

# 2019 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey



## Tobacco Users Report

A Health Risk Behavior Comparison of Montana High School Students  
Who Currently Use Tobacco

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Program  
Health Enhancement and Safety Division  
August 2019

# 2019 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey - Tobacco Report

## Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey

The Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is administered by the Montana Office of Public Instruction every two years to students in grades 7 through 12. The purpose of the survey is to help monitor the prevalence of behaviors that not only influence youth health, but also put youth at risk for the most significant health and social problems that can occur during adolescence. While all schools in Montana can participate in the survey on a volunteer basis, approximately 50 high schools are randomly selected to be included to provide the Montana statewide data to be used in other national YRBS reports.

The 2019 YRBS was conducted in February 2019. Schools administering the survey were provided with detailed written instructions on conducting a random survey in their schools. To encourage accurate responses to sensitive questions, a strict protocol was implemented to protect the privacy and confidentiality of all participating students. The questionnaire was designed without skip patterns to ensure survey completion by students in a similar period of time.

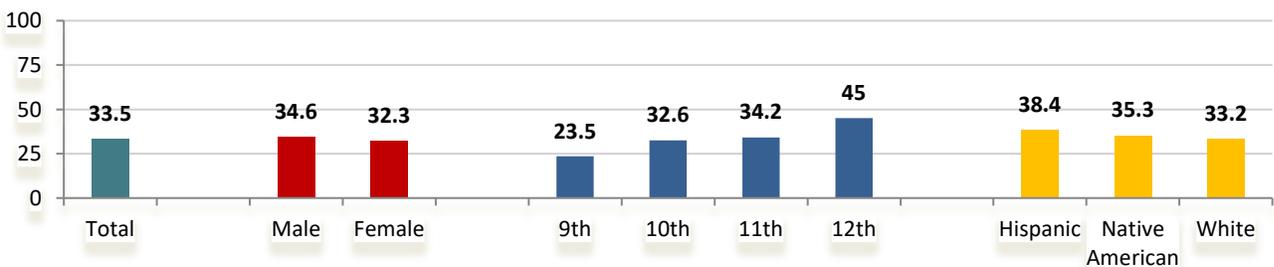
## Survey Validity, Limitations and Results

Data used in this report from the 2019 YRBS are based on a random sample survey of Montana high school students. The weighted data results contained in this report can be used to make inferences about the priority health-risk behaviors of all high school students in grades 9 through 12 in all schools in Montana. However, users should be careful in using the data since respondents in self-reported surveys may have a tendency to underreport behaviors that are socially undesirable, unhealthy, or illegal (alcohol consumption, drug use, seat belt nonuse, etc.) and overreport behaviors that are socially desirable (amount of exercise, etc.).

For the purpose of this report, youth that are classified as being current tobacco users are those who answered "1 or more times" to having used either cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, or electronic vapor products during the past 30 days prior to taking the survey. Forty-five separate risk behaviors were queried for association with current tobacco use. These findings are presented in bullet, table and graph forms in the following report.

## MONTANA CURRENT TOBACCO USE RATES

During the past 30 days, 33.5 percent of Montana high school students had smoked cigarettes or cigars or used smokeless tobacco or electronic vapor products.



For more on the YRBS go to [www.opi.mt.gov/yrbs](http://www.opi.mt.gov/yrbs).

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### Findings

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Montana high school students who currently use tobacco are more likely than those students who do not use tobacco to have:

