

Suicide in Louisiana



2021 Data

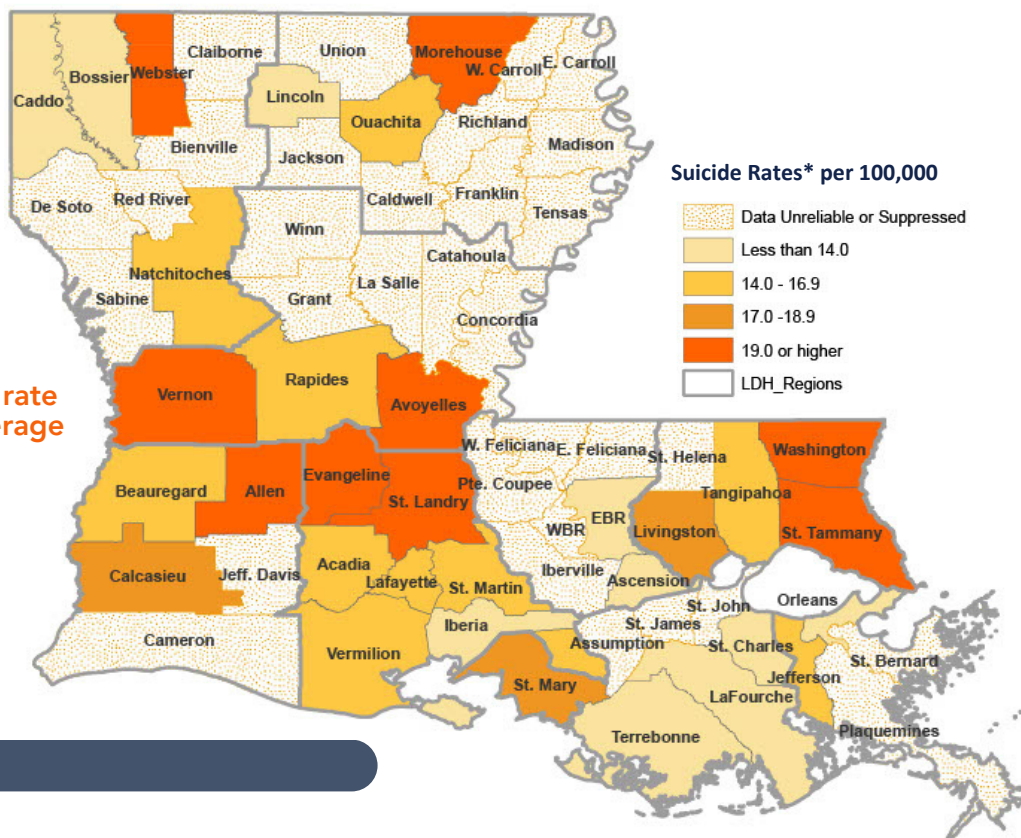
Suicide was the **12th leading cause of death** in Louisiana.

Suicide was the **3rd leading cause of death** for Louisianans ages 10-24 (10.7 per 100,000) and 25-34 (17.4 per 100,000).¹⁻³

Louisiana's age-adjusted **suicide rate was higher than the national average** at 14.8 per 100,000 people in Louisiana, compared to 14.1 per 100,000 people nationally.³

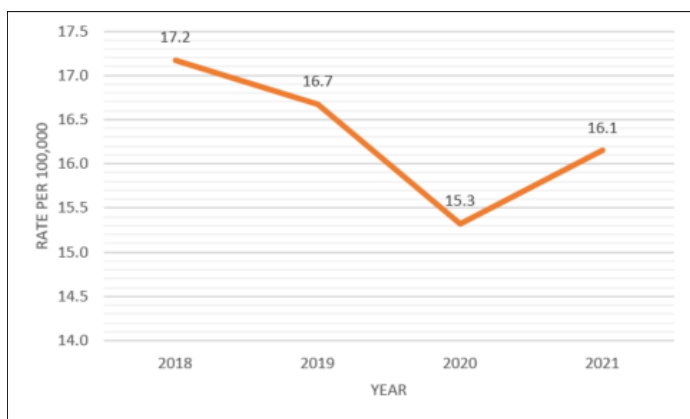
Hammond/Slidell region experienced the highest rates of suicide, with 113 lives lost.¹

