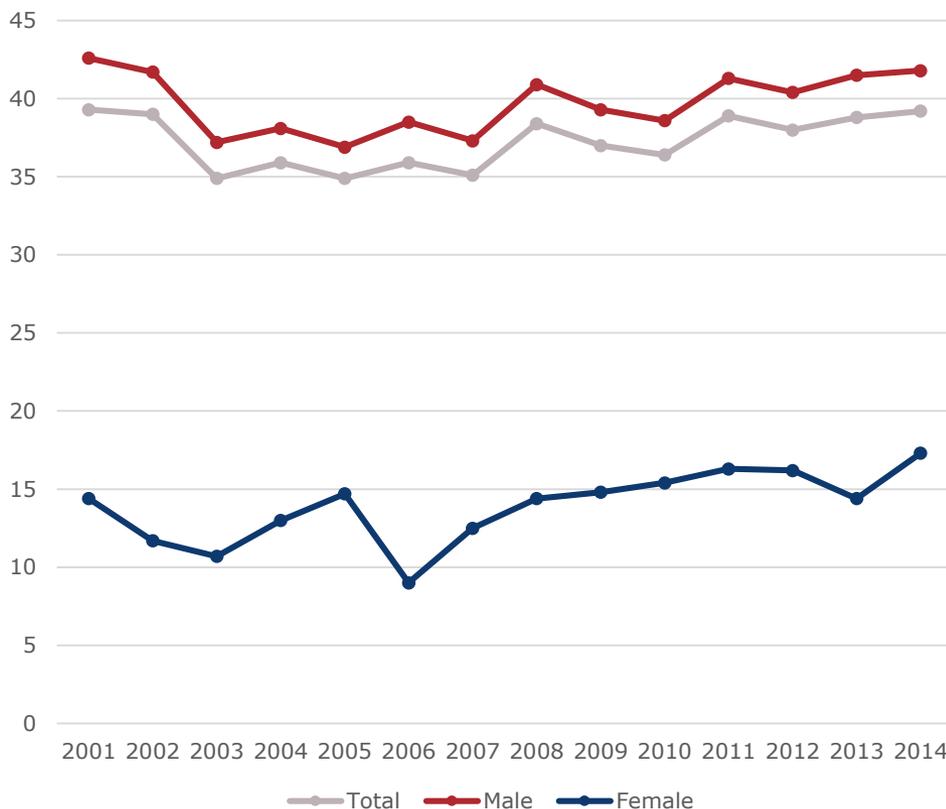


Trump signs executive order increasing mental health care access for veterans

The EO aims to reduce the suicide rate among veterans

Suicide rate, per 100,000 Veterans Health Administration patients
2001-2014



Overview of the executive order

- Instructs the departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs to develop a plan within 60 days to provide “seamless access to mental health treatment and suicide prevention resources” for all uniformed service members in the year following military service
 - Currently, only 40% of veterans have coverage that includes mental health
- Requires the departments to update Trump on implementation of the plan and outline further reforms to increase access to mental health services within 180 days
- According to administration officials, the suicide rate among veterans in the first year following service is twice as high as the average rate among all veterans
 - It is estimated that 20 veterans commit suicide each day in the US

Sources: “Suicide Among Veterans and Other Americans,” Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention, August 3, 2016; Jessie Hellmann, “Trump signs executive order aimed at reducing veteran suicides,” The Hill, January 9, 2018.