- Never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else (14% of tobacco users compared to 4% of tobacco non-users).
- Never or rarely wore a seat belt when driving (14% of tobacco users compared to 3% of tobacco non-users).
- Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days (32% of tobacco users compared to 11% of tobacco non-users).
- Drove when drinking alcohol during the past 30 days (18% of tobacco users compared to 1% of tobacco non-users).
- Texted or e-mailed while driving a car during the past 30 days (71% of tobacco users compared to 40% of tobacco non-users).
- Used the Internet or apps on a cell phone while driving a car during the past 30 days (60% of tobacco users compared to 34% of tobacco non-users).
- Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club during the past 30 days (32% of tobacco users compared to 19% of tobacco non-users).
- Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days (14% of tobacco users compared to 6% of tobacco non-users).
- Been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months (12% of tobacco users compared to 5% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to (16% of tobacco users compared to 6% of tobacco non-users).
- Were bullied on school property during the past 12 months (28% of tobacco users compared to 19% of tobacco non-users).
- Been electronically bullied during the past 12 months (28% of tobacco users compared to 12% of tobacco non-users).
- Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months (41% of tobacco users compared to 28% of tobacco non-users).
- Were the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual, during the past 12 months (18% of tobacco users compared to 11% of tobacco non-users).
- Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months (48% of tobacco users compared to 29% of tobacco non-users).
- Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months (31% of tobacco users compared to 13% of tobacco non-users).
- Attempted suicide during the past 12 months (17% of tobacco users compared to 6% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever tried cigarette smoking (65% of tobacco users compared to 13% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever used electronic vapor products (99% of tobacco users compared to 27% of tobacco non-users).
- Used an electronic vapor product on school property during the past 30 days (50% of tobacco users compared to 0.1% of tobacco non-users).
- Had a drink of alcohol during the past 30 days (73% of tobacco users compared to 11% of tobacco non-users).
- Had 4 or more drinks, if female, 5 or more drinks, if male, of alcohol within a couple hours during the past 30 days (46% of tobacco users compared to 3% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever used marijuana in their lifetime (78% of tobacco users compared to 18% of tobacco non-users).

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Montana high school students who currently use tobacco are more likely than those students who do not use tobacco to have:

- Used marijuana during the past 30 days (52% of tobacco users compared to 4% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever used methamphetamines in their lifetime (6% of tobacco users compared to 0.3% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever used ecstasy in their lifetime (11% of tobacco users compared to 0.8% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever took prescription pain medicine (such as Vicodin, OxyContin, Hydrocodone and Percocet) without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it (26% of tobacco users compared to 6% of tobacco non-users).
- Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime (73% of tobacco users compared to 25% of tobacco non-users).
- Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life (28% of tobacco users compared to 4% of tobacco non-users).
- Had sexual intercourse during the past 3 months (57% of tobacco users compared to 16% of tobacco non-users).
- Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse (26% of tobacco users compared to 6% of tobacco non-users).
- Drank a can, bottle or glass of soda or pop daily during the past 7 days (20% of tobacco users compared to 9% of tobacco non-users).
- Not eaten breakfast during the past 7 days (18% of tobacco users compared to 12% of tobacco non-users).
- Watched 3 or more hours of TV on an average school day (23% of tobacco users compared to 17% of tobacco non-users).
- Received help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher during the past 12 months (18% of tobacco users compared to 12% of tobacco non-users).
- Did not usually sleep in their parent's or guardian's home during the past 30 days (6% of tobacco users compared to 1% of tobacco non-users).
- Had a concussion from playing a sport or being physically active during the past 12 months (24% of tobacco users compared to 12% of tobacco non-users).

Montana high school students who currently use tobacco are less likely than those students who do not use tobacco to have:

- Had 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night (21% of tobacco users compared to 35% of tobacco non-users).
- Made mostly A's or B's in school during the past 12 months (66% of tobacco users compared to 83% of tobacco non-users).

