

Adolescent Suicide: Results from the 2011 Texas Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)



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December 7, 2011

What is the YRBS?

- Biennial survey of public high school students
- Completed on odd years only
- Done using paper and pencil surveys
- All self reported data (no measurements)
- All schools and classes are randomly selected
- Participation is voluntary on every level
- Parental consent is required
- Funded by a state/federal partnership
- Students/Schools/Districts are all anonymous

Suicide Module

- 5 Questions
- During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for **two weeks or more in a row** that you stopped doing some usual activities?
- ... did you ever **seriously** consider attempting suicide?
- ... did you make a plan about how you would attempt suicide?

Suicide Module

- During the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?
 - Analyze looking at 1 or more times
 - Students can respond up to '6 or more times'
- **If you attempted suicide** during the past 12 months, did any attempt result in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse?

Almost 1 in 3
students felt
depressed in the
past 12 months

More than 1 in 6
students considered
suicide

More than 1 in 7
made a plan to
commit suicide

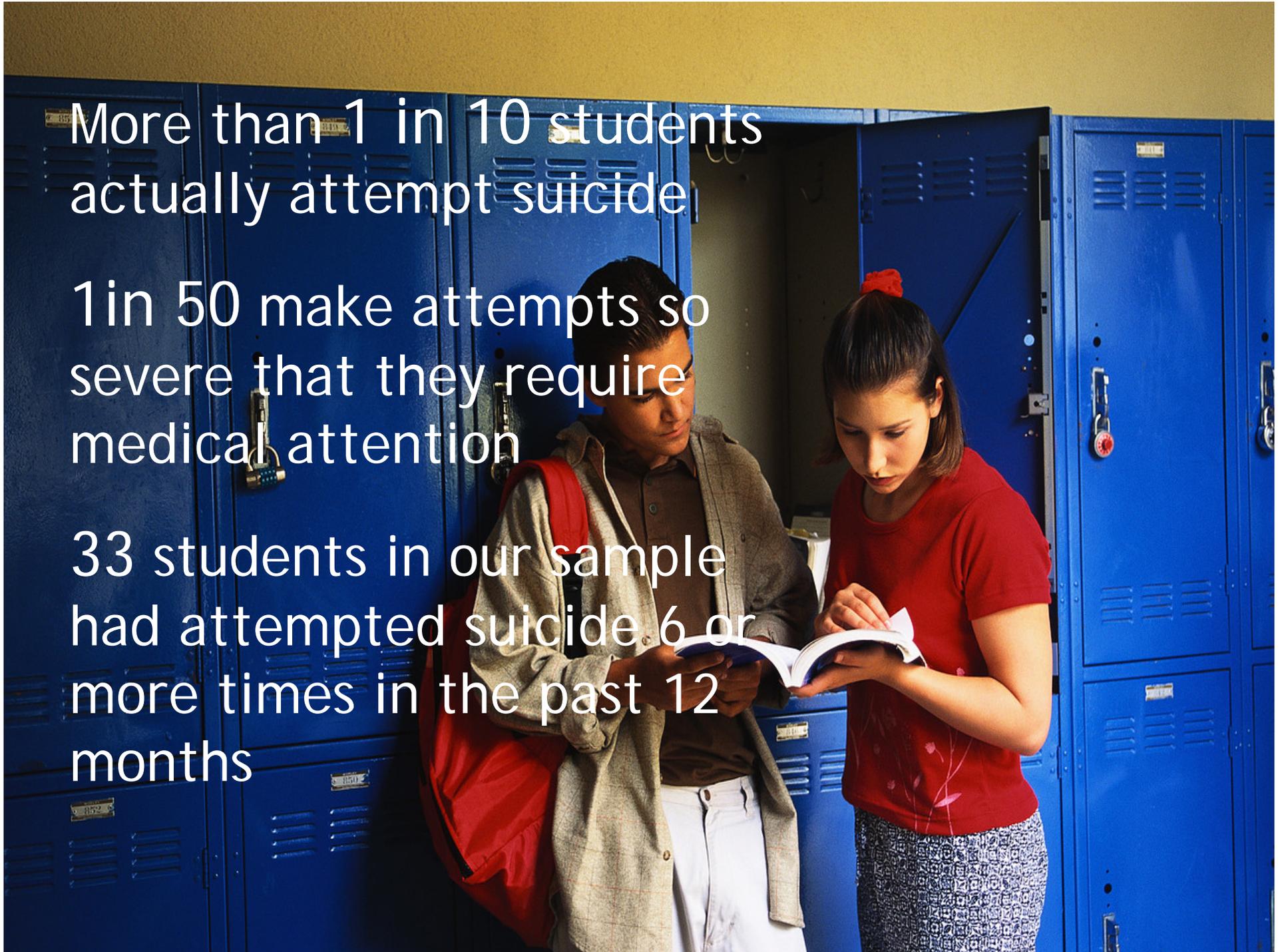
Texas 2011



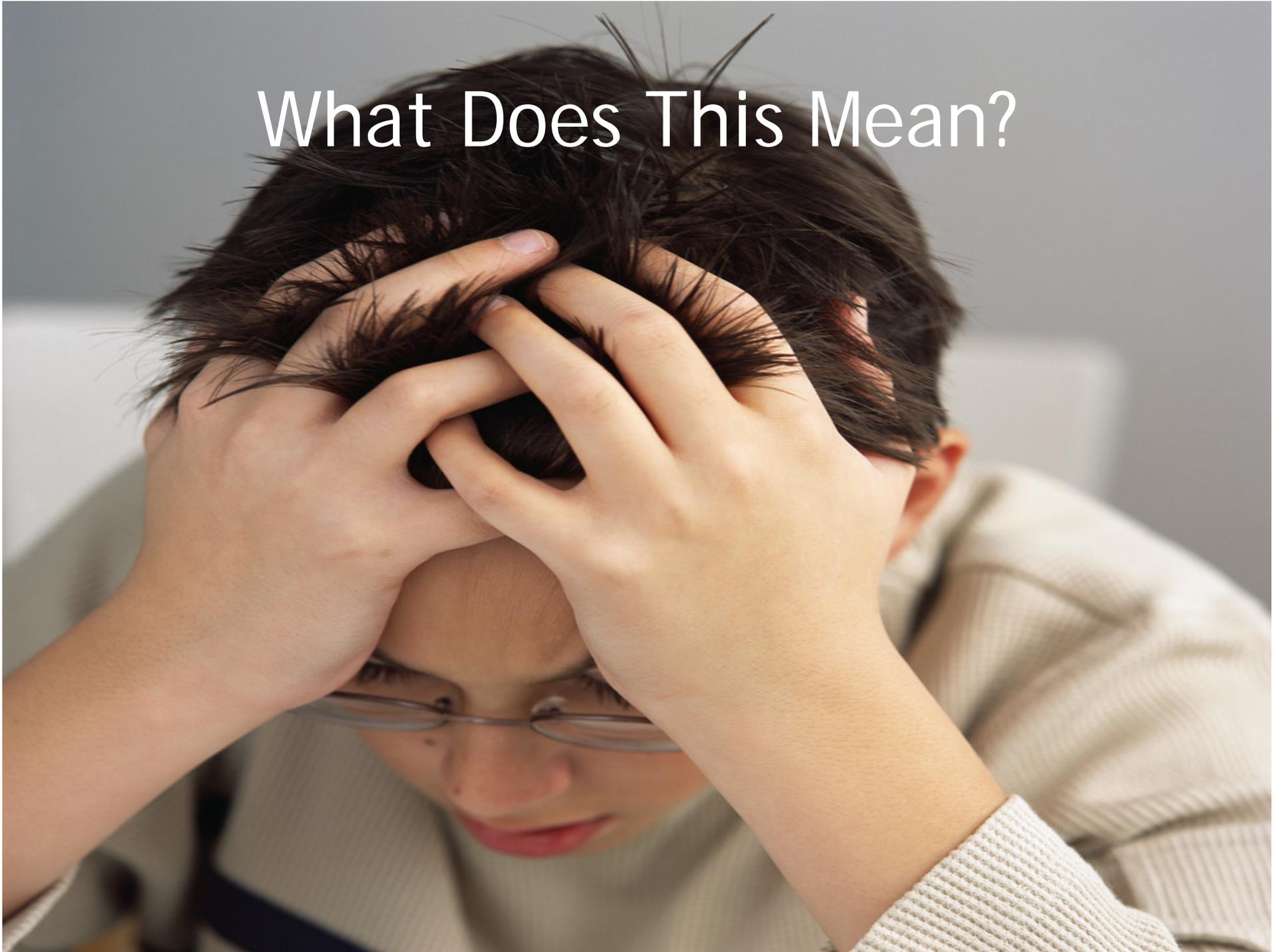
More than 1 in 10 students
actually attempt suicide

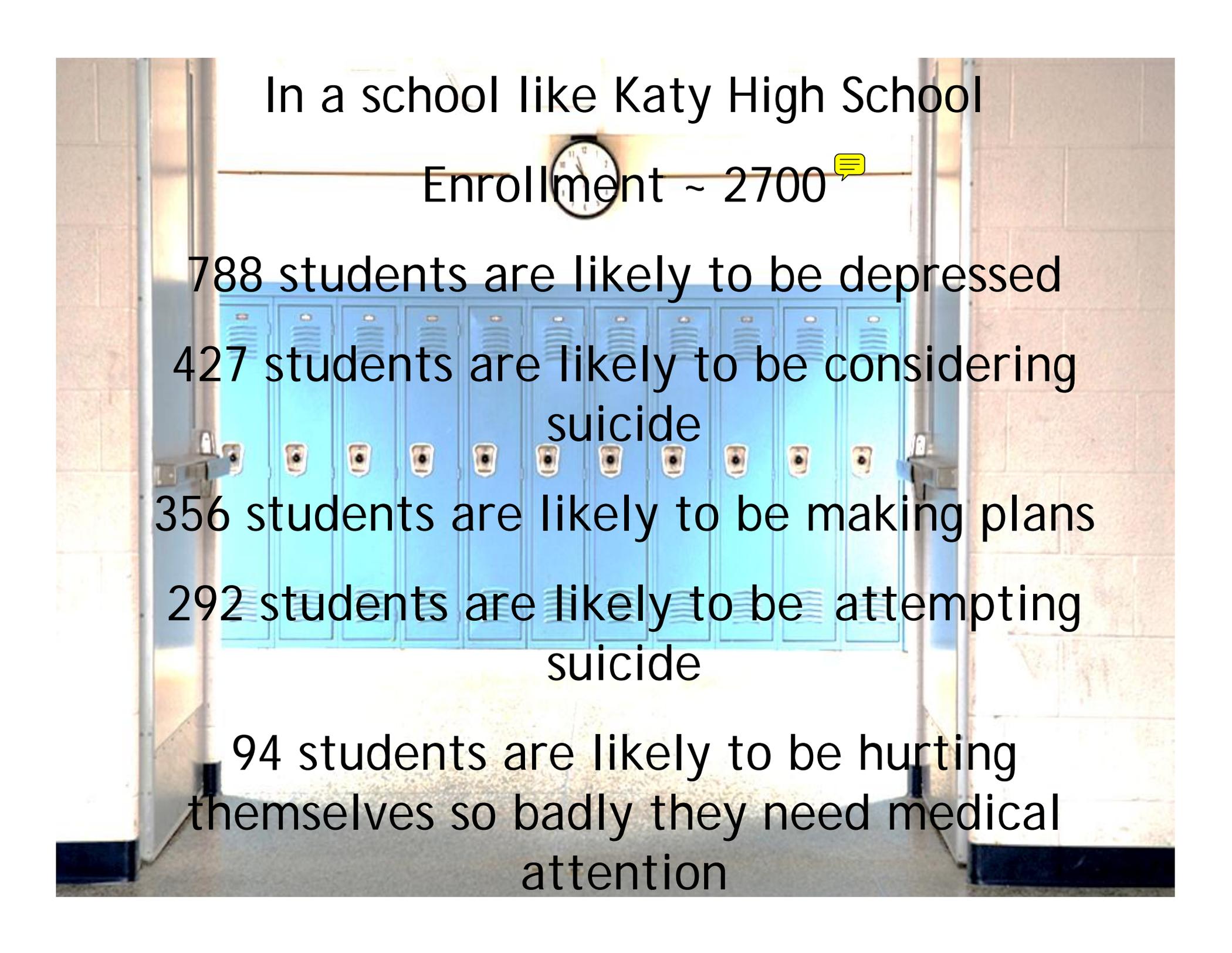
1 in 50 make attempts so
severe that they require
medical attention

33 students in our sample
had attempted suicide 6 or
more times in the past 12
months



What Does This Mean?



A photograph of a school hallway. In the center, there is a row of blue lockers. Above the lockers, a round clock is mounted on the wall. The hallway is brightly lit, and the walls are made of light-colored tiles. The floor is a light-colored carpet.

