Results from the 2012 Washington State Health Youth Survey

Substance Use, Mental Health Status, and Education Outcomes

March 2013



Washington State Department of Social & Health Services • Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

HYS Partners

HYS is joint effort of

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WASHINGTON STATE HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY

- Department of Health
- Department of Social and Health Services
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Liquor Control Board
- Family Policy Council
- Department of Commerce

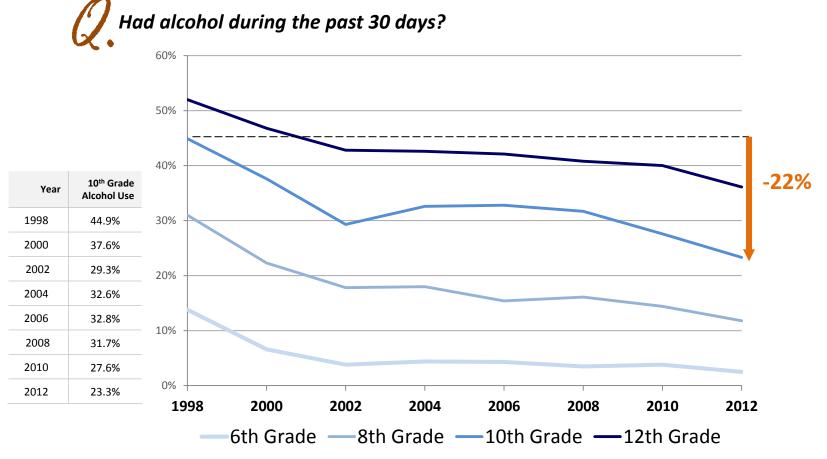


Alcohol Use



The prevalence of alcohol use has declined significantly in all grades.

The rates of alcohol use among 8th and 10th grades has dropped by half. Nearly 11,000 fewer students are using alcohol compared to 2010.



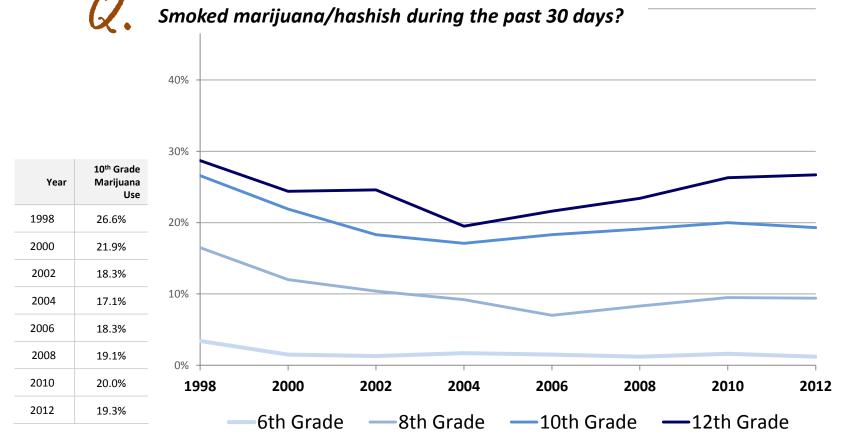
Source: WSSAHB 1998 (spring), 2000 (fall), HYS 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 (fall)



Marijuana Use



Marijuana use did not change significantly from 2010 to 2012



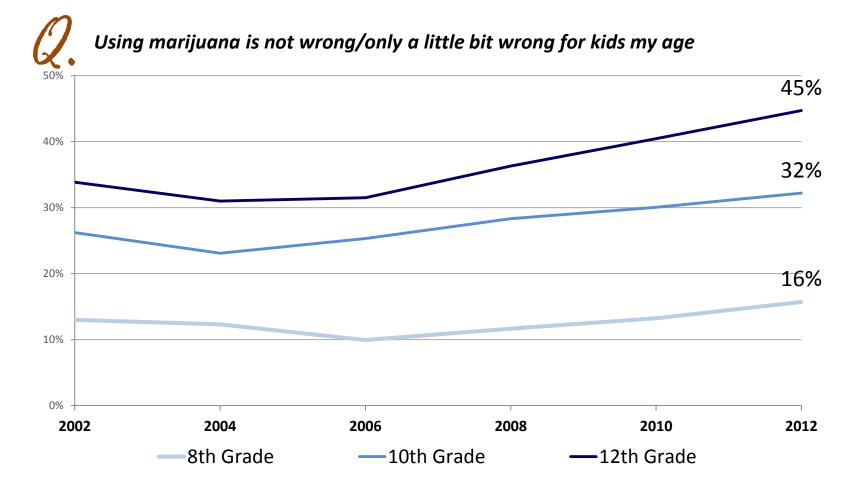
Source: WSSAHB 1998 (spring), 2000 (fall), HYS 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012 (fall)



