

# PORTAGE COUNTY

The information presented here represents data specific to Portage 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. For counties with fewer than 20 suicides each year, data are aggregated for 2001-2006 and findings are presented in bullets rather than tables.

## KEY FINDINGS

- ◆ The suicide rate in Portage County for all years was higher than the state rate for all years (13.2 versus 11.8).
- ◆ Suicide represented a total of 1,429 years of potential life lost, at a rate of 368.4 for 2001-2006. This was less than the state rate (394.1 YPLL) for the same time period.
- ◆ The greatest number of suicides, inpatient hospitalizations and emergency department visits occurred in individuals aged 15-24. Compared to the state, the age group with the greatest number of deaths was younger in Portage County (15-24 versus 35-54).
- ◆ The cost of inpatient hospitalizations and emergency department visits due to self-inflicted injury was over \$1.5 million in 2006 alone.
- ◆ Firearms were the most frequently used method in Portage County suicides (54%) followed by hanging, strangulation, or suffocation (26%) and poisoning (13%).

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

Age Group	Deaths		Inpatient Hospitalizations		Emergency Department Visit*	
	Number	Rate†	Number	Rate†	Number	Rate†
5-14	0	--	17	33.1†	13	30.6†
15-24	13	14.8†	189	215.1	78	106.2
25-34	10	21.1†	87	183.5	19	48.3†
35-44	10	17.1†	108	184.8	32	66.3
45-54	8	13.6†	52	88.3	8	16.2†
55-64	7	18.7†	21	56.0	7	21.9†
65-74	2	8.6†	15	64.8†	4	20.6†
75-84	3	18.9†	6	37.8†	1	7.5†
85+	1	14.6†	2	29.2†	0	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>121.0</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>47.3</b>

\*Emergency department data are not available for 2001.

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