

U.S.A. SUICIDE: 2018 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

	Number	Per Day	Rate	% of Deaths	Group (Number of Suicides)	Rate
Nation	48,344	132.4	14.8	1.7	White Male (33,576).....	26.6
Males	37,761	103.5	23.4	2.6	White Female (9,299).....	7.2
Females.....	10,583	29.0	6.4	0.8	Nonwhite Male (4,185).....	12.0
Whites.....	42,875	117.5	16.8	1.8	Nonwhite Female (1,284).....	3.4
Nonwhites.....	5,469	15.0	7.5	1.2	Black/African American Male (2,578).....	11.6
Blacks/African American	3,254	8.9	7.0	0.9	Black/African American Female (676)....	2.8
Older Adults (65+ yrs.).....	9,102	24.9	17.4	0.4	Hispanic/Latino (4,313).....	7.2
Young (15-24 yrs.).....	6,211	17.0	14.5	20.6	Native Americans/Alaska Natives (669)	14.1
Middle Aged (45-64 yrs.)	16,885	46.3	20.1	3.1	Asian/Pacific Islanders (1,546).....	7.2

Fatal Outcomes (Suicides):

a 2% rate increase was seen again from 2017 to 2018, continuing the recent (since 1999) rate increases after long-term trends of decline

- Average of 1 person every 10.9 minutes killed themselves—1 male every 13.9 minutes, 1 female every 49.7 minutes
- Average of 1 older adult every 57.8 minutes killed themselves; Average of 1 middle aged adult every 31.1 minutes
- Average of 1 young person every 1 hour and 24.6 minutes killed themselves. (If the 605 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 1 hour and 17 minutes)

- 10th ranking cause of death in U.S.—2nd for young
- 3.6 male deaths by suicide for each female death by suicide
- Suicide ranks 10th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 16th

Leading Causes of Death 15-24 yrs

Cause	Number	Rate
All Causes	30,154	70.2
1-Accidents	12,044	28.0
2-Suicide	6,211	14.5
3-Homicide	4,607	10.7
10-14 yrs	596	2.9
15-19 yrs	2,404	11.4
20-24 yrs	3,807	17.4

Nonfatal Outcomes (Attempt Survivors§) (figures are estimates):

- 1,208,600 annual attempts in U.S. (using 25:1 ratio); 2018 SAMHSA study: 1.4 million adults (18 and up)
- Translates to one attempt every 26 seconds (based on 1,208,600 attempts) [1.4 million = 1 every 23 seconds]
- 25 attempts for every death by suicide for nation (one estimate); 100-200:1 for young; 4:1 for older adults
- 3 female attempts for each male attempt

Postvention (Exposure and Survivors of Suicide Loss)

Exposed (“Affected”) – those who “know” someone personally who has died by suicide † (figures are estimates)

- Recent (Cerel, 2015) research-based estimate suggests that for each death by suicide → 147 people are exposed (for 2018, 7.1 million annually) – among the exposed there are subgroups with a variety of effect levels (see Cerel et al., 2014) – as many as 40-50% of the population have been exposed to suicide in their lifetime based on a 2016 representative sample’s results (Feigelman et al., 2017)

Suicide Loss Survivors (those bereaved of suicide - definition below): † (figures are estimates) [Subgroup of “Exposed” above]

- Survivors of Suicide Loss = experience high levels of distress for a considerable length of time after exposure (Jordan & McIntosh, 2011)
- Among those exposed to a death by suicide, more than 6 experience a major life disruption (loss survivors; a low, non-research based estimate see Cerel et al. 2015)

- If each suicide has devastating effects and intimately affects > 6 other people, there are over 290,000 loss survivors a year
- Based on the 899,746 suicides from 1994 through 2018, therefore, the number of survivors of suicide loss in the U.S. is more than 5.4 million (1 of every 61 Americans in 2018); number grew by more than 290,064 in 2018
- If there is a suicide every 10.9 minutes, then there are more than 6 new loss survivors every 10.9 minutes as well

Suicide Methods	Number	Rate	Percent of Total		Number	Rate	Percent of Total
Firearm suicides (1st)	24,432	7.5	50.5%	All but Firearms	23,912	7.3	49.5%
Suffocation/Hanging (2nd)	13,840	4.2	28.6%	Poisoning (3rd)	6,237	1.9	12.9%
Cut/pierce (5th)	897	0.3	1.9%	Drowning (7th)	522	0.2	1.1%

