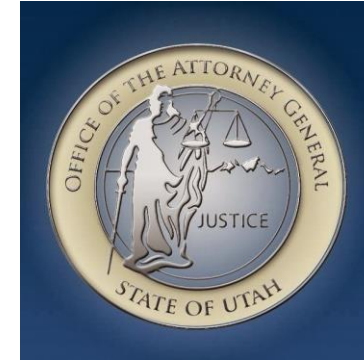




utah department of  
**human services**  
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH



# Lethal Means & Risk in the Community

Common Sense Approaches

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# PRECIPITATING BEHAVIORS TO VIOLENCE

**93%** of the perpetrators of targeted school violence exhibited concerning behavior before the attack.

In **59%** of the incidents, more than 1 person had prior knowledge of the attack.

Of those with prior knowledge of school attacks, **93%** were peers of the perpetrators –friends, schoolmates, or siblings.

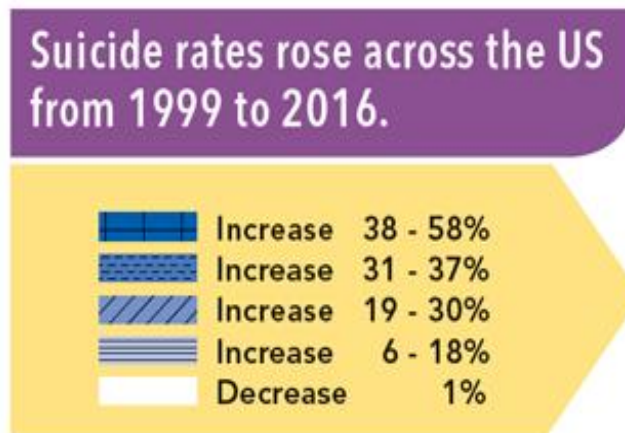
As States, what can we do with this information?

# NOT ALL VIOLENCE IS DIRECTED AT OTHERS- Suicide is a Global Public Health Crisis

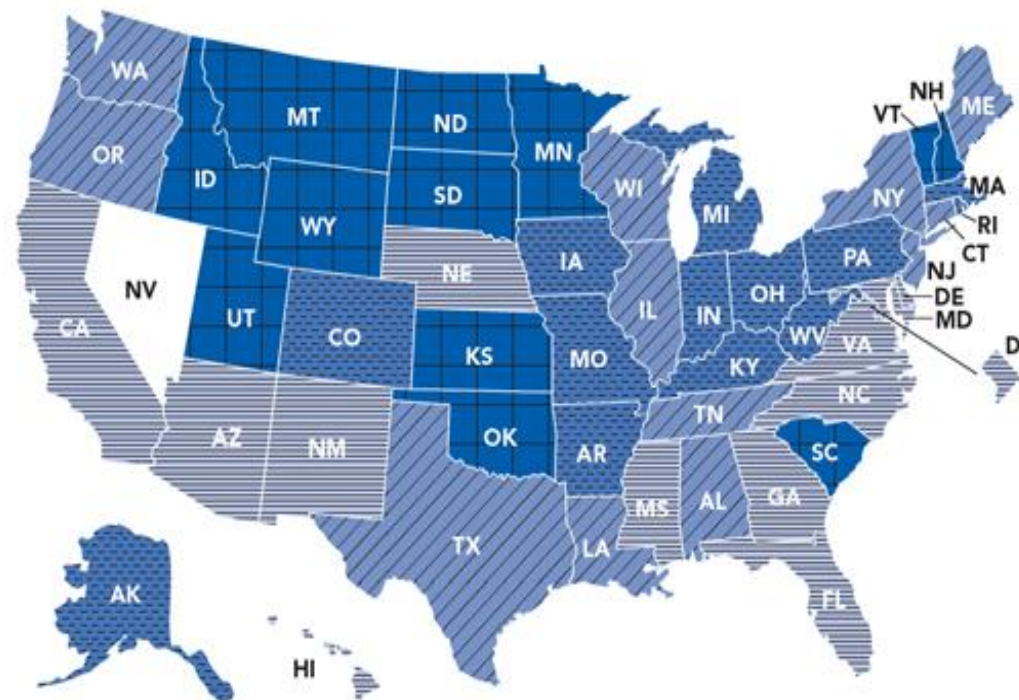
2<sup>nd</sup> Leading Cause of Death Among 10-24 Year-olds in the United States,  
1<sup>st</sup> Leading Cause for that age group in Utah

Suicide Touches Everyone -- 135 People Are Affected for Every Death  
And Effects Linger Across Generations

As States, what can we do with this information?



