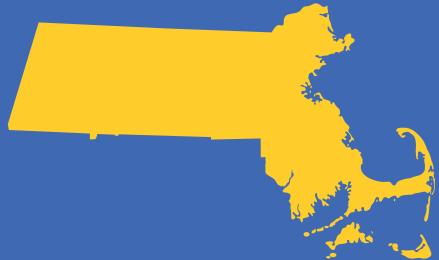


# Suicide Facts & Figures: Massachusetts 2020



**On average, one person died by suicide every 12 hours in the state.**

**More than six times as many people died by suicide in Massachusetts in 2018 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.**

The total deaths to suicide reflected a total of 13,705 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



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

**12th**

**leading cause of death in Massachusetts**

**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

**17th leading**

cause of death for ages 65+

## Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
Massachusetts	740	9.92	47
Nationally	48,344	14.21	

CDC, 2018 Fatal Injury Reports (accessed from [www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html](http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/fatal.html) on 3/1/2020).

# Suicide Facts & Figures: Massachusetts 2020

## Suicide Prevention Programs and Initiatives

- The Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention (MCSP, [masspreventssuicide.org](http://masspreventssuicide.org)) is a public/private partnership that assists in the formation of and provides technical assistance to regional coalitions, hosts/sponsors conferences and events, and led the development of the updated (2015) Strategic Plan for Suicide Prevention, see <https://bit.ly/2SXG7cP>. The MCSP works closely with and is primarily funded by the MA Department of Public Health (DPH).
- DPH, through its Suicide Prevention Program ([mass.gov/dph/suicideprevention](http://mass.gov/dph/suicideprevention)) provides support to community agencies, education and training for professionals and caregivers, and funds for programs that work with youth, Veterans, and older adults.
- MA law (MGL c.71 § 95) requires all licensed school personnel to receive at least 2 hours of suicide awareness and prevention training every 3 years; new hires must receive the training within 6 months.
- MA law (MGL c.111 § 232) requires the collection, recording, and analysis of data on suicides in the Commonwealth; see <https://bit.ly/2xCUv5d> for the latest MA Violent Death Reporting System reports.
- MA law requires the development and provision of voluntary training/professional development for physicians on suicide prevention through reduced access to lethal means (MGL c.112 § 5N); the inclusion of hotline numbers on all firearm ID cards and carrying licenses (MGL c.140 § 129B); and that suicide prevention informational notices be posted and distributed where firearms are sold (MGL c.140 § 123).
- MA law (MGL c.40 § 36C) requires all members of municipal police departments and all uniformed members of the state police to be trained in the detection, intervention and prevention of suicide.

## Get Involved

The **AFSP Massachusetts Chapter** brings together people of all backgrounds in communities throughout the state to fight suicide. We help fund research, offer educational programs, advocate for public policy and support those affected by suicide.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

**AFSP Massachusetts**  
[massachusetts@afsp.org](mailto:massachusetts@afsp.org)

## Become an Advocate

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

Visit [afsp.org/advocate](http://afsp.org/advocate) to sign up!