

## Suicide Mortality Rate (2011-2013)

| Rate per 100,000 population    |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>State Comparison</b>        | <b>Rate</b> |
| Alabama                        | 14.0        |
| United States (2011)           | 12.3        |
| <b>Historic Trend</b>          |             |
| 2011-2013                      | 14.0        |
| 2006-2008                      | 12.5        |
| 2001-2003                      | 11.4        |
| <b>Public Health Area</b>      |             |
| 1                              | 15.7        |
| 2                              | 14.5        |
| 3                              | 11.6        |
| 4                              | 12.9        |
| 5                              | 16.3        |
| 6                              | 16.1        |
| 7                              | 6.5         |
| 8                              | 11.6        |
| 9                              | 16.8        |
| 10                             | 13.3        |
| 11                             | 15.2        |
| <b>Rurality</b>                |             |
| Rural counties                 | 14.8        |
| Urban counties                 | 13.4        |
| <b>Age</b>                     |             |
| 5 - 17                         | 2.1         |
| 18 - 24                        | 13.0        |
| 25 - 34                        | 17.8        |
| 35 - 44                        | 18.7        |
| 45 - 54                        | 21.1        |
| 55 - 64                        | 19.7        |
| 65 and over                    | 18.0        |
| <b>Gender</b>                  |             |
| Female                         | 5.4         |
| Male                           | 23.5        |
| <b>Race</b>                    |             |
| African American               | 5.7         |
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | ^           |
| Caucasian                      | 17.3        |
| <b>Ethnicity</b>               |             |
| Hispanic                       | 5.7         |
| Non-Hispanic                   | 14.3        |
| <b>Income</b>                  |             |
|                                | N.A.        |
| <b>Education</b>               |             |
| Less than 9th Grade            | 24.2        |
| 9th Grade - 12th Grade         | 30.1        |
| High school or G.E.D.          | 29.0        |
| Post high school               | 14.9        |
| College graduate and higher    | 15.3        |

## Suicide Mortality Rate<sup>4</sup>

- Alabama's suicide mortality rate continues to increase, from 11.4 deaths per 100,000 population during 2001-2003 to 14.0 during 2011-2013.
- The eight counties with the highest 2011-2013 suicide mortality rates were rural. This is in spite of the fact that reliable rates could not be calculated for 31 of the 54 rural counties. Twenty rural counties had a total of less than ten suicides for three combined years (2011-2013).
- Sumter County experienced no suicide deaths during 2011-2013.
- Alabama's suicide mortality rate is:
  - More than four times greater for males than for females.
  - More than three times greater among the Caucasian population than among African Americans.
  - Highest among Caucasian males. Over 71 percent of all suicides in Alabama involve Caucasian males.
  - More than 2.5 times greater among non-Hispanic Alabamians than Hispanic Alabamians.
  - Higher among those aged 25 years or more with a high school education and less among those with more than a high school education.
  - Highest among the 45-54 year age group.
- Suicide is unique as it can fit equally into the mental health and substance abuse category and also in the injury and violence category. Suicidal ideation is often viewed as a mental illness and a progression from severe depression. It is also categorized as an intentional injury, as are homicide and acts of terrorism.
- Alabama's suicide mortality rate at 14.0 per 100,000 is 59 percent higher than the homicide rate of 8.3 per 100,000.

