Depression & Suicide Attempts Among Youth With Disabilities

◊ Youth were also asked if they had attempted suicide in the past 12 months. Thirteen percent of middle school youth with disabilities reported attempting suicide at least once in the past 12 months compared to 3% of those without disabilities.

◊ Similarly among high school youth with disabilities were more likely to report feeling so sad or depressed daily for at least two weeks during the previous year that they discontinued their usual activities compared to those without disabilities. Among high school youth, 40% of those with disabilities reported these feelings compared to 13% of those without disabilities.

◊ In addition, 13% of high school youth with disabilities reported attempting suicide at least once in the past twelve months compared to 2% of those without disabilities.

Figure 59: Depression among MA Middle School Students by Disability Status

Source: MA Youth Health Survey, 2007
Figure 60: Depression among MA High School Students by Disability Status

- Felt So Sad and Hopeless, Stopped Doing Important Things
  - Students with A Disability: 40
  - Students with No Disability: 13

- Attempted Suicide
  - Students with A Disability: 13
  - Students with No Disability: 2

Source: MA Youth Health Survey, 2007