2004

U.S.A. SUICIDE: 2004 OFFICIAL FINAL DATA

	Number	Per Day	Rate	% of Deaths
Nation	32,439	88.6	11.1	1.4
Males	25,566	69.9	17.7	2.2
Females	6,873	18..8	4.6	0.6
Whites	29,251	79.9	12.3	1.4
Nonwhites	3,188	8.7	5.8	0.9
Blacks	2,019	5.5	5.2	0.7
Elderly (65+ yrs.)	5,198	14.2	14.3	0.3
Young (15-24 yrs.)	4,316	11.8	10.4	12.9

Group (Number of Suicides)	Rate
White Male (23,081)	19.6
White Female (6,170)	5.1
Nonwhite Male (2,485)	9.3
Nonwhite Female (703)	2.4
Black Male (1,655)	9.0
Black Female (364)	1.8
Hispanic (2,207)	5.3
Native Americans (404)	12.9
Asian/Pacific Islanders (765)	5.6

Completions: ***a slight increase from 2003 was seen in 2004, but pattern has primarily been stability or slight declines in recent years***

- Average of 1 person every 16.2 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 old person every 1 hour and 41.4 minutes killed themselves
- Average of 1 young person every 2 hours and 2.1 minutes killed themselves. (If the 285 suicides below age 15 are included, 1 young person every 1 hour and 54.5 minutes)
- 11th ranking cause of death in U.S.— 3rd for **young**

>> Cause	Number	Rate
All Causes	33,421	80.2
1-Accidents	15,449	37.1
2-Homicide	5,085	12.2
3-Suicide	4,316	10.4
10-14 yrs	283	1.3
15-19 yrs	1700	8.2
20-24 yrs	2616	12.5

- 3.7 male deaths by suicide for each female death by suicide
- Suicide ranks 11th as a cause of death; Homicide ranks 15th

Attempts (figures are estimates; no official U.S. national data are compiled):

- 811,000 [810,975] annual attempts in U.S. (using 25:1 ratio)
- 810,975 attempts translates to one attempt every 39 seconds
- 25 attempts for every death by suicide for nation; 100-200:1 for young; 4:1 for elderly
- 3 female attempts for each male attempt

Survivors (i.e., family members and friends of a loved one who died by suicide):

- *Each suicide intimately affects at least 6 other people* (estimate)
- Based on the 754,570 suicides from 1980 through 2004, estimated that the number of survivors of suicides in the U.S. is 4.5 million (1 of every 65 Americans in 2004); number grew by at least 194,634 in 2004
- If there is a suicide every 16.2 minutes, then there are 6 new survivors every 16.2 minutes as well

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Suicide Methods	Number	Rate	Percent of Total		Number	Rate	Percent of Total
Firearm suicides	16,750	5.7	51.6%	All but Firearms	15,689	5.3	48.4%
Suffocation/Hanging	7,336	2.5	22.6%	Poisoning	5,800	2.0	17.9%
Cut/pierce	590	0.2	1.8%	Drowning	365	0.1	1.1%

U.S.A. Suicide Rates 1995-2004
(Rates per 100,000 population)

Group/ Age	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Group/ Age
5-14	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	5-14
15-24	13.3	12.0	11.4	11.1	10.3	10.4	9.9	9.9	9.7	10.4	15-24
25-34	15.4	14.5	14.3	13.8	13.5	12.8	12.8	12.6	12.7	12.7	25-34
35-44	15.2	15.5	15.3	15.4	14.4	14.6	14.7	15.3	14.9	15.1	35-44
45-54	14.6	14.9	14.7	14.8	14.2	14.6	15.2	15.7	15.9	16.6	45-54
55-64	13.3	13.7	13.5	13.1	12.4	12.3	13.1	13.6	13.8	13.8	55-64
65-74	15.8	15.0	14.4	14.1	13.6	12.6	13.3	13.5	12.7	12.3	65-74
75-84	20.7	20.0	19.3	19.7	18.3	17.7	17.4	17.7	16.4	16.3	75-84
85+	21.6	20.2	20.8	21.0	19.2	19.4	17.5	18.0	16.9	16.4	85+
65+	18.1	17.3	16.8	16.9	15.9	15.3	15.3	15.6	14.6	14.3	65+
Total	11.9	11.6	11.4	11.3	10.7	10.7	10.8	11.0	10.8	11.1	Total
Men	19.8	19.3	18.7	18.6	17.6	17.5	17.6	17.9	17.6	17.7	Men
Women	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.3	4.3	4.6	Women
White	12.9	12.7	12.4	12.4	11.7	11.7	11.9	12.2	12.1	12.3	White
Nonwh	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.8	NonWh
Black	6.7	6.5	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.2	Black

15 Leading Causes of Death in the U.S.A., 2004
(total of 2,397,615 deaths; 816.5 rate)

Rank & Cause of Death	Rate	Deaths
1 Diseases of heart (heart disease)	222.2	652,486
2 Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	188.6	553,888
3 Cerebrovascular diseases (stroke)	51.1	150,074
4 Chronic lower respiratory diseases	41.5	121,987
5 Accidents (unintentional injuries)	38.1	112,012
6 Diabetes mellitus (diabetes)	24.9	73,138
7 Alzheimer's disease	22.5	65,965
8 Influenza & pneumonia	20.3	59,664
9 Nephritis, nephrosis (kidney disease)	14.5	42,480
10 Septicemia	11.4	33,373
11 Suicide [Intentional Self-Harm]	**11.1**	**32,439**
12 Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis	9.2	27,013
13 Essential hypertension and renal disease	7.9	23,076
14 Parkinson's disease	6.1	17,989
15 Homicide [Assault]	5.9	17,357
- All other causes (Residual)	141.2	414,674

Old made up 12.4% of 2004 population but represented 16.0% of the suicides.
Young were 14.2% of 2004 population and comprised 13.3% of the suicides.
972,264 Years of Potential Life Lost Before Age 75 (29,509 of 32,439 suicides below age 75)

Official data source: CDC's WISQARS website "Fatal Injury Reports" and "Leading Cause of Deaths Reports": http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars/; obtained 12 Dec 2006

$$\text{suicide rate} = \frac{\text{number of suicides by group}}{\text{population of group}} \times 100{,}000$$

Suicide Data Page: 2004
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Prepared for *AAS* by John L. McIntosh, Ph.D.