



Youth Risk Behavior Survey: 2010 Administration

Staunton City Schools

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Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Staunton City Schools

Report of the 2010 Administration

Executive Summary and Key Findings

The results of the 2010 administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey in the City of Staunton are presented in the following report. In January 2010, the survey was given to those Staunton City students who did not opt out. A total of 435 surveys were completed: 156 7th graders from Shelburne Middle School and 279 from Robert E. Lee High School (151 9th graders and 128 11th graders). Nine students in the sample attend the Genesis alternative program and are included in the totals that were just presented.

The results show the differences among students in grades 7, 9 and 11 for this year's administration; for select items, results from the previous administration are presented as well. 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 continues to decrease since 2006, but is leveling off somewhat with about 15% of respondents having this concern.
- About 70% of students responding have seen a dentist in the past year.
- As students age, friends and peers exert more influence which is consistent with previous findings. Family influence was the same across grade levels.
- About 25% of 7th grade students, 65% of 9th graders, and 43% of 11th graders report smoking on a daily basis.
- The perceived ease of securing cigarettes, alcohol and street drugs increases with grade level, which is consistent with 2008 findings.
- Reports of binge drinking in the past month increase nine-fold from 7th to 9th grade (3% to 26%).
- For risk-perception questions, 7th graders think marijuana is just as harmful as cigarette smoking. High school students' responses indicate that they perceive marijuana use as less harmful than

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drinking alcohol. Overall students believe cigarette smoking to be riskier than using either alcohol or marijuana.

- 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.”
- As in past years, consistent helmet use continues to be lower than desired. By activity, riders of motorcycles use helmets more often than riders of bicycles or skateboards. Seventh graders in our sample are more likely to ride bicycles and skateboards than the high school students in this sample are.
- Seat belt use is highest for 11th graders, and there is a noticeable increase from past surveys of the proportion of 9th and 11th graders who “always” wear their seat belts.
- About 6% of students reported missing a day of school in the preceding month due to feeling unsafe; in 2008 10% of students who participated in the survey reported missing at least a day for that reason.
- On school grounds, about 17% 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 higher than for the other grades (18%, vs. 14% for 11th graders and 9% for 7th graders). This group also reports the highest suicide attempt rate (out of the 27 who have considered attempting suicide in the past year, 15 have actually attempted to do so).
- About 50% of 7th and 9th graders report never using birth control, compared to 28% of 11th graders never using contraception. Nearly half of 11th graders use birth control every time, compared to about a third of 7th and 9th graders.
- Over half of high school respondents report using a cell phone for 5 or more hours per day.

Methodology

Throughout fall 2009, a core workgroup began developing the survey to be used for this recent administration. Group members decided to use a single form of the survey, not separate middle-school and high-school versions as before. Once the questions were revised to accommodate all student grade levels being evaluated, it was determined that little if any wording should be adjusted from this administration to future administrations, in order to facilitate interpretation of change over time information.

The final version of the survey had 83 questions; however, as described in further detail below, some students did not have to answer every survey item.

In December 2009, letters regarding the Youth Risk Behavior Survey were sent home with Staunton city school 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 (Shelburne Middle School and Robert E. Lee High School) January 25-28th, 2010. One student at Shelburne was administered a paper version of the survey in a proctored setting. This student's data was incorporated into the dataset generated by the web-based survey taken by the other students.

Volunteers to administer the survey at Shelburne and Lee High School were solicited at a Regional Partners in Prevention Services meeting; administration of the survey was coordinated by Barbara Smallwood, Instructional Supervisor at Staunton City Schools, as well as by the Office on Youth.

For the first time, surveys were administered on computer using Qualtrics[®]. The transition from paper surveys to electronic eliminated several sources of error such as missed responses (answers were required on each survey item in order for the respondent to progress through the survey instrument), scanning errors, and potential for lost answer sheets. Another benefit offered by utilizing an electronic survey was that questions could be eliminated from a respondent's survey based on his/her previous answers. For example, if a student answered that he/she had never smoked a cigarette, none of the questions which would normally follow regarding numbers of cigarettes smoked, age at first use, etc., were administered.

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, 4 respondents were recoded into 11th grade, 2 were recoded into 7th grade, and 1 was recoded into 9th grade. While this involves 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 $N=156$ (Shelburne) and $N=279$ (Lee HS; 151 9th graders and 128 11th graders). Students who took the survey at Genesis

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Alternative School ($N=9$) are included in above totals for their respective grades. A total of 11 students opted out (7-7th graders and 4-9th graders).

Student confidentiality and anonymity were maintained at all times throughout the administration of the YRBS.

How to read 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 questions 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%.

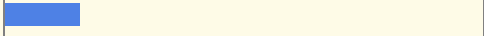






Citing this report

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

Thek, A. D. (2010). *Report of the 2010 Administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Staunton (VA) City Schools*. Staunton, VA: Staunton/Augusta/Waynesboro Office on Youth.

Demographic Items

1. How old are you?

Answer		Response	%
12 years old or younger		69	16%
13 years old		79	18%
14 years old		81	19%
15 years old		70	16%
16 years old		77	18%
17 years old		52	12%
18 years old or older		7	2%
Total		435	100%

The median and mode (most commonly answered) age for the Staunton respondents is 14 years old.

Answer	7th grade	9th grade	11th grade
12 years old or younger	68	0	1
13 years old	77	2	0
14 years old	9	71	1
15 years old	0	70	0
16 years old	0	8	69
17 years old	0	0	52
18 years old or older	2	0	5
Total	156	151	128

Overall, age levels reasonably correspond to grade levels. Four individuals appear to have mis-answered this item (two 7th graders reporting an age of 18 or older, and two 11th graders reporting an age of 14 or younger). However, these invalid responses yield a tolerable 1-2% error rate.

