At a Glance:
Suicidal Ideation

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for youth 18-24\(^1\) and approximately 1,100 college student lives are lost to suicide each year.\(^2\) This publication will examine Missouri college students’ suicidal ideation (thinking about, considering, or planning suicide), attempts, and help-seeking.

**Past Year Ideation and Attempts**

- **2014:** 15% Ideation, 1% Attempts
- **2015:** 15% Ideation, 2% Attempts
- **2016:** 17% Ideation, 1.6% Attempts
- **2017:** 18% Ideation, 1.3% Attempts
- **2018:** 20% Ideation, 1.6% Attempts
- **2019:** 23% Ideation, 1.6% Attempts

Since 2014, both suicidal ideation and suicide attempts among Missouri college students have risen.

**Suicidal Thoughts**

- **44%** of students have had thoughts of suicide in their lifetime
- **58%** of students have not sought assistance for their suicidal thoughts or attempts
- **47%** of students report being concerned about a friend having suicidal thoughts or behaviors

**Online Training Programs**

- **54%** of students would be interested in completing an online suicide prevention training
- **48** colleges and universities in the state of Missouri participate in the Ask Listen Refer suicide prevention training program.

*All data is “in the past year” except for 44% of students have had thoughts of suicide in their lifetime.

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) WISQARS Leading Causes of Death Reports, 2017