



**STAND AGAINST
VETERAN SUICIDE**

Veteran Suicide in **Northeast** Florida

2026

ANNUAL REPORT



MORE INFO



Prepared in partnership with NLP Logix and the Florida Department of Health.





PROVISIONAL DATA

Data in this report represent the most recent Veteran suicide data provided by the Florida Department of Health. This is the first year The Fire Watch has incorporated the use of **provisional data** into its Northeast Florida reporting. This shift is in response to a need for more immediate response. When Veteran suicide trends are reviewed after final records are released, communities are forced to respond to risk long after warning signs first appear. That delay weakens prevention and limits the ability to direct resources where they are needed most.

Our analysis of Florida DOH data indicates that provisional reporting is accurate enough to support meaningful directional analysis. This visibility gives The Fire Watch a timely and credible view of emerging changes in Veteran suicide trends and allows the organization to respond to prevention opportunities in a timelier manner. For Northeast Florida, this matters directly to how prevention resources are deployed. Earlier identification of rising stress allows The Fire Watch to concentrate Watch Stander training in the communities facing the greatest risk, deploy training and outreach strategically, and help stressed communities proactively.

With continued investment in provisional data, stronger stress indicators, and predictive analytics, The Fire Watch can identify areas of rising concern sooner and direct support where it can have the greatest impact. By incorporating signals such as barriers to care, community isolation, economic strain, housing instability, and disaster-related disruption, we can create a predictive AI model which would allow prevention efforts to move earlier, become more precise, and respond before stress escalates into crisis in the Veteran community.

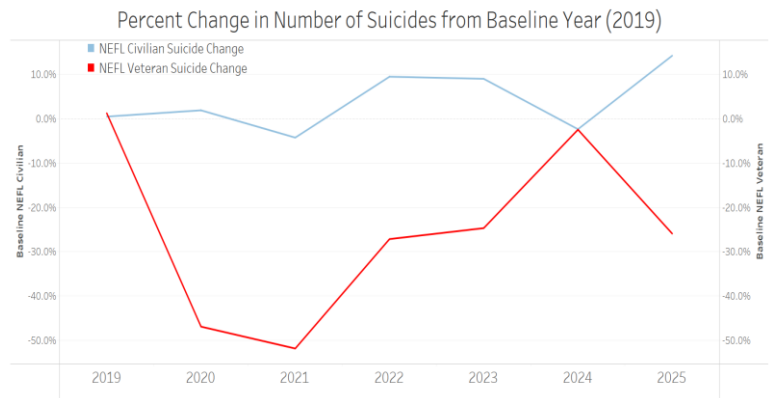
Veteran Suicide Count by Year in Northeast Florida



CHANGE IN NUMBER OF SUICIDES SINCE 2019

Between 2019 and 2025, Northeast Florida sustained measurable progress in reducing Veteran suicide and remained below its 2019 baseline even after the setback seen in 2024 primarily caused by rising financial stressors. Preliminary 2025 data, points to a strong regional recovery: Veteran suicides in the five-county area fell from **79 in 2024 to 60 in 2025, a 24% decrease**, bringing the region back to roughly **one-quarter below baseline**. That improvement is especially significant due to **civilian suicides increasing** over the same period. This suggests that Veteran outcomes in Northeast Florida improved despite a more difficult surrounding environment. These results indicate that the region is producing meaningful, measurable benefits for a priority population.

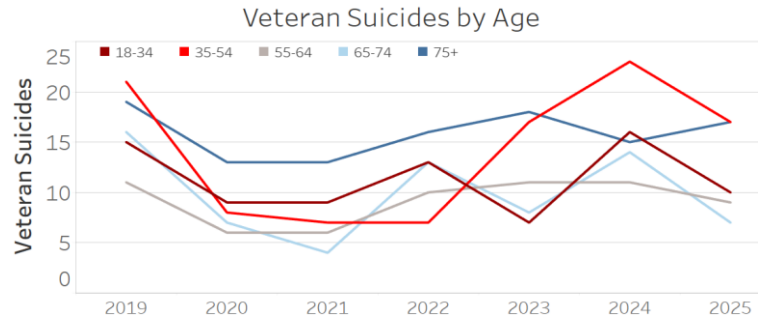
26% fewer veteran suicides from 2019 - 2025.





