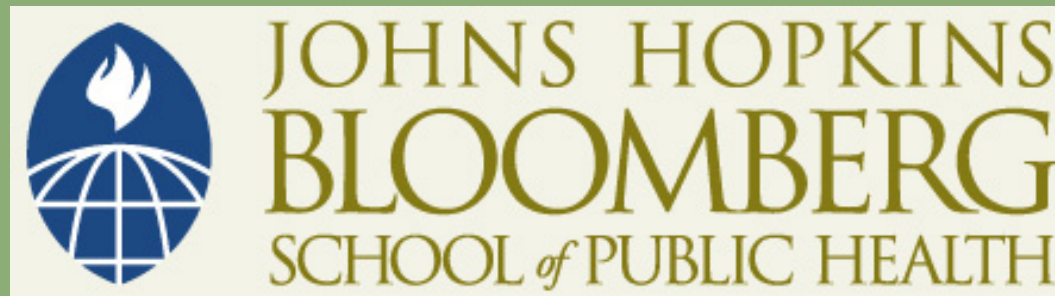


This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/). Your use of this material constitutes acceptance of that license and the conditions of use of materials on this site.



Copyright 2011, The Johns Hopkins University and Robert Blum. All rights reserved. Use of these materials permitted only in accordance with license rights granted. Materials provided "AS IS"; no representations or warranties provided. User assumes all responsibility for use, and all liability related thereto, and must independently review all materials for accuracy and efficacy. May contain materials owned by others. User is responsible for obtaining permissions for use from third parties as needed.



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

Depression and Suicidality among Adolescents

Robert Wm. Blum, MD, MPH, PhD
Johns Hopkins University

Overview

- Trends and factors associated with depression and suicidality
- Protective factors
- Conceptual framework



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG
SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC HEALTH

Section A

Trends in Suicidality

Suicide among Adolescents: 2001

- Third-leading cause of death
- Age-adjusted rates
 - 10–14 years olds: 1.3
 - 15–24 years olds: 9.9
- Suicide completion ratio
 - 5:1 male (15–19 year olds)
 - 7:1 male (20–24 year olds)
- Suicide attempt ratio
 - 3:1 female

Suicide Attempts

- 1 in 200 results in death
- 70 in 200 result in injury
- 4% of U.S. adolescents attempted suicide in the past year
- 13% of U.S. adolescents seriously considered suicide in the past year

Since 1950

- Suicide rates among youth have increased 300%
- Young people today report experiencing more stress than psychiatric patients in 1950

Changes with Age and Maturation

- Clinical depression
 - At age 10: 1%
 - At age 20: 8%
- Depression prevalence
 - Before puberty: equal for males and females
 - At age 15: the ratio is 2 to 1 females to males
- *Pre-pubertal status* has more to do with depression in adolescence than age or puberty

Decline in Youth Suicide Completions: Factors

- Suicide is the third-leading cause of death
- Psychopharmacology
- Psychotherapy

United States

- In the United States, there is a greater social acceptability of suicide than ever before
- It is higher among college students than any other group

Percent of College Students Seriously Considering Suicide

Percent of College Students Seriously Considering Suicide	
Freshman	14%
Sophomores	12%
Juniors	10%
Seniors	6%