



THE CRIME AND LAW ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS UNIT

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUICIDE DATA COLLECTION

APRIL 25, 2023

Background

- The Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection Act, 34 U.S.C. § 50701 was signed into law on June 16, 2020.
 - Purpose: To establish a new data collection to better understand and prevent suicides among current and former law enforcement officers at the federal, state, local, and tribal levels.



Definitions

- **Suicide**- Death caused by a self-harm behavior with an intent to die as a result of the behavior
- **Suicide Attempt**- A non-fatal act of self-harm behavior with an intent to die as a result of the behavior



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Requirements:

The data collection must contain information on **suicides** and **attempted suicides** based on the following:

- The **circumstances** and events which occurred before each suicide or attempted suicide.
- The **general location** of each suicide or attempted suicide.
- The **demographic** information of each law enforcement officer who commits or attempts suicide.
- The **occupational category**, including criminal investigator, corrections officer, line of duty officer, 911 dispatch operator, of each law enforcement officer who commits or attempts suicide.
- The **method** used in each suicide or attempted suicide.



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Scope:

Law Enforcement Officer – means any current or former officer (including a correctional officer), agent, employee of the United States, a state, indian tribe, or a political subdivision of a state authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of the criminal laws of the United States, a state, indian tribe, or a political subdivision of a state.

Corrections

Telecommunications

Legal System (prosecutors and judges)



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Privacy and Confidentiality

The LESDC was developed with confidentiality of the subject of the incident in mind. Although general facts are obtained about the incident which support the information identified within the LESDC Act, there is no directly identifiable information collected on an individual.



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Comprehensive Testing Conducted

- Approximately 25 participating agencies
- Representation from each demographic represented
 - Phase I: Cognitive Interviews
 - Phase II: Coverage Assessment
 - Phase III: Usability Testing




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LESDC Preliminary Worksheet

- Administrative Data
- Personal Data Relative to the Incident
- General Data Pertaining to the Incident
- Circumstances of the Incident
- Wellness Policy and Training

UNCLASSIFIED

 **LAW ENFORCEMENT SUICIDE DATA COLLECTION
PREPARATION WORKSHEET**

This document provides information on questions posed within the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection (LESDC). Law enforcement agencies entering data into the LESDC may wish to use this worksheet to organize the information needed to enter a death by suicide, or attempted suicide incident. Agencies can complete the worksheet and have it available when logging into the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP) and accessing the LESDC. This document is provided for situational awareness and is not considered an official response to the collection application.

The LESDC is broken down into five areas of information:

- **Administrative** – includes administrative details such as employing agency information or investigating agency information, as applicable.
- **Personal** – Includes details on the individual subject of the incident such as sex/race/ethnicity, age, etc.
- **Incident** – Includes type of incident, location, manner of death, and notification, if applicable.
- **Circumstances** – Includes information pertaining to known circumstances such as: incident, individual self-reporting, agency awareness, and additional information, when applicable.
- **Wellness** – Resources and training available at the reporting agency to their employees.

Reporting:

Is the incident a:
☐ Suicide
☐ Attempted Suicide

Are you representing the:
☐ Employing Agency
☐ Investigating Agency

Agency incident or case number: _____

If not the employing agency, has an attempt to communicate the incident with the employing, or previously employing, agency been made?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Part I - Administrative:

Investigating Agency Address: _____ ORI: _____
Street/PO Box Number: _____ City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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Why Report?

Law enforcement agencies should ensure not only resources are available to their personnel, but the right resources are available. Not only can effective intervention save officers' lives, but also safeguard agencies from the devastating effects of suicide.



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How do agencies report?

- The collection launched on January 1, 2022, and is available to the law enforcement community on the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal (LEEP). To contribute data to the LESDC, law enforcement agency personnel must first obtain LEEP authorization and access.



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Training:

- Training is provided by the FBI's UCR Program training group.
- Webinar based

VIRTUAL LESDC TRAINING



Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection

FREE & Open to agencies
representing law enforcement, corrections,
legal systems, and telecommunications.

Webinar Event Date

Thursday, April 27, 2023

2:00-3:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Training will include a brief history and overview of the data collection, live demonstration of the submission portal and how to submit a report, and an in-depth look at the data elements captured.

