

MARIJUANA USE and YOUTH RISK and PROTECTIVE FACTORS
 2007 Minnesota Student Survey Statewide Data
 9th Grade Students

What is the purpose of these tables and graphs?

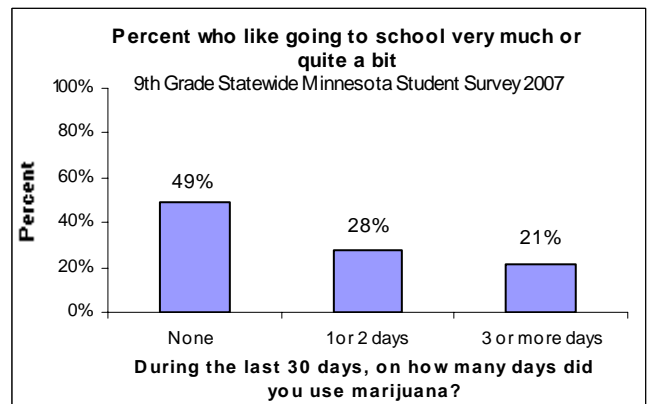
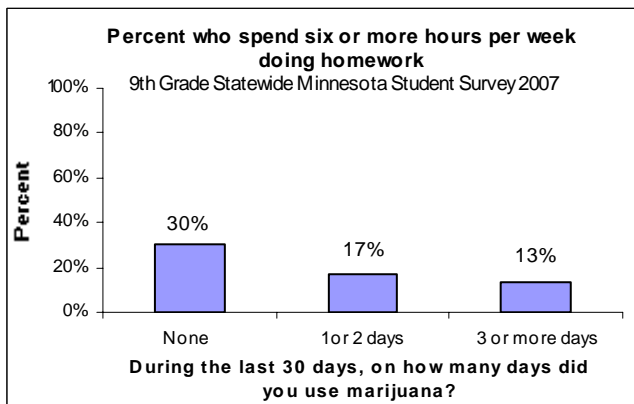
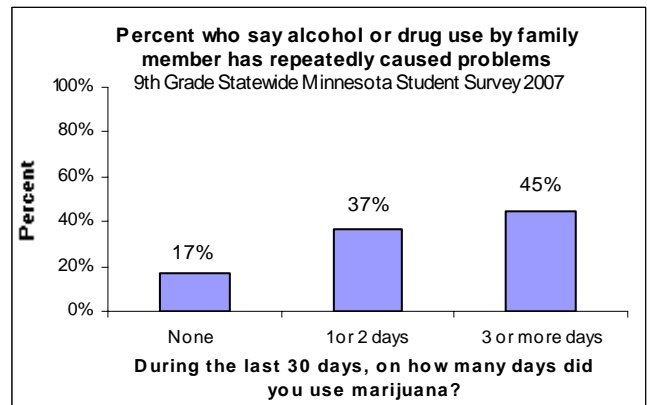
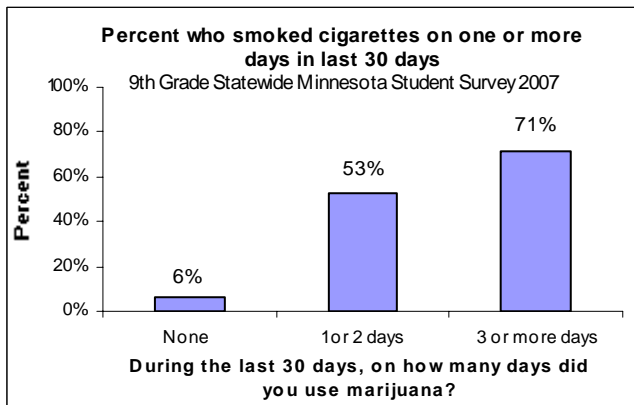
This issue brief provides data showing the extent to which selected risk and protective factors are associated with using marijuana. The risk and protective factors selected for this brief are of interest to many who work with teens, but represent just a sample of all the survey questions that could 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 based on how often they use marijuana. The table on the reverse side compares these three groups on various risk and protective factors. For example, 42,103 students said they did not use marijuana in the past 30 days; of these students, 6 percent reported smoking cigarettes in the last 30 days. In contrast, 2,734 students said they used marijuana on three or more days in the past 30 days, and 71 percent of these students reported smoking cigarettes during the same 30-day period.

What do these tables and graphs say about marijuana use and other risk and protective factors?

Ninth-grade students who reported frequent marijuana use 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 use marijuana at all. In addition, students who did not use marijuana in the last 30 days are somewhat more likely to engage in or be exposed to each of the *protective factors* examined in the table. The only exception to this general pattern is 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	During the last 30 days, on how many days did you use marijuana?		
	None	1 or 2 days	3 or more days
Number of Students (N)	42,103	1,873	2,734
Smoked cigarettes on one or more days in last 30 days	6%	53%	71%
Drank alcoholic beverages on one or more days in last 30 days	18%	75%	83%
Have ever had sexual intercourse	14%	55%	71%
Felt sad all or most of the time in last 30 days	12%	24%	27%
Tried to kill themselves during past year	3%	11%	15%
Hit or beat up another person one or more times in last 12 months	22%	49%	63%
Skipped or cut one or more days of school in last 30 days	17%	46%	58%
Have been kicked, bitten or hit at least once on school property in last 12 months	24%	35%	41%
Have been teased, made fun of or excluded by other students once a week or more often	12%	17%	19%
Alcohol or drug use by family member has repeatedly caused problems	17%	37%	45%
Have experienced physical and/or sexual abuse by someone in their family	11%	26%	28%
Spend 11 or more hours per week watching TV, DVDs or videos	22%	26%	29%

Protective Factors	During the last 30 days, on how many days did you use marijuana?		
	None	1 or 2 days	3 or more days
Number of Students (N)	42,103	1,873	2,734
Had 5 or more servings of fruits & vegetables yesterday	18%	16%	18%
Were physically active for at least 30 minutes on 5 or more days in past week	57%	47%	47%
Always wear a seat belt when they ride in a car	61%	37%	29%
Like going to school "very much" or "quite a bit"	49%	28%	21%
Say that "all" or "most" of their teachers show respect for students	76%	58%	47%
Live with two parents	72%	56%	48%
Can talk to at least one parent "most of the time"	58%	41%	41%
Feel their friends care about them "very much" or "quite a bit"	76%	70%	64%
Spend 6 or more hours per week doing homework	30%	17%	13%
Participate on school sports teams 1 or 2 times per week or more often	50%	37%	29%
Participate in religious activities (including youth group, programs, etc) 1 or 2 times per week or more often	45%	27%	20%

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