

# Homing in on risk factors for suicide attempts

Based on survey results from more than **4,000 veterans**, VA researchers teased out factors that may help differentiate Veterans who **attempt suicide** from those who **think about suicide** but don't make an attempt.

**Younger age**

**Non-suicidal self-injury**

**Adverse childhood experiences**

**Alcohol use disorder**

**Lower income**

**Physical disability**



**Conclusion:** "Although a quarter of U.S. veterans contemplate suicide in their lifetimes, the majority do not attempt suicide. Specific sociodemographic and clinical features may differentiate veterans who contemplate versus attempt suicide."

From "[Differentiating U.S. military veterans who think about suicide from those who attempt suicide: A population-based study](#)," *General Hospital Psychiatry*, online Aug. 14, 2021. Infographic by VA Research Communications, September 2021. Photo for illustrative purposes only. © iStock Getty Images Plus/tommaso79.