13.36
Dominica	4.29	0.60	7.93	2.85	0.00	5.65	4.33	3.07	5.58
Dominican Republic	6.89	2.53	11.30	6.75	2.55	10.98	6.84	2.60	11.09
Ecuador	8.73	4.73	12.74	9.81	5.59	14.03	7.37	4.70	10.04
El Salvador	10.73	4.44	17.87	10.37	4.70	16.73	12.23	6.32	18.73
French Guiana	9.00	4.80	13.22	11.08	6.85	15.40	12.59	3.25	21.69
Grenada	0.63	0.00	1.26	2.20	0.85	3.57	2.40	0.00	4.86
Guadeloupe	8.87	3.97	14.59	10.26	4.85	16.23	9.57	3.58	16.01
Guatemala	3.25	1.77	4.79	4.64	2.32	7.09	...	...	...
Guyana	36.85	17.33	56.33	31.33	17.58	45.13	28.12	14.03	42.35
Jamaica	0.75	0.11	1.39	1.19	0.45	1.94	0.18	0.06	0.31
Martinique	7.98	3.09	13.81	9.25	2.83	16.74	9.74	3.30	17.14
Mexico	5.52	2.06	9.03	4.79	1.69	7.95	4.44	1.47	7.45
Montserrat	4.10	0.00	8.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nicaragua	11.43	5.30	17.80	13.78	6.74	21.07	17.55	9.57	25.79
Panama	5.04	1.33	8.73	7.21	1.95	12.44	7.52	2.29	12.68

Table A10. Continued

Countries and territories	2010-2014			2005-2009			2000-2004		
	T	F	M	T	F	M	T	F	M
Paraguay	8.43	5.95	10.84	7.78	5.63	9.87	7.32	5.57	9.02
Peru	2.93	1.85	4.01	2.23	1.44	3.02	2.28	1.31	3.27
Puerto Rico	7.23	2.21	12.69	8.35	2.00	15.28	7.90	1.58	14.80
Saint Kitts and Nevis	3.00	3.67	2.31	2.29	1.10	3.51	2.26	0.00	4.58
Saint Lucia	7.18	1.68	12.92	3.24	0.00	6.64	8.32	4.22	12.62
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	4.42	1.61	7.18	6.59	1.22	11.86	6.21	0.82	11.51
Suriname	35.09	19.08	51.04	37.17	17.23	56.96	28.81	13.63	43.86
Trinidad and Tobago	15.47	6.00	25.18	14.23	5.05	23.62	14.76	6.74	22.92
Turks and Caicos Islands	1.49	0.00	2.88	1.03	0.00	1.98	2.42	0.00	4.68
United States of America	14.21	6.20	22.44	12.80	5.39	20.44	12.01	4.78	19.48
Uruguay	18.52	7.82	30.11	17.43	7.58	28.10	18.35	7.30	30.27
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	4.38	1.41	7.38	5.59	1.91	9.29	8.51	2.74	14.29
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.03	2.08	3.94
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	8.83	5.83	12.12	8.03	2.70	13.81	5.36	1.53	9.50

Table A11. Percentage contribution of suicide among external causes of death, by sex, countries and territories in the Region of the Americas, 2010–2014

Countries and territories	Both sexes	Female	Male
Anguilla	0.0	0.0	0.0
Antigua and Barbuda	0.0	0.0	0.0
Argentina	19.0	15.2	20.3
Aruba	11.1	20.0	11.1
Bahamas	2.5	2.4	2.0
Barbados	0.9	0.0	1.4
Belize	8.2	10.9	7.8
Bermuda	4.4	0.0	4.8
Brazil	7.4	9.3	7.0
Canada	25.9	17.7	30.8
Cayman Islands	5.0	0.0	5.9
Chile	24.5	19.0	26.2
Colombia	7.6	10.8	7.1
Costa Rica	14.9	10.2	16.2
Cuba	21.5	11.3	28.0
Dominica	7.9	0.0	9.7
Dominican Republic	7.3	7.9	7.2
Ecuador	10.9	15.7	9.8
El Salvador	9.0	13.8	8.2
French Guiana	18.5	21.7	17.5
Grenada	2.4	0.0	3.1
Guadeloupe	15.8	13.6	16.6
Guatemala	3.6	6.1	3.1
Guyana	31.7	35.5	30.8
Jamaica	1.6	0.4	1.9
Martinique	17.5	13.3	19.0
Mexico	9.0	9.7	8.8
Montserrat	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nicaragua	17.7	23.3	16.5
Panama	8.4	8.7	8.4
Paraguay	11.6	17.0	9.9
Peru	5.0	6.4	4.5
Puerto Rico	11.3	10.4	11.5
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2.9	25.0	0.0

