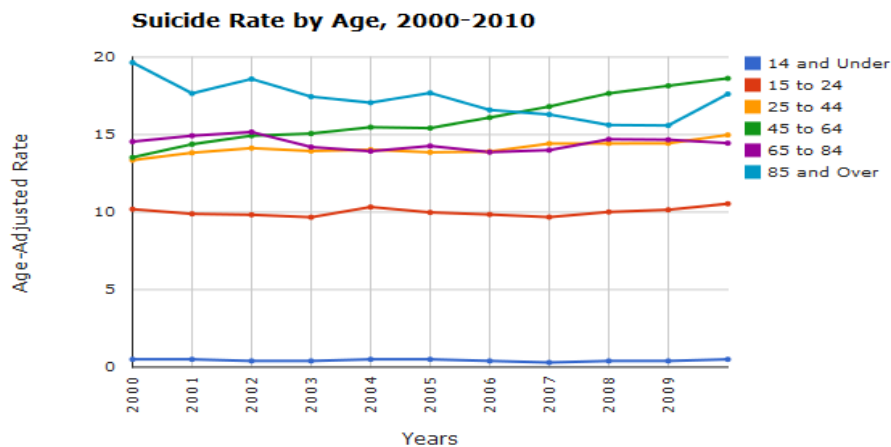


Suicide in America

- In 2010, 38,364 deaths were due to suicide.¹
- Every 13.7 minutes, one person in America commits suicide.⁹
- More people die from suicide than homicide.²
 - For every 1 victims of homicide, there are 2 persons who commit suicide.
- Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death.²
- It is estimated that each suicide intimately affects at least 6 people.³

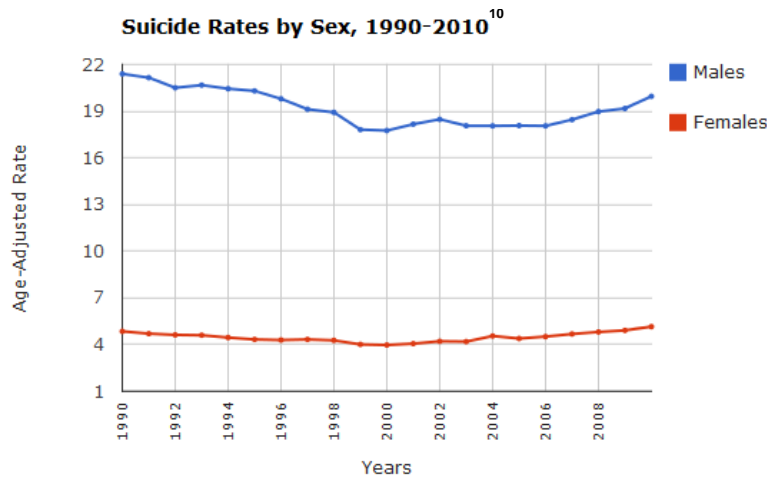
by age...

- Suicide is the third leading cause of death among 15-24 year olds.¹
 - Among 15 to 24 year olds, suicide accounts for 20% of all deaths.
- In 2011, 15.8 % of all U.S. high school students had seriously considered attempting suicide and 7.8% actually made a suicide attempt.¹
 - More white and Hispanic students crafted a suicide plan than African Americans.⁴
- Among persons aged 35-64 years, the suicide rate has increased 28.4% from 1999 to 2010.⁵
- *Suicide and the elderly...*
 - The suicide rate for men increases with age, most dramatically after 65.⁶
 - White males over the age of 85 are at the greatest risk of all age, gender, or racial groups.⁶
 - The ratio of suicide attempts to completions narrows drastically with age, indicating that older individuals who contemplate suicide are more likely to complete it.⁶
 - In 2010, the elderly made up 13% of the population, but they accounted for almost 15.6% of all suicides.⁶
 - “Double suicides,” involving spouses occur more frequently in the elderly population.⁷
 - “Silent suicides”
 - Often suicides among the elderly are under-reported because they are considered “medication overdoses” or “accidental deaths.”⁷



by gender...

- Suicide is the 7th leading cause of death for all U.S. men.⁸
 - Highest among white and American Indian/Native Alaskan men.
- Females attempt suicide three times more often than males.⁹
- While females report suicidal thoughts more often than males, there are 4 times as many deaths to suicide for males than females.¹
- In 2011, more female high school students reported seriously considering suicide, devising a suicide plan, and attempting suicide than did male students.⁴
- Men underreport depression and can be expected to underreport suicide attempts.
- Men may have higher rates of completed suicide because of their lack of strong social support and unlikelihood to seek psychiatric and medical help.



by race/ethnicity...

- From 1999 to 2010, suicide increased the most among American Indian/Alaska Natives and whites.⁵
 - Among American Indian/Alaska Natives, the suicide rate increased 65.2%
 - Among whites, the rate increased 40.4%
- The suicide rate among American Indian/Alaska natives aged 15 to 34 is 2.5 times higher than the national average for that age group.¹
- Among all ages, suicidal thoughts, plans, attempts, and deaths are significantly higher among AI/AN males than AI/AN females.¹¹

¹Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Suicide: Facts at a Glance* [online]. National Center for Injury Prevention and Control; 2012. Available at: http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/Suicide_DataSheet-a.pdf

²National Strategy for Suicide Prevention. *How You Can Play a Role in Preventing Suicide* [online]. Available at: <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/factsheet.pdf>

³Berman, A. L. (2011). Research Note: Estimating the population of survivors of suicide: Seeking an evidence base. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 41(1), 110-116

⁴Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance, 2011*. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, June 8, 2012; 61. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss6104.pdf>

⁵Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Suicide Among Adults Aged 35-64 Years—United States, 1999-2010*. MMWR 62(17); 321-325, 2013. Available at: www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6217a1.html

⁶American Association of Suicidology. *Elderly Suicide Fact Sheet*, 2010. Available at: http://www.suicidology.org/c/document_library/get_file?folderId=262&name=DLFE-624.pdf

⁷Ageworks. *Suicide*. University of Southern California [online]. Available at: http://www.ageworks.com/information_on_aging/mentalhealth/suicide.shtml

⁸Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Leading Causes of Death in Males United States, 2010* [online]. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/men/lcod/2010/index.htm>

⁹American Association of Suicidology. *Suicide in the USA*, 2010. Available at: http://www.suicidology.org/c/document_library/get_file?folderId=248&name=DLFE-800.pdf

¹⁰American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. *Facts and Figures* [online]. 2010. Available at: <http://www.afsp.org/understanding-suicide/facts-and-figures>

¹¹Suicide Prevention Resource Center. *Suicide Among Racial/Ethnic Populations in the US: American Indians/Alaska Natives*. Available at: http://www.sprc.org/sites/sprc.org/files/library/AI_AN%20Sheet%20Aug%2028%202013%20Final.pdf