Overview

- In 2014, 5,079 youth age 15-24 died by suicide.¹

- Suicide was the 2nd leading cause of death for 15-24 year olds in 2014. Suicide was also the 2nd leading cause of death for youth aged 10-14 years old.

- The 2015 Youth Risk and Behavior Survey found that in previous 12 months among high school students; 17.7% seriously considered suicide; 14.6% made a plan for suicide; 8.6% attempted suicide one or more times; 2.8% made a suicide attempt that had to be treated by doctor or nurse.²

- Girls are more likely to attempt suicide, but boys are 4.34 times more likely to die by suicide than girls.

- Among ages 15-24, 4,111 Caucasians, 544 African Americans, 229 Asian/Pacific Islanders and 129 Native Americans died by suicide during 2014.¹

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¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury and Prevention and Control, Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System (WISQARS) [online], [cited September 2016]. Retrieved from [www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/wisqars)


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RISK FACTORS

- Mental illness
- Substance abuse iii
- Firearms in the household iii
- Previous suicide attempts iv
- Non-suicidal self-injury v
- Exposure to friends/family member’s suicide vi
- Low self-esteem vii

PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- Family and school connectedness viii
- Safe schools iii
- Reduced access to firearms ix
- Academic achievement vi
- Self-esteem x

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Youth Suicide Can Be Prevented

Youth across America are affected by suicide, be it families, at school, or in their own lives. The cost is immeasurable, but help is available. Friends are often the first to know their friend is suicidal, and we need to help them know where to find help.

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If you or someone you know is suicidal, please contact a mental health professional or call 1-800-273-TALK (8255).