VETERAN SUICIDES BY AGE

When considering age groups in Veteran suicides, Northeast Florida's 2025 data shows the strongest concentration is now among middle-aged Veterans. The 35–54 age group account for a substantial share of Veteran suicides, reinforcing it as a priority population for prevention efforts. Older Veterans (75+) saw a slight rise in 2025 most likely a lasting effect of financial stressors seen from the 2024 spike; however, all other age groups declined, contributing to the overall regional improvement.



Critical Cohort: 35-54

60% of all veteran suicides occurred in the 35-54 age range. This cohort faces peak career stress, family obligations, and untreated service-connected conditions.

YOUNGER VETERANS

18-34

12% increase in 2024 with expected rise in 2025.

FEMALE VETERANS

-46%

Significant improvement since 2019.

MINORITY VETERANS

<10%

Counts remain under 10% but continue to rise.

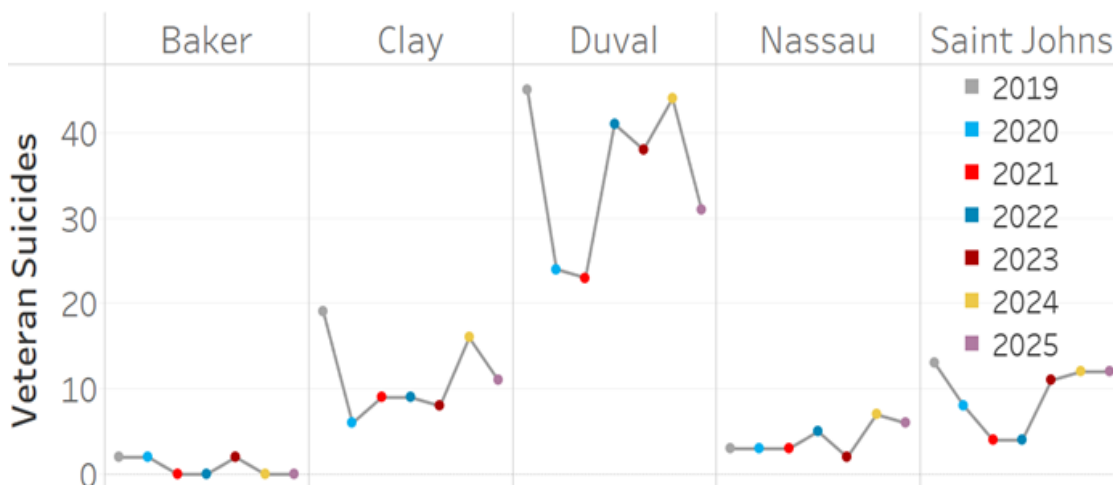
VETERAN SUICIDE DEMOGRAPHICS

Women and minority groups are also seeing improvement in 2025. After a concerning spike in 2021 of 21%, the proportion of minority suicides in the Veteran community has remained below 10% leading up to 2025. The number of female Veteran suicides remained consistently low as well, showing a 46% decreased from the baseline of 2019. This is a strong indication that there is a broadly shared regional improvement across multiple Veteran demographic groups.

VETERAN SUICIDES BY YEAR

Since 2019, Veteran suicides in Northeast Florida have remained below baseline, even with the spike seen in 2024. Preliminary 2025 data shows a strong regional recovery with Veteran suicides falling from 79 to 60. This is a 24% decline that brought the five-county total back to 27% below its 2019 level. Civilian suicides, however, increased over the same period, making the Veteran improvement more impactful. Nassau County remained above baseline in 2025, while Baker County continued to record consistently low counts. Clay, Duval, and St. Johns all remained below their 2019 levels, supporting the broader recovery across the region.

Veteran Suicides by Year Northeast Florida Counties



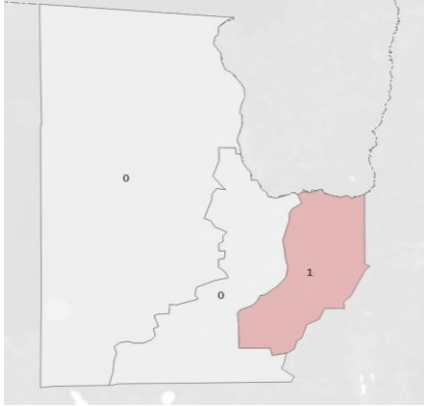


GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN

While each ZIP code in the five-county area has had at least one Veteran suicide in the last 10 years, in 2025 there were no Veteran suicides in 25 of the 59 ZIP codes. The ZIP Codes with the most Veteran suicides in 2025 were 32244 with 5 Veteran suicides, 32218 with 5 Veteran suicides, and 32034 with 4 Veteran suicides.

