

HITTING OR BEATING UP ANOTHER PERSON and YOUTH RISK and PROTECTIVE FACTORS

2007 Minnesota Student Survey Statewide Data

9th Grade Students

What is the purpose of these tables and graphs?

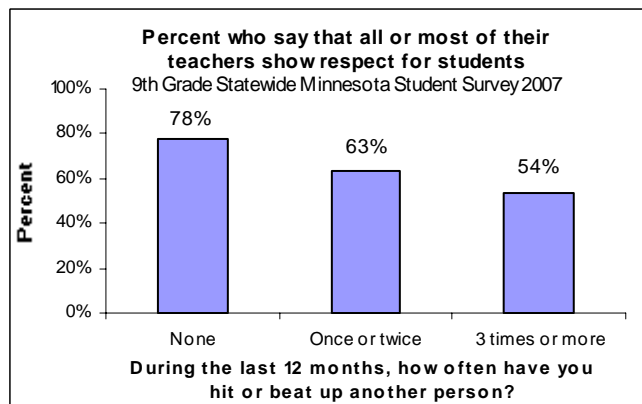
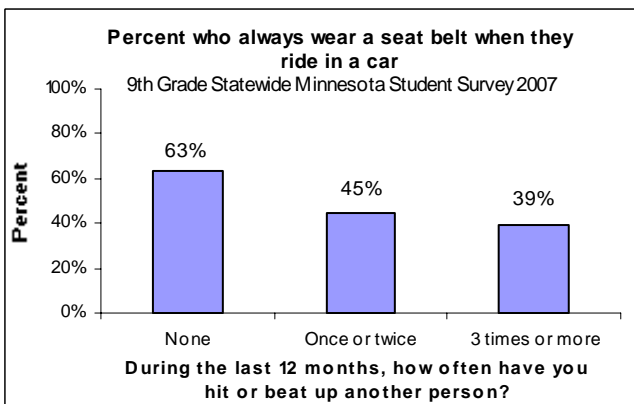
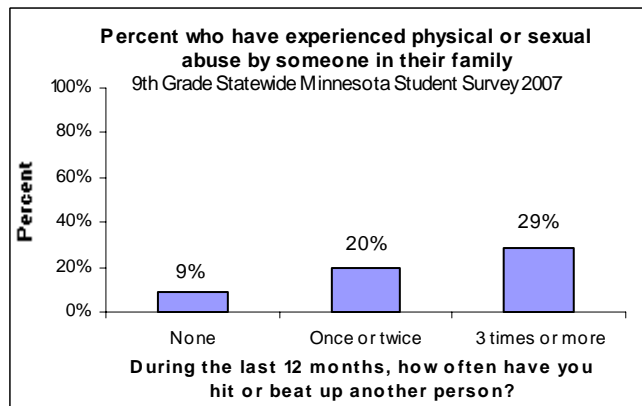
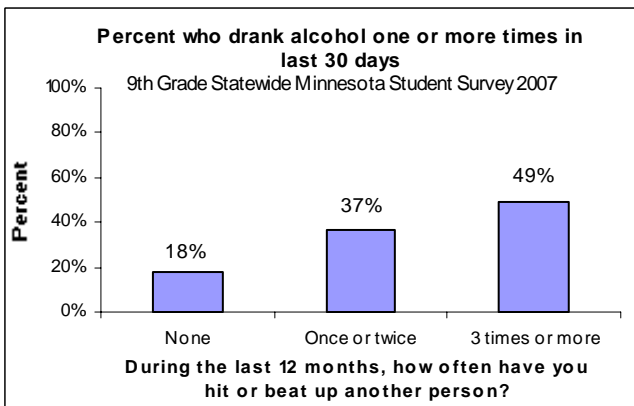
This issue brief provides data showing the extent to which selected risk and protective factors are associated with hitting or beating up another person. The risk and protective factors selected for this brief are of interest to many who work with teens, but represent just a sample of all the survey 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 three groups. The table on the reverse side compares these three groups on various risk and protective factors. For example, 35,884 students said they did not hit or beat up another person in the last 12 months; of these students, 18 percent reported drinking alcohol in the last 30 days. In contrast, 3,780 students said they hit or beat up another person three or more times in the last year, and 49 percent of these students reported drinking alcohol in the last 30 days.

What do these tables and graphs say about hitting or beating up another person and other risk and protective factors?

Ninth grade students who reported hitting or beating up another person 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 engage in violent behavior. In addition, students who did not hit or beat up another person are more likely to engage in or be exposed to the *protective factors* examined in the table. Exceptions to this general pattern include eating fruits and vegetables, and being physically active.



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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 2007 Minnesota Student Survey Statewide Data
 9th Grade Students

(continued from reverse side)

Risk Factors	During the last 12 months, how often have you hit or beat up another person?		
	None	Once or twice	Three times or more
Number of Students (N)	35,884	8,644	3,780
Smoked cigarettes on one or more days in last 30 days	7%	21%	34%
Drank alcoholic beverages on one or more days in last 30 days	18%	37%	49%
Used marijuana on one or more days in last 30 days	6%	18%	31%
Have ever had sexual intercourse	12%	33%	48%
Felt sad all or most of the time in last 30 days	12%	17%	25%
Tried to kill themselves during past year	2%	6%	12%
Skipped or cut one or more days of school in last 30 days	16%	32%	41%
Have been kicked, bitten or hit at least once on school property in last 12 months	17%	43%	58%
Have been teased, made fun of or excluded by other students once a week or more often	10%	17%	25%
Alcohol or drug use by family member has repeatedly caused problems	16%	26%	37%
Have experienced physical and/or sexual abuse by someone in their family	9%	20%	29%
Spend 11 or more hours per week watching TV, DVDs or videos	20%	28%	35%

Protective Factors	During the last 12 months, how often have you hit or beat up another person?		
	No	Once or twice	Three times or more
Number of Students (N)	35,884	8,644	3,780
Had 5 or more servings of fruits & vegetables yesterday	18%	17%	21%
Were physically active for at least 30 minutes on 5 or more days in past week	55%	56%	57%
Always wear a seat belt when they ride in a car	63%	45%	39%
Like going to school "very much" or "quite a bit"	51%	34%	28%
Say that "all" or "most" of their teachers show respect for students	78%	63%	54%
Live with two parents	73%	63%	58%
Can talk to at least one parent about problems "most of the time"	59%	48%	44%
Feel their friends care about them "very much" or "quite a bit"	77%	68%	63%
Spend 6 or more hours per week doing homework	31%	21%	20%
Participate on school sports teams 1 or 2 times per week or more often	51%	42%	38%
Participate in religious activities (including youth group, programs, etc) 1 or 2 times per week or more often	45%	36%	32%

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