

# U.S.A. SUICIDE: 2012 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

	Number	Per Day	Rate	% of Deaths	Group (Number of Suicides)	Rate
Nation	40,600	110.9	12.9	1.6	White Male (28,681)	23.3
Males	31,780	86.8	20.6	2.5	White Female (7,925)	6.3
Females	8,820	24.1	5.5	0.7	Nonwhite Male (3,099)	9.8
Whites	36,606	100.0	14.8	1.7	Nonwhite Female (895)	2.6
Nonwhites	3,994	10.9	6.1	1.1	Black Male (1,908)	9.2
Blacks	2,357	6.4	5.5	0.8	Black Female (449)	2.0
Elderly (65+ yrs.)	6,648	18.2	15.4	0.4	Hispanic (2,837)	5.4
Young (15-24 yrs.)	4,872	13.3	11.1	16.7	Native Americans (485)	11.0
Middle Aged (45-64 yrs.)	15,791	43.1	19.1	3.1	Asian/Pacific Islanders (1,152)	6.4

**Fatal Outcomes (Suicides):** *a rate increase was seen from 2011 to 2012, continuing the recent rate increases after long-term trends of decline*

- Average of 1 person every 13.0 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 old person every 1 hour and 19 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 young person every 1 hour and 48 minutes killed themselves. (If the 311 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 1 hour and 42 minutes)

	Leading Causes of Death 15-24 yrs		
	Cause	Number	Rate
• 10th ranking cause of death in U.S.— 2nd for young	All Causes	29,182	66.4
• 3.6 male deaths by suicide for each female death by suicide	1-Accidents	11,908	27.1
• Suicide ranks 10th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 16th	2-Suicide	4,872	11.1

**Nonfatal Outcomes (Attempts)** (figures are estimates; no official U.S. national data compiled):

- 1,015,000 annual attempts in U.S. (using 25:1 ratio); 2012 SAMHSA study: 1.3 million adults (18 and up)
- Translates to one attempt every 31 seconds (based on 1,015,000 attempts) [1.3 million = 1 every 24 seconds]
- 25 attempts for every death by suicide for nation (one estimate); 100-200:1 for young; 4:1 for elderly
- 3 female attempts for each male attempt

Age Group	Number	Rate
10-14 yrs	306	1.5
15-19 yrs	1,782	8.4
20-24 yrs	3,090	13.7

**Survivors** (i.e., family members and friends of a loved one who died by suicide):

- Each suicide intimately affects at least 6 other people (estimate)
- Based on the 815,090 suicides from 1988 through 2012, estimated that the number of survivors of suicides in the U.S. is 4.9 million (1 of every 64 Americans in 2012); number grew by at least 243,600 in 2012
- If there is a suicide every 13.0 minutes, then there are 6 new survivors every 13.0 minutes as well

Suicide Methods	Number	Rate	Percent of Total		Number	Rate	Percent of Total
Firearm suicides (1st)	20,666	6.6	50.9%	All but Firearms	19,934	6.4	49.1%
Suffocation/Hanging (2nd)	10,088	3.2	24.8%	Poisoning (3rd)	6,729	2.1	16.6%
Cut/pierce	730	0.2	1.8%	Drowning	432	0.1	1.1%

U.S.A. Suicide Rates 2002-2012												15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 2012			
Group/	(Rates per 100,000 population)											Group/	(total of 2,543,279 deaths; 810.3 rate)		
Age	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Age	Rank & Cause of Death	Rate	Deaths
5-14	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	5-14	1 Diseases of heart (heart disease)	191.1	599,711
15-24	9.9	9.7	10.3	10.0	9.9	9.7	10.0	10.1	10.5	11.0	11.1	15-24	2 Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	185.6	582,623
25-34	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.4	12.3	13.0	12.9	12.8	14.0	14.6	14.7	25-34	3 Chronic lower respiratory diseases	45.7	143,489
35-44	15.3	14.9	15.0	14.9	15.1	15.6	15.9	16.1	16.0	16.2	16.7	35-44	4 Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	41.0	128,546
45-54	15.7	15.9	16.6	16.5	17.2	17.7	18.7	19.3	19.6	19.8	20.0	45-54	5 Accidents (unintentional injuries)	40.7	127,792
55-64	13.6	13.8	13.8	13.9	14.5	15.5	16.3	16.7	17.5	17.1	18.0	55-64	6 Alzheimer's disease	26.6	83,637
65-74	13.5	12.7	12.3	12.6	12.6	13.9	14.0	13.7	14.1	14.0	14.0	65-74	7 Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	23.6	73,932
75-84	17.7	16.4	16.3	16.9	15.9	16.3	16.0	15.7	15.7	16.5	16.8	75-84	8 Influenza & pneumonia	16.1	50,636
85+	18.0	16.9	16.4	16.9	15.9	15.6	15.6	17.6	16.9	17.8	18.5	85+	9 Nephritis, nephrosis (kidney disease)	14.5	45,622
65+	15.6	14.6	14.3	14.7	14.2	14.3	14.8	14.8	14.9	15.3	15.4	65+	10 Suicide [Intentional Self-Harm]	12.9	40,600
Total	11.0	10.8	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.5	11.8	12.0	12.4	12.7	12.9	Total	11 Septicemia	11.4	35,842
Men	17.9	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.8	18.3	19.0	19.2	20.0	20.2	20.6	Men	12 Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	11.1	34,979
Women	4.3	4.3	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.4	5.5	Women	13 Essential hypertension and renal disease	9.3	29,115
White	12.2	12.1	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.9	13.3	13.5	14.1	14.5	14.8	White	14 Parkinson's disease	7.6	23,818
Nonwh	5.5	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.1	NonWh	15 Pneumonitis	5.7	17,897
Black	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.9	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.5	Black	- All other causes (Residual)	167.3	525,040
45-64	14.9	15.0	15.4	15.3	16.0	16.7	17.5	18.0	18.6	18.6	19.1	45-64	16 Homicide	5.3	16,688

*Among the top 10 causes of death in 2012, only suicide showed a significant increase from 2011 levels*

Old made up 13.7% of 2012 population but represented 16.4% of the suicides.  
 Young were 14.0% of 2012 population and comprised 12.0% of the suicides.  
 Middle Aged were 26.4% of the 2012 population but were 38.9% of the suicides  
 1,165,403\* Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 (37,319 of 40,600 suicides below age 75)  
 \* WISQARS YPLL figure: 1,163,074 using individual years rather than 10-year age groups as above.

