

Suicide

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for teens and young adult ages 15-34 years. Suicide is also the fourth leading cause of death for adults ages 35-54 years.

- In 2006, there were 377 suicide deaths and nearly 1,400 hospital discharges due to suicide attempts in Kansas.
 - Of the 377 deaths, approximately 58% (n=217) were firearm related, 18.3% (n=69) were due to suffocation, and 17.8% (n=67) were poisoning related.
- Overall males are approximately five times more likely to commit suicide than females. Age-adjusted suicide mortality rate is 22.6 per 100,000 population among men compared to 5.0 per 100,000 population among women.
- Females are approximately two times more likely to be hospitalized for injuries relating to suicide attempts than males.
- In 2006, there were 301 suicide deaths among men. Of these deaths, approximately 63% (n=190) are firearm related.
- In 2006, there were 67 suicide deaths among women. Of these deaths, approximately 45% (n=30) are related to poisoning.
- Among persons ages 15-24 years, males are approximately 15 times more likely to commit suicide than females (21.9 per 100,000 population compared to 1.5 per 100,000 population).
- Among persons ages 75-84 years, males are approximately 13 times more likely to commit suicide than females (34.5 per 100,000 population compared to 2.68 per 100,000 population)

Suicide Prevention Strategies

Implementation of laws and policies to remove or control environmental factors that contribute to suicide (for example certain medication and illicit drugs).

Screening for the signs of suicide to identify individuals at high risk

Employing gatekeeper intervention approaches that identifies members of the community most likely to come into contact with distressed individuals and those considering harming themselves. Examples of gatekeepers include; teachers, councilors, coaches, primary-care physicians, clergy, police, or workplace co-workers.

***Mission:** Build Solid Infrastructure to Improve the Health of Kansans by Increasing Awareness & Action to Reduce Unintentional and Intentional Injuries.*

