

DATE SEXUAL VIOLENCE and YOUTH RISK and PROTECTIVE FACTORS
 2007 Minnesota Student Survey Statewide Data
 9th Grade Students

What is the purpose of these tables and graphs?

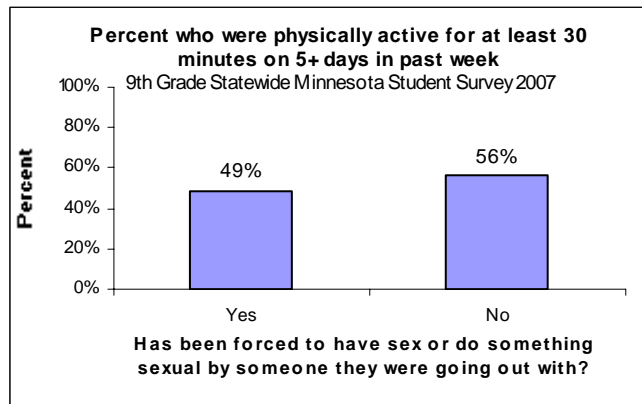
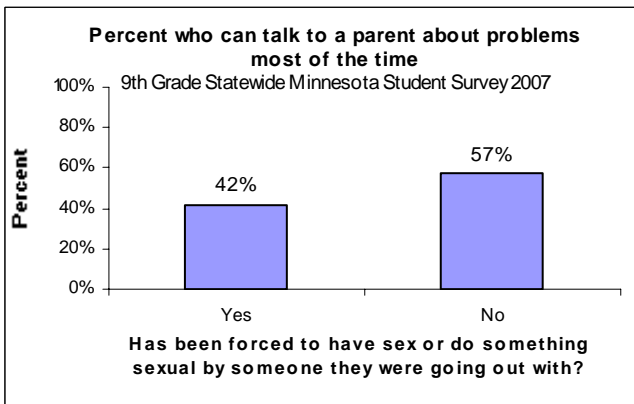
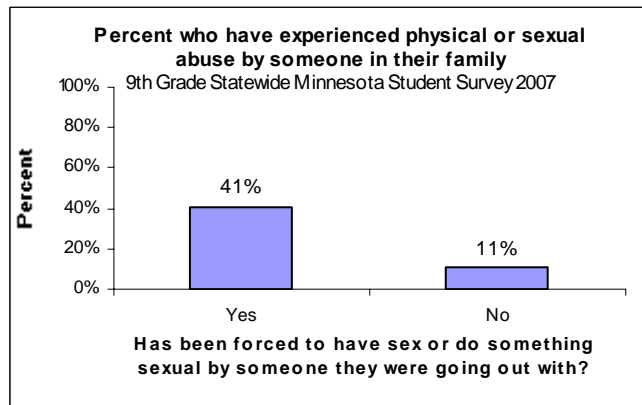
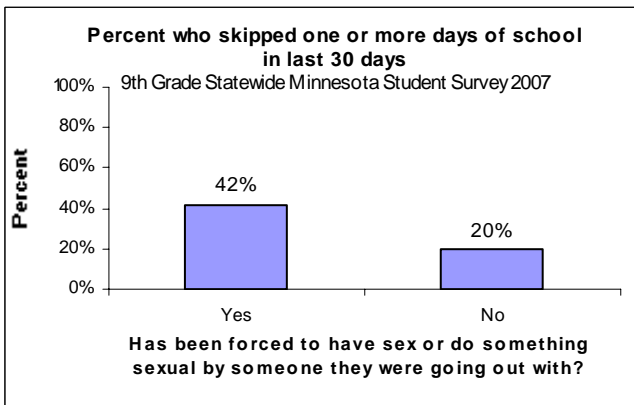
This issue brief provides data showing the extent to which selected risk and protective factors are associated with the experience of date sexual violence. The risk and protective factors selected for this brief are of interest to many who work with teens, but represent just a sample of all the survey questions that could be investigated. Each brief in this series uses the same set of risk and protective factors. An association only means that two factors often occur together. It is important to remember that the survey results alone cannot tell us if one factor “causes” or “predicts” the other. Just because two factors are associated with each other does not mean they are causally related.

How should I read these tables and graphs?

In this brief, 9th grade students are divided into two groups. The table on the reverse side compares these two groups on various risk and protective factors. For example, 2,922 students said they had been forced to have sex or do something sexual by someone they were going out with; of these students, 42 percent reported skipping school on one or more days in the past month. In contrast, 45,591 students said they have not experienced any date sexual violence, and 20 percent of these students reported skipping school in the last 30 days.

What do these tables and graphs say about date sexual violence and other risk and protective factors?

In general, 9th grade students who reported being forced to have sex or do something sexual with someone they were going out with are much more likely to engage in or be exposed to each of the *risk factors* examined in the table than are students who did not experience date sexual violence. In addition, students who have had no experiences of date sexual violence are somewhat more likely to engage in or be exposed to the *protective factors* examined in the table. Exceptions to this general pattern include watching TV, DVDs and videos, and eating fruits and vegetables.



This brief is based on responses by students in regular public schools to questions on the 2007 Minnesota Student Survey. Over 90 percent of the regular public school districts in the state participated in the 2007 survey. The participation rate for all 9th grade students was 76 percent. Statewide and county results can be found on the web at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/chs/mss>.

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(continued from reverse side)

Risk Factors	Has someone you were going out with ever forced you to have sex or do something sexual when you didn't want to?	
	Yes	No
Number of Students (N)	2,922	45,591
Smoked cigarettes on one or more days in last 30 days	36%	10%
Drank alcoholic beverages on one or more days in last 30 days	54%	22%
Used marijuana on one or more days in last 30 days	28%	9%
Have ever had sexual intercourse	59%	16%
Felt sad all or most of the time in last 30 days	38%	12%
Tried to kill yourself during the last year	19%	3%
Hit or beat up another person one or more times in last 12 months	46%	24%
Skipped or cut one or more days of school in last 30 days	42%	20%
Have been kicked, bitten or hit at least once on school property in last 12 months	44%	24%
Have been teased, made fun of, or excluded by other students once a week or more often	29%	11%
Alcohol or drug use by family member has repeatedly caused problems	43%	18%
Have experienced physical and/or sexual abuse by someone in their family	41%	11%
Spend 11 or more hours per week watching TV, DVDs or videos	25%	23%

Protective Factors	Has someone you were going out with ever forced you to have sex or do something sexual when you didn't want to?	
	Yes	No
Number of Students (N)	2,922	45,591
Had 5 or more servings of fruits & vegetables yesterday	21%	18%
Were physically active for at least 30 minutes on 5 or more days in past week	49%	56%
Always wear a seat belt when they ride in a car	44%	59%
Like going to school "very much" or "quite a bit"	34%	47%
Say that "all" or "most" of their teachers show respect for students	53%	75%
Live with two parents	57%	71%
Can talk to at least one parent about problems "most of the time"	42%	57%
Feel their friends care about them "very much" or "quite a bit"	65%	75%
Spend 6 or more hours per week doing homework	24%	29%
Participate on school sports teams 1 or 2 times per week or more often	41%	48%
Participate in religious activities (including youth group, programs, etc) 1 or 2 times per week or more often	36%	43%

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