Many figures appearing here are derived or calculated from data in the following official data source: obtained 16 October 2014 from CDC's WISQARS website (fatal injuries report figures) <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html>.

SAMHSA 2012 study (2013): Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [SAMHSA] (2013). *Results from the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Mental Health Findings*, NSDUH Series H-47, HHS Publication No. (SMA) 13-4805. Rockville, MD: SAMHSA.

$$\text{suicide rate} = \frac{\text{number of suicides by group}}{\text{population of group}} \times 100,000$$

## Rate, Number, and Ranking of Suicide for Each U.S.A. State\*, 2012

Rank	State [Division] (2011 rank)	Deaths	Rate
1	Wyoming [M] (1T)	171	29.7
2	Montana [M] (1T)	233	23.2
3	Alaska [P] (4)	168	23.0
4	New Mexico [M] (3)	442	21.2
5	Colorado [M] (9T)	1,052	20.3
6	Utah [M] (9T)	550	19.3
7	Nevada [M] (6)	524	19.0
8	Idaho [M] (11T)	297	18.6
8	Oregon [P] (13)	724	18.6
10	Arizona [M] (8)	1,156	17.7
11	Oklahoma [WSC] (7)	670	17.6
11	West Virginia [SA] (14)	326	17.6
13	Kansas [WNC] (26T)	502	17.4
14	South Dakota [WNC] (16T)	141	16.9
15	Kentucky [ESC] (19)	724	16.5
16	Arkansas [WSC] (15)	485	16.4
17	Maine [NE] (11T)	209	15.7
18	Florida [SA] (20)	3,002	15.5
19	New Hampshire [NE] (21T)	202	15.3
20	Missouri [WNC] (16T)	914	15.2
20	Tennessee [ESC] (23)	978	15.2
22	Washington [P] (21T)	1,038	15.1
23	Alabama [ESC] (28)	724	15.0
23	North Dakota [WNC] (16T)	105	15.0
25	Indiana [ENC] (29)	940	14.4
26	South Carolina [SA] (24)	673	14.3
27	Vermont [NE] (5)	87	13.9
28	Mississippi [ESC] (30T)	410	13.7
28	Hawaii [P] (30T)	190	13.7
30	Delaware [SA] (40)	125	13.6
31	Ohio [ENC] (35)	1,542	13.4
32	North Carolina [SA] (36)	1,286	13.2
33	Virginia [SA] (33)	1,063	13.0
34	Pennsylvania [MA] (26T)	1,647	12.9
	<b>Nation</b>	<b>40,600</b>	<b>12.9</b>
35	Michigan [ENC] (38)	1,261	12.8
36	Wisconsin [ENC] (30T)	723	12.6
37	Nebraska [WNC] (43)	232	12.5
37	Iowa [WNC] (25)	383	12.5
37	Louisiana [WSC] (37)	567	12.3
40	Minnesota [WNC] (34)	656	12.2
41	Georgia [SA] (39)	1,168	11.8
42	Texas [WSC] (41)	3,037	11.7
43	Connecticut [NE] (44)	368	10.3
44	California [P] (42)	3,893	10.2
45	Illinois [ENC] (47)	1,292	10.0
45	Rhode Island [NE] (45T)	105	10.0
47	Maryland [SA] (45T)	583	9.9
48	Massachusetts [NE] (48)	604	9.1
49	New York [MA] (49)	1,708	8.7
50	New Jersey [MA] (50)	683	7.7
51	District of Columbia [SA] (51)	37	5.8

Division [Abbreviation]	Rate	Number
Mountain [M].....	19.6	4,425
East South Central [ESC].....	15.2	2,836
West North Central [WNC] .....	14.1	2,933
South Atlantic [SA].....	13.5	8,263
<b>Nation .....</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>40,600</b>
West South Central [WSC].....	12.7	4,759
East North Central [ENC].....	12.4	5,758
Pacific [P].....	11.8	6,013
New England [NE].....	10.8	1,575
Middle Atlantic [MA].....	9.8	4,038

Region [Subdivision Abbreviations]	Rate	Number
West (M, P).....	14.2	10,438
South (ESC, WSC, SA) .....	13.5	15,858
<b>Nation .....</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>40,600</b>
Midwest (WNC, ENC).....	12.9	8,691
Northeast (NE, MA).....	10.1	5,613

**Source:** Source: Obtained 16 October 2014 from CDC's WISQARS website (fatal injuries report figures) <http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html> [Note: divisional and regional figures were calculated from state data ]  
 [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: 2012**  
**18 October 2014**

Prepared by Christopher W. Drapeau, M.A.  
 and John L. McIntosh, Ph.D. for



**American Association  
of Suicidology**

5221 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.  
 Washington, DC 20015  
 (202) 237-2280

*“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://mypage.iusb.edu/~jmcintos/>

*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. (for the American Association of Suicidology). (2014). *U.S.A. suicide 2012: Official final data*. Washington, DC: American Association of Suicidology, dated October 18, 2014, downloaded from <http://www.suicidology.org>.