2. What is your gender?

Answer	Response	%
Male	221	51%
Female	214	49%
Total	435	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Male	84	54%	73	48%	64	50%
Female	72	46%	78	52%	64	50%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	50%

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

3. In what grade are you?

Answer	7th grade	9th grade	11th grade
7th grade	156	0	0
9th grade	0	151	0
11th grade	0	0	128
Total	156	151	128

4. How do you describe yourself?

Answer	7th grade	9th grade	11th grade
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0	4	1
Asian	2	3	1
Black or African American	23	21	22
Hispanic or Latino	3	4	3
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1	1
White	110	105	94
Other	18	13	6
Total	156	151	128

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Answer	Response	%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	5	1%
Asian	6	1%
Black or African American	66	15%
Hispanic or Latino	10	2%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	0%
White	309	71%
Other	37	9%
Total	435	100%

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	216	50%
Mother	145	33%
Father	35	8%
Grandparent(s)	14	3%
Foster parent(s)	7	2%
Step parent(s)	4	1%
Other relative(s)	5	1%
Other	9	2%
Total	435	100%

Only half of the respondents primarily live with both parents.

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Mother AND Father	87	56%	60	40%	69	54%
Mother	46	29%	61	40%	38	30%
Father	10	6%	16	11%	9	7%
Grandparent(s)	5	3%	5	3%	4	3%
Foster parent(s)	2	1%	1	1%	4	3%
Step parent(s)	1	1%	2	1%	1	1%
Other relative(s)	3	2%	2	1%	0	0%
Other	2	1%	4	3%	3	2%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

For this 9th grade cohort, fewer students live with both parents (40% as opposed to over 50% for the other groups) and more live with mother only (40%, compared to about 30% for the others). More 9th graders live only with their father (11% vs. 6-7% for other respondents).

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

Answer	Response	%
Family	150	34%
Friends and peers	127	29%
School teachers/ counselors/ nurses	5	1%
Religious leaders	10	2%
TV/ newspaper/ magazine	5	1%
Other	38	9%
Not sure	100	23%
Total	435	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Family	70	45%	46	30%	34	27%
Friends and peers	28	18%	53	35%	46	36%
School teachers/ counselors/ nurses	2	1%	0	0%	3	2%
Religious leaders	1	1%	6	4%	3	2%
TV/ newspaper/ magazine	2	1%	1	1%	2	2%
Other	9	6%	13	9%	16	13%
Not sure	44	28%	32	21%	24	19%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

The top two responses were “Family” and “Friends and peers.” When viewed across grade levels, certain trends are apparent. The influence of friends greatly increases with grade level (an 18% increase from 7th to 11th grade). Consistent with 2006 and 2008 Youth Risk Behavior Surveys; see table below, the influence of family continues to decrease as grade level goes up (45% for 7th graders and 27% of 11th graders).

This finding is consistent with data from the 2006 and 2008 Youth Risk Behavior surveys; see table below.

Response	7 th grade		9 th grade		11 th grade	
	2006	2008	2006	2008	2006	2008
Family	34.1%	35.7%	24.4%	32.0%	22.5%	20.9%
Friends/peers	22.3%	16.9%	31.0%	32.0%	37.0%	29.1%
School teachers/ Counselors/ Nurses	1.7%	0.6%	3.0%	0%	0.7%	1.8%
Religious leaders	1.7%	1.9%	3.0%	6.7%	2.9%	5.5%
TV/ Newspapers/ Magazines	0.6%	1.9%	0.6%	1.0%	0.7%	4.5%
Other	7.4%	7.1%	8.3%	7.7%	11.6%	11.8%
Not sure	33.3%	35.7%	29.8%	19.8%	23.2%	26.4%

Note: Percentages do not total 100% due to missing data.

Safety

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (<http://www.iihs.org/laws/HelmetUseCurrent.aspx>), all motorcycles riders are required to wear a helmet, while there are no helmet laws for bicycle, skateboard and scooter riders.

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	332	76%
Never wore a helmet	17	4%
Rarely wore a helmet	7	2%
Sometimes wore a helmet	6	1%
Most of the time wore a helmet	12	3%
Always wore a helmet	61	14%
Total	435	100%

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Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not ride a motorcycle during the past 12 months	127	81%	117	77%	88	69%
Never wore a helmet	4	3%	3	2%	10	8%
Rarely wore a helmet	3	2%	3	2%	1	1%
Sometimes wore a helmet	1	1%	3	2%	2	2%
Most of the time wore a helmet	4	3%	3	2%	5	4%
Always wore a helmet	17	11%	22	15%	22	17%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

The majority of motorcycle riders wore helmets all of the time, and the proportion of consistent helmet wearers increases slightly with grade level. Approximately 10-15% of those who have ridden motorcycle in the past year indicated they **never** wear a helmet.

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	124	29%
Never wore a helmet	206	47%
Rarely wore a helmet	25	6%
Sometimes wore a helmet	26	6%
Most of the time wore a helmet	24	6%
Always wore a helmet	30	7%
Total	435	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not ride a bicycle or scooter during the past 12 months	26	17%	44	29%	54	42%
Never wore a helmet	82	53%	73	48%	51	40%
Rarely wore a helmet	12	8%	9	6%	4	3%
Sometimes wore a helmet	11	7%	11	7%	4	3%
Most of the time wore a helmet	13	8%	6	4%	5	4%
Always wore a helmet	12	8%	8	5%	10	8%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

When compared to helmet use with motorcycles, bicycle and scooter riders wore helmets less reliably. About 70% of respondents have ridden in the past year, but 2/3 of those “never wore a helmet.” More 7th graders than high school students have ridden bicycles and scooters.

