

## What is 988 in Louisiana?

The 988 helpline provides emotional support to all Louisiana residents. Anyone who reaches out to 988 can expect immediate, safe support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The helpline is free, confidential and offers call, text, and online chat support.

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) is committed to ensuring everyone has access to quality emotional and mental health services — whether you're experiencing issues around anxiety, depression, gambling, alcohol or drugs, thoughts of suicide, or anything in between. Every Louisianan deserves that.

- + The 988 service is available in English and Spanish, with translation services in more than 250 languages. Text and chat are currently available in English.
- + Individuals who are Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and Late-Deafened can directly dial 988 on a videophone or click the "**ASL Now**" button on [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org) to connect with crisis counselors who can communicate in ASL and are trained in working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. TTY users can use their preferred relay service or dial 711 then 988.
- + The chat feature is available through 988's website: Louisiana988.org. People are also encouraged to reach out to 988 if they are worried about a loved one who may need immediate support.
- + Most callers report feeling significantly less depressed, less suicidal, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful after speaking to a specialist.

## How Does 988 Work?

LDH's Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) has contracted with two certified call centers in Louisiana to answer 988 calls from state residents.

- + When you call, text or chat, you will quickly be connected to a specialist.
- + 988 has specialists available for service members, veterans, and their family members.
- + Your specialist will listen to you without judgment and help you reduce the intense feelings you may be dealing with.
- + Your specialist may connect you to local resources and longer-term support (like mental health professionals or drug or alcohol recovery services).

# 110,437

988 helpline calls  
answered as of

June 2025

# 691

deaths by suicide in  
Louisiana in 2023

# 1 in 5

adults live with a  
mental health  
condition

# 1 death

by suicide happens  
every 11 minutes

## How is LDH Promoting 988?

LDH has launched an integrated marketing campaign to raise awareness of 988 and reduce stigma surrounding depression or anxiety and drugs or alcohol.

- + LDH is committed to work with community partners including, mental health advocates and like-minded organizations, everyday influencers and universities across the state to help amplify messaging and awareness while promoting the 988 helpline.
- + In May 2023, LDH launched the [988 dashboard](#) to provide transparent access to key monthly in-state metrics including the volume of contacts by parish, overall broad demographics, and the type of assistance individuals are requesting. The data is aggregated and allows the caller to remain anonymous.

Please visit [Louisiana988.org](https://Louisiana988.org) to learn more and access Louisiana 988 resources.

- + Click on [Media Resources](#) at the bottom of the page for brand logos, Zoom backgrounds, campaign ads, FAQs and 988 fact sheets
- + Click on [Partner Resources](#) for a 988 materials generator
- + Click on [What to Expect](#) to see a video of testimonials from 988 helpline specialists.



Free



Confidential



Available  
24/7

## RESOURCES

[Louisiana 988](#)

[988 Materials](#)

[LDH](#)

[Gambling Help](#)

