

Tables and Figures: Botswana recorded suicide mortality, 2014-2025

Table 1. Demographic and social characteristics

Characteristic	Deaths, n	Percent, %
Sex: male (known sex)	918	88.7*
Sex: female (known sex)	117	11.3*
Sex: unknown	115	10.0†
Age <15 years	28	2.5‡
Age 15-24 years	235	21.1‡
Age 25-34 years	379	34.0‡
Age 35-44 years	267	24.0‡
Age 45-54 years	106	9.5‡
Age 55-64 years	64	5.7‡
Age >=65 years	35	3.1‡
Marital status: single	942	81.9
Marital status: married	114	9.9
Marital status: divorced/widowed	16	1.4
Marital status: unknown	78	6.8
Education: primary	245	21.3
Education: secondary	518	45.0
Education: post-secondary/higher	183	15.9
Education: unknown/missing	204	17.7

Known-sex denominator=1,035; all deaths=1,150; plausible-age denominator=1,114.

Table 2. Annual deaths, population, and crude mortality rates

Year	Deaths, n	Estimated population	Rate per 100,000	Lower 95% CI	Upper 95% CI
2014.0	65.0	2111170.0	3.08	2.38	3.92
2015.0	78.0	2140735.0	3.64	2.88	4.55
2016.0	85.0	2170713.0	3.92	3.13	4.84
2017.0	84.0	2201111.0	3.82	3.04	4.72
2018.0	86.0	2231936.0	3.85	3.08	4.76
2019.0	93.0	2263191.0	4.11	3.32	5.03
2020.0	77.0	2294885.0	3.36	2.65	4.19
2021.0	82.0	2327022.0	3.52	2.8	4.37
2022.0	94.0	2359609.0	3.98	3.22	4.88
2023.0	107.0	2392653.0	4.47	3.66	5.4
2024.0	148.0	2426159.0	6.1	5.16	7.17
2025.0	151.0	2460134.0	6.14	5.2	7.2

Exact Poisson 95% CIs.

Table 3. Recorded suicide method by sex

Method	Female	Male	Unknown sex	Total	Percent, %
Hanging	84	787	99	970	84.3
Poisoning	15	49	6	70	6.1
Firearm injury	1	44	4	49	4.3
Other specified	14	23	3	40	3.5
Sharp-force injury	1	7	3	11	1.0
Unknown	2	5	0	7	0.6
Missing	0	3	0	3	0.3

Percentages use all 1,150 deaths.

Table 4. Place-of-death administrative area

Administrative area	Deaths, n	Percent, %
Central	418	36.3
Ngamiland	127	11.0
Kweneng	102	8.9
Francistown	79	6.9
Southern	70	6.1
Gaborone	68	5.9
North-East	48	4.2
Ghanzi	39	3.4
Kgatleng	35	3.0
Chobe	34	3.0
South-East	27	2.3
Selibe-Phikwe	22	1.9
Kgalagadi	18	1.6
Orapa	7	0.6
Lobatse	3	0.3
Jwaneng	2	0.2
Sowa/Sua	1	0.1
Other	40	3.5
Unknown	10	0.9

Not a ranking of district-specific population risk.

Supplementary Table S1. Annual manner-of-death and catchment counts

Year	Suicide	Homicide	Undetermined	Suicide: Gaborone	Suicide: Northern	Homicide: Gaborone	Homicide: Northern
2014	65	138	25	25	40	71	67
2015	78	204	27	42	36	132	72
2016	85	202	25	24	61	122	80
2017	84	240	22	42	42	160	80
2018	86	258	43	42	44	158	100
2019	93	241	29	49	44	159	82
2020	77	135	14	20	57	52	83
2021	82	127	8	19	63	33	94
2022	94	165	7	20	74	48	117
2023	107	209	32	41	66	82	127
2024	148	268	24	77	71	156	112
2025	151	317	31	83	68	180	137

Northern catchment combines Francistown and Maun.

Supplementary Table S2. Population-denominator sensitivity

Year	Primary population	Primary rate/100,000	Alternative projected population	Sensitivity rate/100,000
2023.0	2392653.0	4.47	2462930.0	4.34
2024.0	2426159.0	6.1	2497435.0	5.93
2025.0	2460134.0	6.14	2531743.0	5.96

Verify alternative projection series against final cited Statistics Botswana table.

Supplementary Table S3. Temporal trend sensitivity analyses

Temporal analysis	Estimated annual change	95% CI	p value
Full study period, 2014-2025	5.2%	3.4 to 7.0	<0.001
Pre-change period, 2014-2022	1.3%	-1.3 to 3.9	0.346
Late period, 2023-2025	18.6%	11.2 to 26.4	<0.001
Change in temporal slope after 2022	17.1%*	7.8 to 27.1	<0.001

2022/2023 boundary is post hoc.

