WT FOREFRONT **SUICIDE PREVENTION**

National Conference of State Legislators Conference

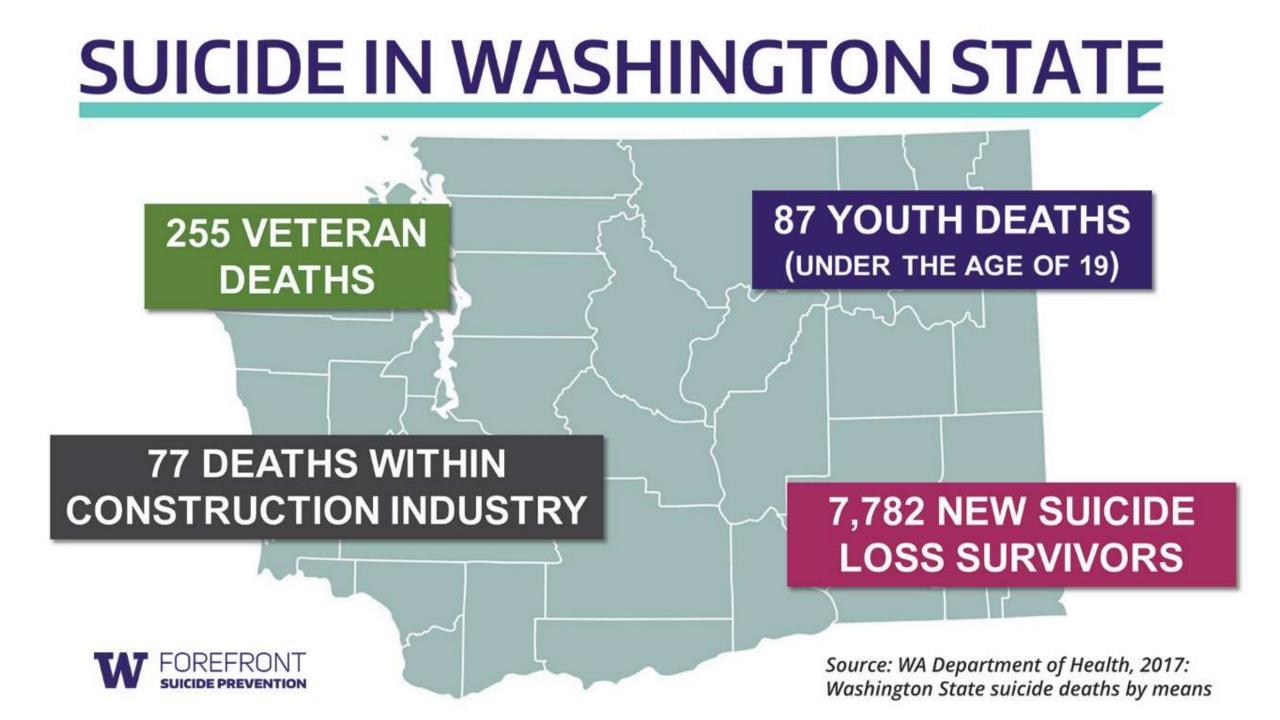
Jennifer Stuber, Ph.D.

SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR IN THE U.S.

- 47,173 suicides in 2018 (Rate: 14.5 per 100,000)
- 1,388,000* Suicide Attempts
- 3,195,000* Made A Suicide Plan
- 10,642,000* Serious Thoughts Of Suicide
- 1 In 5 People* Mental Health Conditions
 *Estimated







VETERAN SUICIDE

Only about 6 out of 20 veterans who die by suicide have gotten VA care

Suicide risk is **2.1x** greater for veterans vs adult civilians The suicide rate for female vets increased by **85%**

2001-2014





VETERAN SUICIDE

	US	American West
Rate of Veteran Suicide (per 100,000)	30	35
General Population Rate of Suicide (per 100,000)	18	19

"I fear they do not know us... I fear they do not comprehend the full weight of the burden we carry..."

- Adm. Michael Mullen, Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Source: VA, WA DOH

VETERAN SUICIDE

66-69% of veteran suicides were from self-inflicted gunshot



58.1% of all veterans who die by suicide are 55 years of age or older



UNDERSTANDING VETERANS

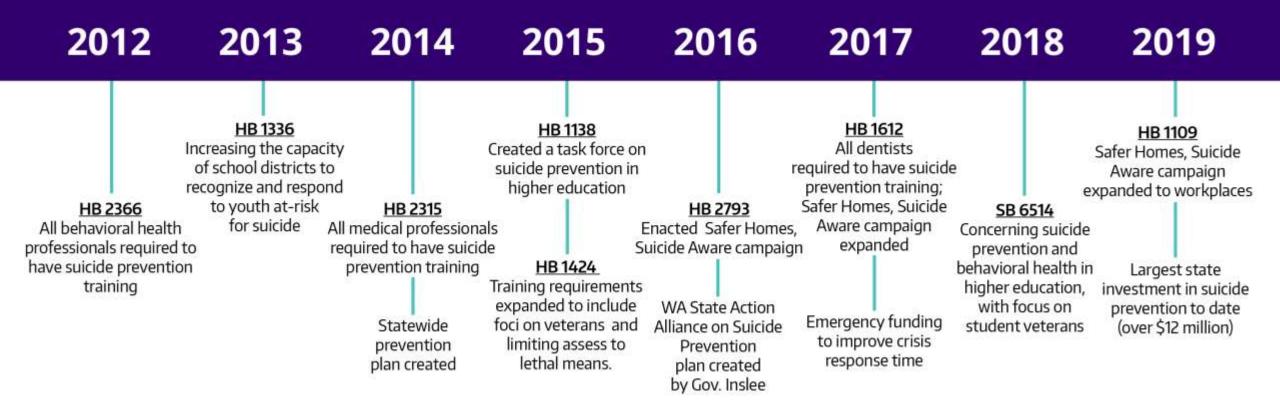


- 10%-30% veterans experience post-traumatic stress disorder
- Veterans with PTS are at higher risk for suicide (58 per 100,000 suicide rate)
- Veterans with opioid use disorder are at higher risk for suicide (140 per 100,000)



WA STATE LEGISLATIVE TIMELINE







WHAT WA STATE IS TAKING ACTION ON

- Emphasis on lethal means safety
- Higher education and veterans
- Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs





WHAT WA HOPEFULLY WILL TAKE ACTION ON

- Coordinate postvention response
- Hold Health Plans Accountable to adhering to the Standard of Care for Suicide including collecting patient information about Veteran status





CONTACT INFORMATION

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