



*mi*Ottawa Department of
Public Health

Death by Suicide Preliminary Report Ottawa County, MI

2010-2020
2021 YTD

Data as of
April 16, 2021

Sources: Michigan Vital Records, Ottawa County Medical Examiner's Office, a program of Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH)

Compiled April 2021 by Ottawa County Epidemiology

Year and Quarter of Death, Deaths by Suicide, Ottawa County 2010-2020 and 2021 YTD

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
2010	3	6	10	7	26
2011	4	8	5	7	24
2012	11	4	5	4	24
2013	3	7	5	8	23
2014	6	9	5	6	26
2015	9	7	6	8	30
2016	2	8	5	11	26
2017	4	7	8	7	26
2018	10	6	8	8	32
2019	4	11	8	2	25
2020	6	10	5	12	33
2021	9	3			12
TOTAL	71	86	70	80	307

There were 9 deaths by suicide in Q1 of 2021, a number that was reached or exceeded in 3 other years in the past 11 (2018, 2015, and 2012). Observing 9 deaths in Q1 of a year is not unprecedented. Also, research has shown seasonal variation in suicide rates, which often peak in late spring.*

*Source: Woo, J. M., Okusaga, O., & Postolache, T. T. (2012). Seasonality of suicidal behavior. International journal of environmental research and public health, 9(2), 531–547. doi:10.3390/ijerph9020531

Ottawa County Suicide Prevention Coalition

Because the long-term rate of death by suicide has been increasing in Ottawa County, community partners have come together and organized the **Ottawa County Suicide Prevention Coalition**. The Coalition's mission is to decrease the number of suicides and the stigma associated with mental health in Ottawa County by educating the community about warning signs and prevention strategies, promoting existing suicide prevention and mental health resources, and identifying and addressing emerging issues regarding suicide and suicide prevention.



Ottawa County Community Mental Health Crisis Line 866-512-4357
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-TALK (8255)
Crisis Text Line - Text START to 741-741

Here are some of the Coalition's activities to date:

- Created a webpage with local suicide prevention resources. For more information visit <http://www.miottawa.org/suicideprevention>.
- Implemented Spectrum Health's Blue Envelope team response pilot program with Ottawa County schools.
- Facilitated a follow-up program between Ottawa County Victim's Advocates program (Ottawa County Sheriff's Office) and Mosaic Counseling to ensure that families have access to community resources and support.
- Created suicide fatality review team.
- Promoted be nice. and QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) trainings in Ottawa County.
- Educated over 95 healthcare providers on suicide prevention (from all 3 Ottawa County health systems).
- Partnered with Momentum Center to send suicide prevention mailing to every household in Ottawa County.

If you need help for yourself or someone else, please contact the

Ottawa County Community Mental Health Crisis Line

Talk: **866-512-4357**

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Talk: **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

Chat: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Crisis Text Line: **Text START to 741-741**

Visit: <http://www.miottawa.org/suicideprevention>