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Increasingly more students think marijuana use is not wrong for kids their age





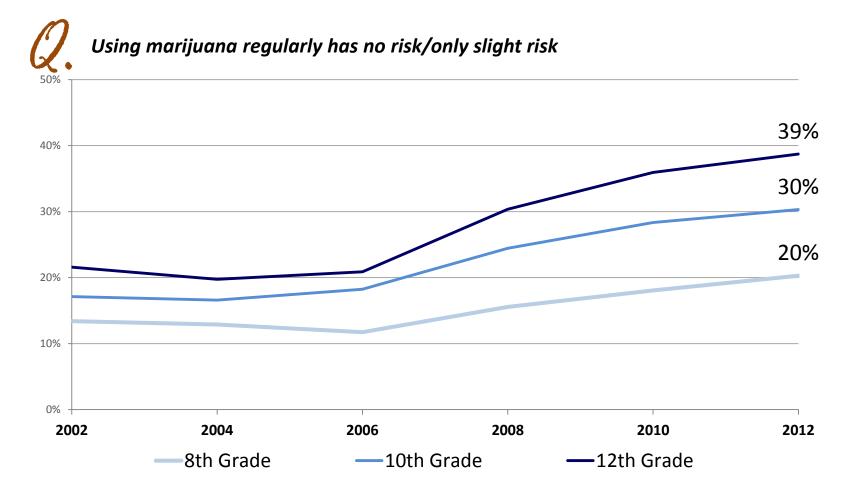
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WASHINGTON STATE HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY

Perception of Risk from Marijuana Use



Increasingly more students think using marijuana regularly is not risky

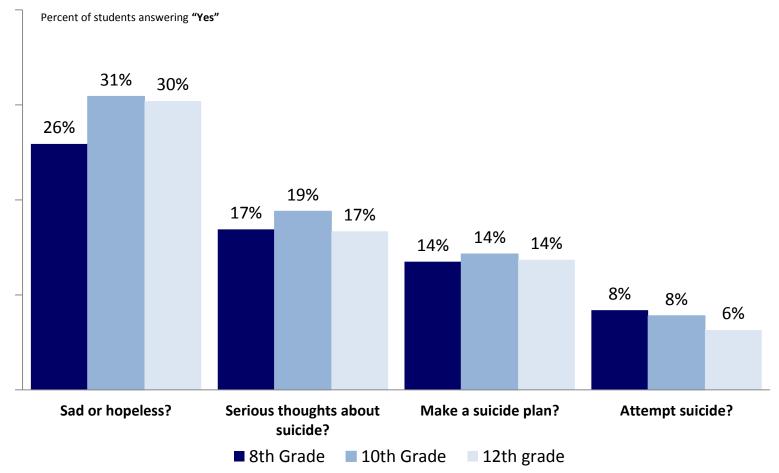




Mental Health Status

More than one in four students had depressive feelings in the past year.

Over 100,000 youth (12-17 year olds) seriously considered suicide in the past year, which is about one in every six students.

