

# U.S.A. SUICIDE: 2021 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

	Number	Per Day	Rate	% of Deaths	Group (Number of Suicides)	Rate
Nation	48,183	132.0	14.5	1.4	White Male (33,139)	26.4
Males	38,358	105.1	23.3	2.1	White Female (8,287)	6.6
Females	9,825	26.9	5.9	0.6	Black/African American Male (3,058)	14.1
Whites	41,426	113.5	16.5	1.4	Black/African American Female (749)	3.2
Blacks/African American	3,807	10.4	8.4	0.8	Asian (1,409)	6.9
American Indian/Alaska Native	733	2.0	16.8	2.5	Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander (92)	10.7
Older Adults (65+ yrs.)	9,652	26.4	17.3	0.4	More than One Race (716)	7.3
Young (15-24 yrs.)	6,528	17.9	15.2	17.0	Hispanic/Latino (4,907)	7.8
Middle Aged (45-64 yrs.)	14,668	40.2	17.6	2.1	Non-Hispanic/Latino (43,157)	16.0

## Fatal Outcomes (Suicides): a 3.6% rate increase was seen from 2020 to 2021 (a 3.4% decrease was observed from 2019 to 2020)

- Average of 1 person every 10.9 minutes killed themselves—1 male every 13.7 minutes, 1 female every 53.5 minutes
- Average of 1 older adult every 54.5 minutes killed themselves; Average of 1 middle aged adult every 35.8 minutes
- Average of 1 young person every 1 hour and 20.5 minutes killed themselves. (If the 607 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 1 hour and 13.7 minutes)
- 11th ranking cause of death in U.S.—3rd for **young**
- 3.9 male deaths by suicide for each female death by suicide
- Suicide ranks 11th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 16th

### Leading Causes of Death 15-24 yrs

Cause	Number	Rate
All Causes	38,307	88.9
1-Accidents	15,792	36.7
2-Homicide	6,635	15.4
3-Suicide	6,528	15.2
10-14 yrs	598	2.8
15-19 yrs	2,343	10.9
20-24 yrs	4,185	19.4

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

- 1,204,575 annual attempts in U.S. (using 25:1 ratio) or one attempt every 26.2 seconds
- 2021 SAMHSA study: 1.7 million adults (age 18 and up) and 892,000 adolescents (12-17 years old)
- Translates to 1 every 18.6 seconds for adults and 1 every 35.4 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 2021, 6.5 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 289,000 loss survivors a year*
- Based on the 948,090 suicides from 1997 through 2021, therefore, the number of *survivors of suicide loss* in the U.S. is *more than 5.69 million* (1 of every 58 Americans in 2021); number grew by more than 289,098 in 2021
- 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)	26,328	7.9	54.6%	All but Firearms	21,855	6.6	45.4%
Suffocation/Hanging (2nd)	12,431	3.8	25.8%	Fall (4th)	1,184	0.4	2.5%
Poisoning (3rd)	5,568	1.7	11.6%	Cut/pierce (5th)	965	0.3	2.0%

U.S.A. Suicide Rates 2011-2021												15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 2021				
Group/	(Rates per 100,000 population)											(total of 3,464,231 deaths; 1,043.8 rate)				
Age	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Age	Rank	Cause of Death	Rate	Deaths
5-14	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.5	5-14	1	Diseases of heart (heart disease)	209.6	695,547
15-24	11.0	11.1	11.6	11.6	12.5	13.2	14.5	14.5	13.9	14.2	15.2	15-24	2	Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	182.4	605,213
25-34	14.6	14.7	14.8	15.1	15.7	16.5	17.5	17.6	17.5	18.4	19.5	25-34	3	COVID-19	125.6	416,893
35-44	16.2	16.7	16.2	16.6	17.1	17.4	17.9	18.2	18.1	17.4	18.1	35-44	4	Accidents (unintentional injuries)	67.8	224,935
45-54	19.8	20.0	19.7	20.2	20.3	19.7	20.2	20.0	19.6	18.0	18.2	45-54	5	Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	49.1	162,890
55-64	17.1	18.0	18.1	18.8	18.9	18.7	19.0	20.2	19.4	16.9	17.0	55-64	6	Chronic lower respiratory diseases	42.9	142,342
65-74	14.1	14.0	15.0	15.6	15.2	15.4	15.6	16.3	15.5	14.5	15.3	65-74	7	Alzheimer disease	36.0	119,399
75-84	16.5	16.8	17.1	17.5	17.9	18.2	18.0	18.7	18.6	18.4	19.6	75-84	8	Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	31.1	103,294
85+	16.9	17.8	18.6	19.3	19.4	19.0	20.1	19.1	20.1	20.9	22.4	85+	9	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	17.0	56,585
65+	15.3	15.4	16.1	16.7	16.6	16.7	16.8	17.4	17.0	16.4	17.3	65+	10	Nephritis, nephrosis (kidney disease)	16.4	54,358
Total	12.7	12.9	13.0	13.4	13.7	13.9	14.5	14.8	14.5	14.0	14.5	Total	11	<b>Suicide [Intentional Self-Harm]</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>48,183</b>
Men	20.2	20.6	20.6	21.1	21.5	21.8	22.9	23.4	23.0	22.5	23.3	Men	12	Essential hypertension and renal disease	12.9	42,816
Women	5.4	5.5	5.7	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.2	5.6	5.9	Women	13	Influenza & pneumonia	12.6	41,917
White	14.5	14.7	14.9	15.5	15.8	15.9	16.5	16.8	16.4	15.7	16.5	White	14	Septicemia	12.4	41,281
Nonwh	5.8	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.3	6.8	7.2	7.5	7.6	7.8	8.4	NonWh	15	Parkinson's disease	11.6	38,536
Black	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.6	6.1	6.7	7.0	7.1	7.5	8.4	Black	-	All other causes (Residual; > 15)	201.9	670,042
45-64	18.6	19.1	19.0	19.5	19.6	19.2	19.6	20.1	19.5	17.4	17.6	45-64	16	Homicide (Assault)	7.8	26,031

