

The Vermont Department of Health would like to acknowledge the work and effort of all the schools, teachers and students who participate in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey each year.

Copies of the questionnaires, state-wide reports, data briefs, and additional sub-state reports are available online.

Visit the Vermont Department of Health YRBS website at: https://www.HealthVermont.gov/yrbs We would especially like to thank the students and schools in Missisquoi Valley SD who participated in the 2021 YRBS.

This report includes the results for the following schools:

**High Schools** 

MISSISQUOI VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL



#### Middle Schools

MISSISIQUOI VALLEY UHS #7

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#### About the YRBS

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a national school-based survey that monitors the health-risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among youth and young adults. These include:

- Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries
- Violence
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Tobacco use
- Unhealthy dietary behaviors
- Inadequate physical activity
- Sexual health behaviors related to pregnancy and STDs

The YRBS also measures other high priority health-related behaviors and protective factors. These include:

- prevalence of obesity
- Attitudes and perceptions related to substance use
- Food and housing insecurity
- Youth assets
- Academic achievement

#### About the YRBS

In Vermont, the Department of Health works with the Agency of Education and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to administer the YRBS. It is typically conducted every two years during the spring semester. The YRBS was first administered among students in 8th through 12th grades in 1993. Since 2011, Vermont has conducted two separate surveys: a high school survey of students in grades 9 through 12, and a middle school survey of students in grades 6 through 8.

The middle school and high school surveys differ slightly. The middle school survey is shorter and focuses more on lifetime behaviors and includes questions on fighting, bullying, suicidality, substance use, attitudes and perceptions about substance use, sexual activity, nutrition, physical activity, youth assets, and other factors related to health equity. The high school survey includes questions on these topics as well as more in-depth questions on current behaviors such as driving behaviors and self-reported height and weight.

Copies of the 2021 Vermont high school and middle school surveys as well as previous surveys can be found online at: https://www.HealthVermont.gov/vrbs



#### Methodology

The YRBS is a biennial school-based survey. In Vermont, students in all public schools and select independent schools across the state are invited to participate in the YRBS. Historically, this has always taken place in the Spring semester. However, to due the COVID-19 pandemic and remote learning, the CDC allowed for the survey to be delayed to the Fall semester later in 2021.

Survey procedures were designed to protect the privacy of students. The YRBS is confidential, anonymous, and optional for students. All students are read a standard set of directions and asked to complete the self-administered survey. Completion of the survey depends on a student's ability to read and complete the questionnaire independently or with the use of computer assisted technology (e.g., screen readers). Thus, students with very limited reading skills or significant intellectual or learning disabilities, may not be adequately represented in this data. Students can decline participation at any time or skip any questions they do not wish to answer. In addition, to protect student's anonymity, data is suppressed when less than 50 students respond to a question or less than 5 students answer a question in a particular way.

In 2019, Vermont began administering a web-based version of the YRBS. Students complete the YRBS online using a unique, random login code to access the survey online. No survey logic or skip patterns are used to ensure that all students complete the survey in approximately the same time frame, regardless of how they answer a question.

For more information on the delayed administration and how it may have impacted the 2021 results, please see "Understanding the 2021 YRBS Results" on the Vermont Department of Health YRBS webpage at: https://www.HealthVermont.gov/yrbs

#### Using the YRBS

#### Engaging students, schools, and communities

The YRBS can detect changes in risk behaviors over time and identify differences among ages, grades, and genders. With these data, school and community organizations can focus prevention efforts and determine whether school policies and community programs are having the intended effect on student behaviors.

Think of the YRBS as a tool for starting discussions, for educating the community, for planning and evaluating programs, and for comparing Vermont students with other students nationwide.

<u>Start the Conversation:</u> Use the YRBS to begin a conversation with teens about the personal choices they make or about the health of their community. Ask them if the results accurately reflect what they see happening around them. How do they explain the results? From their perspective, what is or is not working? How would they promote healthy behaviors?