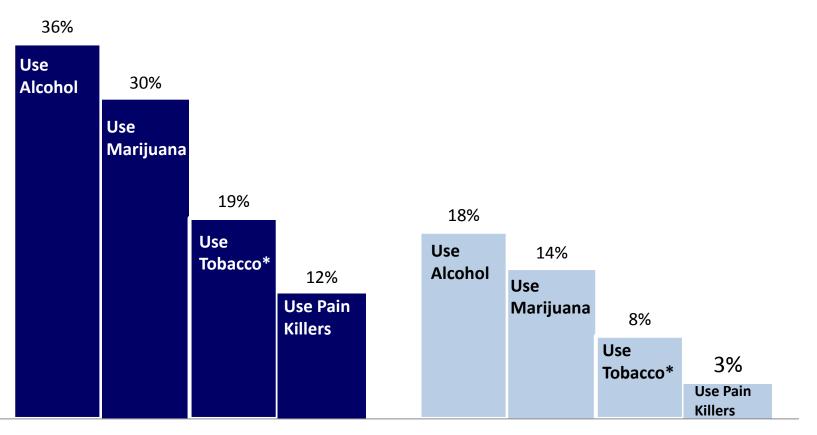


NOTES: Depressive feeling: felt so sad or hopeless for two weeks in a row that they stopped doing usual activities.

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Substance Use and Mental Health Status

Students who had poor mental health are also more likely to report substance use



Had depressive feelings in the past year

No depressive feelings in the past year

NOTES: Tobacco products include cigarettes and chewing tobacco.



Academic Performance



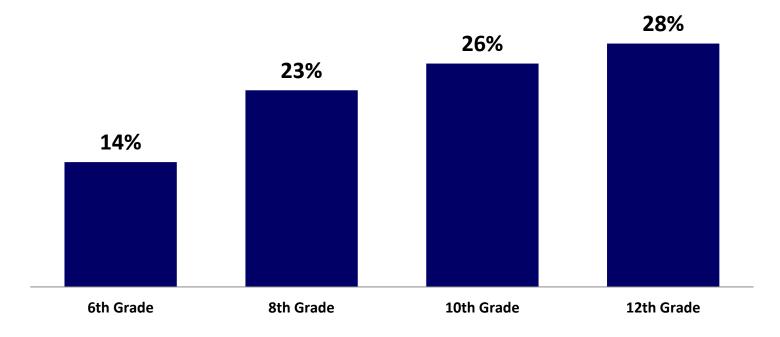
Between 14% and 28% of Washington State students reported having low grades at school



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Putting them all together, what were your grades like last year?

Percent of students who report receiving "C", "D", or "F" mostly.





Substance Use and Poor Academic Performance

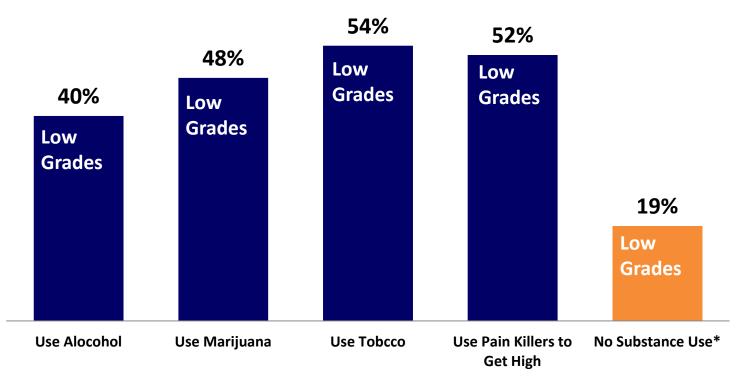


Washington State 10th graders who reported substance use are twice more likely to have low grades in school than those who do not use substances



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Putting them all together, what were your grades like last year? Percent of students who report receiving "C", "D", or "F" mostly.



NOTES: * Did not use alcohol, marijuana, tobacco products (cigarettes or chewing tobacco), or pain killers in the past 30 days.



Poor Mental Health and Low Grades at School

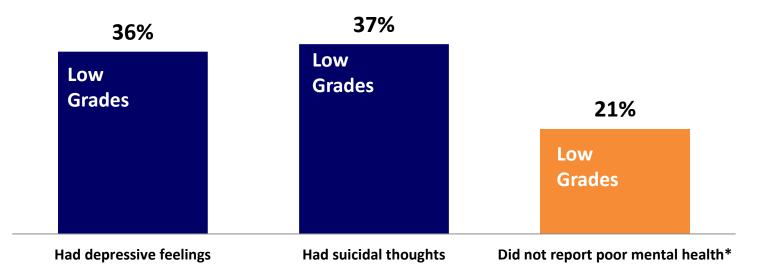


Students with poor mental health are more likely to have low grades at school



Putting them all together, what were your grades like last year?

