



Ohio Arrest-Related Deaths, 2008-2010

The Office of Criminal Justice Services submits arrest-related deaths data for the state of Ohio annually to the Bureau of Justice Statistics to be included in the federal Arrest-Related Deaths Program. This report is a summary of Ohio arrest-related deaths from 2008 to 2010.

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Background

An arrest-related (ARD) death is defined as a death that occurs anytime a person's freedom to leave is restricted by state or local law enforcement. Arrest-related death incidents include:

- ❖ A death that occurs before law enforcement personnel establish physical custody or before a formal arrest process is initiated.
- ❖ A death that occurs while attempting to elude law enforcement personnel during the course of apprehension (e.g., police chases involving action by law enforcement personnel such as deploying tire deflation devices, and standoffs).
- ❖ A death caused by any use of force by state or local law enforcement personnel, as well as those not directly related to actions of law enforcement, such as deaths attributed to suicide, accidental injury, and illness or natural causes.
- ❖ A death that involves law enforcement assistance in restraining and transporting individuals in need of medical or mental health care.

Deaths that occur in a jail or other long-term holding facility and deaths that occur in the custody of federal law enforcement officers are outside the scope of the ARD program and are not collected by OCJS¹.

Methodology

The data collection cycle begins January 1 and ends December 31. OCJS researchers rely on multiple sources to collect ARD data; but media reports are often used for initial identification. Official autopsy reports are then requested via fax from the appropriate county coroner. Once these reports are received four weeks to six months following the death, final incident reports are completed.²

In some cases, coroner's offices are proactive and submit reports to OCJS of deaths they believe to qualify under the ARD program. Some of these reports have been excluded from this summary because they do not meet the parameters of an ARD.

¹ The federal Deaths in Custody Reporting Program quarterly collects inmate death records from the nation's state prison systems, state juvenile correctional authorities, and 3,000+ local jail jurisdictions.

² A copy of the federal Arrest-related Death Report form can be found at the conclusion of this document.

HIGHLIGHTS

Manner of death (Figure 1)

- ❖ From 2008 – 2010 there were 88 arrest-related deaths in Ohio. Homicide by law enforcement personnel accounted for 61 (69%) of reported arrest-related deaths.
- ❖ Suicide accounted for approximately 24% of reported arrest-related deaths.
- ❖ Accidental injury caused by the decedent³ or others⁴ on the crime/arrest scene accounted for approximately 5% (4) of all reported arrest-related deaths.

Decedent characteristics (Tables 1 and 2)

- ❖ Eighty-four, or 96% of all arrest-related deaths were males.
- ❖ Whites accounted for 58% of arrest-related deaths while blacks made up approximately 40%.
- ❖ Persons between the ages of 25 and 34 accounted for 33% of arrest-related deaths. Persons in the age range of 35 – 44 accounted for the second largest amount with 24% of all arrest-related deaths.

Manner of death and decedent characteristics (Tables 3 and 4)

- ❖ Decedents between the ages of 25 – 44 accounted for 36 (59%) of reported arrest-related homicides by law enforcement and 13 (62%) of reported arrest-related suicides.
- ❖ Approximately 76% of reported arrest-related suicides were white decedents; 24% were black.
- ❖ 85 out of 88 decedents died of injuries only.

Ohio counties (Tables 5 and 6)

- ❖ Between the years 2008 and 2010, Cuyahoga County accounted for 24% of all arrest-related deaths. Nineteen percent occurred in Franklin County and approximately 11.5% took place in Lucas County.
- ❖ At least one arrest-related death occurred in 26 Ohio counties.

³ E.g., a decedent accidentally shooting himself while fleeing law enforcement personnel

⁴ E.g., a decedent being hit by a vehicle while fleeing law enforcement personnel on foot

Incident circumstances (Tables 7 and 8)

- ❖ In 69% of arrest-related deaths, charges were intended to be filed against the decedent.
- ❖ Among arrest-related deaths, approximately 57% of decedents allegedly engaged in violent offenses.
- ❖ In approximately 19% of the arrest-related incidents, no devices were used by law enforcement personnel.
- ❖ The most commonly used device by law enforcement during arrest-related incidents was a firearm.
- ❖ Of persons who died from injuries only, 24% were self-inflicted by suicide. Seventy-three percent were inflicted by law enforcement at the crime/arrest scene.
- ❖ Approximately 55% of decedents expired at the crime/arrest scene while 42% died at a medical facility.

