Suicide: Illinois 2017 Facts & Figures

On average, one person dies by suicide every six hours in the state.

Suicide is the 11th leading cause of death overall in Illinois.

Suicide cost Illinois a total of $1,391,865,000 of combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of $1,181,549 per suicide death.

Nearly twice as many people die by suicide in Illinois annually than by homicide; the total deaths to suicide reflect a total of 27,889 years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.

Based on most recent 2015 data from CDC
SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

- The Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance serves as an advisory board to the Illinois Department of Public Health and is co-chaired by Mental Health America of Illinois and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

- Illinois Department of Public Health was awarded a Garrett Lee Smith grant in 2012; will re-apply in late 2015.

- The Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance works on suicide prevention strategic planning; develops and organizes suicide prevention training for targeted populations; increases public awareness of the burden of suicide and how individuals and communities can take part in prevention efforts; provides technical assistance for developing coalitions and partnerships to support local efforts; and analyzes suicide-related data.

- The Illinois Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan was created in 2007. The Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance is currently working on updates to the Strategic Plan.

- In 2010, the “It Only Takes One” campaign was launched to reduce stigma and provide support and resources.

- Illinois law (§105 ILCS 5/34-18.7) requires that school guidance counselors, teachers, social workers, and other personnel who work with grades 7-12 be trained to identify the warning signs of suicidal behavior in adolescents and teens and be taught intervention techniques.

- Illinois law (§105 ILCS 110/3) encourages comprehensive health education programs in all elementary and secondary schools to include suicide prevention.

GET INVOLVED

The AFSP Illinois Chapter brings together people of all backgrounds in communities throughout the state to fight suicide. For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

AFSP – ILLINOIS
illinois@afsp.org

BECOME AN ADVOCATE IN ILLINOIS

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

To get involved, contact:
Nicole Gibson
Director of State Policy & Grassroots Advocacy
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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 local chapters in all 50 states.