Suicide Among the Young

- Persons under age 25 accounted for 15% of all suicides.

- For young people 15-24 years old, suicide is the third leading cause of death, behind unintentional injury and homicide.

- Among persons aged 15-19 years, firearm-related suicides accounted for 62% of the increase in the overall rate of suicide from 1980-1997.

- The risk for suicide among young people is greatest among young white males; however, from 1980 through 1995, suicide rates increased most rapidly among young black males.

- Although suicide among young children is a rare event, the dramatic increase in the rate among persons aged 10-14 years underscores the urgent need for intensifying efforts to prevent suicide among persons in this age group.

Source: National Center for Injury Prevention & Control