

U.S.A. SUICIDE: 1999 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

	Number	Per Day	Rate	% of Deaths	Group (Number of Sui.)	Rate
Nation	29,199	80.0	10.7	1.2	White Male (21,107)	19.1
Males	23,458	64.3	17.6	2.0	White Female (5,193)	4.5
Females.....	5,741	15.7	4.1	0.5	Nonwhite Male (2,351)	10.2
Whites.....	26,300	72.1	11.7	1.3	Nonwhite Female (548)	2.2
Nonwhites.....	2,899	7.9	6.0	0.9	Black Male (1,651)	10.0
Blacks.....	1,950	5.3	5.6	0.7	Black Female (299)	1.6
Elderly (65+ yrs.)	5,489	15.0	15.9	0.3	Native American (291)	12.1
Young (15-24 yrs.).....	3,901	10.7	10.3	12.7	Asian/Pacific Islander (658)	6.1

Completions:

suicide rates have declined for six consecutive years

- Average of 1 person every 18 minutes killed themselves.
- Average of 1 old person every 1 hour 35.8 minutes killed themselves.
- Average of 1 young person every 2 hours 14.7 minutes killed themselves. (If the 244 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 2 hours 6.8 minutes)

- 11th ranking cause of death in U.S.— 3rd for **young**-----> Cause Number Rate
- 4.1 male completions for each female completion. All Causes 30,656 81.2
- Suicide ranks 11th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 14th 1-Accidents 13,656 36.2

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

- 730,000 annual attempts in U.S.
- 25 attempts for every completion for nation. 100-200:1 for young, and 4:1 for elderly.
- 5 million living Americans (estimate) have attempted to kill themselves.
- 3 female attempts for each male attempt.

	Number	Rate
2-Homicide	4,998	13.2
3-Suicide	3,901	10.3
10-14 yrs	242	1.2
15-19 yrs	1,615	8.2
20-24 yrs	2,286	12.7

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 over 736,000 suicides from 1975 through 1999, estimated that the number of survivors of suicides in the U.S. is 4.4 million (1 of every 62 Americans in 1999); number grew by over 175,000 in 1999.
- If there is a suicide every 18 minutes, then there are 6 new survivors every 18 minutes as well.

<u>Suicide by Firearms:</u>	Number	Rate	Percent of Total		Number	Rate	Percent of Total
Firearm suicides USA	16,599	6.1	56.8%	All Other USA	12,600	4.6	43.2%
Firearm suicides Young	2,315	6.1	59.3%	All Other Young	1,586	4.2	40.7%
Firearm suicides Old	3,921	11.4	71.4%	All Other Old	1,568	4.5	28.6%
Firearm suicides Male	14,479	10.9	61.7%	All Other Male	8,979	6.7	38.3%
Firearm suicides Female	2,120	1.5	36.9%	All Other Female	3,621	2.6	63.1%

U.S.A. Suicide Rates 1990-1999											15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 1999		
Group/	(Rates per 100,000 population)										(total of 2,391,399 deaths; 877.0 rate)		
Age	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	Rank & Cause of Death	Rate	Deaths
5-14	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	1 Diseases of heart	265.9	725,192
15-24	13.2	13.1	13.0	13.5	13.8	13.3	12.0	11.4	11.1	10.3	2 Malignant neoplasms	201.6	549,838
25-34	15.2	15.2	14.5	15.1	15.4	15.4	14.5	14.3	13.8	13.5	3 Cerebrovascular diseases	61.4	167,366
35-44	15.3	14.7	15.1	15.1	15.3	15.2	15.5	15.3	15.4	14.4	4 Chronic lower respiratory diseases	45.5	124,181
45-54	14.8	15.5	14.7	14.5	14.4	14.6	14.9	14.7	14.8	14.2	5 Accidents	35.9	97,860
55-64	16.0	15.4	14.8	14.6	13.4	13.3	13.7	13.5	13.1	12.4	6 Diabetes mellitus	25.1	68,399
65-74	17.9	16.9	16.5	16.3	15.3	15.8	15.0	14.4	14.1	13.6	7 Influenza & pneumonia	23.4	63,730
75-84	24.9	23.5	22.8	22.3	21.3	20.7	20.0	19.3	19.7	18.3	8 Alzheimer's disease	16.3	44,536
85+	22.2	24.0	21.9	22.8	23.0	21.6	20.2	20.8	21.0	19.2	9 Nephritis, nephrosis	13.0	35,525
65+	20.5	19.7	19.1	19.0	18.1	18.1	17.3	16.8	16.9	15.9	10 Septicemia	11.3	30,680
Total	12.4	12.2	12.0	12.1	12.0	11.9	11.6	11.4	11.3	10.7	11 Suicide	10.7	29,199
Men	20.4	20.1	19.6	19.9	19.8	19.8	19.3	18.7	18.6	17.6	12 Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	9.6	26,259
Women	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.1	13 Essential hypertension and renal disease	6.2	16,968
White	13.5	13.3	13.0	13.1	12.9	12.9	12.7	12.4	12.4	11.7	14 Homicide	6.2	16,889
Nonwh	7.0	6.8	6.8	7.1	7.2	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.2	6.0	15 Aortic aneurysm and dissection	5.8	15,807
Black	6.9	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.2	5.7	5.6	- All other causes (Residual)	139.0	378,970

Old made up 12.7% of 1999 population but committed 18.8% of the suicides.

Young were 13.9% of 1999 population and committed 13.4% of the suicides.

Official data source: Hoyert, D.L., Arias, E., Smith, B.L., Murphy, S.L., & Kochanek, K.D. (2001). Deaths: Final data for 1999. *National Vital Statistics Report, 49(8)*. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. DHHS Publication No. (PHS) 2001-1120. [Data to be published in the 1999 annual volume of *Vital Statistics of the United States*.] [Some figures from vol. 49(11), Deaths: Leading causes for 1999]

Population figures source: Table V, p. 106, of the National Center for Health Statistics (Hoyert et al., 2001) publication above.

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

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