

Suicide Facts & Figures:

New Mexico 2020



On average, one person died by suicide every 16 hours in the state.

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

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 11,544 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost New Mexico a total of **\$506,888,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,227,332 per suicide death.**



9th leading cause of death in New Mexico

2nd leading
cause of death for ages 10-34

3rd leading
cause of death for ages 35-44

5th leading
cause of death for ages 45-54

8th leading
cause of death for ages 55-64

15th leading
cause of death for ages 65+

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
New Mexico	536	24.98	1
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

- New Mexico's Suicide Prevention Program (<https://bit.ly/2tklpfC>) is housed within the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDH). In its 2020-2022 State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP), NMDH identifies suicide as a key Substance Use & Mental Health issue and outlines planning efforts with 3 statewide goals: develop a statewide suicide prevention plan; increase the number of suicide gatekeepers; and increase secondary prevention of suicide through emergency departments (see <https://bit.ly/2YUsS0F>, pp. 17-18).
- Crisis hotline services in NM are available through the New Mexico Crisis and Access Line (NMCAL), a 24/7 statewide mental health crisis line funded and contracted by the NM Behavioral Health Services Division (855-NMCRISIS [662-7474], nmcrisisline.com), and the Agora Crisis Center helpline, funded in part by NMDH (866-HELP-1-NM [435-7166], agoracares.org); both are part of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network.
- New Mexico Law (NMSA § 9-7-6.7) establishes a Clearinghouse for Native American Suicide Prevention to provide culturally appropriate suicide prevention, intervention and post-event assistance and culturally based Native American youth suicide prevention initiatives. The law (NMSA § 9-7-11.5) also establishes an Advisory Council to assist in developing policies, rules, and priorities for the Clearinghouse.
- SJM 61 (2005) requested the Public Education Department, Commission on Higher Education, the Department of Health, and state universities to collaborate to implement suicide prevention and response programs in all school districts and institutions of higher education.

Get Involved

The **AFSP New Mexico 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 New Mexico
newmexico@afsp.org

Become an Advocate

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

Visit afsp.org/advocate to sign up!