Supplementary Table S4. Unknown-sex records

A. By calendar year

Year	Unknown sex, n
2014	0
2015	0
2016	0
2017	7
2018	11
2019	12
2020	6
2021	9
2022	5
2023	13
2024	20
2025	32

B. By forensic unit

Forensic unit	Unknown sex, n
Gaborone	115
Francistown	0
Maun	0

C. By administrative area

Administrative area	Unknown sex, n
Gaborone	30
Central	25
Kweneng	23

Administrative area	Unknown sex, n
Kgatleng	10
Other	9
Southern	8
Kgalagadi	4
Unknown	2
Lobatse	1
Ghanzi	1
Orapa	1
Jwaneng	1

D. By suicide method

Method	Unknown sex, n
Hanging	99
Poisoning	6
Firearm injury	4
Other specified	3
Sharp-force injury	3
Unknown	0
Missing	0

Figure 1. Selection of records for the primary suicide mortality cohort

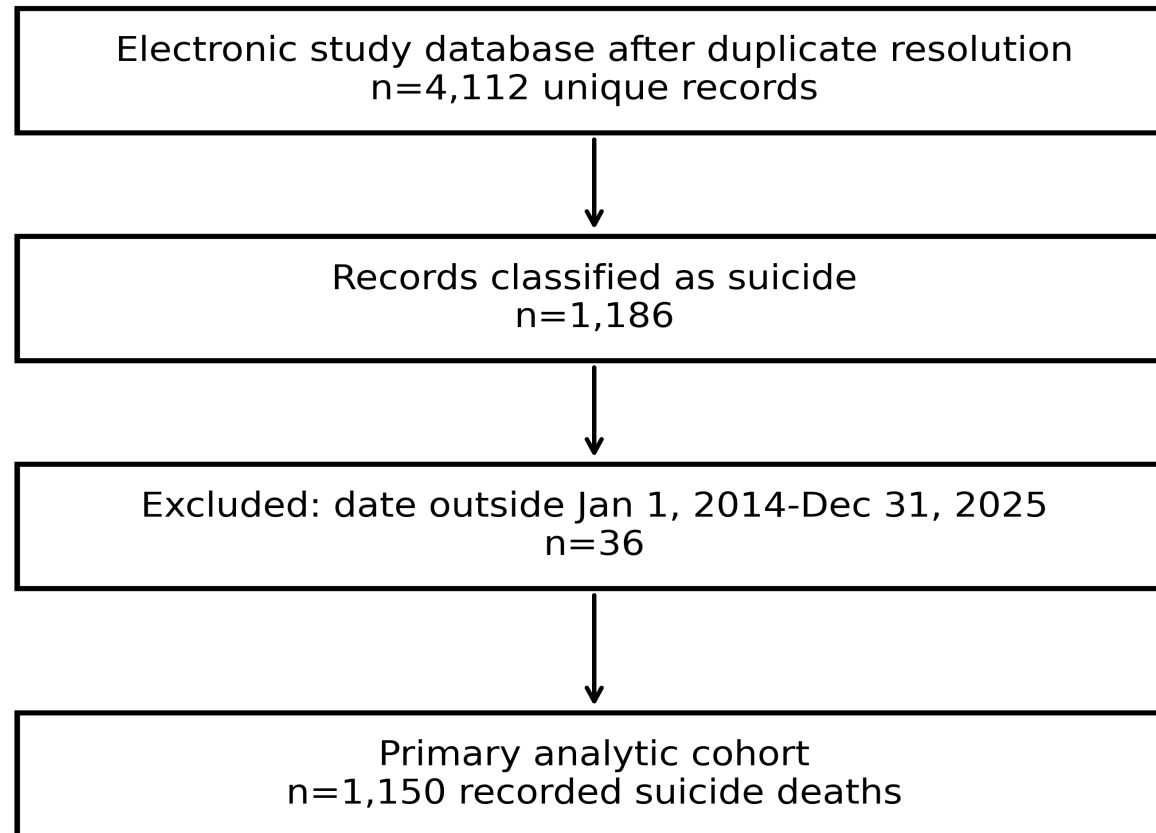


Figure 1. Selection of records for the primary suicide mortality cohort.