Law enforcement agency characteristics (Tables 9-12)

- ❖ Nine reported arrest-related death incidents involved law enforcement personnel from multiple agencies.
- ❖ Local police departments were involved in approximately 90% of reported arrest-related death incidents.
- ❖ Law enforcement personnel from sheriff's offices were involved in approximately 24% of reported arrest-related suicide deaths.
- ❖ Of the 58 law enforcement agencies involved in reported arrest-related death incidents, 34 employed between 25 – 99 full-time sworn personnel.

Figure 1 – Percent of arrest-related deaths, by manner of death, 2008-2010

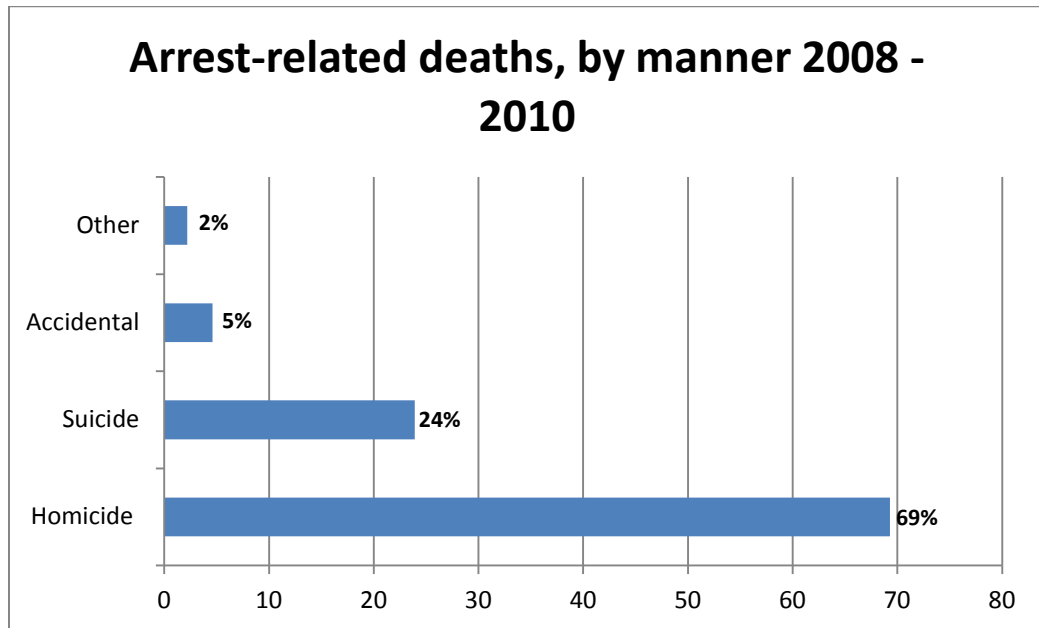


Table 1 – Number of reported arrest-related deaths, by demographic characteristics, 2008-2010

Demographic characteristics	2008-2010	2008	2009	2010
Total	88	21	34	33
Gender				
Male	84	19	32	33
Female	4	2	2	-
Race				
White	51	13	18	20
Black	35	8	15	12
Mixed race	1	-	1	-
Other	1	-	-	1
Age				
17 or younger	1	-	1	-
18-24	14	5	5	4
25-34	29	4	15	10
35-44	21	8	6	7
45-54	12	2	3	7
55 or older	11	2	4	5

Table 2 – Percent of reported arrest-related deaths, by demographic characteristics, 2008-2010

Demographic characteristics	2008-2010	2008	2009	2010
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Gender				
Male	95.5%	90.5%	94.1%	100.0%
Female	4.5%	9.5%	5.9%	-
Race				
White	58.0%	61.9%	53.0%	60.6%
Black	39.8%	38.1%	44.1%	36.4%
Mixed race	1.1%	-	2.9%	-
Other	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Age				
17 or younger	1.1%	-	3.0%	-
18-24	15.9%	24.0%	14.7%	12.1%
25-34	33.0%	19.0%	44.1%	30.3%
35-44	23.9%	38.0%	17.6%	21.2%
45-54	13.6%	9.5%	8.8%	21.2%
55 or older	12.5%	9.5%	11.8%	15.2%

Table 3 – Number of reported arrest-related deaths, by manner of death and demographic characteristics, 2008-2010

Demographic characteristics	All Manners	Homicide	Suicide	Accidental injury caused by others	Accidental injury caused by self	Other
Total	88	61	21	2	2	2
Gender						
Male	84	57	21	2	2	2
Female	4	4	-	-	-	-
Race						
White	51	32	16	2	-	1
Black	35	27	5	-	2	1
Mixed race	1	1	-	-	-	-
Other	1	1	-	-	-	-
Age						
17 or younger	1	-	-	1	-	-
18-24	14	11	-	-	2	1
25-34	29	24	5	-	-	-
35-44	21	12	8	1	-	-
45-54	12	7	4	-	-	1
55 or older	11	7	4	-	-	-

