



Prevention Research Center for Healthy Neighborhoods
at Case Western Reserve University

2015 Cuyahoga County Youth Risk Behavior Survey: Trend Data

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>.

Cuyahoga County Trend Data

This brief report presents the prevalence of health risk behaviors among Cuyahoga County high school students in 2009, 2011, 2013 and 2015. In this brief report, we present:

- [Alcohol Use](#)
- [Behaviors that Contribute to Unintentional Injuries](#)
- [Depression and Suicide](#)
- [Illegal and Prescription Drug Use](#)
- [Nutrition](#)
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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

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Ever used alcohol (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least one day during their life.)			
65.4 (63.4-67.4)	61.9 (60.2-63.6)	59.7 (58.0-61.4)	58.2 (56.2-60.1)
Drank alcohol before age 13 years (Other than a few sips.)			
18.0 (15.7-20.3)	15.6 (14.5-16.7)	15.2 (14.1-16.2)	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.)			
33.4 (31.3-35.5)	31.8 (30.3-33.3)	33.4 (31.7-35.1)	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.)			
15.9 (14.3-17.5)	15.3 (14.2-16.4)	17.0 (15.7-18.3)	15.8 (14.0-17.8)
Attended a party or gathering in a home where parents permitted students to use alcohol (One or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)			
26.9 (25.2-28.7)	23.8 (22.1-25.5)	n/a	22.4 (21.1-23.9)

Behaviors that Contribute to Unintentional Injuries

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Rarely or never wore a seatbelt (When riding in a car driven by someone else.)			
13.0 (11.5-14.5)	14.4 (13.6-15.2)	11.8 (11.0-12.5)	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.)			
83.8 (80.7-86.8)	n/a	86.2 (85.1-87.3)	83.7 (20.1-22.5)
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol (During the past 30 days.)			
26.7 (25.2-28.2)	21.2 (20.1-22.3)	22.5 (21.4-23.6)	21.3 (20.1-22.5)
Texted or e-mailed while driving (Among students who had driven a vehicle during the 30 days before the survey.)			
n/a	n/a	43.5 (41.0-46.0)	37.0 (34.1-40.0)

Depressive Symptoms and Suicide

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Purposely hurt self without wanting to die (Such as cutting or burning self; during 12 months before survey.)			
12.8 (11.5-14.1)	10.0 (9.3-10.7)	16.7 (15.9-17.6)	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.)			
25.5 (23.7-27.3)	25.6 (24.6-26.6)	25.6 (24.6-26.5)	28.4 (27.1-29.7)
Seriously considered attempting suicide (During the 12 months before the survey.)			
11.9 (10.7-13.1)	12.3 (11.5-13.1)	13.8 (13.0-14.6)	15.7 (14.7-16.7)
Attempted suicide (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)			
9.2 (7.9-10.5)	7.5 (6.8-8.2)	10.2 (9.5-10.9)	11.4 (10.6-12.3)

Illegal and Prescription Drug Use

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Ever used marijuana (Used marijuana one or more times during their life.)			
36.7 (34.7-38.7)	38.1 (36.3-39.9)	39.8 (38.2-41.5)	36.7 (34.5-38.9)
Tried marijuana before age 13 years			
7.6 (6.0-9.2)	6.9 (6.2-7.6)	6.6 (6.1-7.2)	7.6 (6.8-8.4)
Current marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)			
20.5 (19.0-22.0)	22.0 (20.6-23.4)	22.9 (21.6-24.1)	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.)			
n/a	5.8 (5.2-6.4)	6.7 (6.0-7.4)	5.6 (4.9-6.3)
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.)			
n/a	n/a	8.8 (8.1-9.5)	8.3 (7.3-9.3)
Offered, sold, or given drugs on school property (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)			
25.0 (23.2-26.8)	26.2 (25.1-27.3)	16.9 (16.0-17.8)	n/a

Nutrition

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Ate fruits and vegetables five or more times per day (During the 7 days before the survey.)			
21.6 (19.9-23.3)	22.6 (21.6-23.6)	21.6 (20.5-22.7)	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.)			
25.3 (23.6-27.0)	22.8 (21.8-23.8)	20.0 (19.0-21.0)	18.5 (17.2-19.9)
Did not eat breakfast every day (During the 7 days before the survey.)			
66.3 (64.0-68.6)	67.6 (66.4-68.8)	66.7 (65.4-68.1)	70.1 (68.7-71.5)
Ate fast food on one or more days (During the 7 days before the survey.)			
74.1 (72.5-75.7)	74.2 (73.1-75.3)	74.4 (73.4-75.4)	70.5 (68.8-72.2)