Figure 2. Recorded suicide mortality in Botswana, 2014-2025

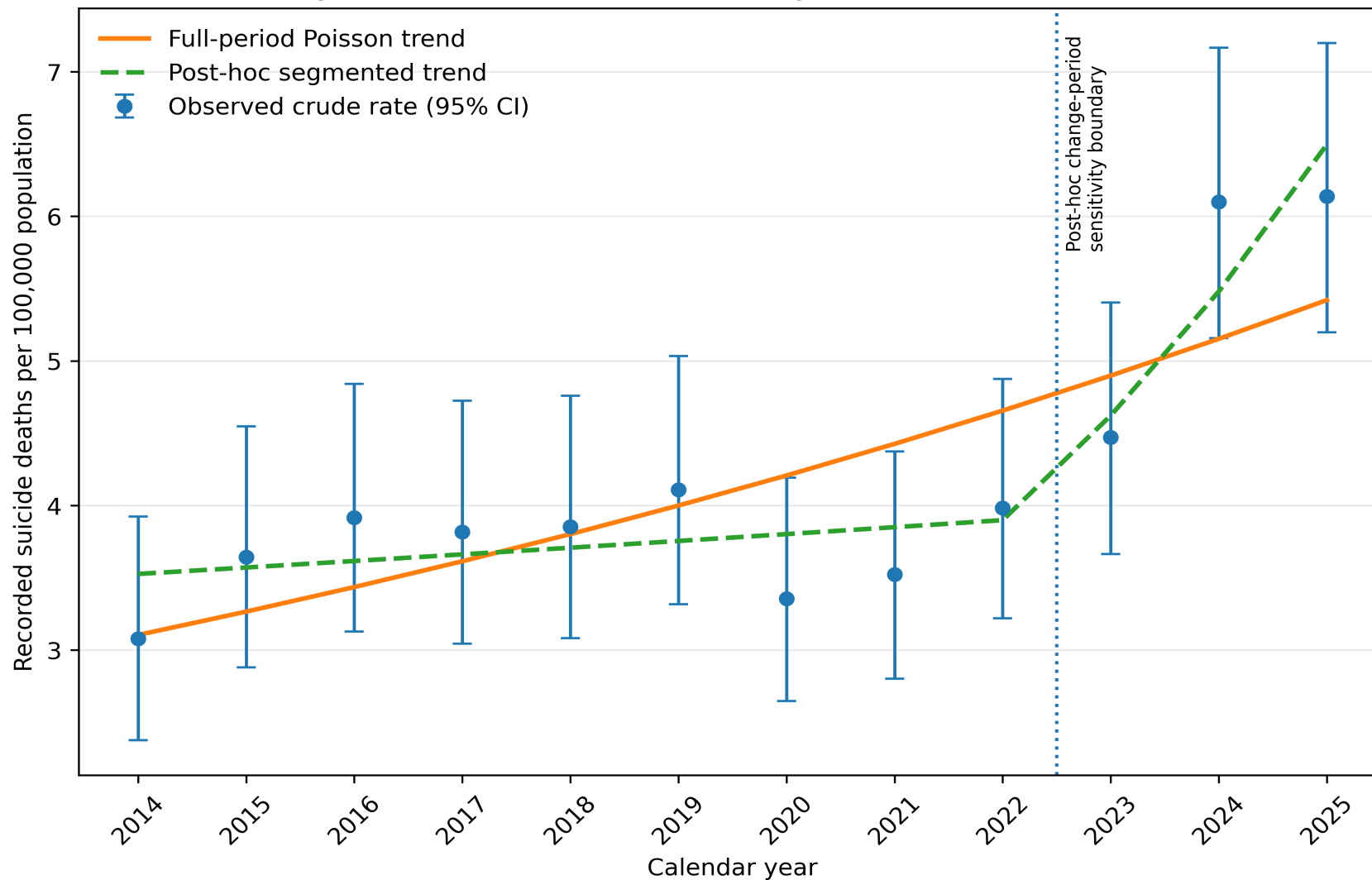


Figure 2. Annual crude recorded suicide mortality rates in Botswana, 2014-2025. Points show observed annual crude rates with exact Poisson 95% CIs; solid line=full-period Poisson trend; dashed line=post-hoc segmented trend; dotted vertical line=post-hoc change-period sensitivity boundary.