Increase Awareness: The YRBS provides an opportunity to break through "denial" and make community members aware of the risks that their young people face. It can also dispel myths and correct misinformation about the "average teenager." The YRBS can accentuate the positive and celebrate the fact that many students are abstaining from behaviors that endanger their health and their ability to succeed.

<u>Plan and Evaluate Programs:</u> The YRBS can serve as the basis of a community needs assessment. It can help identify strengths and weaknesses in communities and can inform strategies to address those weaknesses.



Remember to Look at the Positive Side: In most cases, the majority of adolescents are NOT engaging in risky behaviors. Although most of the charts examine the prevalence of risk behaviors, please do not forget about the percentage of adolescents who are NOT engaging in these behaviors.

Participate in Getting to 'Y': Getting to Y provides an opportunity for students to take a lead in bringing meaning to their own Youth Risk Behavior Survey data and taking steps to strengthen their school and community based on their findings. Schools and districts across the state form teams to analyze local level data, identify areas of strength and concern, and create a preliminary action plan. Through the Getting to 'Y' program, students attend a training day where they learn tools and strategies to examine data, explore root causes, and create next action steps. In addition, teams plan and host a community dialogue event to share their executive summary with the school and community.

For more information on upcoming Getting to Y trainings, newsletters, and resources visit Getting to Y at <a href="http://www.upforlearning.org/initiatives/getting-to-y">http://www.upforlearning.org/initiatives/getting-to-y</a>

#### How Accurate are the Results?

Research indicates data of this nature may be gathered as credibly from adolescents as from adults. The anonymous survey design and survey environment encourages students to be honest and forthright.

Numerous precautions are taken to ensure the reliability and validity of the results. The CDC runs over 100 consistency checks on the data to exclude careless, invalid, or logically inconsistent answers. These internal reliability checks help identify the small percentage of students who falsify their answers.

The CDC also weights data, a mathematical procedure that makes data representative of the population from which it was drawn.

The results in this report are weighted by sex, grade, and race/ethnicity in order to compensate for absenteeism and incomplete surveys. The weighting allows the results to be fully representative of middle school students in grades six through eight (middle school survey) and high school students grades nine through twelve (high school survey). Weighting permits us to draw inferences about the school-based student population in Vermont.

More information on survey reliability including "Do students tell the truth" is available on the Vermont Department of Health YRBS webpage at: https://www.HealthVermont.gov/yrbs



#### **Understanding and Interpreting the Results**

#### Statistical Differences

Throughout this report, statistically significant differences are noted. Statistical significance is calculated by comparing the 95% confidence intervals of two or more values. If the confidence intervals overlap, the percentages are not different. In other words, the two groups are not statistically different from one another. If the confidence intervals do not overlap, there is a statistical difference between the two groups.

A 95% confidence interval is a range of values and can vary due to the size of a particular population or how consistently students responded to an item. Sometimes, when comparing the responses of two or more groups, the overall percent may look very different, but the two numbers are not statistically different. Other times, the two values may be very close but differ statistically.

While this report notes statistical differences, we encourage you to consider meaningful differences: does the disparity merit a targeted intervention, show a real change in health, or otherwise mean something important to the community (statistics aside).

#### Data Suppression

For some questions, not enough students respond to be able to report an estimate. In those instances, a dash (-) indicating "too few students" is noted in the table. Reportable estimates include a numerator of at least 5 students and denominator of 50 or more students.

#### **Subgroup Comparisons**

Some subgroups have a higher prevalence of many health-risk behaviors that might place them at risk for unnecessary or premature mortality, morbidity and social problems.

#### Key Terms and Statistical Differences

Depending on the size of the Supervisory Union / School District (SU), this report may include differences among students by sex, grade level, race/ethnicity, and sexual orientation/gender identity.