Obesity and Weight Control

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Obese (Having a BMI of >95 th percentile for age and sex. Calculated from self-reported height and weight, adjusted for sex and age.)			
12.0 (10.9-13.1)	12.9 (12.0-13.8)	12.6 (11.7-13.5)	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.)			
16.3 (14.8-17.8)	16.0 (15.0-17.0)	16.0 (15.0-16.9)	18.2 (16.6-20.0)
Describes self as slightly or very overweight			
28.4 (26.9-29.9)	27.1 (26.1-28.1)	29.2 (28.0-30.3)	29.9 (28.5-31.3)
Trying to lose weight			
41.9 (39.8-44.0)	41.9 (40.7-43.1)	43.7 (42.6-44.8)	42.5 (40.8-44.2)

Physical Activity

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Participated in 60 or more minutes of physical activity on 5 or more days (During the 7 days before the survey.)			
44.2 (41.5-46.9)	43.8 (42.4-45.2)	47.0 (45.6-48.3)	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.)			
15.4 (13.8-17.0)	14.3 (13.4-15.2)	15.6 (14.8-16.3)	17.7 (16.5-18.9)
Watched television 3 or more hours per day (On an average school day.)			
34.2 (30.9-37.5)	34.3 (33.0-35.6)	31.3 (30.0-32.6)	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.)			
23.2 (21.1-25.3)	27.2 (26.1-28.3)	37.9 (36.5-39.3)	40.1 (38.1-42.0)
Played on one or more sports teams (During the past 12 months.)			
59.3 (56.7-61.9)	60.2 (58.9-61.5)	61.7 (60.4-63.1)	61.5 (59.7-63.4)
Walk or ride bike to school 3 or more days (During an average school week when the weather allows.)			
n/a	n/a	22.4 (21.4-23.5)	n/a
Walk or ride bike from school 3 or more days (During an average school week when the weather allows.)			
n/a	n/a	28.2 (26.8-29.5)	n/a
Walk or ride bike to or from school 3 or more days (During an average school week when the weather allows.)			
n/a	n/a	n/a	24.3 (22.8-25.8)

Positive Youth Development

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Spent at least one day in clubs or organizations outside of school (During the 7 days before the survey.)			
n/a	56.7 (55.3-58.1)	52.0 (50.3-53.7)	51.0 (49.1-52.9)
Parents talk with student about school almost every day			
n/a	55.7 (54.4-57.0)	54.7 (53.3-56.0)	54.4 (52.7-56.2)
Students feel like they matter to people in their community (Agree and strongly agree)			
n/a	40.8 (39.5-42.1)	37.9 (36.6-39.2)	47.1 (45.0-49.2)
Described their grades in school as A's and B's (During the 12 months before the survey.)			
68.5 (64.8-72.2)	66.6 (64.9-68.3)	72.1 (70.5-73.6)	76.6 (74.7-78.3)
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.)			
86.8* (85.3-88.3)	84.8* (83.8-85.8)	80.8 (79.9-81.7)	82.0 (80.8-83.1)
Obtained eight or more hours of sleep (On an average school night.)			
28.1 (26.3-29.8)	26.6 (25.4-27.8)	n/a	20.4 (19.1-21.7)
Ate dinner with family (On one or more days of the 7 days before the survey.)			
79.5 (76.8-82.2)	82.1 (81.0-83.2)	81.9 (80.8-83.0)	n/a
Ate at least one meal with family (On one or more days of the 7 days before the survey.)			
n/a	n/a	n/a	81.4 (79.7-82.9)

*In 2009 and 2011, the supportive adult item included parents as "one or more adults"

Preventive Health Care

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Described health in general as fair or poor			
12.6 (11.1-14.1)	12.3 (11.4-13.2)	15.9 (15.1-16.8)	13.0 (11.8-14.1)
Saw a doctor or nurse for check-up (During the 12 months before the survey.)			
71.0 (68.8-73.2)	72.0 (70.8-73.2)	72.2 (71.0-73.3)	71.3 (69.8-72.8)
Saw a dentist for check-up, exam, teeth cleaning or other routine dental work (Not including emergencies, during the 12 months before the survey.)			
n/a	n/a	80.9 (79.9-81.9)	84.2 (83.0-85.4)

