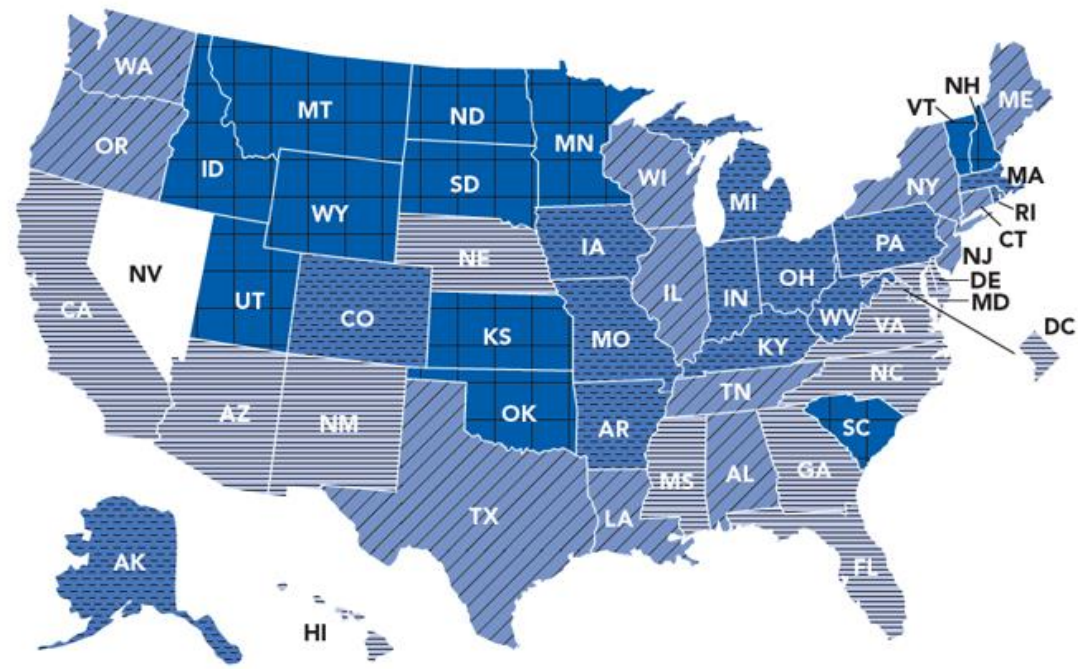


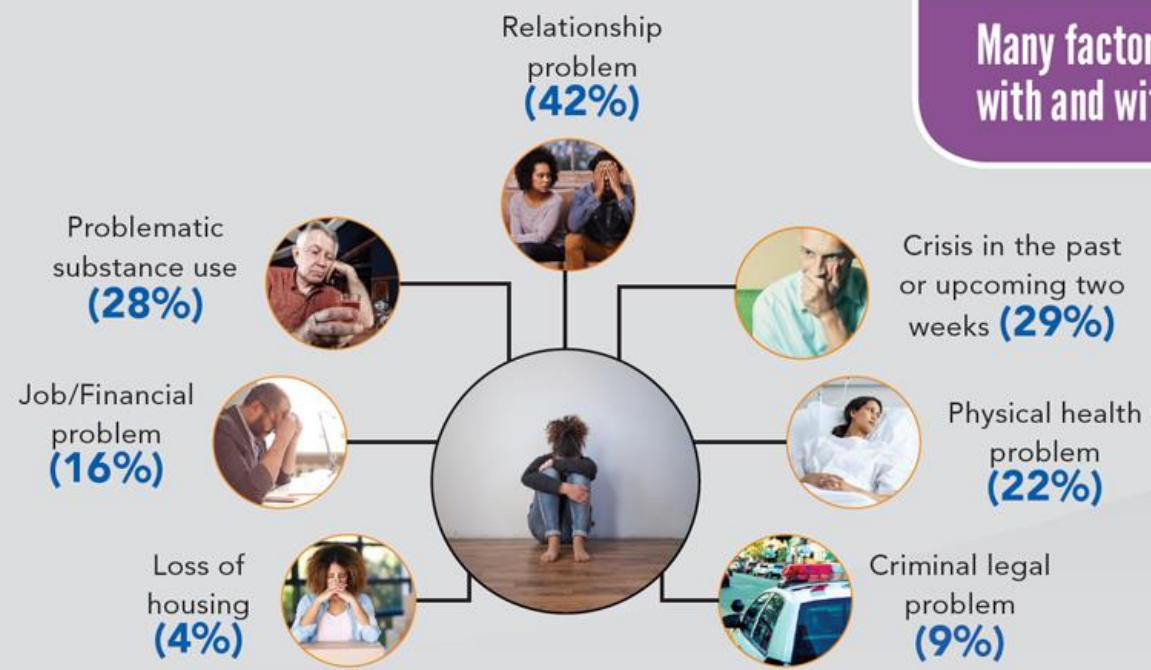
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Suicide rates rose across the US from 1999 to 2016.



