

About the Data –Youth Suicide Deaths

Indicator Description

The youth suicide rate is the number of deaths due to suicide per 100,000 young people aged 15–24 years.

Data Sources

California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics and Informatics. Death Statistical Master File, 2010–2013: Compiled from information on death certificates, including demographic information related to the decedents.

California Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics and Informatics. California Comprehensive Death File, 2014–2023: Compiled from information on death certificates, including demographic information related to the decedents.

For 2010–2019: State of California, Department of Finance, California and Counties Intercensal Population by Age, Race/Ethnicity, and Gender: 2010–2020. Sacramento, California, January 2025.

For 2020–2023: California Department of Finance. Demographic Research Unit. 2024. State And County Population Projections 2020–2070 [P-3: Complete State and County Projections Dataset]. Sacramento: California Department of Finance. September 2024.

National Comparison

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System, Mortality 1999–2020 on [CDC WONDER Online Database](#), released in 2021. Data are from the Multiple Cause of Death Files, 1999–2020, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. National Vital Statistics System, Mortality 2018–2023 on [CDC WONDER Online Database](#), released in 2025. Data are from the Multiple Cause of Death Files, 2018–2023, as compiled from data provided by the 57 vital statistics jurisdictions through the Vital Statistics Cooperative Program.

Data Analysis

The suicide rate shown in these dashboards is the number of deaths due to suicide per 100,000 youth aged 15–24 years who resided in California at the time of death. Suicide deaths were identified using International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision underlying cause-of-death codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Three-year aggregated data are stratified by age, sex, race alone and ethnicity, and by county.

The number of suicide deaths may differ from other published estimates due to methodological differences in how the decedent's county of residence is determined.

The 95% confidence interval presented in the tooltips indicates there is a 95% chance that the range contains the true prevalence or rate in the population. Rates or percentages with wide confidence intervals should be interpreted with caution.

The state dashboard uses single-year data that are comparable with national single-year data.

Overlapping time periods show the general direction or slope of the trendline across the entire timeframe. Rates should not be compared for overlapping time periods; for example, rates for 2020–2022 and 2021–2023 should not be compared. Only non-overlapping periods can be compared; for example, rates for 2018–2020 and 2021–2023 can be compared.

See Category and Subcategory Definitions below for additional inclusion/exclusion criteria.

Data Suppression

The numerator, rate, and confidence interval are not shown when the numerator is less than 10.

Category and Subcategory Definitions

Age: Age of youth who died due to suicide. Excludes records with unknown age.

Geography: State or county of decedent's residence at time of death. The number of suicide deaths may differ from other published estimates due to methodological differences in how the decedent's county of residence is determined.

Race alone and ethnicity (previously labelled Race/Ethnicity as shown below): Mutually exclusive categories of race and ethnicity reported by the mother/parent giving birth; percentages across the categories sum to 100 percent. Hispanic includes all persons of Hispanic origin of any race, including Other and Unknown race. Multiracial includes those of non-Hispanic origin who reported more than one race. The remaining

groups are of non-Hispanic origin who reported a single race: American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN), Asian, Black, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (NHPI), White, Other, or Unknown. Other and Unknown race are not shown on the dashboards but are available in the downloadable data table. Race and Hispanic-origin ethnicity are reported independently on the birth certificate, with reporting of more than one race allowed.

Race/Ethnicity (previous label)	Race Alone and Ethnicity (current label)
AIAN	AIAN alone
Asian	Asian alone
Black	Black alone
Hispanic	Hispanic of any race
Multi-Race	Multiracial alone
Pacific Islander	NHPI alone
White	White alone

Sex: Sex of decedent is defined as either male or female. Excludes records with unknown and nonbinary sex.

Suggested Citation

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