

Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for persons aged 10-34 in the United States. More than 3,000 children and young adults, ages 10-24, take their own lives each year. Among children aged 10 to 14, death by suicide is now more common than death from traffic accidents. There are also more than two and a half times as many suicides as there are homicides in our country. Males are 3x more likely to complete suicide than females, and youth aged 15-24 make up 20% of all completions.

New Mexico has been ranked #1 for suicide deaths in the nation since 2018. In 2017, there were 41 deaths among those 15-19 years old. And every 16 hours someone loses their life to suicide in New Mexico.

In 2019 the Farmington police department reported 4 completed suicides in a 12 month period. For just 9 months of 2020 this number has increased 400% to 16. FPD reports 3 of those being youth under the age of eighteen. The number of threats and attempts however has decreased by 64%. This is an alarming change reflecting the intensity of suicidality within the city limits.

The San Juan County sheriff's office reported 10 completed suicides in 2019, 1 of those being an adolescent youth. In the 9 months of 2020 the completed suicides reported are 6 adults and 1 youth, which is on track to meet the 2019 statistics. The county has also seen a reduction in threats & attempts being down 71%.

These statistics are alarming, and unfortunately continuing to rise. Our youth are most at risk. In the 30 days before <u>June a CDC survey</u> showed 25.5% of youth between ages 18-24 have contemplated suicide. With New Mexico being ranked #1 in suicide deaths we must take action.