Hi Jeff.

**Your request below was forwarded to me. I’m afraid our data on veteran suicides in Kentucky is extremely limited at this time. We were able to change our death certificate reporting in recent years to capture this information, but the only figures I’m able to provide at this time are 2009 and 2010. See below:**

Of the 550 suicide deaths in 2009, where veteran status was known, 19% were veterans (364). (In 2010, death certificate format was changed and the data improved).

Of the 522 suicide deaths where veteran status was known in 2010, 20% were veterans (184 ).

I’ll see if numbers are complete for 2011 and 2012. Also, our suicide prevention folks have done quite a few programs reaching out to military or working with Veterans Affairs to provide mental health services. If you’d like to speak with someone from the Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities, we’d be happy to arrange that. Thanks for contacting us.

Beth

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2011\*** | **2012\*** |
|  | **Death Count** |  |
| **Total Resident Suicide Deaths** | 643 | 685 |
| **Veteran Resident Suicide Deaths** | 124 | 132 |

\*Death data for the years of 2011 and 2012 are preliminary.

Kentucky suicide deaths by military status

2005: 44

2006: 34

2007: 44

2008: 51

Source: National Violent Death Reporting System

<http://wisqars.cdc.gov:8080/nvdrs/>