SOURCE: CDC's National Vital Statistics System;  
CDC Vital Signs, June 2018.



# SAFE2TELL COLORADO

Engaging key stakeholder and empowering young people to be part of the solution of school and community safety.



# WHAT IS SAFEUT?

- SafeUT is a crisis chat and a school safety tip line developed for all students in Utah, including higher education students.
- Utah Legislation created the statewide School Safety and Crisis Line Commission in 2015 (SB0175).
- In July 2017, The University of Utah launched a redesigned SafeUT App with enhanced functionality with other updates scheduled on an ongoing basis.
- As of April 2018, nearly 77% of Utah public, private and charter schools have been trained in SafeUT.

# WHAT IS SAFEUT?

- The SafeUT Commission continues to help develop and implement the program in Utah schools. The Commission is represented by:
  - Utah Attorney Generals Office
  - Utah State Legislature
  - University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute (UNI)
  - Utah State Office of Education
  - Utah System of Higher Education
  - University of Utah Health IT Department
  - Utah Department of Human Services

# HOW DOES SAFEUT WORK?

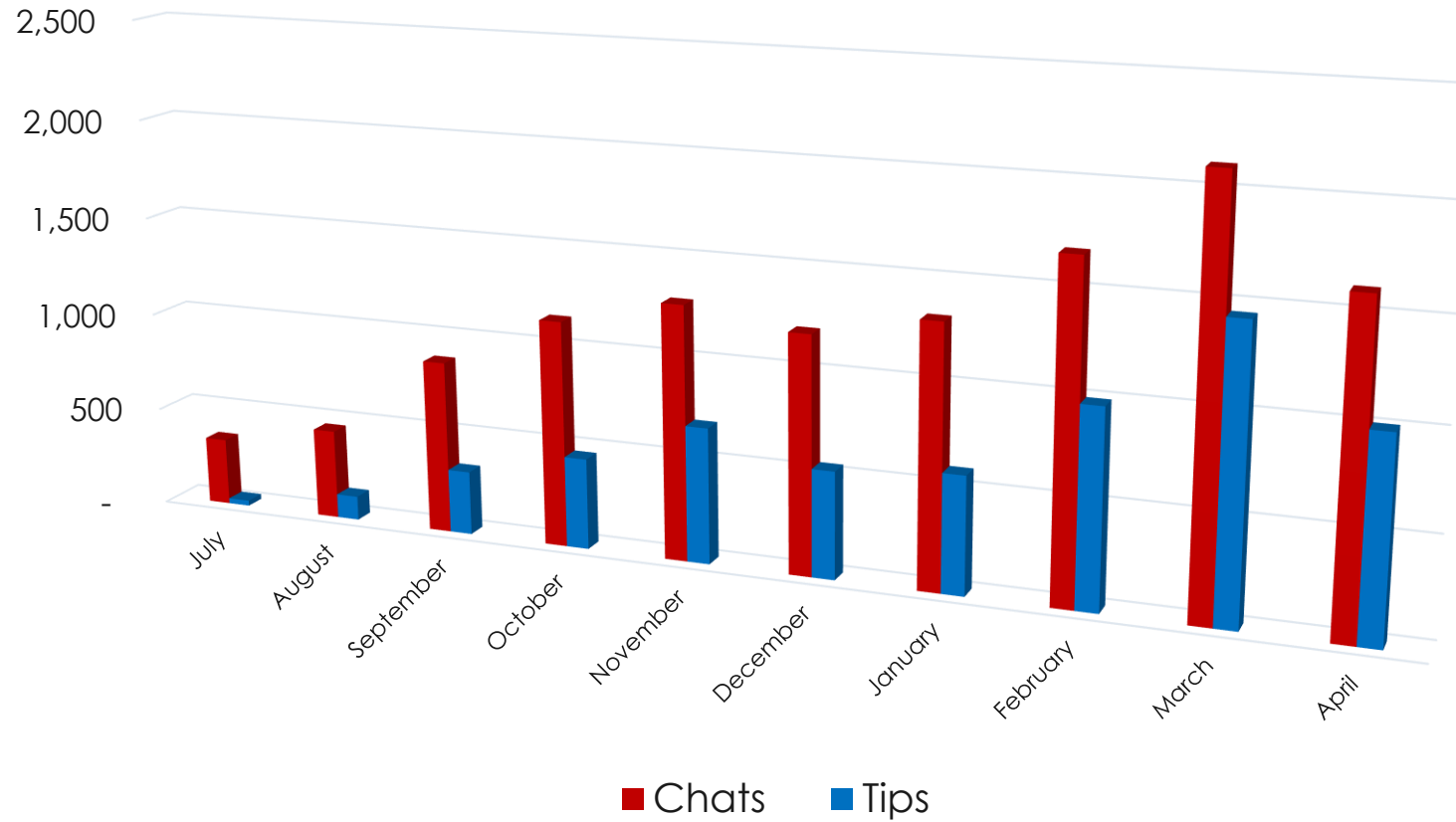
Users can submit:

