



# YRBSS

National Youth Risk Behavior Survey: 2005

## Health Risk Behaviors by Race/Ethnicity<sup>1</sup>

### What is the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)?

The National YRBS monitors priority health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The National YRBS is conducted every two years during the spring semester and provides data representative of 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

Health Risk Behaviors	Black Students (%)	Hispanic Students (%)	White Students (%)
<b>A. Black students were LESS likely<sup>2</sup> than Hispanic and white students to have engaged in these health risk behaviors...</b>			
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol (In a car or other vehicle one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)	24.1 (±2.1) <sup>3</sup>	36.1 (±3.3)	28.3 (±2.6)
Drove when drinking alcohol (A car or other vehicle one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)	4.9 (±1.3)	10.5 (±1.8)	11.3 (±1.2)
Current cigarette use (Smoked cigarettes on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	12.9 (±1.8)	22.0 (±3.5)	25.9 (±3.0)
Current frequent cigarette use (Smoked cigarettes on ≥ 20 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	3.7 (±1.3)	6.5 (±1.9)	11.2 (±1.9)
Current smokeless tobacco use (Used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	1.7 (±0.7)	5.1 (±1.4)	10.2 (±2.0)
Current cigar use (Smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	10.3 (±1.8)	14.6 (±2.2)	14.9 (±1.8)
Lifetime alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on ≥ 1 day during their life.)	69.0 (±3.0)	79.4 (±2.7)	75.3 (±4.2)
Current alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	31.2 (±2.1)	46.8 (±2.7)	46.4 (±3.6)
Episodic heavy drinking (Had ≥ 5 drinks of alcohol in a row on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	11.1 (±1.7)	25.3 (±3.2)	29.9 (±2.7)
Lifetime cocaine use (Used any form of cocaine one or more times during their life.)	2.3 (±0.8)	12.2 (±2.6)	7.7 (±1.1)
Lifetime inhalant use (Sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high one or more times during their life.)	6.8 (±1.5)	13.0 (±2.3)	13.4 (±1.7)
Lifetime hallucinogenic use (Used hallucinogenic drugs, for example, LSD, acid, PCP, angel dust, mescaline, or mushrooms, one or more times during their life.)	2.8 (±1.5)	9.4 (±1.9)	9.4 (±1.2)
Lifetime methamphetamine use (Used methamphetamines one or more times during their life.)	1.7 (±0.9)	8.8 (±2.2)	6.5 (±1.1)
Lifetime ecstasy use (Used ecstasy one or more times during their life.)	3.9 (±1.2)	9.6 (±2.2)	5.8 (±1.1)
Did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among currently sexually active students.)	31.1 (±3.6)	42.3 (±4.1)	37.4 (±2.5)

Health Risk Behaviors	Black Students (%)	Hispanic Students (%)	White Students (%)
<b>B. Black students were MORE likely than Hispanic and white students to have engaged in these health risk behaviors...</b>			
Rarely or never wore a bicycle helmet (Among students who had ridden a bicycle during the 12 months preceding the survey.)	92.0 (±1.8)	86.5 (±3.2)	81.5 (±3.8)
Ever had sexual intercourse	67.6 (±3.1)	51.0 (±4.3)	43.0 (±4.1)
Had first sexual intercourse before age 13 years	16.5 (±2.4)	7.3 (±1.9)	4.0 (±0.8)
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life	28.2 (±2.6)	15.9 (±2.4)	11.4 (±1.8)
Were currently sexually active (Had sexual intercourse with ≥1 person during the 3 months preceding the survey.)	47.4 (±2.6)	35.0 (±3.9)	32.0 (±3.3)
Did not participate in any vigorous or moderate physical activity (During the 7 days preceding the survey.)	14.4 (±1.8)	10.6 (±2.0)	8.1 (±1.1)
Used computers ≥ 3 hours per day (Played video or computer games or used a computer for something that was not school work on an average school day.)	25.2 (±3.0)	19.8 (±3.0)	19.6 (±1.7)
Watched television ≥ 3 hours per day (On an average school day.)	64.1 (±2.5)	45.8 (±3.8)	29.2 (±2.3)