In a school like Katy High School

Enrollment ~ 2700

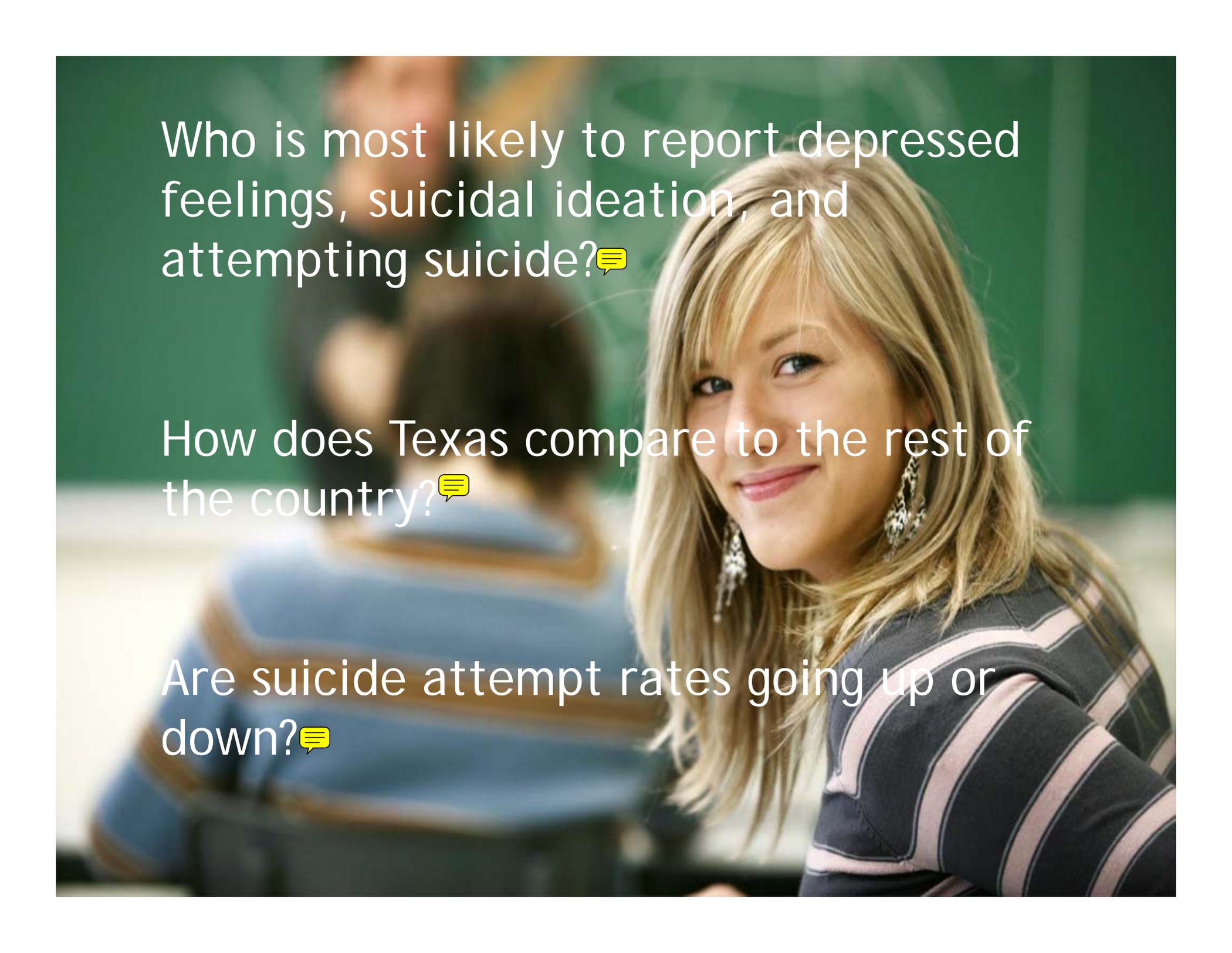
788 students are likely to be depressed

427 students are likely to be considering
suicide

356 students are likely to be making plans

292 students are likely to be attempting
suicide

94 students are likely to be hurting
themselves so badly they need medical
attention

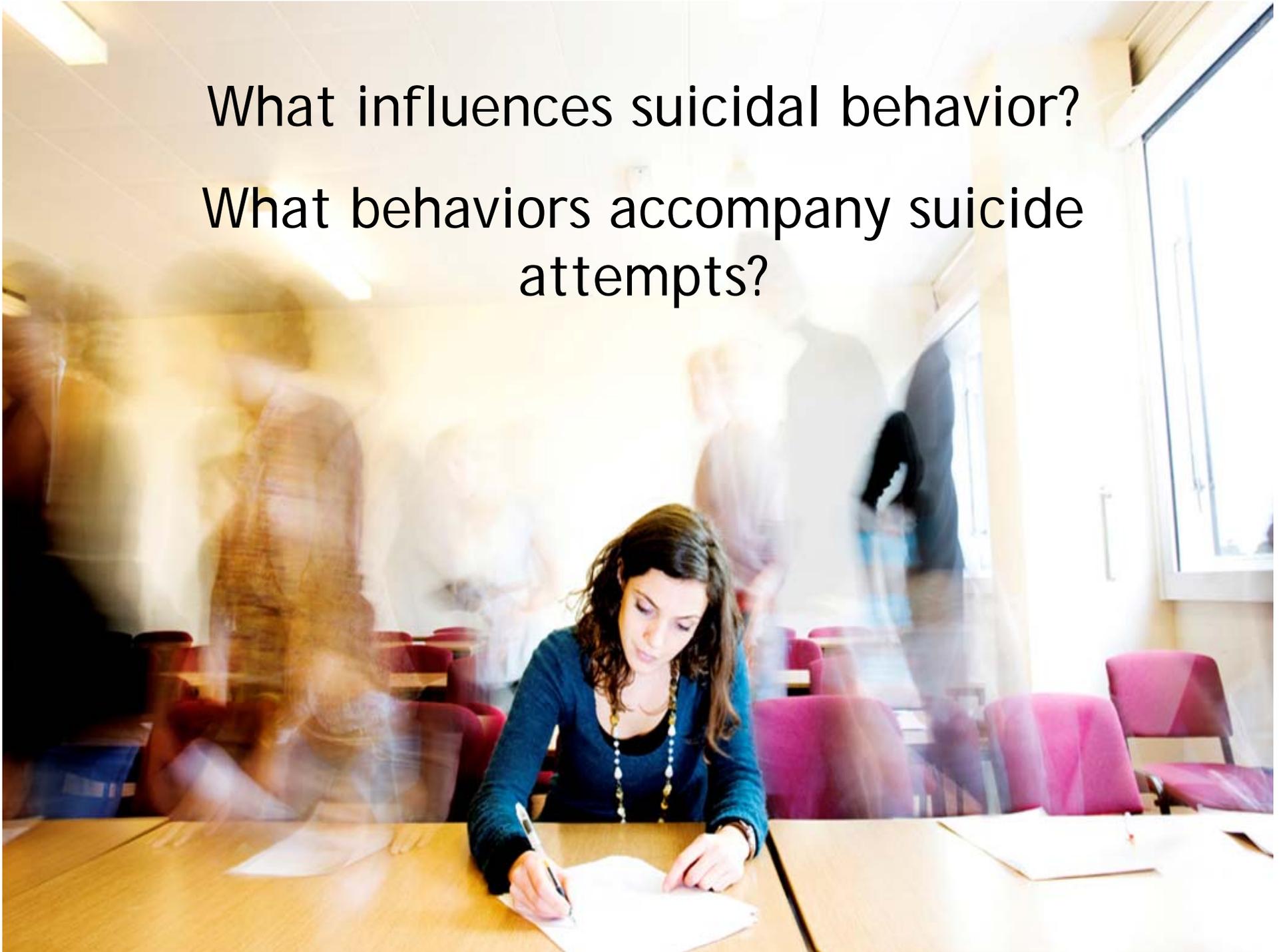


Who is most likely to report depressed feelings, suicidal ideation, and attempting suicide?💬

How does Texas compare to the rest of the country?💬

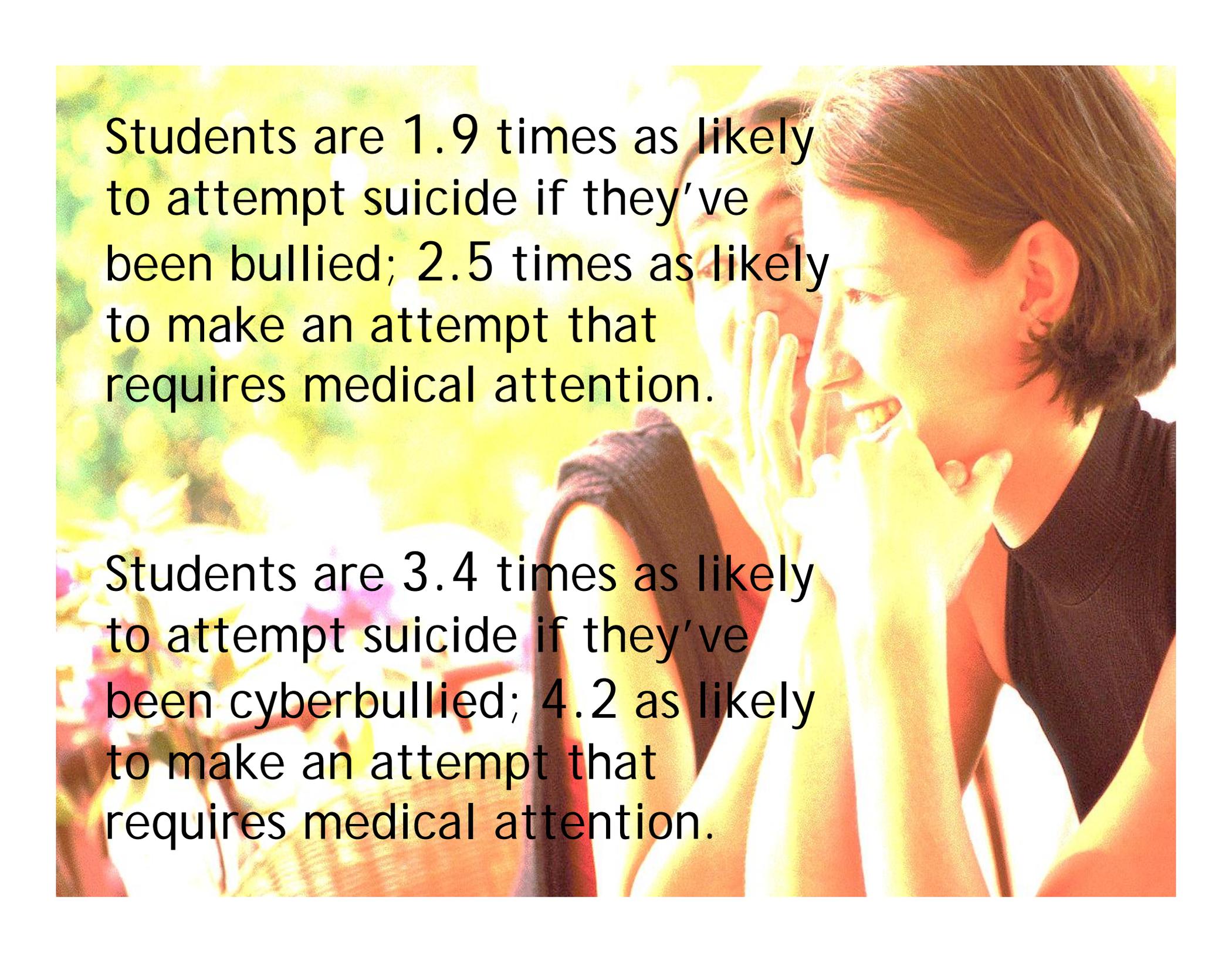
Are suicide attempt rates going up or down?💬

What influences suicidal behavior?
What behaviors accompany suicide attempts?



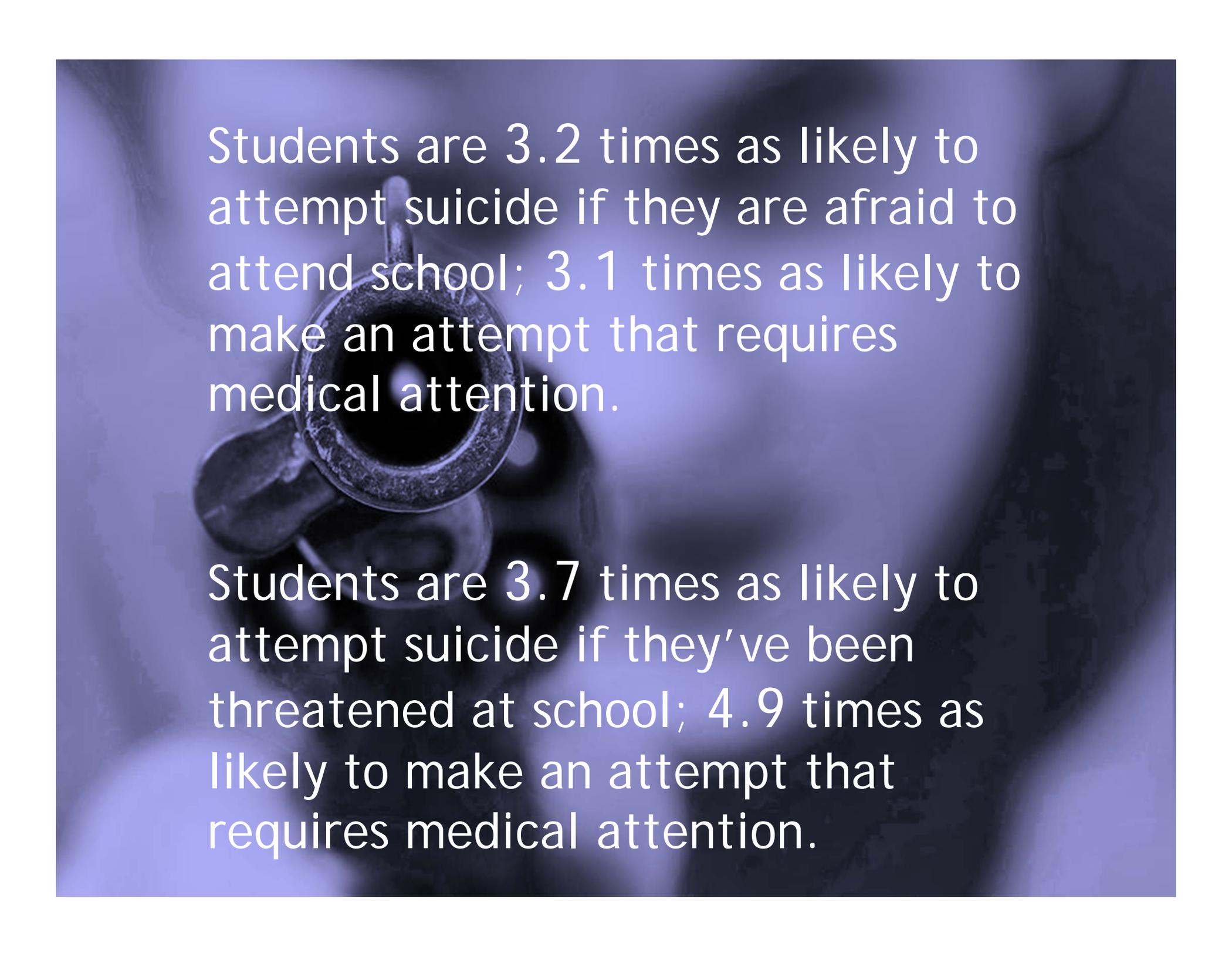
Bullying & Violence



A photograph of two young women sitting outdoors, possibly at a picnic. They are both wearing dark-colored sleeveless tops. The woman on the right is leaning in and talking to the woman on the left, who has her hand near her face as if listening intently. The background is bright and out of focus, suggesting a sunny day with greenery.