Table 4 – Percent of reported arrest-related deaths, by manner of death and demographic characteristics, 2008-2010

Demographic characteristics	All Manners	Homicide	Suicide	Accidental injury caused by others	Accidental injury caused by self	Other
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Gender						
Male	95.5%	93.4%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Female	4.5%	6.6%	-	-	-	-
Race						
White	58.0%	52.5%	76.2%	100.0%	-	50.0%
Black	39.8%	44.3%	23.8%	-	100.0%	50.0%
Mixed race	1.1%	1.6%	-	-	-	-
Other	1.1%	1.6%	-	-	-	-
Age						
17 or younger	1.1%	-	-	50.0%	-	-
18-24	15.9%	18.0%	-	-	100.0%	50.0%
25-34	33.0%	39.3%	23.8%	-	-	-
35-44	23.9%	19.7%	38.1%	50.0%	-	-
45-54	13.6%	11.5%	19.0%	-	-	50.0%
55 or older	12.5%	11.5%	19.0%	-	-	-
Number of deaths	88	61	21	2	2	2

Table 5 – Number of reported arrest-related deaths, by county, 2008-2010

Counties	2008-2010	2008	2009	2010
Total	88	21	34	33
Northeast	31	7	14	10
Ashtabula	1	1	-	-
Columbiana	1	-	-	1
Cuyahoga	21	5	10	6
Lake	1	-	1	-
Lorain	1	-	-	1
Mahoning	2	-	1	1
Richland	1	-	-	1
Summit	2	1	1	-
Wayne	1	-	1	-
Northwest	12	2	7	3
Allen	1	1	-	-
Lucas	10	1	7	2
Sandusky	1	-	-	1
Central	24	5	7	12
Delaware	1	-	-	1
Fairfield	2	-	1	1
Franklin	17	5	6	6
Licking	1	-	-	1
Pickaway	2	-	-	2
Union	1	-	-	1
Southwest	21	7	6	8
Brown	1	-	-	1
Butler	3	1	1	1
Clark	3	2	1	-
Hamilton	5	-	2	3
Montgomery	5	3	-	2
Pike	1	-	1	-
Scioto	1	1	-	-
Warren	2	-	1	1

Table 6 – Percent of reported arrest-related deaths, by county, 2008-2010

Counties	2008-2010	2008	2009	2010
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Northeast	35.2%	33.3%	41.2%	30.3%
Ashtabula	1.1%	4.8%	-	-
Columbiana	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Cuyahoga	24.0%	23.8%	29.4%	18.2%
Lake	1.1%	-	2.9%	-
Lorain	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Mahoning	2.3%	-	2.9%	3.0%
Richland	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Summit	2.3%	4.8%	2.9%	-
Wayne	1.1%	-	2.9%	-
Northwest	13.6%	9.5%	20.6%	9.1%
Allen	1.1%	4.8%	-	-
Lucas	11.4%	4.8%	20.6%	6.1%
Sandusky	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Central	27.2%	23.8%	20.6%	36.4%
Delaware	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Fairfield	2.3%	-	2.9%	3.0%
Franklin	19.3%	23.8%	17.6%	18.2%
Licking	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Pickaway	2.3%	-	-	6.1%
Union	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Southwest	24.0%	33.3%	17.6%	24.2%
Brown	1.1%	-	-	3.0%
Butler	3.4%	4.8%	2.9%	3.0%
Clark	3.4%	9.5%	2.9%	-
Hamilton	5.7%	-	5.9%	9.1%
Montgomery	5.7%	14.3%	-	6.1%
Pike	1.1%	-	2.9%	-
Scioto	1.1%	4.8%	-	-
Warren	2.3%	-	2.9%	3.0%
Number of deaths	88	21	34	33

Table 7 – Reported arrest-related deaths, by incident circumstances, 2008-2010

Incident circumstances	Number	Percent
Total	88	100.0%
Violent offenses	50	56.8%
Homicide	9	10.2%
Sexual assault	4	4.5%
Robbery	12	13.6%
Assault	10	11.4%
Other violent	15	17.1%
Property offenses	6	6.8%
Burglary	4	4.5%
Larceny	2	2.3%
Drug offenses	3	3.4%
Public-order offenses	18	20.5%
Obstruction of justice	4	4.5%
Weapons	4	4.5%
Traffic violations, OVI	7	8.0%
Drunkenness, disorderly conduct	1	1.1%
Other public-order	2	2.3%
No criminal charges intended	10	11.4%
Mental health call	8	9.1%
Medical transport	1	1.1%
Unspecified	1	1.1%
Offense not reported	1	1.1%

Note: Details do not sum to total due to rounding. Sexual assault includes rape and other sexual assault. "Other violent offenses" include incidents of domestic violence, standoffs, and kidnappings.

