

U.S.A. SUICIDE: 2020 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

	Number	Per Day	Rate	% of Deaths	Group (Number of Suicides)	Rate
Nation	45,979	125.6	14.0	1.4	White Male (32,039)	25.4
Males	36,551	99.9	22.5	2.1	White Female (8,116)	6.3
Females	9,428	25.8	5.6	0.6	Nonwhite Male (4,512)	12.6
Whites	40,155	109.7	15.7	1.4	Nonwhite Female (1,312)	3.4
Nonwhites	5,824	15.9	7.8	1.0	Black/African American Male (2,846)	12.6
Blacks/African American	3,541	9.7	7.5	0.8	Black/African American Female (695)	2.8
Older Adults (65+ yrs.)	9,137	25.0	16.4	0.4	Hispanic/Latino (4,571)	7.5
Young (15-24 yrs.)	6,062	16.6	14.2	16.9	Native Americans/Alaska Natives (714)	14.6
Middle Aged (45-64 yrs.)	14,409	39.4	17.4	2.3	Asian/Pacific Islanders (1,569)	7.0

Fatal Outcomes (Suicides): a 3.4% rate decrease was seen from 2019 to 2020 (a 2% decrease was observed from 2018 to 2019)

- Average of 1 person every 11.5 minutes killed themselves—1 male every 14.4 minutes, 1 female every 55.9 minutes
- Average of 1 older adult every 57.7 minutes killed themselves; Average of 1 middle aged adult every 36.6 minutes
- Average of 1 young person every 1 hour and 26.9 minutes killed themselves. (If the 601 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 1 hour and 19 minutes)

Leading Causes of Death 15-24 yrs

	Cause	Number	Rate
• 12th ranking cause of death in U.S.—3rd for young	All Causes	35,816	84.2
• 3.9 male deaths by suicide for each female death by suicide	1-1-Accidents	15,117	35.5
• Suicide ranks 12th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 16th	2-Homicide	6,466	15.2
	3-Suicide	6,062	14.2

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

- 1,149,475 annual attempts in U.S. (using 25:1 ratio) or one attempt every 27.5 seconds
- 2020 SAMHSA study: 1.2 million adults (age 18 and up) and 629,000 adolescents (12-17 years old)
- Translates to 1 every 26.4 seconds for adults and 1 every 50.3 seconds for adolescents
- 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 et al., 2019) research-based estimate suggests that for each suicide death → 135 people are exposed (for 2020, 6.2 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. 2020)
 - If each suicide has devastating effects and intimately affects > 6 other people, there are over 275,000 loss survivors a year
 - Based on the 930,810 suicides from 1996 through 2020, therefore, the number of survivors of suicide loss in the U.S. is more than 5.58 million (1 of every 59 Americans in 2020); number grew by more than 275,874 in 2020
 - If there is a suicide every 11.5 minutes, then there are more than 6 new loss survivors every 11.5 minutes as well

Suicide Methods	Number	Rate	Percent of Total		Number	Rate	Percent of Total
Firearm suicides (1st)	24,292	7.4	52.8%	All but Firearms	21,687	6.6	47.2%
Suffocation/Hanging (2nd)	12,495	3.8	27.2%	Fall (4th)	1,074	0.3	2.3%
Poisoning (3rd)	5,528	1.7	12.0%	Cut/pierce (5th)	907	0.3	2.0%