SOURCE: CDC's National Vital Statistics System; CDC Vital Signs, June 2018.

Many factors contribute to suicide among those with and without known mental health conditions.



Note: Persons who died by suicide may have had multiple circumstances. Data on mental health conditions and other factors are from coroner/medical examiner and law enforcement reports. It is possible that mental health conditions or other circumstances could have been present and not diagnosed, known, or reported.

SOURCE: CDC's National Violent Death Reporting System, data from 27 states participating in 2015.

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TABLE 1. Selected demographic and descriptive characteristics of suicides among persons aged ≥ 10 years with and without known mental health conditions — National Violent Death Reporting System, 27 states,* 2015



Characteristic	Total (N = 20,446) No. (%)	Known mental health condition [†] (n = 9,407) No. (%)	No known mental health condition (n = 11,039) No. (%)	Chi-square p-value	OR [§] (95% CI)	Adjusted OR [¶] (95% CI)
Sex						
Male	15,702 (76.8)	6,469 (68.8)	9,233 (83.6)	<0.01	2.3 (2.2–2.5)	NA
Female	4,744 (23.2)	2,938 (31.2)	1,806 (16.4)	<0.01	0.4 (0.4–0.5)	NA
Age group (yrs)**						
10–24	2,804 (13.7)	1,211 (12.9)	1,593 (14.4)	<0.01	1.1 (1.1–1.2)	NA
25–44	6,456 (31.6)	3,036 (32.3)	3,420 (31.0)	<0.05	0.9 (0.9–1.0)	NA
45–64	7,718 (37.7)	3,820 (40.6)	3,898 (35.3)	<0.01	0.8 (0.8–0.8)	NA
≥ 65	3,468 (17.0)	1,340 (14.2)	2,128 (19.3)	<0.01	1.4 (1.3–1.5)	NA
Race/Ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	17,102 (83.6)	8,165 (86.8)	8,937 (81.0)	<0.01	0.6 (0.6–0.7)	NA
Black, non-Hispanic	1,228 (6.0)	411 (4.4)	817 (7.4)	<0.01	1.7 (1.5–	NA

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American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic	378 (1.8)	112 (1.2)	266 (2.4)	<0.01	2.0 (1.6-2.6)	NA
Asian, non-Hispanic	576 (2.8)	235 (2.5)	341 (3.1)	<0.05	1.2 (1.1-1.5)	NA
Hispanic	1,096 (5.4)	463 (4.9)	633 (5.7)	<0.05	1.2 (1.0-1.3)	NA
Other	66 (0.3)	21 (0.2)	45 (0.4)	<0.05	1.8 (1.1-3.1)	NA
Extended demographics						
Ever served in military ^{††}	3,429 (17.8)	1,354 (15.3)	2,075 (20.1)	<0.01	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.1 (1.0-1.1)
Homeless	240 (1.2)	104 (1.1)	136 (1.3)	NS	1.1 (0.9-1.5)	1.2 (0.9-1.5)
Incident type						
Single suicide	20,063 (98.2)	9,318 (99.1)	10,745 (97.4)	<0.01	0.3 (0.3-0.4)	0.4 (0.3-0.5)
Homicide followed by suicide	319 (1.6)	64 (0.7)	255 (2.3)	<0.01	3.5 (2.6-4.5)	2.9 (2.2-3.8)
Multiple suicides	64 (0.3)	25 (0.3)	39 (0.4)	NS	1.3 (0.8-2.2)	1.6 (0.9-2.6)
Method						
Firearm	9,909 (48.5)	3,821 (40.6)	6,088 (55.3)	<0.01	1.8 (1.7-1.9)	1.6 (1.5-1.7)