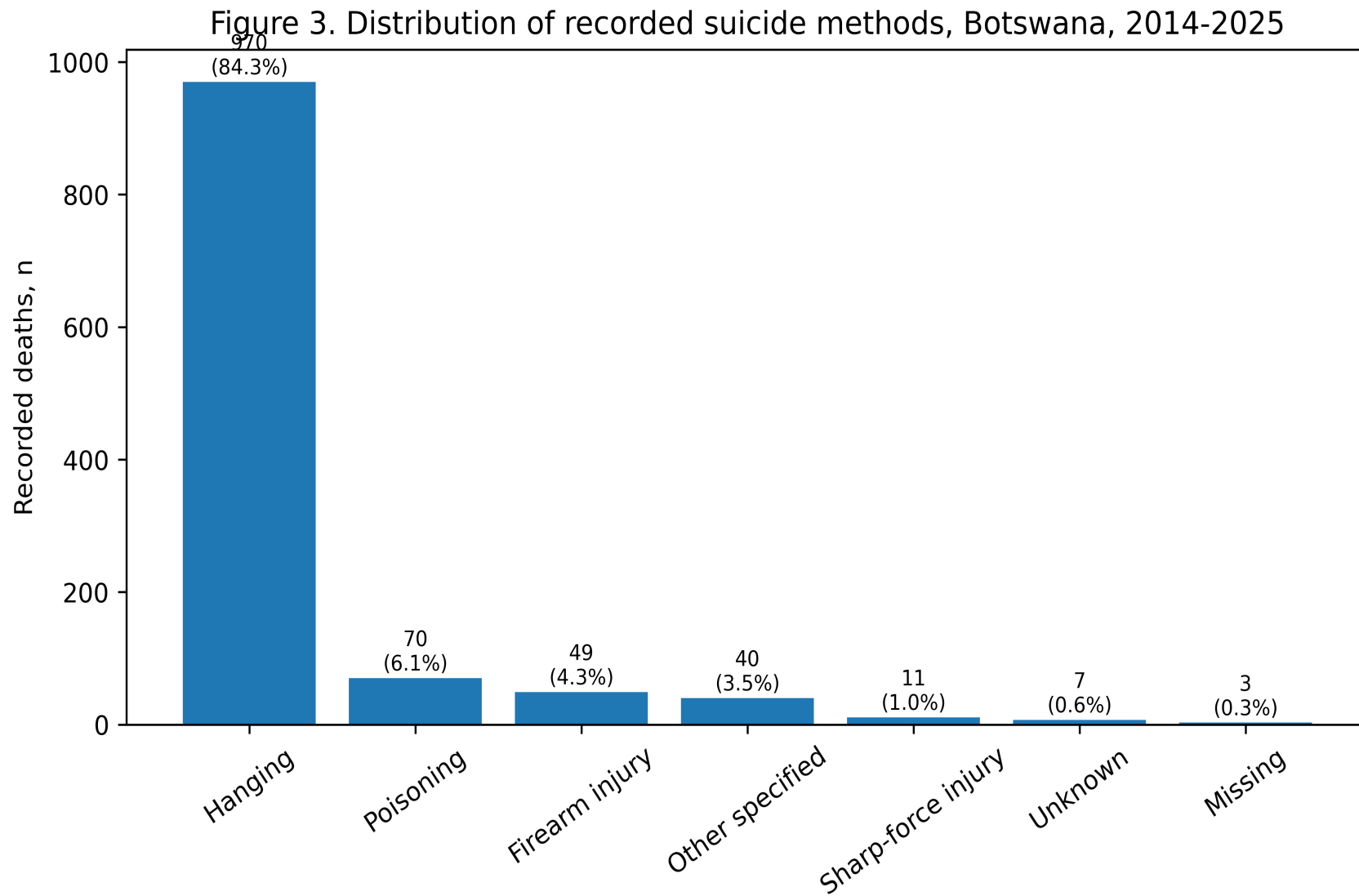


Figure 3. Distribution of recorded suicide methods, Botswana, 2014-2025.

