

Suicide Facts & Figures:

Louisiana 2019 *



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

More than three times as many people died by suicide in Louisiana in 2017 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.

The total deaths to suicide reflect a total of 15,315 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Louisiana a total of **\$675,990,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,213,626 per suicide death.**

*Based on most recent 2017 data from CDC. Learn more at afsp.org/statistics.



11th leading cause of death in Louisiana

3rd leading

cause of death for ages 15-34

4th leading

cause of death for ages 35-44

5th leading

cause of death for ages 45-54

10th leading

cause of death for ages 55-64

17th leading

cause of death for ages 65 & older

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
Louisiana	720	15.18	28
Nationally	47,173	14.00	

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Suicide Prevention Programs and Initiatives

- The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Office of Public Health released S.T.A.R.: The Louisiana Plan for Youth Suicide Prevention in 2001. S.T.A.R. stands for the four key dimensions featured in the plan: (1) Suicide Prevention for All Louisianans; (2) Training and Education; (3) Awareness and Advocacy; and (4) Research and Resources. See <https://bit.ly/2EAvr0x>.
- Louisiana law (RS § 17:437.1 [Jason Flatt Act] & RS § 17:3996) requires that all public, approved non-public, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and certain school administrators participate annually in at least 2 hours of in-service training in suicide prevention. SCR 76 (adopted 5/22/18) requests the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to ascertain whether all school employees identified by the law are in compliance via an annual survey and to report those findings to the legislature.
- The Louisiana Department of Education offers a Model School District Policy (<https://bit.ly/2rFtyay>) and a Youth Suicide Prevention Training Module (<https://bit.ly/2PCMCBd>) for school employees.
- Louisiana law (RS §§ 28:801-814) creates the Zero Suicide Initiative, to be administered by the LDH Office of Behavioral Health (OBH); creates the Louisiana state suicide prevention plan as an initiative of OBH; and encourages stakeholder collaboration and coordination in both the Zero Suicide Initiative and in implementation of the state plan.
- Louisiana law (RS §§ 37:24-27) requires LDH to offer certified, licensed, or registered mental health counselors, social workers, psychiatrists, medical psychologists, nurses, physicians' assistants, and addiction counselors access to an online list of training programs in suicide assessment, intervention, treatment, and management; training hours may be counted towards continuing education or continuing competency requirements for professionals. See <https://bit.ly/2Gsyg5w>.

Get Involved

The **AFSP Louisiana 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 Louisiana
louisiana@afsp.org

Become an Advocate

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

Visit afsp.org/advocate to sign up!