- **Tip** - Concerns (weapons, bullying, self-harm, drugs etc.) that are immediately sent to both SafeUT crisis workers and the school to evaluate.
- **Chat** - Therapeutic dialogue through texting with a SafeUT Licensed Clinical Social/Crisis Workers (LCSW's).
- **Call** – Therapeutic dialogue through a phone conversation with an LSCW.



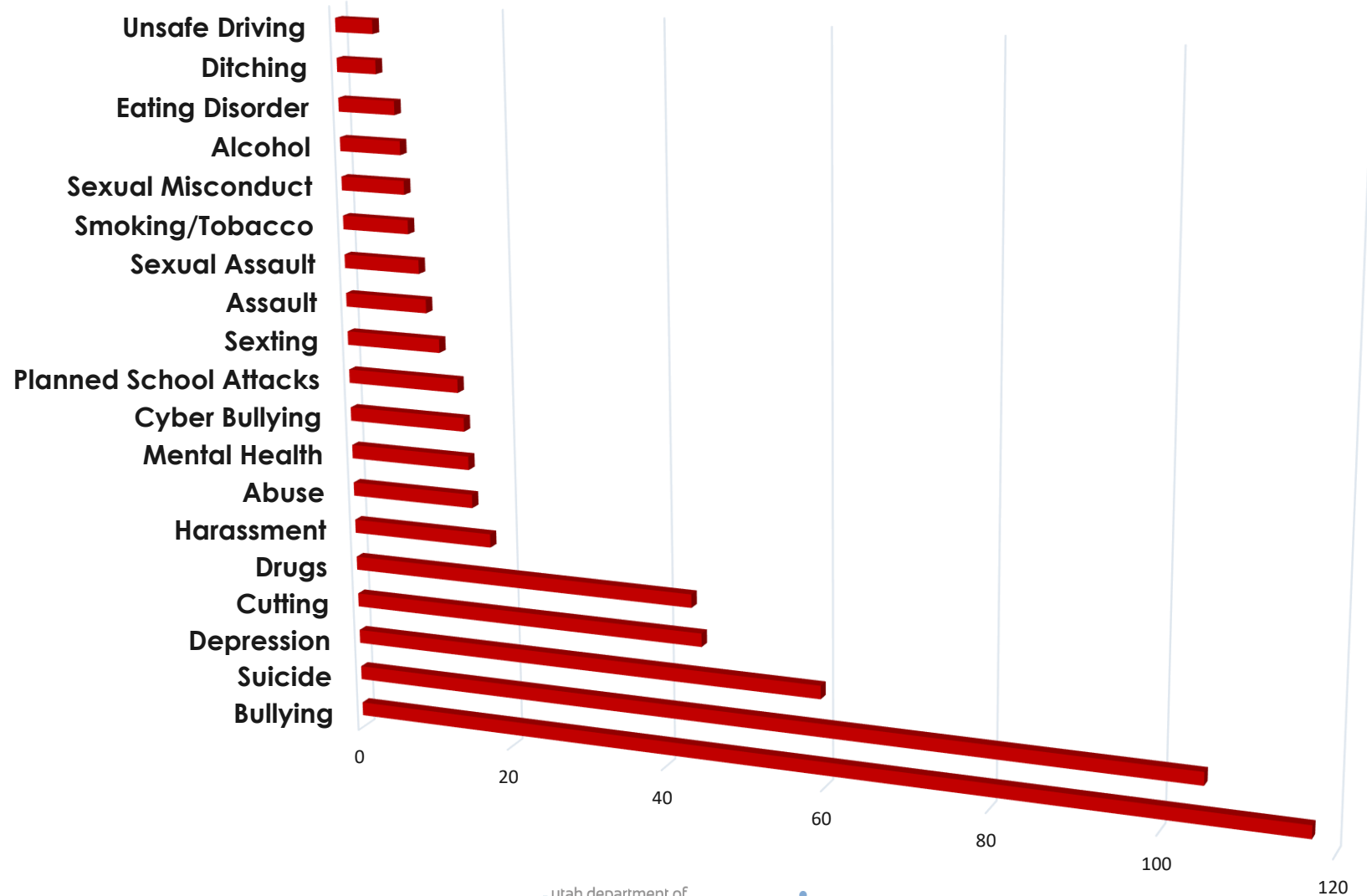
# 2017-'18 School Year SAFEUT Chats and Tips:

