

# Suicide Facts & Figures:

## Georgia 2020



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

**More than four times as many people died by suicide in Georgia in 2018 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.**

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 32,720 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Georgia a total of **\$1,318,204,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,163,463 per suicide death.**



## 10th leading cause of death in Georgia

### 2nd leading

cause of death for ages 10-34

### 4th leading

cause of death for ages 35-54

### 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
Georgia	1,569	14.53	34
Nationally	48,344	14.21	

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

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## Suicide Prevention Programs and Initiatives

- Georgia's Suicide Prevention Program ([dbhdd.georgia.gov/suicide-prevention](http://dbhdd.georgia.gov/suicide-prevention)) was created by statute (§ 37-1-27) and is housed within the Office of Behavioral Health Prevention, Division of Behavioral Health at the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD). Georgia law requires the Suicide Prevention Program to coordinate with and receive technical assistance from the Department of Public Health to support data collection, research, and outreach efforts.
- Georgia's current suicide prevention plan covers the years 2015-2022. Titled Suicide Safer Communities in Georgia - 2015 Georgia Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Goals and Objectives for Action, it can be found online at <https://bit.ly/2FyFVhB>.
- The Georgia Crisis & Access Line (GCAL, 1-800-715-4225) is a 24/7 statewide call center operated by Behavioral Health Link through funding from DBHDD that provides free and confidential crisis intervention and access to behavioral health services; in 2019, state officials launched the My GCAL mobile app to reach Georgia's youth.
- Georgia law (§ 37-1-27) encourages suicide prevention training and the provision of minimal screening tools for clergy and correctional workers, and improved suicide prevention education for nurses, judges, physician assistants, social workers, psychologists, and other counselors.
- Georgia law (§ 20-2-779.1, the Jason Flatt Act) requires all certificated public school personnel to receive annual training in suicide awareness and prevention. The law also requires each local school system to adopt a policy on student suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention and the Department of Education (DOE) to establish a model policy for use by local school systems. A list of approved trainings and the DOE model policy can be found at <https://bit.ly/2lmoa7w>.

## Get Involved

The **AFSP Georgia 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 Georgia**  
[georgia@afsp.org](mailto:georgia@afsp.org)

### Become an Advocate

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

**Visit [afsp.org/advocate](http://afsp.org/advocate) to sign up!**