Table 8 – Devices used by law enforcement personnel during reported arrest-related death incidents, 2008-2010

Devices	Number	Percent
Total	88	100.0%
Firearm	63	71.6%
Unspecified firearm	57	64.8%
Handgun	4	4.5%
Shotgun	2	2.3%
Conducted energy device	12	13.6%
Handcuffs	3	3.4%
Smoke grenade/tear gas	3	3.4%
Pepper spray	2	2.3%
Tire deflation device	2	2.3%
Unknown	1	1.1%
No device used	17	19.3%

Note: Numbers represent the amount each device was used during all 88 reported arrest-related death incidents. In many incidents, multiple devices were used by law enforcement personnel. Therefore, details will not sum to total.

Table 9 – Reported arrest-related deaths by law enforcement agency type, 2008-2010

Agency type	Number	Percent
Total	88	100.0%
Local police department	79	89.8%
Sheriff's office	15	17.0%
Highway patrol	3	3.4%
Special jurisdiction police	1	1.1%
Other	1	1.1%

Note: Numbers represent the amount each agency type was involved in all 88 reported arrest-related death incidents. In nine incidents, law enforcement personnel from multiple agency types were involved. Therefore, details will not sum to total.

Table 10 – Number of reported arrest-related deaths by law enforcement agency type and manner of death, 2008-2010

Agency type	All manners	Homicide	Suicide	Accidental injury caused by others	Accidental injury caused by self	Other
Total	88	61	21	2	2	2
Local police department	70	54	12	2	1	1
Sheriff's office	8	3	5	-	-	-
Highway patrol	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special jurisdiction police	1	-	-	-	-	1
Multiple agencies	9	4	4	-	1	-

Note: Nine reported arrest-related death incidents involved law enforcement personnel from multiple agencies.

Table 11 – Percent of reported arrest-related deaths by law enforcement agency type and manner of death, 2008-2010

Agency type	All manners	Homicide	Suicide	Accidental injury caused by others	Accidental injury caused by self	Other
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Local police department	79.5%	88.5%	57.1%	100.0%	50.0%	50.0%
Sheriff's office	9.1%	4.9%	23.8%	-	-	-
Highway patrol	-	-	-	-	-	-
Special jurisdiction police	1.1%	-	-	-	-	50.0%
Multiple agencies	10.2%	6.6%	19.0%	-	50.0%	-

Note: Details may not sum to total due to rounding.

Table 12 – Law enforcement agency size and percent involved in reported arrest-related deaths, 2008-2010

Number of full-time sworn agency personnel	Number	Percent
Total	58	100.0%
1-9	2	2.3%
10-24	8	9.1%
25-49	19	23.9%
50-99	15	20.5%
100-249	5	6.8%
250-499	3	5.7%
500-999	1	8.0%
1000 or more	4	35.2%
Unknown	1	1.1%

Note: The numbers listed are the unduplicated count of law enforcement agencies involved in reported arrest-related incidents. Details do not sum to total due to multiple agencies participating in some incidents.

RETURN TO: State reporting coordinator
 (See form CJ-11 for a national listing, or call the Bureau of Justice Statistics at 202-307-0765.)

FORM CJ-11A

ARREST-RELATED DEATH REPORT, 2009



State _____

Reporting Period (Mark only one.)

- Quarter 1 (January 1 — March 31)
- Quarter 2 (April 1 — June 30)
- Quarter 3 (July 1 — September 30)
- Quarter 4 (October 1 — December 31)

Death number _____
 out of period total of _____
 as reported on form CJ-11

1. What was the name of the deceased?

Last _____ First _____ Middle initial _____

2. What was the time and date of death?

: AM PM Month _____ Day _____, 2009

3. Where did the event causing the death occur?

Street address _____
 City, State, Zip _____

4. What law enforcement agency was involved?

Name _____
 ORI Number _____

5. What was the deceased's date of birth?

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

6. What was the deceased's sex?

- 01 Male
- 02 Female

7. What was the deceased's race/ethnic origin?

- 01 White (not of Hispanic origin)
- 02 Black, or African American (not of Hispanic origin)
- 03 Hispanic or Latino
- 04 American Indian/Alaska Native (not of Hispanic origin)
- 05 Asian (not of Hispanic origin)
- 06 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (not of Hispanic origin)
- 07 Two or more races (not of Hispanic origin)
- 08 Additional categories in your information system—Specify _____
- 09 Not known