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Hanging/Strangulation/Suffocation	5,907 (28.9)	2,940 (31.3)	2,967 (26.9)	<0.01	0.8 (0.8–0.9)	0.8 (0.7–0.8)
Poisoning	3,003 (14.7)	1,861 (19.8)	1,142 (10.4)	<0.01	0.5 (0.4–0.5)	0.6 (0.6–0.7)
Substance class causing death ⁵⁵						
Other (e.g., over-the-counter)	1,021 (34.0)	666 (35.8)	355 (31.1)	<0.01	0.8 (0.7–0.9)	0.9 (0.7–1.0)
Opioids	944 (31.4)	608 (32.7)	336 (29.4)	NS	0.9 (0.7–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.1)
Antidepressants	800 (26.6)	644 (34.6)	156 (13.7)	<0.01	0.3 (0.2–0.4)	0.3 (0.3–0.4)
Benzodiazepines	624 (20.8)	468 (25.1)	156 (13.7)	<0.01	0.5 (0.4–0.6)	0.5 (0.4–0.6)
Antipsychotics	219 (7.3)	195 (10.5)	24 (2.1)	<0.01	0.2 (0.1–0.3)	0.2 (0.1–0.3)
Other	1,595 (7.8)	780 (8.3)	815 (7.4)	<0.05	0.9 (0.8–1.0)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)
Toxicology results						
Any toxicology testing	13,317 (65.1)	6,658 (70.8)	6,659 (60.3)	<0.01	0.6 (0.6–0.7)	0.7 (0.6–0.7)
Positive for ≥1 substance ⁶⁶	9,913 (74.4)	5,192 (78.0)	4,721 (70.9)	<0.01	0.7 (0.6–0.7)	0.8 (0.7–0.8)

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Substance detected***						
Alcohol						
Tested	10,950 (53.6)	5,409 (57.5)	5,541 (50.2)	<0.01	0.7 (0.7- 0.8)	0.8 (0.7-0.8)
Positive	4,442 (40.6)	2,115 (39.1)	2,327 (42.0)	<0.01	1.1 (1.0- 1.2)	1.2 (1.1-1.3)
Opioids						
Tested	8,554 (41.8)	4,258 (45.3)	4,296 (38.9)	<0.01	0.8 (0.7- 0.8)	0.8 (0.8-0.9)
Positive	2,279 (26.6)	1,238 (29.1)	1,041 (24.2)	<0.01	0.8 (0.7- 0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)
Benzodiazepines						
Tested	8,124 (39.7)	4,226 (44.9)	3,898 (35.3)	<0.01	0.7 (0.6- 0.7)	0.7 (0.7-0.8)
Positive	2,464 (30.3)	1,639 (38.8)	825 (21.2)	<0.01	0.4 (0.4- 0.5)	0.5 (0.5-0.6)
Cocaine						
Tested	7,978 (39.0)	3,866 (41.1)	4,112 (37.2)	<0.01	0.9 (0.8- 0.9)	0.9 (0.9-1.0)
Positive	499 (6.3)	216 (5.6)	283 (6.9)	<0.05	1.2 (1.0- 1.5)	1.2 (1.0-1.5)
Amphetamines						

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Tested	7,615 (37.2)	3,696 (39.3)	3,919 (35.5)	<0.01	0.9 (0.8– 0.9)	0.9 (0.8–0.9)
Positive	736 (9.7)	376 (10.2)	360 (9.2)	NS	0.9 (0.8– 1.0)	1.0 (0.8–1.1)
Marijuana						
Tested	6,569 (32.1)	3,127 (33.2)	3,442 (31.2)	<0.01	0.9 (0.9– 1.0)	0.9 (0.9–1.0)
Positive	1,471 (22.4)	710 (22.7)	761 (22.1)	NS	1.0 (0.9– 1.1)	0.9 (0.8–1.0)
Antidepressants						
Tested	5,425 (26.5)	3,103 (33.0)	2,322 (21.0)	<0.01	0.5 (0.5– 0.6)	0.6 (0.6–0.7)
Positive	2,214 (40.8)	1,735 (55.9)	479 (20.6)	<0.01	0.2 (0.2– 0.2)	0.2 (0.2–0.3)

Abbreviations: CI = confidence interval; NA = not adjusted; NS = not significant; OR = odds ratio.

* Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

[†] Decedent had been identified as having a current diagnosis of mental health condition in coroner/medical examiner or law enforcement reports.

[§] OR reflects the risk among those without known mental health condition relative to those with known mental health condition.

[¶] Logistic regression was used to estimate adjusted OR with 95% CIs after controlling for sex, age group, and race/ethnicity. Known mental health condition was used as the reference group.

** Decedents were aged ≥10 years, as per standard in the suicide prevention literature.

^{††} Denominator is decedents aged ≥18 years with reported military service status.

^{§§} Denominator is decedents who died by poisoning, including overdose.