Table A11. Continued

Countries and territories	Both sexes	Female	Male
Saint Lucia	10.2	4.4	10.5
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	7.1	11.1	8.3
Suriname	40.1	43.0	39.1
Trinidad and Tobago	15.6	18.8	15.0
Turks and Caicos Islands	0.0	0.0	0.0
United States of America	21.9	14.9	25.4
Uruguay	25.5	19.1	28.2
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	3.7	5.3	3.5
Virgin Islands (U.K.)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Virgin Islands (U.S.)	10.3	20.0	8.3

Table A12. Annual average number of suicides in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	Both sexes	Female	Male
Region of the Americas	82,179	17,844	64,335
North America	45,865	10,344	35,780
Latin America and the Caribbean	36,313	7,500	28,555
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	10,764	2,044	8,362
South America	24,872	5,281	19,591
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	776	175	601

Table A13. Female-males ratio of suicide methods used, age-unadjusted, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, 2010–2014

Region and subregions	Suffocation	Poisoning drugs	Poisoning chemicals	Firearm	Fire	Jumping	Drowning	Cutting	Blunt force	Other
Region of the Americas	1.2	0.2	0.6	1.9	0.4	0.7	0.5	1.3	0.9	0.7
North America	1.1	0.3	1.0	1.9	0.8	0.8	0.5	1.3	0.9	0.8
Latin America and the Caribbean	1.3	0.2	0.5	2.6	0.1	0.5	0.5	1.4	0.9	0.6
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico	1.3	0.2	0.5	3.3	0.2	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.0	0.6
South America	1.3	0.3	0.5	2.4	0.2	0.5	0.5	1.4	0.9	0.6
Non-Hispanic Caribbean	1.5	0.5	0.8	7.8	0.6	0.7	0.2	1.7	0.5	1.8

Table A14. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, both sexes, 2010–2014

Methods of suicide	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Region of the Americas							
Suffocation	73.3	62.1	55.1	48.9	36.4	32.0	29.0
Poisoning drugs	1.6	3.0	4.1	8.4	13.9	11.3	6.5
Poisoning chemicals	8.9	11.0	8.9	7.9	7.0	6.2	4.7
Firearm	12.2	17.7	23.9	25.9	33.2	41.3	51.2
Fire	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8
Jumping	0.8	2.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	2.9	2.5
Drowning	1.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.4
Cutting	0.1	0.4	0.8	1.5	2.2	2.2	1.8
Blunt force	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5
Other	0.3	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.4
North America							
Suffocation	83.9	49.3	38.3	34.0	24.4	16.6	11.8
Poisoning drugs	0.0	4.6	6.8	13.4	18.7	15.8	8.9
Poisoning chemicals	0.0	1.1	2.0	3.1	4.2	3.6	2.8
Firearm	12.9	37.6	43.6	40.8	43.9	55.9	69.9
Fire	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.3
Jumping	3.2	4.6	5.5	4.3	3.4	2.9	2.4
Drowning	0.0	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.3
Cutting	0.0	0.4	0.8	1.7	2.5	2.3	1.7
Blunt force	0.0	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4
Other	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4
Latin America and the Caribbean							
Suffocation	69.6	68.7	67.5	64.5	61.6	61.6	61.0
Poisoning drugs	2.1	2.1	2.1	3.3	3.8	2.7	2.1
Poisoning chemicals	12.0	16.1	14.1	13.0	12.8	11.3	8.2
Firearm	12.0	7.3	9.4	10.4	10.8	13.1	16.7
Fire	0.1	0.4	0.6	1.3	1.7	1.9	1.9
Jumping	0.0	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.0	3.1	2.8
Drowning	2.4	0.5	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.6
Cutting	0.1	0.4	0.8	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.1
Blunt force	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5
Other	0.3	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.5	3.1

