**Suicides Among Workers Age 16 or Older by Industry and Occupation in Massachusetts, 2018-2020**

This publication contains information on 2018-2020 Massachusetts suicide decedents broken down by industry sector and occupation group. The term “industry sector” broadly refers to where someone works or what their place of business is. The term “occupation group” refers to the actual job that someone does or their line of work.

Between 2018-2020, the top 5 industry sectors with the highest suicide rates in Massachusetts were:

* Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting, with 57.8 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* Construction, with 42.8 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* Transportation and Warehousing, with 28.0 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* Utilities, with 25.1 suicides per 100,000 individuals, and
* Public Administration, with 21.0 suicides per 100,000 individuals

Between 2018-2020, the top 5 occupation groups with the highest suicide rates in Massachusetts were:

* Construction and Extraction, with 49.3 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* Farming, Fishing, and Forestry, with 44.3 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* Installation, Maintenance, and Repair, with 35.9 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* Protective Service, with 28.8 suicides per 100,000 individuals, and
* Production, with 23.1 suicides per 100,000 individuals

Rankings of suicide rates by industry and occupation differed by sex. Among males:

* The industry sector with the highest suicide rate was Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting, with 76.3 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* The occupation group with the highest suicide rate was Farming, Fishing, and Forestry, with 56.6 suicides per 100,000 individuals.

Among females,

* The industry sector with the highest suicide rate was Construction, with 19.9 suicides per 100,000 individuals
* The occupation group with the highest suicide rate was Construction and Extraction, with 56.9 suicides per 100,000 individuals

This document also highlights suicides in the Construction and Extraction occupation group due to the high number and rate of suicide this group experiences.

* There were 231 suicides among those in the Construction and Extraction occupation group in Massachusetts between 2018-2020.
* One out of every eight Massachusetts suicide deaths were among those in the Construction and Extraction occupation group.
* Between 2018-2020, the number of suicides in the Construction and Extraction occupation group decreased by 27%.
* 15% of the suicides among those in the Construction and Extraction occupation group were Veterans.
* Some common circumstances surrounding suicide decedents in the Construction and Extraction occupation group include the following:
	+ 58% had a known current mental health condition
	+ 41% had a known alcohol and/or substance use issue
	+ 27% had a known intimate partner problem
	+ 15% had a known physical health problem
	+ 13% had a known job and/or financial problem
* In comparison, 65% of all suicide decedents from 2018-2020 had a known current mental health condition. Lower rates of diagnosis may indicate that those in Construction and Extraction occupations have additional barriers to accessing behavioral health services.
* Help is available 24/7. You can contact the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline anytime by calling 988. Press 2 for Spanish. The Lifeline also offers an interpretation into over 240 languages and dialects.
* You can also text 988. Please note that texting is currently only available in English.
* You can also chat by going to [www.988lifeline.org](http://www.988lifeline.org). Please note that this feature is also currently only available in English.
* Data Sources: Massachusetts Violent Death Reporting System (MAVDRS), Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH)