

Delaware DATA

Delaware Drug and Alcohol Tracking Alliance

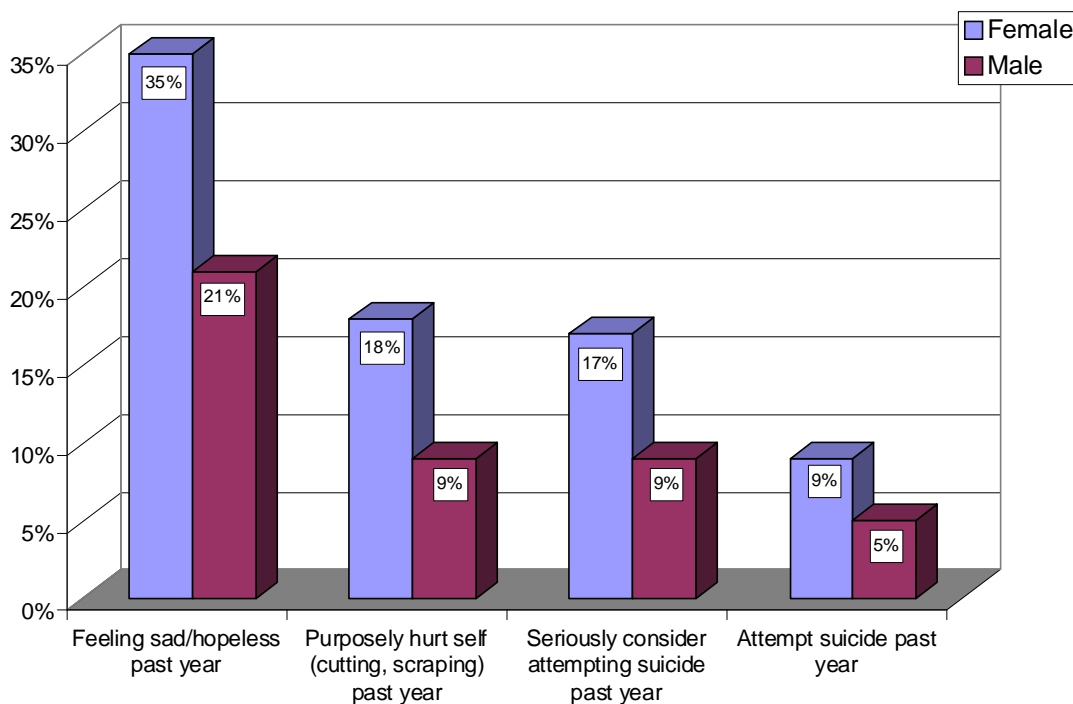
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Gender Differences in Depression, Self-Injury, and Suicide

Approximately 28% of students in the state of Delaware report feeling sad or hopeless in the past year. Moreover, 14% have hurt or cut themselves. Most alarmingly, 7% have attempted suicide within the past year. These figures are also much higher for girls.

Figure 1. Student Reports of Self-Injury and Suicide by Gender (2005 YRBSS)



The students who reported feeling sad, hurting themselves, or attempting suicide typically have more involvement in drugs and alcohol. Students who report feeling sad or hopeless are 30% more likely to have drunken alcohol within the past 30 days. Similarly students who attempted suicide are 78% more likely to have had alcohol in the past month. Drug use is also higher among depressed, self-injuring, and suicidal youth.

Source: 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies, University of Delaware

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Additional Datagrams are available at: www.udel.edu/delawaredata