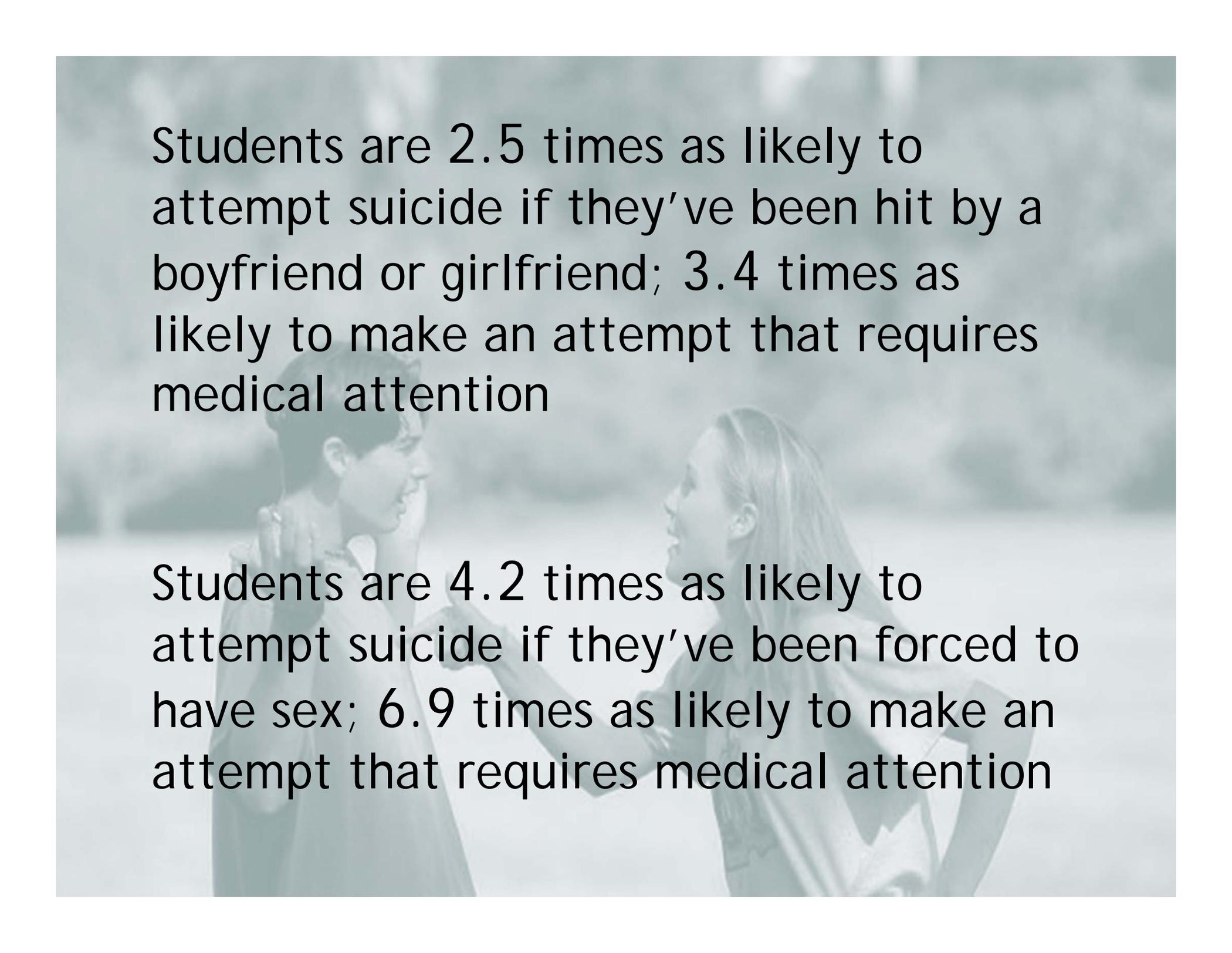
Students are 1.9 times as likely to attempt suicide if they've been bullied; 2.5 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention.

Students are 3.4 times as likely to attempt suicide if they've been cyberbullied; 4.2 as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention.



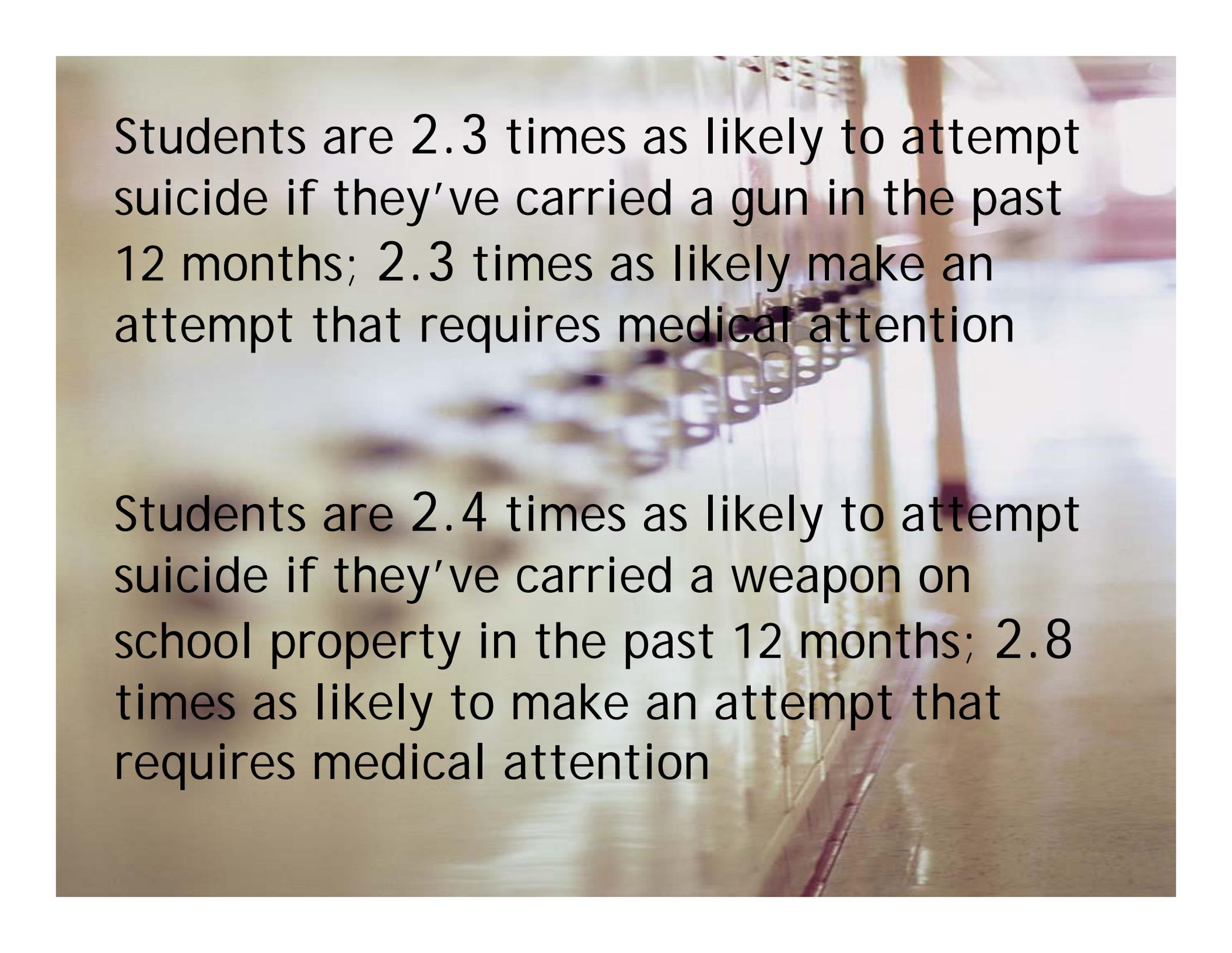
Students are 3.2 times as likely to attempt suicide if they are afraid to attend school; 3.1 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention.

Students are 3.7 times as likely to attempt suicide if they've been threatened at school; 4.9 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention.



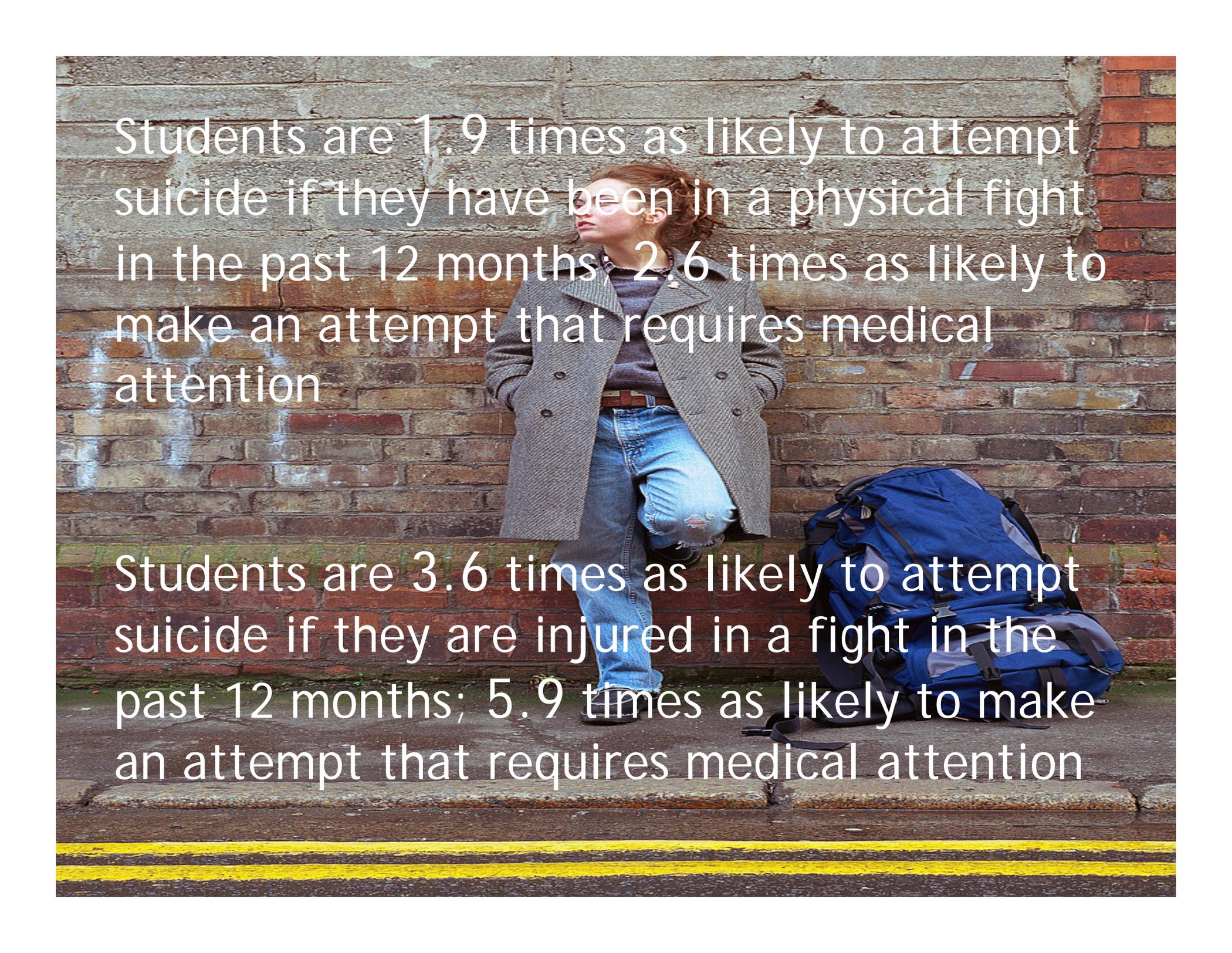
Students are 2.5 times as likely to attempt suicide if they've been hit by a boyfriend or girlfriend; 3.4 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students are 4.2 times as likely to attempt suicide if they've been forced to have sex; 6.9 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention



Students are 2.3 times as likely to attempt suicide if they've carried a gun in the past 12 months; 2.3 times as likely make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students are 2.4 times as likely to attempt suicide if they've carried a weapon on school property in the past 12 months; 2.8 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

