### Size
Divided into 36 counties covering 96,000 square miles

### Population
27th most populated state with 4 million residents

### Race/ethnicity of state population
77% White non-Hispanic, 2% Black, 13% Hispanic or Latino, 5% Asian/Pacific Islander, 2% American Indian/Alaska Native; 4% two or more races

### NVDRS participation
Oregon Violent Death Reporting System (ORVDRS) joined NVDRS in 2002; first year of data collection in 2003

## A LOOK AT SUICIDE IN OREGON

### TYPES OF VIOLENT DEATHS IN OREGON
- Nearly all (91%) violent deaths occurring in Oregon in 2013-2014 were classified as suicide or homicide.
- Suicide was the most common manner of violent death in Oregon (N=1491, 80%), occurring 7.7 times more often than homicide (N=193, 10%).
- The remaining deaths from violence were attributed to undetermined manner (N=129, 7%), legal intervention (N=28, 2%), and unintentional firearm death (N=15, 1%).

### SUICIDE IN OREGON
- **State rates.** Oregon’s suicide rate* in 2013-2014 was 18.9/100,000, an 18% increase from 16.0 in 2004-2005 and a 5% increase from 18.0 in 2009-2010.

- **State/U.S. comparison.** The suicide rate in Oregon was 43% higher than the U.S. suicide rate (13.2) and was the fifth highest of all NVDRS states.

- **Race/ethnicity.** Suicide victims were 90% White, 5% Hispanic, 2% Asian/Pacific Islander, 2% two or more races, 1% American Indian/Alaska Native, 1% Black, and <1% other/unknown.

- **Sex.** Males accounted for 77% of suicide victims (33.7/100,000 ages 10+) and females accounted for 23% (9.5/100,000 ages 10+). The suicide rate among males was highest for those ages 65+ (44.9/100,000). For females, the suicide rate was highest among those ages 45-64 (13.6/100,000).

*Non-suicide deaths include homicides, legal interventions, unintentional firearm deaths, and undetermined manner (intent) deaths that may have resulted from violence.

Percents in this state profile may not equal 100% due to rounding.

*All rates in this profile are occurrence ratios based on the number of resident and non-residents deaths that occurred in the state per 100,000 resident population.
SUICIDE METHODS
- Firearms were used in 54% of suicides, followed by hanging/strangulation/suffocation (24%) and poisoning (14%).
- Use of a firearm was the most common method for both males (60%) and females (34%). Males ages 65+ had the highest firearm suicide rate (36.0/100,000). (See infographic)

ADDITIONAL SUICIDE DEMOGRAPHICS
- Veterans. Twenty-two percent (22%) of suicide victims were identified as veterans (served in the U.S. Armed Forces) on the death certificate, including 53% of victims ages 65+.
- Sexual orientation. Nineteen (19) victims were identified as gay, lesbian, or bisexual.
- Homeless status. Forty (40) victims were identified as homeless at the time of death.
- Marital status. Thirty-two percent (32%) of victims were married, 36% were never married, 24% were divorced, 7% were widowed, and 2% had another or unknown marital status.
- Education level. Among victims ages 25+, 35% were a high school or GED graduate, 12% had less than a high school education, 51% had some college or a college degree, and 2% had an unknown education level.

SUICIDE CIRCUMSTANCES
- In 95% of Oregon’s deaths by suicide, circumstances were documented in the records (N=1414).
- The most frequently cited circumstances were current depressed mood (62%), current mental health problem (43%), current or past mental health treatment (41%), history of suicidal thoughts or plans (37%), and relationship problems (36%). A suicide note was left in 36% of the incidents.
- The most frequent or notable circumstances by age group are shown in the chart below.