## Tip/Chat Count July 2017 – April 2018





# TOP 20 TIP TOPICS (MONTHLY AVERAGE)



# SAFEUT STORIES



- ❑ A student used SafeUT to call the crisis line as he was actively thinking about making an attempt and had the means. SafeUT staff contacted local Police, and the school, who worked together to locate the student and ensure his safety.
- ❑ A student climbed to the edge of cliff to end his life. He went to send a final text and saw the SafeUT app on his phone and started chatting with a crisis worker. His pastor had committed him to use the app if he was in a dark place. The crisis worker talked him off the edge and he received help.
- ❑ A student made an attempt by ingesting harmful substances as a suicide attempt before school. After being reminded of SafeUT at an assembly that school morning, she sent in a chat to ask for help.
- ❑ A school received a tip about a boy bringing a gun to school. The next morning the boy was intercepted at the doors of the school with two loaded hand guns in his backpack.

# WHAT IS NEXT FOR SAFEUT?

- ✓ SafeUT is committed to rolling out the program to **100%** of Utah schools, including higher education, during the 2018-2019 academic school year.
- ✓ Additional functionality, including self help resources and crisis broadcast functionality are being developed.

# Utah Initiatives

- Cable Style Gun Locks Distribution- Over 110,000 to date (including 10K in the last week with KSL partnership)
- Concealed Carry Permit Module:
  - Firearm safety work group
  - Survey of concealed carry instructors
  - Development of module
  - Began training instructors Sept 2016



# Utah Initiatives

- Mini Grants
  - Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper training targeting firearm owners utilizing “Is Your Safety On” supplemental training module on firearm safety.
  - Outreach and education to firearm dealers, shooting ranges, gun shows, and other relevant community partners to support firearm safety for suicide prevention or to recruit for participation in local coalitions.
  - Dissemination or promotion of the existing “Is Your Safety On” firearm safety for suicide prevention materials (PSA’s, radio ads, posters, etc.).
  - Purchase and targeted distribution of safe storage tools to at-risk individuals and their caregivers (safes, gun locks, etc...).
  - Means restriction outreach and prevention activities focused on documented high-risk individuals (ie military connected individuals, first responders, older adults 65+).



TARGET SPECIFIC RISK IN YOUR STATE





# QUESTIONS