

# Vital Statistics Rapid Release Report No. 16

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# **Provisional Numbers and Rates of Suicide by Month and Demographic Characteristics: United States, 2020**

Sally C. Curtin, M.A., Division of Vital Statistics; Holly Hedegaard, M.D., Division of Analysis and Epidemiology; and Farida B. Ahmad, M.P.H., Division of Vital Statistics

#### **Abstract**

Objectives—This report presents provisional numbers of deaths due to suicide by demographic characteristics (sex and race and Hispanic origin) and by month for 2020 and compares them with final numbers for 2019. Both age-adjusted and age-specific suicide rates are presented by sex and race and Hispanic origin and compared with final 2019 rates.

Methods—Data are based on 99% of all 2020 death records received and processed by the National Center for Health Statistics as of May 19, 2021. Comparisons are made with final 2019 data. Deaths due to suicide were identified using International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision underlying cause-of-death codes U03, X60-X84, and Y87.0.

Results—The provisional number of suicides in 2020 (45,855) was 3% lower than in 2019 (47,511). The provisional age-adjusted suicide rate was also 3% lower in 2020 (13.5 per 100,000) than in 2019 (13.9). The monthly number of suicides was lower in 2020 than in 2019 in March through October and December. The largest percentage difference between monthly numbers for 2019 and 2020 occurred in April, where the provisional number in 2020 (3,468) was 14% lower than in 2019 (4,029). The age-adjusted suicide rate was 2% lower in 2020 than in 2019 for males (21.9 compared with 22.4) and 8% lower for females (5.5 compared with 6.0). Females in all race and Hispanic-origin groups experienced declines in suicide rates between 2019 and 2020, although only the 10% decline

for non-Hispanic white females was significant. Rates declined for non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic Asian males but increased for non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native, and Hispanic males.

Keywords: cause of death • intentional self-harm • COVID-19 • National Vital Statistics System

## Introduction

Suicide is a complex, multifaceted public health issue with societal, environmental, interpersonal, biological, and psychological components (1). In the United States, suicide increased 35% from 1999 to 2018 before declining by 2% in 2019 (2). General increases during this period were experienced for both males and females, for all age groups between 10 and 74, and for persons in nearly all race and Hispanicorigin groups (2,3). The COVID-19 pandemic increased many of the risk factors associated with suicidal behavior (adverse mental health conditions, substance misuse, and job or financial stress) (4,5), with young adults and black and Hispanic persons affected more than other demographic groups. Thus, there was concern that deaths due to suicide in 2020 might increase as well. This report presents provisional numbers and rates of suicide for 2020 and compares them with 2019 final numbers and rates by month and for demographic groups.

## **Data Source and Methods**

#### **Data and methods**

Data for 2020 are based on death certificate data received and processed by the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) as of May 19, 2021. Populations for computing the rates are based on July 1, 2020 postcensal population estimates based on the 2010 decennial census. As most suicides require death investigation, provisional suicide rates are typically computed using death data after a 6-month lag following the date of death, longer than the 3-month lag used to compute rates for most other causes of death (6). For this report, 2020 data for all months had at least a 6-month lag, with the exception of December, which had approximately a 5.5-month lag. In particular, the method of the suicide plays a role in the timing of the reporting, with those involving drug poisoning typically lagging behind other methods (7). As suicides involving drug poisoning comprise a larger proportion of female than male suicides, the completeness of provisional suicide counts for females typically lags behind that of males. Completeness and timeliness of provisional death data can vary by other factors as well, such as month of the year and age of the decedent (8). Mortality data used in this report include more than 99% of the expected deaths that occurred in 2020. However, some death records that have been received with a pending cause of death (0.2% of all death records), may eventually be classified as suicides. Suicides were identified using International Classification of Diseases,

10th Revision (9) codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0.

#### **Rates and significance testing**

Age-adjusted death rates are calculated as the number of deaths per 100,000 U.S. 2000 standard population and include all ages. Age-specific suicide rates begin with the 10-14 age group as it is difficult to determine suicidal intent in children under age 10 and, thus, very few deaths are classified as suicides for persons under age 10 (12 in 2019 and 21 in 2020). Pairwise comparisons between rates for 2020 and 2019 use the z test statistic at the 0.05 level of significance. Comparisons made in the text among rates, unless otherwise specified, are statistically significant. See the Technical Notes for more information.