U.S.A. Suicide Rates 2008-2018											15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 2018					
(Rates per 100,000 population)											(total of 2,839,205 deaths; 867.8 rate)					
Group/ Age	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Group/ Age	Rank	Cause of Death	Rate	Deaths
5-14	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	5-14	1	Diseases of heart (heart disease)	200.3	655,381
15-24	9.9	10.0	10.5	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.6	12.5	13.2	14.5	14.5	15-24	2	Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	183.2	599,274
25-34	13.2	13.1	14.0	14.6	14.7	14.8	15.1	15.7	16.5	17.5	17.6	25-34	3	Accidents (unintentional injury)	51.1	167,127
35-44	15.9	16.1	16.0	16.2	16.7	16.2	16.6	17.1	17.4	17.9	18.2	35-44	4	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	48.7	159,486
45-54	18.6	19.2	19.6	19.8	20.0	19.7	20.2	20.3	19.7	20.2	20.0	45-54	5	Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	45.2	147,810
55-64	16.0	16.4	17.5	17.1	18.0	18.1	18.8	18.9	18.7	19.0	20.2	55-64	6	Alzheimer's disease	37.3	122,019
65-74	13.6	13.7	13.7	14.1	14.0	15.0	15.6	15.2	15.4	15.6	16.3	65-74	7	Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	26.0	84,946
75-84	16.1	15.8	15.7	16.5	16.8	17.1	17.5	17.9	18.2	18.0	18.7	75-84	8	Influenza & pneumonia	18.1	59,120
85+	16.4	16.4	17.6	16.9	17.8	18.6	19.3	19.4	19.0	20.1	19.1	85+	9	Nephritis, nephrosis (kidney disease)	15.7	51,386
65+	14.8	14.8	14.9	15.3	15.4	16.1	16.7	16.6	16.7	16.8	17.4	65+	10	Suicide [Intentional Self-Harm]	14.8	48,344
Total	11.8	12.0	12.4	12.7	12.9	13.0	13.4	13.7	13.9	14.5	14.8	Total	11	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	13.1	42,838
Men	19.0	19.3	19.9	20.2	20.6	20.6	21.1	21.5	21.8	22.9	23.4	Men	12	Septicemia	12.4	40,718
Women	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.7	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	Women	13	Essential hypertension and renal disease	11.0	35,835
White	13.4	13.7	14.1	14.5	14.7	14.9	15.5	15.8	15.9	16.5	16.8	White	14	Parkinson's disease	10.3	33,829
Nonwh	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.0	6.3	6.8	7.2	7.5	NonWh	15	Pneumonitis due to solids and liquids	5.9	19,239	
Black	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.1	6.7	7.0	Black	-	All other causes (Residual; > 15)	174.8	571,853
45-64	17.5	17.9	18.6	18.6	19.1	19.0	19.5	19.6	19.2	19.6	20.1	45-64	16	Homicide (ranks 16th)	5.8	18,830

- Older adults made up 16.0% of 2018 population, but 18.8% of suicides • Young made up 13.1% of 2018 population and 12.8% of suicides •
- Middle Aged made up 25.6% of the 2018 population, but were 34.9% of suicides •
- 1,388,768* Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 (44,216 of 48,344 suicides are below age 75)
- * alternate YPLL figure: 1,387,984 using individual years in calculations rather than 10-year age groups as above.

Many figures appearing here are derived or calculated from data in the following official data sources: downloaded 12 February 2020 from CDC’s WONDER website: <https://wonder.cdc.gov>. • Other references cited on this page are listed on the State Data Page. •

suicide rate = (number of suicides by group / population of group) X 100,000
Prepared for AAS by Christopher W. Drapeau, Ph.D. & John L. McIntosh, Ph.D.

