

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

The information presented here represents data specific to Milwaukee County, Wisconsin from 2001-2006, and is meant to complement the report, *The Burden of Suicide in Wisconsin*. Please refer to this report for technical notes and suicide prevention strategies.

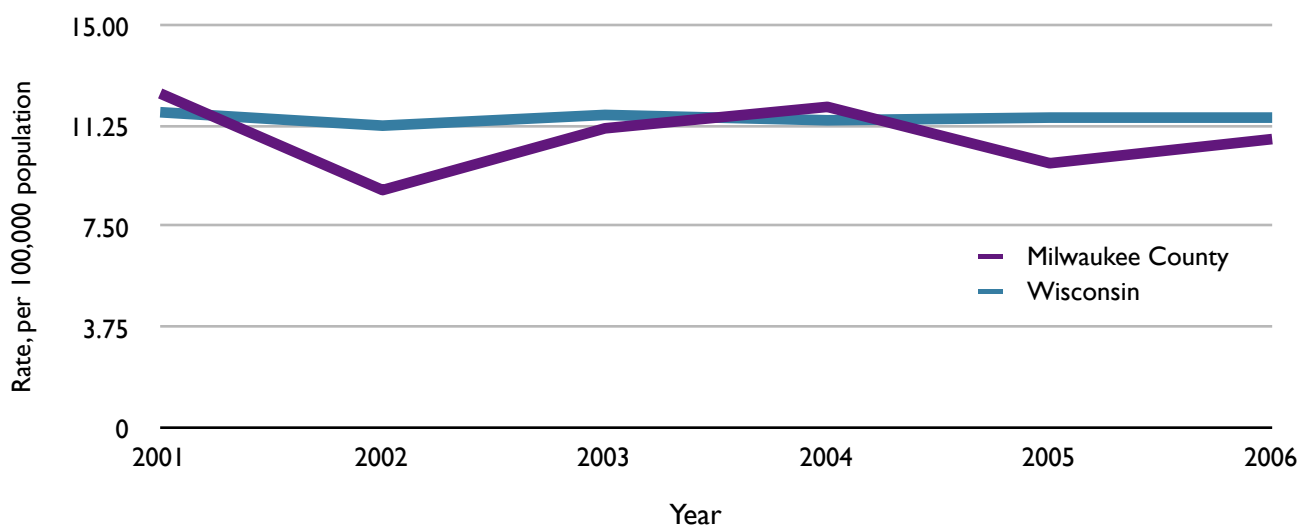
KEY FINDINGS

- ◆ The suicide rate in Milwaukee County was below the state rate for all years except 2001 and 2004, when it was slightly higher.
- ◆ Suicide represented a total of 19,269 years of potential life lost, at a rate of 367.8 for 2001-2006. This was less than the state rate (394.1 YPLL) for the same time period.
- ◆ The greatest number of suicides and hospitalizations occurred in individuals aged 35-44, while the greatest number of emergency department visits occurred in younger individuals, aged 15-24. The numbers for deaths and emergency department visits are similar to the findings for the state, hospitalizations occurred in older individuals in Milwaukee County as compared to the state.
- ◆ The cost of inpatient hospitalizations and emergency department visits due to self-inflicted injury was over \$12.9 million in 2006 alone.
- ◆ Firearms were the most frequently used method in Milwaukee County suicides (41%).

Table I. Numbers and rates (per 100,000 population) of suicides, inpatient hospitalizations, and emergency department visits due to self-inflicted injuries, Milwaukee County, 2001-2006.

| | Year | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | 2001* | | 2002 | | 2003 | | 2004 | | 2005 | | 2006 | |
| | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate | Number | Rate |
| Deaths | 118 | 12.5 | 84 | 8.9 | 105 | 11.2 | 112 | 12.0 | 92 | 9.9 | 100 | 10.8 |
| Inpatient Hospitalizations | 689 | 73.2 | 649 | 69.1 | 731 | 77.9 | 735 | 78.6 | 713 | 76.4 | 741 | 79.8 |
| Emergency Department Visits | NA | | 1,297 | 129.0 | 1,352 | 144.1 | 1,336 | 142.9 | 1,293 | 138.6 | 1,198 | 129.0 |

Figure I. Rates of suicide (per 100,000 population), Milwaukee County versus Wisconsin, 2001-2006.



*Emergency department data are not available for 2001.

Table 2. Numbers and rates (per 100,000 population) of suicides, inpatient hospitalizations, and emergency department visits due to self-inflicted injuries, by age, Milwaukee County, 2001-2006.

| Age Group | Deaths | | Inpatient Hospitalizations | | Emergency Department Visit* | |
|-----------|--------|-------|----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | Number | Rate† | Number | Rate† | Number | Rate† |
| 5-14 | 5 | 0.6† | 112 | 14.5 | 313 | 49.2 |
| 15-24 | 65 | 7.9 | 919 | 111.1 | 2,304 | 335.5 |
| 25-34 | 113 | 13.5 | 903 | 107.6 | 1,576 | 225.0 |
| 35-44 | 152 | 18.6 | 1,257 | 154.0 | 1,422 | 211.0 |
| 45-54 | 140 | 18.3 | 729 | 95.2 | 702 | 109.2 |
| 55-64 | 64 | 13.3 | 191 | 39.6 | 126 | 30.8 |
| 65-74 | 31 | 9.4 | 71 | 21.6 | 14 | 5.2† |
| 75-84 | 33 | 12.3 | 52 | 19.5 | 14 | 6.3† |
| 85+ | 8 | 7.3† | 24 | 22.0 | 5 | 5.4† |

Table 3. Inpatient hospitalization and emergency department (ED) visit costs due to self-inflicted injuries, Milwaukee County, 2001-2006.

| | Year | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 2001* | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 |
| Hospitalization Charges** | \$8.2 | \$7.5 | \$9.3 | \$9.6 | \$9.7 | \$10.5 |
| Average Cost per Stay | \$11,894 | \$11,499 | \$12,787 | \$13,055 | \$13,660 | \$14,130 |
| ED Visit Charges | NA | \$2.2 | \$2.6 | \$2.6 | \$2.6 | \$2.4 |
| Average Cost per Visit | NA | \$1,728 | \$1,886 | \$1,946 | \$2,019 | \$2,024 |

Table 4. Years of potential life lost due to common causes, Milwaukee County, 2001-2006.

| Cause | Number | Rate |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Malignant Neoplasms | 84,034 | 1,603.9 |
| Heart Disease | 63,584 | 1,213.6 |
| Homicide | 33,255 | 634.7 |
| Suicide | 19,269 | 367.8 |
| Motor Vehicle Crashes | 16,219 | 309.6 |
| Diabetes | 10,788 | 205.9 |
| HIV | 6,453 | 123.2 |

Table 5. Suicides, by method used, Milwaukee County, 2001-2006.

| Method | Number | Percent |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---------|
| Firearm | 251 | 41% |
| Sharp Instrument | 9 | <1% |
| Poisoning | 143 | 23% |
| Hanging, Strangulation, Suffocation | 161 | 26% |
| Fall | 24 | 4% |
| Drowning | 8 | 1% |
| Fire or Burns | 4 | 1% |
| Motor Vehicle | 1 | <1% |
| Other | 10 | 2% |
| Total | 601 | |

*Emergency department data are not available for 2001.

**Charges listed are in millions of dollars.

†Rates based on numbers of 20 or less are considered unstable due to random chance and should be interpreted with caution.