



FOIA Request
2019-09-24

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE

DRAFT

Overview of Data Sources

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a network of independently operated centers that report aggregate information back to the overall network on a limited basis. Where available the data points requested below are best addressed by 2 main sources:

- 1) Aggregate data reported by backup centers (about 6 centers varying over time; earliest available records October 2016).
- 2) Responses to the FY 2018 crisis center survey (110 total respondents, with variable responding for different questions).

Below are each of the stated questions with the source and data point(s) that best addresses the request.

How many calls (overall)?

Note: Reported by calendar year. 2019 data is through August, 2019.

Year	Answered Calls
2019	1,431,234
2018	2,205,487
2017	2,025,531
2016	1,534,844
2015	1,510,223

Reasons for calls / Callers' mental health histories

Source: Backup Center Data; Item: Primary presenting problem

Year	Concern	Number of Calls with Concern	Number of Calls Reported	Prct
2019	Abuse / Victimization	1,360	211,627	1%
2019	Abuse/Victimization	1,875	211,627	1%
2019	Bullying	435	211,627	0%
2019	Family	25,329	211,627	12%
2019	Family / Other Relationship	17,843	211,627	8%
2019	Financial / Basic Needs	1,395	211,627	1%
2019	Financial/Basic Needs	1,984	211,627	1%
2019	Government Agency	0	211,627	0%
2019	Job Loss	2,310	211,627	1%
2019	Legal	879	211,627	0%
2019	Medical	5,957	211,627	3%
2019	Mental Health	62,826	211,627	30%
2019	Other	0	211,627	0%
2019	Recent Psychiatric Hospitalization	575	211,627	0%

2019	Self-harm	849	211,627	0%
2019	Sexuality / LGBTQ	512	211,627	0%
2019	Sexuality/LGBTQ	597	211,627	0%
2019	Substance Abuse / Addiction	1,920	211,627	1%
2019	Substance Abuse/Addiction	3,232	211,627	2%
2019	Suicide	17,292	211,627	8%
2019	Suicide (total)	36,653	211,627	17%
2019	Unknown	0	211,627	0%
2019	VA / Active Duty Military	769	211,627	0%
2019	VA/Active Military Related	0	211,627	0%
2018	Abuse/Victimization	4,818	334,412	1%
2018	Family	69,418	334,412	21%
2018	Financial/Basic Needs	5,192	334,412	2%
2018	Government Agency	0	334,412	0%
2018	Job Loss	5,300	334,412	2%
2018	Legal	1,190	334,412	0%
2018	Medical	7,905	334,412	2%
2018	Mental Health	86,390	334,412	26%
2018	Other	22,791	334,412	7%
2018	Sexuality/LGBTQ	1,983	334,412	1%
2018	Substance Abuse/Addiction	7,210	334,412	2%
2018	Suicide (total)	99,076	334,412	30%
2018	Unknown	0	334,412	0%
2018	VA/Active Military Related	0	334,412	0%
2017	Abuse/Victimization	5,960	319,054	2%
2017	Family	54,101	319,054	17%
2017	Financial/Basic Needs	5,131	319,054	2%
2017	Government Agency	0	319,054	0%
2017	Job Loss	4,991	319,054	2%
2017	Legal	757	319,054	0%
2017	Medical	8,746	319,054	3%
2017	Mental Health	83,537	319,054	26%
2017	Other	30,703	319,054	10%
2017	Sexuality/LGBTQ	2,027	319,054	1%
2017	Substance Abuse/Addiction	8,078	319,054	3%
2017	Suicide (total)	80,488	319,054	25%
2017	Unknown	0	319,054	0%
2017	VA/Active Military Related	0	319,054	0%
2016	Abuse/Victimization	0	29,760	0%
2016	Family	4,553	29,760	15%
2016	Financial/Basic Needs	850	29,760	3%
2016	Government Agency	0	29,760	0%

2016	Job Loss	0	29,760	0%
2016	Legal	60	29,760	0%
2016	Medical	1,648	29,760	6%
2016	Mental Health	11,577	29,760	39%
2016	Other	0	29,760	0%
2016	Sexuality/LGBTQ	0	29,760	0%
2016	Substance Abuse/Addiction	2,214	29,760	7%
2016	Suicide (total)	7,794	29,760	26%
2016	Unknown	0	29,760	0%
2016	VA/Active Military Related	0	29,760	0%

Source: FY 2018 crisis center survey; Item: Q30 Please indicate the proportion of Inbound Answered Phone Calls to your crisis center that concern each of the following (Please enter whole numbers that add to 100, e.g. 10, 20, 70): Suicide, Mental health concerns other than suicide, Substance use concerns, Social services concerns, Other

Concern	Min%	25%	Median%	75%	Max%	Centers Reporting
Suicide:	0.0%	8.2%	20.0%	30.0%	100.0%	98
Other:	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	26.0%	67.0%	77
Mental health concerns, other than suicide:	0.0%	23.5%	35.0%	50.0%	100.0%	98
Substance abuse concerns:	0.0%	3.0%	6.0%	10.0%	40.0%	97
Social services/Concrete needs:	0.0%	5.0%	10.0%	22.0%	97.0%	95

Number of callers requiring emergency outreach services / What percentage of callers are at imminent risk for suicide?

Source: FY 2018 crisis center survey; Item: Q63 What was the total number of Lifeline calls in the past year where rescue (ambulance, non-MCT) was dispatched?

Lifeline Answered Calls	Rescues	%	Centers Reporting
1,020,142	21,055	2.1%	85

Requested Items Addressed Separately

- How are callers assessed? (Addressed by NSPL's imminent risk guidelines)
- How are these decisions (referencing call trace) made? (Addressed by NSPL's imminent risk guidelines)