SUICIDE: TEXAS 2015 FACTS & FIGURES

**Suicide Death Rates**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Number of Deathsby Suicide | Rate per 100,000Population | StateRank |
| Texas | 3,059 | 11.66 | 42 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Nationally | 41,149 | 12.57 |  |

### Suicide cost Texas a total of **$3,516,245,000** of combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of **$1,216,273** per suicide death.

IN TEXAS, SUICIDE IS THE...

**2nd leading** cause of death for ages 15-34

**3rd leading** cause of death for ages 10-14

**4th leading** cause of death for ages 35-44

Suicide is the **12th leading** cause of death overall in Texas.

Based on most recent 2013 data from CDC

## On average, one person dies

by suicide **every three hours**

## in the state.

### **More than twice as many** people die by suicide in Texas annually than by homicide; the total deaths to suicide reflect a total of **64,561** years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.

**5th leading** cause of death for ages 45-54

**10th leading** cause of death for ages 55-64

**16th leading**

cause of death for ages 65 & older

SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

The Texas Suicide Prevention Council (TSPC) is a public-private coalition composed

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GET INVOLVED

of local suicide prevention coalitions and statewide agencies, including Mental Health America of Texas and the Texas Department of State Health Services, to implement the **Texas State Plan for Suicide Prevention.**

TSPC developed and maintains a website on suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention [(http://www](http://www.texassuicideprevention.org/%29%3B).[texassuicideprevention.org/);](http://www.texassuicideprevention.org/%29%3B) facilitates suicide prevention trainings; distributes suicide prevention toolkits; and coordinates committees and 19 community coalitions for the implementation of the state plan.

The Texas Department of State Health Services Suicide Prevention Homepage can be found at [http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa/suicide/Suicide-Prevention.aspx.](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/mhsa/suicide/Suicide-Prevention.aspx)

The **Texas State Plan for Suicide Prevention** was last updated in 2014 and is accessible at <http://www.texassuicideprevention.org/wp-content/> uploads/2014/09/TxStatePlanSuicidePrevention-20140919.pdf.

Texas law (SB 460, adopted in 2013) requires that minimum academic qualifications for certified educators also require instruction in the detection of students with mental or emotional disorders, and requires that school districts provide at least

a one-time training for teachers, counselors, principals, and other appropriate personnel to learn to recognize students at risk for suicide or in need of early mental health intervention.

Texas law (HB 1386, adopted in 2011) encourages school districts to develop suicide prevention plans, and requires that the Texas Department of State Health Services and the Texas Education Agency develop a list of best practices programs and deliver this list to school districts.

Three AFSP Chapters serve communities across

Texas. For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

#### AFSP – CENTRAL TEXAS

centralTX@afsp.org

#### AFSP – GREATER HOUSTON AREA

houstonTX@afsp.org

#### AFSP – NORTH TEXAS

northTX@afsp.org

**BECOME AN ADVOCATE IN TEXAS**

#### AFSP’s Texas advocacy volunteers build relationships with public officials and advocate on behalf of sound suicide prevention policy.

To get involved, contact: Nicole Gibson

AFSP Senior Manager of State Advocacy ngibson@afsp.org

LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST SUICIDE

We fund research, offer educational programs, advocate for public policy and support those affected by suicide. Headquartered in New York, AFSP has 75 local chapters with programs and events nationwide.

