Suicidal Behavior Among Illinois Youth

97 Illinois Youth Ages 10-19 died by suicide in 2015

That’s more than 1 every 4 days,
5 full school classrooms

3rd leading cause of death among IL youth ages 10-19

Boys are 3 times as likely as girls to die by suicide

Suicide Deaths are on the Rise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>10-14 years</th>
<th>15-19 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Youth living in rural counties are 2 times as likely to die by suicide as youth in the Chicago area

47,000 Illinois Youth reported attempting suicide in 2015

That’s one every 11 minutes,
Or 650 full school buses

1 in 10 IL high school students

Boys and girls are equally likely to report attempting suicide

1 in 4 Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual students report attempting suicide

Black and Latino high school students are 2 times as likely as white peers to attempt suicide

50% Suicide Attempts have increased 50% since 2007

Questions?
Contact the Illinois Department of Public Health
Office of Women’s Health and Family Services
Division of Maternal, Child, and Family Health Services
DPH.MCH@illinois.gov
**Risk Factors for Suicidal Behavior Among Illinois Youth**

- **2 in 10** Report being bullied
  - Students who are bullied are two times as likely to attempt suicide

- **3 in 10** Report feeling depressed
  - High school students who feel depressed are two times as likely to report attempt suicide

- **1 in 10** Report being a victim of dating violence
  - Students who are a victim of dating violence are three times as likely to attempt suicide

- **6X**
  - High school students with 2 or more of these experiences are six times as likely to attempt suicide

**Resources**

**Know the Warning Signs for Suicide**
- Threatening to, or talking about wanting to, hurt or kill oneself
- Looking for ways to kill oneself by seeking access to firearms, available pills, or other means
- Talking or writing about death, dying, or suicide when these actions are out of the ordinary
- Feeling hopeless
- Feeling rage or uncontrolled anger or seeking revenge
- Acting reckless or engaging in risky activities
- Feeling trapped - like there’s no way out
- Increasing alcohol or drug use
- Withdrawing from friends, family, and society
- Feeling anxious, agitated, or unable to sleep or sleeping all the time
- Experiencing dramatic mood changes
- Seeing no reason for living or having no sense of purpose in life

**Seek Help**
- If you or someone you know shows warning signs, or you would like to discuss your situation, call:
  - National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: **1-800-273-TALK**
  - The Trevor Project Trans Lifeline: **1-877-565-8860**
  - Or text: START to 741741

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, please visit:**
- IDPH Suicide Prevention: [www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/suicide-prevention](http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/suicide-prevention)

**Data Sources and Methodology**

1) **Illinois Death Certificates** for Illinois residents, 2000-2015
2) **Illinois Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)**, 2007-2015*

* YRBS is weighted to be representative of all Illinois public high school students. All YRBS data on suicide attempts are self reported by students.