

African Americans & Suicide

- As with all racial groups, African American females were more likely than males to attempt suicide and African American males were more likely to die by suicide.
- From 1993 to 2002, the rate of suicide for African Americans (all ages) showed a small but steady decline.
- Suicide is the third leading cause of death among African American youth, after homicides and accidents.
- For African American youth, the rate of male suicide was 6.6 times higher than that of females.
- Firearms are the predominant method of suicide among African Americans regardless of gender and age; among 15 to 24 year olds, 63% of all suicides are by firearm, among 24 to 35 year olds, 54% of all suicides are by firearm, and among those 65 and older, 74% of all suicides are by firearm.
- Although Caucasian youth are twice as likely as African American youth to die by suicide, the rate of suicide has grown faster among African American youth than among Caucasian youth.
- Males accounted for 86.5% of African American elderly (65 and older) suicides.



SUICIDE PREVENTION COUNCIL
of St. Joseph County and Surrounding Areas



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For more information visit our website at
www.sjcsuicideprevention.com
or call (574) 220-6381.

Crisis and Suicide Intervention
National HOTLINE
1-800-273-TALK
Local Help: Emergency Services
(877) 234-0061 toll free
(574) 234-0061 local
(operated by Madison Center)