

Deaths in Wisconsin 2004

Suicide	656
Homicide	149
HIV	48

DHFS/Division of Public Health

HOPES Facts about Suicide in Wisconsin

- Suicide is the second most common cause of death among people aged 15-34 in 2003. It is third nationally for 2002, which is the latest data.
- 10 youth under the age of 15 died by suicide in WI in 2000, 9 in 2001, 6 in 2002, and 7 in 2003.
- More teenagers and young adults die from suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia and influenza, and chronic lung disease, combined.
- In the month prior to their suicide, 75% of elderly persons had visited a physician.
- 466 of the 656 total suicides represent adult working men and women ages 25-64.
- Each suicide death is estimated to affect at least six other people including their family, friends, classmates, co-workers and others in the community. This would mean that over 3900 people were affected by a suicide death in WI in 2004.
- Suicide attempts are much more common than death by suicide. Attempts are estimated to be about 20 times the number of deaths.
- Hospitalization costs attributed to suicide attempts totaled \$37,981,622.00 for the year 2002. That does not include Emergency Room visits of which there were 3744 at an approximate cost of \$1,000. per visit.
- Many who make suicide attempts never seek professional care immediately after the attempt.
- Forty-eight percent of WI suicides were by firearm in 2003.

Facts from DHFS and CDC