

## South Dakota – Youth Suicide Statistical Impact



According to the latest CDC's WISOARS National Data Reporting (2019):

- ❖ Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for ages 10-14 in South Dakota.
- ❖ Suicide is the 1<sup>st</sup> leading cause of death for ages 12-18 (middle and high school ages) in South Dakota.
- ❖ Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for college-age youth ages 18-22 in South Dakota.
- ❖ When examined as an age group 10-24 comparison, suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading overall cause of death for South Dakota. In South Dakota, every 8.11 days on an average a young person (ages 10-24) is lost to this “Silent Epidemic” of youth suicide.

South Dakota 2019 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (CDC): (Most Recent Released Report)

**When young people were asked in South Dakota:**

- ***“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)?”***  
35.7% answered YES or over 1 out of every 3 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 36.7% (depression is a leading cause of suicide)  
This equates to 13,546 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?”***  
23.1% answered YES or almost 1 out of every 4 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 18.8%  
This equates to 8,765 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?”***  
19.4% answered YES or almost 1 out of every 5 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 15.7%  
This equates to 7,361 youth in the state that will make a plan *if nothing is done differently.*
- ***“Have you attempted suicide in the past twelve months?”***  
12.3% answered YES or almost 1 out of every 8 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 8.9%  
This equates to 4,667 youth in the state that will make an attempt in the next 12 months *if nothing is done differently.*  
This is an average of 12 per day.

**\*Projected using the National 2019 YRBS, which surveys grades 9-12, and the South Dakota 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...”**