Each table includes the overall statewide prevalence rate (%) and SU prevalence rate. When available, prevalence rates by subpopulations are included. Overall statistical comparisons between the statewide and SU as well as statistical differences within a SU by subpopulations are indicated within each table. These are noted using following key terms and statistical differences:

VT = All students in Vermont

SU = All students in Missisquoi Valley SD

M = Male students

F = Female students

WnH = White, non-Hispanic students

BIPOC = American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, or Hispanic /Latino students

Het/Cis = Heterosexual and cisgender students

LGBTQ+ = Transgender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, other sexual orientation, and questioning or unsure if they are transgender students

- . = Too few students to report
- \* = Significant differences between groups
- # = Significantly increases/decreases with each grade level
- + = Older (11th/12th grade) students are significantly different from younger (9th/10th grade) students



#### Special Considerations for 2021

The Vermont YRBS is typically administered during the spring semester of the school year. However, due to COVID-19 and related school closures, the CDC allowed for the 2021 YRBS to be delayed and administered during the fall semester. Students in Vermont took the survey between September and December 2021.

Prevalence estimates for the 2021 VT YRBS and comparisons with previous YRBS data have likely been impacted by some significant factors unique to 2021, including the COVID-19 pandemic and the delay of the survey. Students who participated in the 2021 YRBS were facing different educational and social experiences compared to those of previous participants. Disruptions, including remote learning, lack of social interactions and extracurricular activities, are likely reflected in the survey results.

Age can influence the risk behavior prevalence estimates. Because students took the survey in the fall semester (September-December 2021) instead of the spring semester (January-June 2021), the average age of survey participants was younger than in past years. As seen in other states with a fall 2021 YRBS administration, some risk behavior prevalence estimates may be lower due to the change in age of student participants.

Caution should be used when interpreting and comparing the 2021 results to other years.

### 2021 VERMONT YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY REPORT

HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

### Demographics

Sex	N	%
Male	134	42
Female	120	58

Year in School	N	%
9th grade	77	25
10th grade	61	22
11th grade	85	27
12th grade	31	25

### Demographics

Race / Ethnicity	N	%
BIPOC	38	27
White, non-Hispanic	214	73

Sexual Orientation / Gender Identity	N	%
LGBTQ+	53	27
Heterosexual/Cisgender	195	73

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Were in a physical fight	16	22	*	21	23	24	20		17	40	15	*
Carried a weapon on school property	4	8	*	9	8	7	9		6	17	5	*
Were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property	7	11	*	13	9	11	12		9	24	7	*

	VT	SD		F	M		9-10	11-12		BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Were electronically bullied	17	18		22	14		20	17		•	17	32	14	*
Were bullied	17	24	*	31	14	*	28	19			23	40	17	*
Bullied someone	9	10		9	11		16	4	+		9	8	11	

<sup>+ =</sup> Older students significantly different from younger students



<sup>. =</sup> Too few students to report;

<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

	VT	SD		F	M		9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Report someone has ever done sexual things to them that they did not want	21	25		36	11	*	21	30		22	51	17	*
Experienced physical dating violence	8	14	*	15	12		9	17		9		10	
Reported someone they were dating or going out with purposely tried to control them or emotionally hurt them one or more times	29	36		39	31		28	42		27		29	

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school	9	10	11	9	7	13		7	19	7	
Ever saw someone get physically attacked, beaten, stabbed, or shot in their neighborhood	16	20	20	20	17	24		14	40	12	*

<sup>+ =</sup> Older students significantly different from younger students



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<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol	16	19	21	16	19	19		17	23	17
Rode in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been using marijuana	19	24	27	20	20	28		20	31	22

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Texted or e-mailed while driving a car or other vehicle	33	37	34	41	17	49 +	. 34		32
Drove a car or other vehicle when they had been drinking alcohol	6	12 *	10	15	11	13	. 7		5
Drove a car or other vehicle when they had been using marijuana	10	10	8	12	7	11	. 9		7

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	VT	SD		F	M		9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Had at least one sunburn	76	72		81	60	*	70	73		76		73
Rarely or never wore a bicycle helmet	45	72	*	73	72		73	71		74		75
Had a concussion from playing a sport or being physically active	15	19		20	17		21	17		13		19



#### Mental Health

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Reported that their mental health was most of the time or always not good	35	39	48	27 *	39	39		35	65	31	*
Have been bothered by feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge most of the time or always	36	38	49	22 *	40	36		31	57	32	*
Felt sad or hopeless	30	29	34	23	25	33		25	46	24	*

