

Suicide Facts & Figures:

Colorado 2020



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

Almost seven times as many people died by suicide in Colorado in 2018 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 28,595 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Colorado a total of **\$1,053,409,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,217,814 per suicide death.**



7th leading cause of death in Colorado

2nd leading

cause of death for ages 10-44

4th leading

cause of death for ages 45-54

6th leading

cause of death for ages 55-64

16th leading

cause of death for ages 65+

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
Colorado	1,282	21.83	7
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

- Colorado's Office of Suicide Prevention is housed within the Violence and Injury Prevention - Mental Health Promotion Branch, Prevention Services Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE); see <https://bit.ly/1OA9n2u>.
- Colorado's Suicide Prevention Commission was established in 2014 (C.R.S. § 25-1.5-111) to provide public and private leadership for suicide prevention and intervention, set statewide priorities, and advise the Office of Suicide Prevention; see <http://bit.ly/2pqNBbS> for meeting info. Current Commission priorities stem from the Colorado Suicide Prevention Plan, created in 2016 and based on the "Zero Suicide" model to reduce suicide in criminal justice and healthcare systems (C.R.S. § 25-1.5-112).
- The Office of Suicide Prevention is required by statute (C.R.S. § 25-1.5-101(1)(w)(III) (A)) to report annually on the status of program efforts to coordinate statewide suicide prevention services including progress on recommendations from the Commission; see <https://bit.ly/35EJ1uK> for the latest 2018-2019 annual report.
- Colorado law (C.R.S. § 22-60.5-110) encourages licensed educators to include in-service youth suicide awareness and prevention programs as part of their professional development for license renewal.
- Colorado law establishes the Crisis and Suicide Prevention Training Grant Program in the CDPHE to assist schools in providing crisis and suicide prevention training (C.R.S. § 25-1.5-113), and the School Health Professionals Grant Program in the Department of Education to fund school behavioral health care services, including screenings, counseling, therapy, referrals to community organizations, and training for students and staff (C.R.S. §§ 22-96-101 to 105).

Get Involved

The **AFSP Colorado 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 Colorado
colorado@afsp.org

Become an Advocate

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

Visit afsp.org/advocate to sign up!