#### **Results**

#### **Suicides by month**

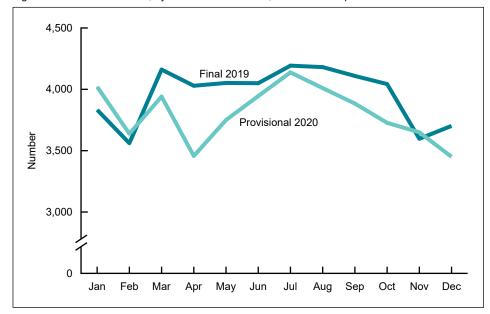
#### **Total**

Provisional suicide counts in 2020 numbered 45,855, which was 3% less than in 2019 (47,511) (Table 1). By month, the provisional number of suicides was higher in 2020 than in 2019 in January, February, and November, and lower for all other months (Figure 1). The largest percentage difference in monthly numbers occurred in April where the number in 2020 (3,468) was 14% lower than in 2019 (4,029). July had the highest number of suicides in 2020 (4.156). By quarter, the number of suicides in Quarter 2 (April–June) 2020 (11,193) was 8% lower than in 2019 (12,131), the largest percentage difference by quarter between years.

#### By sex

The number of suicides for males in 2020 (36,508) was 2% lower than in 2019 (37,256) (Table 1). By month, the number for males was higher in 2020 than in 2019 in January and February and lower from March through June and in September, October, and December. The largest percentage difference in suicides

Figure 1. Number of suicides, by month: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020



NOTE: Suicides are identified with International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

occurred in April, with 12% fewer suicides in 2020 (2,768) than in 2019 (3,140). April had the lowest monthly suicide number for males in 2020 (2,768), whereas July had the highest (3,354).

The decline for females in the number of suicides from 2019 to 2020 was 9%, from 10,255 to 9,347 (Table 1). The number of suicides per month among females was lower in 2020 compared with 2019 for all months except November. The largest percentage difference in suicide numbers was in April, with the number of suicides 21% lower in 2020 (700) than in 2019 (889). March, May, August, and December had percentage declines of at least 14%. December had the lowest number of suicides for females in 2020 (695), whereas October had the most (838).

# Age-adjusted rates by demographic characteristics

The age-adjusted suicide rate in 2020 (13.5 per 100,000 standard population) was 3% lower than in 2019 (13.9) (Table 2, Figure 2). Although rates for persons aged 10–14, 15–24, and 25–34 increased between 2019 and 2020, only the 5% increase for those aged 25–34 (from 17.5 to 18.3) was significant.

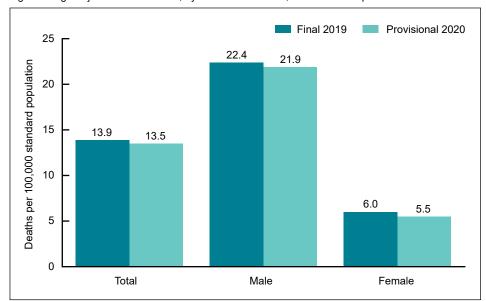
Persons aged 35–44, 45–54, 55–64, and 65–74 had significant declines, with the largest percentage declines for those aged 45–54 (from 19.6 to 17.9) and 55–64 (from 19.4 to 16.8). The 1% decline for persons aged 75 and over was not significant.

#### By sex and age

For males, the age-adjusted suicide rate dropped 2%, from 22.4 per 100,000 in 2019 to 21.9 in 2020. Rates for males in age groups 10–14 and 25–34 increased by 13% and 5%, respectively, although only the 5% increase for those aged 25–34 (from 28.0 to 29.3) was significant. Rates for males aged 45–54, 55–64, and 65–74 declined (Figure 3). Although essentially unchanged from 2019, the rate for males aged 75 and over was the highest of all age groups at 40.2 in 2020.

For females, the age-adjusted suicide rate declined 8% between 2019 and 2020, from 6.0 to 5.5. Although the rate for females aged 15–24 was 4% higher in 2020 (5.7) than in 2019 (5.5), this did not reach statistical significance. No significant increases were seen between 2019 and 2020 for any age group. Females aged 35–44, 45–54, 55–64, and 75 and over all had declines in rates of at least 10% from 2019 to 2020 (Figure 3).

Figure 2. Age-adjusted suicide rates, by sex: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020



NOTES: Suicides are identified with *International Classification of Diseases*, *10th Revision* codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Difference in rates between 2019 and 2020 for all groups was significant (*p* < 0.05). SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

The 19% declines for females aged 45–54 (from 10.4 to 8.4) and 55–64 (from 8.9 to 7.2) were the greatest of any female age groups. The suicide rate for females aged 45–54 was the highest of all age groups in both 2019 and 2020.

