



**MILWAUKEE  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

# Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

## *Results for Middle School Students 2015-2016 School Year*

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Penny Muffler  
Research and Evaluation

## ***Introduction***

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) asks students about health behaviors of students in grades 6 through 12. The survey has specific questions related to nutrition, physical activity, tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use.

Results from the survey are used by MPS to plan risk reduction efforts and for the Project AWARE grants. While the survey asks sensitive questions, all precautions have been taken to ensure the anonymity of students as student names or ID numbers will not be asked on the survey. Students may skip any question that they are not comfortable answering.

### *YRBS Survey Administration and Respondents*

The survey window for 2015-2016 was Monday, March 7th through Monday, June 13th. There were two surveys, one for middle school students (grades 6-8) and one for high school students (grades 9-12).


Questions and responses for the 6,735 MPS middle school students who took the survey this year are included in this report.

2015-16 YRBS Survey - Middle School Students  
DISTRICT REPORT (6,735 Responses)






**1. What is your sex?**

Answer		Response	%
Female		3,417	51%
Male		3,298	49%
Total		6,715	100%

**2. Are you Hispanic or Latino?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		2,833	43%
No		3,828	57%
Total		6,661	100%

**3. What is your race? (Select one or more responses.)**

Answer		Response	%
American Indian or Alaska Native		678	12%
Asian		413	7%
Black or African American		3,041	53%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander		227	4%
White		2,356	41%

**4. What grade are you in?**

Answer		Response	%
Grade 6		2,200	33%
Grade 7		2,335	35%
Grade 8		2,200	33%
Total		6,735	100%

**5. How old are you?**

Answer	Response	%
10 years old or younger	28	0%
11 years old	661	10%
12 years old	2,022	30%
13 years old	2,208	33%
14 years old	1,582	23%
15 years old	216	3%
16 years old or older	18	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,735</b>	<b>100%</b>






**6. Which of the following best describes you?**

Answer	Response	%
Heterosexual (straight)	5,452	82%
Gay or lesbian	87	1%
Bisexual	479	7%
Not sure	633	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,651</b>	<b>100%</b>






**7. During the past 12 months, how would you describe your grades in school?**

Answer	Response	%
Mostly A's	1,416	21%
Mostly B's	2,528	38%
Mostly C's	937	14%
Mostly D's	164	2%
Mostly F's	78	1%
None of these	153	2%
Not sure	1,440	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,716</b>	<b>100%</b>






**8. Do you agree or disagree that this school has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere?**

Answer		Response	%
Strongly agree		937	14%
Agree		2,734	41%
Neither agree nor disagree		2,056	31%
Disagree		583	9%
Strongly disagree		401	6%
Total		6,711	100%






**9. Do you agree or disagree that you feel like you belong at this school?**

Answer		Response	%
Strongly agree		1,260	19%
Agree		2,776	42%
Neither agree nor disagree		1,624	25%
Disagree		558	8%
Strongly disagree		406	6%
Total		6,624	100%






**10. I feel safe at my school.**

Answer		Response	%
Strongly agree		1,186	18%
Agree		2,943	44%
Neither agree nor disagree		1,660	25%
Disagree		557	8%
Strongly disagree		358	5%
Total		6,704	100%






**11. How often do you feel that you are accepted at school?**

Answer		Response	%
Never		262	4%
Rarely		803	12%
Sometimes		1,903	28%
Most of the time		2,397	36%
Always		1,326	20%
Total		6,691	100%

**12. Over the past school year how often did you enjoy being at school?**






Answer		Response	%
Never		483	7%
Seldom		644	10%
Sometimes		2,318	35%
Often		1,787	27%
Almost always		1,425	21%
Total		6,657	100%

**13. Over the past school year how often did you hate being at school?**



Answer		Response	%
Never		774	12%
Seldom		1,246	19%
Sometimes		2,594	39%
Often		1,141	17%
Almost always		852	13%
Total		6,607	100%

The next set of questions asks about teacher and staff support at your school.

**14. Do you agree or disagree that your teachers really care about you and give you a lot of encouragement?**

Answer		Response	%
Strongly agree		1,874	28%
Agree		2,739	41%
Neither agree nor disagree		1,372	20%
Disagree		408	6%
Strongly disagree		310	5%
Total		6,703	100%

**15. Is there at least one teacher or other adult in this school that you can talk to if you have a problem?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		5,605	83%
No		1,111	17%
Total		6,716	100%

The next question asks about violence-related behaviors.