U.S.A. Suicide Rates 2010-2020											15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 2020					
Group/	(Rates per 100,000 population)										Group/	(total of 3,383,729 deaths; 1027.0 rate)				
Age	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Age	Rank	Cause of Death	Rate	Deaths
5-14	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.5	5-14	1	Diseases of heart (heart disease)	211.5	696,962
15-24	10.5	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.6	12.5	13.2	14.5	14.5	13.9	14.2	15-24	2	Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	182.8	602,350
25-34	14.0	14.6	14.7	14.8	15.1	15.7	16.5	17.5	17.6	17.5	18.4	25-34	3	COVID-19	106.5	350,831
35-44	16.0	16.2	16.7	16.2	16.6	17.1	17.4	17.9	18.2	18.1	17.4	35-44	4	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	61.0	200,955
45-54	19.6	19.8	20.0	19.7	20.2	20.3	19.7	20.2	20.0	19.6	18.0	45-54	5	Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	48.6	160,264
55-64	17.5	17.1	18.0	18.1	18.8	18.9	18.7	19.0	20.2	19.4	16.9	55-64	6	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	46.3	152,657
65-74	13.7	14.1	14.0	15.0	15.6	15.2	15.4	15.6	16.3	15.5	14.5	65-74	7	Alzheimer disease	40.7	134,242
75-84	15.7	16.5	16.8	17.1	17.5	17.9	18.2	18.0	18.7	18.6	18.4	75-84	8	Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	31.0	102,188
85+	17.6	16.9	17.8	18.6	19.3	19.4	19.0	20.1	19.1	20.1	20.9	85+	9	Influenza & pneumonia	16.3	53,544
65+	14.9	15.3	15.4	16.1	16.7	16.6	16.7	16.8	17.4	17.0	16.4	65+	10	Nephritis, nephrosis (kidney disease)	15.9	52,547
Total	12.4	12.7	12.9	13.0	13.4	13.7	13.9	14.5	14.8	14.5	14.0	Total	11	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	15.7	51,642
Men	19.9	20.2	20.6	20.6	21.1	21.5	21.8	22.9	23.4	23.0	22.5	Men	12	Suicide [Intentional Self-Harm]	14.0	45,979
Women	5.2	5.4	5.5	5.7	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.2	5.6	Women	13	Essential hypertension and renal disease	12.7	41,907
White	14.1	14.5	14.7	14.9	15.5	15.8	15.9	16.5	16.8	16.4	15.7	White	14	Parkinson's disease	12.2	40,284
Nonwh	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.8	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.8	NonWh	15	Septicemia	5.8	40,050
Black	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.1	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.5	Black	-	All other causes (Residual; > 15)	199.5	657,327
45-64	18.6	18.6	19.1	19.0	19.5	19.6	19.2	19.6	20.1	19.5	17.4	45-64	16	Homicide (Assault)	7.5	24,576

- Older adults made up 16.9% of 2020 population, but 19.9% of suicides • Young made up 12.9% of 2020 population and 13.2% of suicides •
- Middle Aged made up 25.1% of the 2019 population, but were 31.3% of suicides •
- 1,341,878* Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 (41,556 of 45,979 suicides are below age 75)
- alternate YPLL figure: 1,338,295 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 22 December 2021 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