Figure 4. Recorded suicide deaths by age group, Botswana, 2014-2025

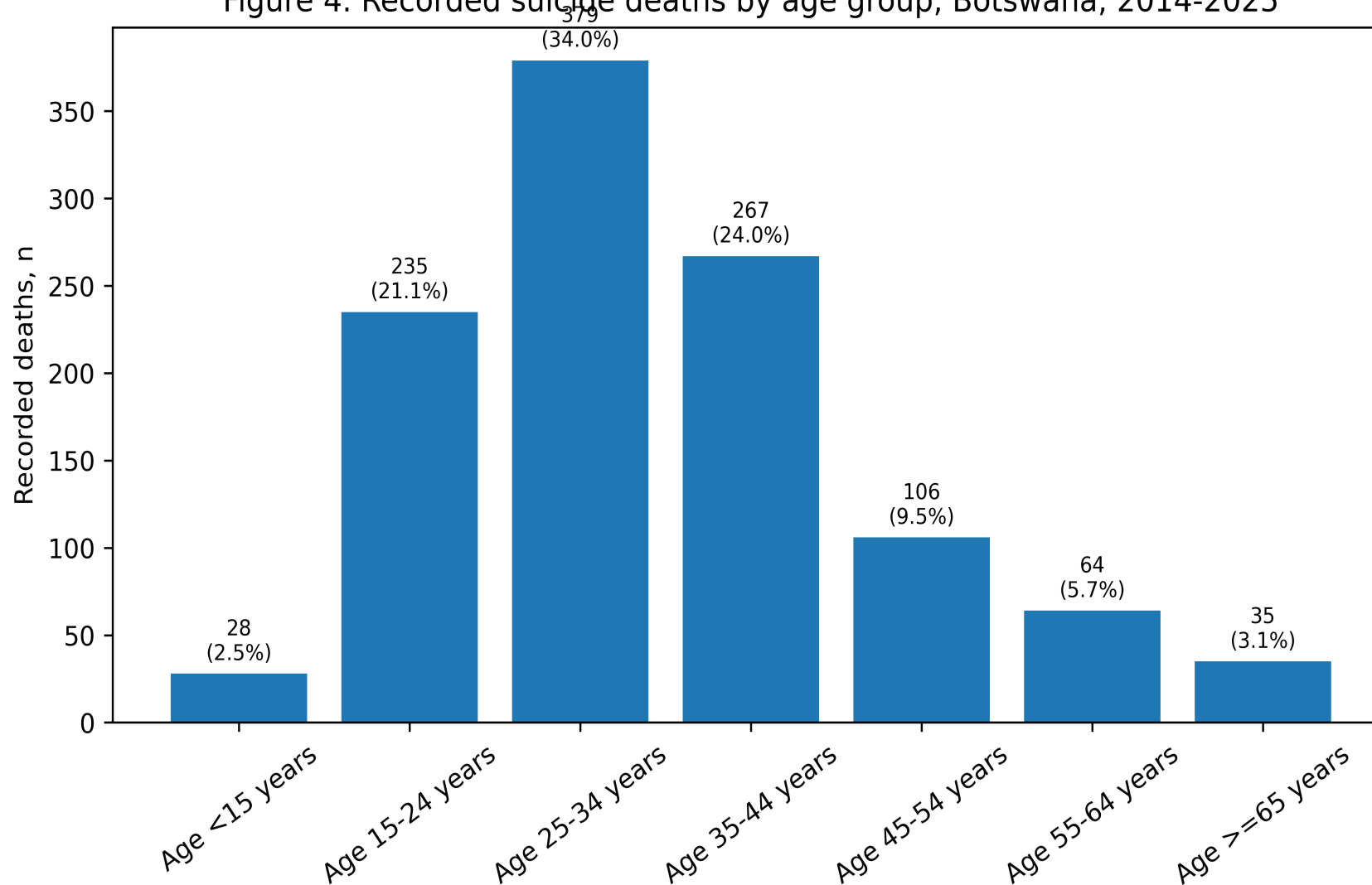


Figure 4. Recorded suicide deaths by age group, Botswana, 2014-2025. Counts should not be interpreted as age-specific mortality risk.

