

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: Saving Lives, Supporting Communities

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers a simple, accessible, and lifesaving resource for anyone experiencing a mental health, substance use, or emotional crisis.

The 988 Lifeline, is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). It is administered, under a cooperative agreement, by Vibrant Emotional Health.

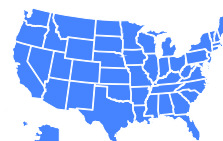
The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline:

- Serves anyone in emotional distress or experiencing a mental health, substance use, or suicidal crisis.
- Operates through a national network of over 200 local crisis centers. Local 988 contact centers provide immediate support and link individuals to essential in-person services, such as mobile crisis teams and stabilization centers.
- With the launch of georouting in 2024 we are able to direct calls to be answered by local in-state responders rather than routing to a national backup system.
- Specialized sub-networks include support for Deaf and Hard of Hearing, LGBTQ+ Youth Specialized Services, and Spanish-speaking individuals.

The 988 Lifeline is a key part of a broader vision for reimagined crisis care in the United States. Through federal, state, local, and community partnerships, SAMHSA is working towards a vision where everyone has: **Someone to contact. Someone to respond. A safe place for help.**

988

**SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE**



200+

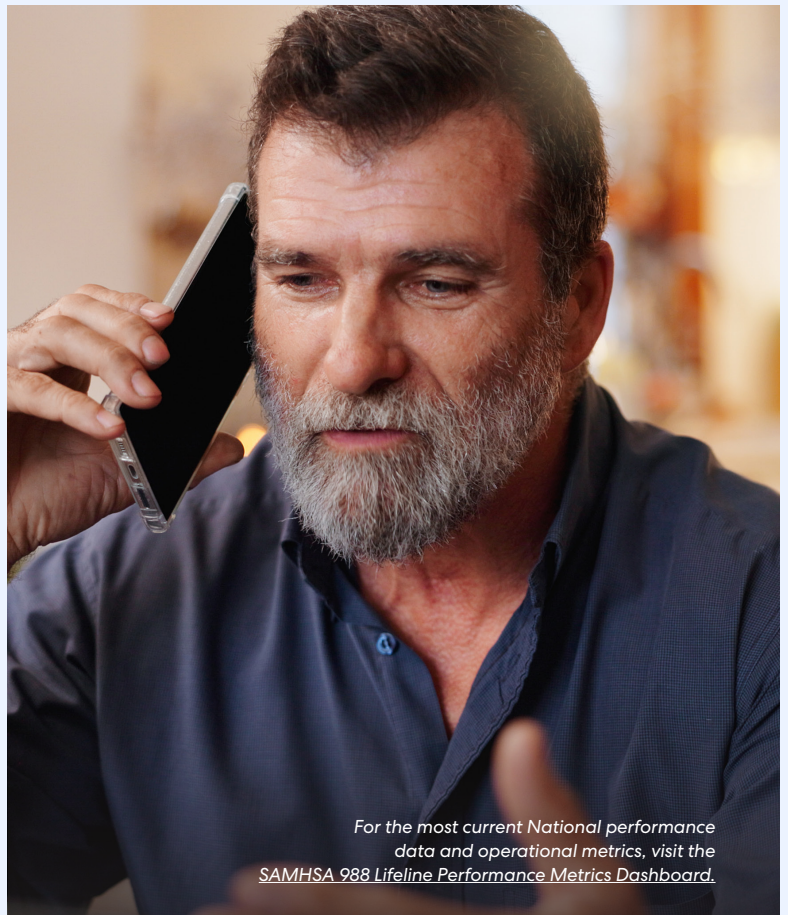
**Local crisis centers
operated through
a national network**

988 Lifeline Effectiveness

Since the July 2022 launch, the 988 Lifeline has received and routed more than 26 million calls, text and chats.

Studies show:

- After speaking with a trained crisis counselor, most people who contact 988 are significantly more likely to feel less depressed, less suicidal, and less overwhelmed.
- **98% of suicidal callers** thought that their interaction helped them. Just over **88% thought** that the call stopped them from killing themselves.
- Approximately **98% of 988 contacts** are resolved without the need for in-person emergency response services.

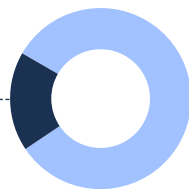


WHY WE NEED THE LIFELINE

In the United States, mental health and suicide crises continue to rise, leaving millions in need of immediate support.

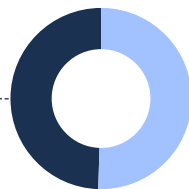
23.1%

■ Estimate of adults age 18+ who live with any mental illness



49.5%

■ Estimate of adolescents aged 13-18 who have a mental disorder¹



11th

- In 2023, suicide ranked as the #11 cause of death—for perspective, homicide ranked #16.

2nd

- Suicide was the #2 cause of death for those aged 15-24 in 2023.

36% increase

- Suicide rates increased 36% between 2000-2022 and are now at their peak – **14.7 per 100,000 people (2023)**

Sources: 1. National Institute of Mental Health. *Mental illness statistics*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health. Retrieved from National Institute of Mental Health