Health Risk Behaviors	Black Students (%)	Hispanic Students (%)	White Students (%)
<b>C. White students were LESS likely than black and Hispanic students to have engaged in these health risk behaviors...</b>			
Rarely or never wore a bicycle helmet (Among students who had ridden a bicycle during the 12 months preceding the survey.)	92.0 (±1.8)	86.5 (±3.2)	81.5 (±3.8)
Physical fighting (One or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey.)	43.1 (±3.4)	41.0 (±3.2)	33.1 (±1.7)
Dating violence (Hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the 12 months preceding the survey.)	11.9 (±1.7)	9.9 (±1.4)	8.2 (±0.8)
Ever had sexual intercourse	67.6 (±3.1)	51.0 (±4.3)	43.0 (±4.1)
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life	28.2 (±2.6)	15.9 (±2.4)	11.4 (±1.8)
Did not meet currently recommended levels of physical activity (Being physically active doing any kind of physical activity that increased their heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time for a total of at least 60 minutes/day on ≤ 5 of the 7 days preceding the survey.)	70.5 (±3.4)	67.1 (±3.1)	61.3 (±2.6)
Did not participate in any vigorous or moderate physical activity (During the 7 days preceding the survey.)	14.4 (±1.8)	10.6 (±2.0)	8.1 (±1.1)
Watched television ≥ 3 hours per day (On an average school day.)	64.1 (±2.5)	45.8 (±3.8)	29.2 (±2.3)
Were overweight (≥ 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile for body mass index, by age and sex, based on reference data.)	16.0 (±1.6)	16.8 (±2.4)	11.8 (±1.1)
<b>D. White students were MORE likely than black and Hispanic students to have engaged in these health risk behaviors...</b>			
Current frequent cigarette use (Smoked cigarettes on ≥ 20 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	3.7 (±1.3)	6.5 (±1.9)	11.2 (±1.9)
Current smokeless tobacco use (Used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	1.7 (±0.7)	5.1 (±1.4)	10.2 (±2.0)
Episodic heavy drinking (Had ≥ 5 drinks of alcohol in a row on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	11.1 (±1.7)	25.3 (±3.2)	29.9 (±2.7)
Did not eat fruits and vegetables ≥ 5 times per day (100% fruit juice, fruit, green salad, potatoes [excluding French fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips], carrots, or other vegetables during the 7 days preceding the survey.)	77.9 (±2.8)	76.8 (±1.9)	81.4 (±1.6)

Health Risk Behaviors	Black Students (%)	Hispanic Students (%)	White Students (%)
<b>E. Hispanic students were MORE likely than black and white students to have engaged in these health risk behaviors...</b>			
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol (In a car or other vehicle one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)	24.1 (±2.1)	36.1 (±3.3)	28.3 (±2.6)
Attempted suicide (One or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey.)	7.6 (±2.1)	11.3 (±1.5)	7.3 (±1.0)
Lifetime cocaine use (Used any form of cocaine one or more times during their life.)	2.3 (±0.8)	12.2 (±2.6)	7.7 (±1.1)
Lifetime heroin use (Used heroin one or more times during their life.)	1.5 (±0.9)	3.6 (±1.2)	2.2 (±0.4)
Lifetime methamphetamine use (Used methamphetamines one or more times during their life.)	1.7 (±0.9)	8.8 (±2.2)	6.5 (±1.1)
Lifetime ecstasy use (Used ecstasy one or more times during their life.)	3.9 (±1.2)	9.6 (±2.2)	5.8 (±1.1)
Did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among currently sexually active students.)	31.1 (±3.6)	42.3 (±4.1)	37.4 (±2.5)

Health Risk Behaviors	Black Students (%)	Hispanic Students (%)	White Students (%)
<b>F. Black, Hispanic, and white students were EQUALLY likely to have engaged in these health risk behaviors...</b>			
Carried a weapon (For example, a gun, knife, or club on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	16.4 (±1.6)	19.0 (±2.2)	18.7 (±2.2)
Carried a gun (On ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey.)	5.0 (±1.0)	6.5 (±1.5)	5.3 (±1.3)
Lifetime cigarette use (Ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.)	54.7 (±3.1)	57.1 (±4.0)	54.0 (±4.1)
Current marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)	20.4 (±2.2)	23.0 (±2.4)	20.3 (±2.2)
Went without eating for ≥ 24 hours to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight (During the 30 days preceding the survey.)	11.4 (±1.7)	12.6 (±1.3)	12.5 (±1.4)
Did not attend physical education classes daily (Five days in an average week when they were in school.)	65.6 (±9.1)	61.7 (±11.0)	68.3 (±5.5)

<sup>1</sup> Data are presented only for non-Hispanic black, non-Hispanic white, and Hispanic students because the numbers of students from other racial/ethnic populations were too small for meaningful analysis.

<sup>2</sup> Based on t-test analyses,  $p < .05$ .

<sup>3</sup> 95% confidence interval.

Where can I get more information? Visit <http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss> or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).



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