Table A14. Continued

Methods of suicide	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico							
Suffocation	68.4	72.3	70.4	68.8	66.2	65.1	68.3
Poisoning drugs	0.0	1.9	1.9	2.0	3.1	2.9	3.0
Poisoning chemicals	16.8	18.4	18.2	16.0	13.3	12.9	9.2
Firearm	5.6	5.1	6.2	8.2	9.9	10.9	11.7
Fire	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.9	2.2	2.7	2.8
Jumping	0.0	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.9	1.9	1.6
Drowning	6.0	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.7
Cutting	0.3	0.2	0.6	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.7
Blunt force	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2
Other	1.9	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.0	0.8
South America							
Suffocation	68.8	67.7	67.1	63.8	60.8	60.9	58.3
Poisoning drugs	2.7	2.3	2.2	3.8	4.0	2.6	1.7
Poisoning chemicals	11.3	13.8	10.9	10.2	11.1	9.7	6.8
Firearm	13.9	8.7	11.0	11.6	11.4	14.2	19.3
Fire	0.0	0.5	0.7	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.5
Jumping	0.0	1.9	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.6	3.2
Drowning	1.7	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.4	2.0
Cutting	0.1	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.0	2.3
Blunt force	1.6	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.7
Other	0.0	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.1	4.2
Non-Hispanic Caribbean							
Suffocation	100	40.8	34.0	31.9	35.7	42.4	38.2
Poisoning drugs	0.0	0.9	0.9	2.1	3.1	2.2	2.3
Poisoning chemicals	0.0	55.0	60.3	59.0	55.9	43.7	46.8
Firearm	0.0	0.7	2.5	2.7	2.1	3.6	3.9
Fire	0.0	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4	2.8	1.3
Jumping	0.0	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.2	1.6	3.8
Drowning	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.1	1.8	0.8
Cutting	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.4	1.3
Blunt force	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.4
Other	0.0	0.5	0.4	1.2	0.5	0.7	1.3

Table A15. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, males, 2010–2014

Methods of suicide	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Region of the Americas							
Suffocation	73.6	63.9	56.0	51.4	39.2	33.8	29.0
Poisoning drugs	0.2	1.8	2.9	5.2	8.4	6.2	3.5
Poisoning chemicals	6.9	6.3	7.3	7.1	7.0	6.0	4.3
Firearm	15.5	22.2	26.3	28.0	36.9	46.0	56.3
Fire	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.5
Jumping	1.0	2.4	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.6	1.9
Drowning	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.1
Cutting	0.1	0.4	0.8	1.6	2.4	2.2	1.8
Blunt force	1.3	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.4
Other	0.0	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.2
North America							
Suffocation	80.8	44.8	36.7	35.1	26.2	17.1	10.9
Poisoning drugs	0.0	2.9	4.8	8.4	11.6	8.8	4.7
Poisoning chemicals	0.0	1.2	2.0	3.2	4.4	3.5	2.5
Firearm	15.4	43.9	47.3	44.6	49.3	63.0	76.2
Fire	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3
Jumping	3.8	4.4	5.4	4.2	3.2	2.7	1.9
Drowning	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0
Cutting	0.0	0.4	0.9	1.8	2.7	2.4	1.6
Blunt force	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.4
Other	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Latin America and the Caribbean							
Suffocation	71.0	71.0	75.4	70.4	67.5	64.7	64.3
Poisoning drugs	0.3	0.3	1.1	1.4	2.1	2.1	1.6
Poisoning chemicals	9.5	9.5	9.4	11.4	11.1	12.1	10.5
Firearm	15.6	15.6	9.1	10.5	11.6	12.4	14.9
Fire	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.8	1.0
Jumping	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.3
Drowning	1.7	1.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
Cutting	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.8	1.4	1.8	1.8
Blunt force	1.7	1.7	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.6
Other	0.1	0.1	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.2