## 2019 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey - Tobacco Report

Health Risk Behavior Percentage of students	Students Who Use Tobacco	Students Who Do Not Use Tobacco	Statistical Difference
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else	<b>13.8%</b> (10.7-16.8)	<b>3.9%</b> (2.5-5.2)	
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when driving	<b>13.5%</b> (10.5-16.4)	<b>3.1%</b> (2.0-4.2)	
Rode with a driver who had been drinking during the past 30 days	<b>32.2%</b> (29.2-35.1)	<b>11.3%</b> (10.1-12.4)	
Drove when drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	<b>18.2%</b> (15.3-21.1)	<b>0.5%</b> (0.1-0.9)	
Texted or e-mailed while driving a car or other vehicle during the past 30 days	<b>70.7%</b> (66.6-74.8)	<b>40.3%</b> (37.2-43.3)	
Used the Internet or apps on a cell phone while driving during the past 30 days	<b>60.0%</b> (56.8-63.1)	<b>34.1%</b> (31.4-36.9)	
Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club during the past 30 days	<b>31.9%</b> (28.2-35.7)	<b>19.2%</b> (17.0-21.4)	
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days	<b>14.0%</b> (11.5-16.5)	<b>6.3%</b> (5.0-7.5)	
Were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months	<b>12.1%</b> (9.4-14.7)	<b>5.1%</b> (4.1-6.0)	
Ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	<b>15.9%</b> (13.7-18.1)	<b>5.7%</b> (4.7-6.7)	
Were bullied on school property during the past 12 months	<b>27.6%</b> (24.6-30.6)	<b>19.3%</b> (17.0-21.6)	
Were electronically bullied (texting, Instagram, Facebook or other social media) during the past 12 months	<b>27.5%</b> (24.8-30.3)	<b>11.9%</b> (10.6-13.3)	
Were the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months	<b>18.1%</b> (15.7-20.5)	<b>10.6%</b> (9.1-12.2)	
Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months	<b>48.3%</b> (45.1-51.6)	<b>29.0%</b> (26.9-31.1)	
Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months	<b>30.9%</b> (27.9-33.9)	<b>13.4%</b> (11.7-15.1)	
Attempted suicide during the past 12 months	<b>16.7%</b> (13.7-19.7)	<b>5.8%</b> (4.4-7.1)	
Ever tried cigarette smoking	<b>65.3%</b> (61.9-68.6)	<b>13.2%</b> (11.0-15.4)	
Ever used electronic vapor products	<b>98.6%</b> (98.0-99.2)	<b>26.7%</b> (24.0-29.4)	
Used an electronic vapor product on school property during the past 30 days	<b>49.8%</b> (46.2-53.5)	<b>0.1%</b> (-0.02-0.3)	

