



**Suicide in Idaho: Fact Sheet  
February 2012**

- Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for Idahoans age 15-34 and for males age 10-14. (The leading cause of death is accidents.)
- Idaho is consistently among the states with the highest suicide rates. **In 2009 (the most recent year available) Idaho had the 4th highest suicide rate, 67% higher than the national average.**
- In 2010, 290 people completed suicide in Idaho; a 5% decrease from 2009, and a 15% increase over 2008.
- Between 2006 and 2010, 81% of suicides were by men.
- In 2010, 63% of Idaho suicides involved a firearm. The national average = 50%.
- 14.2% (1 in 7) of Idaho youth attending traditional high schools reported seriously considering suicide in 2009. 6.9% (1 in 14) reported making at least one attempt.
- Between 2006 and 2010, 72 Idaho school children (age 18 and under) died by suicide.
- It is estimated that suicide attempts in Idaho result in \$36 million in costs annually. Idaho's costs for suicide completions annually is over \$850,000 in medical care alone, and \$343 million in total lifetime productivity lost.
- In 2008, there were 37,000 deaths by suicide in the United States, an average of 1 person every 15 minutes.

**Idaho Suicides by Region – 2010**

Region	Anchor City	Suicides	Rate (per 100,000)	Population	Tot. # suicides	
					2006-2010	5-yr Avg Rate
1	Coeur d'Alene	53	25.0*	211,870	229	21.6
2	Lewiston	19	18.0	102,099	87	17.0
3	Nampa	35	13.8-	248,000	179	14.4
4	Boise	66	15.1*	426,283	316	14.8
5	Twin Falls	39	21.0-	176,400	168	19.0
6	Pocatello	33	19.8-	161,606	140	17.3
7	Idaho Falls	45	21.7	197,558	167	16.9

\* increase from 2009, - decrease from 2009

**Idaho Suicides by Age/Gender 2006-10  
Over 5 year period**

Age	Total	Male	Rate	Female	Rate
10-14	16	13	4.6	3	1.1
15-19	80	65	23.0	15	5.5
20-24	98	85	30.6	13	5.4
25-34	177	137	24.9	40	7.8
35-44	245	180	36.7	65	13.7
45-54	259	199	38.4	60	11.5
55-64	206	170	40.9	36	8.6
65-74	95	85	35.6	10	4.0
75-84	74	71	54.6	3	1.8
85+	36	33	71.4	3	3.7

**Method 2006-10  
(all ages)**

Firearm	62.1%
Poisoning	17.2%
Suffocation	16.1%
Cut/Pierce	1.2%
Fall	1.2%
Other	2.2%

**Idaho Suicide Rates 1999 – 2010**

Year	Number	ID Rate	US Rate
1999	180	14.4	10.7
2000	166	12.8	10.7
2001	213	16.1	10.7
2002	203	15.1	11.0
2003	218	16.0	10.8
2004	239	17.2	10.8
2005	225	15.7	10.7
2006	218	14.9	11.1
2007	220	14.7	11.5
2008	251	16.5	n/a
2009	307	19.9	n/a
2010	290	18.5	n/a

## Idaho Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2011 – High School Students

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Depressed</u>	<u>Suicidal</u>	<u>Plan</u>	<u>Attempt</u>	<u>Medical Care For Attempt</u>
9 <sup>th</sup>	28.3%*	18.1%*	12.7%*	9.2%*	2.2%*
10 <sup>th</sup>	25.9-	15.2-	13.5-	6.8-	2.7
11 <sup>th</sup>	29.4-	14.0*	10.4-	5.2	.9-
12 <sup>th</sup>	24.9-	13.6*	13.2*	4.2-	1.1-
Idaho Overall	27.3-	15.4*	13.2	6.3-	1.9

\* increase from 2009, - decrease from 2009

### **Idaho Suicide Rate By County** **5-year total number and 5-year average rate 2006-2010** (suicides per 100,000 people)

<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Ada	275	14.4	Gem	11	13.3
Adams	4	22.9	Gooding	10	14.0
Bannock	74	18.3	Idaho	14	18.1
Bear Lake	5	17.2	Jefferson	18	15.1
Benewah	8	17.1	Jerome	18	20.5
Bingham	34	15.5	Kootenai	133	19.3
Blaine	19	17.5	Latah	26	14.5
Boise	9	24.0	Lemhi	16	41.0
Bonner	53	25.7	Lewis	1	5.6
Bonneville	89	18.0	Lincoln	7	31.1
Boundary	16	29.2	Madison	6	3.2
Butte	4	29.1	Minidoka	18	19.3
Camas	3	53.3	Nez Perce	38	19.5
Canyon	133	14.5	Oneida	4	19.4
Caribou	7	20.5	Owyhee	6	11.0
Cassia	9	8.4	Payette	19	16.5
Clark	3	65.9	Power	5	13.0
Clearwater	8	19.6	Shoshone	19	29.4
Custer	9	42.3	Teton	12	27.2
Elmore	25	17.2	Twin Falls	81	21.8
Franklin	11	17.7	Valley	7	15.8
Fremont	10	15.9	Washington	6	11.8
			<b>Idaho (total)</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>16.9 (5-year average)</b>

Note: Rates for many counties are based on fewer than 20 deaths. Caution is advised when interpreting rates based on small numbers.

Sources: Idaho Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics, Idaho Department Health and Welfare  
Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline Report, Idaho State University, Institute of Rural Health, 2010  
YRBS Idaho, 2009

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