**16. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone tried to hurt you by hitting, punching, or kicking you while on school property?**

Answer	Response	%
0 times	3,148	47%
1 time	941	14%
2 or 3 times	1,040	16%
4 or 5 times	483	7%
6 or 7 times	257	4%
8 or 9 times	146	2%
10 or 11 times	77	1%
12 or more times	616	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,708</b>	<b>100%</b>

The next set of questions asks about bullying. Bullying is when one or more students tease, threaten, spread rumors about, hit, shove, or hurt another student over and over again. It is not bullying when two students of about the same strength or power argue or fight or tease each other in a friendly way.



**17. During the past 12 months, have you ever been bullied on school property?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes	2,012	30%
No	4,680	70%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,692</b>	<b>100%</b>






**18. During the past 12 months, have you ever been electronically bullied? (Include being bullied through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or texting.)**

Answer	Response	%
Yes	1,014	15%
No	5,681	85%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,695</b>	<b>100%</b>

**19. During the past 12 months, have you ever bullied someone else on school property?**



Answer		Response	%
Yes		903	14%
No		5,771	86%
Total		6,674	100%

**20. Do you agree or disagree that harassment and bullying by other students is a problem at your school?**








Answer		Response	%
Strongly agree		1,392	21%
Agree		1,619	24%
Not sure		2,495	37%
Disagree		751	11%
Strongly disagree		427	6%
Total		6,684	100%

The next set of questions asks about tobacco use.

**21. Have you ever tried cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		760	11%
No		5,923	89%
Total		6,683	100%



**22. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigarettes?**

Answer		Response	%
0 days		532	70%
1 or 2 days		130	17%
3 to 5 days		33	4%
6 to 9 days		14	2%
10 to 19 days		11	1%
20 to 29 days		6	1%
All 30 days		32	4%
Total		758	100%





The next set of questions asks about drinking alcohol.

**23. Have you ever had a drink of alcohol, other than a few sips?**







Answer		Response	%
Yes		1,392	21%
No		5,257	79%
Total		6,649	100%

**24. During the past 30 days, did you have 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours?**



Answer		Response	%
Yes		181	13%
No		1,208	87%
Total		1,389	100%

The next set of questions asks about other drugs.



**25. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?**

Answer		Response	%
0 times		5,997	90%
1 or 2 times		268	4%
3 to 9 times		153	2%
10 to 19 times		87	1%
20 to 39 times		52	1%
40 or more times		142	2%
Total		6,699	100%







**26. Have you ever used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		140	2%
No		6,546	98%
Total		6,686	100%

**27. Have you ever sniffed glue, breathed the contents of spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high?**



Answer		Response	%
Yes		370	6%
No		6,269	94%
Total		6,639	100%

**28. During the past 30 days, how many times have you taken painkillers, such as OxyContin, Percocet, or Vicodin, without a doctor's prescription?**



Answer		Response	%
0 times		5,882	88%
1 or 2 times		479	7%
3 to 9 times		167	2%
10 to 19 times		68	1%
20 to 39 times		23	0%
40 or more times		66	1%
Total		6,685	100%

The next set of questions asks about sexual behavior.

**29. Have you ever given or received oral sex?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		549	8%
No		6,120	92%
Total		6,669	100%

**30. Have you ever had sexual intercourse?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		554	8%
No		6,105	92%
Total		6,659	100%

**31. The last time you had sexual intercourse, which method(s) did you or your partner use to prevent pregnancy? (Select all that apply)**

Answer	Response	%
I have never had sexual intercourse	56	10%
No method was used to prevent pregnancy	87	16%
Birth control pills	65	12%
Condoms	334	61%
An IUD (such as Mirena or Paragard) or implant (such as Implanon or Nexplanon)	13	2%
A shot (such as Depo-Provera), patch (such as Ortho Evra), or birth control ring (such as NuvaRing)	17	3%
Withdrawal or some other method	38	7%
Not sure	90	17%





