



Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods
at Case Western Reserve University

2015 Cuyahoga County Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Overall Prevalence

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 spring of 2015, the PRCHN conducted the YRBS among 9th through 12th grade students in Cuyahoga County high schools. A more detailed description of the methodology is available at our website, <http://prchn.org/yrbs.apsx>.

Overall Prevalence

This brief report summarizes responses among the 11,856 high school students who completed the 2015 Cuyahoga County Youth Risk Behavior Survey. In this brief report, we present overall prevalence for:

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- [Behaviors that Contribute to Unintentional Injuries](#)
- [Depression and Suicide](#)
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Prevalence estimates and 95% confidence intervals were computed for all dichotomous variables.

The overall response rate (54.4%) **did not** reach the standard of 60%, which allows for the data to be considered representative of all students, even those that did not complete the survey. However, the data were weighted to the population of 9th through 12th grade students in Cuyahoga County. A weight was applied to each record to adjust for student non response and the distribution of students by grade, gender, race/ethnicity, and geographic region within Cuyahoga County. The stability of the data should be considered, given the lower than required overall response rate, and results should be interpreted with caution.

Alcohol Use

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Ever used alcohol (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least one day during their life.)	58.2 (56.2-60.1)
Drank alcohol before age 13 years (Other than a few sips.)	14.4 (13.4-15.5)
Current alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)	29.9 (27.8-32.1)
Had 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple of hours (On one or more days during the 30 days before the survey.)	15.8 (14.0-17.8)
Attended a party or gathering in a home where parents permitted students to use alcohol (In the 30 days before the survey.)	22.4 (21.1-23.9)

Behaviors that Contribute to Unintentional Injuries

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Rarely or never wore a seatbelt (When riding in a car driven by someone else.)	10.4 (9.2-11.8)
Rarely or never wore a bicycle helmet (Among students who had ridden a bicycle during the 12 months before the survey.)	83.7 (81.1-86.1)
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol (During the past 30 days.)	21.3 (20.1-22.5)
Drove when drinking alcohol (During the 30 days before the survey among students who had driven a vehicle during the 30 days before the survey.)	8.4 (7.4-9.5)
Texted or e-mailed while driving (Among students who had driven a vehicle during the 30 days before the survey.)	37.0 (34.1-40.0)
Suffered severe blow to head (During the 12 months before the survey.)	11.6 (10.0-13.4)

Depressive Symptoms and Suicide

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Intentional self-harm (Such as cutting or burning self; during 12 months before survey.)	18.1 (17.1-19.1)
Felt sad or hopeless (Almost every day for two weeks or more in a row, during the 12 months before the survey.)	28.4 (27.1-29.7)
Seriously considered attempting suicide (During the 12 months before the survey.)	15.7 (14.7-16.7)
Attempted suicide (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	11.4 (10.6-12.3)

Family Environment

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Went hungry because there was not enough food at home (Sometimes, most of the time, or always; during the 30 days before the survey.)	15.0 (13.9-16.2)
Lives with two parents (Biological or Step)	62.0 (60.0-64.0)
Lives with one parent (Biological or Step)	31.8 (30.0-33.6)
Lives with someone else	6.2 (5.5-7.0)
Changed homes one or more times (During the 12 months before the survey.)	22.0 (20.7-23.3)
Parent(s) or guardian(s) have been in prison or jail (During the 12 months before the survey.)	8.1 (7.4-8.9)

Illegal and Prescription Drug Use

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Ever used marijuana (Used marijuana one or more times during their life.)	36.7 (34.5-38.9)
Tried marijuana before age 13 years	7.6 (6.8-8.4)
Current marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	20.6 (19.0-22.3)
Ever used an illicit drug (Used any form of cocaine, heroin, methamphetamines, or ecstasy one or more times during their life.)	5.6 (4.9-6.3)
Ever used synthetic marijuana (Used K2, Spice, fake weed, King Kong, Yucatan Fire, Skunk, or Moon Rocks one or more times during their life.)	7.0 (6.2-7.8)
Ever used unauthorized prescription drugs (Used OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life.)	14.0 (12.9-15.1)
Current unauthorized prescription drug use (Used OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax without a doctor's prescription one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	8.3 (7.3-9.3)

Nutrition

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Ate fruits and vegetables five or more times per day (During the 7 days before the survey.)	20.8 (19.6-22.1)
Had a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop one or more times per day (Not including diet soda or diet pop, during the 7 days before the survey.)	18.5 (17.2-19.9)
Drank a bottle or glass of plain water at least once every day (During the 7 days before the survey.)	67.7 (65.9-69.3)
Drank water at school on average every day (Including water from a fountain, a sink or faucet, a bottle, a reusable bottle you brought from home, or some other source; during an average school week.)	48.9 (47.2-50.7)
Did not eat breakfast every day (During the 7 days before the survey.)	70.1 (68.7-71.5)
Ate fast food on one or more days (During the 7 days before the survey.)	70.5 (68.8-72.2)
Took a multivitamin every day (During the 7 days before the survey.)	8.5 (7.7-9.4)