	VT	SD	F	M		9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Did something to purposely hurt themselves without wanting to die	22	25	32	14	*	26	23		19	54	14	*
Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide	14	14	15	13		9	18		7	36	7	*
Attempted suicide	7	8	10	6		8	8		4	27		

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#### Sexual Health

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	ВІРОС	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Were ever tested for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	6	8	10	6		15		6		6
Were ever tested for a sexually transmitted disease (STD)	6	6	8			11		4		4

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Ever had sexual intercourse	32	36	39	32	21	50 +		37		38
Had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years	3	2		5						·
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life	7	6		6	4	7		3		3

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Were currently sexually active	24	27	31	22	13	40 +		27		28

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#### Sexual Health

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse	21	22								
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse	49	43								
Used birth control pills before last sexual intercourse with opposite-sex partner	31									
Used an IUD (such as Mirena or ParaGard) or implant (such as Implanon or Nexplanon) before last sexual intercourse with an opposite-sex partner	18				·					
Used birth control pills; an IUD or implant; or a shot, patch, or birth control ring before last sexual intercourse with an opposite-sex partner	53	•	·		·		·			·
Used both a condom during last sexual intercourse and birth control pills; an IUD or implant, or a shot, patch, or birth control ring before last sexual intercourse with an opposite-sex partner	18	17								

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#### Sexual Health

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Did not use any method to prevent pregnancy during last sexual intercourse with an opposite-sex partner	7	·		·	·	·		·	·	·



#### Lifetime Substance Use

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Ever smoked cigarettes	18	16	15	16	13	18	•	14	22	13
Ever used an electronic vapor product	33	32	29	35	29	34		28	43	28
Ever used a flavored tobacco product	18	16	16	16	10	22 +		15	28	12 *

	VT	SD	F	M		9-10	11-12		BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Ever drank alcohol	47	49	55	40	*	41	56			46	64	44	*
Ever used marijuana	31	19 *	19	18		12	25	+		19	27	17	

#### \_ifetime Substance Use

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Lifetime prescription drug use	10	11	13	9	11	12		9	23	7	*
Ever took prescription pain medicine without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it	8	10	11	9	8	12		9	23	5	*
Have taken prescription stimulants without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it one or more times	5	5	·	·	5	·	·	·	·		

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Ever used cocaine	2	5			6	4	6		3		3
Ever used inhalants	7	9		10	8	8	10		6		7
Ever used heroin	1	5	*		6	4	7		3		3
Ever used methamphetamines	2	4	*								

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#### ifetime Substance Use

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
First tried cigarette smoking before age 13 years	6	11	*	11	10	7	14	•	9	19	8	
First tried a tobacco product flavored to taste before age 13 years	27	8	*	7	8	5	10	-	6	16	5	*
Had first drink of alcohol before age 13 years	13	18	*	20	16	22	15		16	30	15	*
Tried marijuana for the first time before age 13 years	5	6			7	4	8		4	17	3	*



#### Current Substance Use

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Currently smoked cigarettes or cigars or used smokeless tobacco or electronic vapor products	18	14	15	12	12	15		13		12
Currently smoked cigarettes or cigars or used smokeless tobacco	7	5		8	4	5		5		5

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Currently smoked cigarettes	5	3	*		6		4		3		2
Currently used an electronic vapor product	16	13		14	12	12	14		13		11
Currently smoked cigars	3	3			6		4		3		3
Currently used smokeless tobacco	3	3			6		3		2		3
Tried to quit using all tobacco products	49										

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#### Current Substance Use

	VT	SD	F	M		9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Currently drank alcohol	25	26	34	17	*	22	31		23		21
Currently were binge drinking	12	12	14	9		8	15		11		9
Reported that the largest number of drinks they had in a row was 10 or more	3	6 *	7	6		4	8		4		4

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Currently used marijuana	20	15	19	10	9	21 +		13	31	10	*

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Currently took any prescription medication without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it	2	4	·	·		·				·