#### By sex and race and ethnicity

In 2020, the highest suicide rates were for non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN) persons (23.6 per 100,000) followed by non-Hispanic white persons (16.8) (Table 2). The lowest rate was for non-Hispanic Asian persons (6.4). Rates for non-Hispanic black and Hispanic persons were similar (7.7 and 7.5, respectively). These same general patterns by race and ethnicity were present for males. For females, the pattern in suicide rates was similar to males, except that non-Hispanic black and Hispanic females had the lowest rates (2.8 each). Numbers of suicides for non-Hispanic Asian, non-Hispanic AIAN, and Hispanic persons may be affected by misclassification of race and Hispanic origin on death certificates; see Technical Notes.

The age-adjusted suicide rate for non-Hispanic white males declined 3% between 2019 (28.0) and 2020 (27.1)

(Figure 4). In contrast, the age-adjusted suicide rate for Hispanic males increased 5%, from 11.6 in 2019 to 12.2 in 2020. Although the age-adjusted rate for non-Hispanic Asian men was lower in 2020 than in 2019, this change was not significant. Similarly, the increase in the rates for non-Hispanic black and non-Hispanic AIAN men were not significant.

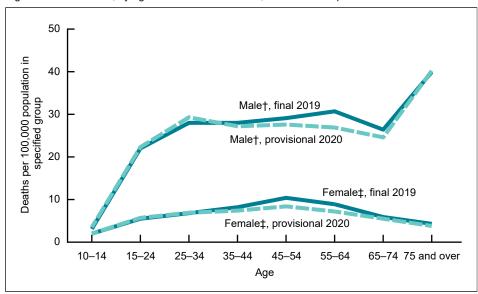
For females, the age-adjusted suicide rate for non-Hispanic white females declined 10% between 2019 (7.7) and 2020 (6.9), the largest decline for females (Figure 5). The rate for Hispanic females declined 7% (from 3.0 to 2.8) but was not significant. Age-adjusted rates were generally lower in 2020 than in 2019 for non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic Asian, and non-Hispanic AIAN females, but the changes were not significant.

See Table in Technical Notes for age-specific suicide rates by race and ethnicity and sex.

## **Discussion**

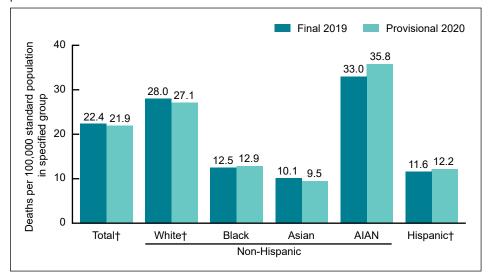
Provisional data for 2020 show that despite the increase in some risk factors associated with suicidal behavior during 2020 (4,5), the number of suicides in the United States appeared to decline in 2020 by 3% compared with 2019. Numbers of annual suicides had increased steadily from 2003 through 2018, followed by a 2% decline between 2018 and 2019 (2,10). The provisional 2020 number (45,855) is 5% below the 2018 peak (48,344) (2). These findings are consistent with a 21-country study (including data from five U.S. states) that found no increase in suicides during

Figure 3. Suicide rates, by age and sex: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020



† Difference in rates between 2019 and 2020 was significant for age groups 25–34, 45–54, 55–64, and 65–74 ( $\rho$  < 0.05). ‡ Difference in rates between 2019 and 2020 was significant for age groups 35–44, 45–54, 55–64, and 75 and over ( $\rho$  < 0.05). NOTE: Suicides are identified with *International Classification of Diseases*, 10th Revision codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

Figure 4. Age-adjusted suicide rates for males, by race and ethnicity: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020



† Difference in rates between 2019 and 2020 was statistically significant (p < 0.05).

NOTES: Suicides are identified with International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. AIAN is American Indian or Alaska Native. Death rates for non-Hispanic AIAN and Hispanic persons may be underestimated and should be interpreted with caution; see Technical Notes.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

the first part of 2020 for any of the countries, although data for the complete year were not available at the time (11). Using a modeling approach, an NCHS nowcasting methods study found overall patterns similar to those presented in this report through the end of 2020 (12). That study also showed that suicide numbers were lower in 2020 than in 2019 for March through October and December, with the greatest percentage difference between years in April. Thus, in 2020, the typical seasonal pattern in suicides was altered, as April had the lowest monthly number whereas usually the lowest number occurs in a month in the late fall or winter (12).

The overall age-adjusted suicide rate declined 3%, with the decline for females (8%) greater than males (2%). Rates for persons aged 10–34 were higher in 2020 than in 2019, whereas rates for persons aged 35 and over were lower. The increases for those aged 25–34 and the declines for those aged 35–74 were significant. The changes in suicide rates by age between 2019 and 2020 were generally similar for both males and females, although only males had a significant increase at ages 25–34.

