



Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
at Case Western Reserve University

# 2018 Cuyahoga County Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Other Health Behaviors

## Introduction

---

The Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods (PRCHN) at Case Western Reserve University has administered the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) in school districts throughout Cuyahoga County since 2000. The YRBS is a cross-sectional tool developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to track adolescent risk behavior over time. In Fall of 2018, the PRCHN conducted the YRBS among 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in Cuyahoga County middle schools. A more detailed description of the methodology is available at our website, [http://prchn.org/yrbs\\_home.aspx](http://prchn.org/yrbs_home.aspx).

This brief report presents results from the 2018 Cuyahoga County Middle School Youth Risk Behavior Survey, with a particular focus on other health behaviors. In this brief report, we present:

- [Overall Prevalence](#)
- [Regional Prevalence](#)
- [Demographic Prevalence](#)
- [Trend Report](#)

Data for similar behaviors can be found at our website, [http://prchn.org/yrbs\\_home.aspx](http://prchn.org/yrbs_home.aspx)

## Other Health Behaviors

---

Adverse childhood experiences such as childhood abuse, neglect, and childhood health problems are strongly associated with frequent residential mobility.<sup>i</sup> Neighborhoods with high levels of crime are often densely populated, mixed use (businesses and residences in the same area) areas, with concentrated poverty, a transient population, a high proportion of single-parent households, and dilapidated buildings.<sup>ii,iii</sup> Children and adolescents living in neighborhoods characterized by crime are more likely to become victims of violent crime<sup>iv</sup> and to perpetrate acts of violence.<sup>v</sup> Children who witness crime and violence are more likely to experience social and emotional problems such as aggression, stress, and withdrawal, as well as delinquency and low school achievement.<sup>vi, vii</sup> Having a safe neighborhood is important for positive child and youth development.<sup>viii</sup>

Several local organizations in the greater Cleveland area have joined forces to address challenges faced by children of incarcerated parents.<sup>ix,x</sup> Examples of challenges faced by children of incarcerated parents include trauma related to parent's arrest and criminal activity, loss of financial support from parent, and loss of access to a social safety net.<sup>x</sup> Prior studies indicate youth's attitudes toward police officers are influenced by their past experiences with police officers.<sup>xi</sup> Police serve as gatekeepers between youth and the juvenile justice system, yet a large proportion of interactions between police and youth can be categorized as negative.<sup>xii</sup> Adolescents may develop negative attitudes from other interactions with police that do not end in legal action. The police-related questions were taken from the ACLU of Wisconsin's "A Survey about Police".<sup>xiii</sup>

## Overall Prevalence

The following table summarizes health behaviors that are not included in another individual content module, among the 12,936 middle school students who completed the 2018 Cuyahoga County YRBS. Prevalence estimates and 95% confidence intervals were computed for all variables.

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Lives with 2 parents (Biological or Step-parent)	65.9 (64.7 - 67.2)
Does not usually sleep in parent or guardian's home (homelessness) (Sleeps in home of friend or family, in shelter, motel, car, or no usual place)	3.6 (3.2 - 4.0)
Never or rarely feels safe and secure in neighborhood	8.6 (8.0 - 9.2)
Parent(s) or guardian(s) have been in prison or jail (During the 12 months before the survey.)	9.4 (8.8 - 10.1)
Had been stopped, questioned, or searched by police (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	14.1 (13.4 - 14.9)
Described encounters with police as negative or mostly negative (Of those who had encounters with the police during the 12 months before the survey.)	32.8 (31.1 - 34.5)

## Regional Prevalence

The table below represents health behaviors that are not included in another individual content module, by the six regions of Cuyahoga County. This division was conducted to provide a geographic representation of the prevalence of different risk behaviors in Cuyahoga County. In 2018, we were able to weight to 4 of 6 regions in Cuyahoga County. The columns under Outer Ring–West and Outer Ring–East do not include data because school participation within these regions was insufficient to permit weighting.

Risk Behavior	CMSD East % (95% CI)	CMSD West % (95% CI)	Inner Ring East % (95% CI)	Inner Ring West % (95% CI)	Outer Ring East % (95% CI)	Outer Ring West % (95% CI)
Lives with 2 parents (Biological or Step-parent)	39.2 (36.9 - 41.5)	55.1 (51.9 - 58.2)	52.6 (50.3 - 55.0)	70.2 (67.7 - 72.5)	N/A	N/A
Does not usually sleep in parent or guardian's home (homelessness) (Sleeps in home of friend or family, in shelter, motel, car, or no usual place)	7.2 (6.0 - 8.7)	7.1 (5.6 - 8.9)	3.9 (3.1 - 4.8)	1.8 (1.3 - 2.5)	N/A	N/A
Never or rarely feels safe and secure in neighborhood	20.9 (19.1 - 22.8)	15.6 (13.6 - 17.9)	12.8 (11.4 - 14.4)	4.6 (3.7 - 5.6)	N/A	N/A
Parent(s) or guardian(s) have been in prison or jail (During the 12 months before the survey.)	21.3 (19.5 - 23.2)	15.5 (13.4 - 17.8)	13.7 (12.4 - 15.2)	6.7 (5.7 - 8.0)	N/A	N/A
Had been stopped, questioned, or searched by police (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	21.8 (19.6 - 24.3)	18.4 (16.4 - 20.5)	18.7 (17.1 - 20.4)	14.5 (12.7 - 16.6)	N/A	N/A
Described encounters with police as negative or mostly negative (Of those who had encounters with the police during the 12 months before the survey.)	54.2 (50.5 - 57.9)	60.7 (56.9 - 64.3)	33.5 (30.7 - 36.4)	20.8 (18.2 - 23.7)	N/A	N/A