Reproductive Health

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Ever had sexual intercourse (Had sexual intercourse one or more times during their life.)			
55.5 (52.2-58.8)	45.2 (43.3-47.1)	44.4 (42.3-46.4)	39.6 (37.6-41.6)
Had sexual intercourse before age 13 years			
11.0 (8.5-13.5)	7.4 (6.5-8.3)	7.0 (6.4-7.7)	5.3 (4.7-6.0)
Had sexual intercourse with four or more people (During their life.)			
20.0 (17.5-22.5)	15.8 (14.6-17.0)	14.8 (13.7-16.0)	11.1 (9.6-12.8)
Currently sexually active (Had sexual intercourse at least once during the past 3 months.)			
33.6 (31.3-35.9)	33.0 (31.4-34.6)	32.0 (30.3-33.7)	28.1 (26.4-30.0)
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who had ever had sexual intercourse.)			
63.2 (60.5-65.9)	64.7 (62.8-66.6)	64.9 (63.1-66.7)	61.2 (58.4-63.9)
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who were currently sexually active.)			
59.0 (55.4-62.5)	61.4 (59.2-63.6)	62.1 (59.9-64.3)	56.6 (52.9-60.3)
Been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant (One or more times during their life.)			
6.2 (5.0-7.4)	5.1 (4.5-5.7)	3.9 (3.5-4.3)	4.3 (3.8-4.8)
Ever taught in school about AIDS or HIV infection			
90.0 (88.5-91.5)	92.1 (91.4-92.8)	n/a	84.0 (82.9-85.1)
Ever been tested for HIV			
14.9 (12.8-16.9)	15.8 (14.7-16.8)	n/a	14.3 (13.4-15.3)

Tobacco Use

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Ever smoked cigarettes (Smoked a cigarette, even one or two puffs, on at least one day during their life.)			
39.4 (37.1-41.7)	30.6 (29.2-32.0)	30.7 (29.2-32.2)	30.2 (28.6-31.8)
Current cigarette use (Smoked a cigarette on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)			
12.5 (10.7-14.3)	11.4 (10.5-12.3)	10.4 (9.4-11.4)	9.8 (8.8-10.8)
Current cigar use (Smoked a cigar, cigarillo, little cigar, or flavored cigar on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)			
n/a	16.9 (15.6-18.2)	15.1 (14.1-16.2)	15.0 (13.7-16.5)
Current hookah use (Smoked from a hookah or water pipe on at least one day during the 30 days before the survey.)			
n/a	9.1 (8.3-9.9)	10.6 (9.5-11.8)	13.0 (12.0-14.1)

Violence

Cuyahoga County, 2009	Cuyahoga County, 2011	Cuyahoga County, 2013	Cuyahoga County, 2015
Carried a weapon (Such as a gun, knife, or club; one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)			
11.7 (9.8-13.6)	10.0 (9.2-10.8)	11.9 (11.1-12.7)	12.1 (11.2-13.0)
Carried a weapon on school property (Such as a gun, knife, or club; one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)			
2.9 (2.2-3.7)	n/a	3.9 (3.4-4.3)	n/a
Did not go to school because of safety concerns (One or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)			
5.9 (4.8-7.0)	5.4 (4.8-6.0)	7.4 (6.8-8.0)	8.2 (7.5-8.9)
In a physical fight (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)			
32.7 (29.7-35.7)	29.1 (27.8-30.4)	26.5 (25.4-27.6)	25.4 (23.8-27.0)
In a physical fight on school property (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)			
11.2 (9.3-13.1)	n/a	11.2 (10.4-11.9)	n/a
Forced to have sexual intercourse			
7.7 (6.7-8.7)	6.8 (6.1-7.5)	7.9 (7.3-8.5)	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.)			
n/a	n/a	10.2 (9.4-11.0)	11.3 (10.3-12.4)
Forced to do sexual things by someone they were dating or going out with (Such as kissing, touching, or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse; one or more times during the 12 months before the survey, among the students dating.)			
n/a	n/a	10.3 (9.5-11.0)	10.9 (9.9-12.0)
Bullied on school property (During the 12 months before the survey.)			
16.0 (14.4-17.6)	18.1 (17.1-19.1)	19.4 (18.3-20.4)	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.)			
17.4 (16.2-18.6)	18.9 (17.9-19.9)	14.5 (13.7-15.3)	16.1 (15.0-17.2)

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Partners & Funding

This work is funded either in whole or in part by a grant awarded by the Ohio Department of Health, Bureau of Child and Family Health Services, Child and Family Health Services Program as a sub-award of a grant issued by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) under the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, grant award number B04MC26688, and CFDA number 93.994 and Am. Sub. H.B. 59 and by Cooperative Agreement #U87PS004165-02 from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent School Health (CDC-DASH). This report is a product of a Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research Center supported by Cooperative Agreement Number 1U48DP005030 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 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.

This work was approved by the Institutional Review Board at Case Western Reserve University, Protocol #2012-274.



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