

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE: Suicide Overview

QUESTION 1 - TRUE or FALSE:

In Alabama in 2018, Suicide was the 3rd leading cause of death for youth ages 10-24?

FALSE - Suicide was the 2nd leading cause of death for youth ages 10-24 in Alabama in 2018.

Additional Fact: Did you know what the number one leading cause of death was for this age group? It is “undetermined / unintentional injury.” Therefore, the rate of suicide incidences is the highest rate of death in which is known for ages 10-24.

QUESTION 2 - TRUE or FALSE:

Suicide education is required under the law for both school personnel and students.

TRUE - All certificated public school personnel shall receive annual training in suicide awareness and prevention. Alabama State Department of Education shall make referral, crisis intervention and other related information available to students, parents, and school personnel. The ALSDE shall educate students in recognizing signs of ideation and other warning signs related to suicidal behavior.

Additional Fact: This law is known as the Jason Flatt Act (SB11) Youth Suicide Awareness & Prevention Enacted May 8, 2016 amends the 16-28B-8 of the Code of Alabama 1975.

QUESTION 3 - TRUE or FALSE:

The High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey shows that Alabama has lower rates than the United States average for students experiencing prolonged feelings of hopelessness and those seriously considering attempting suicide.

FALSE – Alabama in both 2015 and 2019 had rates higher than the national average for high school youth experiencing hopelessness and suicide ideation.

Additional Fact: In 2018, per the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention, 1 Alabamian died by suicide every 11 hours.