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	256	59%
Never wore a helmet	153	35%
Rarely wore a helmet	8	2%
Sometimes wore a helmet	4	1%
Most of the time wore a helmet	3	1%
Always wore a helmet	11	3%
Total	435	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not ride a skateboard during the past 12 months	90	58%	82	54%	84	66%
Never wore a helmet	48	31%	66	44%	39	30%
Rarely wore a helmet	4	3%	1	1%	3	2%
Sometimes wore a helmet	3	2%	1	1%	0	0%
Most of the time wore a helmet	2	1%	0	0%	1	1%
Always wore a helmet	9	6%	1	1%	1	1%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

About 40% of students have ridden a skateboard, but only a small proportion wore helmets regularly (about 3%).

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

Answer	Response	%
Never	9	2%
Rarely	20	5%
Sometimes	32	7%
Most of the time	119	27%
Always	255	59%
Total	435	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Never	3	2%	3	2%	3	2%
Rarely	5	3%	8	5%	7	5%
Sometimes	14	9%	15	10%	3	2%
Most of the time	50	32%	37	25%	32	25%
Always	84	54%	88	58%	83	65%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Well over half of the students surveyed indicate they always wear a seat belt when riding in a vehicle. More 11th graders always buckle up than 7th graders (65% vs. 54%).

2008	7 th grade	9 th grade	11 th grade
Never	2.5%	5.6%	10.5%
Rarely	3.1%	14.6%	7.0%
Sometimes	9.4%	14.1%	16.7%
Most of the time	18.9%	25.3%	19.3%
Always	66.0%	39.9%	45.6%

Note: Percentages do not total 100% due to missing data.

For 9th and 11th grade, the proportion of students who responded that they always wear their seat belt has increased since 2008.

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	59	14%
No	344	79%
Not Sure	32	7%
Total	435	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	15	10%	22	15%	22	17%
No	134	86%	115	76%	95	74%
Not Sure	7	4%	14	9%	11	9%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

The certainty that one has ridden with a driver who had been drinking increases with grade level (10% for 7th graders, vs. 15% and 17% for 9th and 11th graders). It may be worth investigating into these responses further to determine whether the drivers were peers.

Responses of “Yes” from 11th graders dipped dramatically from past results (30% in 2008).

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

Answer	Response	%
Yes	17	4%
No	418	96%
Total	435	100%

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	3	2%	8	5%	6	5%
No	153	98%	143	95%	122	95%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	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>). Among those respondents who are most likely to be drivers (11th graders), 5% report having driven under the influence.

Violence

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	38	24%	19	13%	16	13%
No	118	76%	132	87%	112	87%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

The difference between 7th graders and high-school students who have been harmed by someone at home is noteworthy: 24% vs. 13%. This is a reversal of the 2008 data, when 11% of 7th graders and 20% of high-school aged students indicated they were intentionally hurt at home.

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
No, I am not	142	91%	143	95%	123	96%
Yes, by my mother	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%
Yes, by my father	5	3%	3	2%	2	2%
Yes, by both my mother and father	2	1%	1	1%	1	1%
Yes, by someone else in my home	7	4%	3	2%	1	1%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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	140	90%	130	86%	105	82%
1 day	6	4%	7	5%	6	5%
2 or 3 days	4	3%	3	2%	2	2%
4 or 5 days	0	0%	3	2%	0	0%
6 or more days	6	4%	8	5%	15	12%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

About 14% of all students surveyed reported carrying a weapon for self-protection during the last month. Tendency to carry a weapon increased slightly with grade level. However, very few of those carried a weapon on school property (see question 16, below).

***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 17 7th-graders, 21 9th-graders and 23 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	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
2 or 3 days	0	0%	1	1%	3	2%
4 or 5 days	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
6 or more days	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
Total	1	1%	2	2%	4	3%

As with general tendency to carry a weapon, older students reported being more likely to carry a weapon on school property, although the reader should keep in mind that the actual numbers are quite low (1 7th-grader, 2 9th-graders, and 4 11th-graders total).

17. During the past 30 days, 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	147	94%	139	92%	123	96%
1 day	2	1%	7	5%	2	2%
2 or 3 days	4	3%	3	2%	0	0%
4 or 5 days	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
6 or more days	2	1%	1	1%	2	2%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

It may be interesting to find how those students who have felt unsafe get to and from school.

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	151	97%	146	97%	119	93%
1 time	3	2%	2	1%	6	5%
2 or 3 times	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%
4 or 5 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
10 or more times	1	1%	2	1%	2	2%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

While the vast majority has not experienced this, there are enough students who have been threatened or injured at least once to warrant further research.

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	126	81%	121	80%	107	84%
1 time	16	10%	13	9%	11	9%
2 or 3 times	8	5%	11	7%	7	5%
4 or 5 times	3	2%	1	1%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
10 or more times	3	2%	5	3%	2	2%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Vandalism to personal property while at school appears to equally affect students across grade levels. On school grounds, 81/435 (19%) 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	105	67%	93	62%	89	70%
1 time	19	12%	23	15%	23	18%
2 or 3 times	19	12%	20	13%	9	7%
4 or 5 times	6	4%	6	4%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	2	1%	2	1%	5	4%
10 or more times	5	3%	7	5%	1	1%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

(This item was presented to 51 7th-graders, 58 9th-graders and 39 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
1 time	4	3%	5	3%	2	2%
2 or 3 times	3	2%	2	1%	1	1%
4 or 5 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
10 or more times	1	1%	2	1%	0	0%
Total	8	6%	9	5%	4	4%

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

(This item was presented to 51 7th-graders, 58 9th-graders and 39 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
1 time	13	8%	16	11%	5	4%
2 or 3 times	3	2%	4	3%	1	1%
4 or 5 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%
10 or more times	1	1%	4	3%	0	0%
Total	18	12%	24	17%	6	5%

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

(This item was presented to 51 7th-graders, 58 9th-graders and 39 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	3	6%	7	12%	4	10%
A friend of someone I know	10	20%	17	29%	13	33%
A boyfriend, girlfriend, or date	0	0%	1	2%	1	3%
A parent, brother, sister, or other family member	20	39%	5	9%	5	13%
Someone not listed above	8	16%	19	33%	14	36%
More than one of the persons listed above	10	20%	9	16%	2	5%
Total	51	100%	58	100%	39	100%

7th graders are more likely to fight with family members, whereas high school students are more likely to fight with friends, acquaintances and strangers.

