

Youth Risk Behavior Survey: 2012 Administration

Waynesboro City Schools

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March 2012

Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Waynesboro City Schools

Report of the 2012 Administration

Executive Summary and Key Findings

The results of the 2012 administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey for Waynesboro City schools are presented in the following report. In January and February 2012, the survey was given to those Waynesboro City students who did not opt out. A total of 583 surveys were completed: 203 7th graders from Kate Collins Middle School and 380 students from Waynesboro High School (223 9th graders and 157 11th graders). Two students in the sample attend the Genesis alternative program and are included in the totals that were just presented.

Number of students who opted out of the survey was not available. As of February 1, 2012, there were 220 7th graders; this yields a response rate of 92%. Waynesboro High School had a total of 405 9th and 11th graders on that date; this results in a response rate for our survey of 94%.

The results show the differences among students in grades 7, 9 and 11 for this year's administration; for select items, results by gender are displayed.

The reader is cautioned to interpret all data carefully; the quality of self-report data is compromised by differences in student effort, perseverance, reading ability, memory and compliance.

Some key findings from this survey include:

- The percentage of students not having enough to eat has leveled off since 2008 with about 16% of respondents continuing to have this concern.
- About 70% of students have seen a dentist in the past year.
- Compared to cigarettes, chewing tobacco use is relatively low: about 7% of this recent sample report using in the past 30 days, as compared to 23% reporting cigarette use in the same time period.
- The perceived ease of securing cigarettes, alcohol and street drugs increases with grade level, which is consistent with 2008 and 2010 findings.
- Reports of binge drinking in the past month are five times as high for 9th graders compared to 7th graders (20% vs. 4%).

Waynesboro YRBS

- For parental approval questions, as age of student increases, perception that parents would think behavior (smoking, alcohol use, marijuana use) is “very wrong” decreases. For all three substances, a low percentage of respondents indicated that their parents would regard their children’s usage as “Not at all wrong.”
- Students in middle school report wearing helmets more than high school students. By activity, riders of motorcycles use helmets more often than riders of bicycles or skateboards. (Helmet use for motorcyclists is a state law.)
- Seat belt use is highest for 7th graders, and there is a noticeable increase from past surveys in the proportion of students in any grade who “always” wear their seat belts.
- About 6% of students reported missing a day of school in the preceding month due to feeling unsafe.
- On school grounds, about 26% of students have experienced vandalism of their personal property in the past year.
- The proportion of 9th graders indicating they have seriously considered committing suicide is much higher than for the other grades (22%, vs. 15%). This group also reports the highest suicide attempt rate (13% of those who considered it actually attempted, vs. 3% for the other grades).
- More 7th graders than 11th graders (59% vs. 28% of sexually active students) report never using birth control. Nearly half of 9th and 11th graders use birth control every time, compared to less than a third of 7th graders.
- Almost half of 11th grade respondents report using a cell phone for 5 or more hours per day.

Methodology

In the fall of 2011, a core workgroup consisting of representatives from area agencies, came together to review the survey instrument and discuss the logistics of gathering data. A few small changes were made to the survey. An additional item related to family members' involvement in gangs was added. Also, a branching error from the last administration was remedied. As with the 2010 administration, a single form of the survey was employed at both the middle school and high school.

The final version of the survey had 84 questions; however, as described in further detail below, some students did not have to answer every survey item.

In December 2011, letters regarding the Youth Risk Behavior Survey were sent home with Waynesboro City Schools' 7th, 9th and 11th grade students. Parents who did not wish to have their children participate in the survey were requested to return opt-out forms before the winter break. Survey administration took place at both schools (Kate Collins Middle School and Waynesboro High School) January 26-February 8, 2012.

Volunteer proctors were solicited at a Regional Partners in Prevention Services meeting. The Central Shenandoah Valley Office on Youth coordinated administration of the survey.

For the second time, surveys were administered on computers using Qualtrics ®. A benefit offered by utilizing an electronic survey is that questions can be eliminated from a respondent's survey based on his/her previous answers. For example, if a student answers that he/she had never smoked a cigarette, none of the questions that would normally follow regarding numbers of cigarettes smoked, age at first use, etc., are administered.

Approximately five students took the survey in an alternative format due to individual learning styles. These individuals took the test in paper/pencil format. Unlike the electronic version, we had no way to enforce they answered each survey item. Therefore, in some places in the survey the reader may note that the *n* for that item does not match the total *N* of students taking the survey. The discrepancy is simply due to the fact that some individuals chose not to answer that item or inadvertently skipped it.

Prior to creating tables and interpreting data, the dataset was cleaned in an effort to reduce error and to foster comparisons with greater validity. For the items asking about which grade the student was in, there were answer options for 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grades. None of the students in the sample should have been in any grades except 7th, 9th and 11th. Taking into consideration the reported age, a total of 12 respondents were recoded into another grade. Even though this involved subjective judgment, prone to error, it eliminates the presence of out-of-category data throughout the report.

Final sample sizes for the middle-school and high-school groups, respectively, were *N*=203 (Kate Collins MS) and *N*=380 (Waynesboro HS; 203 9th graders and 157 11th graders).

Waynesboro YRBS

Waynesboro students who took the survey at Genesis Alternative School ($N=2$) are included in the above totals for their respective grades.

Student confidentiality and anonymity were maintained at all times throughout the administration of the YRBS. At no time were students asked their names in person or on the survey form.

Reading this report

The results are presented in groupings of similar items. Each grouping is preceded by a descriptive title. The number to the left of the question is an indication of its order on the survey instrument.

Items marked with an asterisk (*) to the left of the item number were branched from a previous question based on responses. For example, if a student indicated in item 20 that he/she had been in a physical fight in the past 12 months, then he/she would be presented with additional questions about the nature of the fight(s). The students who were not in fights would be skipped to other questions not pertaining to fights.

For survey items that were not presented to all students because of the branching design, the numbers of students endorsing each response is provided in the corresponding table. However, depending on the nature of the question, the percentages in the column to the right of these frequencies may convey information in relation to the entire grade level, instead of just for that question's respondents. The tables are clearly marked with information about what the percentages reflect.

Due to rounding, column percentages may not equal exactly 100%.

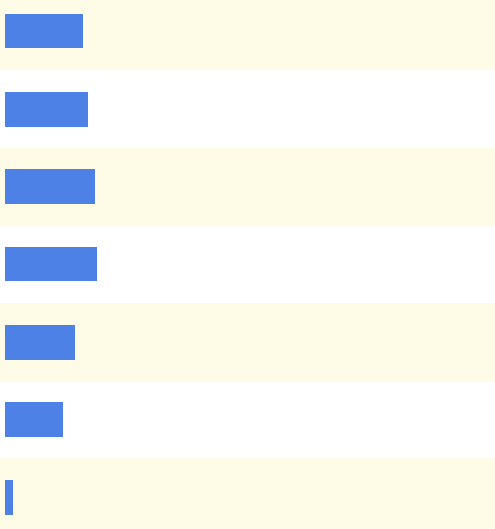
Citing this report

Please use the following citation when referring to this report in presentations, proposals, or subsequent studies

Thelk, A. D. (2012). *Report of the 2012 Administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Waynesboro (VA) City Schools*. Waynesboro, VA: Central Shenandoah Valley Office on Youth.

Demographic Items

1. How old are you?

Answer		Response	%
12 years old or younger		95	16%
13 years old		101	17%
14 years old		109	19%
15 years old		112	19%
16 years old		86	15%
17 years old		70	12%
18 years old or older		10	2%
Total		583	100%

The median and mode age for this sample is 15 years old.

As seen in the chart below, ages reported logically correspond to grade levels.

