

Sourcebook of criminal justice statistics Online

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Table 3.55.2005

High school students reporting involvement in delinquent and risk-related behaviors, and drug, alcohol, and cigarette use

United States, selected years, 1991-2005

(Percent reporting engaging in or experiencing the behavior)

	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
Delinquent/risk-related behavior								
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol ^a	39.9%	35.3%	38.8%	36.6%	33.1%	30.7%	30.2%	28.5%
Drove after drinking alcohol ^a	16.7	13.5	15.4	16.9	13.1	13.3	12.1	9.9
Carried a weapon ^b	26.1	22.1	20.0	18.3	17.3	17.4	17.1	18.5
Carried a gun ^c	NA	7.9	7.6	5.9	4.9	5.7	6.1	5.4
In a physical fight ^d	42.5	41.8	38.7	36.6	35.7	33.2	33.0	35.9
Did not go to school because felt unsafe at school or on way to or from school ^e	NA	4.4	4.5	4.0	5.2	6.6	5.4	6.0
Carried a weapon on school property ^b	NA	11.8	9.8	8.5	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.5
Threatened or injured with a weapon on school property ^d	NA	7.3	8.4	7.4	7.7	8.9	9.2	7.9
Engaged in a physical fight on school property ^d	NA	16.2	15.5	14.8	14.2	12.5	12.8	13.6
Seriously considered suicide ^e	29.0	24.1	24.1	20.5	19.3	19.0	16.9	16.9
Made a suicide plan ^e	18.6	19.0	17.7	15.7	14.5	14.8	16.5	13.0
Attempted suicide ^d	7.3	8.6	8.7	7.7	8.3	8.8	8.5	8.4
Drug, alcohol, cigarette use								
Marijuana use, lifetime ^f	31.3	32.8	42.4	47.1	47.2	42.4	40.2	38.4
Marijuana use, current ^a	14.7	17.7	25.3	26.2	26.7	23.9	22.4	20.2
Cocaine use, lifetime ^g	5.9	4.9	7.0	8.2	9.5	9.4	8.7	7.6
Cocaine use, current ^a	1.7	1.9	3.1	3.3	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.4
Illegal steroid use, lifetime ^f	2.7	2.2	3.7	3.1	3.7	5.0	6.1	4.0
Inhalant use, lifetime ^h	NA	NA	20.3	16.0	14.6	14.7	12.1	12.4
Alcohol use, current ^c	50.8	48.0	51.6	50.8	50.0	47.1	44.9	43.3
Episodic heavy drinking ⁱ	31.3	30.0	32.6	33.4	31.5	29.9	28.3	25.5
Cigarette use, lifetime ^j	70.1	69.5	71.3	70.2	70.4	63.9	58.4	54.3
Cigarette use, current ^c	27.5	30.5	34.8	36.4	34.8	28.5	21.9	23.0
Cigarette use, frequent ^k	12.7	13.8	16.1	16.7	16.8	13.8	9.7	9.4
On school property								
Alcohol use ^c	NA	5.2	6.3	5.6	4.9	4.9	5.2	4.3
Marijuana use ^a	NA	5.6	8.8	7.0	7.2	5.4	5.8	4.5
Offered, sold, or given an illegal drug ^e	NA	24.0	32.1	31.7	30.2	28.5	28.7	25.4

Note: These data are from the national school-based survey conducted biennially as part of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). The data were collected and analyzed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For survey methodology and sampling procedures, see [Appendix 5](#).

^aOne or more times during the 30 days preceding the survey.

^bCarried a weapon (e.g., a gun, knife, or club) on 1 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

^cOn 1 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

^dOne or more times during the 12 months preceding the survey.

^eDuring the 12 months preceding the survey.

^fEver used.

^gEver tried any form of cocaine (e.g., powder, crack, or freebase).

^hEver sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high.

ⁱAt least one drink of alcohol on 1 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

^jDrank five or more drinks of alcohol in a row (within a couple hours) on 1 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

^kEver tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs.

^lSmoked cigarettes on 20 or more of the 30 days preceding the survey.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, **Trend Fact Sheets: 1991-2005** [Online]. Available: <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/yrbstrends.htm> [Dec. 11, 2006]; Jo Anne Grunbaum et al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance--United States, 2001," CDC Surveillance Summaries, **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report** 51 No. SS-4 (Washington, DC: USGPO, June 28, 2002), pp. 25-27, 29, 31, 33, 38, 40, 42, 46; Jo Anne Grunbaum et al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance--United States, 2003," CDC Surveillance Summaries, **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report** 53 No. SS-2 (Washington, DC: USGPO, May 21, 2004), pp. 33-69; and Danice K. Eaton et al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance--United States, 2005," CDC Surveillance Summaries, **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report** 55 No. SS-5 (Washington, DC: USGPO, June 9, 2006), pp. 38-76. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.