



# YRBSS

## National Youth Risk Behavior Survey: 1991-2003

### Trends in the Prevalence of Selected Risk Behaviors

#### 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 9th through 12th grade students in public and private schools throughout the United States.

1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	Changes from 1991 – 2003 <sup>1</sup>	Change from 2001 – 2003 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Rarely or never wore seatbelts</b> (When riding in a car driven by someone else.)								
25.9 (±5.3) <sup>3</sup>	19.1 (±2.6)	21.7 (±3.4)	19.3 (±3.4)	16.4 (±2.8)	14.1 (±1.7)	18.2 (±4.2)	Decreased, 1991 – 2003	No change
<b>Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol</b> (In a car or other vehicle one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)								
39.9 (±2.2)	35.3 (±2.6)	38.8 (±3.7)	36.6 (±2.1)	33.1 (±2.2)	30.7 (±2.0)	30.2 (±2.1)	Decreased, 1991 – 2003	No change
<b>Carried a weapon</b> (A gun, knife, or club on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.)								
26.1 (±2.3)	22.1 (±2.3)	20.0 (±1.3)	18.3 (±1.8)	17.3 (±1.9)	17.4 (±1.9)	17.1 (±1.8)	Decreased, 1991 – 1997 No change, 1997 – 2003	No change
<b>In a physical fight</b> (One or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey.)								
42.5 (±2.4)	41.8 (±1.9)	38.7 (±2.1)	36.6 (±2.0)	35.7 (±2.3)	33.2 (±1.4)	33.0 (±1.9)	Decreased, 1991 – 2003	No change
<b>Attempted suicide</b> (One or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey.)								
7.3 (±0.9)	8.6 (±0.8)	8.7 (±0.8)	7.7 (±0.9)	8.3 (±1.0)	8.8 (±0.8)	8.5 (±1.1)	No change, 1991 – 2003	No change
<b>Current cigarette use</b> (Smoked cigarettes on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.)								
27.5 (±2.7)	30.5 (±1.9)	34.8 (±2.3)	36.4 (±2.3)	34.8 (±2.5)	28.5 (±2.0)	21.9 (±2.1)	Increased, 1991 – 1997 Decreased, 1997 – 2003	Decreased
<b>Current smokeless tobacco use</b> (Used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.)								
NA <sup>4</sup>	NA	11.4 (±1.7)	9.3 (±2.2)	7.8 (±2.2)	8.2 (±1.5)	6.7 (±1.5)	Decreased, 1995 – 2003	No change

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

<sup>2</sup> Based on T-test analyses.

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

<sup>4</sup> Not available.



1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	Changes from 1991 – 2003 <sup>1</sup>	Change from 2001 – 2003 <sup>2</sup>
<b>Current alcohol use</b> (Drank one or more drinks of alcohol on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.)								
50.8 (±2.8) <sup>3</sup>	48.0 (±2.1)	51.6 (±2.3)	50.8 (±2.8)	50.0 (±2.5)	47.1 (±2.2)	44.9 (±2.4)	No change, 1991 – 1999 Decreased, 1999 – 2003	No change
<b>Current marijuana use</b> (Used marijuana one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)								
14.7 (±2.1)	17.7 (±2.4)	25.3 (±1.8)	26.2 (±2.2)	26.7 (±2.5)	23.9 (±1.5)	22.4 (±2.1)	Increased, 1991 – 1997 Decreased, 1997 – 2003	No change
<b>Current cocaine use</b> (Used cocaine one or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.)								
1.7 (±0.5)	1.9 (±0.4)	3.1 (±0.8)	3.3 (±0.5)	4.0 (±0.7)	4.2 (±0.7)	4.1 (±0.9)	Increased, 1991 – 1999 No change, 1999 – 2003	No change
<b>Ever had sexual intercourse</b>								
54.1 (±3.5)	53.0 (±2.7)	53.1 (±4.5)	48.4 (±3.1)	49.9 (±3.7)	45.6 (±2.3)	46.7 (±2.6)	Decreased, 1991 – 2003	No change
<b>Condom use during last sexual intercourse</b> (Among currently sexually active students.)								
46.2 (±3.3)	52.8 (±2.7)	54.4 (±3.5)	56.8 (±1.6)	58.0 (±4.2)	57.9 (±2.2)	63.0 (±2.5)	Increased, 1991 – 2003	Increased
<b>Participated in sufficient vigorous physical activity</b> (Exercised or participated in activities that made students sweat and breathe hard for 20 or more minutes on 3 or more of the 7 days preceding the survey.)								
NA <sup>4</sup>	65.8 (±1.4)	63.7 (±3.1)	63.8 (±2.1)	64.7 (±2.1)	64.6 (±1.5)	62.6 (±2.3)	No change, 1993 – 2003	No change
<b>Attended physical education class daily</b> (Five days in an average week when in school.)								
41.6 (±5.5)	34.3 (±4.8)	25.4 (±9.4)	27.4 (±5.6)	29.1 (±9.5)	32.2 (±4.9)	28.4 (±5.7)	Decreased, 1991 – 1995 No change, 1995 – 2003	No change
<b>Overweight</b> (Students who were at or above the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile for body mass index, by age and sex, based on reference data.)								
NA	NA	NA	NA	10.8 (±)	10.5 (±1.0)	13.5 (±3.1)	No change, 1999 – 2003	No change

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

<sup>2</sup> Based on T-test analyses.

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

<sup>4</sup> Not available.

### Where can I find more information?

More information about the YRBSS is available at [www.cdc.gov/yrbss](http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss) or call (888)231-6405.