Table A15. Continued

Methods of suicide	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico							
Suffocation	75.4	80.0	73.4	71.6	69.4	68.5	71.4
Poisoning drugs	0.0	0.7	1.3	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.5
Poisoning chemicals	14.7	10.9	15.3	13.7	12.2	12.2	8.5
Firearm	8.0	6.1	7.1	9.2	11.3	12.6	13.3
Fire	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.9
Jumping	0.0	0.4	0.9	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.3
Drowning	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.5
Cutting	0.4	0.2	0.6	1.1	1.6	1.5	1.6
Blunt force	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Other	0.4	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.2	0.8	0.8
South America							
Suffocation	68.7	73.6	69.9	66.8	63.9	63.2	59.6
Poisoning drugs	0.3	1.3	1.5	2.5	2.3	1.7	1.1
Poisoning chemicals	8.9	7.7	8.4	8.5	10.5	9.0	6.3
Firearm	17.9	10.8	12.2	12.8	13.2	16.0	22.0
Fire	0.0	0.3	0.6	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.7
Jumping	0.0	1.7	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.4
Drowning	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.5
Cutting	0.0	0.6	1.0	1.5	1.9	1.9	2.1
Blunt force	2.1	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7
Other	0.0	2.8	2.6	2.6	3.0	2.7	3.6
Non-Hispanic Caribbean							
Suffocation	100	52.7	37.2	34.0	38.4	45.5	38.1
Poisoning drugs	0.0	0.5	0.0	1.7	2.7	1.8	2.2
Poisoning chemicals	0.0	44.5	57.6	57.0	53.4	42.1	47.7
Firearm	0.0	1.3	3.4	3.2	2.4	4.5	4.7
Fire	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3	3.1	1.5
Jumping	0.0	0.5	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.0	2.0
Drowning	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.9
Cutting	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.5	1.0
Blunt force	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.5
Other	0.0	0.4	0.6	1.4	0.4	0.8	1.1

Table A16. Method of suicide as percentage of total, by age group, in the Region of the Americas and its subregions, females, 2010–2014

Methods of suicide	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Region of the Americas							
Suffocation	71.9	58.1	51.1	39.3	27.7	25.2	29.0
Poisoning drugs	6.7	5.7	9.4	20.8	31.1	30.1	23.7
Poisoning chemicals	16.2	21.2	15.8	10.9	7.0	7.0	6.9
Firearm	0.0	7.9	13.6	17.7	21.6	24.0	22.4
Fire	0.2	0.6	0.9	1.7	2.0	2.3	3.1
Jumping	0.0	2.7	3.8	4.4	4.5	4.4	5.6
Drowning	3.8	0.6	1.1	1.4	1.9	2.7	3.6
Cutting	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.0	1.7	2.0	2.4
Blunt force	0.0	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.8
Other	1.0	2.5	2.8	2.0	1.6	1.6	2.3
North America							
Suffocation	100	63.1	45.3	29.9	19.2	15.0	17.2
Poisoning drugs	0.0	9.9	16.0	30.4	39.3	39.5	33.4
Poisoning chemicals	0.0	0.7	1.9	3.0	3.8	3.8	4.5
Firearm	0.0	18.2	26.5	27.5	28.2	31.7	32.7
Fire	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.4
Jumping	0.0	5.2	5.9	4.7	4.0	3.5	5.1
Drowning	0.0	1.0	1.5	1.4	1.8	2.6	3.4
Cutting	0.0	0.3	0.7	1.3	1.8	1.9	2.0
Blunt force	0.0	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.8
Other	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5
Latin America and the Caribbean							
Suffocation	65.2	56.2	55.2	51.3	49.6	49.7	50.0
Poisoning drugs	8.3	4.1	4.9	8.5	10.0	7.5	6.7
Poisoning chemicals	20.1	28.9	25.4	21.2	15.5	14.6	11.2
Firearm	0.0	4.0	4.7	5.2	4.6	5.5	4.3
Fire	0.2	0.8	1.3	3.3	5.4	5.9	7.9
Jumping	0.0	1.8	2.3	3.9	5.9	6.5	6.7
Drowning	4.7	0.4	0.9	1.3	2.1	3.0	4.0
Cutting	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.7	1.6	2.3	3.0
Blunt force	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.6	1.1	0.9	0.6
Other	1.3	3.3	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.0	5.6