Answer	7th grade	9th grade	11th grade
12 years old or younger	95	0	0
13 years old	100	1	0
14 years old	8	101	0
15 years old	0	112	0
16 years old	0	8	78
17 years old	0	0	70
18 years old or older	0	1	9
Total	203	223	157

2. What is your gender?

Answer	Response	%
Male	283	49%
Female	300	51%
Total	583	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Male	97	48%	107	48%	79	50%
Female	106	52%	116	52%	78	50%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Gender is evenly distributed across the entire group as well as within grades.

3. In what grade are you?

Answer	Response	%
7th grade	203	35%
9th grade	223	38%
11th grade	157	27%
Total	583	100%

In the actual survey item, there were answer options for 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grades. None of the students in the sample should have been in any grades except 7th, 9th and 11th. Taking into consideration the reported age, 12 respondents were recoded. This eliminated out-of-category data throughout the report.

4. How do you describe yourself?

Answer	Response	%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	12	2%
Asian	9	1%
Black or African American	108	19%
Hispanic or Latino	59	10%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	4	1%
White	345	59%
Other	46	8%
Total	583	100%

Answer	7th grade	9th grade	11th grade
American Indian or Alaskan Native	6	3	3
Asian	4	1	4
Black or African American	36	34	38
Hispanic or Latino	20	20	19
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	1	1
White	121	143	81
Other	14	21	11
Total	203	223	157

5. In the home where you spend the most time, who are the adults who are most responsible for you?

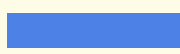




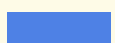
Answer	Response	%
Mother AND Father	281	52%
Mother	212	30%
Father	40	8%
Grandparent(s)	26	5%
Foster parent(s)	0	1%
Step parent(s)	1	0%
Other relative(s)	11	2%
Other	12	3%
Total	583	100%

Waynesboro YRBS

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Mother AND Father	101	50%	115	52%	65	41%
Mother	75	37%	79	35%	58	37%
Father	14	7%	12	5%	14	9%
Grandparent(s)	9	4%	8	4%	9	6%
Foster parent(s)	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Step parent(s)	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%
Other relative(s)	1	1%	4	2%	6	4%
Other	2	1%	5	2%	5	3%
Total	203	101%	223	100%	157	100%

Responses are mostly consistent across grade levels, with the exception of a 10% decrease in number of responses of Mother AND Father for the 11th graders. This change could be due to fewer parents being together for students in that cohort.

8. Who/what most influences your decisions and behavior?

Answer		Response	%
Family		237	41%
Friends and peers		146	25%
School teachers/ counselors/ nurses		2	0%
Religious leaders		14	2%
TV/ newspaper/ magazine		9	2%
Other		36	6%
Not sure		139	24%
Total		583	100%

Waynesboro YRBS

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Family	87	43%	88	39%	62	39%
Friends and peers	48	24%	49	22%	49	31%
School teachers/ counselors/ nurses	1	0%	1	0%	0	0%
Religious leaders	4	2%	7	3%	3	2%
TV/ newspaper/ magazine	3	1%	0	0%	6	4%
Other	9	4%	18	8%	9	6%
Not sure	51	25%	60	27%	28	18%
Total	203	99%	223	99%	157	100%

The top two responses were “Family” and “Friends and peers.” When viewed across grade levels, influence of friends increases 9% from 9th to 11th grades. In the past, influence of family decreased as grade level increased, but this does not seem to hold with this data, especially in the 11th graders. See table below for more information about how this variable has played out in previous years.

Waynesboro YRBS

Response	2006			2008			2010			2012		
	7th	9th	11th	7th	9th	11th	7th	9th	11th	7th	9th	11th
Family	33%	30%	34%	54%	29%	27%	34%	37%	32%	43%	39%	39%
Friends/ peers	29%	29%	31%	15%	33%	36%	23%	31%	32%	24%	22%	31%
School teachers/ Counselors/ Nurses	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Religious leaders	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	3%	2%
TV/ Newspapers / Magazines	1%	0%	0%	2%	1%	0%	3%	2%	2%	1%	0%	4%
Other	5%	9%	11%	2%	10%	12%	8%	4%	14%	4%	8%	6%
Not sure	26%	27%	18%	22%	24%	19%	27%	24%	19%	25%	27%	18%

“Not sure” comprises a large proportion of responses across grades and administrations. This uncertainty decreases as grade increases.

Note: Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding, and from missing data in paper-pencil administrations (2006 and 2008).

Safety

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (<http://www.iihs.org/laws/HelmetUseCurrent.aspx>), in Virginia all motorcycle riders are required to wear a helmet, while there are no helmet laws for bicycle, skateboard and scooter riders. However, the City of Waynesboro has an ordinance that requires children under age 14 to wear a helmet when riding a bicycle within city limits. As items 9-11 suggest, fewer older riders wear helmets.

9. When you rode a motorcycle during the past 12 months, how often did you wear a helmet?

Answer	Response	%
I did not ride a motorcycle during the past 12 months	439	75%
Never wore a helmet	38	7%
Rarely wore a helmet	16	3%
Sometimes wore a helmet	11	2%
Most of the time wore a helmet	12	2%
Always wore a helmet	67	11%
Total	583	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not ride a motorcycle during the past 12 months	157	77%	159	71%	123	78%
Never wore a helmet	7	3%	18	8%	13	8%
Rarely wore a helmet	5	2%	9	4%	2	1%
Sometimes wore a helmet	6	3%	3	1%	2	1%
Most of the time wore a helmet	4	2%	6	3%	2	1%
Always wore a helmet	24	12%	28	13%	15	10%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	99%

Overall, 23-29% of students have ridden motorcycles in the past year. In 7th grade, 4 times as many motorcycles riders always wear helmets compared to never wearing helmets.

10. When you rode a bicycle/scooter during the past 12 months, how often did you wear a helmet?





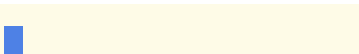
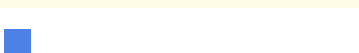
Answer	Response	%
I did not ride a bicycle or scooter during the past 12 months	174	30%
Never wore a helmet	268	46%
Rarely wore a helmet	41	7%
Sometimes wore a helmet	27	5%
Most of the time wore a helmet	30	5%
Always wore a helmet	43	7%
Total	583	100%

Over two-thirds of students who participated have ridden a bicycle in the past year. The proportion of bicycle riders decreases with grade level (see table below).

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not ride a bicycle or scooter during the past 12 months	37	18%	61	27%	76	48%
Never wore a helmet	82	40%	123	55%	63	40%
Rarely wore a helmet	24	12%	13	6%	4	3%
Sometimes wore a helmet	19	9%	4	2%	4	3%
Most of the time wore a helmet	15	7%	9	4%	6	4%
Always wore a helmet	26	13%	13	6%	4	3%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	101%

The proportion of bicycle riders who always wear helmets decreases with age: 13% of 7th graders, 6% of 9th graders and 3% of 11th graders regularly ride protected.

11. When you rode a skateboard during the past 12 months how often did you wear a helmet?

Answer		Response	%
I did not ride a skateboard during the past 12 months		380	65%
Never wore a helmet		163	28%
Rarely wore a helmet		14	2%
Sometimes wore a helmet		10	2%
Most of the time wore a helmet		5	1%
Always wore a helmet		11	2%
Total		583	100%

About one-third of respondents have ridden a skateboard in the past year.

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not ride a skateboard during the past 12 months	128	63%	141	63%	111	70%
Never wore a helmet	45	22%	76	34%	42	27%
Rarely wore a helmet	10	5%	3	1%	1	1%
Sometimes wore a helmet	6	3%	2	1%	2	1%
Most of the time wore a helmet	5	2%	0	0%	0	0%
Always wore a helmet	9	4%	1	0%	1	1%
Total	203	99%	223	99%	157	100%

Helmet use is very low among all three grade levels.