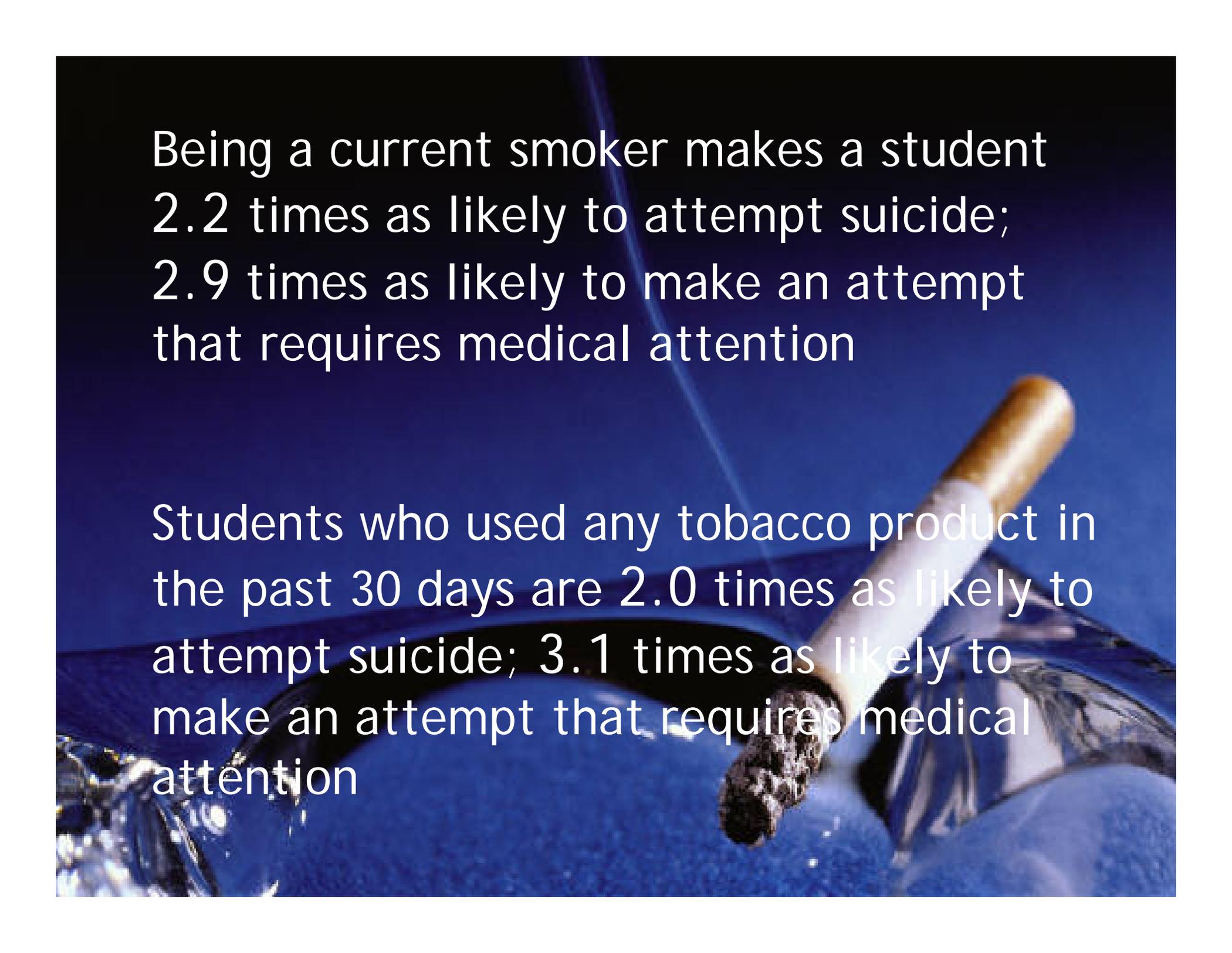


Students are 1.9 times as likely to attempt suicide if they have been in a physical fight in the past 12 months; 2.6 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students are 3.6 times as likely to attempt suicide if they are injured in a fight in the past 12 months; 5.9 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

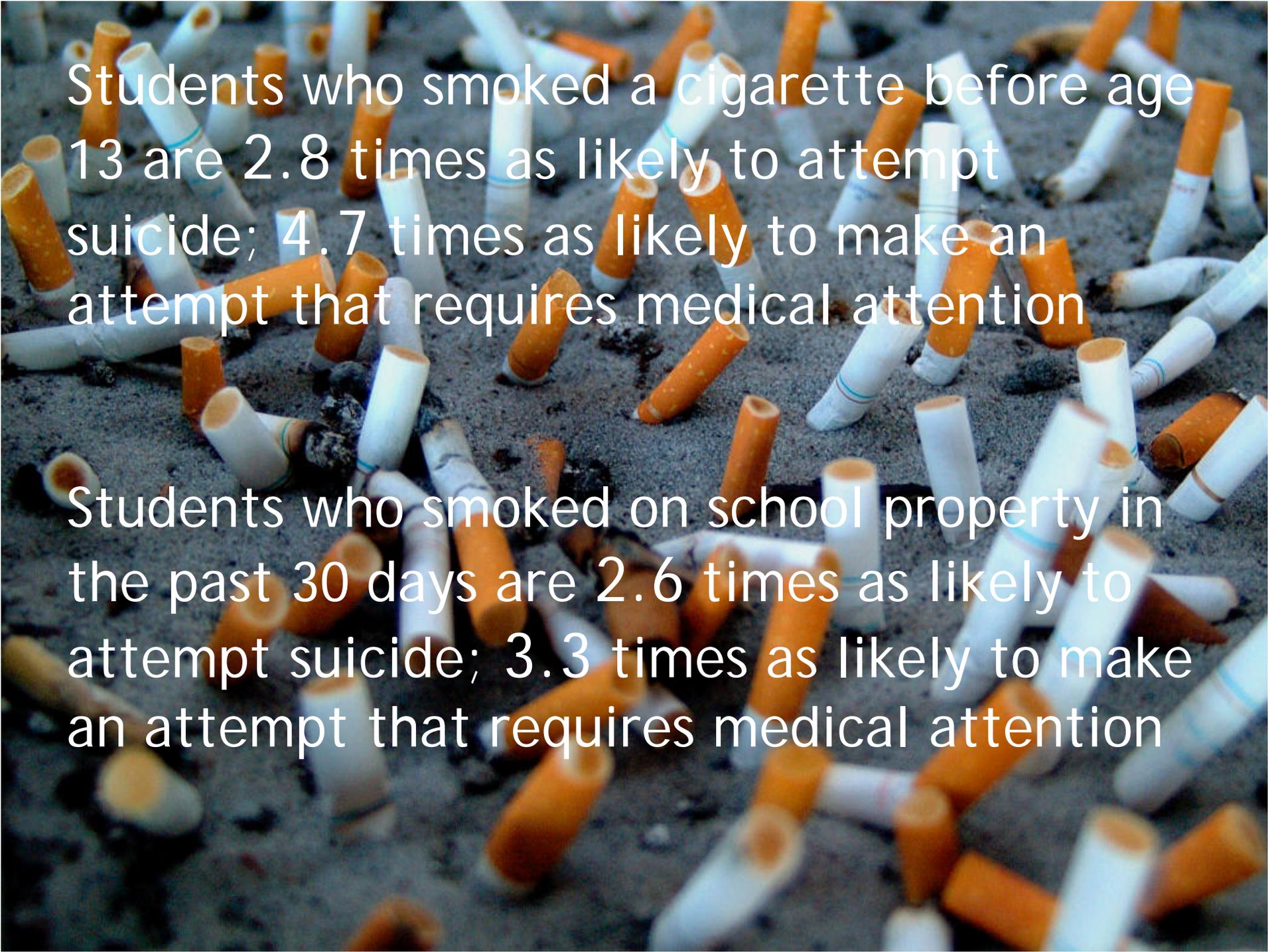
Substance Abuse





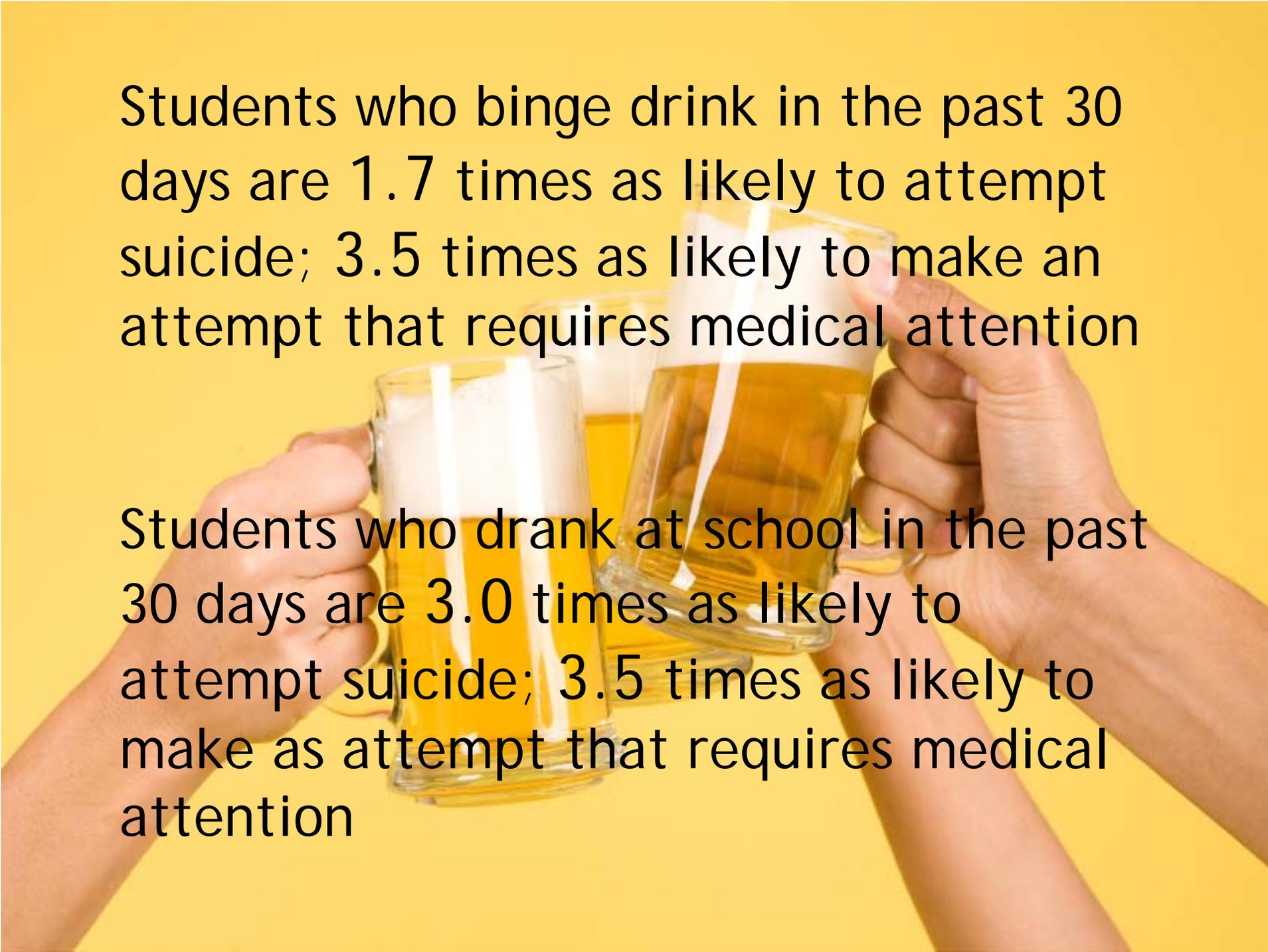
Being a current smoker makes a student 2.2 times as likely to attempt suicide; 2.9 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students who used any tobacco product in the past 30 days are 2.0 times as likely to attempt suicide; 3.1 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention



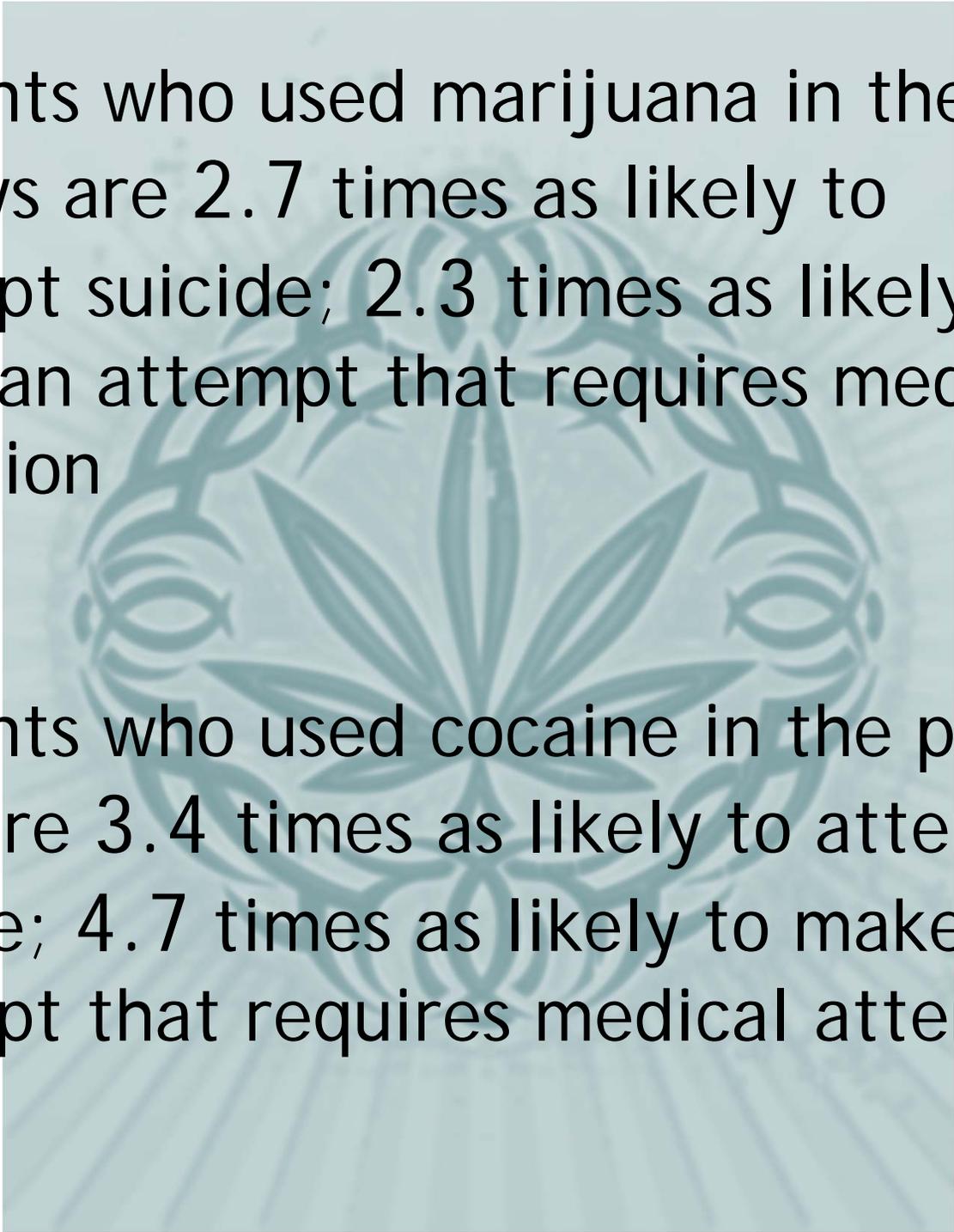
Students who smoked a cigarette before age 13 are 2.8 times as likely to attempt suicide; 4.7 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students who smoked on school property in the past 30 days are 2.6 times as likely to attempt suicide; 3.3 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

A photograph of three hands holding beer mugs filled with beer and foam, set against a yellow background. The mugs are arranged in a row, with the hands holding them from the sides. The beer is golden and has a thick white head of foam.