- Older adults made up 16.8% of 2021 population, but 20.0% of suicides • Young made up 13.0% of 2021 population and 13.5% of suicides • Middle Aged made up 25.2% of the 2021 population, but were 30.4% of suicides • 1,414,041\* Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 (43,671 of 48,183 suicides are below age 75)
- \* alternate YPLL figure: 1,409,143 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 11 January 2023 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)

## Rate, Number, and Ranking of Suicide for Each U.S.A. State\*, 2021

Rank	State [Division / Region]	Deaths	Rate	Division [Abbreviation]	Rate	Number
1	Wyoming [M / West]	190	32.8	Mountain [M]	22.4	5,653
2	Montana [M / West]	350	31.7	West North Central [WNC]	17.3	3,741
3	Alaska [P / West]	220	30.0	East South Central [ESC]	17.2	3,345
4	New Mexico [M / West]	533	25.2	West South Central [WSC]	15.5	6,377
5	Colorado [M / West]	1,384	23.8	South Atlantic [SA]	14.5	9,643
6	South Dakota [WNC / Midwest]	203	22.7	<b>Nation</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>48,183</b>
7	Nevada [M / West]	691	22.0	East North Central [ENC]	14.3	6,739
7	Oklahoma [WSC / South]	877	22.0	Pacific [P]	12.5	6,688
7	Vermont [NE / Northeast]	142	22.0	New England [NE]	11.7	1,764
10	West Virginia [SA / South]	375	21.0	Middle Atlantic [MA]	10.1	4,233
11	Oregon [P / West]	889	20.9	<u>Region [Subdivision Abbreviations]</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>
12	Arkansas [WSC / South]	618	20.4	West (M, P)	15.7	12,341
12	Idaho [M / West]	387	20.4	South (ESC, WSC, SA)	15.2	19,365
14	Arizona [M / West]	1,475	20.3	Midwest (WNC, ENC)	15.2	10,480
15	Maine [NE / Northeast]	277	20.2	<b>Nation</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>48,183</b>
16	North Dakota [WNC / Midwest]	156	20.1	Northeast (NE, MA)	10.5	5,997
17	Utah [M / West]	643	19.3			
18	Kansas [WNC / Midwest]	560	19.1			
18	Missouri [WNC / Midwest]	1,177	19.1			
20	Kentucky [ESC / South]	816	18.1			
21	Tennessee [ESC / South]	1,222	17.5			
22	Iowa [WNC / Midwest]	549	17.2			
23	Indiana [ENC / Midwest]	1,129	16.6			
24	Alabama [ESC / South]	827	16.4			
25	Mississippi [ESC / South]	480	16.3			
26	New Hampshire [NE / Northeast]	223	16.1			
27	Washington [P / West]	1,229	15.9			
28	Georgia [SA / South]	1,676	15.5			
28	South Carolina [SA / South]	802	15.5			
30	Florida [SA / South]	3,351	15.4			
31	Wisconsin [ENC / Midwest]	905	15.3			
32	Ohio [ENC / Midwest]	1,766	15.0			
33	Louisiana [WSC / South]	689	14.9			
34	Michigan [ENC / Midwest]	1,485	14.8			
35	Nebraska [WNC / Midwest]	288	14.7			
36	Pennsylvania [MA / Northeast]	1,885	14.5			
	<b>Nation</b>	<b>48,183</b>	<b>14.5</b>			
37	Minnesota [WNC / Midwest]	808	14.2			
37	Texas [WSC / South]	4,193	14.2			
39	Hawaii [P / West]	202	14.0			
40	Delaware [SA / South]	137	13.7			
40	North Carolina [SA / South]	1,448	13.7			
40	Virginia [SA / South]	1,188	13.7			
43	Illinois [ENC / Midwest]	1,454	11.5			
44	Connecticut [NE / Northeast]	401	11.1			
45	Rhode Island [NE / Northeast]	117	10.7			
46	California [P / West]	4,148	10.6			
47	Maryland [SA / South]	620	10.1			
48	Massachusetts [NE / Northeast]	604	8.6			
49	New York [MA / Northeast]	1,660	8.4			
50	New Jersey [MA / Northeast]	688	7.4			
51	District of Columbia [SA / South]	46	6.9			

**Source:** Obtained 11 January 2023 from CDC/NCHS's *WONDER* (to appear in *Deaths: Final Data for 2021*, forthcoming) <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/products/nvsr.htm>

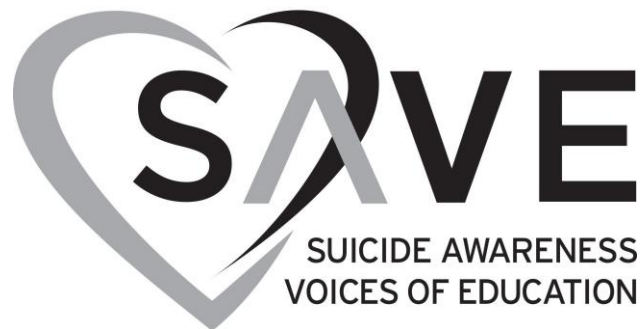
[data are by place of residence]  
[Suicide = ICD-10 Codes X60-X84, Y87.0, U03]

Note: All rates are per 100,000 population.

\* Including the District of Columbia.

**Suicide State Data Page: 2021**  
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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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*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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