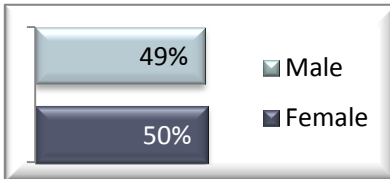
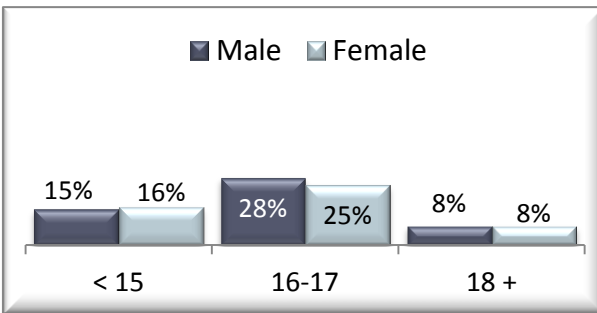


Demographics of Survey Participants

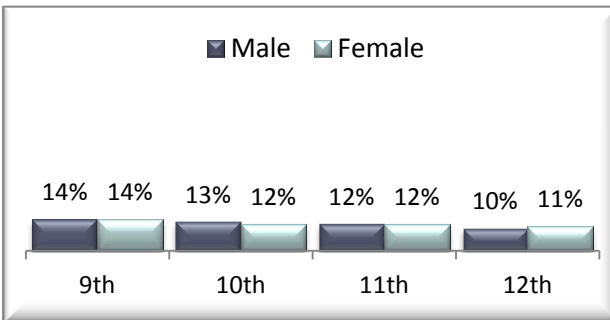
Gender



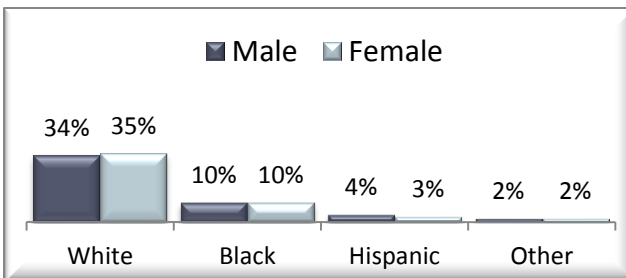
Age



Grade



Race

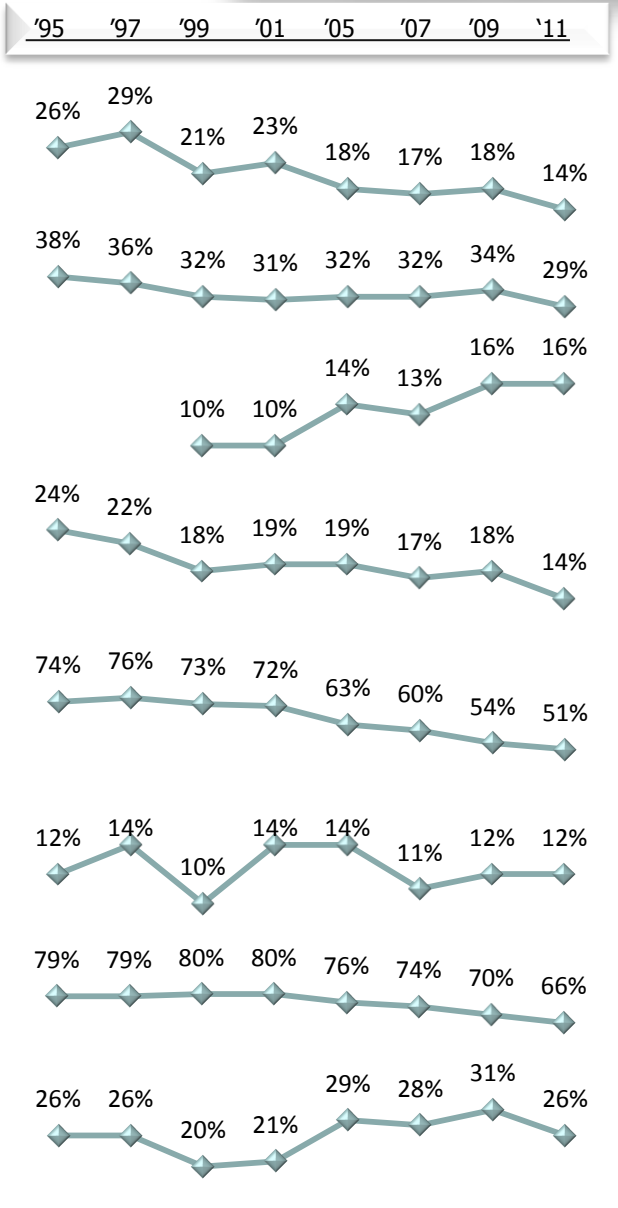


Total Number of Survey Participants: 1,375

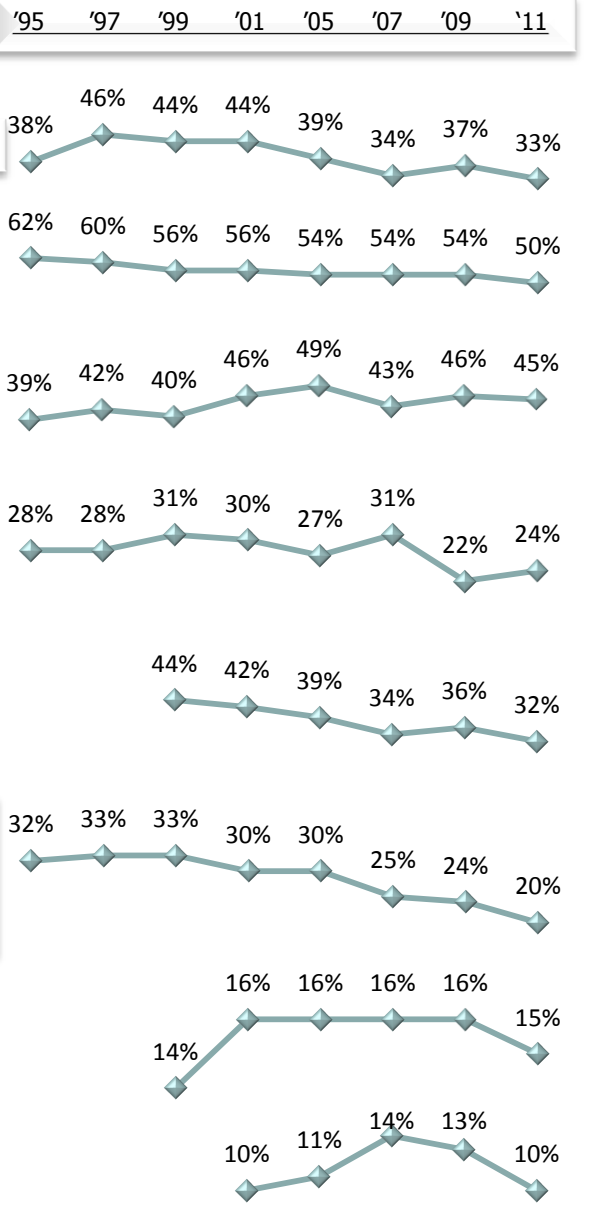
Summary of 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Survey Findings

Overall Survey Results *

- Rarely or never wore a seatbelt when riding in a car
- Were in a physical fight during the past 12 months
- Were hit, slapped, physically hurt by boyfriend/girlfriend during the past 12 months
- Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months
- Ever tried cigarette smoking
- Used chewing tobacco, snuff, dip during the past 30 days
- Ever drank alcohol
- Offered, sold, given an illegal drug by someone on school property during past 12 months



- Ever used marijuana
- Ever had sexual intercourse
- Were trying to lose weight
- Attended daily PE classes during the week.
- Watched 3 or more hours of TV on school day
- Drank 5 or more drinks in a row within 2 hours during past 30 days.
- Students who were overweight
- Ever been forced to have sexual intercourse



* 2003 Arkansas YRBS not included - Unweighted Data

What is the Youth Risk Behavior Survey?