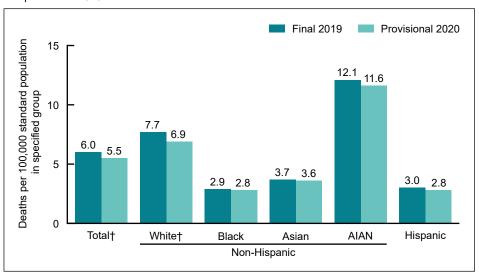
All race and ethnicity groups for women had declines in age-adjusted

suicide rates from 2019 to 2020, although only the 10% decline for non-Hispanic white women was statistically significant. For males, age-adjusted rates were higher in 2020 than in 2019 for non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic AIAN, and Hispanic males and lower for non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic Asian males. However, only the 3% decline in the age-adjusted rate for non-Hispanic

white males and the 5% increase for Hispanic males were statistically significant.

A limitation of this analysis is that the numbers of suicides for non-Hispanic Asian, non-Hispanic AIAN, and Hispanic persons may be affected by misclassification of race and Hispanic origin on death certificates. This misclassification would tend to result in underreporting of deaths for these groups, as race and Hispanic origin may be misclassified for about 3% of non-Hispanic Asian and Hispanic decedents, and 33% of non-Hispanic AIAN decedents; see Technical Notes. For example, a mortality profile for 2019 for non-Hispanic AIAN persons that adjusts for the misclassification of race and ethnicity on death certificates found an estimated suicide rate of 29.3 for non-Hispanic AIAN persons, 30% higher than the rate of 22.5 in this report (13). However, as long as the degree of misclassification is relatively consistent from 2019 through 2020, it would not impact the estimated changes over time. In addition, numbers of suicides are relatively small for some race and ethnicity groups. Thus, the changes in age-adjusted rates between 2019 and 2020 often were underpowered to detect

Figure 5. Age-adjusted suicide rates for females, by race and ethnicity: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020



† Difference in rates between 2019 and 2020 was statistically significant (p < 0.05).

NOTES: Suicides are identified with International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. AIAN is American Indian or Alaska Native. Death rates for non-Hispanic AIAN and Hispanic persons may be underestimated and should be interpreted with caution; see Technical Notes.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

statistical significance for these groups. This does not mean that the findings are not important and relevant, but rather that they simply did not reach the threshold for statistical significance (alpha less than 0.05 or 95% confidence that the changes were not due to random variation alone). Accordingly, assessment of changes between 2019 and 2020 should take into account the number of deaths and indications of statistical significance presented in the Technical Notes Table and Table 2 and Figures 2–5.

As the numbers and rates presented in this report are provisional, they are subject to change. Reporting of suicides in particular can be delayed due to investigations regarding the cause and circumstances surrounding the death. Suicides for females are more likely to be incomplete in this report than suicides for males, as their deaths more frequently involve drug poisonings (7). Nonetheless, this analysis is based on more than 99% of expected death records and the lag from the event to the reporting is more than 6 months for all months except December. Based on previous patterns between provisional and final data, the findings in this report are expected to be consistent with final 2020 data.

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# **List of Detailed Tables**

# **Report tables**

1.	Suicide numbers, by month and	
	sex: United States, final 2019 and	
	provisional 2020	7
2.	Suicide numbers and rates by age,	
	race and ethnicity, and sex:	
	United States, final 2019 and	
	provisional 2020	8

Table 1. Suicide numbers, by month and sex: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020

	Total			Male		Female			
Quarter and month	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020
Total	47,511	45,855	-3	37,256	36,508	-2	10,255	9,347	-9
Quarter 1	11,555	11,642	1	9,026	9,288	3	2,529	2,354	-7
January	3,833	4,038	5	2,984	3,208	8	849	830	-2
February	3,561	3,655	3	2,786	2,907	4	775	748	-3
March	4,161	3,949	-5	3,256	3,173	-3	905	776	-14
Quarter 2	12,131	11,193	-8	9,495	8,920	-6	2,636	2,273	-14
April	4,029	3,468	-14	3,140	2,768	-12	889	700	-21
May	4,052	3,758	-7	3,156	2,991	-5	896	767	-14
June	4,050	3,967	-2	3,199	3,161	-1	851	806	-5
Quarter 3	12,483	12,083	-3	9,820	9,697	-1	2,663	2,386	-10
July	4,193	4,156	-1	3,338	3,354	0	855	802	-6
August	4,181	4,027	-4	3,233	3,249	0	948	778	-18
September	4,109	3,900	-5	3,249	3,094	-5	860	806	-6
Quarter 4	11,342	10,937	-4	8,915	8,603	-3	2,427	2,334	-4
October	4,043	3,759	-7	3,189	2,921	-8	854	838	-2
November	3,597	3,669	2	2,844	2,868	1	753	801	6
December	3,702	3,509	-5	2,882	2,814	-2	820	695	-15