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	8	5%	16	11%	17	13%
No	148	95%	135	89%	111	87%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

There appears to be an upward trend in relationship violence as students get older; this may be due to the fact that older students are more likely to have had more experiences with dating.

Taking into account the responses in question 23, above, the number reporting getting into a physical fight with a boyfriend, girlfriend or date is lower than those reporting getting hurt on purpose. This may have to do with the different wording: “The last time...” versus “During the past 12 months ...”.

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	6	4%	11	7%	18	14%
No	150	96%	140	93%	110	86%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

As indicated in a later question (question 65), 20 7th graders, 75 9th graders and 81 11th graders indicated that they have ever had sex. Considering that 6 out of 20 7th 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	2	1%	11	7%	6	5%
No	154	99%	140	93%	122	95%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

27. Do you know any gang members?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	49	31%	81	54%	81	63%
No	107	69%	70	46%	47	37%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

More high school students report knowing gang members than 7th graders do.

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	17	11%	70	46%	62	48%
No	25	16%	7	5%	16	13%
I don't know	114	73%	74	59%	50	39%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	10	7%	27	18%	17	13%
No	146	93%	124	82%	111	87%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Based on these responses, it would be interesting to determine whether students entering high school are routinely approached more than students at other transition points.

Depression

30. 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	31	20%	50	33%	37	29%
No	125	80%	101	66%	91	71%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Feelings of sadness seem to occur more often for high school students in our sample. The 2010 data mirror the 2006 and 2008 findings, below.

Response	7 th grade	9 th grade		11 th grade	
	2008	2006	2008	2006	2008
Yes	23.4%	26.1%	31.0%	30.8%	31.3%
No	76.6%	73.9%	66.5%	68.4%	63.5%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	14	9%	27	18%	18	14%
No	142	91%	124	82%	110	86%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

There seems to be a large increase in suicidal ideation from middle school to high school.

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

(This item was presented to 14 7th-graders, 27 9th-graders and 18 11th-graders based on responses from question 31.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
1 time	2	1%	7	5%	3	2%
2 or 3 times	1	1%	2	1%	2	2%
4 or 5 times	2	1%	2	1%	1	1%
6 or more times	1	1%	4	3%	1	1%
Total	6	4%	15	10%	7	6%

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

(This item was presented to 14 7th-graders, 27 9th-graders and 18 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	9	64%	15	56%	6	33%
A friend, boyfriend, or girlfriend	2	14%	7	26%	7	39%
A parent, brother, sister or other family member	0	0%	3	10%	1	6%
A school counselor	0	0%	1	4%	0	0%
Someone not listed above	2	14%	0	0%	1	6%
More than one of the people listed above	1	7%	1	4%	3	17%
Total	14	100%	27	100%	18	100%

11th graders were the most likely to speak with someone when having suicidal thoughts. The likelihood of speaking with friends increased with grade level, and high school students reported speaking to family members more than middle school students did. In general, students do not perceive the school counselor to be a resource when struggling with suicidal thoughts.

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

(This item was presented to 14 7th-graders, 27 9th-graders and 18 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
Yes	4	29%	9	33%	8	44%
No	10	71%	18	67%	10	56%
Total	14	100%	27	100%	18	100%

As age increases, tendency to seek counseling for depression increases as well.

Initial Substance Use

35. 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	140	90%	80	53%	63	49%
9 years old or younger	6	4%	10	7%	10	8%
10 years old	2	1%	9	6%	6	5%
11 years old	3	2%	13	9%	6	5%
12 years old	4	3%	8	5%	11	9%
13 years old	1	1%	15	10%	9	7%
14 years old	0	0%	12	8%	6	5%
15 years old	0	0%	3	2%	9	7%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	6	5%
17 years old	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%
18 years old or older	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