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

Suicide Data Page: 2020

24 December 2021

Rate, Number, and Ranking of Suicide for Each U.S.A. State*, 2020

Rank	State [Division / Region]	Deaths	Rate	Division [Abbreviation]	Rate	Number
1	Wyoming [M / West]	182	31.3	Mountain [M]	21.2	5,336
2	Alaska [P / West]	204	27.9	East South Central [ESC]	16.7	3,224
3	Montana [M / West]	300	27.8	West North Central [WNC]	16.6	3,570
4	New Mexico [M / West]	516	24.5	West South Central [WSC]	14.7	6,018
5	Idaho [M / West]	419	22.9	Nation	14.0	45,979
6	Colorado [M / West]	1,302	22.4	South Atlantic [SA]	13.9	9,238
7	Oklahoma [WSC / South]	869	21.8	East North Central [ENC]	13.5	6,340
8	South Dakota [WNC / Midwest]	186	20.8	Pacific [P]	12.3	6,577
9	Utah [M / West]	651	20.0	New England [NE]	11.2	1,661
10	West Virginia [SA / South]	354	19.8	Middle Atlantic [MA]	9.8	4,015
11	Oregon [P / West]	833	19.6	Region [Subdivision Abbreviations]	Rate	Number
12	Arkansas [WSC / South]	583	19.2	West (M, P)	15.1	11,913
12	Nevada [M / West]	603	19.2	South (ESC, WSC, SA)	14.6	18,480
14	Vermont [NE / Northeast]	117	18.8	Midwest (WNC, ENC)	14.5	9,910
15	Arizona [M / West]	1,363	18.4	Nation	14.0	45,979
16	Missouri [WNC / Midwest]	1,125	18.3	Northeast (NE, MA)	10.2	5,676
17	Kansas [WNC / Midwest]	531	18.2			
18	Kentucky [ESC / South]	801	17.9			
19	Tennessee [ESC / South]	1,220	17.7			
20	North Dakota [WNC / Midwest]	135	17.6			
21	Iowa [WNC / Midwest]	552	17.4			
22	Maine [NE / Northeast]	234	17.3			
23	New Hampshire [NE / Northeast]	234	17.1			
24	South Carolina [SA / South]	868	16.6			
25	Alabama [ESC / South]	793	16.1			
26	Washington [P / West]	1,212	15.8			
27	Indiana [ENC / Midwest]	1,024	15.2			
28	Wisconsin [ENC / Midwest]	866	14.8			
29	Nebraska [WNC / Midwest]	283	14.6			
30	Michigan [ENC / Midwest]	1,444	14.5			
31	Florida [SA / South]	3,135	14.4			
32	Ohio [ENC / Midwest]	1,644	14.1			
33	Virginia [SA / South]	1,202	14.0			
	Nation	45,979	14.0			
34	Georgia [SA / South]	1,491	13.9			
35	Louisiana [WSC / South]	642	13.8			
35	Mississippi [ESC / South]	410	13.8			
37	North Carolina [SA / South]	1,441	13.6			
38	Minnesota [WNC / Midwest]	758	13.4			
38	Texas [WSC / South]	3,924	13.4			
40	Pennsylvania [MA / Northeast]	1,694	13.3			
41	Hawaii [P / West]	184	13.1			
42	Delaware [SA / South]	124	12.6			
43	Illinois [ENC / Midwest]	1,362	10.8			
44	California [P / West]	4,144	10.5			
45	Connecticut [NE / Northeast]	364	10.2			
46	Maryland [SA / South]	585	9.7			
47	Massachusetts [NE / Northeast]	618	9.0			
48	Rhode Island [NE / Northeast]	94	8.9			
49	New York [MA / Northeast]	1,642	8.5			
50	New Jersey [MA / Northeast]	679	7.6			
51	District of Columbia [SA / South]	38	5.3			

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.

Suggested citation: Drapeau, C. W., & McIntosh, J. L. (2021). *U.S.A. suicide: 2020 Official final data*. Minneapolis, MN: Suicide Awareness Voices of Education (SAVE), dated December 24, 2021, downloaded from <https://save.org/about-suicide/suicide-statistics>.

Source: Obtained 22 December 2021 from CDC/NCHS's *WONDER* (to appear in *Deaths: Final Data for 2020*, 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: 2020
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These sheets posted online at:

<https://save.org/about-suicide/suicide-statistics> &

Other suicide data, and an archive of state data, appear at the website:

<https://jmcintos.pages.iu.edu/SuicideDataCompiled.htm>

References from previous page

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Suicide Prevention Training and Resources for Educators

Helpful Websites

Kentucky Department of Education-

<https://education.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

U.S. Department of Education- <https://www.ed.gov/>

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline- <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

Kentucky Suicide Prevention Group, Inc.-

<https://www.kentuckysuicideprevention.org/>

National Association of School Psychologists- <https://www.nasponline.org/>

National Association of Secondary School Principals- <https://www.nassp.org/>

American School Counselor Association- <https://www.schoolcounselor.org/>

Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide- <http://www.sptsusa.org/>

Youth Suicide Prevention School-Based Guide- <http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/>

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention- <https://afsp.org/>

American Association of Suicidology- <http://www.suicidology.org/>

Suicide Prevention Resource Center- <https://www.sprc.org/>

Suicide Prevention Action Network USA- <https://www.iasp.info/>

The Jason Foundation, Inc.- <http://jasonfoundation.com/>

Yellow Ribbon- <https://yellowribbon.org/>

Mental Health America- <http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/>

National Alliance on Mental Illness-

The Jed Foundation- <https://www.jedfoundation.org/>

QPR Institute- <https://qprinstitute.com/>

American Psychological Association- <http://www.apa.org/>

National Institute of Mental Health- <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/index.shtml>

The Trevor Project- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

**Kentucky Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual
Disabilities- <http://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/sp.aspx>**

Suicide Prevention Consortium of Kentucky- <http://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/sp.aspx>