Details:

- Training will be held using Microsoft Teams platform.
 - Space is limited to 275 individual logins on a first-come, first-served basis.
- To register, complete the registration form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KN8TQTW>

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: UCRregistration@fbi.gov



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Goal moving forward:

- The goal of Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection is to increase participation in this collection, as it is vital and will not only help the law enforcement community understand why this tragedy occurred but could also help prevent death by suicides from occurring in the future.



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LESDC CRIME DATA EXPLORER PAGE

Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection (LESDC)

The intent and benefit of the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection is to better understand the factors related to law enforcement officer suicides. To help understand these factors, the United States (U.S.) Congress enacted the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection Act on June 16, 2020. The legislation is comprised of information designed to assist in the development of programs, and potential resources, to help prevent suicides. Specifically, the Act charges the U.S. Attorney General, acting through the Director of the FBI, to establish this data collection. The data collection obtains incidental information on suicides and attempted suicides based on the following:

- The circumstances and events which occurred before each suicide or attempted suicide.
- The general location of each suicide or attempted suicide.
- The demographic information of each law enforcement officer who commits or attempts suicide.
- The occupational category, including criminal investigator, corrections officer, line of duty officer, 911 dispatch operator, of each law enforcement officer who commits or attempts suicide.
- The method used in each suicide or attempted suicide.

The FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program has been tasked to establish and manage the collection. The Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection will not obtain directly identifiable information of an individual and will work to ensure confidentiality for all collected information as part of the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection Act.

Beginning on January 1, 2022, authorized law enforcement agencies to include law enforcement, corrections, telecommunications, and legal system (prosecutors and adjudicators), will be able to submit suicide information for their officers for incidents occurring on January 1, 2022, and forward. The data collection resides on the Law Enforcement Enterprise Portal, or LEEP. Data collected will also be used to supplement development within the Officer Safety and Awareness Program managed within the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division.



Resources

- › [LESDC Act](#)
- › [LESDC Flyer](#)
- › [LESDC 2022 Report to Congress](#)
- › [LESDC Video](#)
- › [LESDC Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- › [Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness](#)
- › [Apply for a LEEP Account](#)

About the data

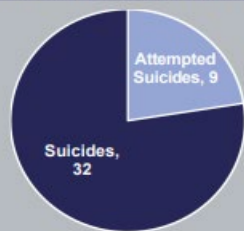
The FBI collects data through the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. [↗](#)



Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection, 2022

In 2022, the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection (LESDC) completed its first year of compiling statistics on the deaths by suicide and attempted suicides of current and former law enforcement officers in accordance with the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection Act. Data is provided to the collection from law enforcement, corrections, telecommunications, and judicial system agencies. Because the LESDC is a new collection, limited data are available for this first data year of 2022. Based on the data received from 22 agencies reporting 32 deaths by suicide and 9 attempted suicides, the following information has emerged.

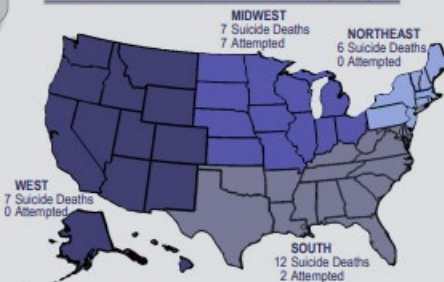
Number of Deaths by Suicide and Number of Attempted Suicides Reported, 2022



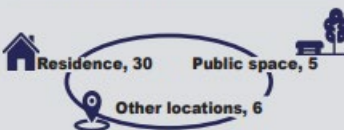
Methods Used



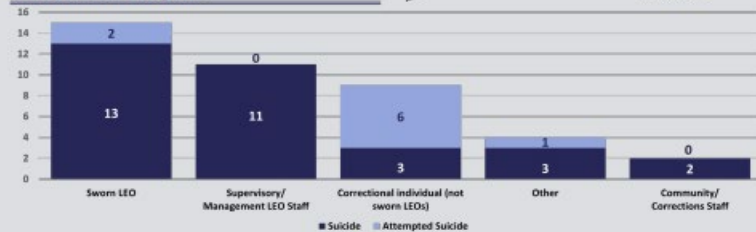
Suicides and Attempted Suicides by Region