12. How often do you wear a seat belt when riding in a car?

Answer	Response	%
Never	24	4%
Rarely	32	5%
Sometimes	79	14%
Most of the time	152	26%
Always	296	51%
Total	583	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Never	0	0%	13	6%	11	7%
Rarely	10	5%	14	6%	8	5%
Sometimes	21	10%	33	15%	25	16%
Most of the time	55	27%	63	28%	34	22%
Always	117	57%	100	45%	79	50%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	100%

The 7th graders have the highest rate of routine (“Always”) seat belt use (57%, compared to 45% for 9th graders and 50% for 11th graders). Responses of “Always” have increased for all grade levels over the past four administrations.

Waynesboro YRBS

Response	7 th Grade				9 th Grade				11 th Grade			
	2006	2008	2010	2012	2006	2008	2010	2012	2006	2008	2010	2012
Never	10%	14%	3%	0%	4%	4%	3%	6%	2%	7%	4%	7%
Rarely	7%	11%	6%	5%	9%	10%	7%	6%	9%	5%	5%	5%
Sometimes	15%	15%	10%	10%	16%	18%	17%	15%	14%	11%	13%	16%
Most of the time	27%	20%	24%	27%	27%	34%	34%	28%	26%	29%	33%	22%
Always	40%	38%	57%	57%	44%	31%	39%	45%	48%	46%	46%	50%

According to Virginia state law, drivers and front-seat passengers under age 18 are required to wear a seat belt (http://www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/seatbelt_laws.html).

13. During the past 30 days, did you ride in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	79	14%
No	448	77%
Not Sure	56	10%
Total	583	101%

Waynesboro YRBS

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	16	8%	32	14%	31	20%
No	174	86%	163	73%	111	71%
Not Sure	13	6%	28	13%	15	10%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	101%

Occurrence of riding with a drunk driver increases with grade level; potentially this is due to increased opportunity to drive, as students in high school and their friends are more likely to have driver’s licenses as compared to middle-school students in the sample.

14. During the past 30 days, did you drive a car or other vehicle when you had been drinking alcohol?

Answer	Response	%
Yes	34	6%
No	549	94%
Total	583	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	6	3%	10	4%	18	11%
No	197	97%	213	96%	139	88%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

It is difficult to interpret the “Yes” responses for the 7th and 9th grades, since they are not likely to be licensed drivers, and the minimum driving age in Virginia is 16 years 3 months (<http://www.dmvnow.com/webdoc/citizen/drivers/applying.asp>). Nonetheless, 11% of 11th graders report driving under the influence.

Violence

6. Have you ever been intentionally hurt by someone in your home?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	28	14%	37	17%	31	20%
No	175	86%	186	83%	126	80%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Number of students who have been hurt at home increases with grade level.

7. Are you afraid of being harmed by someone in your home?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
No, I am not	182	93%	206	92%	144	92%
Yes, by my mother	3	1%	3	1%	1	1%
Yes, by my father	5	2%	7	3%	2	1%
Yes, by both my mother and father	3	1%	0	0%	2	1%
Yes, by someone else in my home	8	4%	7	3%	8	5%
Total	201	101%	223	99%	157	100%

The proportion of respondents endorsing each option remains about the same across grades.

15. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a gun or knife for self-protection or to use as a weapon?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 days	183	90%	179	80%	131	83%
1 day	6	3%	6	2%	4	3%
2 or 3 days	6	3%	9	4%	2	1%
4 or 5 days	3	1%	3	1%	1	1%
6 or more days	5	2%	26	12%	19	12%
Total	203	100%	223	99%	157	100%

Of the 9th and 11th grade weapon-carrying respondents, most carried a gun or knife on at least 6 days in the past month, suggesting the behavior may be habitual for some.

***16. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun or knife on school property?**

(This item was presented to 20 7th graders, 44 9th graders and 26 11th graders based on responses from question 15.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
1 day	2	1%	4	2%	1	1%
2 or 3 days	0	0%	4	2%	2	1%
4 or 5 days	1	1%	2	0%	4	3%
6 or more days	0	0%	6	3%	9	6%
Total	3	2%	16	7%	16	11%

As grade level increases, those who carry guns or knives are more likely to do so on school property. Note an increase in 11th graders who carried a weapon on school property 6 or more days in 2012 compared to 2010.

Waynesboro YRBS

Response	7 th Grade		9 th Grade		11 th Grade	
	2010	2012	2010	2012	2010	2012
1 day	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%
2 or 3 days	0%	0%	1%	2%	1%	1%
4 or 5 days	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%	6%
6 or more days	2%	0%	4%	3%	3%	11%

17. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you not go to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 days	183	91%	214	96%	147	94%
1 day	7	3%	5	2%	3	2%
2 or 3 days	5	2%	2	1%	2	1%
4 or 5 days	2	1%	0	0%	0	0%
6 or more days	5	2%	2	1%	5	3%
Total	202	99%	223	100%	157	100%

18. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone threatened or injured you with a weapon such as a gun or knife on school property?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	186	92%	202	91%	143	91%
1 time	12	6%	8	4%	5	3%
2 or 3 times	5	2%	9	4%	3	2%
4 or 5 times	0	0%	1	0%	2	1%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
10 or more times	0	0%	3	1%	4	3%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

About 9% of students have experienced being threatened with a weapon while on school property, up from 5% in 2010. No major differences across grade levels are evident.

19. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone stolen or deliberately damaged your property such as your car, clothing, or books on school property?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	147	72%	166	74%	119	76%
1 time	26	13%	27	12%	17	11%
2 or 3 times	17	8%	20	9%	10	6%
4 or 5 times	4	2%	3	1%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	2	1%	2	1%	4	3%
10 or more times	7	3%	5	2%	6	4%
Total	203	99%	223	99%	157	101%

Incidence of damage to personal property on school grounds is about the same across grade levels. About a quarter of students have experienced vandalism of their personal property in the past year.

20. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	132	65%	155	70%	111	71%
1 time	33	16%	25	11%	19	12%
2 or 3 times	17	8%	25	11%	15	10%
4 or 5 times	10	5%	11	5%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	6	3%	2	1%	3	2%
10 or more times	4	2%	5	2%	8	5%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	101%

***21. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight in which you were injured and treated by a doctor or nurse?**

(This item was presented to 71 7th graders, 68 9th graders and 46 11th graders based on responses from question 20.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
0 times	59	29%	59	26%	40	25%
1 time	12	6%	7	3%	1	1%
2 or 3 times	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%
4 or 5 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
10 or more times	0	0%	0	0%	3	2%
Total	71	35%	68	30%	46	29%

***22. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight on school property?**

(This item was presented to 71 7th graders, 68 9th graders and 46 11th graders based on responses from question 20.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
0 times	40	20%	39	17%	28	18%
1 time	20	10%	15	7%	6	4%
2 or 3 times	6	3%	9	4%	5	3%
4 or 5 times	1	0%	3	1%	3	2%
6 to 9 times	3	1%	1	0%	0	0%
10 or more times	1	0%	1	0%	4	3%
Total	71	34%	68	29%	46	30%

***23. The last time you were in a physical fight, with whom did you fight?**

(This item was presented to 71 7th graders, 68 9th graders and 46 11th graders based on responses from question 20.)

Answer	7th grade	% of branched sample of 7 th graders	9th grade	% of branched sample of 9 th graders	11th grade	% of branched sample of 11 th graders
A total stranger	4	6%	4	6%	7	15%
A friend or someone I know	38	54%	25	37%	15	33%
A boyfriend, girlfriend, or date	2	3%	2	3%	3	7%
A parent, brother, sister, or other family member	8	11%	7	10%	8	17%
Someone not listed above	12	17%	14	21%	8	17%
More than one of the persons listed above	7	10%	16	24%	5	11%
Total	71	101%	68	101%	46	100%

The majority of fights happen with friends/acquaintances, followed by someone not listed above, and then family members. 11th graders are more likely to fight with strangers than 7th and 9th graders are.

