

Suicide Facts & Figures:

Kentucky 2018*



On average, one person dies by suicide every 12 hours in the state.

More than twice as many people die by suicide in Kentucky annually than by homicide.

The total deaths to suicide reflect a total of 15,289 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Kentucky a total of **\$746,659,000** of combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,183,295 per suicide death.**

*Based on most recent 2016 data from CDC. Learn more at afsp.org/statistics.



11th leading cause of death in Kentucky

2nd leading

cause of death for ages 15-34

4th leading

cause of death for ages 35-54

9th leading

cause of death for ages 55-64

16th leading

cause of death for ages 65 & older

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
Kentucky	756	16.79	20
Nationally	44,965	13.42	

Suicide Facts & Figures: **Kentucky 2018**

Suicide Prevention Programs and Initiatives

- The Suicide Prevention Consortium of Kentucky (SPCK, <http://spcky.org/>) brings together individuals and organizations dedicated to reducing the impact of suicide and suicide attempts in the Commonwealth. SPCK is open to the public and is currently supported by a State Suicide Prevention Coordinator within the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities (DBHDID, <http://dbhdid.ky.gov/dbh/sp.aspx>).
- DBHDID provides consultation, training, and resources for schools and providers, and increases statewide public/private collaboration. In spring 2013, DBHDID released the state's 2013-2018 Strategy for Suicide Prevention (<http://bit.ly/2tN9h6N>), and in 2014 received a federal Garret Lee Smith grant for the Kentucky Initiative for Zero Suicides.
- Kentucky law (KRS § 158.070) requires 2 hours of self-study review of suicide prevention materials each year for high school and middle school principals, guidance counselors, and teachers, and requires administrators to annually disseminate suicide prevention awareness information to all middle and high school students (KRS § 156.095).
- Kentucky law (KRS § 210.366) requires 3-6 hours of training at least once every 6 years for certified or licensed social workers, marriage and family therapists, professional counselors, pastoral counselors, alcohol and drug counselors, psychologists, and occupational therapists.
- Kentucky law (KRS § 210.365) requires DBHDID to coordinate the development of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for law enforcement officers, which includes training on suicide prevention techniques. The law also requires the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to create a telephonic behavioral health jail triage system to screen prisoners for mental health risk issues, including suicide risk, upon admittance to detention.

Get Involved

The **AFSP Kentucky Chapter** brings together people of all backgrounds in communities throughout the state to fight suicide. We help fund research, offer educational programs, advocate for public policy and support those affected by suicide.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

AFSP Kentucky
kentucky@afsp.org

Become an Advocate

AFSP's Kentucky advocacy volunteers build relationships with public officials and advocate on behalf of sound suicide prevention policy.

Visit afsp.org/advocate to sign up!