



### LIBERAL'S SUICIDE PREVENTION PLAN SHOULDN'T FOCUS ONLY ON GUNS

If saving lives is the government's objective, they can't ignore the leading methods victims use to commit suicide.

By Dennis R. Young – March 3, 2020

[Excerpt from an article in iPolitics by Tim Naumetz on February 5, 2020:](#) Public Safety Minister Bill Blair disclosed the surprise initiative in an interview with The Globe and Mail that was published on Monday. Blair's office confirmed to iPolitics that the "red flag" legislation would also allow ordinary citizens to also go to a provincial court to order firearm seizures if they are aware of a potential threat to safety. **"Too often, the presence of a firearm can make a dangerous situation deadly," said a spokesperson for the office.** "Our government wants to empower not just the police, but doctors, individuals in domestic abuse situations, communities, and families to raise a flag on people who pose a risk to themselves or an identifiable group, ensuring they do not have access to firearms," said the spokesperson, who did not want to be identified.

Suicides are a bigger problem than just trying to restrict a person's access to firearms as this chart shows.

Gary Mauser  
[mauser@sfu.ca](mailto:mauser@sfu.ca)

Deaths, by cause, Chapter XX: External causes of morbidity and mortality (V01 to Y89) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11			
Annual			
Table: 13-10-0156-01 (formerly CANSIM 102-0540)			
Geography: Canada			
Intentional self-harm [X60-X84]			
		Total, all ages	
2018		Both sexes	
		2018	
Poisoning	684	18%	
Hanging	2030	53%	
Shooting	525	14%	
Other	570	15%	
	3809	100%	

source:  
<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/cv.action?pid=1310015601>

Source: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/cv.action?pid=1310015601>

Analysis thanks to Gary Mauser, Professor Emeritus

Notice how even Statistics Canada misleads Parliamentarians and the public by citing only the statistics for firearms used to commit suicide and aggregates all the other methods.

Cause of death (ICD-10) <sup>17 18 19</sup>	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	<b>Number</b>				
Intentional self-harm (suicide) [X60-X84, Y87.0]	4,254	4,405	3,978	4,157	3,811
Intentional self-harm (suicide) by discharge of firearms [X72-X74]	587	633	570	579	525
Intentional self-harm (suicide) by other and unspecified means and their sequelae [X60-X71, X75-X84, Y87.0]	3,667	3,772	3,408	3,578	3,286

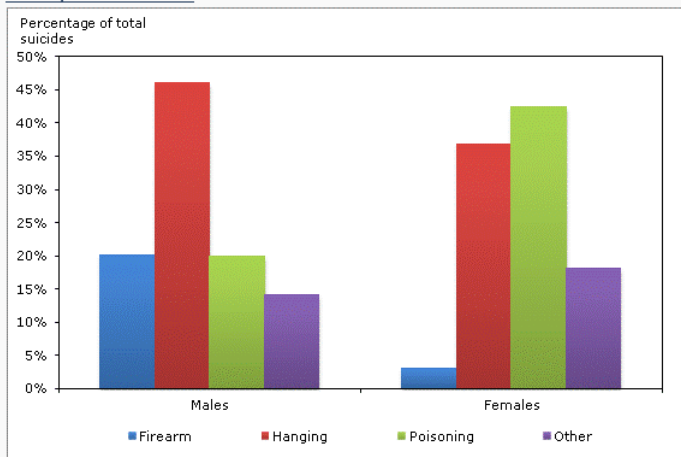
How to cite: Statistics Canada. [Table 13-10-0392-01 Deaths and age-specific mortality rates, by selected grouped causes](#)

Statistics Canada. [Table 13-10-0392-01 Deaths and age-specific mortality rates, by selected grouped causes](#)

A search of Statistics Canada’s website provides a chart with clearer picture of the methods used to commit suicides.

## Chart 2 Percentage distribution of method used in suicide, by sex, Canada, 2000-2009 (ten year average)

Description for chart 2



Source: Statistics Canada, *Canadian Vital Statistics Death Database*.

Statistics Canada: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/82-624-x/2012001/article/chart/11696-02-chart2-eng.htm>

**CBC - 'RED FLAG' GUN LAWS NEEDED TO SAVE LIVES, EMERGENCY DOCTOR SAYS**

CBC - February 5, 2020 <https://ca.news.yahoo.com/red-flag-gun-laws-needed-090000037.html>

**EXCERPT:** A spokesperson for **Public Safety Minister Bill Blair** told CBC News that the goal of such laws is to get firearms out of the hands of those at risk. "Our government wants to empower not just the police, but doctors, individuals

in domestic abuse situations, communities, and families to raise a flag on people who pose a risk to themselves or an identifiable group, ensuring they do not have access to firearms," a statement from Blair's office read.

### **CBC - DOCTOR SAYS PROPOSED 'RED FLAG' GUN LAWS WILL HELP PHYSICIANS SAVE LIVES**

The proposed law would allow doctors and others to petition the court to seize a person's firearms

CBC Radio · Posted: Feb 04, 2020 5:44 PM ET | Last Updated: February 6 <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/as-it-happens-tuesday-edition-1.5451350/doctor-says-proposed-red-flag-gun-laws-will-help-physicians-save-lives-1.5449988>

**EXCERPT: Public Safety Minister Bill Blair** [told the Globe and Mail on Monday](#) that his government's gun control legislation will include a provision to allow doctors, lawyers, educators, police officers and loved ones to petition the courts to have a person's guns seized, if they are deemed a danger to themselves or others.

### **LIBERAL RED FLAG PLAN PANNED BY GUN SAFETY ADVOCATE AND FIREARM LOBBY LEADER**

By Tim Naumetz, iPolitics. Published on Feb 4, 2020 1:17pm

<https://ipolitics.ca/2020/02/04/liberal-red-flag-plan-panned-by-gun-safety-advocate-and-firearm-lobby-leader/>

**EXCERPT: Public Safety Minister Bill Blair** disclosed the surprise initiative in an interview with The Globe and Mail that was published on Monday. Blair's office confirmed to iPolitics that the "red flag" legislation would also allow ordinary citizens to also go to a provincial court to order firearm seizures if they are aware of a potential threat to safety. **"Too often, the presence of a firearm can make a dangerous situation deadly," said a spokesperson for the office.** "Our government wants to empower not just the police, but doctors, individuals in domestic abuse situations, communities, and families to raise a flag on people who pose a risk to themselves or an identifiable group, ensuring they do not have access to firearms," said the spokesperson, who did not want to be identified.

### **TO FIGHT CRIME, CANADA HAS TO FIGHT POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND DESPAIR**

GLOBE AND MAIL EDITORIAL - PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 10, 2020

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/editorials/article-to-fight-crime-canada-has-to-fight-poverty-inequality-and-despair/>

**EXCERPT:** At the federal level, **Public Safety Minister Bill Blair** said last week that coming gun-control legislation will include "red flag" provisions that allow courts to order the removal of firearms from legal owners deemed to be at risk to themselves or others. The same law will likely also ban some firearms that are currently legal.