Percent of 10th grade students who report receiving "C", "D", or "F" mostly.



NOTES: *Did not report having depressive feelings, have not seriously considered suicide in the past year.



Skipping School

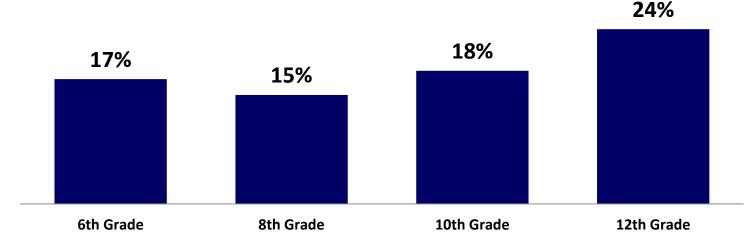


Between 15% to 24% of the students in Washington State students had skipped school in the past month



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Skipped school in the past 4 weeks? Percent of students



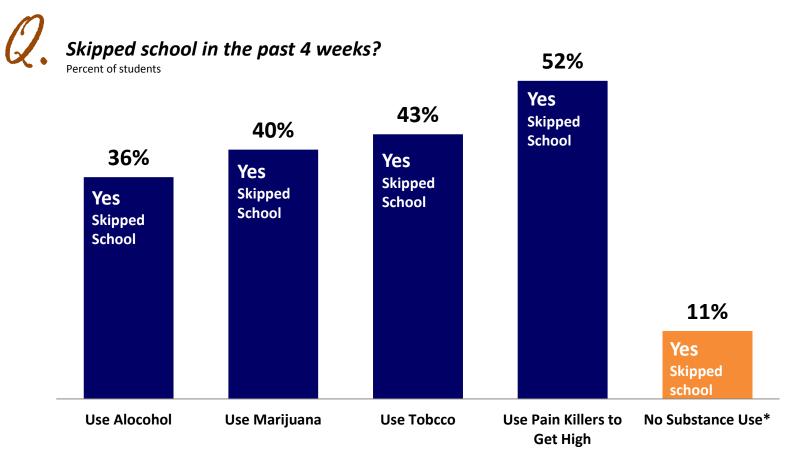
NOTES: The complete HYS question is the following: During the LAST 4 WEEKS, how many whole days of school have you missed because you skipped or "cut"?



Substance Use and Absenteeism



Washington State 10th graders who reported substance use are three to four times as likely to skip school



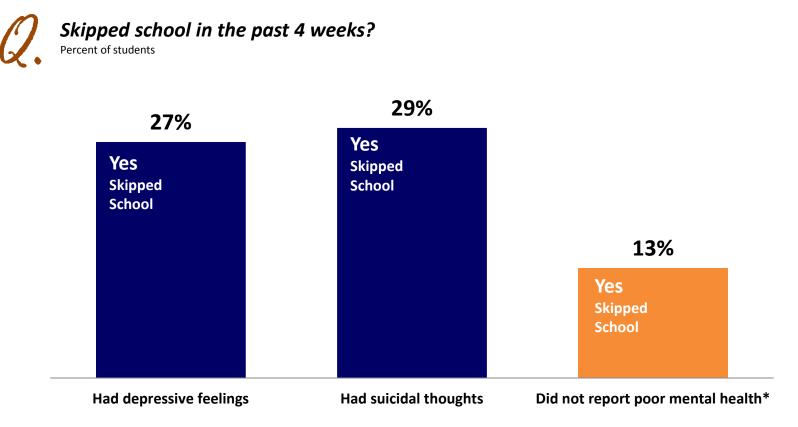
NOTES: The complete HYS question is the following: During the LAST 4 WEEKS, how many whole days of school have you missed because you skipped or "cut"? * Did not use alcohol, marijuana, tobacco products (cigarettes or chewing tobacco), or pain killers in the past 30 days.



Poor Mental Health and Absenteeism



Washington State 10th graders who reported poor mental health are twice as likely to skip school than students who did not report poor mental health



NOTES: The complete HYS question is the following: During the LAST 4 WEEKS, how many whole days of school have you missed because you skipped or "cut"? *Did not report having depressive feelings, have not seriously considered suicide in the past year.