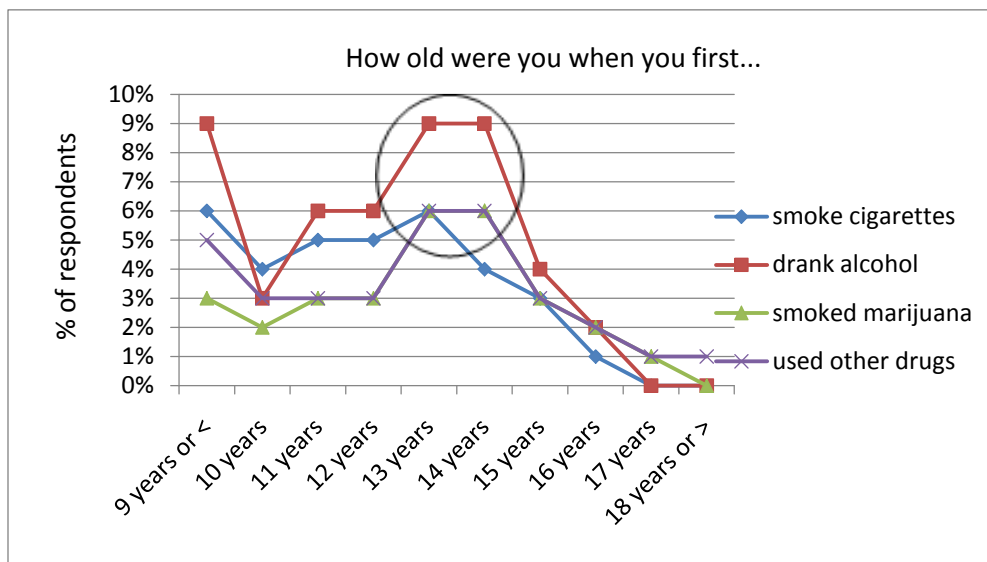
Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I have never had a drink of alcohol other than a few sips	122	78%	63	42%	38	30%
9 years old or younger	14	9%	11	7%	14	9%
10 years old	4	3%	9	6%	2	2%
11 years old	8	5%	10	7%	6	5%
12 years old	6	4%	16	11%	6	5%
13 years old	2	1%	20	13%	15	12%
14 years old	0	0%	18	12%	19	15%
15 years old	0	0%	3	2%	16	13%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	10	8%
17 years old	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
18 years old or older	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

#	Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
1	I have never smoked marijuana	148	95%	89	59%	74	58%
2	9 years old or younger	2	1%	7	5%	2	2%
3	10 years old	2	1%	5	3%	3	2%
4	11 years old	4	3%	5	3%	3	2%
5	12 years old	0	0%	6	4%	9	7%
6	13 years old	0	0%	20	13%	4	3%
7	14 years old	0	0%	12	8%	14	11%
8	15 years old	0	0%	5	3%	9	7%
9	16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	7	5%
10	17 years old	0	0%	0	0%	3	2%
11	18 years old or older	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%
	Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

62. 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	144	92%	84	56%	71	55%
9 years old or younger	6	4%	7	5%	7	5%
10 years old	3	2%	8	5%	2	2%
11 years old	3	2%	6	4%	4	3%
12 years old	0	0%	6	4%	6	5%
13 years old	0	0%	21	14%	5	4%
14 years old	0	0%	10	7%	15	12%
15 years old	0	0%	4	3%	9	7%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	8	6%
17 years old	0	0%	2	1%	1	1%
18 years old or older	0	0%	3	2%	0	0%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%



For those who have used cigarettes and alcohol, the age of first use is most often age 9 and under. Note an overall increase in first substance use from ages 13-14. The tapering of the lines downward with increased age is a function of fewer respondents being old enough to give those responses.

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.

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

(This item was presented to 16 7th-graders, 71 9th-graders and 65 11th-graders based on responses from question 35.)

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.	12	8%	25	17%	37	29%
1 cigarette per day	2	1%	11	7%	4	3%
2 to 5 cigarettes per day	0	0%	20	13%	10	8%
6 to 10 cigarettes per day	0	0%	6	4%	6	5%
11 to 20 cigarettes per day	1	1%	5	3%	6	5%
More than 20 cigarettes per day	1	1%	4	3%	2	2%
Total	16	11%	71	47%	65	52%

As grade level increases, frequency of smoking increases.

42. 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	153	98%	135	89%	110	86%
1 or 2 days	1	1%	6	4%	7	5%
3 to 5 days	1	1%	2	1%	5	4%
6 to 9 days	0	0%	3	2%	1	1%
10 to 19 days	0	0%	1	1%	3	2%
20 to 29 days	0	0%	0	0%	2	2%
All 30 days	1	1%	4	3%	0	0%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

As age increases, use of chewing tobacco increases.

***44. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?**

(This item was presented to 34 7th-graders, 88 9th-graders and 90 11th graders based on responses from question 43.)

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	8	5%	34	23%	28	22%
3 to 5 days	1	1%	13	9%	18	14%
6 to 9 days	0	0%	7	5%	7	5%
10 to 19 days	0	0%	5	3%	5	4%
20 to 29 days	0	0%	4	3%	2	2%
All 30 days	1	1%	6	4%	0	0%
Total	34	7%	88	47%	90	47%

***52. During the past 30 days, how many times have you used marijuana?**

(This item was presented to 8 7th-graders, 62 9th-graders and 54 11th-graders based on responses from question 51.)

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 times	0	0%	17	11%	7	5%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	6	4%	3	2%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	5	3%	0	0%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	5	3%	4	3%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	2	1%	6	5%
40 or more times	2	1%	13	9%	5	4%
Total	8	1%	62	31%	54	19%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
1 or 2 times	0	0%	2	1%	2	2%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	1	1%	2	2%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%
40 or more times	1	1%	2	1%	1	1%
Total	156	1%	151	6%	128	5%

56. 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	148	95%	134	89%	119	93%
1 or 2 times	5	3%	11	7%	5	4%
3 to 5 times	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
40 or more times	1	1%	4	3%	2	2%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	154	99%	146	97%	126	98%
1 or 2 times	0	0%	2	1%	1	1%
3 to 5 times	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
40 or more times	1	1%	2	1%	1	1%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

58. 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	154	99%	145	96%	125	98%
1 or 2 times	1	1%	2	1%	1	1%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
40 or more times	1	1%	3	2%	1	1%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

