

Kansas: Facts and Figures on Suicide

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Age-Adjusted Rate per 100,000 population	State Rank
Kansas	425	14.55	21
Nationally	41,149	12.57	

2015 Facts and Figures (Based on most recent 2013 data from CDC):

- ▶ Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death overall in Kansas. On average, one person dies by suicide every 20 hours in the state.
- ▶ In Kansas, suicide is the:
 - 2nd leading cause of death for ages 10-34;
 - 4th leading cause of death for ages 35-54;
 - 8th leading cause of death for ages 55-64;
 - 18th leading cause of death for ages 65 and older.
- ▶ Suicide cost Kansas a total of \$510,442,000 of combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of \$1,272,922 per suicide death.
- ▶ Over 3 times as many people die by suicide in Kansas annually than by homicide; the total deaths to suicide reflect a total of 8,512 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.

AFSP in Kansas

Mission: The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) is the leading national not-for-profit organization exclusively dedicated to understanding and preventing suicide through research, education and advocacy, and to reaching out to people with mental disorders and those impacted by suicide.

Local Chapter: AFSP-Greater Kansas serves several communities across the state. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Barbara Nelson, AFSP-Greater Kansas Chapter Chair, at kansascity@afsp.org.

Advocate: AFSP's Kansas advocacy volunteers build relationships with public officials and advocate on behalf of sound suicide prevention policy. For more information or to volunteer as an advocate, please contact Nicole Gibson, AFSP Senior Manager of State Advocacy, at ngibson@afsp.org.

Suicide Prevention Programs and Initiatives:

- ▶ The Kansas Suicide Prevention Subcommittee of the Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council works with the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
- ▶ The Subcommittee conducts monthly meetings for suicide prevention across the lifespan, provides speakers to educate about bereavement, and disseminates information through meetings and email lists.
- ▶ The Subcommittee also supports efforts of the existing Kansas Suicide Prevention Resource Center (www.kansassuicideprevention.org) to improve surveillance, facilitate the implementation of evidence-based suicide prevention strategies, increase the capacity for answering crisis calls, train mental health staff and physical health care providers, educate the media, and use technology to educate the general population about suicide prevention.
- ▶ *The Kansas Plan to Reduce Suicide* was updated July 2014. The Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services is responsible for these updates. Newest plan revision is anticipated May 2015.
- ▶ The Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council will soon be adding a Prevention Subcommittee to encompass mental health, substance abuse, gambling prevention, and suicide prevention.
- ▶ A Garret Lee Smith Memorial Act Grant was awarded to Headquarters, Inc. for their Kansas Youth Suicide Prevention program. The grant lasts through July 2015.
- ▶ As of 2015, the Department of Health and Environment was approved for expansion of the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS).