



**Suicide in Idaho: Fact Sheet  
July 2009**

- Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for Idaho's 15-24 and 25-34 year age groups. (The leading cause of death is accidents.)
- Idaho is consistently among the states with the highest suicide rates. In 2006 (the most recent year available) Idaho had the 10th highest suicide rate, 36% higher than the national average.
- In 2007, there were 220 people who completed suicide in Idaho.
- In 2007, 85% of suicides were by men.
- In 2007, 67% of Idaho suicides involved a firearm. The national average = 52%.
- 16.9% of Idaho youth attending traditional high schools reported seriously considering suicide in 2007. 8.4% reported making at least one attempt.
- In 2006, there were 33,300 deaths by suicide in the United States, an average of 1 person every 16 minutes.
- In 2000, the suicides of those under 25 years of age in Idaho resulted in estimated direct costs of \$3.77 million, and lost earnings of \$81 million.

**Idaho Suicides by Region – 2007**

Region	City	Suicides	Rate (per 100,000)	Population	Avg # suicides	
					2003-2007	5-yr Avg Rate
1	CDA	43	20.6	208,445	38	18.9
2	Lew	17	16.6	102,388	18	18.3
3	Nampa	31	12.7	243,156	34	14.7
4	Boise	63	15.0	418,778	57	14.6
5	Twin	23	13.2	174,057	26	15.4
6	Pocatello	18	11.2	160,109	23	14.7
7	Id Falls	25	13.8	192,469	28	15.3

**Idaho Suicides by Age/Gender 2003-07**

Age	Total	Male	Rate	Female	Rate
10-14	14	11	4.2	3	1.2
15-19	74	61	21.7	13	4.9
20-24	94	84	28.9	10	3.5
25-34	173	142	28.6	31	6.7
35-44	228	186	37.7	42	8.8
45-54	218	166	33.1	52	10.3
55-64	147	123	34.2	24	6.6
65-74	75	67	31.6	8	3.6
75-84	69	64	55.0	5	3.3
85+	28	27	68.1	1	1.3

**Method (all ages)**

Firearm	65.9%
Poisoning	14.8%
Suffocation	14.6%
Cut/Pierce	1.3%
Fall	1.3%
Other	2.1%

**Idaho Suicide Rates 1997 – 2007**

Year	Number	Id Rate	US Rate
1997	210	17.4	11.4
1998	202	16.4	11.3
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	n/a
2007	220	14.7	n/a

## Idaho Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2007 – High School Students

Grade	Depressed	Suicidal	Plan	Attempt	Medical Care For Attempt
9 <sup>th</sup>	24.2%	17.6%	12.7%	9.0%	4.3%
10 <sup>th</sup>	30.0	19.9	13.6	9.6	3.0
11 <sup>th</sup>	26.0	14.3	14.0	7.0	2.6
12 <sup>th</sup>	28.9	15.3	13.8	6.4	1.4
Idaho Overall	28.5	16.9	13.0	8.4	2.3

### Idaho Suicide Rate By County 5-year average 2003-2007 (suicides per 100,000 people)

County	Number	Rate	County	Number	Rate
Ada	246	14.3	Gem	14	17.2
Adams	2	11.1	Gooding	9	12.4
Bannock	48	12.3	Idaho	10	12.7
Bear Lake	8	25.9	Jefferson	21	19.5
Benewah	5	10.8	Jerome	13	13.2
Bingham	40	18.3	Kootenai	117	18.3
Blaine	19	18.0	Latah	29	16.7
Boise	6	15.9	Lemhi	9	22.8
Bonner	39	19.1	Lewis	4	21.3
Bonneville	79	17.2	Lincoln	6	26.4
Boundary	16	30.1	Madison	11	7.1
Butte	3	21.4	Minidoka	19	20.0
Camas	1	19.0	Nez Perce	44	23.2
Canyon	116	14.1	Oneida	2	9.5
Caribou	7	19.6	Owyhee	9	16.3
Cassia	18	16.8	Payette	21	18.9
Clark	1	21.2	Power	5	12.9
Clearwater	5	11.9	Shoshone	13	19.8
Custer	4	19.6	Teton	4	10.7
Elmore	21	14.7	Twin Falls	51	14.7
Franklin	7	11.3	Valley	11	36.4
Fremont	6	9.8	Washington	6	11.9
			<b>Idaho (total)</b>	<b>1,120</b>	<b>15.7 (5-year average)</b>

Source: Idaho Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics  
Idaho Department Health and Welfare  
Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
YRBS Idaho, 2007

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