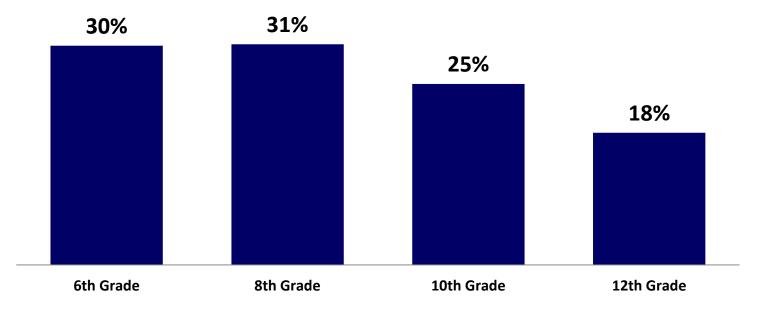
Being Bullied by Other Students



Almost one in every three 6th and 8th graders in Washington State reported being bullied by other students in the past month



Been bullied in the past 30 days?



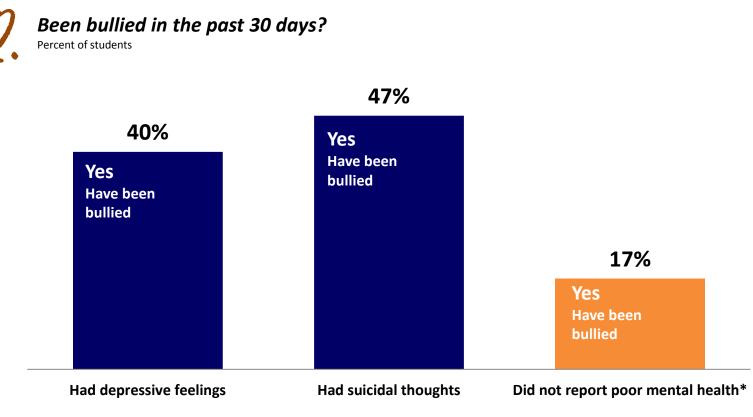
NOTES: The complete HYS question asks: "A student is being bullied when another student, or group of students, say or do nasty or unpleasant things to him or her. It is also bullying when a student is teased repeatedly in a way he or she doesn't like. It is NOT bullying when two students of about the same strength argue or fight. In the last 30 days, how often have you been bullied?"



Poor Mental Health and Being Bullied



Washington State 10th graders who reported poor mental health are 2.5 times as likely to have been bullied than students who did not report poor mental health



NOTES: The complete HYS question asks: "A student is being bullied when another student, or group of students, say or do nasty or unpleasant things to him or her. It is also bullying when a student is teased repeatedly in a way he or she doesn't like. It is NOT bullying when two students of about the same strength argue or fight. In the last 30 days, how often have you been bullied?"

*Did not report having depressive feelings, have not seriously considered suicide in the past year.



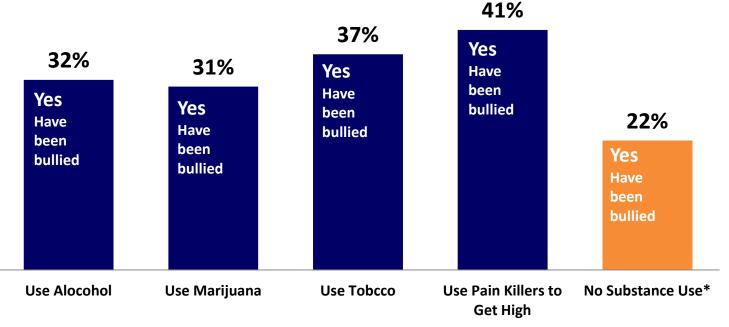
Substance Use and Being Bullied



Washington State 10th graders who reported substance use are more likely to have been bullied than students who do not use substances



Been bullied in the past 30 days?



