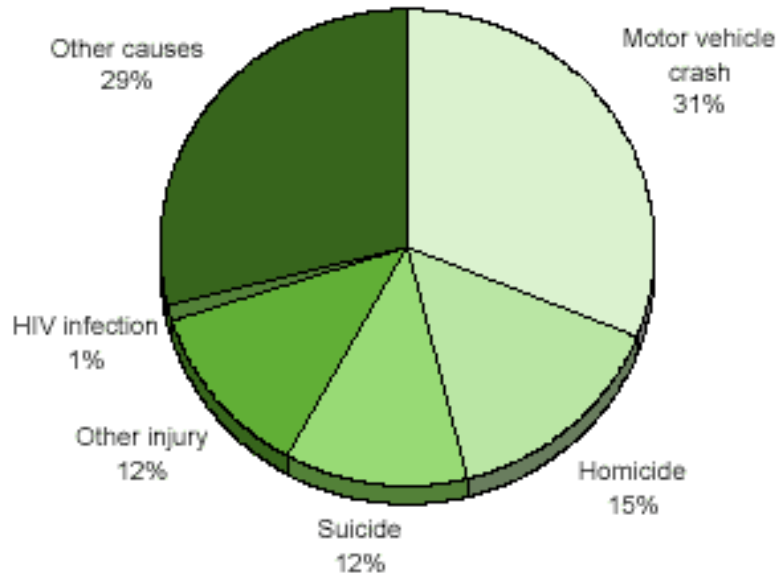


Adolescent High Risk Behaviors

Leading causes of death for youth aged 10-24 years:



Motor Vehicle Crashes:

- #1 cause of death for teens
- Teens have the lowest rate of seatbelt use observed in any age group
- Less than 25% of teens “always” wear seat belt
- 60-72% of fatally injured teens were not wearing seat belt
- Risk of serious injury to a teen in a car crash triples without the use of a seatbelt

Alcohol

- 47% of all high school students regularly use alcohol
- 30% binge drink
- 30% have ridden with a drunk driver in the past month
- 13% have driven while drunk in the past month

Homicide:

- #2 cause of death for teens
- Teen homicide rates have tripled in the past 40 years
- 80% of teen homicides involve firearms
- Male teens are 5 times more likely to die of homicide than female teens
- Alcohol is involved in over 40% of teen homicides

Suicide:

- 20% of all high school students have considered attempting suicide
- 9% have actually attempted suicide
- Guns are used in 67% of teen suicides
- Female teens attempt suicide 2-9 times more than males BUT
- Males are 3 times more likely to complete suicide

Sex...

- Over 46% of high school teens are sexually active
- 14% have had ≥ 4 sexual partners
- Almost half of teens having sex do not regularly use condoms
- Teens have the highest STD rates of any age group

Drugs...

- 1/3 of all teens currently use tobacco
- 90% of adult smokers began to smoking as adolescents
- 3/4 of teens smokers have made at least one quit attempt

- 1/4 of high school students regularly smoke marijuana
- 4% of teens are current cocaine users
- 2% of teens are current inhalant users
- 2-3% of teens use heroin

Dating violence:

- 20% of high school students have been the victim of rape or forced sex.
- By the late teen years, 30 to 60% of male and female students have been subjected to dating violence
- Males and females receive and inflict dating violence in roughly equal proportions

Disordered eating:

- Half of all teens are actively trying to lose weight
- 5% have used laxatives or induced vomiting in the past week
- 1 % have anorexia
- 3% have bulimia
- Female teens are 10-20 times more likely than male teens to have disordered eating