Developed by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, the 87- item, multiple choice Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) questionnaire was tested and revised several times prior to implementation to assure that results would be both accurate and useful.

During spring of 2011, the 99 question YRBS was completed by 1,375 ninth through twelfth grade students who attended selected classes at scientifically sampled Arkansas public schools. The information, voluntarily provided by the students, provided representative results for Arkansas' public high school students as a group.

Specific questions about health behaviors were professionally written and were included only if they were related to the leading cause of death or illness of youth in the nation and the state. The YRBS is a reliable source of information on the drug-related and disease-producing behaviors of Arkansas' high school students.

Why did Arkansas Conduct the YRBS?

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey will help Arkansas identify public high school students' current health and safety habits so that improvements can be made where needed. Healthy lifestyles for Arkansas students mean longer, more productive lives for the state's young people, as well as improved learning in the classroom.

The 2011 YRBS also provides Arkansas with measures for evaluating future trends in health habits of youth. Survey results can now serve as a valuable tool, particularly for legislators, policy makers, school administrators and teachers as they make decisions about new disease-prevention and health promotion policies, services, programs and educational activities. Parents and students can use these results to evaluate potential changes toward better health. Specifically, YRBS' findings form a valuable base upon which Arkansas can strengthen its ability to:

- * establish disease prevention and health promotion policies;
- * plan and implement programs and services; secure funding for programs;
- * allocate limited resources toward targeted needs and priorities;
- * conduct future research and note progress or deficiencies, and
- * enact laws to prevent injuries and unnecessary deaths.

About this Report

This brochure entitled "2011 Arkansas Youth Risk Behavior Survey" summarizes the overall answers Arkansas' public high school students reported about alcohol, tobacco, and other health risk behaviors. The survey contains questions relating to:

- * behaviors that result in unintentional injury and violence
- * tobacco use;
- * alcohol and other drug use;
- * sexual behaviors that result in HIV infection, other sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs), and unintended pregnancies;
- * dietary behaviors, and
- * physical activity.

How Results Can Be Interpreted

Arkansas' 2009 Youth Risk Behavior Survey is a "snapshot in time" showing those drug-related and disease-producing behaviors reported by high school students during the spring, 2009.

Answers in this survey were only as accurate as students' reporting. Each student interpreted the terms in each question according to his or her own definitions. For instance, do "french fries" qualify as a vegetable? Is low-fat ground beef still considered to be "hamburger"? Is a pocket knife a "weapon"? What area does "on school property" include?

In some cases, the findings could under-or-over-report. Some students chose not to answer certain questions, meaning that all students surveyed were not represented in every response.

However, the percentage of participating students was sufficiently high so that survey findings could be identified as accurate, correct or "valid at the 95% confidence level." That is, if the survey was to be repeated 100 times, 95 times out of 100, similar results would be found. For each of the 96 questions in the Arkansas YRBS survey, different ranges or possible margins of error (confidence intervals) were scientifically calculated.

Sincere Appreciation to:

- * the superintendents, principals, counselors, school nurses, and teachers of the selected schools who so graciously gave of their time and energy to see this survey through to its completion;
- * the parents who approved their children's participation in the survey and to the Arkansas students who completed the YRBS questionnaires;
- * the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which provided funding for the project;
- * the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health, Surveillance Research Section, which developed the survey process and questionnaire, as well as provided technical assistance;
- * WESTAT, Inc., Survey Technical Assistance Project, which provided technical assistance, analyzed questionnaires, and tabulated the results;
- * other state and national agencies which supported or endorsed this project in a variety of ways.
- * Pamela Jones, for her tireless effort in helping to obtain weighted data.

For Further Information



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YRBS Results can be found at:
www.Arkansascsch.org

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2011

Arkansas

Youth
Risk
Behavior
Survey

Coordinated by:

Arkansas Department of Education
Office of Coordinated School Health