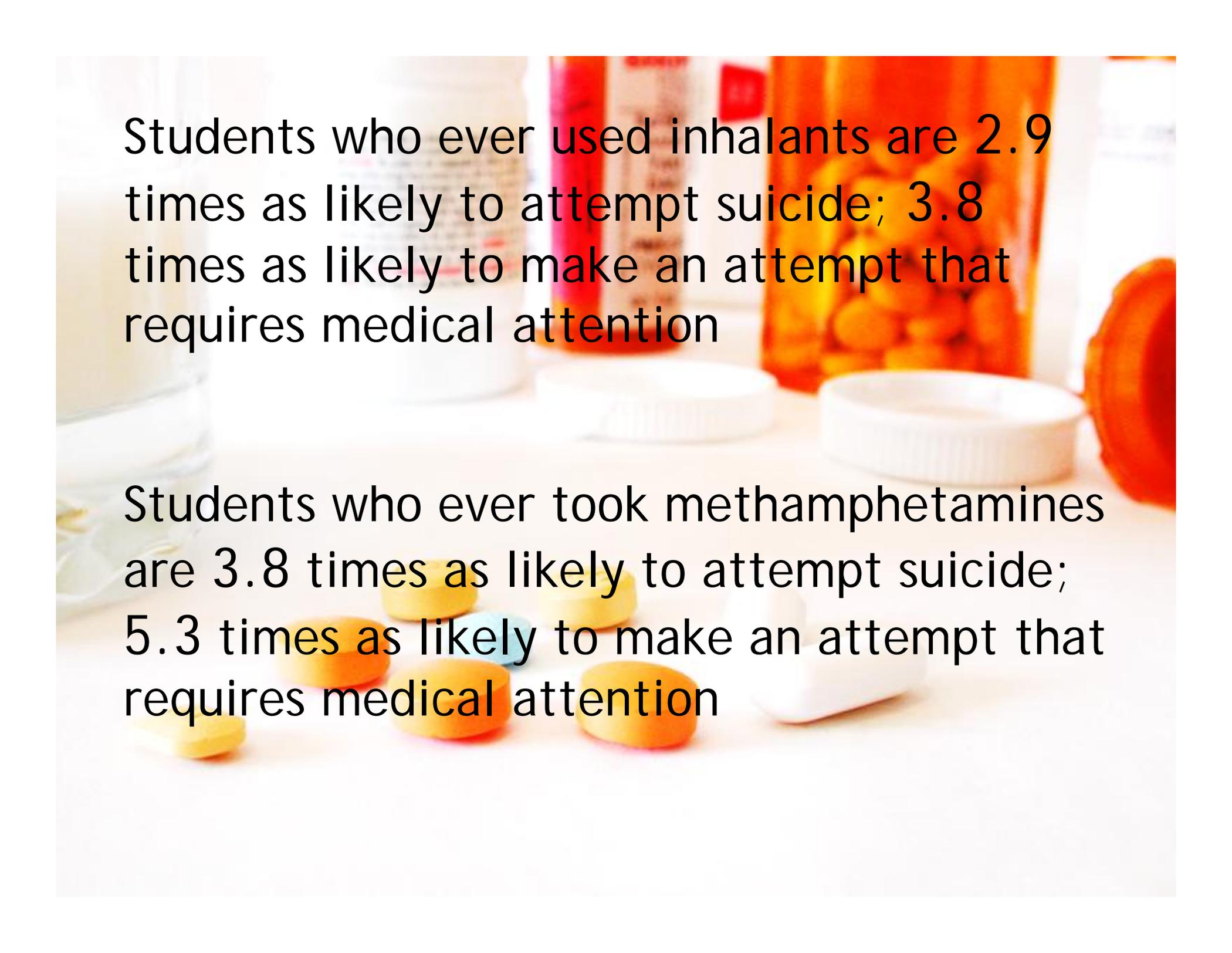
Students who binge drink in the past 30 days are 1.7 times as likely to attempt suicide; 3.5 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students who drank at school in the past 30 days are 3.0 times as likely to attempt suicide; 3.5 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention



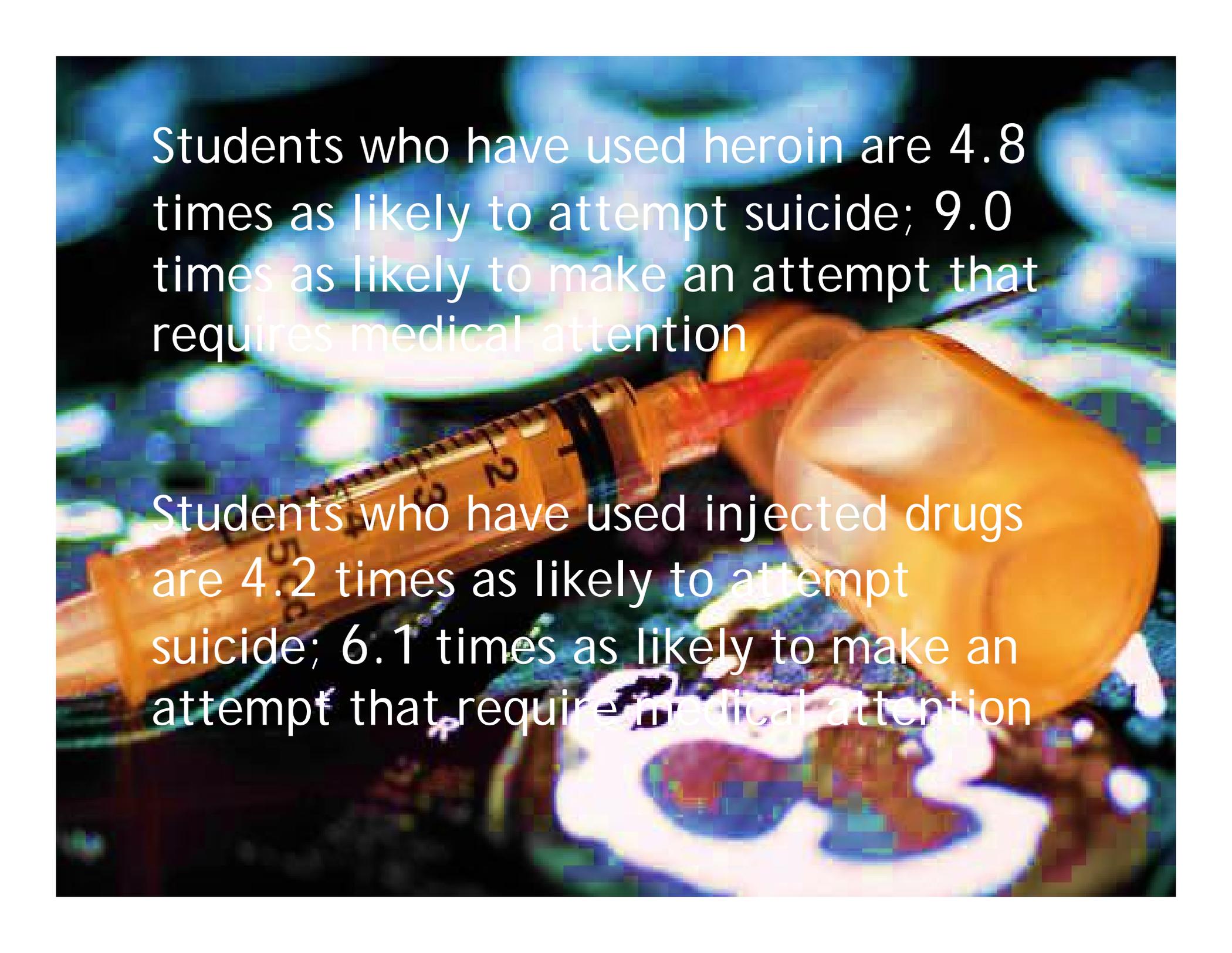
Students who used marijuana in the past 30 days are 2.7 times as likely to attempt suicide; 2.3 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students who used cocaine in the past 30 days are 3.4 times as likely to attempt suicide; 4.7 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention



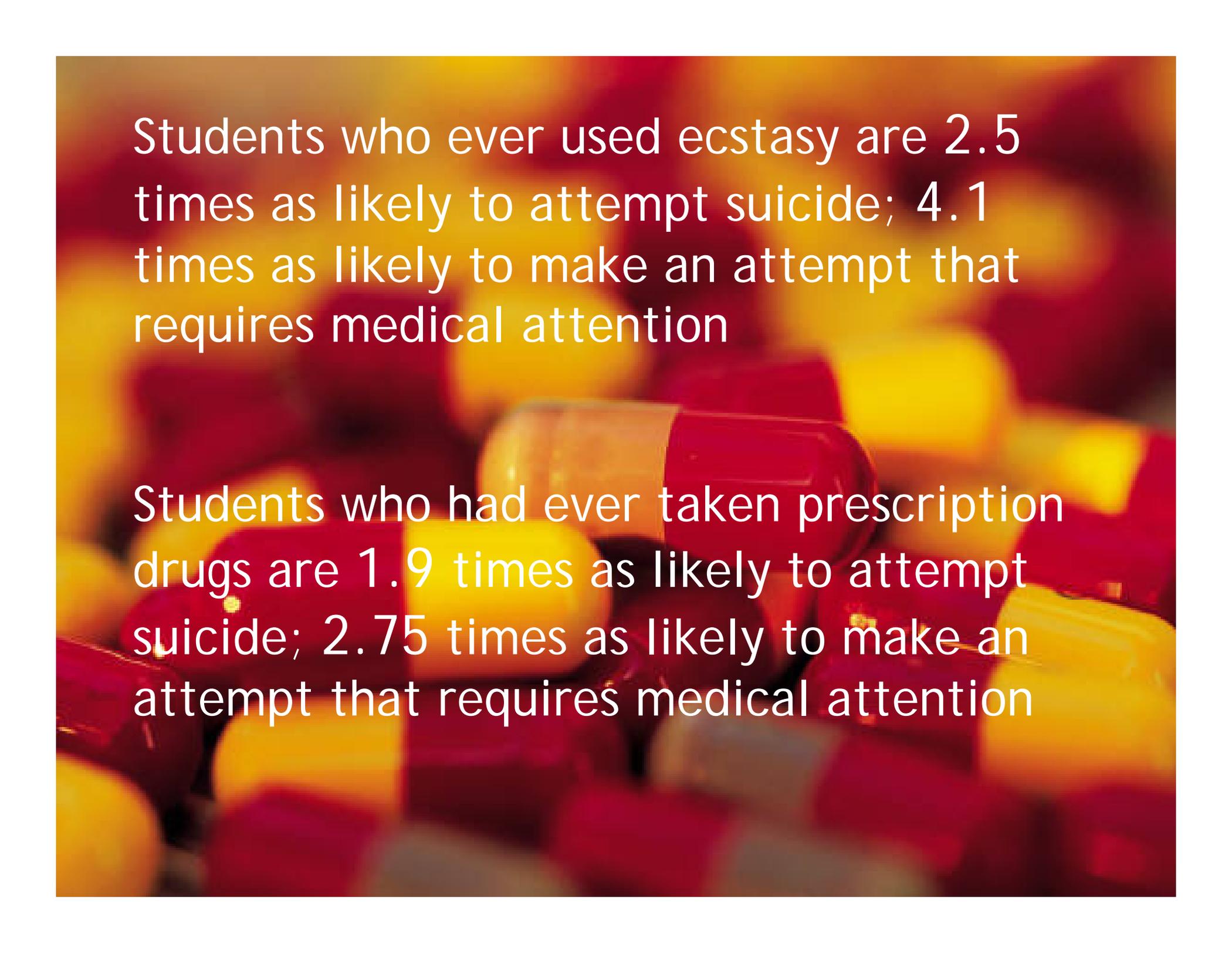
Students who ever used inhalants are 2.9 times as likely to attempt suicide; 3.8 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students who ever took methamphetamines are 3.8 times as likely to attempt suicide; 5.3 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

A medical syringe and a vial of orange liquid are shown on a dark surface. The syringe is in the foreground, and the vial is behind it. The background is dark with some light spots.

Students who have used heroin are 4.8 times as likely to attempt suicide; 9.0 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

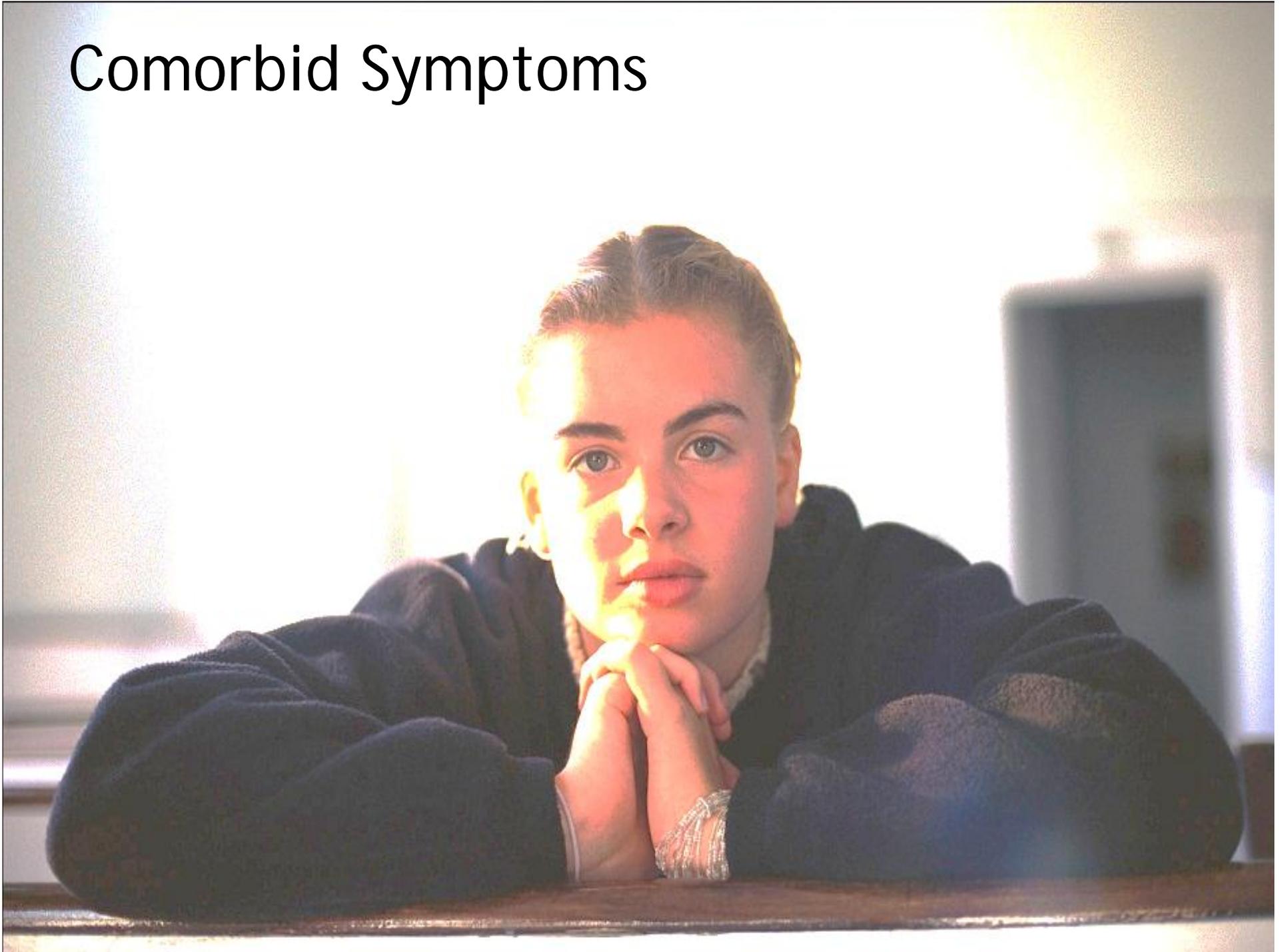
Students who have used injected drugs are 4.2 times as likely to attempt suicide; 6.1 times as likely to make an attempt that require medical attention