NOTES: Suicides are identified with International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Provisional 2020 data are based on death records received and processed by the National Center for Health Statistics as of May 19, 2021.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

Table 2. Suicide numbers and rates, by age, race and ethnicity, and sex: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020 [Rates are per 100,000 population estimated as of July 1 in 2019 and 2020]

Age, race and ethnicity, and sex	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020
		Number			Rate	
Total <sup>1,2</sup>	47,511	45,855	-3	13.9	13.5	†-3
10–14	534	577	8	2.6	2.8	8
15–24	5,958	6,050	2	13.9	14.2	2
25–34	8,070	8,440	5	17.5	18.3	†5
35–44	7,531	7,289	-3	18.1	17.3	†-4
45–54	8,031	7,228	-10	19.6	17.9	†-9
55–64	8,253	7,124	-14	19.4	16.8	†-13
65–74	4,870	4,714	-3	15.5	14.5	†-6
75 and over	4,307	4,412	-3 2	19.1	19.0	-1
	4,307	4,412	2	19.1	19.0	-1
Race and ethnicity:						
Non-Hispanic	07.400	05.054	0	47.7	40.0	
White <sup>2</sup>	37,428	35,351	-6	17.7	16.8	†-5 0
Black <sup>2</sup>	3,115	3,255	4	7.5	7.7	3
Asian <sup>2,3</sup>	1,342	1,303	-3	6.7	6.4	-4
American Indian or Alaska Native <sup>2,3</sup>	546	582	7	22.5	23.6	5
Hispanic <sup>2,3</sup>	4,331	4,570	6	7.3	7.5	3
Male <sup>1,2</sup>	37,256	36,508	-2	22.4	21.9	†-2
Age:						
10–14	331	374	13	3.1	3.5	13
15–24	4,805	4,854	1	22.0	22.3	1
25–34	6,533	6,874	5	28.0	29.3	†5
35–44	5,815	5,717	-2	28.0	27.2	-3
45–54	5,856	5,501	-6	29.1	27.6	<b>†-</b> 5
55–64	6,290	5,527	-12	30.7	26.9	<del>†</del> -12
65–74	3,882	3,748	-3	26.4	24.6	<b>†-</b> 7
75 and over	3,738	3,899	4	39.9	40.2	1
Race and ethnicity:						
Non-Hispanic						
White <sup>2</sup>	29,382	28,212	-4	28.0	27.1	<b>†-</b> 3
Black <sup>2</sup>	2,491	2,645	6	12.5	12.9	3
Asian <sup>2,3</sup>	950	916	-4	10.1	9.5	-6
American Indian or Alaska Native <sup>2,3</sup>	401	439	9	33.0	35.8	8
Hispanic <sup>2,3</sup>	3,445	3,704	8	11.6	12.2	<b>†</b> 5
Female <sup>1,2</sup>	10,255	9,347	-9	6.0	5.5	†-8
Age:			•			
10–14	203	203	0	2.0	2.0	0
15–24	1,154	1,196	4	5.5	5.7	4
25–34	1,526	1,566	3	6.8	6.9	1
35–44	1,710	1,572	-8	8.2	7.4	<del>†</del> -10
45–54	2,156	1,727	-20	10.4	8.4	<del>†</del> -19
55–64	1,948	1,597	-18	8.9	7.2	<del>†</del> -19
65–74	985	966	-2	5.9	5.6	-5
75 and over	568	513	-10	4.3	3.8	<del>†-</del> 12
Race and ethnicity: Non-Hispanic						
White <sup>2</sup>	8,046	7,139	-11	7.7	6.9	<del>†</del> -10
Black <sup>2</sup>	624	610	-2	2.9	2.8	-3
Asian <sup>2,3</sup>	392	387	- <u>1</u>	3.7	3.6	-3
American Indian or Alaska Native <sup>2,3</sup>	145	143	-1 -1	12.1	11.6	-3 -4
Hispanic <sup>2,3</sup>	886	866	-1 -2	3.0	2.8	- <del></del> -7

<sup>†</sup> Percent change in rates between 2019 and 2020 was statistically significant ( $\rho$  < 0.05).