^{¶¶} Denominator is decedents with any toxicology testing.

^{***} Denominator for each positive group is the number tested for the substance in that group.

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TABLE 2. Circumstances preceding suicide among decedents aged ≥ 10 years with and without known mental health conditions — National Violent Death Reporting System, 27 states,* 2015



Characteristic	Total No. (%)	Known mental health condition [†] No. (%)	No known mental health condition No. (%)	Chi-square p-value	OR [§] (95% CI)	Adjusted OR [¶] (95% CI)
Suicide with known circumstances	18,764 (91.8)	9,407 (100)	9,357 (84.8)	<0.01	N/A	N/A
Mental health						
Any current diagnosed mental health condition**						
Depression/Dysthymia	— ^{††}	7,076 (75.2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Anxiety disorder	— ^{††}	1,579 (16.8)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bipolar disorder	— ^{††}	1,431 (15.2)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Schizophrenia	— ^{††}	509 (5.4)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PTSD	— ^{††}	424 (4.5)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ADD/ADHD	— ^{††}	226 (2.4)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Not specified	— ^{††}	760 (8.1)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Current depressed mood ^{§§}	7,038 (37.5)	3,962 (42.1)	3,076 (32.9)	<0.01	0.7 (0.6–0.7)	0.7 (0.6–0.7)
Problematic substance use						
Any	5,319 (28.3)	2,976 (31.6)	2,343 (25.0)	<0.01	0.7 (0.7–0.8)	0.7 (0.7–0.8)
Alcohol	3,268 (17.4)	1,862 (19.8)	1,406 (15.0)	<0.01	0.7 (0.7–0.8)	0.7 (0.7–0.8)
Other	3,084 (16.4)	1,768 (18.8)	1,316 (14.1)	<0.01	0.7 (0.7–0.8)	0.7 (0.7–0.8)

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Treatment						
Current mental health/substance use treatment	5,141 (27.4)	5,077 (54.0)	64 (0.7)	<0.01	0.01 (0.01-0.01)	0.01 (0.01-0.01)
Ever treated for mental health/substance disorder	6,717 (35.8)	6,323 (67.2)	394 (4.2)	<0.01	0.02 (0.02-0.02)	0.02 (0.02-0.03)
Relationship problems/loss						
Any relationship problem/loss	7,948 (42.4)	3,726 (39.6)	4,222 (45.1)	<0.01	1.3 (1.2-1.3)	1.3 (1.2-1.4)
Intimate partner problem	5,098 (27.2)	2,270 (24.1)	2,828 (30.2)	<0.01	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)
Perpetrator of interpersonal violence in past month	414 (2.2)	131 (1.4)	283 (3.0)	<0.01	2.2 (1.8-2.7)	2.0 (1.6-2.4)
Victim of interpersonal violence in past month	84 (0.4)	53 (0.6)	31 (0.3)	<0.05	0.6 (0.4-0.9)	0.8 (0.5-1.2)
Family relationship problem	1,671 (8.9)	873 (9.3)	798 (8.5)	NS	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	1.0 (0.9-1.1)
Other relationship problem (nonintimate)	403 (2.1)	202 (2.1)	201 (2.1)	NS	1.0 (0.8-1.2)	1.1 (0.9-1.3)
Argument or conflict (not specified)	2,914 (15.5)	1,278 (13.6)	1,636 (17.5)	<0.01	1.3 (1.2-1.5)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)
Death of a loved one (any)	1,497 (8.0)	826 (8.8)	671 (7.2)	<0.01	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-0.9)
Nonsuicide death	1,181 (6.3)	647 (6.9)	534 (5.7)	<0.01	0.8 (0.7-0.9)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)
Suicide of family or friend	379 (2.0)	217 (2.3)	162 (1.7)	<0.01	0.7 (0.6-0.9)	0.8 (0.7-1.0)