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<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Currently smoked cigarettes on 10+ days, among current users	35		•							
Currently smoked 11+ cigarettes, among current users	15									
Currently smoked 20+ cigarettes, among current users	13									
Currently smoked cigarettes daily, among current users	21									
Currently smoked cigarettes frequently (20+ days), among current users	25	·		·		·	·			



	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Usually use JUUL or other rechargeable device that uses pods, among current users	19									·
Usually got their electronic vapor products by buying them themselves in a convenience store, supermarket, discount store, or gas station, among current users	4						·		·	
Used electronic vapor products mainly because they were curious about them, among current users	13									·
Currently used electronic vapor products daily, among current users	30									
Used EVP 10+ days, among current users	42			·						
Currently used electronic vapor products frequently (20+ days), among current users	42									

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<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Currently binge drank, among current users	57										·
Reported that the largest number of drinks they had in a row was 10 or more, among current users	13										
Currently drank 10+ days, among current users	13	26	*								·
Currently drank 20+ days, among current users	6	15	*								
Currently drank everyday, among current users	4	15	*								·



	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Usually used marijuana by smoking it in a joint, bong, pipe, or blunt, among current users	76									
Currently used marijuana 10+ times, among current users	42									
Currently used marijuana 20+ times, among current users	30				-			·		
Usually used marijuana by vaping it, among current users	10									



### Substance Use Exposure and Prevention

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Were asked by a doctor, dentist, or nurse if they smoked	49	46	50	42	37	55 +		47		45	
Were offered, sold, or given an illegal drug on school property	12	19 *	19	18	12	25 +	·	14	36	12	*
Attended school under the influence of alcohol or other illegal drugs	10	13	16	9	7	18 +	·	10	31	6	*



	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC WnH	LGBTQ HetCis
Say if they wanted to get electronic vapor products, it would be sort of easy or very easy for them to get some	58	56	56	57	49	64 +	. 55	. 56
Say if they wanted to get alcohol, it would be sort of easy or very easy for them to get some	65	62	67	56	57	67	. 64	. 62
Say if they wanted to get marijuana, it would be sort of easy or very easy for them to get some	54	47 *	46	48	33	61 +	. 50	. 45



	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Think it is wrong or very wrong for someone their age to use electronic vapor products	67	59	*	61	57	66	53	. 64		63
Think it is wrong or very wrong for someone their age to drink alcohol	55	52		50	55	56	49	. 54		50
Think it is wrong or very wrong for someone their age to use marijuana	55	64	*	62	65	70	56	. 67		69



	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Responded that their parents or guardians feel it would be wrong or very wrong for the student to use electronic vapor products	90	83	*	83	83	87	79	. 85		86
Responded that their parents or guardians feel it would be wrong or very wrong for the student to drink alcohol	71	66		64	69	74	58 +	. 68		68
Responded that their parents or guardians feel it would be wrong or very wrong for the student to use marijuana	77	77		80	73	81	71	. 80		80



	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Think people greatly risk harming themselves, physically or in other ways, if they use electronic vapor products regularly	39	31	*	33	29	35	27	. 30		30
Think people greatly risk harming themselves, physically or in other ways, if they have five or more drinks of alcohol (beer, wine, or liquor) once or twice each weekend	37	28	*	24	34	28	29	. 24		27
Think people greatly risk harming themselves, physically or in other ways, if they use marijuana regularly	25	25		25	26	27	24	. 25		24



### Obesity, Overweight, and Weight Perceptions

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Were overweight	14	17	19	14	14	20	•	19		16
Were obese	14	25 *	19	33	25	24		19		20

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Described themselves as slightly or very overweight	29	37	*	36	39	40	35		34	50	33
Were trying to lose weight	41	42		45	39	49	36		43	51	41

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<sup>. =</sup> Too few students to report;

<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

### Physical Activity

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least 1 day	13	14	13	15	13	14	. 12	·	9
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more days	53	49	45	54	50	48	. 50		56
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on all 7 days	28	24	18	31 *	25	23	. 25		26
Spent 3 or more hours per day on screen time	73	72	71	74	73	71	. 69		74