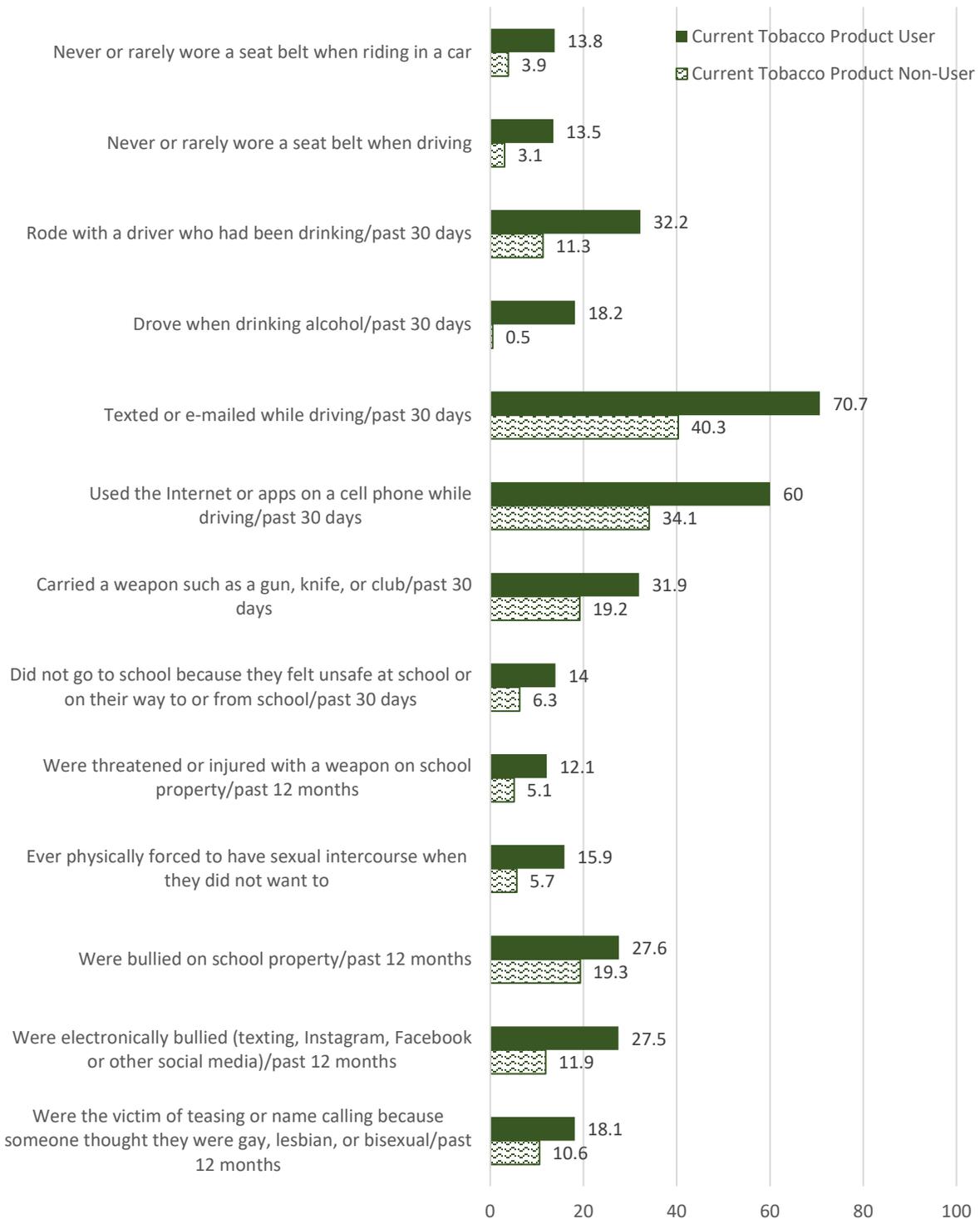
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Health Risk Behavior Percentage of students	Students Who Use Tobacco	Students Who Do Not Use Tobacco	Statistical Difference
Had a drink of alcohol during the past 30 days	<b>72.7%</b> (69.1-75.7)	<b>10.9%</b> (9.4-12.4)	
Had 4 or more drinks, if female, 5 or more drinks, if male, of alcohol within a couple hours during the past 30 days	<b>46.1%</b> (42.3-49.8)	<b>3.3%</b> (2.4-4.2)	
Ever used marijuana in their lifetime	<b>77.9%</b> (75.0-70.8)	<b>17.5%</b> (14.5-20.4)	
Used marijuana during the past 30 days	<b>51.7%</b> (47.8-55.5)	<b>4.3%</b> (3.0-5.6)	
Ever used methamphetamines in their lifetime	<b>6.1%</b> (4.0-8.1)	<b>0.3%</b> (0.02-0.5)	
Ever used ecstasy in their lifetime	<b>11.2%</b> (8.8-13.6)	<b>0.8%</b> (0.3-1.2)	
Ever took prescription pain medicine (such as codeine, Vicodin, OxyContin, Hydrocodone and Percocet) without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it	<b>25.7%</b> (22.8-28.7)	<b>6.0%</b> (4.9-7.2)	
Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime	<b>73.3%</b> (70.1-76.6)	<b>25.0%</b> (22.4-27.6)	
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life	<b>27.8%</b> (24.4-31.2)	<b>3.7%</b> (2.8-4.6)	
Had sexual intercourse during the past 3 months	<b>57.4%</b> (53.5-61.3)	<b>15.5%</b> (13.6-17.3)	
Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse	<b>26.0%</b> (22.2-29.8)	<b>6.2%</b> (3.3-9.0)	
Did not eat fruit or drink 100% fruit juice during the past 7 days	<b>5.8%</b> (4.2-7.3)	<b>5.2%</b> (4.1-6.2)	
Did not eat any vegetables (green salad, potatoes, carrots, or other vegetables) during the past 7 days	<b>6.5%</b> (4.7-8.4)	<b>5.0%</b> (3.8-6.3)	
Drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop daily during the past 7 days	<b>19.9%</b> (16.7-23.1)	<b>9.0%</b> (7.3-10.6)	
Did not drink milk during the past 7 days	<b>25.8%</b> (22.7-28.9)	<b>22.0%</b> (20.0-24.1)	
Did not eat breakfast during the past 7 days	<b>18.4%</b> (16.0-20.9)	<b>11.6%</b> (10.3-13.0)	
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days	<b>47.9%</b> (44.0-51.7)	<b>53.0%</b> (49.8-56.2)	
Were not physically active at least 60 minutes per day on any of the past 7 days	<b>13.8%</b> (11.4-16.2)	<b>10.4%</b> (8.7-12.1)	
Watched 3 or more hours of TV on an average school day	<b>22.8%</b> (20.0-25.6)	<b>16.8%</b> (14.7-18.8)	
Played video or computer games 3 or more hours per day on an average school day	<b>37.4%</b> (34.4-40.5)	<b>36.5%</b> (33.4-39.5)	
Played on at least one sports team during the past 12 months	<b>57.1%</b> (54.1-60.1)	<b>60.7%</b> (57.7-63.7)	
Had 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night	<b>21.4%</b> (19.1-23.8)	<b>35.2%</b> (32.7-37.7)	