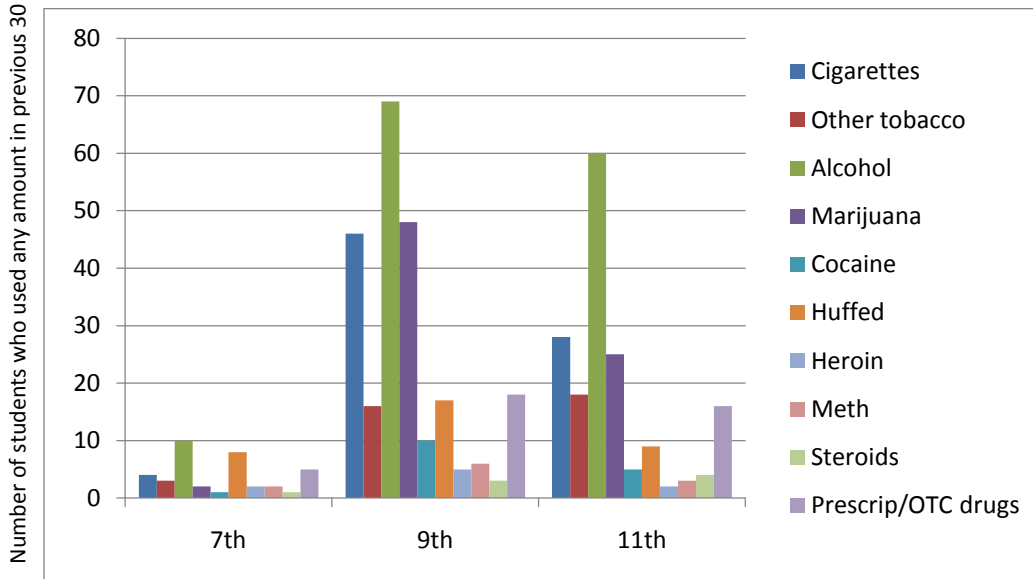
59. During the past 30 days, how many times have you taken steroids without a doctor’s prescription?

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
0 times	155	99%	148	98%	124	97%
1 or 2 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	1	1%	2	2%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
40 or more times	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

60. 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	151	97%	133	88%	112	88%
1 or 2 times	4	3%	9	6%	8	6%
3 to 5 times	0	0%	2	1%	4	3%
6 to 9 times	0	0%	2	1%	1	1%
10 to 19 times	0	0%	1	1%	2	2%
20 to 39 times	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%
40 or more times	1	1%	2	1%	1	1%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

During the past 30 days, how many times did you ...



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.

Alcohol use is highest within each grade, and increases suddenly when students enter high school. Marijuana use and cigarette smoking also appears to increase suddenly from middle to high school. Note that prescription and OTC drug use as a means of getting high, and other tobacco use jumps from 7th to 9th grade, then appears to level off.

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 hardest to get drugs. As students get older, their responses indicate it would be easier to obtain tobacco, alcohol and other drugs.

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

(This item was presented to 16 7th-graders, 71 9th-graders and 65 11th graders based on responses from question 35.)

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
Very difficult	2	13%	3	4%	2	3%
Somewhat difficult	3	19%	4	6%	6	9%
Somewhat easy	4	25%	18	25%	12	18%
Very easy	7	44%	46	65%	45	69%
Total	16	100%	71	100%	65	100%

Note: In error, this item was branched from item 35. It should have been presented to all participants.

48. 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	68	44%	25	17%	13	10%
Somewhat Difficult	36	23%	39	26%	28	22%
Somewhat Easy	28	18%	47	31%	40	31%
Very Easy	24	15%	40	26%	47	37%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

63. 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	77	49%	35	23%	27	21%
Somewhat Difficult	44	28%	38	25%	22	17%
Somewhat Easy	24	15%	38	25%	42	33%
Very Easy	11	7%	40	26%	37	29%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Perceived Risk of Substance Use

Respondents indicated that they perceive cigarette smoke to be the most harmful substance; 7th graders think marijuana is just as harmful as cigarette smoking. High school students responses indicate that they perceive marijuana use as less harmful than drinking alcohol (regarding those who indicated there is “no risk”).

40. 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	9	6%	7	5%	4	3%
Slight risk	16	10%	25	17%	14	11%
Moderate risk	40	26%	39	26%	30	23%
Great risk	91	58%	80	53%	80	63%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

49. 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	10%	13	9%	11	9%
Slight risk	32	21%	38	25%	35	27%
Moderate risk	59	38%	54	36%	58	45%
Great risk	50	32%	46	30%	24	19%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

53. 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	15	10%	35	23%	29	23%
Slight risk	7	4%	28	19%	28	22%
Moderate risk	27	17%	35	23%	29	23%
Great risk	107	69%	53	35%	42	33%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	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), whereas older students endorse the choices of “Wrong” and “A little bit wrong” at a higher rate. For all three substances, a low percentage of respondents indicated that their parents would regard their children’s substance usage as “Not at all wrong.”

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very wrong	133	85%	90	60%	91	71%
Wrong	16	10%	36	24%	23	18%
A little bit wrong	4	3%	21	14%	11	9%
Not at all wrong	3	2%	4	3%	3	2%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very wrong	114	73%	81	54%	71	55%
Wrong	30	19%	42	28%	35	27%
A little bit wrong	8	5%	20	13%	18	14%
Not at all wrong	4	3%	8	5%	4	3%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Very wrong	141	90%	100	66%	94	73%
Wrong	7	4%	26	17%	17	13%
A little bit wrong	5	3%	16	11%	9	7%
Not at all wrong	3	2%	9	6%	8	6%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Additional Tobacco Items

***37. During the past 30 days, if you got cigarettes, how did you usually get them?**

(This item was presented to 16 7th-graders, 71 9th-graders and 65 11th graders based on responses from question 35.)