Includes deaths to persons under age 10 as well as age not stated; includes persons in race and ethnicity groups not shown and persons of multiple races. Rate adjusted to a standard 2000 population; see Data Source and Methods and Technical Notes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Rate may be underestimated and should be interpreted with caution; see Technical Notes.

NOTES: Suicides are identified with International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Provisional 2020 data are based on death records received and processed by the National Center for Health Statistics as of May 19, 2021.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

#### **Technical Notes**

#### **Race and ethnicity data**

The race and ethnicity categories presented in this report are based on the 1997 Office of Management and Budget standards as presented on the 2003 revision of the U.S. Standard Certificate of Death (14). Information on race and ethnicity are from death certificates and are supplied by an informant, usually the next of kin. Race and Hispanic origin are two distinct attributes and are reported separately on death certificates. Therefore, the data shown in this report by Hispanic origin and race are based on a combination of the two attributes for the non-Hispanic population. Data shown for the Hispanic population include persons of any race. All of the race categories are single race, meaning that only one race was reported on the death certificate. Death rates for non-Hispanic Asian, non-Hispanic American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN), and Hispanic persons are impacted by inconsistencies in reporting race and Hispanic origin on the death certificate compared with censuses and surveys. A validity study has shown underreporting on death certificates of non-Hispanic Asian and Hispanic decedents by 3% and of non-Hispanic AIAN decedents by 33% (15).

# **Census population data**

The population data used to estimate the death rates shown in this report are July 1, 2020, monthly postcensal population estimates based on the 2010 decennial census and are available from the U.S. Census website at: https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/demo/popest/2010s-national-detail.html.

#### **Cause-of-death classification**

Cause of death was classified in accordance with World Health Organization (WHO) regulations, which specify that member countries classify and code causes of death according to the current revision of the *International Classification of Diseases* (ICD).

ICD provides the basic guidance used in virtually all countries to code and classify causes of death. Effective with deaths occurring in 1999, the United States began using the 10th revision of this classification (ICD–10) (9).

In this report, cause-of-death statistics are based solely on the underlying cause of death. The underlying cause is defined by WHO as "the disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death, or the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury." The underlying cause is selected from the conditions entered by the medical certifier in the cause-of-death section of the death certificate. When more than one cause or condition is entered by the medical certifier, the underlying cause is determined by the sequence of conditions on the certificate, provisions of ICD, and associated selection rules and modifications. Suicides are identified by ICD-10 underlying cause-of-death codes U03, X60-X84, and Y87.0.

# **Computing rates**

Rates for all ages combined in this report are age-adjusted based on a standard 2000 population per 100,000 estimated U.S. population. Age-specific rates are per 100,000 population in the specified age group. Comparisons made in the text among rates, unless otherwise specified, are statistically significant at the 0.05 level of significance. Lack of comment in this report about any two rates does not mean that the difference was tested and found not to be significant at this level.

#### **Random variation**

The mortality data presented in this report are not subject to sampling error. Provisional mortality data may be affected by random variation—that is, the number of deaths that actually occurred may be considered as one of a large series of possible results that could have arisen under the same circumstances.

When the number of deaths is large, a normal approximation may be used in calculating confidence intervals and statistical tests. How large, in terms of number of deaths, is to some extent subjective. In general, for age-specific death rates, the normal approximation performs well when the number of deaths is 100 or greater. More information on statistical testing is published elsewhere (16).

#### **Availability of mortality data**

Mortality data used in this report are available in electronic products as described on the National Center for Health Statistics mortality website at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/deaths.htm.
Provisional mortality data are located at: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr.htm.

Table. Suicide numbers and rates, by race and ethnicity, sex, and age: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020 [Rates are per 100,000 population estimated as of July 1 in 2019 and 2020]