24. During the past 12 months, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	5	2%	21	9%	27	17%
No	198	98%	202	91%	130	83%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Increase in Yes responses as grade level increases.

25. Have you ever been forced to have sex when you did not want to?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	2	1%	17	8%	17	11%
No	201	99%	206	92%	140	89%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Note an increase in Yes responses across grades. As indicated in a later question (question 66), 29 7th graders, 89 9th graders and 98 11th graders indicated that they have had sex. Considering that 2 out of 29 sexually active 7th graders, 17/89 9th graders and 17/98 11th graders answered the above item in the affirmative, further investigation may be warranted.

26. During the past 12 months, have you been a member of a gang?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	13	6%	12	5%	12	8%
No	190	94%	211	95%	145	92%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

These values reflect a slight increase since 2010.

Response	7 th Grade		9 th Grade		11 th Grade	
	2010	2012	2010	2012	2010	2012
Yes	4%	6%	4%	5%	5%	8%
No	96%	94%	96%	95%	95%	92%

27. Do you know any gang members?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	59	29%	118	53%	68	43%
No	143	71%	105	47%	89	57%
Total	202	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Note the sizable (24%) jump in Yes responses from 7th to 9th grade. This was found in the 2010 results as well (15% increase in 2010).

28. Do any of the students in your school belong to a gang?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	27	13%	90	40%	69	44%
No	27	13%	20	9%	8	5%
I don't know	149	73%	113	51%	80	51%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	100%

High school students express greater certainty that there are gang members in their school than middle school students do.

29. Are any of your family members involved in a gang?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	10	5%	25	11%	27	17%
No	120	59%	162	73%	118	75%
I don't know	72	36%	36	16%	12	8%
Total	202	100%	223	100%	157	100%

More 11th graders believe one or more of their family members are involved in a gang. This may be due to a true difference among groups or the possibility that 11th graders have greater awareness and understanding about behaviors that suggest gang involvement.

30. Have you ever been approached to join a gang?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	20	10%	37	17%	24	15%
No	183	90%	186	83%	133	85%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Depression

31. 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?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	56	28%	81	36%	46	29%
No	147	72%	142	64%	111	71%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Feelings of sadness seem to occur more often for high school students in our sample. The 2012 data mirror the 2010 findings for 7th and 11th graders; an increase for 9th graders over previous findings can be noted (see below).

Response	7 th Grade			9 th Grade				11 th Grade			
	2008	2010	2012	2006	2008	2010	2012	2006	2008	2010	2012
Yes	40%	27%	28%	30%	25%	30%	36%	37%	34%	29%	29%
No	57%	73%	72%	70%	69%	70%	64%	60%	64%	71%	71%

Note: 2006 and 2008 utilized paper forms of the survey; missing data results in columns not totaling 100%.

32. During the past 12 months, did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	31	15%	48	22%	24	15%
No	171	85%	175	78%	133	85%
Total	202	100%	223	100%	157	100%

Suicidal ideations are highest for 9th graders; this is consistent with 2010 results.

Response	7 th Grade		9 th Grade		11 th Grade	
	2010	2012	2010	2012	2010	2012
Yes	12%	15%	20%	22%	11%	15%
No	88%	85%	80%	78%	89%	85%

***33. During the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?**

This item was presented to 22 7th graders, 22 9th graders and 27 11th graders based on responses from question 32.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
1 time	6	3%	8	4%	4	3%
2 or 3 times	7	3%	13	6%	4	3%
4 or 5 times	2	1%	4	2%	2	1%
6 or more times	2	1%	2	1%	6	4%
Total	17	8%	27	13%	16	11%

Proportion of multiple suicide attempts increases with grade level. Note an increase in actual suicide attempts in 7th and 11th graders since 2010.

Response	7th		9th		11th	
	2010	2012	2010	2012	2010	2012
1 time	2%	3%	3%	4%	2%	3%
2 or 3 times	3%	3%	5%	6%	0%	3%
4 or 5 times	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%
6 or more times	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%	4%
Total	6%	8%	12%	13%	4%	11%

***34. The last time you seriously considered attempting suicide, with whom did you talk to this about?**

This item was presented to 22 7th graders, 22 9th graders and 27 11th graders based on responses from question 31).

Answer	7th grade	% of branched sample of 7 th graders	9th grade	% of branched sample of 9 th graders	11th grade	% of branched sample of 11 th graders
I did not talk to anyone	18	56%	25	52%	16	67%
A friend, boyfriend, or girlfriend	10	31%	11	23%	4	17%
A parent, brother, sister or other family member	0	0%	4	8%	1	4%
A school counselor	3	9%	0	0%	0	0%
Someone not listed above	1	3%	2	4%	2	8%
More than one of the people listed above	0	0%	6	13%	1	4%
Total	32	99%	48	100%	24	100%

For those who turned to someone for help, they most often went to friends. High school students do not perceive the school counselor to be a resource when struggling with suicidal thoughts.

***35. Have you ever sought counseling, or any other service, when you felt so depressed that you seriously considered suicide?**

This item was presented to 33 7th graders, 48 9th graders and 24 11th graders based on responses from question 32).

Answer	7th grade	% of branched sample of 7 th graders	9th grade	% of branched sample of 9 th graders	11th grade	% of branched sample of 11 th graders
Yes	11	33%	14	29%	9	38%
No	22	67%	34	71%	15	63%
Total	33	100%	48	100%	24	101%

Students in 11th grade are most likely to seek counseling, followed by 9th grade, and then by 7th grade. The above figures show no change from 2010 results.

Initial Substance Use

36. How old were you when you first smoked a cigarette, even just a few puffs?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I have never smoked	152	75%	136	61%	98	62%
9 years old or younger	18	9%	29	13%	9	6%
10 years old	9	4%	10	4%	9	6%
11 years old	9	4%	8	4%	9	6%
12 years old	11	5%	10	4%	4	3%
13 years old	3	1%	18	8%	5	3%
14 years old	1	0%	8	4%	10	6%
15 years old	0	0%	4	2%	7	4%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	4	3%
17 years old	0	0%	0	0%	2	1%
18 years old or older	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	203	98%	223	100%	157	100%

