

## Louisiana – Youth Suicide

### Statistical Impact



**According to the latest CDC's WISQARS National Data Reporting (2018):**

- ❖ Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for ages 10-14 in Louisiana.
- ❖ Suicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death for ages 12-18 (middle and high school ages) in Louisiana.
- ❖ Suicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death for college-age youth ages 18-22 in Louisiana.
- ❖ When examined as an age group 10-24 comparison, suicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading overall cause of death for Louisiana. In Louisiana, every 3.54 days on an average a young person (ages 10-24) is lost to this “Silent Epidemic” of youth suicide.

**Louisiana 2019 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (CDC): (Most Recent Released Report)**

**When young people were asked in Louisiana:**

- ***“Have you experienced the feeling of hopelessness and sadness for a constant period of two weeks or greater during the past twelve months (possible beginning of clinical depression)?”***  
37.0% answered YES or 1 out of every 3 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 36.7% (depression is a leading cause of suicide)  
This equates to 74,361 youth in the state that will have these feelings in the next 12 months *if nothing is done differently.*
- ***“Have you seriously considered suicide in the past twelve months?”***  
17.7% answered YES or over 1 out of every 6 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 18.8%  
This equates to 35,572 youth in the state that will consider suicide in the next 12 months *if nothing is done differently.*
- ***“Have you made a plan to attempt suicide in the past twelve months?”***  
17.7% answered YES or over 1 out of every 6 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 15.7%  
This equates to 35,572 youth in the state that will make a plan *if nothing is done differently.*
- ***“Have you attempted suicide in the past twelve months?”***  
15.2% answered YES or over 1 out of every 7 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 8.9%  
This equates to 30,548 youth in the state that will make an attempt in the next 12 months *if nothing is done differently.*  
This is an average of 83 per day.

**\*Projected using the National 2019 YRBS, which surveys grades 9-12, and the US 2017-18 school state population numbers. If these results were also applied to grades 7 & 8, where suicide is also a major health issue, the impact numbers would be higher.**

**“Let’s Do Something Differently...”**