



Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods
at Case Western Reserve University

2012 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 2012, the PRCHN conducted the YRBS among 7th and 8th grade students in Cuyahoga County middle schools. A more detailed description of the methodology is available at our website, <http://prchn.org/yrebs.apsx>.

Overall Prevalence

This brief report summarizes responses among the 12,341 middle school students who completed the 2012 Cuyahoga County Youth Risk Behavior Survey. In this brief report, we present overall prevalence for:

- [Alcohol Use](#)
- [Behaviors that Contribute to Unintentional Injuries](#)
- [Depression and Suicide](#)
- [Illegal and Prescription Drug Use](#)
- [Nutrition](#)
- [Obesity and Weight Control](#)
- [Physical Activity](#)
- [Positive Youth Development](#)
- [Preventive Health Care](#)
- [Reproductive Health](#)
- [Tobacco Use](#)
- [Violence](#)

Prevalence estimates and 95% confidence intervals were computed for all dichotomous variables.

Alcohol Use

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Lifetime alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during their life.)	27.7% (26.6-28.8)
Drank alcohol before age 11 years (Other than a few sips.)	8.4% (7.8-9.0)
Current alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	9.5% (8.8-10.1)
Students believe it is very wrong for someone their age to drink alcohol regularly	60.6% (59.4-61.9)
Students perceive that their parents believe it is very wrong for them to drink alcohol regularly	83.1% (82.2-84.0)
Students perceive great risk of harm from drinking alcohol (Physically or in other ways, if drink one or two alcoholic beverages nearly every day.)	50.1% (48.8-51.3)

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.)	10.3% (9.5-11.0)
Rarely or never wore a bicycle helmet (Among students who had ridden a bicycle during the 12 months before the survey.)	78.0% (76.9-79.1)

Depression and Suicide

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Purposely hurt self without wanting to die (Such as cutting or burning self; during 12 months before survey.)	14.4% (13.6-15.2)
Felt sad or hopeless (Almost every day for two weeks or more in a row, during the 12 months before the survey.)	20.1% (19.2-21.1)
Seriously considered attempting suicide (During the 12 months before the survey.)	13.5% (12.8-14.3)
Attempted suicide (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	8.7% (8.0-9.3)

Illegal and Prescription Drug Use

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Lifetime marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during their life.)	10.9% (10.1-11.7)
Tried marijuana before age 11 years	2.0% (1.7-2.3)
Current marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	6.5% (5.9-7.1)
Current unauthorized prescription drug use (Used prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	9.6% (9.0-10.3)
Offered, sold, or given drugs on school property (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	9.3% (8.6-10.0)
Students believe it is very wrong for someone their age to smoke marijuana	72.5% (71.3-73.6)
Students perceive that their parents believe it is very wrong for them to smoke marijuana	88.7% (88.0-89.5)
Students perceive great risk of harm from trying marijuana once or twice (Physically or in other ways.)	45.3% (44.1-46.5)
Students perceive great risk of harm from smoking marijuana regularly (Physically or in other ways.)	68.1% (67.0-69.3)

Nutrition

Risk Behavior	%(95% Confidence Interval)
Ate fruits and vegetables five or more times per day (During the day before the survey.)	28.1% (27.0-29.1)
Ate fast food one or more times (During the 7 days before the survey.)	70.6% (69.6-71.7)
Did not eat breakfast every day (During the 7 days before the survey.)	58.7% (57.6-59.9)
Drank 3 or more glasses of milk per day (During the day before the survey.)	24.3% (23.4-25.3)

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.)	12.6% (11.4-13.7)
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.)	16.4% (15.4-17.4)
Describes self as slightly or very overweight	23.9% (22.8-25.0)
Trying to lose weight	38.6% (37.4-39.9)

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.)	54.7% (53.4-56.0)
Did not participate in 60 or more minutes of physical activity on any day (During the 7 days before the survey.)	7.1% (6.5- 7.8)
Watched television 3 or more hours per day (On an average school day.)	34.9% (33.8-35.9)
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.)	32.5% (31.4-33.6)
Played on one or more sports teams (During the past 12 months.)	71.9% (70.7-73.0)

Positive Youth Development

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Spent at least one hour in clubs or organizations outside of school (During the 7 days before the survey.)	60.3% (59.2-61.4)
Spent at least one hour helping other people without getting paid to make one's community a better place for people to live (During the 7 days before the survey.)	42.5% (41.3-43.7)
Parents talk with student about school almost every day	57.8% (56.6-59.0)
Students help decide what goes on in school (Agree and strongly agree)	44.2% (43.0-45.3)
Students feel like they matter to people in their community (Agree and strongly agree)	48.9% (47.7-50.1)
Described their grades in school as A's and B's (During the 12 months before the survey.)	68.7% (67.4-70.0)
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.)	87.3 (86.6-88.0)
Trusted friend (One or more friends who would offer good advice if there was a really important secret or problem affecting their life.)	89.2% (88.5-89.9)
Ate dinner with family (On one or more days of the 7 days before the survey.)	87.0% (86.2-87.9)

Preventive Health Care

Risk Behavior	%(95% Confidence Interval)
Described health in general as fair or poor	8.1% (7.4-8.8)
Saw a doctor or nurse for check-up (During the 12 months before the survey.)	66.9% (65.8-68.0)

Reproductive Health

Risk Behavior	%(95% Confidence Interval)
Lifetime sexual intercourse (Had sexual intercourse one or more times during their life.)	15.8% (14.8-16.7)
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who had ever had sexual intercourse.)	72.8% (70.3-75.3)
Ever taught in school about AIDS or HIV infection	76.6% (75.5-77.8)

Tobacco Use

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Lifetime cigarette use (Smoked a cigarette, even one or two puffs, on at least 1 day during their life.)	8.8% (8.1-9.5)
Smoked a whole cigarette before age 11 years	2.5% (2.2-2.9)
Current cigarette use (Smoked a cigarette on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	3.7% (3.3-4.0)
Cigarette use on school property (Smoked cigarettes on school property at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	1.9% (1.6, 2.3)
Current cigar use (Smoked a cigar, cigarillo, little cigar, or flavored cigar on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	6.7% (6.1-7.3)
Students believe it is very wrong for someone their age to smoke cigarettes	72.5% (71.4-73.6)
Students perceive that their parents believe it is very wrong for them to smoke cigarettes	89.0% (88.3-89.8)
Students perceive great risk of harm from smoking cigarettes (Physically or in other ways, if smoke one or more packs a day.)	65.4% (64.2-66.6)

Violence

Risk Behavior	% (95% Confidence Interval)
Carried a weapon on school property (Such as a gun, knife, or club; one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	3.6% (3.2-4.1)
Did not go to school because of safety concerns (One or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)	8.1% (7.4-8.7)
In a physical fight (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	34.8% (33.5-36.0)
In a physical fight on school property (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	16.9% (16.0-17.8)
Bullied on school property (During the 12 months before the survey.)	33.8% (32.6-34.9)
Electronically bullied (Such as through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or text messaging; during the 12 months before the survey.)	21.7% (20.7-22.7)

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