

**Performance Measure 16:** The rate (per 100,000) of suicide deaths among youths aged 15 through 19.

**Last Year's Accomplishments**

The target for Calendar Year 2006 was 5 deaths per 100,000 and for 2007 was 8.5 deaths per 100,000. Based on final death data for 2006, the actual rate was 8.7 per 100,000. Ohio has not met its target for 2006. Data for 2007 are not available.

A. Use data, including Child Fatality Review, Youth Risk Behavior Survey and Vital Statistics, to describe problems of youth suicide in Ohio, and then share results with state and county partners, including but not limited to DCFHS funded grants that work with teens and the Ohio Department of Mental Health.

The 2005 YRBS data was cross-tabulated to look at suicidal behaviors in youth compared to both risky behaviors and assets. A presentation was created and shared at the Ohio Valley Society of Adolescent Medicine Conference.

ODMH uses YRBS data in the ODMH Federal Block Grant as well as in response to media inquiries.

The rate of deaths and the contributing factors of suicide deaths for children 0-18 years have been monitored and analyzed via child fatality review (CFR) data.

B. Provide information to health care providers, educators and others who interact directly with children and youth in the identification of mental health issues.

Information on the relationship between bullying and teen suicide, using YRBS data, was shared at the Inter-American Summit on Conflict Resolution Education.

Information and prevention resources on teen suicide and bullying were shared at the New School Nurse Conference.

The CFR Annual Report and data were shared at CFR trainings; a report-release announcements; numerous division meetings and overlapping work groups; the Combined Public Health Conference; the

Ohio Public Health Epidemiology Conference; and CFR Advisory Committee, which includes representation from the Ohio Department of Mental Health. The report was posted on the ODH Website and published copies were distributed throughout ODH and to mandated elected officials, local CFR boards, Family and Children First Councils, and the State Library system.

C. Collaborate with state and county partners, including but not limited to the Ohio Department of Mental Health and the Child Fatality Review Board, and share state wide strategies.

D. The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation uses the YRBS data in their informational and training presentations. They have also included information from the YRBS in an Ohio Fact Sheet that will be distributed to legislators, possible corporate sponsors, and published on their website.

CFR boards are encouraged to seek collaboration from other community agencies to develop activities and initiatives in response to CFR findings. Youth suicide prevention is a priority in many counties due to input from CFR. Local boards have partnered with schools and service organizations to implement or enhance programs to address risk factors and improve interventions regarding suicide. CFR boards have collaborated with suicide prevention task forces on comprehensive prevention plans. CFR boards use a variety of methods (newspaper and Web site articles, public meetings, posters and brochures to raise community awareness of risk factors and signs of depression.

The Injury Prevention Program at ODH is developing a statewide Injury Community Planning Group to improve collaboration and networking among state and local agencies working to prevent intentional and unintentional injuries. In addition to the Adolescent Health Program and the Child Fatality Review Program at ODH, the Departments of Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services are members of this group. This group will be reviewing data regarding the leading causes of injury and injury-related death in Ohio and selecting priority focus areas.