

Marijuana Use and Risk Behaviors

Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2013

Background

The Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition requested a table of marijuana use frequency crossed with different risk behaviors. The following two tables, one for the state of Vermont as a whole, and one for Windham County, are in response to that request. The tables demonstrate that frequent marijuana use and risk behaviors are highly associated. It is important to remember that the Youth Risk Behavior Survey cannot determine causality. These tables simply show associations.

Percent of high school students reporting certain risk behaviors by marijuana use frequency, Vermont 2013						
	All students	Marijuana use frequency, past 30 days				
		0 times	1 or 2 times	3 to 9 times	10 to 19 times	20+ times
Agree teachers really care	59%	63%	51%	47%	46%	43%
Agree you matter to community	50%	52%	50%	45%	40%	35%
Attempted suicide 1+ times 12 mos	5%	3%	7%	9%	11%	15%
Bullied someone else 1+ times past 30 days	14%	10%	20%	22%	22%	30%
Five+ drinks 1+ past 30 days	19%	8%	42%	57%	60%	69%
Fought 1+ times 12 mos	20%	15%	26%	30%	37%	48%
Hurt self 1+ times past year	16%	13%	22%	27%	32%	30%
Made suicide plan 12 mos	11%	9%	14%	17%	19%	21%
Got mostly As and Bs	79%	83%	76%	75%	65%	57%
Of those who had sex in the past 3 months, used drugs or alcohol last time	22%	8%	21%	28%	37%	57%
Sad 2 wks past 12 mos	21%	18%	28%	32%	35%	35%

Percent of high school students reporting certain risk behaviors by marijuana use frequency, Windham County 2013						
	All students	Marijuana use frequency, past 30 days				
		0 times	1 or 2 times	3 to 9 times	10 to 19 times	20+ times
Agree teachers really care	54%	60%	48%	36%	*	40%
Agree you matter to community	45%	47%	41%	41%	*	42%
Attempted suicide 1+ times 12 mos	6%	4%	8%	10%	*	16%
Bullied someone else 1+ times past 30 days	15%	14%	15%	22%	*	25%
Five+ drinks 1+ past 30 days	23%	10%	41%	49%	*	64%
Fought 1+ times 12 mos	25%	18%	27%	31%	*	53%
Hurt self 1+ times past year	21%	18%	29%	28%	*	30%
Made suicide plan 12 mos	15%	14%	19%	16%	*	22%
Got mostly As and Bs	78%	82%	73%	75%	*	56%
Of those who had sex in the past 3 months, used drugs or alcohol last time	25%	9%	14%	*	*	59%
Sad 2 wks past 12 mos	27%	24%	31%	28%	*	36%

*signifies there were fewer than 5 students in the numerator or 50 students in the denominator and the estimate was suppressed for confidentiality reasons