44. How old were you when you had your first drink of alcohol, other than a few sips?

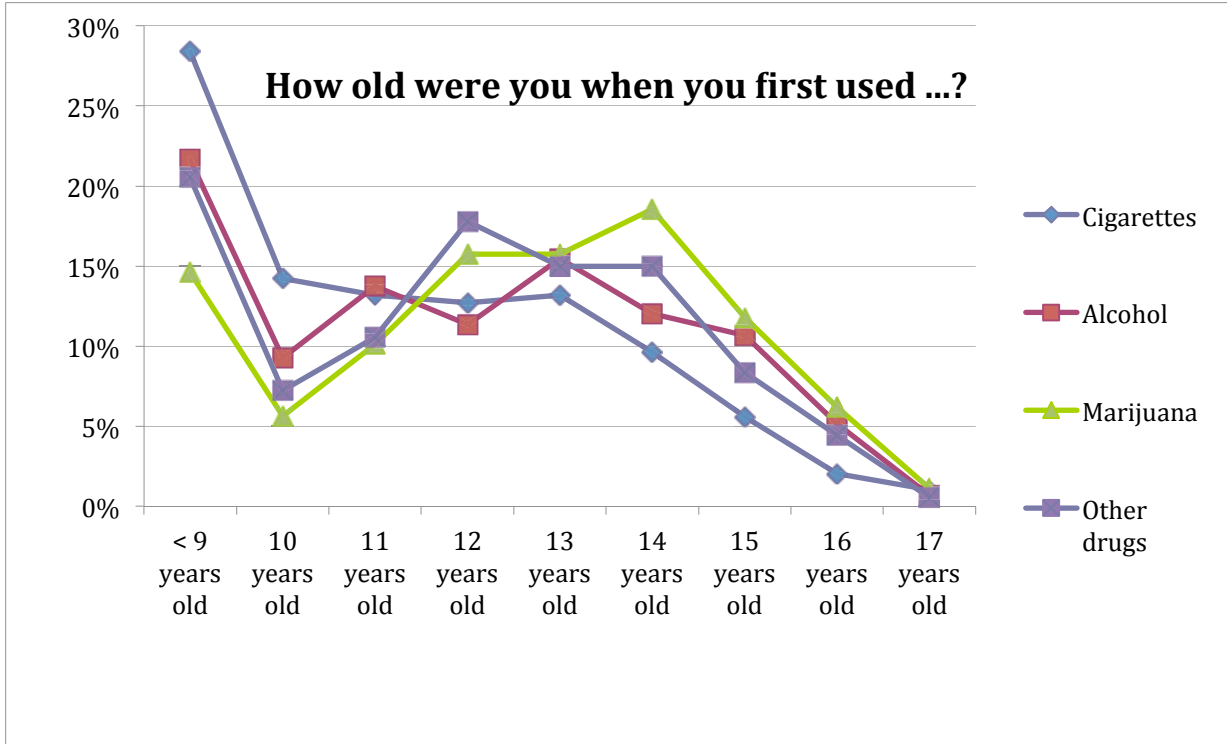
Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I have never had a drink of alcohol other than a few sips	142	70%	98	44%	52	33%
9 years old or younger	21	10%	28	13%	14	9%
10 years old	10	5%	12	5%	5	3%
11 years old	13	6%	18	8%	9	6%
12 years old	10	5%	16	7%	7	4%
13 years old	7	3%	22	10%	16	10%
14 years old	0	0%	23	10%	12	8%
15 years old	0	0%	6	3%	25	16%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	15	10%
17 years old	0	0%	0	0%	2	1%
18 years old or older	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	100%

52. How old were you when you first smoked marijuana?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I have never smoked marijuana	178	88%	142	64%	85	54%
9 years old or younger	3	1%	15	7%	8	5%
10 years old	3	1%	5	2%	2	1%
11 years old	8	4%	5	2%	5	3%
12 years old	8	4%	11	5%	9	6%
13 years old	3	1%	19	9%	6	4%
14 years old	0	0%	21	9%	12	8%
15 years old	0	0%	3	1%	18	11%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	11	7%
17 years old	0	0%	1	0%	1	1%
18 years old or older	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%
Total	203	99%	223	99%	157	100%

63. How old were you when you tried any form of illegal drug for the first time (excluding tobacco and alcohol)?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I have never tried any illegal drug	171	84%	141	63%	91	58%
9 years old or younger	8	4%	23	10%	6	4%
10 years old	8	4%	1	0%	4	3%
11 years old	6	3%	9	4%	4	3%
12 years old	8	4%	14	6%	10	6%
13 years old	2	1%	18	8%	7	4%
14 years old	0	0%	14	8%	13	8%
15 years old	0	0%	2	1%	13	8%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	8	5%
17 years old	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
18 years old or older	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%



The above graph only contains data for those who have used each substance. The total numbers of individuals in each category are as follows: cigarettes ($n=197$), alcohol ($n=291$), marijuana ($n=178$), and other drugs ($n=180$). For those who have used cigarettes, alcohol, and other drugs the age of first use is most often age 9 and under. First use of cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana peaks again at age 13, and marijuana at age 14.

Substance Use -- Past 30 days

The following 10 survey items all ask about substance use over the 30 days preceding the survey. Each item asks about a different drug: cigarettes, other tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, huffing of aerosols or other gases, heroin, methamphetamines, steroids, and prescription/OTC drugs.

When reviewing these numbers, the reader is encouraged to keep in mind that the 30 days preceding the survey would have included winter break, which may skew typical behavior.

***37. During the past 30 days, if you smoked, how many cigarettes did you smoke per day?**

(This item was presented to 51 7th graders, 87 9th graders and 59 11th graders based on responses from question 36.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
I did not smoke during the past 30 days.	37	18%	57	26%	43	27%
1 cigarette per day	4	2%	6	3%	1	1%
2 to 5 cigarettes per day	7	3%	11	5%	3	2%
6 to 10 cigarettes per day	1	1%	10	4%	7	4%
11 to 20 cigarettes per day	2	1%	3	1%	1	1%
More than 20 cigarettes per day	0	0%	0	0%	4	3%
Total	51	25%	87	39%	59	38%

As grade level increases, frequency of smoking increases.

43. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use chewing tobacco or snuff?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 days	195	96%	203	91%	141	90%
1 or 2 days	2	1%	9	4%	5	3%
3 to 5 days	2	1%	5	2%	0	0%
6 to 9 days	2	1%	2	1%	2	1%
10 to 19 days	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%
20 to 29 days	1	0%	2	1%	1	1%
All 30 days	1	0%	0	0%	6	4%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	100%

As age increases, use of chewing tobacco increases.

***45. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?** (This item was presented to 61 7th graders, 125 9th graders and 105 11th graders based on responses from question 44.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
0 days	38	19%	46	21%	44	28%
1 or 2 days	16	8%	43	19%	31	20%
3 to 5 days	2	1%	13	6%	12	8%
6 to 9 days	2	1%	9	4%	9	6%
10 to 19 days	2	1%	11	5%	4	3%
20 to 29 days	0	0%	3	1%	0	0%
All 30 days	1	1%	0	0%	5	3%
Total	61	31%	125	56%	105	68%

***53. During the past 30 days, how many times have you used marijuana?** (This item was presented to 26 7th graders, 81 9th graders and 72 11th graders based on responses from question 52.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
0 times	13	6%	36	16%	34	22%
1 or 2 times	8	4%	12	5%	6	4%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	5	2%	6	4%
6 to 9 times	3	1%	3	1%	5	3%
10 to 19 times	1	1%	6	3%	6	4%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	7	3%	4	3%
40 or more times	1	1%	12	5%	11	7%
Total	26	13%	81	35%	72	46%

56. During the past 30 days, how many times have you used any form of cocaine?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	200	99%	210	94%	147	94%
1 or 2 times	0	0%	4	2%	2	1%
3 to 5 times	2	1%	2	1%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	2	1%	2	1%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	0	0%	2	1%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	1%
40 or more times	1	0%	5	2%	4	3%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	101%

57. During the past 30 days, how many times have you huffed (sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays) to get high?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	174	86%	202	91%	148	94%
1 or 2 times	17	8%	15	7%	2	1%
3 to 5 times	4	2%	0	0%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	4	2%	2	1%	0	0%
10 to 19 times	2	1%	1	0%	1	1%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
40 or more times	2	1%	3	1%	5	3%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

After cigarettes, huffing is the most abused substance reported by 7th graders.