Locations of Deaths by Suicide and Attempted Suicides



Occupational Categories



Suicide Deaths and Attempted Suicides by Occupational Category and Years of Experience

Years of Experience ¹	0-5 Years		6-10 Years		11-20 Years		21-30 Years		31+ Years	
	Attempted	Died	Attempted	Died	Attempted	Died	Attempted	Died	Attempted	Died
Corrections	6	5	None reported	None reported	None reported	1	None reported	None reported	None reported	1
Law Enforcement	2	2	1	5	None reported	8	None reported	10	None reported	None reported
Total Individuals	8	7	1	5	None reported	9	None reported	10	None reported	1

¹Of the 32 individuals who committed suicide, 24 were active duty and 8 were retired.

Because the LESDC is a new collection, limited data are available for this first data year of 2022. However, the FBI wishes to be transparent by sharing the information outlined in the LESDC Act and submitted by law enforcement agencies. This first release of information is presented with the knowledge this collection is still in the growing stage. As more agencies submit details about these incidents, more data will be available. For additional information, visit: <https://doj.uscrla.gov/LATEST/newsroom/pages/lesdc>

Data are as of March 15, 2023

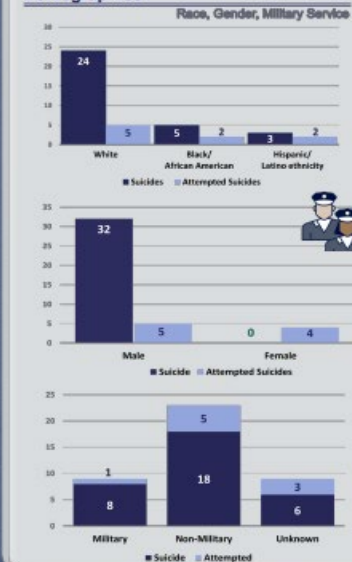
INFORMATION

Unclassified



Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection, 2022

Demographics



Suicides and Attempted Suicides by Age

43 Average age of person committing suicide

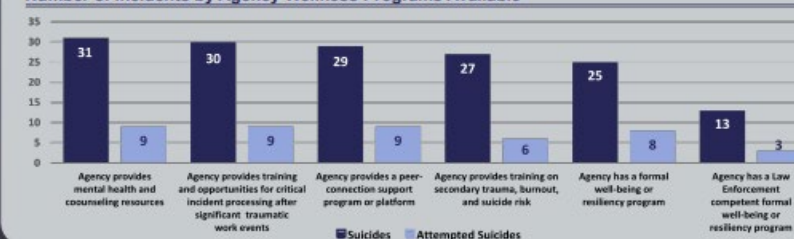
30 Average age of person attempting suicide

Characteristics

- Potential contributing factors reported for the 32 suicides were (multiple categories can be chosen for each occurrence): 26% cited the individuals were having relationship problems, 23% reported the individuals were suffering from depression, and 19% of reports suggested the individuals had been suffering from burnout/secondary trauma collapse, chronic illness, and/or post-traumatic stress disorder.
- Of the 32 reported suicides, 19% of agencies reported the absence of any warning signs or indications to colleagues or the agency prior to the incident.
- Of the 9 reported attempted suicides, 67% of individuals cited the feelings of hopelessness, rage, anger, or anxiety at the time of the attempted suicide. The separate categories of depression, relationship problems, and increased social isolation were reported in 56% of attempted suicides.

(Multiple categories can be chosen for each incident.)

Number of Incidents by Agency Wellness Programs Available



Data Elements Collected



- As established within the LESDC Act, the LESDC collects the following:
- The circumstances and events which occurred before each suicide or attempted suicide.
 - The general location of each suicide or attempted suicide.
 - The demographic information of each law enforcement officer who commits or attempts suicide.
 - The occupational category of each LEO who commits or attempts suicide, including criminal investigator, corrections officer, line-of-duty officer, 911 dispatch operator.
 - The method used in each suicide or attempted suicide.

GRAPHIC

BRAVE



Questions?
LESDC@fbi.gov
304-625-5370