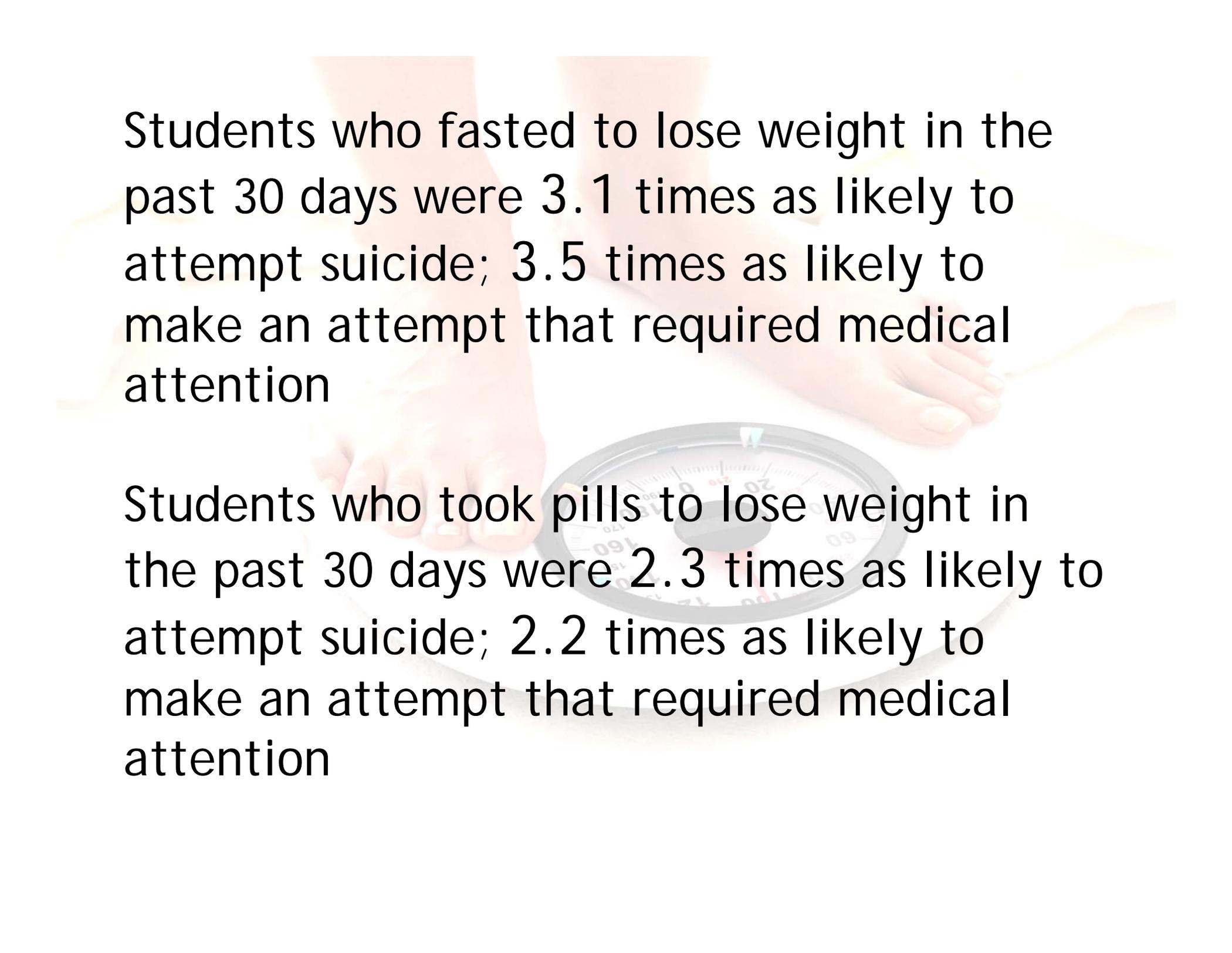


Students who ever used ecstasy are 2.5 times as likely to attempt suicide; 4.1 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Students who had ever taken prescription drugs are 1.9 times as likely to attempt suicide; 2.75 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

Comorbid Symptoms

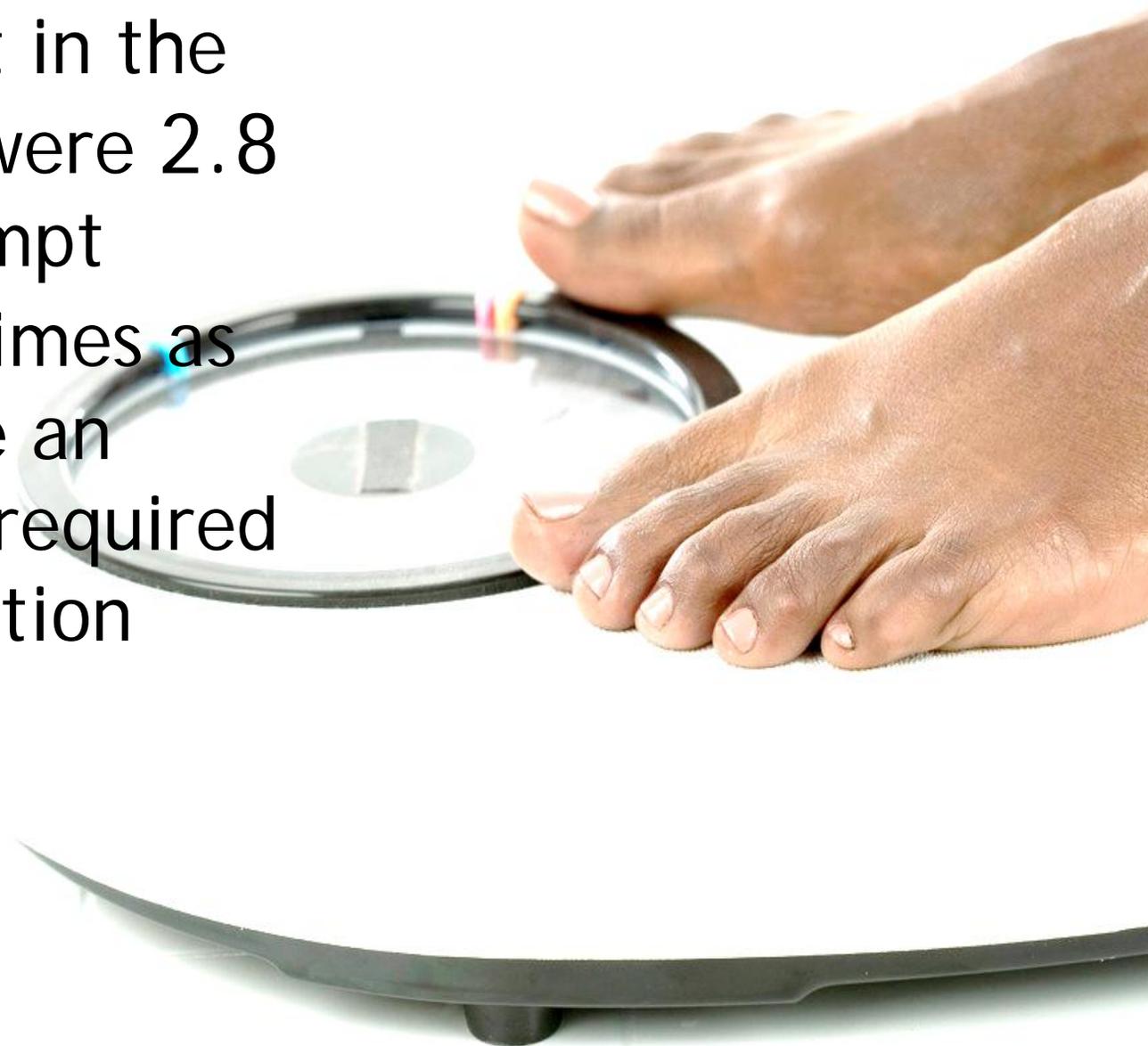


A background image showing a person's hands standing on a scale. The scale is a circular platform with a dial in the center. The dial has numbers ranging from 0 to 100, with a needle pointing to approximately 20. The person's hands are positioned on the scale, one on the left and one on the right. The background is a light, warm color, possibly a wall or a backdrop.

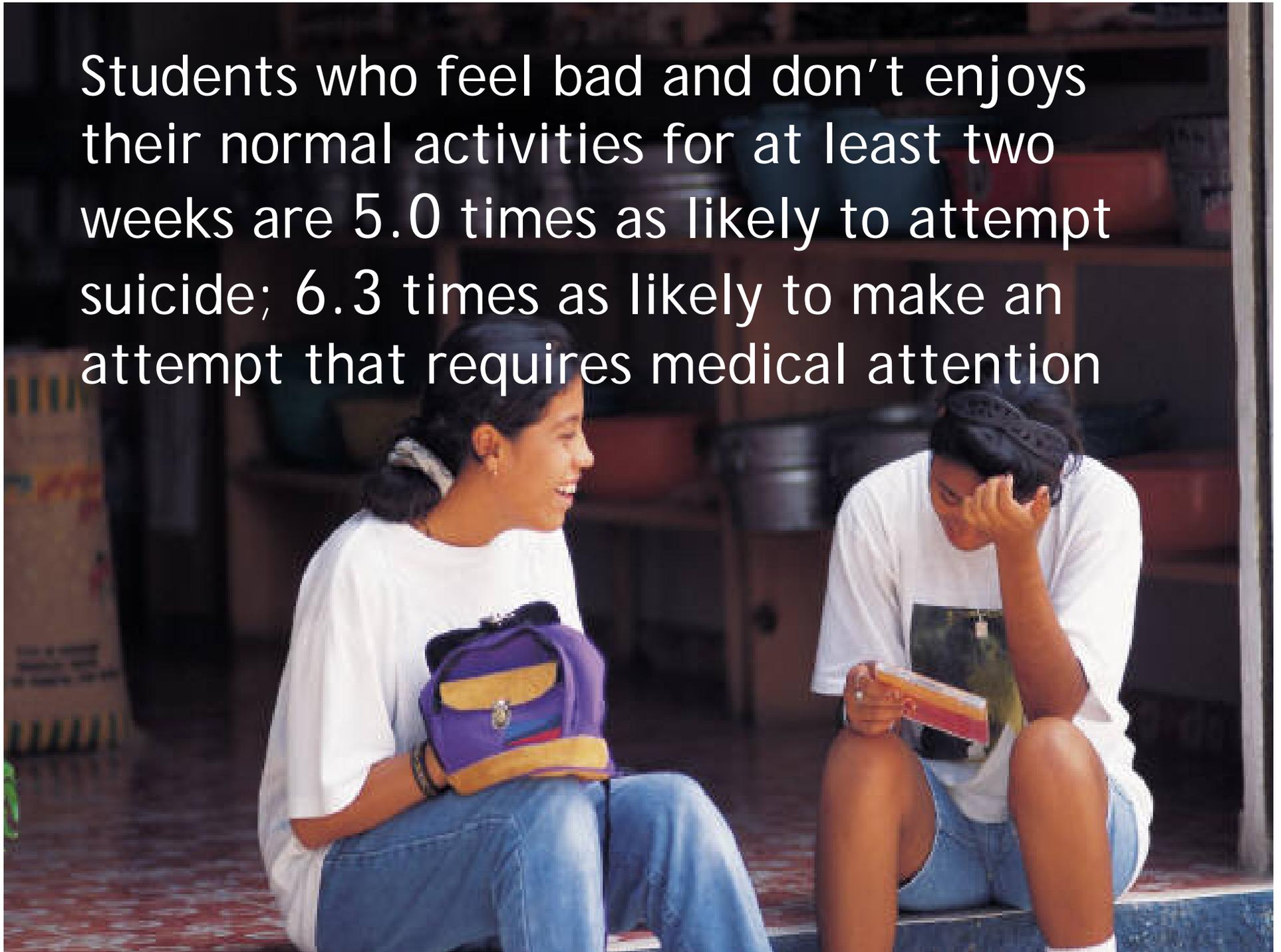
Students who fasted to lose weight in the past 30 days were 3.1 times as likely to attempt suicide; 3.5 times as likely to make an attempt that required medical attention

Students who took pills to lose weight in the past 30 days were 2.3 times as likely to attempt suicide; 2.2 times as likely to make an attempt that required medical attention

Students who vomited to lose weight in the past 30 days were 2.8 times to attempt suicide; 5.2 times as likely to make an attempt that required medical attention