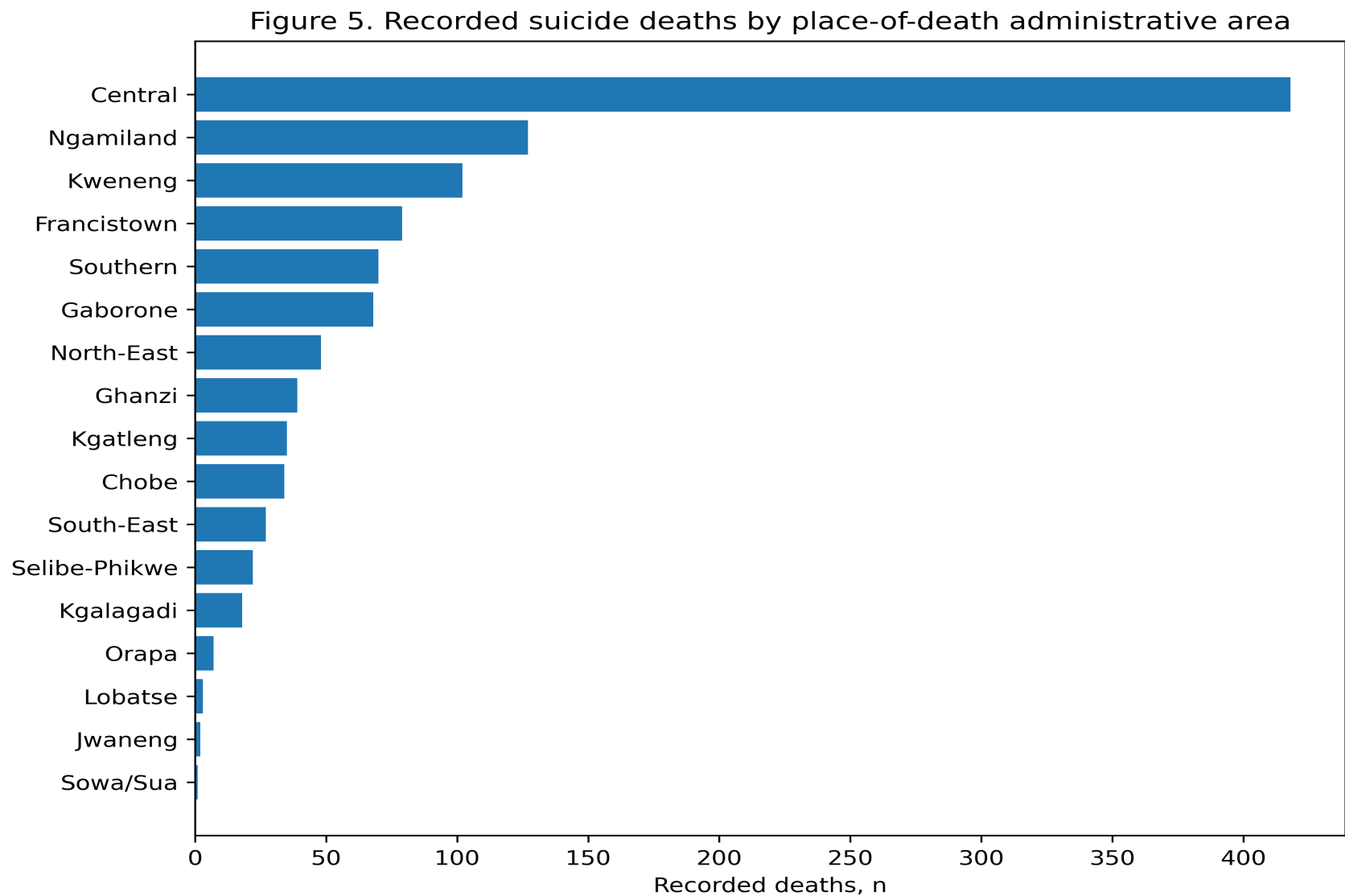
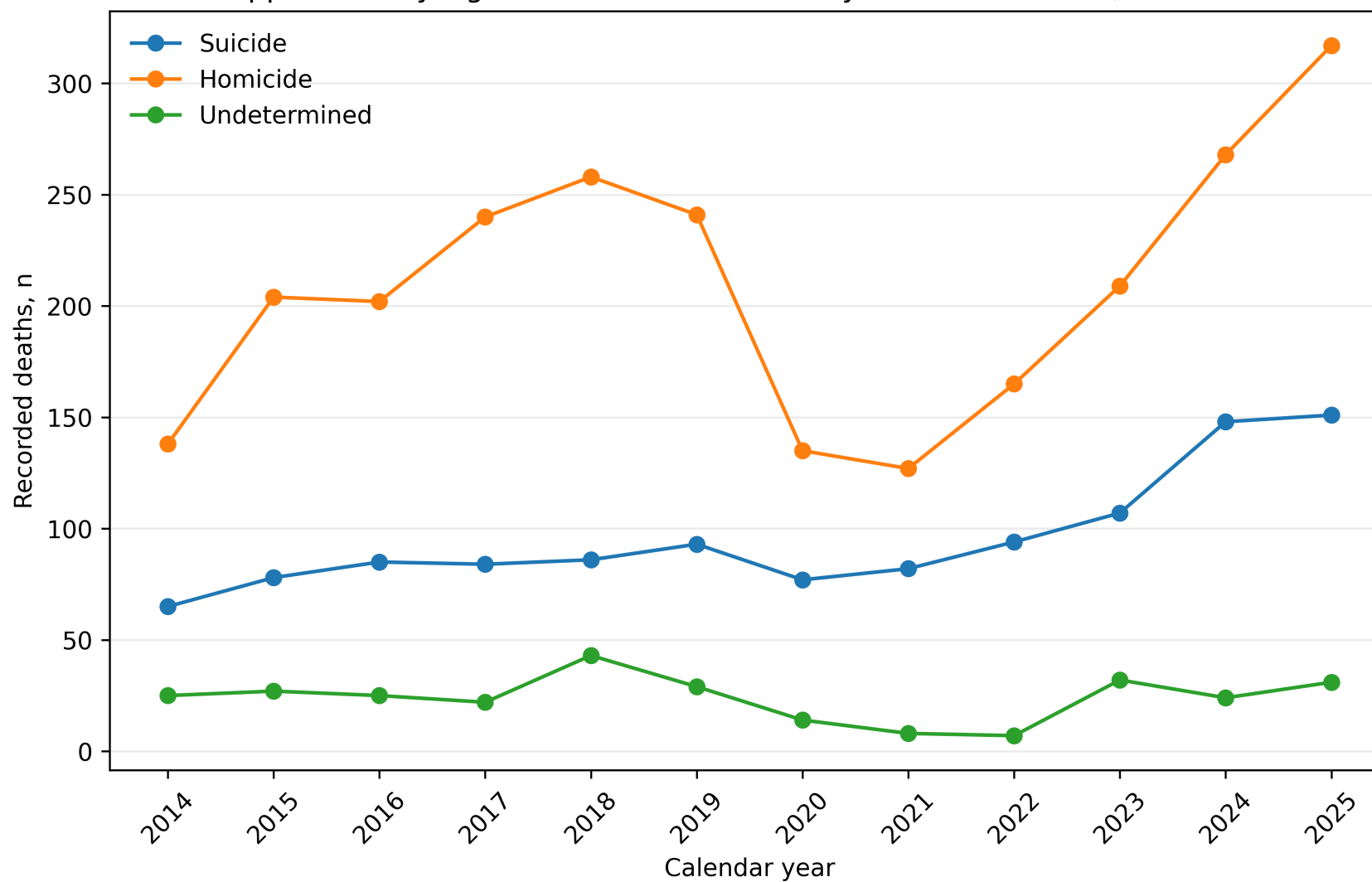