#### Nutrition

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Ate 5+ fruits/vegetables every day, past week	18	17	17	18	18	17		15	30	13	*

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Did not eat fruit or drink 100% fruit juices	6	7	•	12	4	9		8		7	
Ate fruit or drank 100% fruit juices one or more times per day	58	60	66	54	60	61		57	72	56	*
Ate fruit or drank 100% fruit juices two or more times per day	27	32 *	34	29	33	31		29	37	31	



#### **Nutrition**

	VT	SD		F	M		9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Did not eat vegetables	5	8	*	4	14	*	7	9		10		9	
Ate vegetables one or more times per day	70	60	*	69	49	*	56	64		58	71	57	
Ate vegetables two or more times per day	34	28	*	31	23		25	30		22	41	23	*
Ate vegetables three or more times per day	17	13		15	10		14	12		10	23	10	*

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Did not eat breakfast	16	20	21	19	22	18		19	27	16
Ate breakfast on all 7 days	33	25 *	23	28	26	25		25	22	27



#### **Nutrition**

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis	
Drank a can, bottle, or glass of a sugar-sweetened beverage	18	22		20	25	25	19		20	34	17	*
Did not drink a bottle or glass of plain water	4	9	*	7	11	7	10		6	14	5	
Drank a bottle or glass of plain water one or more times per day	77	66	*	68	65	67	66		69	54	73	*
Drank a bottle or glass of plain water two or more times per day	68	60	*	62	58	60	60		60	47	67	*
Drank a bottle or glass of plain water three or more times per day	52	45	*	46	44	44	47		47	36	50	



### Social Determinants of Health

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC WnH	LGBTQ HetCis
Have a disability or long-term health problem that keeps them from doing everyday activities	7	8	9	8	7	10	. 5	. 3
Currently receive Special Education services through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 plan	16	14	9	21 *	14	14	. 12	. 13

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Usually did not sleep in their parent's or guardian's home	3	8	*	8	8	4	12		6		3
Most of the time or always went hungry because there was not enough food in their home	2	5	*			·					
Think their families subjective social status is worse than other families	2	4			·		·		·		·

<sup>+ =</sup> Older students significantly different from younger students



<sup>. =</sup> Too few students to report;

<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

#### Protective Factors

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Are sometimes, most of the time or always treated badly or unfairly because of their race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or age	19	22	27	16	28	15		16		9
Most of the time or always get the kind of help they need	33	33	37	27	25	41 +		39		34

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Ate dinner at home with at least one of their parents or other adult family member on four or more days	74	70		74	65	74	67	·	75		76
Reported that their parents or other adults in their family most of the time or always know where they are going or with whom they will be	88	83	*	82	84	82	84	·	87		87

<sup>+ =</sup> Older students significantly different from younger students



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<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

#### Protective Factors

	VT	SD	F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Reported there is at least one teacher or other adult in their school that they can talk to if they have a problem	70	65	68	62	64	67		71		70
Strongly agree or agree that their school has clear rules and consequences for behavior	55	50	43	58	48	51	·	50		54

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Spend 10 or more hours participating in afterschool activities	25	31	*	33	30	25	38		28		31
Report they are most likely to attend a 4-year college or university, a community college, or technical school	69	61	*	67	54	64	59	·	63	·	66

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#### Protective Factors

	VT	SD		F	M	9-10	11-12	BIPOC	WnH	LGBTQ	HetCis
Strongly agree or agree that in their community they feel like they matter to people	52	43	*	41	45	41	45		46		47



### 2021 VERMONT YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY REPORT

MIDDLE SCHOOL RESULTS



### Demographics

Sex	N	%
Male	82	50
Female	97	50

Grade	N	%
7th grade	98	49
8th grade	83	51

### Demographics

Race	N	%
BIPOC	25	25
White, non-Hispanic	141	75

LGBTQ+	N	%
LGBTQ+	55	30
Heterosexual/Cisgender	118	70

	VT	SD	F	М	6th	7th	8th
Ever rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol	15	16	19	13	-	17	16
Have ever ridden in a car driven by someone who had been using marijuana	10	12	15	9		11	13
Never or rarely wear a seatbelt	2						