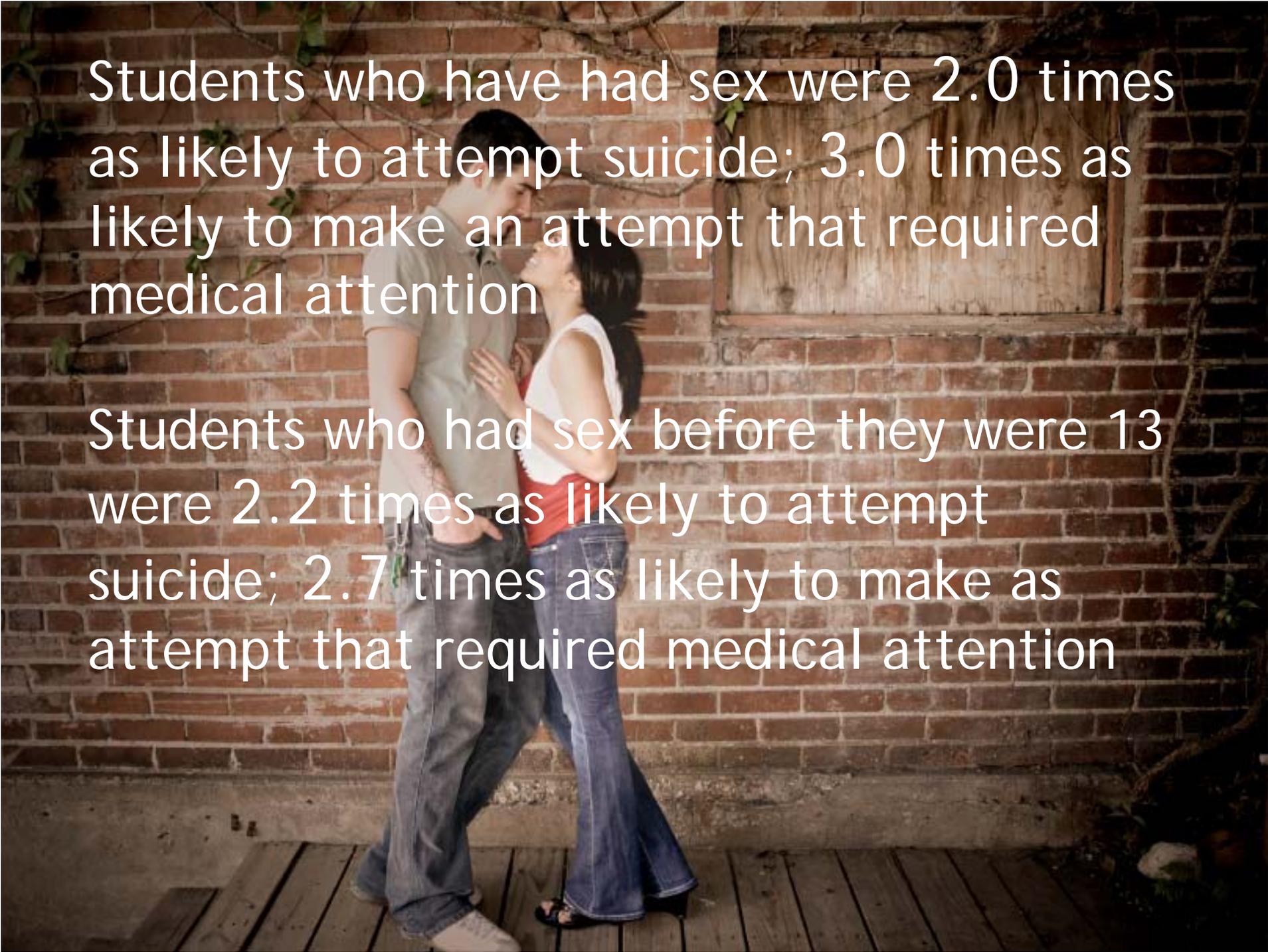


Students who feel bad and don't enjoy their normal activities for at least two weeks are 5.0 times as likely to attempt suicide; 6.3 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention



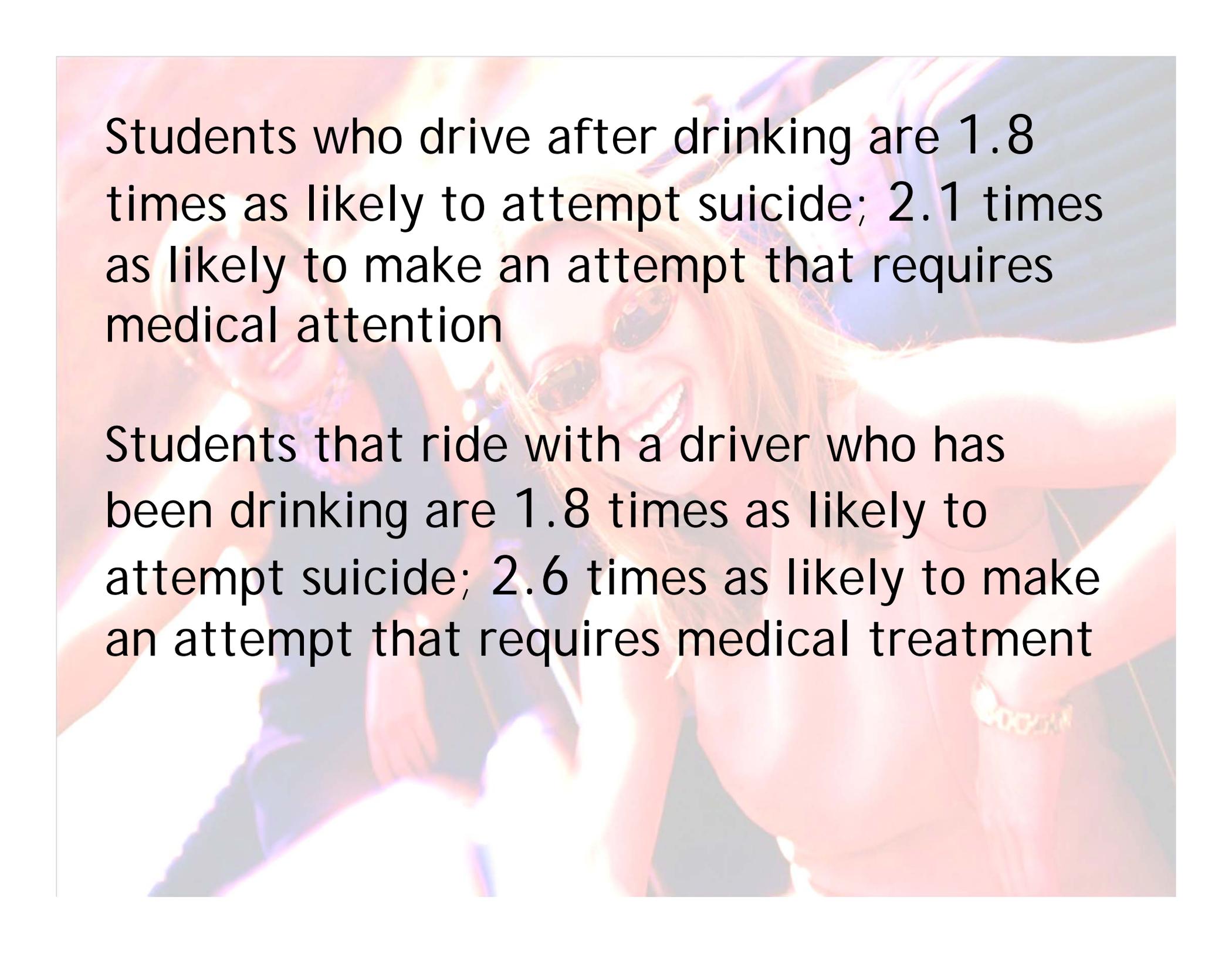
Other Risky Behaviors



A young man and woman are embracing in front of a brick wall. The man is wearing a light green polo shirt and blue jeans, and the woman is wearing a white sleeveless top and blue jeans. They are standing on a wooden deck. The background is a brick wall with a wooden door or window frame. The text is overlaid on the image in white.

Students who have had sex were 2.0 times as likely to attempt suicide; 3.0 times as likely to make an attempt that required medical attention

Students who had sex before they were 13 were 2.2 times as likely to attempt suicide; 2.7 times as likely to make an attempt that required medical attention

A group of young women are shown in a social setting, likely a party or club. They are wearing sunglasses and holding drinks. The image is semi-transparent, allowing text to be overlaid. The text is in a black, sans-serif font and is positioned in the upper and middle sections of the image.

Students who drive after drinking are 1.8 times as likely to attempt suicide; 2.1 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

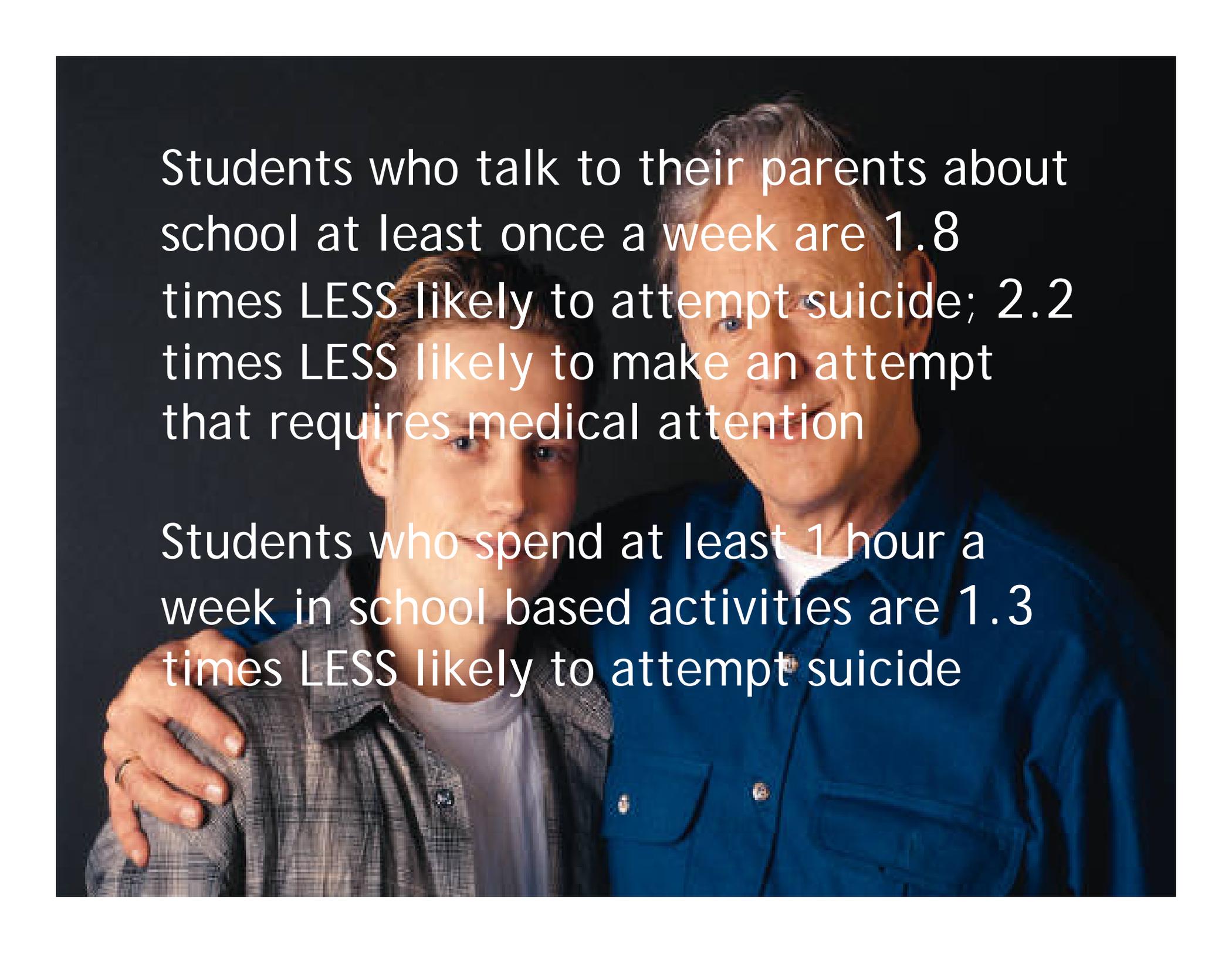
Students that ride with a driver who has been drinking are 1.8 times as likely to attempt suicide; 2.6 times as likely to make an attempt that requires medical treatment

