

Suicide Facts & Figures:

Illinois 2020



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

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

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 30,784 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Illinois a total of **\$1,391,865,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,181,549 per suicide death.**



11th leading cause of death in Illinois

3rd leading

cause of death for ages 10-24

2nd leading

cause of death for ages 25-34

4th leading

cause of death for ages 35-54

9th leading

cause of death for ages 55-64

18th leading

cause of death for ages 65+

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
Illinois	1,488	11.31	43
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 Suicide Prevention, Education and Treatment Act (§ 410 ILCS 53/) created the Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance in 2004, which serves as an advisory board to the Illinois Department of Public Health (DPH, <https://bit.ly/2SShFts>) and strives to bring together public and private stakeholders to implement the state's Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan; SB 1425 (adopted 8/9/19) amended the Act to require DPH to coordinate statewide suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention efforts; develop and submit funding proposals; prepare a 2020 update to the Strategic Plan with input from the Alliance that includes implementation of the Zero Suicide model; and consult with the Alliance to submit a related annual report.
- Released in 2019, the Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan, Updated Goals and Objectives 2018-2021 (<https://bit.ly/2NsfM5d>) challenges communities, public health professionals, and health care providers to educate, inform, and motivate the public to maximize resources to reduce the burden of suicide.
- Illinois law requires that, at least once every 2 years, licensed school personnel and administrators who work with students in grades K-12 be trained to identify the warning signs of mental illness and suicidal behavior in youth and be taught intervention and referral techniques (§§ 105 ILCS 5/34-18.7 and 5/10-22.39); encourages school health education programs to include suicide prevention (§ 105 ILCS 110/3); and requires school boards to develop and post online suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention policies while requiring the state board of education to develop and post online a related model policy and recommended training and educational materials (§ 105 ILCS 5/2-3.166).
- Illinois law requires colleges and universities to complete specific tasks to address gaps in mental health services on campus (HB 2152, adopted 8/9/19), and beginning with the 2020-2021 academic year, to provide students with information about available mental health and suicide prevention resources (HB 3404, adopted 8/7/19).

Get Involved

The **AFSP Illinois 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 Illinois
illinois@afsp.org

Become an Advocate

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

Visit afsp.org/advocate to sign up!