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Had a concussion from playing a sport or being physically active	15	15		20	10	*		16	14
Rarely or never wore a bicycle helmet	25	45	*	50	40			42	48
Rarely or never wore a helmet when rollerblading or skateboarding	31	49	*	·	÷			·	·

### Unintentional Injuries, Personal Safety, and Violence

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Were ever in a physical fight	38	43		41	46		•	42	44
Were ever bullied on school property	41	45		45	44			46	43
Were ever electronically bullied	29	35	*	41	30	*		35	35
Were bullied	24	28		36	22	*		31	25
Bullied someone	8	8		9	9			9	8

	VT	SD	F	M	6th	7th	8th
Report someone has ever done sexual things to them that they did not want	10	13	25			8	18

	VT	SD	F	M		6th	7th	8th
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school	10	9	13	6	*		15	



<sup>. =</sup> Too few students to report;

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<sup># =</sup> Significantly increases/decreases with each grade level

### Unintentional Injuries, Personal Safety, and Violence

	VT	SD	F	M		6th	7th	8th
Had a sunburn, past year	67	66	75	58	*		63	70

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Reported that their mental health was most of the time or always not good	22	24		30	17	*		21	27
Have most of the time or always been bothered by feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge	24	32	*	42	22	*		26	38
Felt sad or hopeless	22	28	*	40	17	*		31	26
Have ever done something to purposely hurt themselves without wanting to die, such as cutting or burning themselves on purpose	18	23	*	34	11	*		27	18



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<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

#### Mental Health

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Ever seriously thought about killing themselves	18	22	*	29	13	*		21	23
Ever made a plan about how they would kill themselves	13	15		19	10	*		18	12
Ever tried to kill themselves	6	8		11	•			5	10

	VT	SD		F	M	6th	7th	8th
Ever had sexual intercourse	3	6	*	11				7
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse	44							

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Ever tried cigarette smoking	6	10	*	13	7			11	10
Ever used an electronic vapor product	9	15	*	21	9	*		13	17
Ever use a flavored tobacco product	5	9	*	15	·		·	9	10



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#### Lifetime Substance Use

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Ever drank alcohol	15	18		24	11	*		16	20
Ever tried marijuana	5	9	*	12	6			7	12
Ever used inhalants	4	5		10				6	·

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Tried cigarette smoking for the first time before age 11 years	3	5	*	9			•	7	
Tried a flavored tobacco product for the first time before age 11 years	44	4	*	9					
Drank alcohol for the first time before age 11 years	8	10		14	6	*		10	10
Tried marijuana for the first time before age 11 years	1								



### Current Substance Use

	VT	SD		F	M	6th	7th	8th
Currently smoked cigarettes or cigars or used smokeless tobacco or electronic vapor products	5	9	*	14			8	10
Currently smoked cigarettes or used electronic vapor products	5	9	*	13			7	10

	VT	SD		F	M	6th	7th	8th
Currently smoked cigarettes	1	•					•	
Currently used an electronic vapor product	5	8	*	13			7	10
Currently used smokeless tobacco	1				·		·	
Currently smoked cigars	1							



#### Current Substance Use

	VT	SD		F	M	6th	7th	8th
Currently drank alcohol	5	9	*	13			8	10
Currently used marijuana	3	4		6				5
Have ever taken a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it	5	5		9	·		7	·



### Substance Use Among Current Users

	VT	SD	F	M	6th	7th	8th
Used cigarettes on 1-2 days, among current users	43						
Smoke 1 or fewer cigarettes, among current users	62						
Used EVP on 1-2 days, among current users	46		·				
Used electronic vapor products mainly because they were curious about them, among current users	16						
Usually used JUUL or other rechargeable device that uses pods, among current users	19	·	·				·



