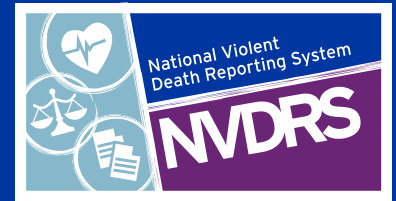


# National Violent Death Reporting System 2016 Suicide Snapshot



**Suicide is a serious public health problem** that can have lasting harmful effects on individuals, families, and communities. It is among the top ten leading causes of death for Americans. There are over twice as many suicides as homicides reported in the United States, solidifying suicide as the most common manner of violent death.

To help identify ways to prevent suicide, CDC's National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) links information about the "who, when, where, and how" from death investigation data on suicides, and provides insight about why suicides occurred.

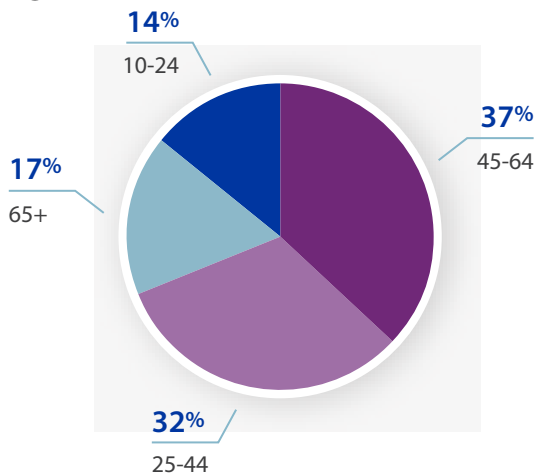
This snapshot includes data on 25,850 suicides from 32 states that participated in NVDRS in 2016.

## Characteristics of those who died by suicide:

### By sex:



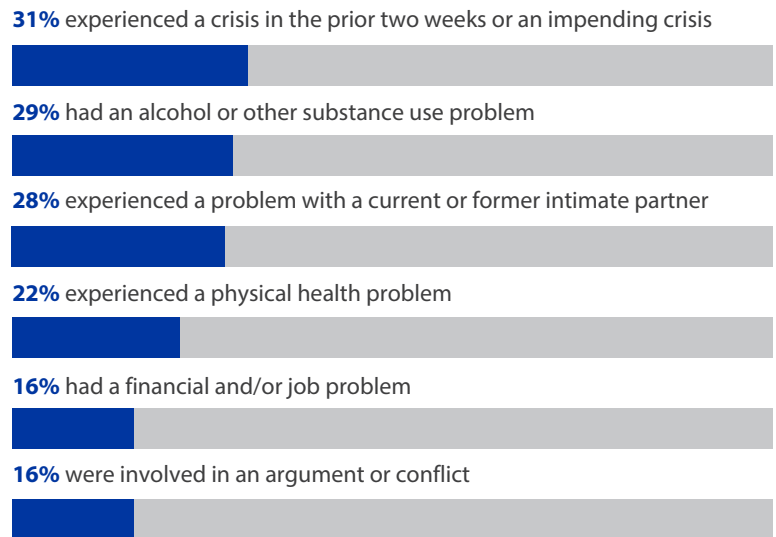
### By age:



### Why:

Mental health problems are an important contributing factor to suicide — **49% of people who died by suicide had an identified mental health problem**, most commonly depression.

However, this means that over half did not have a known mental health problem. It is important to consider other contributing circumstances such as life stressors. Among individuals aged 10 years and older with known information about the circumstances contributing to suicide (91%):



## Resources for Information and Action:

Everyone has a role to play in suicide prevention.  
**Learn more and take action.**

[Vital Signs: Suicide Rising Across the US National Violent Death Reporting System](#)  
[CDC's Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System](#)  
[CDC Suicide Prevention](#)



## Prevention

Suicide is a serious but preventable public health problem. CDC released [Preventing Suicide: A Technical Package of Policy, Programs, and Practices](#) to describe the best available evidence for suicide prevention.

**Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255**