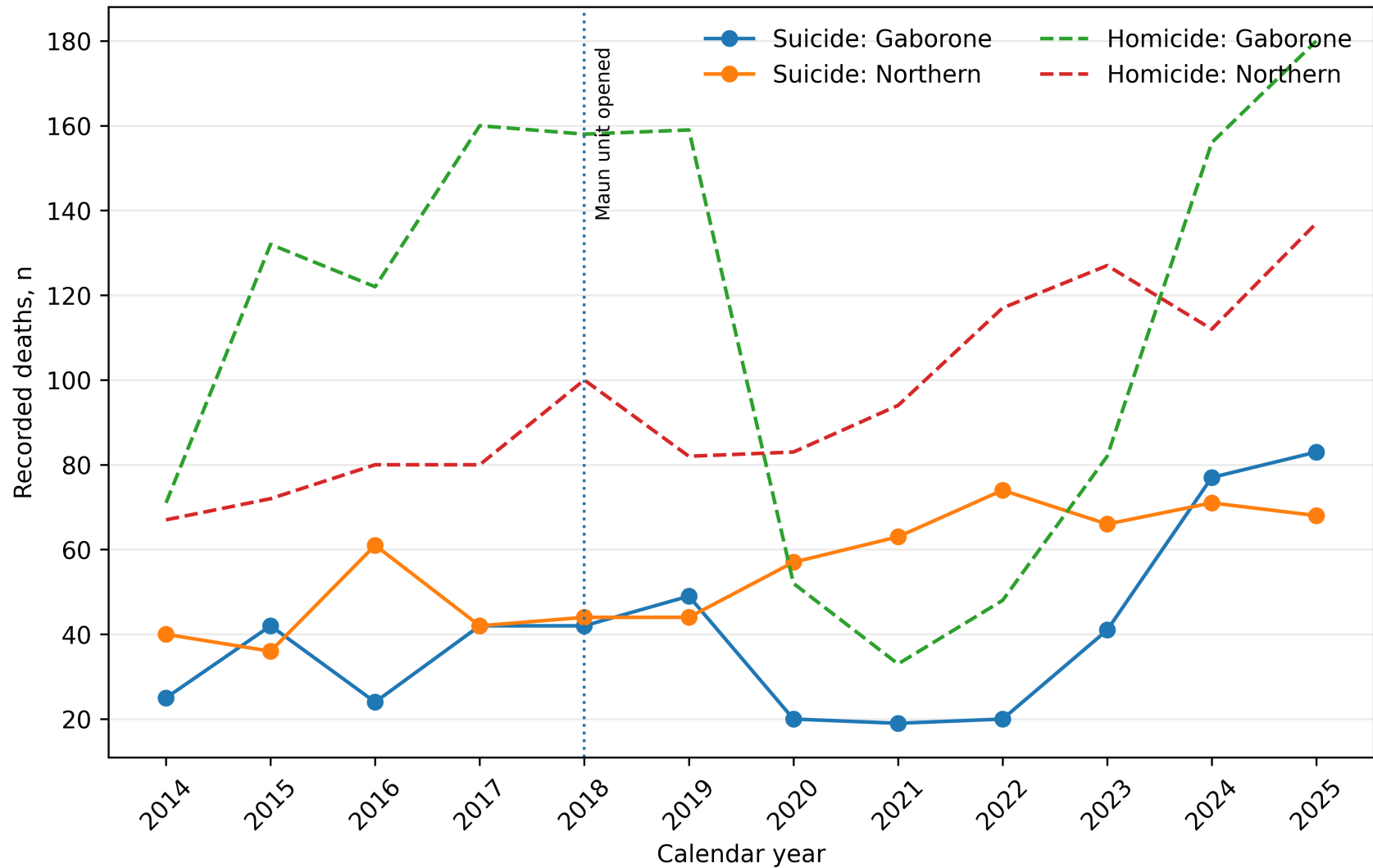
Figure 5. Recorded suicide deaths by place-of-death administrative area, Botswana, 2014-2025. Counts should not be interpreted as district-specific population risk.

