Suicide Data: West Virginia

Suicide is a public health problem and leading cause of death in the United States. Suicide can also be prevented – more investment in suicide prevention, education, and research will prevent the untimely deaths of thousands of Americans each year. Unless otherwise noted, this fact sheet reports 2020 data from the CDC, the most current verified data available at time of publication (March 2022).

12th leading cause of death in West Virginia

- 2nd 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
- 7th leading cause of death for ages 45-54
- 10th leading cause of death for ages 55-64
- 18th leading cause of death for ages 65+

Suicide Death Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of Deaths by Suicide</th>
<th>Rate per 100,000 Population</th>
<th>State Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>19.45</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nationally</td>
<td>45,979</td>
<td>13.48</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

87.26% of communities did not have enough mental health providers to serve residents in 2021, according to federal guidelines.

Almost six times as many people died by suicide in 2019 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 7,059 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.

68% of firearm deaths were suicides.

62% of all suicides were by firearms.

See full list of citations at afsp.org/statistics.