

SUICIDE: MASSACHUSETTS 2015 FACTS & FIGURES

Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
Massachusetts	572	8.17	48
Nationally	41,149	12.57	

Suicide is the **12th leading** cause of death overall in Massachusetts.



On average, one person dies by suicide **every 15 hours** in the state.



Based on most recent 2013 data from CDC

\$ Suicide cost Massachusetts a total of **\$728,322,000** of combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,217,930** per suicide death.

IN MASSACHUSETTS, SUICIDE IS THE...

2nd leading cause of death for ages 15-34

3rd leading cause of death for ages 10-14

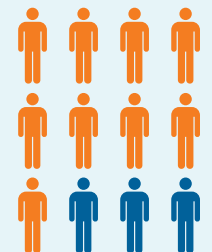
4th leading cause of death for ages 35-44

5th leading cause of death for ages 45-54

8th leading cause of death for ages 55-64

19th leading cause of death for ages 65 & older

Almost three times as many die by suicide in Massachusetts annually than by homicide; the total deaths to suicide reflect a total of **12,218** years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



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SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

- The Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention (MCSP) is a public/private partnership that assists in the formation of and provides technical assistance to regional coalitions, hosts/sponsors conferences and events, and that led the development of the updated (2009) Strategic Plan for Suicide Prevention, available online at <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/com-health/injury/suicide-strategic-plan.pdf>. The MCSP works closely with and is primarily funded by the Department of Public Health. The two work together collaboratively.
- The MA Department of Public Health, through its Suicide Prevention Program, hosts an annual statewide suicide prevention conference, conducts training and certifies training instructors, and funds 800 hotlines statewide through Samaritan organizations.
- Massachusetts law (HB 4376, adopted 8/13/14) now requires at least 2 hours of suicide prevention training every 3 years for all licensed school personnel. The new law also requires the collection, recording, and analyzing of data on all suicides in the Commonwealth; the development and provision of voluntary training/professional development for physicians on suicide prevention through reduction of access to lethal means; the inclusion of hotline numbers on all firearm identification cards and carrying licenses; and that suicide prevention informational notices be posted and distributed where firearms are sold.

GET INVOLVED

Two AFSP Chapters serve communities across Massachusetts. For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

AFSP – GREATER BOSTON

boston@afsp.org

AFSP – WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

westernma@afsp.org

BECOME AN ADVOCATE IN MASSACHUSETTS

AFSP's Massachusetts advocacy volunteers build relationships with public officials and advocate on behalf of sound suicide prevention policy.

To get involved, contact:

Nicole Gibson

AFSP Senior Manager of State Advocacy

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LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST SUICIDE

We fund research, offer educational programs, advocate for public policy and support those affected by suicide. Headquartered in New York, AFSP has 75 local chapters with programs and events nationwide.



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