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12 February 2020

§ Alternate terms = Survivors of Suicide Attempts or those with Lived Experience (of suicide attempt)

Rate, Number, and Ranking of Suicide for Each U.S.A. State*, 2018

Rank	State [Division / Region]	Deaths	Rate	Division [Abbreviation]	Rate	Number
1	New Mexico [M / West]	536	25.6	Mountain [M]	22.0	5,407
2	Wyoming [M / West]	147	25.4	East South Central [ESC]	16.8	3,205
3	Alaska [P / West]	184	25.0	West North Central [WNC]	16.8	3,600
4	Montana [M / West]	265	24.9	South Atlantic [SA]	15.1	9,896
5	Idaho [M / West]	417	23.8	West South Central [WSC]	14.9	5,994
6	Colorado [M / West]	1,282	22.5	Nation	14.8	48,344
7	West Virginia [SA / South]	395	21.9	East North Central [ENC]	14.6	6,841
8	Nevada [M / West]	657	21.7	New England [NE]	13.1	1,939
9	Utah [M / West]	665	21.0	Pacific [P]	13.0	6,947
10	New Hampshire [NE / Northeast]	279	20.6	Middle Atlantic [MA]	10.9	4,515
11	Maine [NE / Northeast]	270	20.2	Region [Subdivision Abbreviations]	Rate	Number
12	Arizona [M / West]	1,438	20.1	West (M, P)	15.8	12,354
12	Missouri [WNC / Midwest]	1,230	20.1	Midwest (WNC, ENC)	15.3	10,441
12	Oregon [P / West]	844	20.1	South (ESC, WSC, SA)	15.3	19,095
15	Oklahoma [WSC / South]	790	20.0	Nation	14.8	48,344
15	Vermont [NE / Northeast]	125	20.0	Northeast (NE, MA)	11.5	6,454
17	North Dakota [WNC / Midwest]	147	19.3			
18	Kansas [WNC / Midwest]	556	19.1			
19	South Dakota [WNC / Midwest]	167	18.9			
20	Arkansas [WSC / South]	554	18.4			
21	Kentucky [ESC / South]	800	17.9			
22	Tennessee [ESC / South]	1,161	17.1			
23	Alabama [ESC / South]	823	16.8			
24	Florida [SA / South]	3,567	16.7			
25	Washington [P / West]	1,252	16.6			
26	Indiana [ENC / Midwest]	1,079	16.1			
27	South Carolina [SA / South]	811	16.0			
28	Pennsylvania [MA / Northeast]	2,014	15.7			
28	Ohio [ENC / Midwest]	1,838	15.7			
30	Michigan [ENC / Midwest]	1,548	15.5			
30	Louisiana [WSC / South]	720	15.5			
30	Iowa [WNC / Midwest]	490	15.5			
33	Wisconsin [ENC / Midwest]	888	15.3			
34	Georgia [SA / South]	1,569	14.9			
Nation		48,344	14.8			
35	Virginia [SA / South]	1,243	14.6			
36	North Carolina [SA / South]	1,494	14.4			
37	Mississippi [ESC / South]	421	14.1			
38	Nebraska [WNC / Midwest]	271	14.0			
39	Texas [WSC / South]	3,930	13.7			
40	Minnesota [WNC / Midwest]	739	13.2			
41	Hawaii [P / West]	176	12.4			
42	Illinois [ENC / Midwest]	1,488	11.7			
42	Connecticut [NE / Northeast]	419	11.7			
42	Delaware [SA / South]	113	11.7			
45	California [P / West]	4,491	11.4			
46	Maryland [SA / South]	650	10.8			
47	Massachusetts [NE / Northeast]	740	10.7			
48	Rhode Island [NE / Northeast]	106	10.0			
49	New York [MA / Northeast]	1,723	8.8			
50	New Jersey [MA / Northeast]	778	8.7			
51	District of Columbia [SA / South]	54	7.7			

Caution: Annual fluctuations in state levels combined with often relatively small populations can make these data highly variable. The use of several years' data is preferable to conclusions based on single years alone.

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Source: Obtained 12 February 2020 from CDC/NCHS's *WONDER* (to appear in *Deaths: Final Data for 2018*, forthcoming) <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>

[data are by place of residence]
[Suicide = ICD-10 Codes X60-X84, Y87.0, U03]

Note: All rates are per 100,000 population.

* Including the District of Columbia.

**Suicide State Data Page: 2018
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*“to understand and prevent suicide
as a means of promoting human well-being”*

Visit the AAS website at:

<http://www.suicidology.org>

For other suicide data, and an archive of state data, visit the website below and click on the dropdown “Suicide Stats” menu:

<http://pages.iu.edu/~jmcintos/>

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† Cerel, J., McIntosh, J. L., Neimeyer, R. A., Maple, M., & Marshall, D. (2014). The continuum of “survivorship”: Definitional issues in the aftermath of suicide. *Suicide & Life-Threatening Behavior*, 44(6), 591-600.

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