**32. During your life, with how many people have you had sexual intercourse?**

Answer	Response	%
I have never had sexual intercourse	53	10%
1 person	179	33%
2 people	100	18%
3 people	64	12%
4 people	30	5%
5 people	18	3%
6 or more people	104	19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>100%</b>








**33. The last time you had sexual contact, how many years younger or older than you was your partner?**

Answer	Response	%
I have never had sexual intercourse	43	8%
5 or more years younger	22	4%
3 to 4 years younger	23	4%
About the same age	321	59%
3 to 4 years older	41	7%
5 or more years older	32	6%
Not sure	66	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>100%</b>




**34. How many times have you been pregnant or gotten someone else pregnant?**

Answer		Response	%
0 times		441	80%
1 time		38	7%
2 or more times		38	7%
Not sure		31	6%
Total		548	100%

**35. It is important to me to delay having sexual intercourse until... (Select only one response)**

Answer		Response	%
I'm married		1,714	26%
I'm engaged		242	4%
I'm an adult and in a long-term committed relationship		1,362	21%
I'm in love		512	8%
I finish high school		569	9%
It is not important to me to delay having sexual intercourse		523	8%
Not sure		1,714	26%
Total		6,636	100%

**36. Have you ever been taught about AIDS or HIV infection in school?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		4,506	67%
No		1,311	20%
Not sure		863	13%
Total		6,680	100%

**37. During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day? (Add up all the time you spent in any kind of physical activity that increased your heart rate and made you breathe hard some of the time.)**

Answer		Response	%
0 days		1,562	23%
1 day		558	8%
2 days		782	12%
3 days		874	13%
4 days		685	10%
5 days		646	10%
6 days		289	4%
7 days		1,254	19%
Total		6,650	100%

**38. On an average school day, how many hours do you watch television, play video or computer games, or use a computer for something that is not school work? (Include activities such as Nintendo, Game Boy, Play Station, Xbox, computer games, and the Internet.)**

Answer		Response	%
I do not watch television, play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not school work		351	5%
Less than 1 hour per day		854	13%
1 hour per day		743	11%
2 hours per day		1,249	19%
3 hours per day		1,099	17%
4 hours per day		538	8%
5 or more hours per day		1,808	27%
Total		6,642	100%

The next 4 questions ask about sad feelings and attempted suicide. Sometimes people feel so depressed about the future that they may consider attempting suicide, that is, taking some action to end their own life.

**39. Have you ever felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes	2,322	35%
No	4,313	65%
Total	6,635	100%

**40. Have you ever seriously thought about killing yourself?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes	1,872	28%
No	4,796	72%
Total	6,668	100%

**41. Have you ever made a plan about how you would kill yourself?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes	1,221	19%
No	5,376	81%
Total	6,597	100%

**42. Have you ever tried to kill yourself?**

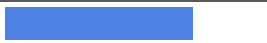

Answer	Response	%
Yes	962	14%
No	5,677	86%
Total	6,639	100%

Problems are considered **SIGNIFICANT** when you have them for two or more weeks, when they keep coming back, keep you from meeting your responsibilities, or make you feel like you can't go on.

**43. During the last 12 months have you had SIGNIFICANT problems with sleep, such as falling asleep, bad dreams, sleeping restlessly or falling asleep during the day?**

Answer	Response	%
Yes	2,818	42%
No	3,826	58%
Total	6,644	100%



**44. During the last 12 months have you had SIGNIFICANT problems with feeling very anxious, nervous, tense, scared, panicked or like something bad was going to happen?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		2,773	42%
No		3,853	58%
Total		6,626	100%



**45. During the last 12 months have you had SIGNIFICANT problems becoming very distressed or upset when something reminded you of the past?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		2,904	44%
No		3,691	56%
Total		6,595	100%


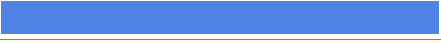
**46. Do you have a mental or emotional health problem that lasted at least 12 months?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		990	15%
No		5,595	85%
Total		6,585	100%

**47. Have you ever been treated, by a doctor or other professional, for a mental or emotional health problem?**

Answer		Response	%
Yes		1,090	17%
No		5,476	83%
Total		6,566	100%

**48. Have you ever been treated for an alcohol or other drug problem?**

f		Response	%
Yes		141	2%
No		6,408	98%
Total		6,549	100%