Obesity and Weight Control

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Obese (Having a BMI of >95 th percentile for age and sex. Calculated from self-reported height and weight, adjusted for sex and age.)	13.3 (12.3-14.3)
Overweight (Having a BMI >85 th percentile and <95 th percentile for age and sex. Calculated from self-reported height and weight, adjusted for sex and age.)	18.2 (16.6-20.0)
Describes self as slightly or very overweight	29.9 (28.5-31.3)
Trying to lose weight	42.5 (40.8-44.2)

Physical Activity

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Participated in 60 or more minutes of physical activity on 5 or more days (During the 7 days before the survey.)	42.8 (41.2-44.4)
Did not participate in 60 or more minutes of physical activity on any day (During the 7 days before the survey.)	17.7 (16.5-18.9)
Watched television 3 or more hours per day (On an average school day.)	25.7 (24.3-27.2)
Used computers 3 or more hours per day (Played video or computer games or used a computer for something that was not school work on an average school day.)	40.1 (38.1-42.0)
Played on one or more sports teams (During the past 12 months.)	61.5 (59.7-63.4)
Walked or rode bike to or from school 3 or more days (During an average school week when the weather allows.)	24.3 (22.8-25.8)
Rode a bicycle during the past 12 months	73.2 (71.7-74.6)

Positive Youth Development

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Ate at least one meal with family (On one or more days of the 7 days before the survey.)	81.4 (79.7-82.9)
Spent at least one day in clubs or organizations outside of school (During the 7 days before the survey.)	51.0 (49.1-52.9)
Parents talk with student about school almost every day	54.4 (52.7-56.2)
Students feel like they matter to people in their community (Agree and strongly agree)	47.1 (45.0-49.2)
Obtained eight or more hours of sleep (On an average school night.)	20.4 (19.1-21.7)
Supportive adult (One or more adults, other than a parent, who they would feel comfortable seeking help from if there was an important issue or question affecting their life.)	82.0 (80.8-83.1)
Described their grades in school as A's and B's (During the 12 months before the survey.)	76.6 (74.7-78.3)

Preventive Health Care

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Described health in general as fair or poor	13.0 (11.8-14.1)
Saw a doctor or nurse for check-up (During the 12 months before the survey.)	71.3 (69.8-72.8)
Saw a doctor, nurse, therapist, social worker, or counselor for a mental health issue (During the 12 months before the survey.)	31.2 (29.6-32.9)
Saw a dentist for routine check-up (Not including emergencies, during the 12 months before the survey.)	84.2 (83.0-85.4)

Reproductive Health

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Ever had sexual intercourse (Had sexual intercourse one or more times during their life.)	39.6 (37.6-41.6)
Had sexual intercourse before age 13 years	5.3 (4.7-6.0)
Had sexual intercourse with four or more people (During their life.)	11.1 (9.6-12.8)
Currently sexually active (Had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the past 3 months.)	28.1 (26.4-30.0)
Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse (Among students who had ever had sexual intercourse.)	16.5 (14.9-18.4)
Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse (Among students who were currently sexually active.)	17.7 (14.9-19.5)
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who had ever had sexual intercourse.)	61.2 (58.4-63.9)
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who were currently sexually active.)	56.6 (52.9-60.3)
Been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant (One or more times during their life.)	4.3 (3.8-4.8)
Ever taught in school about AIDS or HIV infection	84.0 (82.9-85.1)
Ever been tested for HIV (The virus that causes AIDS.)	14.3 (13.4-15.3)

Tobacco and Electronic Vapor Use

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Ever smoked cigarettes (Smoked a cigarette, even one or two puffs, on at least one day during their life.)	30.2 (28.6-31.8)
Current cigarette use (Smoked a cigarette on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)	9.8 (8.8-10.8)
Ever tried to quit smoking cigarettes (During the 12 months before the survey among students who smoked during the 12 months before the survey.)	32.6 (29.4-36.0)
Current cigar use (Smoked a cigar, cigarillo, little cigar, or flavored cigar on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)	15.0 (13.7-16.5)
Current hookah use (Smoked hookah at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)	13.0 (12.0-14.1)
Tried first tobacco product before age 13 years	8.9 (8.2-9.7)

Ever used an electronic vapor product	38.0 (36.2-39.8)
Current electronic vapor product use (Used at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)	18.7 (17.4-20.0)

Violence

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Carried a weapon (Such as a gun, knife, or club; one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	12.1 (11.2-13.0)
Did not go to school because of safety concerns (One or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	8.2 (7.5-8.9)
In a physical fight (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	25.4 (23.8-27.0)
Forced to have sexual intercourse	7.1 (6.5-7.8)
Physically injured by someone they were dating or going out with (Such as being hit, slammed into something, or injured with an object or weapon; one or more times during the 12 months before the survey, among the students dating.)	11.3 (10.3-12.4)
Forced to do sexual things by someone they were dating or going out with (Such things as kissing, touching, or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse, among the students dating.)	10.9 (9.9-12.0)
Bullied on school property (During the 12 months before the survey.)	18.9 (17.8-20.2)
Electronically bullied (Such as through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or text messaging; during the 12 months before the survey.)	16.1 (15.0-17.2)

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