PREVENTING SUICIDE



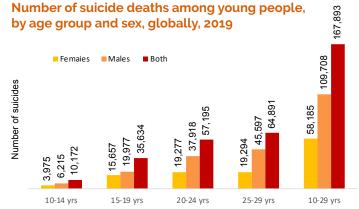


IMPLEMENTATION

More than 700 000 people took their own lives in 2019. Reducing suicide is an indicator (the only one for mental health) in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The aim of LIVE LIFE is for all countries to advance political will, national strategic action, and delivery of key effective interventions for preventing suicide. LIVE LIFE serves as a starting point upon which countries can build further evidence-based suicide prevention interventions. To support sustained implementation of LIVE LIFE, the World Health Organization (WHO) seeks to raise funding. WHO works with Member States, UN agencies, local and international partners, and people with lived experience. Help us in alleviating suffering and achieving the prevention of unnecessary deaths worldwide.

SUICIDE TAKES A HEAVY TOLL ON FAMILIES, FRIENDS AND COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE

Suicide is among the top twenty leading causes of death worldwide, with more deaths due to suicide than to e.g. malaria, breast cancer, or war and homicide. Globally, in every 100 deaths, more than one (1.3%) was by suicide in 2019. Every suicide is a tragedy. For every suicide there are likely to be 20 Suicide knows no national boundaries: it is a serious public health problem in high-income countries, and especially in low- and middle-income countries where 77% of global suicides occurred in 2019. Adolescents and young adults are highly vulnerable. Suicide is the fourth leading cause of death in the 15-to-29-year age group. Suicides among young people account for nearly a quarter of all suicides globally. More than half of global suicides occur before the age of 50 years. More men die by suicide than women, but this difference is less pronounced in low- and middle-income countries.



Source: Suicide worldwide in 2019: global health estimates; World Health Organization, 2021 (https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240026643).

Despite improved research and knowledge about effective prevention, resources for suicide prevention are scarce, limited

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