Race and ethnicity, sex, and age	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020
		Number			Rate	
Non-Hispanic white <sup>1,2</sup>	37,428	35,351	-6	17.7	16.8	†-5
10–14	335	318	-5	3.2	3.1	-3
15–24	3,644	3,587	-2	16.1	16.0	-1
25–34	5,465	5,539	1	21.7	22.1	2
35–44	5,763	5,511	-4	24.5	23.2	†-5
45–54	6,584	5,911	-10	26.2	24.1	†-8
	,					•
55–64	7,234	6,202	-14	24.5	21.2	-13
65–74	4,404	4,206	-4	18.7	17.3	†-7
75 and over	3,997	4,072	2	22.7	22.6	0
Male <sup>1,2</sup>	29,382	28,212	-4	28.0	27.1	†-3
10–14	209	219	5	3.9	4.1	5
15–24	2,970	2,931	-1	25.6	25.5	0
25–34	4,439	4,524	2	34.7	35.5	2
35–44	4,431	4,303	-3	37.4	36.0	-4
45–54	4,806	4,468	-7	38.3	36.5	<b>†-</b> 5
55–64	5,531	4,803	-13	38.4	33.6	+-13
65–74	3,515	3,336	-5	31.4	29.0	†-8
75 and over	3,479	3,624	4	46.9	47.5	1
Female <sup>1,2</sup>	8.046	7,139	-11	7.7	6.9	<del>†</del> -10
10–14	124	99	-20	2.4	2.0	-17
15–24	674	656	-3	6.1	6.0	-17
			-3 -1			
25–34	1,026	1,015		8.3	8.3	0
35–44	1,332	1,208	-9	11.4	10.2	†-11 - 12
45–54	1,778	1,443	-19	14.1	11.8	<del>†</del> -16
55–64	1,703	1,399	-18	11.3	9.4	<del>†</del> -17
65–74	889	870	-2	7.2	6.8	-6 + 10
75 and over	518	448	-14	5.1	4.3	<del>†</del> -16
Non-Hispanic black <sup>1,2</sup>	3,115	3,255	4	7.5	7.7	3
10–14	66	82	24	2.3	2.9	26
15–24	683	779	14	11.5	13.2	†15
25–34	860	963	12	13.2	14.6	†11
35–44	568	547	-4	10.7	10.1	-6
45–54	424	373	-12	8.3	7.4	-11
55–64	293	281	-4	5.9	5.6	-5
65–74	138	145	5	4.5	4.5	0
75 and over	79	76	-4	4.2	3.9	-7
Male <sup>1,2</sup>	2,491	2.645	6	12.5	12.9	2
		2,645				ა ეე
10–14	43	53	23	3.0	3.7	23
15–24	553	636	15	18.3	21.3	†16
25–34	709	803	13	21.8	24.4	†12
35–44	448	439	-2	17.7	17.1	-3
45–54	324	297	-8	13.6	12.6	-7
55–64	232	225	-3	10.2	9.8	-4
65–74	110	122	11	8.3	8.7	5
75 and over	69	66	-4	10.1	9.2	-9
Female <sup>1,2</sup>	624	610	-2	2.9	2.8	-3
10–14	23	29	26	1.6	2.1	31
15–24	130	143	10	4.4	4.9	11
25–34	151	160	6	4.6	4.8	4
35–44	120	108	-10			-12
				4.3	3.8	
45–54	100	76	-24	3.7	2.8	-24
55–64	61	56	-8	2.3	2.1	-9
65–74	28	23	-18	1.6	1.2	-25
75 and over	10	10	0	*	*	‡

See footnotes at end of table.

Table. Suicide numbers and rates, by race and ethnicity, sex, and age: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020—Con. [Rates are per 100,000 population estimated as of July 1 in 2019 and 2020]

Race and ethnicity, sex, and age	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	between 2019 and 2020	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	between 2019 and 2020
		Number			Rate	
Non-Hispanic Asian <sup>1–3</sup>	1,342	1,303	-3	6.7	6.4	-4
10–14	11	15	36	*	*	‡
15–24	252	239	-5	10.7	10.0	-7
25–34	286	268	-6	8.8	8.2	-7
35–44	203	198	-2	6.7	6.4	-4
45–54	205	202	-1	7.8	7.5	-4
55–64	181	164	-9	8.5	7.6	-11
65–74	106	112	6	7.1	7.1	0
75 and over	97	105	8	9.7	9.9	2
Male <sup>1–3</sup>	950	916	-4	10.1	9.5	-6
10–14	6	11	‡	*	*	‡
15–24	194	165	-15	16.3	13.8	-15
25–34	213	204	-4	13.4	12.7	-5
35–44	145	146	1	10.1	10.0	-1
45–54	135	140	4	11.1	11.2	1
55–64	125	106	-15	13.0	10.8	-17
65–74	65	76	17	9.9	11.0	11
75 and over	66	68	3	15.7	15.2	-3
Female <sup>1–3</sup>	392	387	-1	3.7	3.6	-3
10–14	5	4	‡	*	*	‡
15–24	58	74	28	4.9	6.2	27
25–34	73	64	-12	4.4	3.9	-11
35–44	58	52	-10	3.6	3.2	-11
45–54	70	62	-11	5.0	4.3	-14
55–64	56	58	4	4.8	4.9	2
65–74	41	36	-12	4.9	4.1	-16
75 and over	31	37	19	5.3	6.0	13
Non-Hispanic American Indian						
or Alaska Native <sup>1–3</sup>	546	582	7	22.5	23.6	5
10–14	16	19	‡	*	*	‡
15–24	144	156	8	40.1	43.7	9
25–34	171	191	12	45.5	49.6	9
35–44	95	95	0	31.5	31.1	-1
45–54	63	61	-3	21.9	21.6	-1
55–64	33	40	21	11.1	13.3	20
65–74	15	14	‡	*	*	‡
75 and over	9	8	‡	*	*	‡
Male <sup>1–3</sup>	401	439	9	33.0	35.9	9
10–14	13	12	-8	*	*	‡
15–24	100	117	17	54.8	64.6	18
25–34	134	139	4	70.2	72.1	3
35–44	67	70	4	44.9	46.2	3
45–54	39	49	26	27.9	35.6	28
55–64	26	32	23	18.5	22.7	23
65–74	13	11	-15	*	*	‡
75 and over	9	8	‡	*	*	‡
Female <sup>1–3</sup>	145	143	-1	12.1	11.6	-4
10–14	3	7	‡	*	*	‡
15–24	44	39	-11	24.9	22.2	-11
25–34	37	49	32	20.0	26.3	32
35–44	28	25	-11	18.4	16.2	-12
45–54	24	12	‡	16.2	*	‡
55–64	7	8	‡	*	*	±
65–74	2	3	‡	*	*	±
75 and over	0	0	‡	*	*	‡