Behaviors That Have No Effect



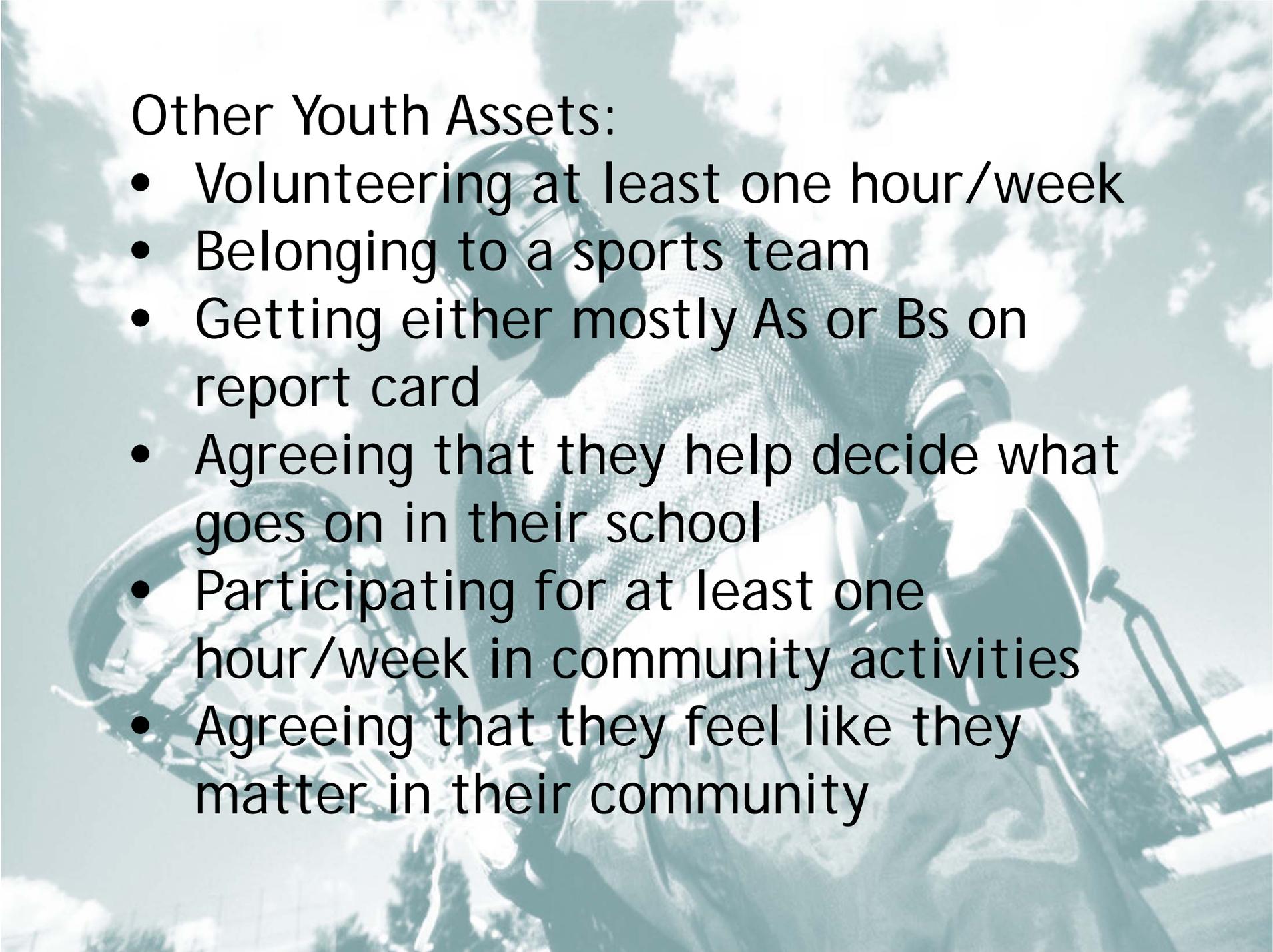
Youth Assets 





Students who talk to their parents about school at least once a week are 1.8 times LESS likely to attempt suicide; 2.2 times LESS likely to make an attempt that requires medical attention

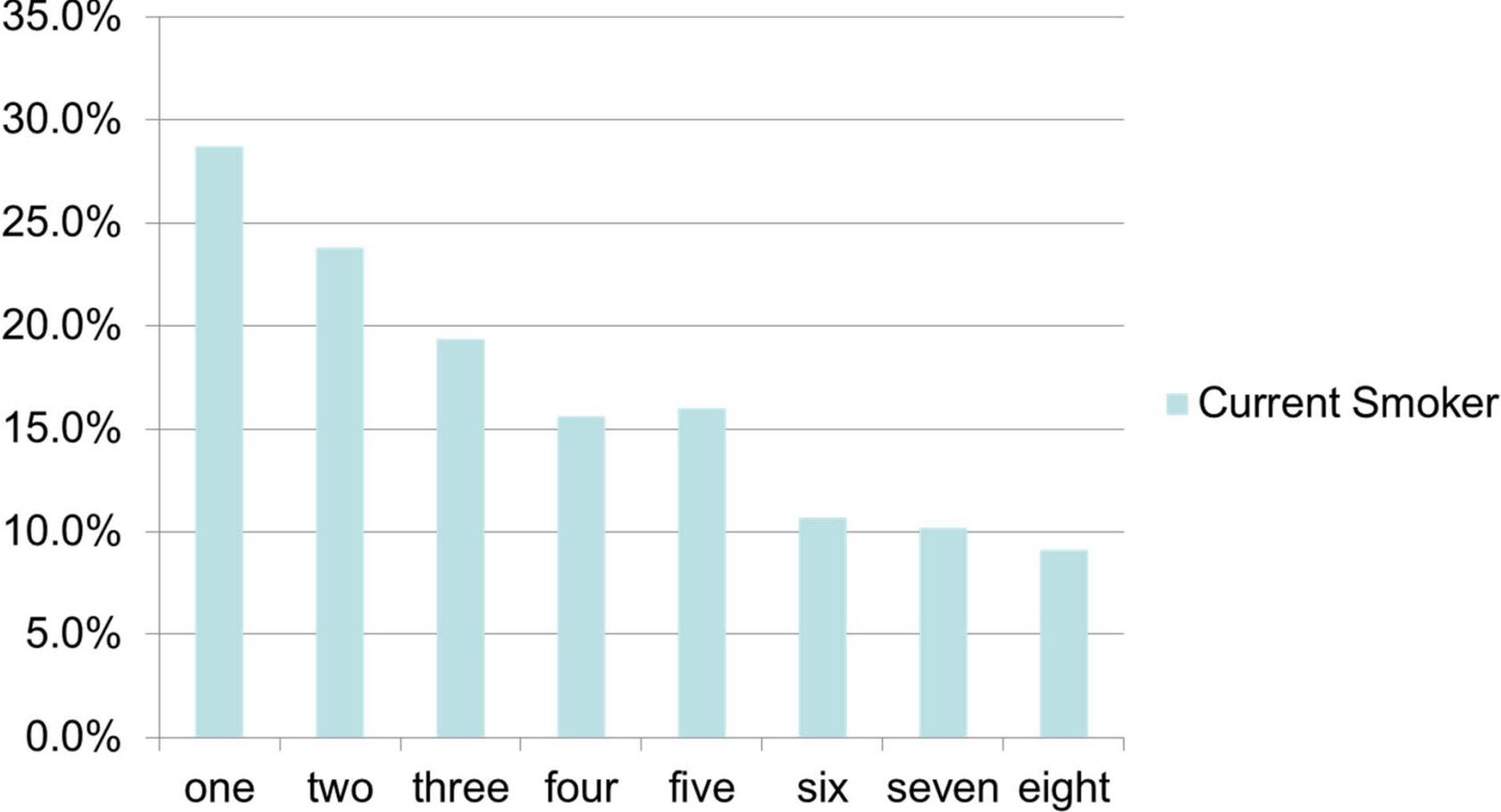
Students who spend at least 1 hour a week in school based activities are 1.3 times LESS likely to attempt suicide



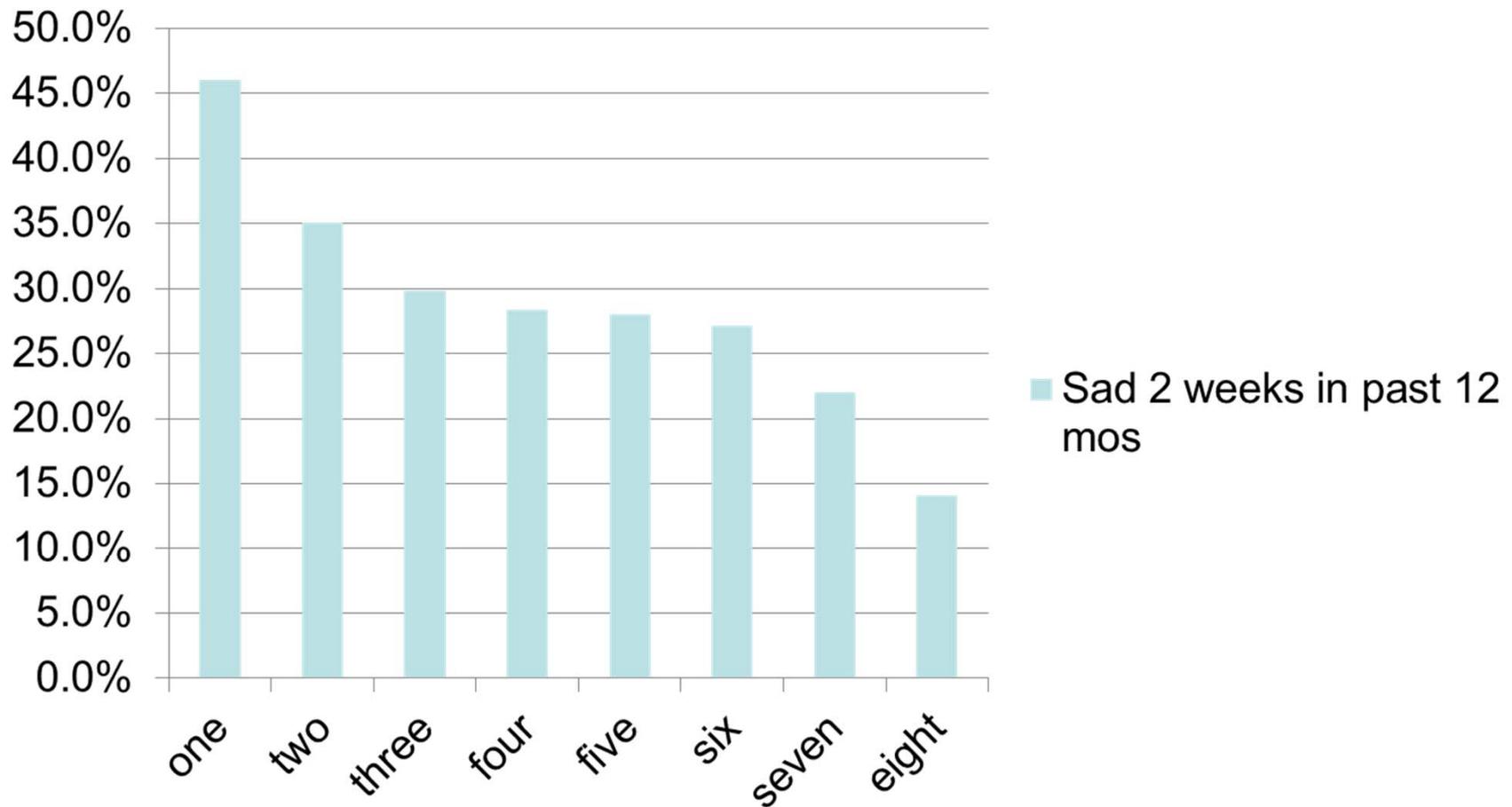
Other Youth Assets:

- Volunteering at least one hour/week
- Belonging to a sports team
- Getting either mostly As or Bs on report card
- Agreeing that they help decide what goes on in their school
- Participating for at least one hour/week in community activities
- Agreeing that they feel like they matter in their community

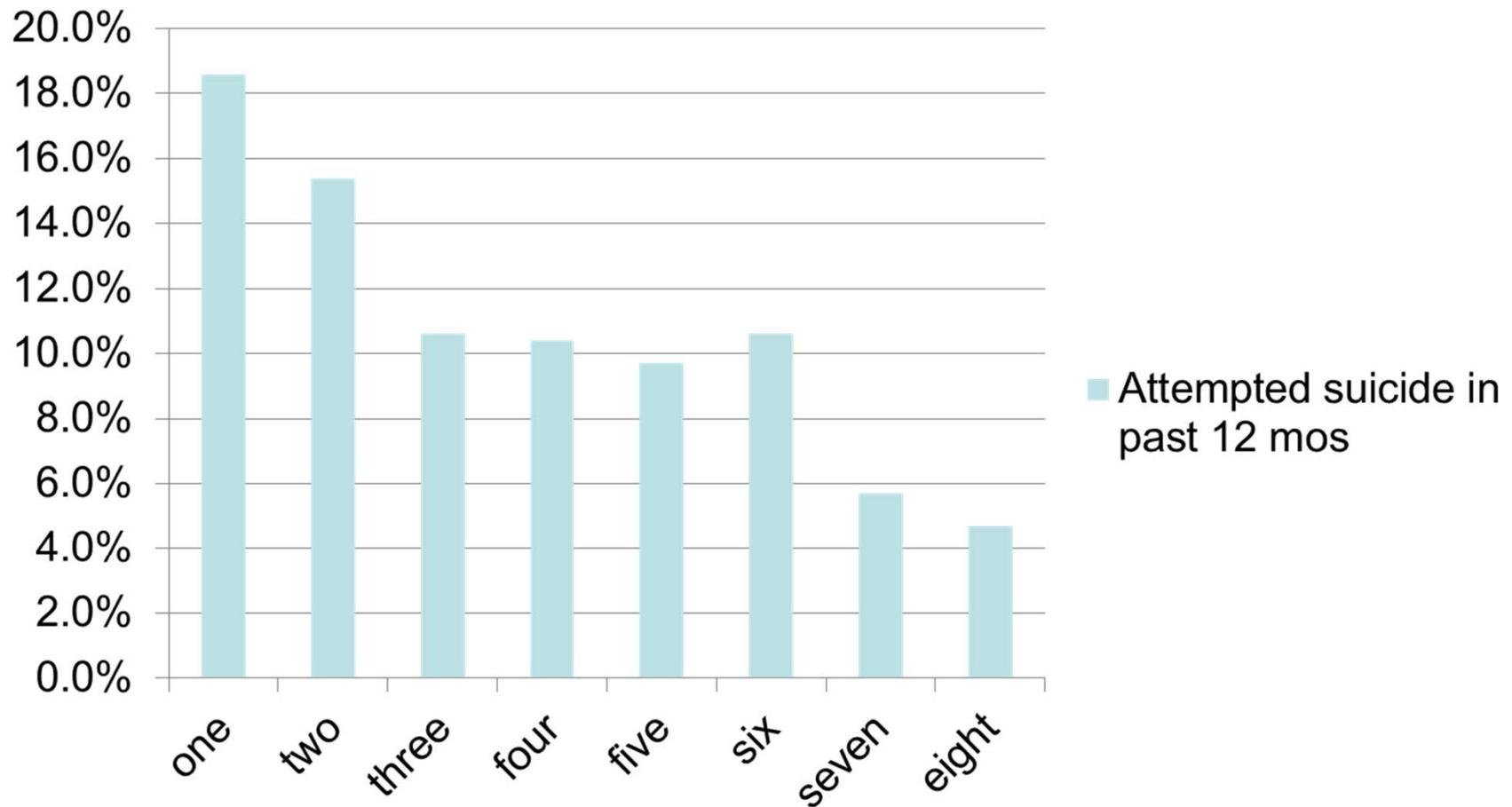
Current Smoker by Number of Assets



Symptoms of Depression by Number of Assets



Attempted Suicide in Past 12 months by Number of Assets



Questions?



For More Information:

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