58. During the past 30 days, how many times have you used heroin?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	201	99%	214	96%	146	93%
1 or 2 times	1	0%	3	1%	1	1%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	1	0%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	1	0%	1	1%
10 to 19 times	1	0%	0	0%	1	1%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
40 or more times	0	0%	4	2%	6	4%
Total	203	99%	223	99%	157	102%

59. During the past 30 days, how many times have you used methamphetamine (also called “speed,” or “crystal”)?

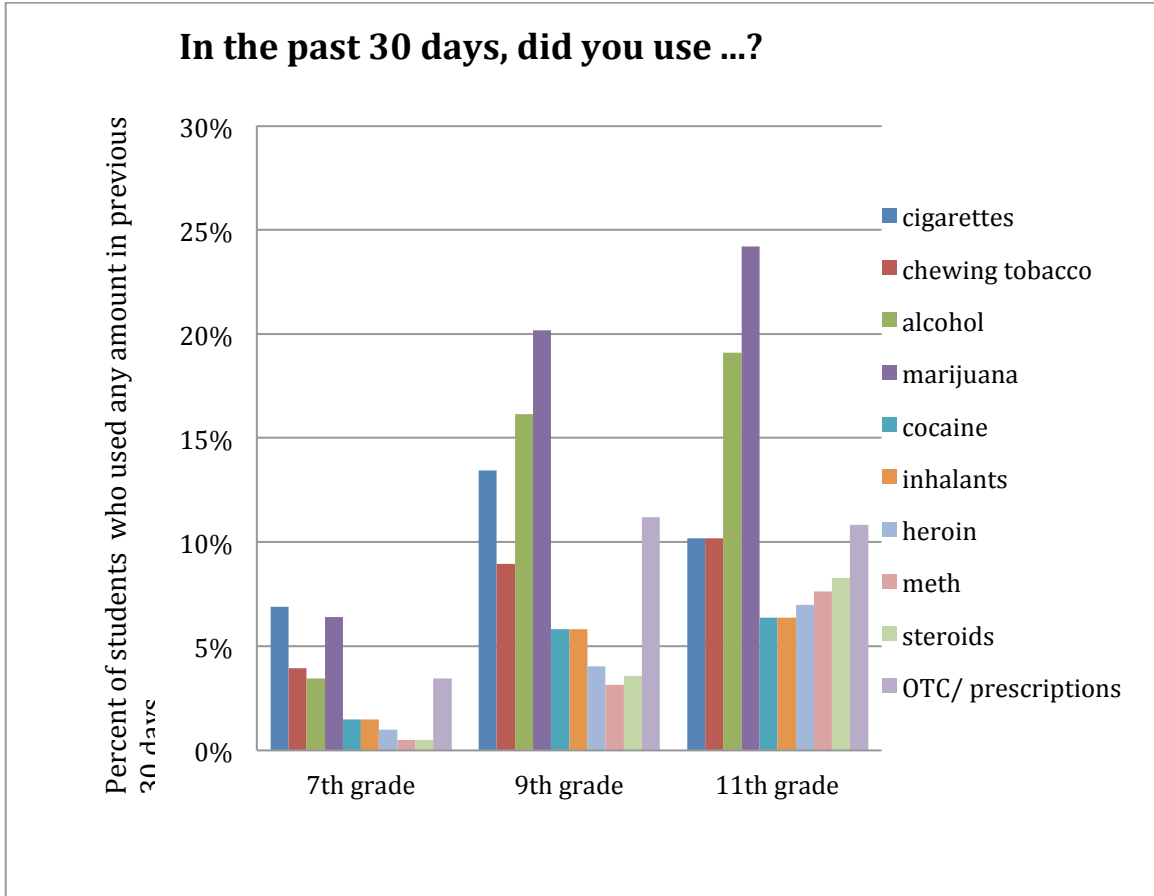
Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	202	99%	216	97%	145	92%
1 or 2 times	0	1%	1	0%	1	1%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	1	0%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	1	0%	2	1%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
40 or more times	1	1%	4	2%	7	4%
Total	203	100%	223	99%	157	100%

60. During the past 30 days, how many times have you taken steroids without a doctor's prescription?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	202	99%	215	96%	144	92%
1 or 2 times	0	0%	3	1%	1	1%
3 to 5 times	1	1%	1	0%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	1	0%	1	1%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	1	0%	1	1%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
40 or more times	0	0%	2	1%	8	5%
Total	203	100%	223	98%	157	100%

61. During the past 30 days, how many times have you used prescription or over-the-counter drugs to get high?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	196	97%	198	89%	140	89%
1 or 2 times	5	2%	14	6%	4	2%
3 to 5 times	1	0%	5	2%	4	2%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	2	1%	1	1%
10 to 19 times	1	0%	1	0%	1	1%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%
40 or more times	0	0%	2	1%	7	4%
Total	203	99%	223	99%	157	99%



This chart displays all 30-day use information. Anybody who used in any amount during the 30 days preceding survey administration was counted in this total.

Marijuana is the most frequently used substance for high school students, and marijuana use increases noticeably with each grade level.

Perceived Ease -- Substance Procurement

Of the substances mentioned in the following set of items, students felt that it would be easiest to get cigarettes and alcohol and hardest to get drugs. As students get older, their responses indicate it becomes easier to obtain tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

40. If you wanted to get some cigarettes, how easy do you think it would be for you to get some?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very difficult	106	52%	57	26%	25	16%
Somewhat difficult	28	14%	24	11%	21	13%
Somewhat easy	43	21%	51	23%	33	21%
Very easy	26	13%	91	41%	78	50%
Total	203	100%	223	101%	157	101%

49. If you wanted to get some alcohol, how easy do you think it would be for you to get some?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very Difficult	107	53%	43	19%	23	15%
Somewhat Difficult	44	22%	41	18%	28	18%
Somewhat Easy	30	15%	55	25%	40	25%
Very Easy	22	11%	84	38%	66	42%
Total	203	101%	223	100%	157	100%

64. If you wanted to get street drugs, how easy do you think it would be for you to get some?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very Difficult	114	56%	52	23%	41	26%
Somewhat Difficult	40	20%	58	26%	26	17%
Somewhat Easy	36	18%	46	21%	42	27%
Very Easy	13	6%	67	30%	48	31%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	101%

Perceived Risk of Substance Use

As grade level increases, perceived risk decreases for cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana, although this trend is least pronounced in the question about alcohol. Respondents indicated that they perceive cigarette smoke to be the most harmful substance. High school students responses indicate that they perceive marijuana use as less harmful than either drinking alcohol or smoking cigarettes (as indicated by those who answered there is “no risk”).

41. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
No risk	12	6%	10	4%	4	3%
Slight risk	13	6%	13	6%	8	5%
Moderate risk	50	25%	49	22%	31	20%
Great risk	128	63%	151	68%	114	73%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	101%

50. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
No risk	15	7%	20	9%	12	8%
Slight risk	33	16%	51	23%	36	23%
Moderate risk	72	35%	87	39%	52	33%
Great risk	83	41%	65	29%	57	36%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	100%

Perceptions don't change significantly across grade levels.

54. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they smoke marijuana regularly?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
No risk	17	8%	58	26%	36	23%
Slight risk	19	9%	36	16%	30	19%
Moderate risk	37	18%	42	19%	32	20%
Great risk	130	64%	87	39%	59	38%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	100%

Parental Disapproval

Overall, intensity of disapproval decreases as age increases (i.e. more 7th graders say their parents will think it is “Very Wrong” to engage in the behavior compared to 11th graders), whereas older students endorse the choice of “A little bit wrong” at a higher rate. For all three substances, a relatively low percentage of respondents (usually fewer than 10%) indicated that their parents would regard their children’s substance usage as “Not at all wrong,” although students in 11th grade answered this way at a higher rate than the 9th and 7th graders did.

42. How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to smoke cigarettes?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very wrong	167	83%	155	70%	106	68%
Wrong	21	10%	52	23%	30	19%
A little bit wrong	12	6%	8	4%	13	8%
Not at all wrong	2	1%	8	4%	8	5%
Total	202	100%	223	101%	157	100%

51. How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to drink alcohol regularly?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very wrong	144	71%	123	55%	90	57%
Wrong	42	21%	63	28%	31	20%
A little bit wrong	14	7%	28	13%	23	15%
Not at all wrong	3	1%	9	4%	13	8%
Total	203	100%	223	100%	157	100%

55. How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to smoke marijuana?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very wrong	185	91%	163	73%	104	66%
Wrong	9	4%	30	13%	22	14%
A little bit wrong	6	3%	17	8%	16	10%
Not at all wrong	3	1%	13	6%	15	10%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	100%

Additional Tobacco Items

***38. During the past 30 days, if you got cigarettes, how did you usually get them?** (This item was presented to 51 7th graders, 87 9th graders and 59 11th graders based on responses from question 36.)

