

SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS

CDC Suicide Prevention Grant Update - Stephanie Busche, Injury Prevention
VT Dept of Health

5/21/21

CDC Suicide Prevention Grant

Comprehensive public health lens

Data-driven

Raising awareness of existing
programs

Coordination

Click to edit Master title style

Suicide Prevention Efforts

\$3.8M: CDC Comprehensive
Suicide Prevention Cooperative
Agreement

*(VAST: Vermont Addressing Suicide
Together)*


1. The funding for this grant will sit with VDH, however, DMH will receive funding for a half-time Communications position.
2. This funding is for a public health approach to suicide to build comprehensive infrastructure

VERMONT ADDRESSING SUICIDE TOGETHER —PENDING NAME CHANGE

We know Vermonters are at risk and we need a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention.

VAST will:

- Develop a more coordinated statewide prevention effort with state partners and communities
- Utilize data analysis to identify vulnerable populations and serve them better
- Ensure access for underserved populations with a focus on health equity
- Expand Zero Suicide activities to rural Vermont counties and engage Community Health Teams
- Facilitate Gatekeeper trainings, which helps us ensure we are supporting the LGBTQ community—especially youth, with appropriate resources—because the latest national data tells us that those youth are at significantly higher risk of self harm.
- Expand recovery and peer support groups including for first responders

- 
- Community
 - Healthcare
 - Upstream

The background of the slide is a collage of colorful puzzle pieces in various shades including blue, green, orange, and grey. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the puzzle pieces, containing the main text. The text is arranged in five lines, centered horizontally.

Inventory Assessment
Partnership
Communication & Dissemination
Next Steps
Advisory Group



Teamwork!

Data and Outreach Coordinator

Close 4/12

<https://careers.vermont.gov/job/Data-and-Outreach-Coordinator-Limited-Service/727745100/>

Data Analyst

Will be posted in the next few weeks

Program Coordinator

Closes 4/26

<https://careers.vermont.gov/job/Burlington-Public-Health-Programs-Administrator-Suicide-Prevention-Coordinator-Limited-Service-VT-05401/731752200/>



Mental Health-Related ED Visits in Youth

March 2021

A recent [MMWR report](#) shows that the rate of mental health-related emergency department (ED) visits in children younger than 18 years increased in the U.S. In spring 2020, the rate for 5-17 increased 10% and 12-17 increased 15%.

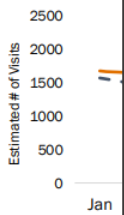
KEY POINTS

This brief examines trends in ED visits by month in 2020. Vermont's small population in youth, this brief looks at years of age.

Visit Counts

In 2020 Vermont saw a decrease in overall ED visits and a reduction in overall ED visits. Vermont's first case of COVID-19 in a community mitigation and discouraged non-essential travel measures, there was a 14% decrease in overall ED visits. Compared to the same time last year, overall ED visits were down 14% (from 1,000 to 860 health visits). Compared to 2019, ED visits among youth were down 10%.

In 2020, overall



Firearm Injury and Death

March 2021

A **firearm injury** is a nonfatal injury caused by the discharge of a firearm by accident, assault, intentional self-harm, or through legal intervention. A **firearm death** is a death caused by the discharge of a firearm unintentionally, in an assault, to complete suicide or through legal intervention. This brief looks at Vermont hospital visits for injuries and deaths due to firearms and significant differences will be noted.

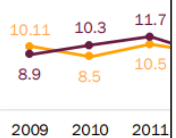
KEY POINTS

- Firearm injury rates have increased 48% for 15- to 24-year-olds.

Firearm Injuries and Deaths

Firearms were responsible for 10% of all injuries in 2019. The trend in firearm injuries changed over the past ten years. In 2019, there were 109 firearm deaths among Vermont residents. A decrease in suicide death. This U.S. firearm death rates were 15.3 per 100,000.

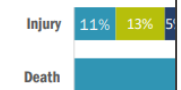
The trend in firearm injuries



Intentional Self-Harm and Death by Suicide

Most firearm deaths are suicides, homicides, and 3% are due to unintentional, which is an increase from 2019. In 2019, there were 109 firearm injuries were assault.

A majority of firearm injuries



Intentional Self-Harm and Death by Suicide

January 2021

Intentional self-harm is anything a person does to purposefully cause injury to themselves, with or without suicide intent. Death by suicide is intentionally taking one's own life. Research suggests that self-injurious behaviors, which include suicide attempts, are risk factors for suicide.¹

KEY POINTS

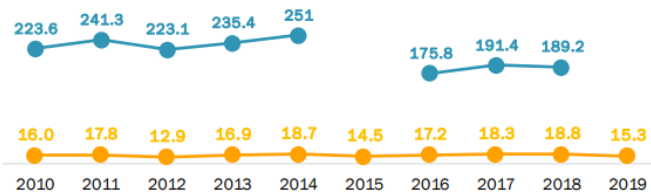
- Hospital visit rates for intentional self-harm are higher for females* and 15-24-year-olds*.
- Suicide rates are higher for males*.
- The percent of suicide deaths due to hanging or suffocation increased from 2016-2017 to 2018-2019 (from 20% to 26%).
- One fifth of suicide deaths are among Vermonters who served in the U.S. armed forces.

Trends in Intentional Self-Harm & Death by Suicide

In 2018, Vermont had 1,091 hospital visits for intentional self-harm, with a rate 189.2 per 100,000. The rate of intentional self-harm increased from 2009 to 2014* and decreased 1% from 2017 to 2018. No rate in 2015 is shown due to a change in billing codes, and caution should be taken when comparing 2014 to later data. Compared to the U.S., Vermonters self-harm rate was higher in 2018 (U.S. rate 158.2)*.

In 2019, there were 109 suicide deaths among Vermont residents, with a rate 15.3 per 100,000. Suicide is the 8th leading cause of death in the state. Over the past 10 years, the rate of death by suicide has fluctuated, with the rate lowest in 2012, and highest in 2018. The rate of suicide decreased 19% from 2018 to 2019. Compared to the U.S., Vermont's rate of suicide deaths was higher in 2018 (U.S. rate 14.2)*.¹

Over the past decade, intentional self-harm and death by suicide rates have fluctuated.



Burden Documents

- Injury and Violence in Vermont, 2018
- The Burden of Injury in Vermont, 2008

Data Tables

- Data Table for Trends in Firearm Deaths, 2017-2019 **NEW!**
- Data Table for Trends in Suicide Deaths, 2017-2019
- Data Table for Trends in ED visits for Suicidal Ideation and Self-Directed Violence, 2017-2019

Data Briefs

- Firearm Injury and Death, 2021 **NEW!**
- Mental Health-Related Emergency Department Visits Among Youth, 2021 **NEW!**
- Intentional Self-Harm and Death by Suicide, 2020
- Trends in ED visits for Suicidal Ideation and Self-Directed Violence, 2017-2019
- Unintentional Drowning, 2020
- Intentional Self-Harm and Death by Suicide, 2019
- Firearm Storage Safety, 2019
- Bicycle-Related Injuries, 2019
- Pedestrian-Related Injuries, 2019

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/health-statistics-vital-records/surveillance-reporting-topic/injuries>