

EMS Provider Suicide

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National Suicide Statistics

- One suicide attempt every 30 seconds
- One suicide completion every 8 minutes
- 836,000 ED Visits
- 10th leading cause of death (all ages)
- 13 per 100,000 deaths
- 41,149 deaths total
- Means:
 - 21,175 firearms
 - 10,062 suffocation
 - 6,637 poison
 - 3,275 other means [5]

Military Suicides [9]

- 24-to-25-per-100,000, roughly 20% to 25% higher general public
- 20 Veterans commit suicide everyday
- 1 every 72 minutes
- Lost more to suicide in 2016 (7303) than 15 years of conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan (6912).
- Most current public safety research is based of military data

EMS Suicide Statistics

- Best state data available:
 - Straub Caulkins Center for Suicide Research [6]
 - Minnesota Ambulance Association
 - 97% verification
 - 121 suicides from 1995 to 2015
 - Rate of suicide in general population 12.6 per 100,000
 - Rate of suicide in EMS providers 64.9 per 100,000

EMS Suicide Research

- Issues

- Classification of death issues

- Employment classification issues

- Veteran status

- Limited prior research with conflicting results

EMS Suicide Research

- Current study

Minnesota EMS database of 29501 emails

Emailed intro letter with link to anonymous survey

~1500 invalid addresses

Open data collection period through 1/1/2018

emc.eku.edu/suicide-survey

20 quantitative questions

Preliminary results 59% of an attempt or completion

41% have considered while 25% have a plan/means

1.6% would like to speak to somebody

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