Incidence of Suicide
Janet Kittams–Lalley
Helpline Center

Over 42,000 suicides in the U.S.
Average of 1 person every 12.3 minutes
dies from suicide
10th ranking cause of death in U.S.
2nd ranking cause for youth ages 15 – 24

Data from American Association of Suicidiology

National Suicide Statistics for 2014

Over 42,000 suicides in the U.S.
Average of 1 person every 12.3 minutes
dies from suicide
10th ranking cause of death in U.S.
2nd ranking cause for youth ages 15 – 24

Data from American Association of Suicidiology

National Suicide Statistics

About 5,000 young people between ages of 15–24 years old die annually from suicide
Over 7,000 elderly dies from suicide every year
There are 3.4 male suicide deaths for every female death

Data from American Association of Suicidiology

Survivors

Each suicide death has devastating effects
For each death by suicide – 147 people are exposed and among those, 18 experience a major life disruption
That means there are 750,000 loss survivors a year

Data from American Association of Suicidiology
A new report by SAMHSA reveals that in 2015...

- 9.8 million American adults had serious thoughts of suicide
- 2.7 million adults made suicide plans and 1.4 million made nonfatal suicide attempts

The report, Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors among Adults, Results from the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, is available at:
http://www.samhsa.gov/data/
South Dakota Suicide Data

Crude Death Rate Due to Intentional Self-Harm (suicide) by Year of Death for 2003-2014

South Dakota 16.5 per 100,000
US 13.4 per 100,000

Source: South Dakota Vital Records and SDAHO Inpatient Outpatient Data Collection System, 2009-2013

Figure 1. Total Suicides and Suicide Attempts, 2009-2013
Significant trend over time in attempted suicide.

Figure 3. Total Suicides and Suicide Attempts by Sex, 2009-2013
Significant trend in attempted suicide in both sexes.

Source: South Dakota Vital Records and SDAHO Inpatient Outpatient Data Collection System, 2009-2013
The SAMHSA report shows that the overall percentage of adults who had serious thoughts of attempting suicide has remained stable. However, the report shows an increase in serious thoughts of suicide among young adults (aged 18 to 25) from 2014 to 2015 of 7.5 percent in 2014 to 8.3 percent in 2015.

The report also shows a significant increase from 2014 to 2015 in the rate of nonfatal suicide attempts among young adult females – up from 1.5 percent in 2014 to 2 percent in 2015.
Young adults had significantly higher levels of serious suicidal thoughts compared to any other age group --- twice as high, for example, as people aged 40 to 54 (8.3 percent versus 3.5 percent respectively).

Data from Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors among Adults, Results from the 2015 National Survey

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Alaska</td>
<td>34.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>26.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>25.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>25.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data from American Association of Suicidology

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Attempts 15-19 year olds rate per 100,000</th>
<th>Deaths 15-19 year olds rate per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region 1</td>
<td>212.6</td>
<td>28.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 2</td>
<td>220.4</td>
<td>60.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 3</td>
<td>189.0</td>
<td>17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 4</td>
<td>144.1</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 5</td>
<td>330.1</td>
<td>25.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Rates are per 100,000
Source: South Dakota Vital Records and SDAHO Inpatient Outpatient Data Collection System, 2009-2013
Native American Data

- Nationally, Native Americans have a rate of 10.8 per 100,000 compared to the rate of 13.4 of the overall population.

- Significantly fewer (21%) urban-reared Native American youth were found to have suicide ideation (versus 33% among reservation-reared youth)

Data from American Association of Suicidology
Elderly Suicide

Data

Older adults attempt suicide less often than those in other age groups, but they have a higher completion rate. For all ages combined there is an estimated 1 suicide for every 100–200 attempts. **Over the age of 65, there is 1 estimated for every 4 attempted suicides.**

White men over the age of 85 were at greatest risk of all age–gender–race groups. In 2012, the suicide rate for these men was 50.67 per 100,000. 2.5 times the current rate for all men.

83% of elderly suicides were male; male suicides in late life are 5.25 times greater than female suicides.

Data from American Association of Suicidology
USA State Rankings for Elderly

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>32.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>26.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Elderly</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>11.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data from American Association of Suicidology

Questions?
Janet Kittams-Lalley
Helpline Center
janet@helplinecenter.org
605-274-1408