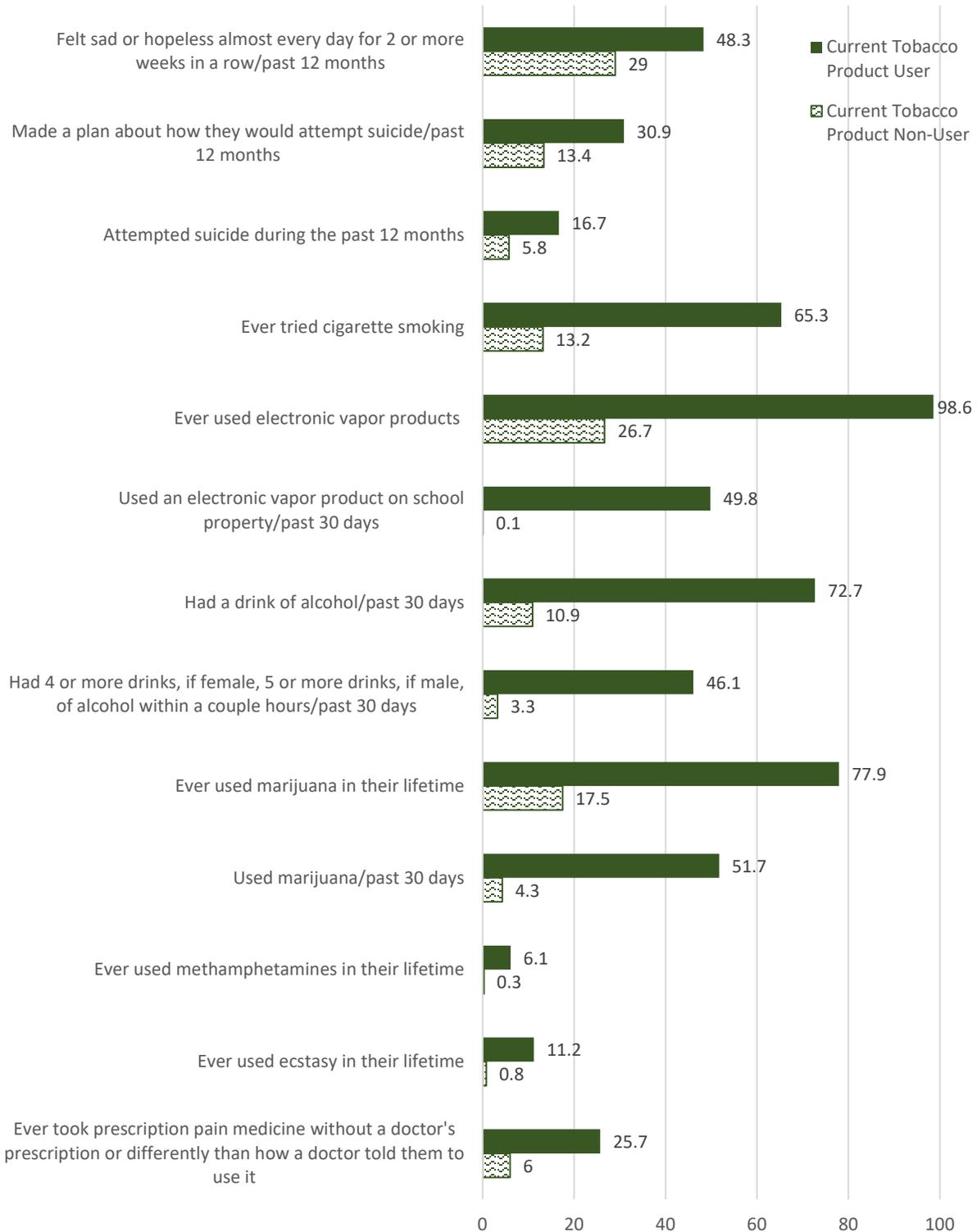
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Health Risk Behavior <small>Percentage of students</small>	Students Who Use Tobacco	Students Who Do Not Use Tobacco	Statistical Difference
Made mostly A's or B's in school during the past 12 months	<b>65.8%</b> <small>(61.7-70.0)</small>	<b>83.1%</b> <small>(80.4-85.8)</small>	
Received help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher during the past 12 months	<b>18.2%</b> <small>(15.7-20.8)</small>	<b>12.3%</b> <small>(10.7-13.9)</small>	
Did not usually sleep in their parent's or guardian's home during the past 30 days	<b>6.4%</b> <small>(4.6-8.2)</small>	<b>1.3%</b> <small>(0.9-1.8)</small>	
Had a concussion from playing a sport or being physically active during the past 12 months	<b>24.0%</b> <small>(21.2-26.8)</small>	<b>11.5%</b> <small>(10.2-12.9)</small>	