Supplementary Figure S1. Annual records by manner of death, 2014-2025



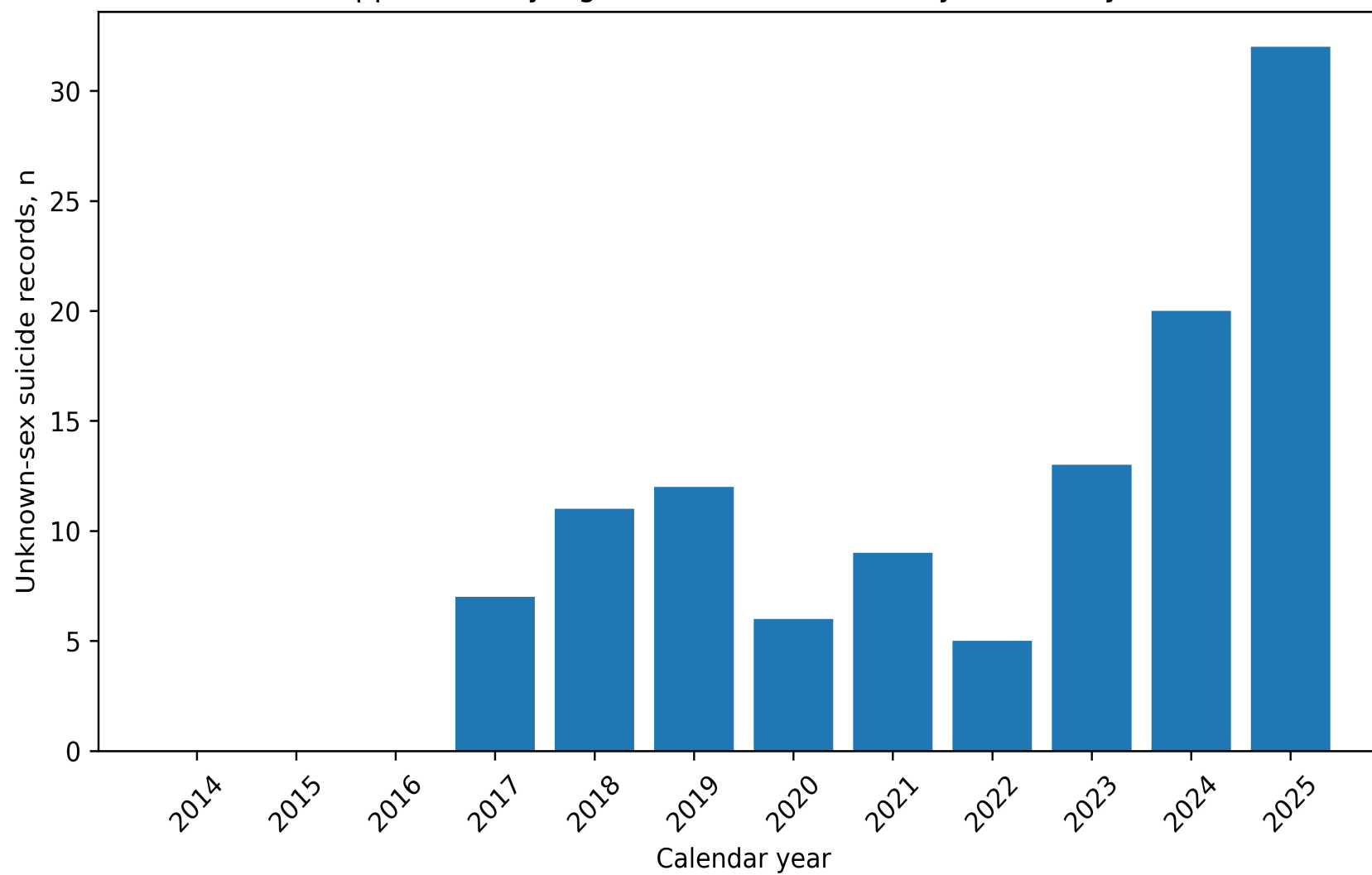
Supplementary Figure S1. Annual recorded suicide, homicide, and undetermined deaths, Botswana, 2014-2025.

Supplementary Figure S2. Forensic-service catchment trends, 2014-2025



Supplementary Figure S2. Annual suicide and homicide records by forensic-service catchment, Botswana, 2014-2025. Francistown and Maun are combined as the Northern catchment; vertical marker denotes 2018, when the Maun unit became operational.

Supplementary Figure S3. Unknown sex by calendar year



Supplementary Figure S3. Recorded suicide deaths with unknown sex by calendar year, Botswana, 2014-2025.