Suicide in Kansas, 2014

Final U.S. data for 2013 (the most recent year available) showed suicide was the 10th leading cause of death, responsible for 41,149 deaths [1]. Suicide was also the 10th leading cause of death in Kansas in 2014, responsible for 454 deaths [2]. The Kansas age-adjusted suicide death rate was 15.7 per 100,000 population, which was higher than the goal set by the Healthy People 2020 project, 10.2 suicide deaths per 100,000 population [3].

Kansas Highlights

- There were 454 Kansas resident suicides in 2014, up 6.6 percent from 426 in 2013.

- The age-adjusted suicide death rate for Kansas residents in 2014 was 15.7 deaths per 100,000 population, up 6.8 percent from 14.7 deaths per 100,000 population in 2013.

- Southwest Kansas had the highest age-adjusted suicide rate (16.9 deaths per 100,000 population) in 2013, while Northwest Kansas had the lowest age-adjusted suicide rate (14.6 deaths per 100,000 population), but due to the small number of events, the difference was not statistically significant.*

- Men are much more likely to die by suicide than women. In 2014 there were 357 Kansas resident male suicide deaths, compared to 97 female suicide deaths. The age-adjusted suicide death rates were 25.2 deaths per 100,000 for Kansas resident males and 6.5 deaths per 100,000 Kansas resident females.

- White non-Hispanics had more suicides (382) than any other Kansas population group in 2014, for an age-adjusted suicide death rate of 16.4 deaths per 100,000 group population. Native American non-Hispanics had the highest age-adjusted suicide rate (25.0 suicide deaths per 100,000 population), but this was not statistically different from the rate for White non-Hispanics, due to the small number of Native American non-Hispanic suicide deaths (6).

More Kansas Health Statistics and Publications

- For a list of all publications issued by KDHE go to http://www.kdheks.gov/data_reports_stats.htm.
- Visit Kansas Information for Communities (KIC) the department’s online data query tool at http://kic.kdheks.gov.
- Age-group 45-54 had more suicides than any other age-group (92) in 2014, but the 75-84 age-group had the highest age-group specific suicide rate (26.2 deaths per 100,000 age-group population).

- Firearms accounted for a majority (52.2%) of Kansas resident suicide deaths in 2014, a slight decline from 56.3 percent of all suicide deaths in 2013. Suffocation, the second most common method of suicide, accounted for 27.1 percent of all suicide deaths in 2014, a slight increase from 22.5 percent in 2013.

**State and National Comparisons**

The Kansas suicide rate has been higher than the national rate since 2002. In 2014, the Kansas suicide rate (15.7 suicides per 100,000 population) was 24.6% higher than the national rate (12.6 suicides per 100,000 population). (National data from 2013, the most recent available year.)

![Age-Adjusted Suicide Rates, Kansas and US, 2002-2014](chart)

**Want to know more about suicide?**


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* Differences in age-adjusted rates may be assumed to be statistically significant unless it is explicitly stated that they are not.

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**Related References:**