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 get cigarettes in the past 30 days	11	7%	22	15%	32	25%
I bought them in a store such as a convenience store or supermarket	0	0%	2	1%	4	3%
I gave someone else money to buy them for me	1	1%	25	17%	15	12%
I got them from my parent	2	1%	1	1%	1	1%
Borrowed them from someone	1	1%	7	5%	4	3%
I stole them	0	0%	3	2%	0	0%
I got them some other way	1	1%	11	7%	9	7%
Total	16	11%	71	48%	65	51%

Borrowing cigarettes and giving someone else money to buy them seem to be the most common ways for minors in our sample to obtain cigarettes.

***38. 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 16 7th-graders, 71 9th-graders and 65 11th graders based on responses from question 35.)

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	1	6%	9	13%	16	25%
No	15	94%	62	87%	49	75%
Total	16	100%	71	100%	65	100%

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

45. 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	154	99%	145	96%	125	98%
1 or 2 days	1	1%	2	1%	2	2%
3 to 5 days	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%
6 to 9 days	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%
10 to 19 days	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
20 to 29 days	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
All 30 days	1	1%	2	1%	0	0%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Very few students in the sample responded that they have possessed alcohol on school property.

*46. 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 34 7th-graders, 88 9th-graders and 90 11th graders based on responses from question 43.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
0 days	31	20%	47	31%	54	42%
1 or 2 days	1	1%	20	13%	21	16%
3 to 5 days	1	1%	6	4%	8	6%
6 to 9 days	0	0%	8	5%	5	4%
10 to 19 days	0	0%	2	1%	1	1%
20 to 29 days	0	0%	2	1%	1	1%
All 30 days	1	1%	3	2%	0	0%
Total	34	22%	88	58%	90	70%

Reports of binge drinking are 8 times higher for 9th graders compared to 7th graders (26% to 3%).

***47. 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 34 7th-graders, 88 9th-graders and 90 11th-graders based on responses from question 43.)

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	5	15%	51	58%	57	63%
To fit in	0	0%	1	1%	1	1%
Because my friends drink	1	3%	0	0%	1	1%
To escape problems	2	6%	9	10%	11	12%
Boredom	3	9%	8	9%	1	1%
Curiosity	11	32%	7	8%	7	8%
Other	12	35%	12	14%	12	13%
Total	34	100%	88	100%	90	100%

Curiosity is more of a factor with younger students, whereas high school students highly endorsed using alcohol to have fun.

Additional Item about Other Drugs

61. 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	3	2%	24	16%	18	14%
No	153	98%	127	84%	110	86%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

There is a pronounced increase (14%) between 7th and 9th grades.

Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	89	57%	115	76%	100	78%
No	67	43%	36	24%	28	22%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

High school students are more likely to talk to their family members about sex.

65. 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	136	87%	76	50%	47	37%
11 years old or younger	8	5%	9	6%	10	8%
12 years old	6	4%	8	5%	2	2%
13 years old	5	3%	17	11%	10	8%
14 years old	0	0%	31	21%	16	13%
15 years old	0	0%	7	5%	24	19%
16 years old	0	0%	0	0%	17	13%
17 years old or older	1	1%	3	2%	2	2%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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.

***66. During your life, with how many different people have you had sexual activity?**

(This item was presented to 20 7th-graders, 75 9th-graders and 81 11th graders based on responses from question 65.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
1 person	8	5%	32	21%	22	17%
2 people	5	3%	19	13%	14	11%
3 people	4	3%	10	7%	18	14%
4 people	1	1%	4	3%	9	7%
5 people	0	0%	3	2%	5	4%
6 or more people	2	1%	7	5%	13	10%
Total	20	13%	75	50%	81	63%

The number of students having sex increases as grade level goes up. The proportion of students who have had multiple (>1) sex partners generally increases with grade level as well: 8% of 7th graders, 29% for 9th graders, and 46% for 11th graders.

LINE GRAPH?

***67. Have you ever drunk alcohol or used drugs before you engaged in sexual activity?**

(This item was presented to 20 7th-graders, 75 9th-graders and 81 11th graders based on responses from question 65.)

Answer	7th grade	% of entire 7 th grade	9th grade	% of entire 9 th grade	11th grade	% of entire 11 th grade
Yes	3	2%	27	18%	37	29%
No	17	11%	48	32%	44	34%
Total	20	13%	75	50%	81	63%

A big jump in alcohol use by sexually active students from 7th to 9th grade (2% to 18%) is evident. A noticeably higher proportion of 11th graders report alcohol/drug use in combination with sexual activity.

***68. If you have engaged in sexual activity, how often did you use any form of birth control?**

(This item was presented to 20 7th-graders, 75 9th-graders and 81 11th graders based on responses from question 65.)

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	7	35%	24	32%	43	53%
Most of the time	1	5%	7	9%	7	9%
Sometimes	2	10%	5	7%	8	10%
Never	10	50%	39	52%	23	28%
Total	20	100%	75	100%	81	100%

Risky behavior: About half of the two younger groups of students report never using birth control, compared to 28% of 11th graders who never use birth control. Over half of 11th graders use birth control every time, compared to about a third of 7th graders and 9th graders.

69. 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	35	22%	20	13%	7	5%
Friends/ peers	18	12%	12	8%	11	9%
Parents/ other family members	57	37%	25	17%	19	15%
Brother/ sisters	5	3%	2	1%	0	0%
School teachers/ counselors	18	12%	75	50%	71	55%
Doctors or nurses	7	4%	10	7%	11	9%
TV/ radio	11	7%	4	3%	3	2%
Magazines/ newspapers/ books	5	3%	3	2%	6	5%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

The youngest students are more likely to have not received information (22% vs. 13% and 5% for 9th and 11th graders, respectively). It appears that over half of high school students are getting information from teachers and counselors (compared to 12% of 7th graders), while more 7th graders respond that family members have provided information (37%). A slight increase in high school students who indicate that medical professionals have given this information suggests physicians may be more likely to bring the topic up with high-schoolers.