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not get cigarettes in the past 30 days	36	70%	49	56%	39	66%
I bought them in a store such as a convenience store or supermarket	1	2%	1	1%	5	8%
I gave someone else money to buy them for me	6	12%	19	22%	8	14%
I got them from my parent	1	2%	0	0%	1	2%
Borrowed them from someone	2	4%	7	8%	2	3%
I stole them	2	4%	2	2%	3	5%
I got them some other way	3	6%	9	10%	1	2%
Total	51	100%	87	99%	59	100%

Minors in our sample commonly obtain cigarettes by giving someone else money to buy them.

***39. If you bought cigarettes in a store during the past 30 days, were you ever asked to show proof of age?** (This item was presented to 51 7th graders, 87 9th graders and 59 11th graders based on responses from question 36.)

Answer	7th grade	% of branched sample of 7 th graders	9th grade	% of branched sample of 9 th graders	11th grade	% of branched sample of 11 th graders
I did not buy cigarettes in a store during the past 30 days	34	68%	73	84%	45	76%
Yes	5	10%	2	2%	3	5%
No	11	22%	12	14%	11	19%
Total	50	100%	87	100%	59	100%

A large majority of cigarette buyers were not required to show identification. However, it is difficult to fully interpret these responses, as not everyone who was given the question ever bought cigarettes in the store.

Additional Alcohol Items

46. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you possess alcohol on school property?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 days	201	99%	213	96%	146	93%
1 or 2 days	1	0%	7	3%	3	2%
3 to 5 days	1	0%	1	0%	1	1%
6 to 9 days	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
10 to 19 days	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
20 to 29 days	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
All 30 days	0	0%	2	1%	4	3%
Total	203	99%	223	100%	157	102%

***47. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple of hours?**

(This item was presented to 61 7th graders, 125 9th graders and 105 11th graders based on responses from question 44.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
1 or 2 days	6	3%	26	12%	17	11%
3 to 5 days	1	0%	6	3%	8	5%
6 to 9 days	2	1%	8	4%	4	3%
10 to 19 days	0	0%	3	1%	1	1%
20 to 29 days	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%
All 30 days	0	0%	0	0%	6	4%
Total	9	4%	44	20%	36	24%

Reports of binge drinking greatly increase from 7th to 9th grades (4% to 20%).

***48. The last time you drank more than a few sips of alcohol, which one answer most closely explains your reason for drinking?** (This item was presented to 61 7th graders, 125 9th graders and 105 11th graders based on responses from question 44.)

Answer	7th grade	% of branched 7 th grade sample	9th grade	% of branched 9 th grade sample	11th grade	% of branched 11 th grade sample
To have fun	15	25%	65	52%	63	60%
To fit in	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%
Because my friends drink	0	0%	5	4%	4	4%
To escape problems	8	13%	18	14%	7	7%
Boredom	2	3%	6	5%	10	10%
Curiosity	17	28%	16	13%	11	10%
Other	18	30%	15	12%	10	10%
Total	61	101%	125	100%	105	101%

Additional Item about Other Drugs

62. During the past 12 months, has anyone offered, sold, or given you an illegal drug on school property?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	10	5%	49	22%	26	17%
No	192	95%	174	78%	131	83%
Total	202	100%	223	100%	157	100%

There is a pronounced (17%) increase between 7th and 9th grades.

Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors

65. Have you talked about sex with your parents or other adults in your family?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	117	58%	166	74%	129	82%
No	85	42%	57	26%	28	18%
Total	202	100%	223	100%	157	100%

66. How old were you when you engaged in sexual activity for the first time?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I have never engaged in sexual activity	173	86%	134	60%	59	38%
11 years old or younger	14	7%	19	9%	15	10%
12 years old	9	4%	13	6%	6	4%
13 years old	4	2%	19	9%	17	11%
14 years old	1	0%	29	13%	16	10%
15 years old	1	0%	9	4%	29	18%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	11	7%
17 years old or older	0	0%	0	0%	4	3%
Total	202	99%	223	101%	157	101%

For the 9th graders in the sample, most sexually active students had their first sexual encounter around 14 years of age; the 11th graders were 15 years old. This is consistent with 2010 results.

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Answer	Male	%	Female	%
I have never engaged in sexual activity	172	61%	194	65%
11 years old or younger	31	11%	17	6%
12 years old	15	5%	13	4%
13 years old	22	8%	18	6%
14 years old	20	7%	26	9%
15 years old	15	5%	24	8%
16 years old	5	2%	6	2%
17 years old or older	2	1%	2	1%
Total	282	100%	300	101%

Males generally engage in sexual activity earlier than females do.

***67. During your life, with how many different people have you had sexual activity?** (This item was presented to 29 7th graders, 89 9th graders and 98 11th graders based on responses from question 66.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
1 person	17	8%	31	14%	24	15%
2 people	5	2%	27	12%	21	13%
3 people	5	2%	9	4%	16	10%
4 people	2	1%	3	1%	8	5%
5 people	0	0%	6	3%	11	7%
6 or more people	0	0%	12	5%	18	11%
Total	29	13%	88	39%	98	61%

A third of 11th graders have had sexual activity with three or more people.

Answer	Male	%	Female	%
1 person	37	33%	35	33%
2 people	25	23%	28	27%
3 people	11	10%	19	18%
4 people	7	6%	6	6%
5 people	7	6%	10	10%
6 or more people	23	21%	7	7%
Total	110	99%	105	101%

***68. Have you ever drunk alcohol or used drugs before you engaged in sexual activity?** (This item was presented to 29 7th graders, 89 9th graders and 98 11th graders based on responses from question 66.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
Yes	3	1%	33	15%	44	28%
No	25	12%	55	25%	54	34%
Total	28	13%	88	40%	98	62%

For sexually active students, a big jump in alcohol use from 7th to 9th (14% increase) and from 9th to 11th grade (13%) is evident. A noticeably higher proportion of 9th and 11th graders (over a quarter) report alcohol/drug use in combination with sexual activity as compared to 7th graders.

Answer	Male	%	Female	%
Yes	36	33%	44	42%
No	73	67%	61	58%
Total	109	100%	105	100%

Females are more likely to have used drugs/alcohol prior to sexual activity.

***69. If you have engaged in sexual activity, how often did you use any form of birth control?** (This item was presented to 29 7th graders, 89 9th graders and 98 11th graders based on responses from question 66.)

Answer	7th grade	% of branched 7 th grade sample	9th grade	% of branched 9 th grade sample	11th grade	% of branched 11 th grade sample
Every time	9	31%	39	44%	44	45%
Most of the time	2	7%	4	5%	17	17%
Sometimes	1	3%	7	8%	10	10%
Never	17	59%	38	43%	27	28%
Total	29	100%	88	100%	98	100%

Use of some form of birth control goes up drastically from 9th to 11th grade.

Answer	Male	%	Female	%
Every time	45	41%	47	45%
Most of the time	12	11%	11	10%
Sometimes	9	8%	9	9%
Never	44	40%	38	36%
Total	110	100%	105	100%

70. Where have you received most of your information about sex and sexually transmitted diseases/infections (STDs/STIs)?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I have not received any information about sex and STDs	45	22%	25	11%	10	6%
Friends/ peers	14	7%	18	8%	8	5%
Parents/ other family members	46	23%	39	18%	29	18%
Brother/ sisters	6	3%	4	2%	1	1%
School teachers/ counselors	78	38%	112	50%	95	61%
Doctors or nurses	8	4%	17	8%	10	6%
TV/ radio	4	2%	4	2%	3	2%
Magazines/ newspapers/ books	2	1%	3	1%	1	1%
Total	203	100%	222	100%	157	100%

School is the primary source of sexual health information for young people.