Table A16. Continued

Methods of suicide	5-9	10-19	20-24	25-44	45-59	60-69	70+
Central America, Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico							
Suffocation	52.3	58.5	58.2	54.7	50.2	48.8	47.1
Poisoning drugs	0.0	4.0	4.2	6.4	10.3	10.4	13.1
Poisoning chemicals	21.6	31.8	30.2	27.8	18.8	16.1	14.5
Firearm	0.0	3.2	2.5	2.9	3.0	2.8	1.3
Fire	0.9	0.4	0.9	3.2	9.7	12.4	15.6
Jumping	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.6	3.6	3.9	3.8
Drowning	19.8	0.1	0.4	0.4	1.2	0.8	1.9
Cutting	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.7	1.3	2.7	1.9
Blunt force	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.2
Other	5.4	1.3	2.2	2.0	1.7	1.5	0.8
South America							
Suffocation	69.3	56.0	54.9	51.0	50.2	50.6	51.3
Poisoning drugs	10.9	4.2	5.3	9.4	10.1	6.6	4.6
Poisoning chemicals	19.6	25.8	21.4	17.3	13.3	13.0	9.2
Firearm	0.0	4.6	5.9	6.2	5.1	6.6	5.5
Fire	0.0	0.9	1.5	3.4	4.4	3.8	5.4
Jumping	0.0	2.4	3.2	4.8	6.6	7.5	7.5
Drowning	0.0	0.7	1.1	1.6	2.4	3.6	4.9
Cutting	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.7	2.2	3.4
Blunt force	0.0	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.0	0.8
Other	0.0	4.6	5.4	4.8	4.9	5.0	7.4
Non-Hispanic Caribbean							
Suffocation	...	26.1	25.2	23.6	22.0	29.8	38.6
Poisoning drugs	...	1.5	3.3	4.0	5.5	3.8	2.3
Poisoning chemicals	...	68.1	67.7	66.9	67.9	50.1	42.4
Firearm	...	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Fire	...	1.8	2.5	1.2	0.7	1.7	0.0
Jumping	...	1.3	0.0	1.7	0.7	4.2	12.1
Drowning	...	0.0	1.3	1.1	0.7	8.7	0.0
Cutting	...	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	2.3
Blunt force	...	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.7	0.0
Other	...	0.5	0.0	0.4	1.0	0.0	2.3

Suicide is a serious public health problem surrounded by stigma, myths, and taboos. With an annual average of 81,746 suicide deaths in the period 2010–2014 and an age-adjusted suicide rate of 9.3 per 100,000 population (age-unadjusted rate of 9.6), suicide continues to be a public health problem of great relevance in the Region of the Americas.

Contrary to common belief, suicides are preventable with timely, evidence-based, and often low-cost interventions. It is estimated that for each suicide that occurs, there are more than 20 attempts. Suicide can occur at any age and it is the third highest cause of death among young people between the ages of 20 and 24 in the Region of the Americas.

This report corresponds to the five-year period between 2010 and 2014. It provides a general description of suicide mortality in the Americas, by subregions and countries. It analyzes the distribution of suicide according to age, sex, and methods used, along with the changes in suicide from 2010 to 2014. This report is limited to the study of mortality as, in most countries, no record of self-harm exists, due to lack of appropriate surveillance systems.

In the period 2010–2014, 55.8% of suicide deaths in the Region occurred in North America. The age-adjusted suicide rate was also highest in North America (12.8 per 100,000 population), which along with the non-Hispanic Caribbean (9.8) was higher than the regional rate, while the other two subregions had rates lower than the regional rate (6.7 in Central America, the Hispanic Caribbean, and Mexico; 6.9 in South America).

In Latin America and the Caribbean, it is essential that national suicide prevention programs be developed, especially in those countries with higher suicide rates. This report identifies 12 countries in the Region of the Americas with high suicide rates compared with the regional average and where two-thirds of the suicide deaths are concentrated.

Strengthening information systems and surveillance of suicidal behavior is required. Improving mortality registries alone is not enough. It is also necessary to develop registries of suicidal behavior and implement follow-up mechanisms in high-risk cases.

This report identifies the most frequent suicide methods. The availability of firearms is an important risk factor, particularly in North America. Access to pesticides in rural areas is another risk factor, especially in the non-Hispanic Caribbean. Alcohol and drug abuse need to be monitored for early identification and attention. Each method of suicide may require specific preventive interventions.

Countries should revise their existing legal framework regarding the availability of services and resources to prevent and address the problem of suicidal behavior.