## Demographic Prevalence

The tables below allow for further comparisons of health behaviors that are not included in another individual content module between demographic groups. Data are presented by gender, race/ethnicity, and grade level. A statistically significant difference exists between groups if the 95% confidence intervals do not overlap.

Lives with two parents (biological or step)			
Category	%	CI	
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	64.9	63.4	- 66.4
Male	67.0	65.2	- 68.8
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White	78.8	77.3	- 80.1
Black	44.8	42.7	- 46.8
Hispanic	58.3	55.1	- 61.4
Other/Multiple	67.3	64.0	- 70.4
<b>Grade</b>			
7th	67.7	65.2	- 70.1
8th	64.6	62.3	- 66.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>64.7</b>	<b>- 67.2</b>

Does not usually sleep in parent or guardian's home (homelessness)			
Category	%	CI	
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	2.5	2.1	- 3.0
Male	4.5	3.8	- 5.2
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White	1.6	1.2	- 2.2
Black	5.7	4.9	- 6.6
Hispanic	9.6	6.7	- 13.4
Other/Multiple	5.7	4.1	- 7.8
<b>Grade</b>			
7th	3.1	2.6	- 3.7
8th	3.5	2.9	- 4.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>- 3.4</b>

Never or rarely feels safe and secure in neighborhood		
Category	%	CI
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	9.7	8.8 - 10.7
Male	7.5	6.6 - 8.4
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
White	4.2	3.5 - 5.0
Black	14.6	13.4 - 15.8
Hispanic	17.2	14.2 - 20.8
Other/Multiple	9.8	7.9 - 12.0
<b>Grade</b>		
7th	8.1	7.2 - 9.2
8th	8.5	7.4 - 9.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>8.0 - 9.2</b>

Parent(s) or guardian(s) have been in prison or jail		
Category	%	CI
<b>Gender</b>		
Female	9.5	8.6 - 10.4
Male	9.2	8.3 - 10.2
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
White	4.8	4.1 - 5.7
Black	16.0	14.9 - 17.2
Hispanic	16.3	13.1 - 20.0
Other/Multiple	11.0	8.9 - 13.5
<b>Grade</b>		
7th	8.6	7.5 - 9.8
8th	9.7	8.7 - 10.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>8.8 - 10.1</b>

Had been stopped, questioned, or searched by police			
Category	%	CI	
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	10.7	9.8	11.7
Male	17.2	16.1	18.5
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White	9.6	8.6	10.6
Black	20.5	19.2	21.9
Hispanic	21.5	18.5	24.9
Other/Multiple	16.9	14.5	19.6
<b>Grade</b>			
7th	12.1	11.0	13.3
8th	15.6	14.4	16.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>14.9</b>

Described encounters with police as negative or mostly negative			
Category	%	CI	
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	33.4	31.1	35.8
Male	32.0	29.7	34.5
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>			
White	23.0	20.7	25.6
Black	43.7	41.1	46.4
Hispanic	54.3	49.4	59.0
Other/Multiple	32.8	28.6	37.2
<b>Grade</b>			
7th	32.3	29.0	35.8
8th	32.5	29.4	35.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>34.5</b>

## Cuyahoga County Trend Data

The following table presents the prevalence of other health behaviors among Cuyahoga County middle school students in 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018. The prevalence for each year is given (when available), with 95% confidence intervals below. <sup>1</sup>

Cuyahoga County, 2010	Cuyahoga County, 2012	Cuyahoga County, 2014	Cuyahoga County, 2016	Cuyahoga County, 2018
<b>Parent(s) or guardian(s) have been in prison or jail</b> (During the 12 months before the survey.)				
N/A	N/A	N/A	8.3% (7.9 - 8.7)	9.4% (8.8 - 10.1)

<sup>1</sup> The YRBS questions with two or more data points over 2010-2018 are included. The new 2018 questions are not included for the purpose of demonstrating trends. For those questions not asked in 2018, refer to the PRCHN archives at [www.prchn.org/aspx](http://www.prchn.org/aspx) for more detailed information.

