

Suicide Facts & Figures:

North Dakota 2020



On average, one person died by suicide every 60 hours in the state.

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

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 3,674 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost North Dakota a total of **\$140,345,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,324,010 per suicide death.**



9th leading cause of death in North Dakota

1st leading

cause of death for ages 10-24

2nd leading

cause of death for ages 25-34

4th leading

cause of death for ages 35-44

5th leading

cause of death for ages 45-54

7th leading

cause of death for ages 55-64

19th leading

cause of death for ages 65+

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
North Dakota	147	18.75	17
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

- ND's statewide Suicide Prevention Program, previously carried out by the Department of Health (NDDoH) Division of Injury & Violence Prevention, is now housed within the Department of Human Services (DHS) Behavioral Health Division (<https://bit.ly/2SdqzBD>).
- The NDDoH Division of Injury & Violence Prevention released the North Dakota Suicide Prevention Plan 2017-2020 (<https://bit.ly/35QATXQ>) to focus and coordinate statewide suicide prevention efforts; AFSP-North Dakota participated in development of the plan.
- In 2018, the DHS Behavioral Health Division released the ND Behavioral Health System Study (<https://bit.ly/33XAX6D>), an evaluation of the state's behavioral health system written by the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI), which identified a shortage of prevention and early intervention services. The Division then launched the ND Behavioral Health Vision 20/20 project ([hsri.org/NDvision-2020](https://bit.ly/33XAX6D)), led by the Behavioral Health Planning Council and endorsed by DHS and the Governor's office, aimed at improving the system; based on major recommendations from the HSRI report, the Council drafted a list of strategic goals, including Zero Suicide implementation and other suicide prevention focused activities (<https://bit.ly/2CSUHwe>).
- In 2017, ND repealed its law requiring middle and high school personnel to receive at least 2 hours of professional development annually in youth suicide risk indicators, appropriate responses, and referral sources (formerly § 15.1-19-24, repealed via S.L. 2017 ch.350, § 6). Current law (§ 15.1-07-34) states that, every 2 years, school districts must provide a minimum of 8 hours of professional development training on youth behavioral health to all elementary, middle, and high school teachers and administrators. Based on a district's annual needs assessment, training topics are selected from 8 categories, one of which is suicide prevention. Schools must also designate an individual as a behavioral health resource coordinator and the superintendent of public instruction must maintain the contact information of said coordinator in each school.

Get Involved

The **AFSP North Dakota 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 North Dakota
northdakota@afsp.org

Become an Advocate

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

Visit afsp.org/advocate to sign up!