

Suicide Facts & Figures:

Alabama 2020



On average, one person died by suicide every 11 hours in the state.

More than three times as many people died by suicide in Alabama in 2018 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 17,092 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Alabama a total of **\$790,902,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,164,804 per suicide death.**



11th leading cause of death in Alabama

3rd leading

cause of death for ages 10-34

4th leading

cause of death for ages 35-44

6th 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+

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
Alabama	823	16.47	23
Nationally	48,344	14.21	

CDC, 2018 Fatal Injury Reports (accessed from www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html on 3/1/2020).

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Suicide Prevention Programs and Initiatives

- The Alabama Suicide Prevention and Resources Coalition (ASPARC, <https://www.asparc.org/>) is a nonprofit that functions as a public-private coalition. ASPARC offers gatekeeper training and maintains an online resource directory for suicide prevention and community resources.
- The Alabama Department of Public Health maintains a suicide prevention website (www.adph.org/suicideprevention/) and has identified suicide prevention as a priority objective within the Healthy Alabama 2010 initiative (<https://bit.ly/2XibqRH>) and its 2015-2019 Community Health Improvement Plan (<https://bit.ly/2TcUtsG>).
- Alabama law (§ 16-28B-8) requires, subject to funding, that school systems foster counseling services related to suicide prevention, make referral and crisis intervention information available, educate students in recognizing suicide warning signs, promote cooperative efforts between school personnel and community program personnel, develop a strategy to assist survivors of suicide attempts and suicide loss, and provide annual training for all certificated school employees in suicide awareness and prevention.
- Alabama law (§ 16-28B-8) requires the AL State Department of Education (ALSDE) to create an advisory committee to assist in the development and adoption of rules to provide for school employee training in suicide awareness and prevention and allows ALSDE and the committee to develop a list of approved training materials (<https://bit.ly/2PGrbRc>); the law also requires local school systems to adopt a student suicide prevention policy and ALSDE and the advisory committee to establish a model policy for use by local school systems.

Get Involved

The **AFSP Alabama 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 Alabama
alabama@afsp.org

Become an Advocate

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

Visit afsp.org/advocate to sign up!