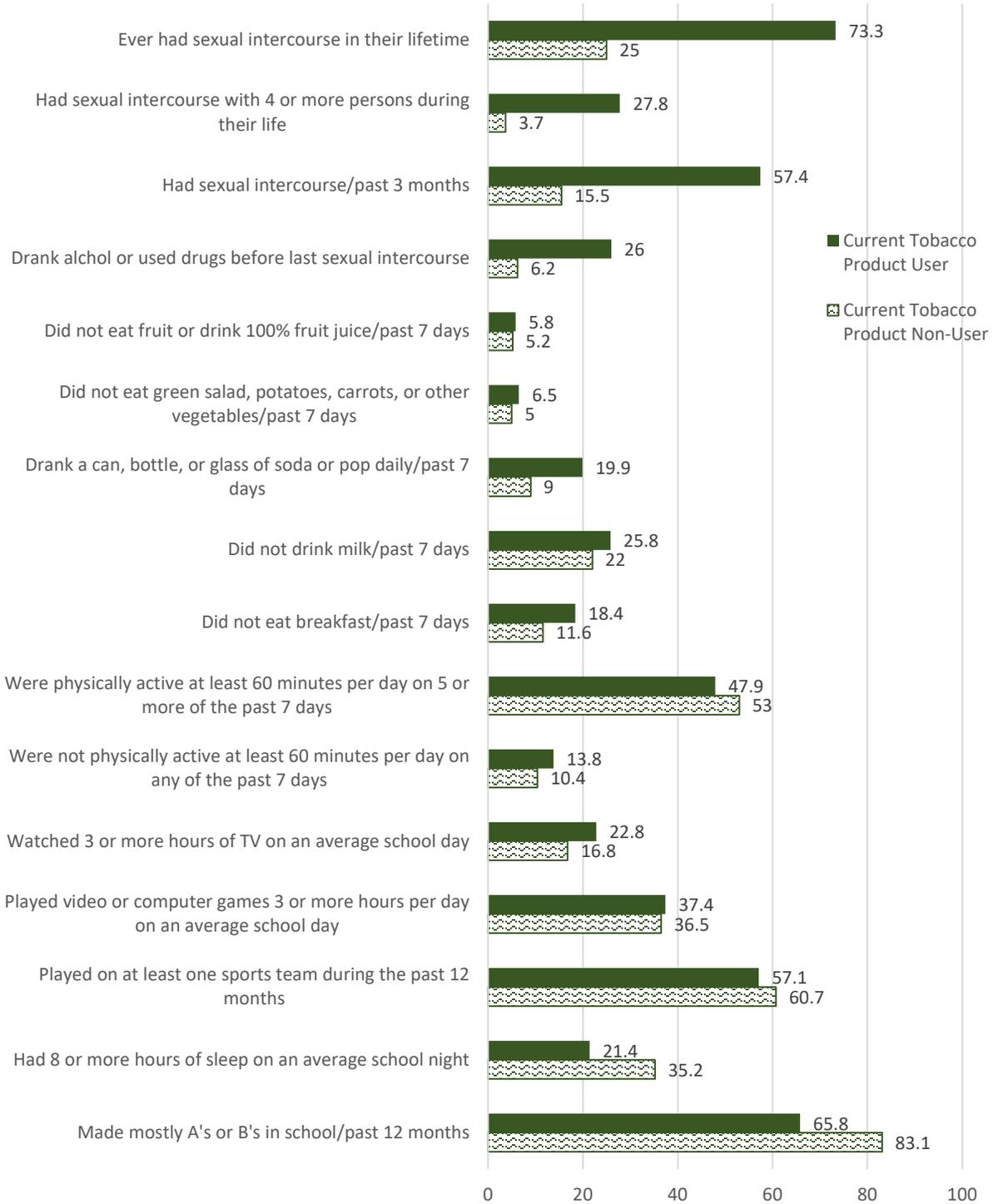
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