### Substance Use Among Current Users

	VT	SD	F	M	6th	7th	8th
Used alcohol on 1-2 days, among current users	69						
Had 1 to 2 drinks, among current users	65			•			
Used marijuana 1-2 times, among current users	42	·	r			r	·

	VT	SD	F	M	6th	7th	8th
Were asked by a doctor, dentist, or nurse if they smoked	27	29	32	28		26	33

### Perceptions about Substance Use

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Say if they wanted to get electronic vapor products, it would be sort of easy or very easy for them to get some	18	24	*	31	15	*	·	14	32
Say if they wanted to get alcohol, it would be sort of easy or very easy for them to get some	32	37		45	29	*		29	44
Say if they wanted to get marijuana, it would be sort of easy or very easy for them to get some	15	19	*	26	12	*		10	27



### Perceptions about Substance Use

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Think it is wrong or very wrong for someone their age to use electronic vapor products	89	87		82	91	*		88	85
Responded that their parents or guardians feel it would be wrong or very wrong for the student to use electronic vapor products	94	90	*	93	87		·	91	89
Responded that their parents or guardians feel it would be wrong or very wrong for the student to drink alcohol	88	88		82	93	*	·	94	82
Responded that their parents or guardians feel it would be wrong or very wrong for the student to use marijuana	92	89	*	87	91			90	88



### Perceptions about Substance Use

	VT	SD		F	M	6th	7th	8th
Think people greatly risk harming themselves, physically or in other ways, if they use electronic vapor products regularly	51	46	*	52	41		50	43
Think people greatly risk harming themselves, physically or in other ways, if they have five or more drinks of alcohol (beer, wine, or liquor) once or twice each weekend	40	31	*	24	38 *		31	31
Think people greatly risk harming themselves, physically or in other ways, if they use marijuana regularly	48	41	*	44	40	·	39	43



### Physical Activity

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Spent 3 or more hours per day on screen time	57	66	*	67	65			64	67
Did not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity on at least 1 day	9	12		11	13			8	17
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more days	60	50	*	43	58	*		49	52
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on all 7 days	35	29	*	22	37	*		31	27

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Report they participate in physical activity or other short breaks during class	88	87		87	89			85	90
Played on at least one sports team	64	50	*	58	45	*		49	52
Walk or bike to school at least 1x	24	9	*	10	7			7	11

<sup># =</sup> Significantly increases/decreases with each grade level



<sup>. =</sup> Too few students to report; \* = Sta

<sup>\* =</sup> Statistical differences between groups;

#### Nutrition

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Did not eat breakfast	12	15		21	9	*		14	16
Ate breakfast on all 7 days	45	34	*	16	51	*	•	40	28

	VT	SD		F	M	6th	7th	8th
Did not drink a bottle or glass of plain water	3	5	*		6			6
Drank a bottle or glass of plain water one or more times per day	77	68	*	69	68		71	65
Drank a bottle or glass of plain water two or more times per day	70	61	*	59	63		63	58
Drank a bottle or glass of plain water three or more times per day	55	49	*	43	55 *		51	46



#### Social Determinants of Health

	VT	SD	F	M	6th	7th	8th
Most of the time or always went hungry because there was not enough food in their home	2	3					
Usually did not sleep in their parent's or guardian's home	2						
Reported in their home people most of the time or always speak a language other than English	7						

	VT	SD		F	M		6th	7th	8th
Ate dinner at home with at least one of their parents or other adult family member on four or more days	87	83	*	78	91	*		84	84
Most of the time or always feel that they are able to talk to an adult in their family or another caring adult about their feelings	59	49	*	47	50			57	41



	VT	SD	F	M	6th	7th	8th
Have at least one teacher or other adult in their school that they can talk to if they have a problem	67	68	62	73 *		72	63
Strongly agree or agree that their school has clear rules and consequences for behavior	67	65	63	67		74	57

	VT	SD	F	M	6th	7th	8th
Ever saw someone get physically attacked, beaten, stabbed, or shot in their neighborhood	13	15	15	14		11	17
Strongly agree or agree that in their community they feel like they matter to people	55	52	37	65 *		60	44