

"Factor it in: Who is Most Likely to Commit Suicide?"

By Abby E. Phillips

Abstract:

This paper is researching which factors increase a person's chances of committing suicide. It is examining nine different factors: age, gender, sexuality, level of education, ethnicity, marital status, location, mental illnesses, and chronic, physical illnesses. Linear regression tests were run to discover if there was a correlation between age and suicide rates, as well as age of single adults and suicide rates. Mean difference hypothesis tests were run on the differences of suicide rates between males and females, going to school for 12 or fewer years and 13 or more years, and Whites and American Indians/Alaska Natives. All tests found significant values to show that certain factors had higher suicide rates than others. This makes it very helpful to see which people would be the most at risk for committing suicide. This information could be vital in discovering who to target in anti-suicide campaigns, as well as who one should keep an eye on, on a personal level.