



Trends in the Prevalence of Selected Risk Behaviors for All Students National YRBS: 1991–2007

The national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (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 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	Changes from 1991–2007 ¹	Change from 2005–2007 ²
Rarely or never wore a seat belt (When riding in a car driven by someone else.)										
25.9 (20.8–31.7) ³	19.1 (16.6–21.9)	21.7 (18.4–25.4)	19.3 (16.0–23.0)	16.4 (13.7–19.4)	14.1 (12.5–15.9)	18.2 (14.3–22.9)	10.2 (8.5–12.1)	11.1 (8.9–13.8)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol (In a car or other vehicle one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)										
39.9 (37.7–42.2)	35.3 (32.7–38.1)	38.8 (35.0–42.7)	36.6 (34.4–38.8)	33.1 (30.8–35.4)	30.7 (28.7–32.8)	30.2 (28.1–32.5)	28.5 (26.5–30.5)	29.1 (27.2–31.2)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Carried a weapon (For example, a gun, knife, or club on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)										
26.1 (23.7–28.5)	22.1 (19.8–24.6)	20.0 (18.8–21.4)	18.3 (16.5–20.2)	17.3 (15.4–19.3)	17.4 (15.5–19.5)	17.1 (15.4–19.0)	18.5 (16.9–20.2)	18.0 (16.3–19.8)	Decreased, 1991–1999 No change, 1999–2007	No change
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school (On at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)										
NA ⁴	4.4 (3.7–5.2)	4.5 (3.8–5.3)	4.0 (3.4–4.7)	5.2 (4.0–6.8)	6.6 (5.7–7.7)	5.4 (4.7–6.3)	6.0 (4.9–7.4)	5.5 (4.7–6.3)	Increased, 1993–2007	No change
Attempted suicide (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)										
7.3 (6.4–8.3)	8.6 (7.9–9.5)	8.7 (7.9–9.5)	7.7 (6.8–8.7)	8.3 (7.3–9.4)	8.8 (8.0–9.7)	8.5 (7.4–9.6)	8.4 (7.6–9.3)	6.9 (6.3–7.6)	No change, 1991–2001 Decreased, 2001–2007	Decreased
Current cigarette use (Smoked cigarettes on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)										
27.5 (24.8–30.3)	30.5 (28.6–32.4)	34.8 (32.5–37.2)	36.4 (34.1–38.7)	34.8 (32.3–37.4)	28.5 (26.4–30.6)	21.9 (19.8–24.2)	23.0 (20.7–25.5)	20.0 (17.6–22.6)	Increased, 1991–1997 Decreased, 1997–2007	No change
Current alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)										
50.8 (47.9–53.7)	48.0 (45.9–50.2)	51.6 (49.2–54.1)	50.8 (47.9–53.6)	50.0 (47.4–52.7)	47.1 (44.8–49.3)	44.9 (42.5–47.4)	43.3 (40.5–46.1)	44.7 (42.4–47.0)	No change, 1991–1999 Decreased, 1999–2007	No change

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	Changes from 1991–2007 ¹	Change from 2005–2007 ²
Current marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during the 30 days before the survey.)										
14.7 (12.6–17.0)	17.7 (15.3–20.3)	25.3 (23.5–27.3)	26.2 (24.0–28.5)	26.7 (24.2–29.4)	23.9 (22.3–25.5)	22.4 (20.2–24.6)	20.2 (18.6–22.0)	19.7 (17.8–21.8)	Increased, 1991–1999 Decreased, 1999–2007	No change
Lifetime methamphetamine use (Used methamphetamines [also called speed, crystal, crank, or ice] one or more times during their life.)										
NA	NA	NA	NA	9.1 (7.9–10.5)	9.8 (8.3–11.5)	7.6 (6.7–8.7)	6.2 (5.3–7.2)	4.4 (3.7–5.3)	No change, 1999–2001 Decreased, 2001–2007	Decreased
Ever had sexual intercourse										
54.1 (50.5–57.8)	53.0 (50.2–55.8)	53.1 (48.4–57.7)	48.4 (45.2–51.6)	49.9 (46.1–53.7)	45.6 (43.2–48.1)	46.7 (44.0–49.4)	46.8 (43.4–50.2)	47.8 (45.1–50.6)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life										
18.7 (16.6–21.0)	18.7 (16.8–20.9)	17.8 (15.2–20.7)	16.0 (14.6–17.5)	16.2 (13.7–19.0)	14.2 (13.0–15.6)	14.4 (12.9–16.1)	14.3 (12.8–15.8)	14.9 (13.4–16.5)	Decreased, 1991–2007	No change
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who were currently sexually active.)										
46.2 (42.8–49.6)	52.8 (50.0–55.6)	54.4 (50.7–58.0)	56.8 (55.2–58.4)	58.0 (53.6–62.3)	57.9 (55.6–60.1)	63.0 (60.5–65.5)	62.8 (60.6–64.9)	61.5 (59.4–63.6)	Increased, 1991–2003 No change, 2003–2007	No change
Ever taught in school about AIDS or HIV infection										
83.3 (80.1–86.0)	86.1 (83.4–88.4)	86.3 (79.0–91.3)	91.5 (90.3–92.5)	90.6 (89.1–91.9)	89.0 (87.6–90.3)	87.9 (85.8–89.7)	87.9 (85.8–89.7)	89.5 (88.1–90.7)	Increased, 1991–1997 Decreased, 1997–2007	No change
Attended physical education classes daily (5 days in an average week when they were in school.)										
41.6 (36.0–47.3)	34.3 (29.5–39.4)	25.4 (16.9–36.2)	27.4 (22.1–33.5)	29.1 (20.3–39.7)	32.2 (27.4–37.4)	28.4 (22.9–34.7)	33.0 (27.8–38.6)	30.3 (25.4–35.8)	Decreased, 1991–1995 No change, 1995–2007	No change
Were obese⁵ (Students who were $\geq 95^{\text{th}}$ percentile for body mass index, by age and sex, based on reference data.)										
NA	NA	NA	NA	10.7 (9.6–12.0)	10.5 (9.5–11.5)	12.1 (10.8–13.6)	13.1 (12.2–14.0)	13.0 (11.9–14.1)	Increased, 1999–2007	No change

¹ Based on trend analyses using a logistic regression model controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade.

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

³ 95% confidence interval.

⁴ Not available.

⁵ Previous YRBS fact sheets used the term "overweight" to describe those youth with a BMI $\geq 95^{\text{th}}$ percentile for age and sex. However, this fact sheet uses the term "obese" rather than "overweight" in accordance with the 2007 recommendations from the Expert Committee on the Assessment, Prevention, and Treatment of Child and Adolescent Overweight and Obesity convened by the American Medical Association (AMA) and cofunded by AMA in collaboration with the Health Resources and Services Administration and CDC.



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

