

# Suicide Facts & Figures:

## Maryland 2020



On average, one person died by suicide every 13 hours in the state.

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

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 12,229 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Maryland a total of **\$586,391,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,168,110 per suicide death.**



## 11th leading cause of death in Maryland

### 3rd leading

cause of death for ages 10-34

### 4th leading

cause of death for ages 35-44

### 5th leading

cause of death for ages 45-54

### 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
Maryland	650	10.15	46
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

- The MD Governor's Commission on Suicide Prevention was established by a 2009 executive order, amended in 2018 to modernize the Commission and expand membership. For the Commission's latest 2018 plan see <https://bit.ly/2J34PpH>.
- Led by the MD Department of Health Behavioral Health Administration, MD's Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Network (MD-SPIN) provides a continuum of suicide prevention training, resources, and technical assistance (see <https://bit.ly/2A4tYMc>).
- MD law (Education §§ 7-501 to 506) establishes a statewide Youth Suicide Prevention School Program, administered by the State Department of Education which must establish policies for programs to offer counseling, referral and crisis intervention, and training.
- MD law (Education § 7-431) requires that the MD Youth Crisis Hotline number (now MD Crisis Connect) be printed in student handbooks and on student ID cards. The line expanded to serve adults in 2015 and in 2018 partnered with 211 to create MD Crisis Connect, providing 24/7 call (211 option 1), text (zip code to 898-211), and chat ([pressone.211md.org](http://pressone.211md.org)) services.
- Lauryn's Law (Education § 6-122) requires annual training for all certificated school personnel who have regular direct contact with students in youth suicide risk and identifying resources to help students in crisis. School counselors must continue to receive training in the social, emotional, and personal development of students, which includes but may exceed the training required for other personnel (Education § 6-704.1).
- SB 521 (adopted 4/18/19) requires the Department of Health to develop a comprehensive action plan to increase access to and availability of professional Veteran health services to prevent Veteran suicide.

## Get Involved

The **AFSP Maryland 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 Maryland**  
[maryland@afsp.org](mailto:maryland@afsp.org)

### Become an Advocate

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

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