



Comparison Between Philadelphia Students and U.S. Students 2007 YRBS

The 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. The Philadelphia YRBS also is conducted every 2 years and provides data representative of 9th through 12th grade students in public schools throughout Philadelphia.

	Philadelphia Students %	U.S. Students %	Philadelphia Students Are At: ¹
Behaviors that Contribute to Unintentional Injuries and Violence			
Rarely or never wore a seat belt (When riding in a car driven by someone else.)	24.8 (22.4 - 27.3) ²	11.1 (8.9 - 13.8)	Greater risk
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.)	22.4 (20.5 - 24.4)	29.1 (27.2 - 31.2)	Less risk
Carried a weapon (For example, a gun, knife, or club on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	18.3 (16.5 - 20.3)	18.0 (16.3 - 19.8)	Equal risk
In a physical fight (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	45.0 (42.1 - 47.8)	35.5 (34.0 - 37.1)	Greater risk
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.)	9.8 (8.2 - 11.6)	5.5 (4.7 - 6.3)	Greater risk
Seriously considered attempting suicide (During the 12 months before the survey.)	15.0 (13.2 - 16.8)	14.5 (13.4 - 15.6)	Equal risk
Attempted suicide (One or more times during the 12 months before the survey.)	12.5 (10.6 - 14.6)	6.9 (6.3 - 7.6)	Greater risk
Tobacco Use			
Lifetime cigarette use (Ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.)	50.8 (47.7 - 53.7)	50.3 (47.2 - 53.5)	Equal risk
Current cigarette use (Smoked cigarettes on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	10.7 (9.2 - 12.4)	20.0 (17.6 - 22.6)	Less risk
Current smokeless tobacco use (Used chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	3.0 (2.1 - 4.3)	7.9 (6.3 - 9.8)	Less risk
Alcohol and Other Drug Use			
Lifetime alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during their life.)	66.1 (63.2 - 68.8)	75.0 (72.4 - 77.4)	Less risk
Current alcohol use (Had at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	31.7 (29.2 - 34.2)	44.7 (42.4 - 47.0)	Less risk
Episodic heavy drinking (Had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple hours on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey.)	13.5 (11.5 - 15.7)	26.0 (24.0 - 28.0)	Less risk
Lifetime marijuana use (Used marijuana one or more times during their life.)	38.2 (35.3 - 41.2)	38.1 (35.5 - 40.7)	Equal risk

	Philadelphia Students %	U.S. Students %	Philadelphia Students Are At: ¹
Alcohol and Other Drug Use (continued)			
Lifetime cocaine use (Used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase one or more times during their life.)	2.6 (1.8 - 3.8)	7.2 (6.2 - 8.2)	Less risk
Lifetime methamphetamine use (Used methamphetamines [also called speed, crystal, crank, or ice] one or more times during their life.)	2.2 (1.4 - 3.3)	4.4 (3.7 - 5.3)	Less risk
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.)	NA	13.3 (12.1 - 14.6)	NA
Offered, sold, or given an illegal drug by someone on school property (During the 12 months before the survey.)	25.3 (23.0 - 27.7)	22.3 (20.3 - 24.4)	Equal risk
Sexual Behaviors that Contribute to Unintended Pregnancy and STDs, including HIV Infection			
Ever had sexual intercourse	61.5 (57.0 - 65.8)	47.8 (45.1 - 50.6)	Greater risk
Currently sexually active (Had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey.)	44.5 (40.6 - 48.4)	35.0 (32.8 - 37.2)	Greater risk
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life	23.7 (20.9 - 26.7)	14.9 (13.4 - 16.5)	Greater risk
Did not use a condom during last sexual intercourse (Among students who were currently sexually active.)	35.6 (31.6 - 39.8)	38.5 (36.4 - 40.6)	Equal risk
Physical Activity			
Watched television 3 or more hours per day (On an average school day.)	50.6 (46.9 - 54.2)	35.4 (33.1 - 37.7)	Greater risk
Did not attend physical education classes daily (5 days in an average week when they were in school.)	76.2 (71.0 - 80.8)	69.7 (64.2 - 74.6)	Equal risk
Obesity and Dietary Behaviors			
Were obese (Students who were ≥ 95th percentile for body mass index, by age and sex, based on reference data.)	15.2 (13.8 - 16.8)	13.0 (11.9 - 14.1)	Greater risk
Ate fruits and vegetables less than five times per day (100% fruit juices, fruit, green salad, potatoes [excluding French fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips], carrots, or other vegetables during the 7 days before the survey.)	82.0 (79.7 - 84.2)	78.6 (76.9 - 80.2)	Greater risk
Drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop at least one time per day (Not including diet soda or diet pop, during the 7 days before the survey.)	31.1 (28.3 - 34.1)	33.8 (31.0 - 36.8)	Equal risk

1. Compared to U.S. students, based on t-test analyses, $p < .05$.

2. 95% confidence interval.

NA = Not available.



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

