# Suicide Incidence and Rate Dashboard Methodology

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## **Suicide Incidence and Rate Dashboard:**

The Suicide Incidence and Rate Dashboard displays information on state/county suicide incidence and rate from 2016 to 2023. In addition, suicide incidence and rate among subgroups, defined by county, and another dimension (race/ethnicity, age group, gender, or injury mechanism) are also available on the dashboard.

## Methodology:

### Dataset

Suicide data from 2016 to 2023 were downloaded from California Department of Public Health (CDPH)'s EpiCenter website. The source of the file is CDPH's Vital Statistics Death Statistical Master Files.

#### EpiCenter: California Injury Data Online

Population and sub-demographics group population data was from California Department of Finance (DOF).

#### **DOF Population Estimates**

Suicide rate is defined as suicide per 100,000 people. Suicide incidences and rates are masked if they are based on fewer than 11 suicide incidences.

## Suicide Rate Map Display

Suicide death data from 2016 to 2023 were divided by population of selected demographics group. In the case that total suicide incidence is fewer than 11, both the suicide incidence and rate are masked.

California county map is colored using blue-red divergent color scheme, with red indicating higher suicide rate and blue indicating lower suicide rate.

## **Suicide Incidence and Rate Detailed View**

In addition to suicide rate map display and suicide incidence and rate trend, we also created a detailed view page to enable user to select counties and compare them side by side. Users

can get detailed visualization by selecting Category of Details filter (No details, age group, gender, race, or injury mechanism) and other filters.

## **Data Suppression**

To promote the privacy of individuals, the small values of suicide incidence are masked according to the <u>Data De-identification Guidelines</u> developed by the California Health and Human Services Agency.

## Dataset as of Date

CDPH update suicide data annually. Our data download was in May 2025 and the most recent data available is from 2023.