

# Suicide Facts & Figures:

## Maryland 2019 \*



**On average, one person dies by suicide every 14 hours in the state.**

**Over three times as many people died by suicide in Maryland in 2017 than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents.**

The total deaths to suicide reflect a total of 12,532 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Suicide cost Maryland a total of **\$586,391,000** combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **\$1,168,110 per suicide death.**

\*Based on most recent 2017 data from CDC. Learn more at [afsp.org/statistics](http://afsp.org/statistics).



## 11th leading cause of death in Maryland

### 3rd leading

cause of death for ages 15-34

### 5th leading

cause of death for ages 35-44

### 4th leading

cause of death for ages 45-54

### 9th leading

cause of death for ages 55-64

### 18th leading

cause of death for ages 65 & older

## Suicide Death Rates

	Number of Deaths by Suicide	Rate per 100,000 Population	State Rank
<b>Maryland</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>9.86</b>	<b>47</b>
Nationally	47,173	14.00	

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## Suicide Prevention Programs and Initiatives

- The MD Governor's Commission on Suicide Prevention was established by a 2009 executive order amended in 2018 to modernize the Commission and expand membership. For the Commission's latest 2016 plan see <https://bit.ly/2QE3SK8>.
- Led by the Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration, Maryland's Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Network (MD-SPIN) provides a continuum of youth and young adult suicide prevention training, resources, and technical assistance (see <https://bit.ly/2A4tYMc>).
- Maryland law (§§7-501 to 506) establishes a statewide Youth Suicide Prevention School Program, administered by the State Department of Education. The Department is required to adopt regulations that set funding eligibility guidelines, establish procedures for local program development, and establish standards/policies for programs to offer counseling, referral and crisis intervention, and training.
- Maryland law (§7-431) requires that the MD Youth Crisis Hotline number (now Maryland Crisis Connect) be printed in student handbooks and on student ID cards if provided. The line expanded to serve adults in 2015 and in 2018 partnered with 211 to create Maryland Crisis Connect, providing Marylanders with call (211 option 1), text (zip code to 898-211), and chat ([MDCrisisConnect.org](http://MDCrisisConnect.org)) services 24/7 including crisis intervention, risk assessment for suicide, and linkage to community behavioral health providers.
- Lauryn's Law (§6-704.1) requires annual training for all certificated school personnel who have regular direct contact with students in the skills required to understand and respond to youth suicide risk and identify professional resources to help students in crisis. School counselors must continue to receive training in the knowledge and skills required to understand and respond to the social, emotional, and personal development of students, which includes but may exceed the training required for other certificated personnel (§6-122).

## Get Involved

The **AFSP Maryland 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 Maryland**  
[maryland@afsp.org](mailto:maryland@afsp.org)

### Become an Advocate

AFSP's Maryland 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!**