SUICIDE: 2016 FACTS & FIGURES

Suicide is a preventable public health problem and a leading cause of death in the United States. More investment in suicide prevention, education and research will prevent the untimely deaths of thousands of Americans each year.

SUICIDE – BASIC FACTS

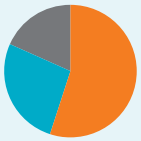
An American dies by suicide every **12.3 minutes**[i]

Americans attempt suicide an estimated

1.1 MILLION

times annually[iii]

90% of those who die by suicide had a diagnosable psychiatric disorder at the time of their death[ii]



In 2014, firearms were the most common method of death by suicide, accounting for **49.9%** of all suicide deaths, followed by suffocation (including hangings) at **26.7%** and poisoning at **15.9%**

For every **woman** who dies by suicide, four **men** die by suicide, but women are 3x more likely to attempt suicide[i]

Nearly **43,000** Americans die by suicide every year.[i] Suicide is the **10th leading cause of death**[i] in the United States

- **2nd** leading cause of death for ages 44 and under
- **5th** leading cause of death for ages 45-54
- The suicide rate among American Indian/ Alaska Native adolescents and young adults ages 15-24 is **1.5 times** the national average

Veterans comprise **22.2%** of suicides[iv]

SUICIDE – THE COST

$44 BILLION

The combined medical and work loss costs in the United States each year[i]

More than

1.6 MILLION

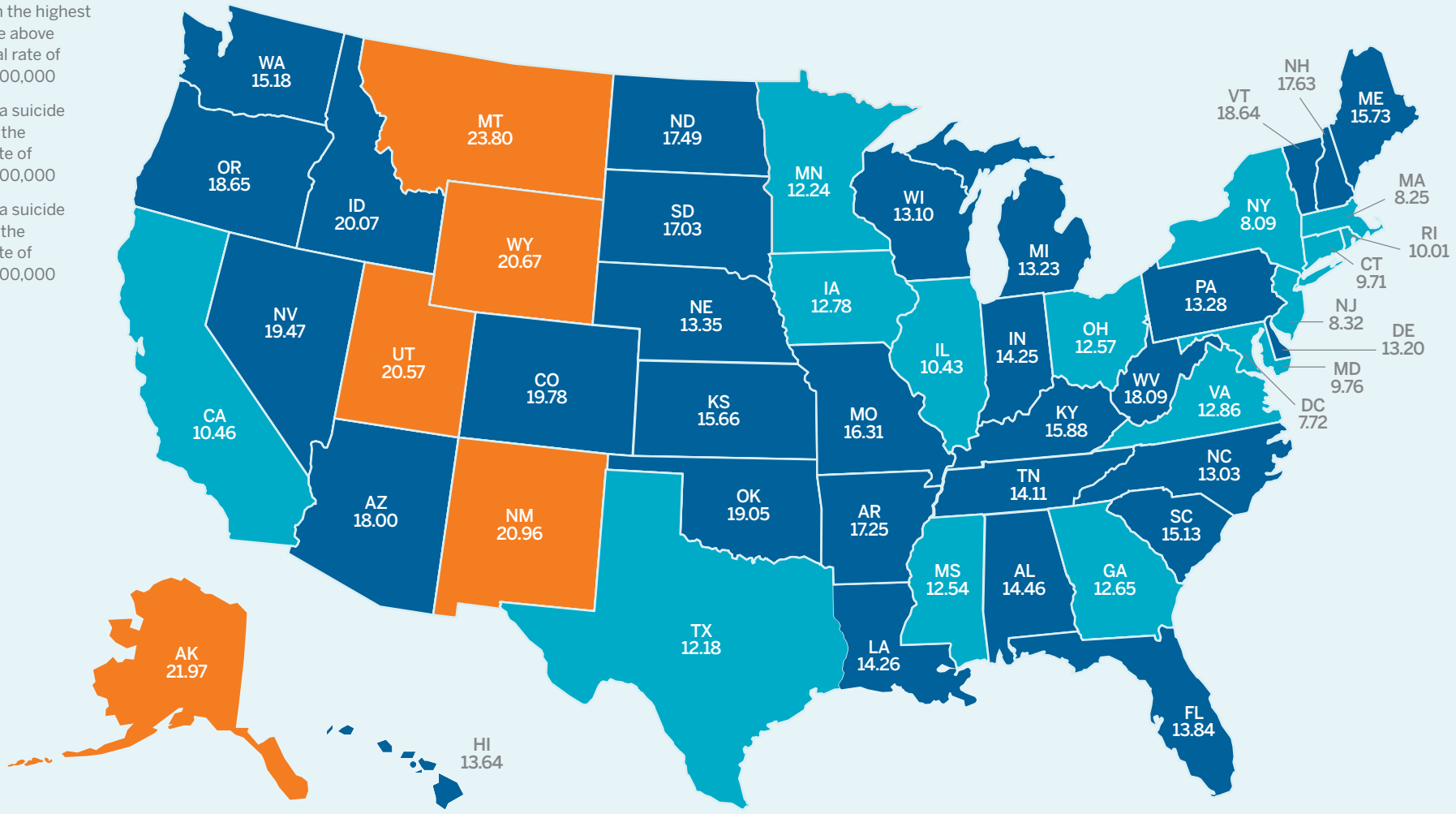
years of life are lost annually to suicide[i]

[i] 2014 data, released December 2015, CDC Web Based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS)
[ii] National Center for Health Statistics for the year 2006
[iii] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Suicide – Facts at a Glance
[iv] Department of Veterans Affairs 2012 Suicide Data Report

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR Suicide Prevention
afsp.org

SUICIDE DEATH RATES

- States with the highest suicide rate above the national rate of 12.93 per 100,000
- State with a suicide rate above the national rate of 12.93 per 100,000
- State with a suicide rate below the national rate of 12.93 per 100,000



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