

** Massachusetts Current Military & Veteran Suicides 2018**

**1 in 10**

of all Massachusetts suicide deaths

in **2018** were current or former military

personnel.

**70**

 **current or former military personnel**

**died by suicide**

**in Massachusetts**

**in 2018.**

**This publication contains information on 2018 Massachusetts suicide decedents who were current or former military personnel.**



**47%**

**of military suicide deaths**

**involved a firearm,**

 **51%**

 had a known current mental health condition.

**34%**

 had a known physical health problem.

**27%**

 had a known alcohol/substance abuse problem.

2.5 times higher than the proportion of allsuicide deaths in 2018 in Massachusetts that involved firearms (19%).



**Statewide Advocacy for Veterans’ Empowerment (SAVE)**

**In Collaboration with the Department of Public Health**

**(617) 210-5743**

**Toll-free: (888) 844-2838**

**were white, non-Hispanic males.**

**Of those tested,**

**Of those tested,**

**Of those tested,**

**Veterans Crisis Line: 24-Hour Help**

**(800) 273-TALK (8255), Press 1 for Veterans**

**Text: 838255**

**Online Chat: veteranscrisisline.net**

**TTY: (800) 799-4TTY (4880)**

**REACH OUT FOR HELP:**

**73%**

of decedents ages 75 or older died by firearm.

**Toxicology data:** 90% of decedents were tested for alcohol, opiates, and antidepressants.

**People icon:** asianson.design from the Noun Project | **Massachusetts icon:** Linseed Studio from the Noun Project | **Alcohol icon:** Artem Kovyazin from the Noun Project

**Prescription icon:** Ken Murray from the Noun Project | **Drugs icon:** kareemovic2000 from the Noun Project

**Data Source**: Massachusetts Violent Death Reporting System (MAVDRS), Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH). All suicide data were ascertained using guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and are based upon the International Classification of Disease codes (ICD-10) for mortality.

**22%**

tested

positive for

**antidepressants.**

 **35%**

tested

positive for

**alcohol.**

**17%**

tested

positive for

**opioids.**

\*Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding

 **90%**

 **Hanging/**

 **Suffocation**

**34%**

**Firearm**

**47%**

**Methods**

**of**

**Suicide\***

**Poisoning**

**11%**

**Other**

**7%**

**10%**

 had a known job/financial

problem.

**14%**

had a known intimate partner

problem.