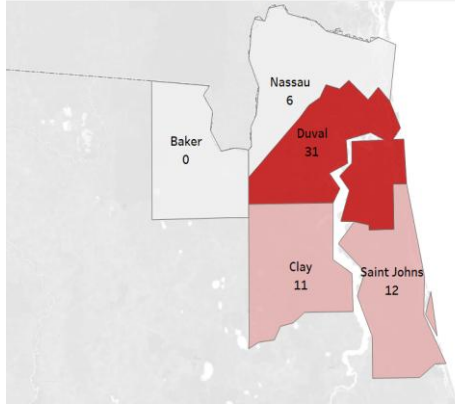
ZIP code level data allows The Fire Watch to concentrate the growth of its Watch Stander network to areas where Veteran support is most needed.

Veteran Suicides by Recorded County in 2025



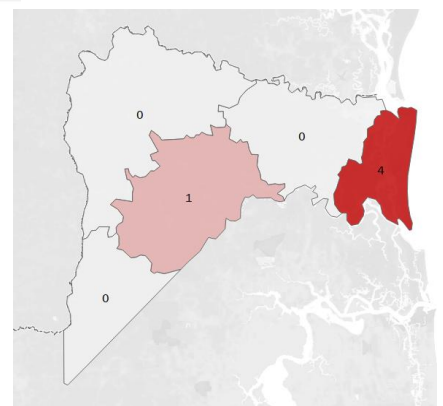
Baker – 1 Veteran Suicide*

- **Increased** from 0 in 2024
- 1.43k Total Veteran Population



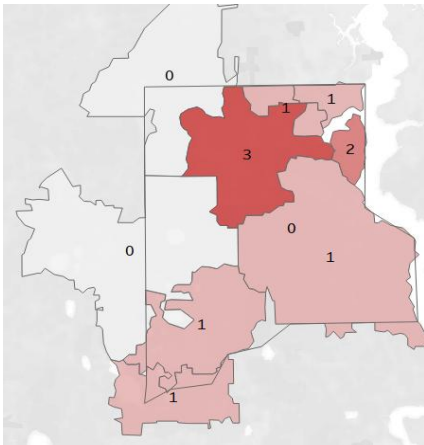
Duval – 30 Veteran Suicides*

- **Decreased** from 44 in 2024
- 80.48k Total Veteran Population



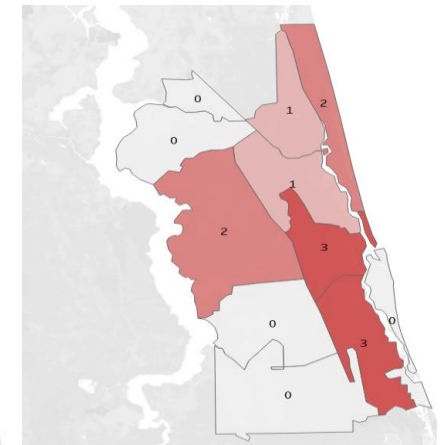
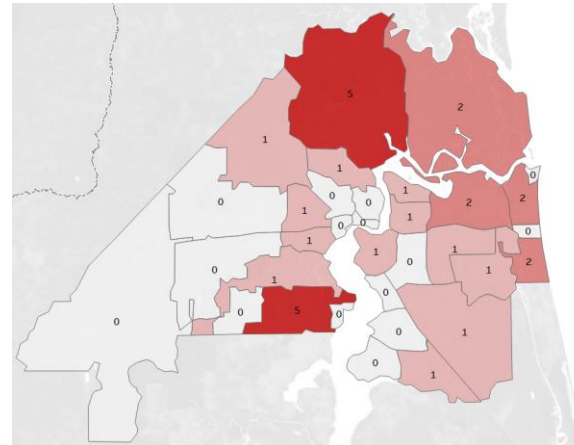
Nassau – 5 Veteran Suicides*

- **Decreased** from 7 in 2024
- 8.64k Total Veteran Population



Clay – 10 Veteran Suicides*

- **Decreased** from 16 in 2024
- 27.51k Total Veteran Population



St. Johns – 12 Veteran Suicides*

- **Unchanged** from 12 in 2024
- 23.53k Total Veteran Population

Note* County analysis is performed using the Recorded county, while the ZIP code analysis is performed using Resident county. Due to the difference in granularity, the values may vary.