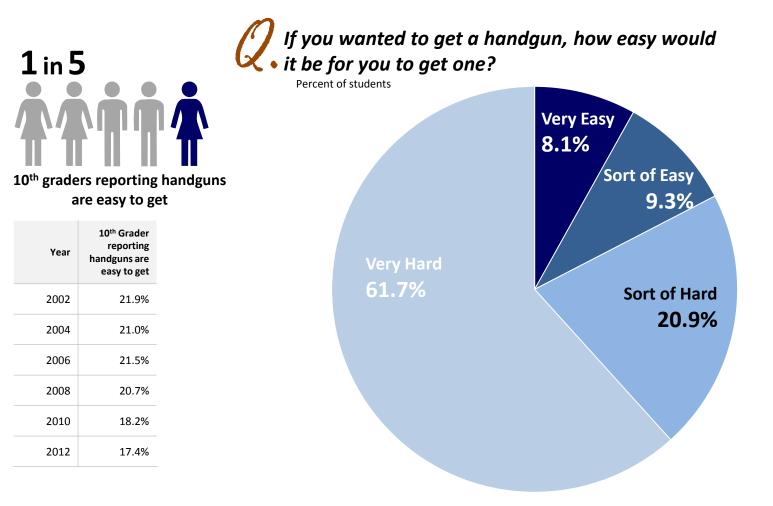
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* Did not use alcohol, marijuana, tobacco products (cigarettes or chewing tobacco), or pain killers in the past 30 days.





Almost 1 in 5 Washington State 10th graders think handguns are easy to get



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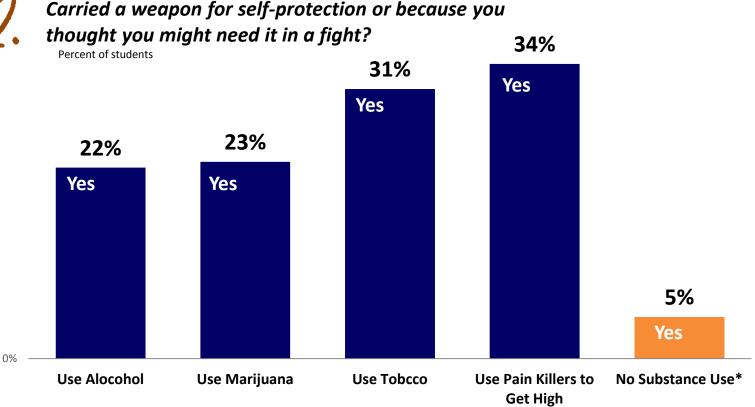


Carrying Weapons



Washington State 10th graders who reported substance use are 4 – 7 times more likely to carry a weapon





NOTES: HYS question: During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club for self-protection or because you thought you might need it in a fight? (DO NOT include carrying a weapon for hunting, fishing, or camping.)

* Did not use alcohol, marijuana, tobacco products (cigarettes or chewing tobacco), or pain killers in the past 30 days.



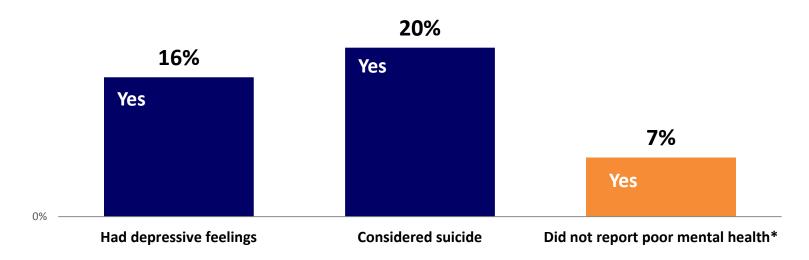
Carrying Weapons



Washington State 10th graders who reported poor mental health are 2-3 times more likely to carry weapons



Carried a weapon for self-protection or because you thought you might need it in a fight?



NOTES: HYS question: During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club for self-protection or because you thought you might need it in a fight? (DO NOT include carrying a weapon for hunting, fishing, or camping.)

* Did not report depressive feelings , have not seriously considered suicide in the past year.



How to Get More HYS Data: www.AskHYS.net

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Page Safety and Violence Unintentional Injury Violent Behaviors and School Safety	6 th	8 th havid					Health and Weight and O Dietary Behav	d Health besity riors	6 th	8 th lates	d Be	havia	e e e

