**Attempt & LGBT:**

- Garafalo et al. (1999) found that LGB high school students and students unsure of their sexual orientation were 3.4 times more likely to have attempted suicide in the last year than their straight peers.
- Eisenberg and Resnick (2006) found LGB high school students were more than twice as likely as their straight peers to have attempted suicide.
- LGB youth who attempt suicide were twice as likely than their straight peers to say that they had really hoped to die (Safren & Heimberg)
- In one study of adults and young adults 30.1 percent of transgender individuals surveyed reported having ever attempted suicide (Kenagy, 2005). (versus the 4.6 % of adults and young adults in the general population) (Kessler et al, 1999)

**Risk Factors & LGBT:**

NOTE: Being LGBT is not a risk factor in and of itself; however many GBT have more or more severe risk factors:

- more previous attempts (as above)
- minority stressors such as discrimination and harassment
- higher rates of major depression, anxiety disorder, conduct disorder, and co-occurring psychiatric disorders than their straight peers. (Fergusson et al., 1999)
- high rates of victimization (three quarters reported verbal abuse and about one in seven reported Physical attacks) (D’Augelli, 2002)
- severe family rejection (Those who experience this are than 8 times more likely to report having attempted suicide than peers from supportive families) (Ryan et al., 2009)

**Ideation & LGBT:**

The Massachusetts Youth Risk Behavior Survey found that youth who self-identified as LGB or reported any same-sex sexual contact were more than three times more likely to report having seriously considered suicide in the last year. (Massachusetts Department of Education, 2006)

**Protective Factors & LGBT:**

- Family acceptance and connectedness (Eisenberg & Resnick, 2004)
- Caring adults (Eisenberg & Resnick, 2004)
- School safety (Eisenberg & Resnick, 2004)

**Death by Suicide & LGBT:**

We do not know whether more LGBT youth than straight youth die by suicide (Sexual orientation/gender identity data aren’t included on death certificates and often do not show up in psychological autopsy interviews)

**Resources:**

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a free, 24-hour hotline available to anyone in suicidal crisis or distress. Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255). Learn more at http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
- The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth. http://www.thetrevorproject.org