Suicide Death Rates* by Parish, All Ages, Louisiana 2018-2021³



Trends Over Time

Louisiana Suicide Rates, Ages 10+



In 2022, there were 700 deaths by suicide in Louisiana

- **82%** of suicide deaths were **male**.¹
- **67%** of suicide were **due to firearms**.¹
- **17%** of suicide deaths were currently or formerly in the **US Armed Forces**.

Between 2019 and 2022:¹

- Suicide rates **increased 39%** within the Non-Hispanic Black population.

From 2019-2021, the following age groups had the highest rates of suicide:^{1,4}

- **Age 40-49:** 21.0 per 100,000
- **Age 50-59:** 20.1 per 100,000
- **Age 30-39:** 17.7 per 100,000

Emergency Room Visits & Suicidal Ideation

There were 33,317 ED visits related to self-harm and attempt in 2022.

- In Louisiana, females have higher rates of suicidal ideation and suicide attempt compared to males.
- **Ideation** (visits related to thoughts of suicide and self-harm without attempt) increased 23% for all females versus 8% for males from 2020-2022.
- **Suicide related** (self-harm and attempt) visits increased overall by 13% from 2020-2022.



42%

Percentage increase in **suicide ideation ED visits for females ages 10-19** between 2020-2022.



3x

Percentage **increase in female suicide related ED visits** compared to males overall between 2020-2022.

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Teen Behavior Survey⁶

According to the CDC Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance Survey, in Louisiana from 2019 to 2021, there was a **28.4% increase** in high school students reporting that they felt sad or hopeless.

There was a **52% increase** in high school students reporting that they seriously considered attempting suicide in the previous 12 months before the survey.

Females showed higher percent changes between 2019 to 2021 than males with suicidal thoughts.



Felt Sad or Hopeless:
47.5% of students overall
49% Black
63.4% Hispanic



Seriously Considered Suicide:
26.9% of students overall
28.4% Black
30.5% Hispanic



Made a Suicide Plan:
19.5% of students overall
20.7% Black
22.8% Hispanic



Attempted Suicide:
17.6% of students overall
21.6% Black
16.4% Hispanic

Solutions for Reducing Suicide & Self-Harm

It is important to reduce the risk of suicide before it occurs. Strategies to prevent the immediate and long-term harms of suicidal behaviors for individuals, families and communities should include:

Support Louisianans at Risk

Train communities to recognize mental health crises and connect people with stabilizing care.

Expand Access to Suicide Care

Improve coverage for and access to preventive behavioral health care for Louisianans, especially in rural areas.

Create Protective Environments

Reduce access to lethal means among persons at risk for suicide.

Strengthen Economic Security

Reduce financial stress by ensuring livable wages, disability insurance, and affordable housing.

Find more suicide prevention strategies in the [Center for Disease Control's Suicide Prevention Resource for Action](#).

Learn More About Prevention



[988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](https://988lifeline.org)
<https://988lifeline.org>



[American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](https://afsp.org)
<https://afsp.org>



[Louisiana Department of Health](#)
[Office of Behavioral Health Resources](#)



[Louisiana Department of Health](#)
[Bureau of Family Health- Non-fatal Injury Dashboards](#)

*Crude rates have not been adjusted for other variables that may impact on outcomes.
Data Sources: 1) Louisiana Vital Records · 2) Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health · 3) CDC Wonder
4) U.S. Census Bureau · 5) ESSENCE Syndromic Surveillance 6) Louisiana Data from the 2021 CDC Youth Risk Behavioral Surveillance Survey