See footnotes at end of table.

Table. Suicide numbers and rates, by race and ethnicity, sex, and age: United States, final 2019 and provisional 2020—Con. [Rates are per 100,000 population estimated as of July 1 in 2019 and 2020]

Race and ethnicity, sex, and age	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020	Final 2019	Provisional 2020	Percent change between 2019 and 2020
		Number			Rate	
Hispanic <sup>1–3</sup>	4,331	4,570	6	7.3	7.5	3
10–14	92	120	30	1.7	2.2	†29
15–24	1,054	1,091	4	10.7	10.9	2
25–34	1,090	1,269	16	11.4	13.2	<del>†</del> 16
35–44	774	808	4	8.9	9.2	3
45–54	623	579	-7	8.7	8.0	-8
55–64	419	361	-14	8.3	6.8	<del>†</del> -18
65–74	169	202	20	6.0	6.7	. 12
75 and over	105	134	28	5.8	7.0	21
Male <sup>1–3</sup>	3,445	3,704	8	11.6	12.2	<del>†</del> 5
10–14	53	65	23	2.0	2.4	20
15–24	841	867	3	16.6	16.9	2
25–34	888	1,038	17	17.8	20.7	<del>†</del> 16
35–44	629	659	5	14.1	14.6	4
45–54	467	474	1	13.0	12.9	-1
55–64	316	300	-5	12.8	11.6	-9
65–74	149	177	19	11.5	12.9	12
75 and over	99	119	20	13.5	15.3	13
Female <sup>1–3</sup>	886	866	-2	3.0	2.8	-7
10–14	39	55	41	1.5	2.1	40
15–24	213	224	5	4.4	4.6	5
25–34	202	231	14	4.4	5.0	14
35–44	145	149	3	3.5	3.5	0
45–54	156	105	-33	4.4	2.9	†-34
55–64	103	61	-41	4.0	2.3	†- <b>4</b> 3
65–74	20	25	25	1.3	1.5	15
75 and over	6	15	‡	*	*	‡

NOTES: Suicides are identified with International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision codes U03, X60-X84, and Y87.0. Provisional 2020 data are based on death records received and processed by the National Center for Health Statistics as of May 19, 2021.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

<sup>†</sup> Percent change in rates between 2019 and 2020 was statistically significant (*p* < 0.05).

\* Rate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics standards of reliability and precision; numerator based on fewer than 20 deaths.

<sup>‡</sup> Percent change was not computed because the number of suicides in 2019 or 2020 was fewer than 20 deaths. 

Includes deaths to persons under age 10 as well as age not stated.

Rate adjusted to a standard 2000 population; see Data Source and Methods and Technical Notes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Rate may be underestimated and should be interpreted with caution; see Technical Notes.

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#### **National Center for Health Statistics**

Brian C. Moyer, Ph.D., *Director* Amy M. Branum, Ph.D., *Associate Director for Science* 

#### **Division of Vital Statistics**

Steven Schwartz, Ph.D., *Director*Andrés A. Berruti, Ph.D., M.A., *Acting*Associate Director for Science

#### **Division of Analysis and Epidemiology**

Irma E. Arispe, Ph.D., *Director* Kevin C. Heslin, Ph.D., *Associate Director for Science*