## Contact Information

---

**Prepared by:**

Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
Case Western Reserve University  
10900 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106-7069  
[www.prchn.org](http://www.prchn.org)

**For more information, please contact:**

Erika S. Trapl, PhD  
Associate Professor, Department of Population & Quantitative Health Sciences  
Associate Director, Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
Case Western Reserve University  
[Erika.trapl@case.edu](mailto:Erika.trapl@case.edu)  
216-368-0098

Jean L. Frank, MPH  
Director of Adolescent Surveillance and Evaluation  
Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
Case Western Reserve University  
[Jean.frank@case.edu](mailto:Jean.frank@case.edu)  
216-368-5913

Audrey E. Kinsella, MPH  
Community and Evaluation Project Coordinator  
Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
Case Western Reserve University  
[Audrey.kinsella@case.edu](mailto:Audrey.kinsella@case.edu)  
216-368-5746

Catherine C. Osborn, MA  
School-based Surveillance & Evaluation Coordinator  
Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
Case Western Reserve University  
[Catherine.osborn@case.edu](mailto:Catherine.osborn@case.edu)

Jude Fahoum, BA  
School-based Surveillance and Evaluation Specialist  
Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
Case Western Reserve University  
[Jude.fahoum@case.edu](mailto:Jude.fahoum@case.edu)

Marisa Hollinshead, BS  
Graduate Assistant  
Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods  
Case Western Reserve University  
[Marisa.hollinshead@case.edu](mailto:Marisa.hollinshead@case.edu)

### Funding

This work is a product of a Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research Center supported by Cooperative Agreement Number 1U48DP005030 and by Cooperative Agreement Number: NU87PS2018-004348 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and by TP1AH000093-01-00 from The Office of Adolescent Health. This work is also supported by the Cleveland Foundation, the Educational Service Center of NE Ohio, the George Gund Foundation, and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland. The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

CWRU IRB Protocol #2012-274.



- 
- <sup>i</sup> Dong M, Anda RF, Felitti VJ, et al. Childhood Residential Mobility and Multiple Health Risks During Adolescence and Adulthood: The Hidden Role of Adverse Childhood Experiences. *Arch Pediatric Adolescent Med.* 2005;159 (12):1104-1110. doi:10.1001/archpedi.159.12.1104.
- <sup>ii</sup> Wilkenfeld, B., Moore, K. A., Lippman, L. (2008). Neighborhood support and children's connectedness. Washington, DC: Child Trends from [https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Child\\_Trends-2008\\_02\\_05\\_ConnectednessFS.pdf](https://www.childtrends.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Child_Trends-2008_02_05_ConnectednessFS.pdf).
- <sup>iii</sup> Sampson, R.J., Groves, WB. Community structure and crime: Testing social-disorganization theory. *American Journal of Sociology*:1989, 94(4), 774-802.
- <sup>iv</sup> Sampson, RJ, Raudenbush, SW. Systematic social observation of public spaces: A new look at disorder in urban neighborhoods. *American Journal of Sociology*:1999,105(3), 603-651.
- <sup>v</sup> Kendrick, D., Mulyaney, C., Burton, P., Watson, M. (2005). Relationships between child, family and neighborhood characteristics and childhood injury: A cohort study. *Social Science & Medicine*, 60,1905-1915.
- <sup>vi</sup> Herrenkohl, TI., Maguin, E., Hill, KG., Hawkins, JD., Abbott, RD., & Catalano, RF. Developmental risk factors for youth violence. *Journal of Adolescent Health*: 2000, 26(3), 176-186.
- <sup>vii</sup> Reich, K, Culross, PL, & Behrman, RE. Children, youth, and gun violence: Analysis and recommendations. *Future of Children*: 2002, 12(2), 5-23.
- <sup>viii</sup> Finkelhor, D, Turner, H, Ormrod, R, Hamby, S, & Kracke, K. Children's exposure to violence: A comprehensive national survey. Available at <http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ojdp/227744.pdf>. Accessed on July 20, 2017.
- <sup>ix</sup> Schlafer RJ, Gerrity E, Ruhland E, Wheeler M. Children with Incarcerated Parents - Considering Children's Outcomes in the Context of Family Experiences. *Children's Mental Health eReview*. 2013; 4-5.
- <sup>x</sup> Schubert Center for Child Studies. Children of Incarcerated Parents: An Overview. *Issue Brief*. October, 2014; 3.
- <sup>xi</sup> Liederback J. Controlling Suburban and small-town hoods: An examination of police encounters with juveniles. *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*. 2007;5, 107-124.
- <sup>xii</sup> Bradford, B., Jackson, J., & Stanko, E. A. (2009). Contact and confidence: Revisiting the impact of public encounters with the police. *Policing and Society*, 19(1), 20-46.
- <sup>xiii</sup> American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin. A survey about the police. Retrieved from: <https://www.acluwi.org/sites/default/files/resources/documents/MPD%20Attitudes%20Survey.pdf>. Accessed on July 20, 2017.