

Health Risk Behaviors Among High School-Aged Youth
National and Montana Comparisons of Selected Elements
*(with Non-random Data** for Montana Respondents who Self-Identified as American Indian)*

Sources: 2005 U.S. and 2007 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Surveys (OPI)

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data (percent of students who)	Montana 2007 (Indian-R¹)**	Montana 2007 (Indian-U²)**	Montana 2007	U.S. 2005
Drove a car when they had been drinking alcohol in the past 30 days	22.6	20.7	16.0	11.0
Carried a weapon in the past 30 days	20.1	29.4	22.1	18.4
Carried a gun in the past 30 days	9.6	12.6	7.8	6.5
Carried a weapon on school property in the past 30 days	10.3	13.0	9.7	6.5
Did not go to school in the past 30 days because they felt unsafe	10.2	6.9	4.2	5.4
Were in a physical fight in the past 12 months	42.2	46.4	32.8	30.3
Actually attempted suicide in the past 12 months	15.8	18.4	7.9	8.8
Ever smoked a cigarette (lifetime use)	83.4	69.1	52.1	54.5
Are "current" smokers (smoked on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	47.9	34.7	20.0	21.2
Ever smoked daily (at least 1 cigarette every day for 30 days)	29.6	26.8	12.9	13.8
Are "frequent" smokers (smoked on 20 or more of the previous 30 days)	15.0	16.4	8.1	8.8
Are "current" smokeless tobacco users (used chew or smokeless tobacco on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	25.8	15.2	12.9	8.4
Ever had consumed alcohol (lifetime alcohol use)	78.6	79.7	77.8	74.1
Are "current" alcohol users (drank alcohol on 1 or more of the previous 30 days)	53.9	51.0	46.5	42.8

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data (percent of students who)	Montana 2007 (Indian-R¹)**	Montana 2007 (Indian-U²)**	Montana 2007	U.S. 2005
"Binge" drink (episodic heavy drinking, consuming 5 or more drinks at one occasion)	45.7	39.0	32.7	26.3
Ever used marijuana (lifetime marijuana use)	69.9	52.1	39.1	38.2
Are "current" marijuana users (used marijuana 1 or more times in the previous 30 days)	44.1	29.8	21.0	18.9
Ever used inhalants (lifetime inhalant use)	24.9	26.3	16.2	12.2
Ever used methamphetamines (lifetime use)	10.8	10.5	4.6	5.9
Ever had sexual intercourse	67.1	57.2	45.7	44.8
Are currently sexually active (had sexual intercourse in the past 3 months)	45.9	35.9	31.2	33.3
Of those who ever had sex, the percent who used alcohol or drugs before last sexual intercourse	37.8	30.5	26.0	22.9
Are attempting to lose weight	51.6	54.2	43.6	46.3
Participate in 60 minutes of physical activity* per day on five or more of the past seven days	40.1	47.1	44.9	33.9
Watch 3 or more hours of TV on a school night	36.3	25.7	22.2	34.7
Used alcohol before age 13	31.1	40.6	25.9	24.9
Smoked a cigarette before age 13	33.5	32.8	14.7	16.1
Tried marijuana before age 13	30.8	23.8	9.5	9.1
Had sexual intercourse before age 13	22.8	15.2	5.1	5.8

yrbs/comparison Indian

¹ The data for American Indian students on reservations represents 763 high school students.

² The data for American Indian students in urban schools represents 390 high school students.

* Physical activity is defined as activity that increases your heart rate and makes you breathe hard.

** These data represent the respondents only; it would not be valid to generalize these findings to all American Indian students in Montana.