

Data Brief 483. Suicide Among Adults Age 55 and Older, 2021

Data table for Figure 1. Suicide rate among adults age 55 and older, by age group and sex: United States, 2021

Age group	Men		Women	
	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000
Total (55 and older)	13,655	29.6	3,264	6.2
55–64	5,568	26.6	1,699	7.8
65–74	4,140	26.1	1,004	5.6
75–84	2,736	38.2	434	4.8
85 and older	1,211	55.7	127	3.3

NOTES: Suicide deaths are identified using *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* underlying cause-of-death codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Death rates are per 100,000 people in the specified age group.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, mortality data file.



**Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention**
National Center for
Health Statistics

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Data table for Figure 2. Suicide rate among adults age 55 and older, by age group and sex: United States, 2001 and 2021

Age group	Men				Women			
	2001		2021		2001		2021	
	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000
Total (55 and older)	7,152	26.8	13,655	29.6	1,558	4.6	3,264	6.2
55–64	2,563	21.2	5,568	26.6	754	5.8	1,699	7.8
65–74	2,040	24.5	4,140	26.1	392	3.9	1,004	5.6
75–84	1,885	37.7	2,736	38.2	307	4.0	434	4.8
85 and older	664	52.7	1,211	55.7	105	3.4	127	3.3

NOTES: Suicide deaths are identified using *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* underlying cause-of-death codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Death rates are per 100,000 people in the specified age group.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, mortality data file.

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Data table for Figure 3. Suicide rate among men age 55 and older, by age group and mechanism of death: United States, 2021

Age group	Firearm		Poisoning		Suffocation		All other mechanisms	
	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000
55–64.	3,363	16.0	531	2.5	1,203	5.7	471	2.2
65–74.	3,045	19.2	317	2.0	477	3.0	301	1.9
75–84.	2,298	32.1	161	2.2	170	2.4	107	1.5
85 and older.	999	45.9	76	3.5	83	3.8	53	2.4

NOTES: Suicide deaths are identified using *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* underlying cause-of-death codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Mechanisms of suicide are identified using *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* codes X72–X74 for firearm, X60–X69 for poisoning, and X70 for suffocation. Death rates are per 100,000 people in the specified age group.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, mortality data file.

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Data table for Figure 4. Suicide rate among women age 55 and older, by age group and mechanism of death: United States, 2021

Age group	Firearm		Poisoning		Suffocation		All other mechanisms	
	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000	Number of deaths	Rate per 100,000
55–64.	621	2.8	578	2.6	337	1.5	163	0.7
65–74.	385	2.2	361	2.0	147	0.8	111	0.6
75–84.	172	1.9	160	1.8	56	0.6	46	0.5
85 and older.	36	0.9	53	1.4	26	0.7	*	*

* Rate does not meet National Center for Health Statistics reliability standards of 20 deaths or more, so is not reported.

NOTES: Suicide deaths are identified using *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* underlying cause-of-death codes U03, X60–X84, and Y87.0. Mechanisms of suicide are identified using *International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision* codes X72–X74 for firearm, X60–X69 for poisoning, and X70 for suffocation. Death rates are per 100,000 people in the specified age group.

SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, mortality data file.