Nutrition

70. 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	19	12%	19	13%	8	6%
1-3 servings during the past 7 days	33	21%	31	21%	27	21%
4-6 servings during the past 7 days	25	16%	19	13%	22	17%
About 1 serving per day	39	25%	34	23%	19	15%
About 2 servings per day	10	6%	26	17%	31	24%
About 3 servings per day	14	9%	15	10%	13	10%
About 4 or more servings per day	16	10%	7	5%	8	6%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

About 50% of respondents consumed less than one serving of vegetables per day over the previous week. Less than 10% get the recommended amount of 4 or more daily servings.

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I did not drink soda or pop during the past 7 days.	30	19%	22	15%	27	21%
1-3 times during the past 7 days	61	39%	55	36%	44	34%
4-6 times during the past 7 days	14	9%	17	11%	11	9%
About 1 time per day	10	6%	12	8%	10	8%
About 2 times per day	19	12%	16	11%	8	6%
About 3 times per day	7	4%	9	6%	8	6%
About 4 or more times per day	15	10%	20	13%	20	16%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Soda consumption appears to be equivalent across grade levels.

72. 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	22	14%	23	15%	14	11%
1-3 servings during the past 7 days	69	44%	63	42%	54	42%
4-6 servings during the past 7 days	18	12%	17	11%	16	13%
About 1 serving per day	22	14%	17	11%	21	16%
About 2 servings per day	8	5%	8	5%	8	6%
About 3 servings per day	7	4%	8	5%	2	2%
About 4 or more servings per day	10	6%	15	10%	13	10%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Consumption of sweets appears to be equivalent across grade levels.

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	20	13%	24	16%	14	11%
No	136	87%	127	84%	114	89%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Yes responses are about equally distributed across grade levels, and resemble values in the 2008 survey.

	7 th grade		9 th grade		11 th grade	
Response	2008		2006	2008	2006	2008
Yes	16.7%		31.2%	11.9%	26.9%	18.4%
No	81.3%		68.1%	76.8%	72.3%	68.4%

Note: Percentages do not total 100% due to missing data.

Physical Activity and Leisure Time

74. 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	22	14%	28	19%	23	18%
1 day	12	8%	12	8%	9	7%
2 days	14	9%	12	8%	18	14%
3 days	28	18%	15	10%	15	12%
4 days	22	14%	16	11%	14	11%
5 days	16	10%	29	19%	13	10%
6 days	7	4%	7	5%	8	6%
7 days	35	22%	32	21%	28	22%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

75. 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	17	11%	27	18%	96	75%
1 day	2	1%	2	1%	3	2%
2 days	27	17%	3	2%	0	0%
3 days	101	65%	9	6%	3	2%
4 days	4	3%	5	3%	2	2%
5 days	5	3%	105	70%	24	19%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

76. 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	12	8%	22	15%	14	11%
Less than 1 hour per day	21	13%	17	11%	25	20%
1 hour per day	16	10%	17	11%	14	11%
2 hours per day	40	26%	31	21%	21	16%
3 hours per day	25	16%	28	19%	25	20%
4 hours per day	15	10%	12	8%	11	9%
5 or more hours per day	27	17%	24	16%	18	14%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
I do not play video or computer games or use a computer on an average school day	22	14%	24	16%	24	19%
Less than 1 hour per day	26	17%	18	12%	18	14%
1 hour per day	24	15%	24	16%	28	22%
2 hours per day	29	19%	32	21%	19	15%
3 hours per day	25	16%	23	15%	12	9%
4 hours per day	8	5%	6	4%	15	12%
5 or more hours per day	22	14%	24	16%	12	9%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

78. 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	38	24%	19	13%	12	9%
Less than 1 hour	29	19%	16	11%	14	11%
1 hour per day	17	11%	8	5%	13	10%
2 hours per day	17	11%	13	9%	7	5%
3 hours per day	11	7%	12	8%	12	9%
4 hours per day	6	4%	7	4%	8	6%
5 or more hours per day	38	24%	76	50%	62	48%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Older students, who are more likely to use cell phones, use them for more than 5 hours a day to a greater degree than younger students.

80. 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	126	81%	116	77%	84	66%
Less than 5 hours per week	12	8%	14	9%	9	7%
Between 5 and 10 hours per week	8	5%	11	7%	12	9%
Between 11 and 15 hours per week	5	3%	3	2%	12	9%
Between 16 and 20 hours per week	2	1%	2	1%	3	2%
More than 20 hours per week	3	3%	5	3%	8	6%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

Health

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Less than 7 hours	26	17%	54	36%	39	30%
7 hours	23	15%	44	29%	42	33%
8 hours	64	41%	42	28%	35	27%
More than 8 hours	43	28%	11	7%	12	9%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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

Answer	7th grade	%	9th grade	%	11th grade	%
Yes	34	22%	26	17%	18	14%
No	122	78%	125	83%	110	86%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

*82. For what reason were you not able to see the doctor/physician?

(This item was presented to 34 7th-graders, 26 9th-graders and 18 11th graders based on responses from question 81.)

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
No insurance	1	3%	8	31%	1	6%
No transportation	3	9%	1	4%	0	0%
Couldn't afford	6	18%	2	8%	5	28%
Don't have a regular doctor	0	0%	0	0%	1	6%
I don't know	24	71%	15	58%	11	61%
Total	34	100%	26	100	18	100%

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.

83. 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	96	62%	102	68%	95	74%
Between 12 and 24 months ago	16	10%	13	9%	11	9%
More than 24 months ago	9	6%	4	3%	5	4%
Never	3	2%	7	5%	1	1%
Not sure/don't remember	32	21%	25	17%	16	13%
Total	156	100%	151	100%	128	100%

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