8. Has a medical examiner or coroner conducted an evaluation to determine the official cause of death?

- 01 Yes, results are available
- 02 Yes, results pending — Skip to item 11.
- 03 No, evaluation pending — Skip to item 11.
- 04 No, evaluation not planned

9. What was the manner of death?

- 01 Homicide by law enforcement officer(s)
- 02 Other homicide
- 03 Suicide
- 04 Accidental injury to self
- 05 Accidental injury caused by others
- 06 Accidental alcohol/drug intoxication — Specify type _____
- 07 Illness — Specify illness _____
- 08 Other — Specify _____

10. What was the cause of death?

11. Had charges been filed against the deceased at the time of death?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No — charges not filed, but intended
- 03 No — probation/parole revocation
- 04 No — medical/mental health assistance call

12. What were the most serious offenses with which the deceased was being charged at the time of death?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

Burden Statement

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, we cannot ask you to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The burden of this collection is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering necessary data, and completing and reviewing this form. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this survey, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 810 Seventh Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20531.

13. Did the deceased die from a medical condition or from injuries sustained during the arrest process?

- 01 Medical condition only (e.g., heart attack)
- 02 Injuries only
- 03 Both medical condition and injuries
- 08 Don't know

14. If the deceased died from arrest-related injuries, how were these injuries sustained? — Mark (x) all that apply

- 01 Inflicted by law enforcement officers at crime/arrest scene
- 02 Inflicted by others at crime/arrest scene
- 03 Inflicted by law enforcement officers during transit/booking
- 04 Self-inflicted — Accidental
- 05 Self-inflicted — Suicide
- 08 Don't know
- 09 Not applicable

15. Were any of the following used during the arrest process?

- 01 Yes — *Mark (x) all that apply*
 - 01 Handcuffs
 - 02 Leg shackles
 - 03 Pepper spray, mace
 - 04 Conducted energy device (e.g., taser, stun-gun)
 - 05 Other device — *Specify*

- 02 No
- 08 Don't know

16. At any time during the arrest/incident, did the deceased — Mark (x) all that apply

- 01 Appear intoxicated (either alcohol or drugs)?
- 02 Exhibit any mental health problems?
- 03 Verbally threaten the officer(s) involved?
- 04 Resist being handcuffed or arrested?
- 05 Attempt to escape/flee from custody?
- 06 Attempt to grab, hit or fight with the officer(s) involved?
- 07 None of the above

17. During the arrest process, did the deceased do any of the following — Mark (x) all that apply

- 01 Carry or possess a weapon? — *Specify weapon(s)*
- 02 Use a weapon to threaten the officer(s)? — *Specify*
- 03 Use a weapon to threaten other persons? — *Specify*
- 04 Use a weapon to assault the officer(s)? — *Specify*
- 05 Use a weapon to assault other persons? — *Specify*
- 06 None of the above

18. What type of weapon(s) caused the death? — Mark (x) all that apply

- 01 Handgun
- 02 Rifle/shotgun
- 03 Firearm, unspecified
- 04 Nightstick or baton
- 05 Conducted energy device
- 06 Other weapon — *Specify*
- 07 None

19. Where did the deceased die?

- 01 At booking center/police lockup — *Complete items 20-23.*
- 02 At the crime/arrest scene
- 03 At medical facility
- 04 En route to medical facility
- 05 En route to booking center/police lockup
- 06 Elsewhere — *Specify location*

Form complete

- 08 Don't know — *Complete items 20-23.*

20. What was the time and date of the deceased's entry into the law enforcement facility where the death occurred?

: AM PM Month _____ Day _____, 2009

21. At the time of entry into the law enforcement facility, did the deceased — Mark (x) all that apply

- 01 Appear intoxicated (either alcohol or drugs)?
- 02 Exhibit any mental health problems?
- 03 Exhibit any medical problems?
- 04 None of the above

22. If death was an accident or homicide, who caused the death?

- 01 Deceased
- 02 Other detainees
- 03 Law enforcement/correctional staff
- 04 Other persons — *Specify*

- 08 Don't know
- 09 Not applicable; cause of death was suicide, intoxication or illness

23. If death was an accident, homicide or suicide, what was the means of death? — Mark (x) all that apply

- 01 Firearm
- 02 Blunt instrument
- 03 Knife, cutting instrument
- 04 Hanging, strangulation
- 05 Drug overdose
- 06 Other — *Specify*

- 08 None of the above
- 09 Not applicable; cause of death was intoxication or illness

NOTES