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Other life stressors						
Any life stressor	9,171 (48.9)	4,442 (47.2)	4,729 (50.5)	<0.01	1.1 (1.1-1.2)	1.1 (1.0-1.2)
Recent criminal legal problem	1,588 (8.5)	586 (6.2)	1,002 (10.7)	<0.01	1.8 (1.6-2.0)	1.7 (1.5-1.9)
Other legal problem	748 (4.0)	378 (4.0)	370 (4.0)	NS	1.0 (0.8-1.1)	1.0 (0.9-1.2)
Physical health problem	4,179 (22.3)	2,012 (21.4)	2,167 (23.2)	<0.01	1.1 (1.0-1.2)	1.0 (1.0-1.1)
Job/Financial problem**	2,941 (16.2)	1,530 (16.8)	1,411 (15.6)	<0.05	0.9 (0.8-1.0)	0.9 (0.8-1.0)
Eviction or loss of home	722 (3.8)	317 (3.4)	405 (4.3)	<0.01	1.3 (1.1-1.5)	1.4 (1.2-1.6)
School problem***	162 (19.9)	70 (17.8)	92 (21.9)	NS	1.3 (0.9-1.8)	1.3 (0.9-1.9)
Recent release from an institution***	1,412 (7.6)	941 (10.2)	471 (5.1)	<0.01	0.5 (0.4-0.5)	0.5 (0.4-0.5)
Jail/Prison/Detention facility	203 (14.4)	82 (8.7)	121 (25.7)	<0.01	3.6 (2.7-4.9)	4.5 (3.2-6.4)
Hospital	517 (36.6)	311 (33.0)	206 (43.7)	<0.01	1.6 (1.3-2.0)	1.3 (1.0-1.7)
Psychiatric hospital/institution	469 (33.2)	439 (46.7)	30 (6.4)	<0.01	0.1 (0.1-0.1)	0.1 (0.1-0.1)
Other (includes alcohol/SU treatment facilities)	223 (15.8)	109 (11.6)	114 (24.2)	<0.01	2.4 (1.8-3.3)	2.5 (1.8-3.3)
Crisis within past or upcoming 2 weeks ^{sss}	5,525 (29.4)	2,444 (26.0)	3,081 (32.9)	<0.01	1.4 (1.3-1.5)	1.4 (1.3-1.5)
Intimate partner problem	1,968 (35.6)	854 (34.9)	1,114 (36.2)	NS	1.1 (0.9-1.2)	1.1 (0.9-1.2)
Physical health problem	739 (13.4)	315 (12.9)	424 (13.8)	NS	1.1 (0.9-1.3)	1.0 (0.8-1.2)

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Criminal legal problem	621 (11.2)	203 (8.3)	418 (13.6)	<0.01	1.7 (1.5- 2.1)	1.6 (1.3-1.9)
Family relationship problem	430 (7.8)	212 (8.7)	218 (7.1)	<0.05	0.8 (0.7- 1.0)	0.9 (0.7-1.1)
Job problem	354 (6.4)	191 (7.8)	163 (5.3)	<0.01	0.7 (0.5- 0.8)	0.7 (0.5-0.8)
Suicide event/history						
Left a note	6,468 (34.5)	3,182 (33.8)	3,286 (35.1)	NS	1.1 (1.0- 1.1)	1.2 (1.1-1.2)
Disclosed suicide intent	4,405 (23.5)	2,306 (24.5)	2,099 (22.4)	<0.01	0.9 (0.8- 1.0)	0.9 (0.8-0.9)
History of ideation	5,990 (31.9)	3,838 (40.8)	2,152 (23.0)	<0.01	0.4 (0.4- 0.5)	0.4 (0.4-0.5)
History of attempts	3,732 (19.9)	2,770 (29.4)	962 (10.3)	<0.01	0.3 (0.3- 0.3)	0.3 (0.3-0.3)

Abbreviations: ADD/ADHD = attention deficit disorder/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; CI = confidence interval; N/A = not applicable; NS = not significant; OR = odds ratio; PTSD = posttraumatic stress disorder; SU = substance use.

* Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

[†] Decedent had been identified as having a current diagnosis of mental health condition in coroner/medical examiner or law enforcement reports.

[‡] OR reflects the risk among those without known mental health condition relative to those with known mental health condition.

[§] Logistic regression was used to estimate adjusted OR with 95% CIs after controlling for sex, age group, and race/ethnicity. Known mental health condition was the reference group.

** Includes decedents with one or more diagnosed current mental health conditions, which are not mutually exclusive. Therefore, sums of percentages for the diagnosed conditions exceed 100%. Denominator includes the number of decedents with one or more current diagnosed mental health conditions.

^{††} The specific type of mental health condition was calculated only among those with one or more known diagnosed mental health conditions.

^{§§} Not a diagnosis.

^{¶¶} Denominator is decedents aged ≥18 years.

^{***} Denominator is decedents aged 10-18 years.

^{†††} Denominator of institution subgroup is decedents with recent release from an institution. Recent release from an institution is defined as having occurred within the past month.

^{§§§} Denominator of crisis subgroup is decedents with any crisis within past or upcoming 2 weeks. Crises depicted here represent the most commonly occurring categories.