



Tool: Community-Based Suicide Prevention

Developed by the [National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention](#) (Action Alliance), this [resource](#) presents seven key elements for comprehensive community-based suicide prevention, identified via a review of relevant programs, guidance, and models. The elements are considerations that should guide community-based suicide prevention efforts—aimed at helping communities create policies, programs, and services that reduce suicide and improve individual, family, and community health. They are meant as broad guidance for the field, and can help inform the development of suicide prevention programs and future resources. The seven elements are unity, planning, integration, fit, communication, data and sustainability. The Action Alliance is the public-private partnership working to advance the [National Strategy for Suicide Prevention](#) and make suicide prevention a national priority. The Action Alliance is a member of NVPN.



Report: Advancing Research to Prevent Youth Suicide

The NIH Office of Disease Prevention has released a [Federal Partners Meeting Report](#) for Pathways to Prevention Workshop (P2P): Advancing Research to Prevent Youth Suicide. The report identifies activities that could be effective in preventing suicidal thoughts as early as possible and to assist in identifying future research needs. The report identifies key steps and opportunities for collaboration across federal agencies including:

- Create a national workgroup focused on key issues relating to youth suicide
- Identify, compile, and integrate existing datasets with data on youth suicide risk/preventive factors to enable further secondary analyses.
- Develop improved experimental designs, data harmonization, and analytical techniques for examining youth suicide risk/protective factors.



State Spotlight-Virginia

The [Virginia VDRS](#) has recently produced a [report](#) that explores homicide and suicide deaths among Hispanic individuals in Virginia between 2003 - 2014. Key findings include:

- Majority of the Hispanic decedents were born outside of the U.S. and were younger than their counterparts.
- Asphyxia was the most common mechanism of injury used by suicide decedents.
- Suicide decedents were in large part not involved in mental health services, and their deaths were often related to problems with an intimate partner and recent crises.
- Homicide victims were more frequently injured with firearms and sharp instruments.



NVDRS Research in the News

Stricter alcohol policies, including taxes and sales restrictions, help lower the odds of alcohol-related homicides, according to a recent [study](#) published online in the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*.

Alcohol is an established risk factor for homicide perpetration and victimization. In the U.S., between 40 and 50 percent of homicides involve the use of alcohol by either the victim or perpetrator, and more than half involve people who are significantly impaired by alcohol, which means that their blood alcohol levels are at or above 0.08 percent, the legal limit for driving.

The Study looked at the relationship between alcohol policies in place and the likelihood of alcohol involvement (either up to the legal limit of 0.08 or above that limit) among the 27,000 victims of homicide from 17 U.S. states between 2003 and 2012. The data analyzed was from the NVDRS. State alcohol policies were characterized using a scale based on 29 different alcohol control policies.

The study showed that more restrictive state alcohol policies were protective when alcohol was involved in a homicide. A one percent increase in the restrictiveness of policies corresponded to a one percent lower chance of alcohol being involved among homicide victims.