Nutrition

71. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat vegetables?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not eat vegetables during the past 7 days	17	7%	18	5%	18	11%
1-3 servings during the past 7 days	50	19%	46	19%	51	32%
4-6 servings during the past 7 days	37	9%	27	17%	21	13%
About 1 serving per day	29	19%	49	14%	22	14%
About 2 servings per day	37	23%	42	22%	23	15%
About 3 servings per day	11	9%	21	10%	12	8%
About 4 or more servings per day	22	14%	19	13%	10	6%
Total	203	100%	222	100%	157	99%

The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Food Guide Pyramid recommends that adolescent girls eat four servings of vegetables per day; the recommended amount for adolescent boys is five servings.

72. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink a can, a bottle, or a glass of soda/pop, such as Coke, Pepsi, or Sprite? (Do not include diet soda/diet pop.)

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not drink soda/pop during the past 7 days.	43	21%	44	20%	28	18%
1-3 times during the past 7 days	75	37%	73	33%	47	30%
4-6 times during the past 7 days	22	11%	20	9%	24	15%
About 1 time per day	17	8%	24	11%	21	13%
About 2 times per day	20	10%	21	9%	14	9%
About 3 times per day	10	5%	16	7%	4	3%
About 4 or more times per day	16	8%	24	11%	19	12%
Total	203	100%	222	100%	157	100%

Soda consumption appears to be about equivalent across grade levels.

73. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat candy, cookies, donuts, pie or cake?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not eat candy, cookies, donuts, pie or cake during the past 7 days	37	18%	36	16%	23	15%
1-3 servings during the past 7 days	97	48%	85	38%	64	41%
4-6 servings during the past 7 days	29	14%	29	13%	17	11%
About 1 serving per day	18	9%	24	11%	23	15%
About 2 servings per day	9	4%	25	11%	11	7%
About 3 servings per day	3	1%	10	5%	8	5%
About 4 or more servings per day	10	5%	13	6%	11	7%
Total	203	99%	222	100%	157	101%

Responses are about the same across grade levels.

74. Have you ever gone to bed hungry because there was not enough food in your home?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	35	17%	37	17%	23	15%
No	168	83%	185	83%	134	85%
Total	203	100%	222	100%	157	100%

Responses are about the same across grade levels.

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	7 th grade			9 th grade				11 th grade			
Response	2008	2010	2012	2006	2008	2010	2012	2006	2008	2010	2012
Yes	15%	12%	17%	23%	18%	16%	17%	24%	16%	17%	15%
No	67%	88%	83%	75%	67%	84%	83%	74%	76%	83%	85%

Note: Percentages from 2006 and 2008 do not total 100% due to missing data. Question not asked to 7th graders on 2006 version.

Physical Activity and Leisure Time

75. During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day? (Add up all the time you spent in any kind of physical activity that increased your heart rate and made you breathe hard some of the time.)

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 days	18	9%	23	10%	35	22%
1 day	17	8%	12	5%	9	6%
2 days	21	10%	20	9%	17	11%
3 days	29	14%	11	5%	11	7%
4 days	32	16%	21	9%	17	11%
5 days	20	10%	46	21%	16	10%
6 days	12	6%	21	9%	13	8%
7 days	54	27%	68	31%	39	25%
Total	203	100%	222	99%	157	100%

Over 50% of students report being physically active for at least 60 minutes a majority of days in a week.

76. In an average week in school, on how many days did you go to PE (physical education) classes?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 days	3	1%	39	18%	105	67%
1 day	5	2%	2	1%	1	1%
2 days	29	14%	2	1%	1	1%
3 days	145	71%	4	2%	7	4%
4 days	10	5%	4	2%	2	1%
5 days	11	5%	171	77%	41	26%
Total	203	98%	222	101%	157	100%

77. On an average school day, how many hours do you watch TV?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I do not watch TV on an average school day	22	11%	29	13%	17	11%
Less than 1 hour per day	32	16%	32	14%	29	18%
1 hour per day	27	13%	27	12%	27	17%
2 hours per day	43	21%	51	23%	34	22%
3 hours per day	33	16%	34	15%	17	11%
4 hours per day	19	9%	21	9%	15	10%
5 or more hours per day	27	13%	28	13%	18	11%
Total	203	99%	222	99%	157	100%

78. On an average school day, how many hours do you play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not schoolwork?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I do not play video or computer games or use a computer on an average school day	30	15%	40	18%	31	20%
Less than 1 hour per day	45	22%	31	14%	31	20%
1 hour per day	31	15%	24	11%	11	7%
2 hours per day	31	15%	36	16%	28	18%
3 hours per day	22	11%	25	11%	16	10%
4 hours per day	12	6%	27	12%	16	10%
5 or more hours per day	32	16%	39	18%	24	15%
Total	203	100%	222	100%	157	100%

79. On an average school day, how many hours do you spend using a cell phone (talking and text messaging)?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I do not use a cell phone on an average school day	45	22%	26	12%	10	6%
Less than 1 hour	43	21%	27	12%	23	15%
1 hour per day	20	10%	19	9%	6	4%
2 hours per day	15	7%	9	4%	17	11%
3 hours per day	22	11%	24	11%	7	4%
4 hours per day	2	1%	16	7%	21	13%
5 or more hours per day	56	28%	101	45%	73	46%
Total	203	100%	222	100%	157	99%

81. If you have a job, how many hours do you work in a typical week? (A job can include babysitting, yard work or anything you get paid to do.)

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I don't have a job	140	69%	163	73%	90	57%
Less than 5 hours per week	26	13%	22	10%	10	6%
Between 5 and 10 hours per week	17	8%	15	7%	16	10%
Between 11 and 15 hours per week	4	2%	5	2%	9	5%
Between 16 and 20 hours per week	9	4%	12	5%	18	11%
More than 20 hours per week	7	3%	5	2%	14	9%
Total	203	99%	222	99%	157	98%

Health

80. How much sleep do you usually get at night?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Less than 7 hours	38	19%	59	27%	55	35%
7 hours	32	16%	59	27%	47	30%
8 hours	66	33%	65	29%	40	25%
More than 8 hours	67	33%	39	18%	15	10%
Total	203	101%	222	101%	157	100%

According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control, adolescents need 8.5-9.5 hours of sleep per night. Only one-third of 11th graders get the recommended amount of sleep per night.

82. In the past year, have you ever been sick enough to want to see a doctor but were not able to?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	26	12%	38	17%	23	15%
No	177	88%	184	83%	134	85%
Total	203	100%	222	100%	157	100%

83. For what reason were you not able to see the doctor?

(This item was presented to 26 7th graders, 28 9th graders and 22 11th graders based on responses from question 82.)

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
No insurance	2	8%	6	16%	3	13%
No transportation	5	19%	7	18%	4	17%
Couldn't afford	3	12%	5	13%	9	39%
Don't have a regular doctor	1	4%	1	3%	4	17%
I don't know	15	58%	19	50%	3	13%
Total	26	101%	38	100%	23	99%

According to the Children's Defense Fund, in 2010 10.4% of children in our nation were uninsured; in Virginia, 8.4% of children were uninsured. Because of the high response rates of "I don't know" it's difficult to figure out what primary factors have prevented students from getting medical care.

84. When was the last time you saw a dentist for a check-up, exam, teeth cleaning, or other dental work?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
During the past 12 months	145	71%	160	72%	113	72%
Between 12 and 24 months ago	15	7%	17	8%	17	11%
More than 24 months ago	4	2%	4	2%	4	3%
Never	2	1%	9	4%	3	2%
Not sure/don't remember	37	18%	31	14%	20	13%
Total	203	99%	221	100%	157	101%

Over three-quarters of the respondents have visited a dentist in the past two years.