

2017 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Special Needs Report

Health Risk Behaviors of Montana
High School Students with Special Needs



January 2018

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Program
Health Enhancement and Safety Division



2017 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Special Needs Report

Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey

The Montana Office of Public Instruction administers the Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 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 2017 YRBS was conducted in February 2017. 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.

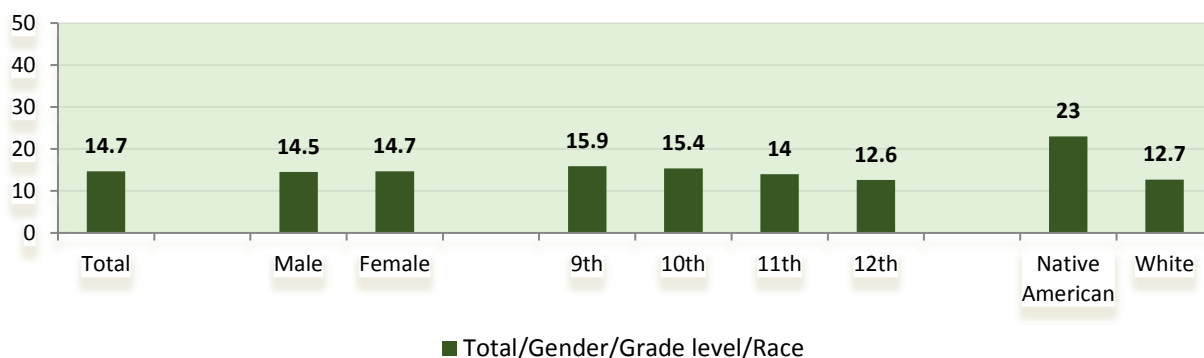
Survey Validity, Limitations and Results

Data used in this report from the 2017 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 over report behaviors that are socially desirable (amount of exercise, etc.).

For the purpose of this report, youth with special needs are those who answered “yes” to the question, ‘During the past 12 months, did you receive help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher at school?’ Forty-four separate risk behaviors were queried for association with having special needs. These findings are presented in narrative, table and graph forms in the following report.

MONTANA ‘SPECIAL NEEDS’ RATES

Statewide, 14.7 percent of students received help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher at school during the past 12 months.



For more on the YRBS go to www.opi.mt.gov/yrbs.

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Findings +

Montana high school students with special needs are more likely than those students without special needs to have:

- Never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else (12% of students with special needs compared to 7% of students without special needs).
- Rode with a driver who had been drinking during the past 30 days (26% of students with special needs compared to 18% of students without special needs).
- Been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months (11% of students with special needs compared to 6% of students without special needs).
- Been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to (17% of students with special needs compared to 8% of students without special needs).
- Been bullied on school property during the past 12 months (33% of students with special needs compared to 19% of students without special needs).
- Been electronically bullied during the past 12 months (24% of students with special needs compared to 16% of students without special needs).
- Been the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months (16% of students with special needs compared to 9% of students without special needs).
- Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months (42% of students with special needs compared to 29% of students without special needs).
- Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months (28% of students with special needs compared to 20% of students without special needs).
- Attempted suicide during the past 12 months (17% of students with special needs compared to 8% of students without special needs).
- Ever tried cigarette smoking (44% of students with special needs compared to 32% of students without special needs).
- Smoked a cigarette during the past 30 days (19% of students with special needs compared to 10% of students without special needs).
- Used smokeless tobacco during the past 30 days (15% of students with special needs compared to 8% of students without special needs).
- Ever used electronic vapor products (53% of students with special needs compared to 45% of students without special needs).
- Had a drink of alcohol during the past 30 days (40% of students with special needs compared to 32% of students without special needs).
- Smoked a cigar, cigarillos, or little cigar during the past 30 days (17% of students with special needs compared to 12% of students without special needs).
- Ever used marijuana in their lifetime (42% of students with special needs compared to 34% of students without special needs).
- Used marijuana during the past 30 days (28% of students with special needs compared to 18% of students without special needs).
- Ever used methamphetamines in their lifetime (5% of students with special needs compared to 1% of students without special needs).
- 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 (19% of students with special needs compared to 12% of students without special needs).

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Montana high school students with special needs are more likely than those students without special needs to have:

- Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime (50% of students with special needs compared to 42% of students without special needs).
- Not eaten fruit or drink 100% fruit juice during the past 7 days (10% of students with special needs compared to 4% of students without special needs).
- Not eaten any vegetables during the past 7 days (9% of students with special needs compared to 4% of students without special needs).
- Drunk a can, bottle or glass of soda or pop daily during the past 7 days (22% of students with special needs compared to 14% of students without special needs).
- Not drunk milk during the past 7 days (26% of students with special needs compared to 18% of students without special needs).

Montana high school students with special needs are less likely than those students without special needs to have:

- Been physically active at least 60 minutes per day on five or more of the past 7 days (45% of students with special needs compared to 55% of students without special needs).
- Played on at least one sports team during the past 12 months (49% of students with special needs compared to 63% of students without special needs).
- Made mostly A's or B's in school during the past 12 months (64% of students with special needs compared to 81% of students without special needs).

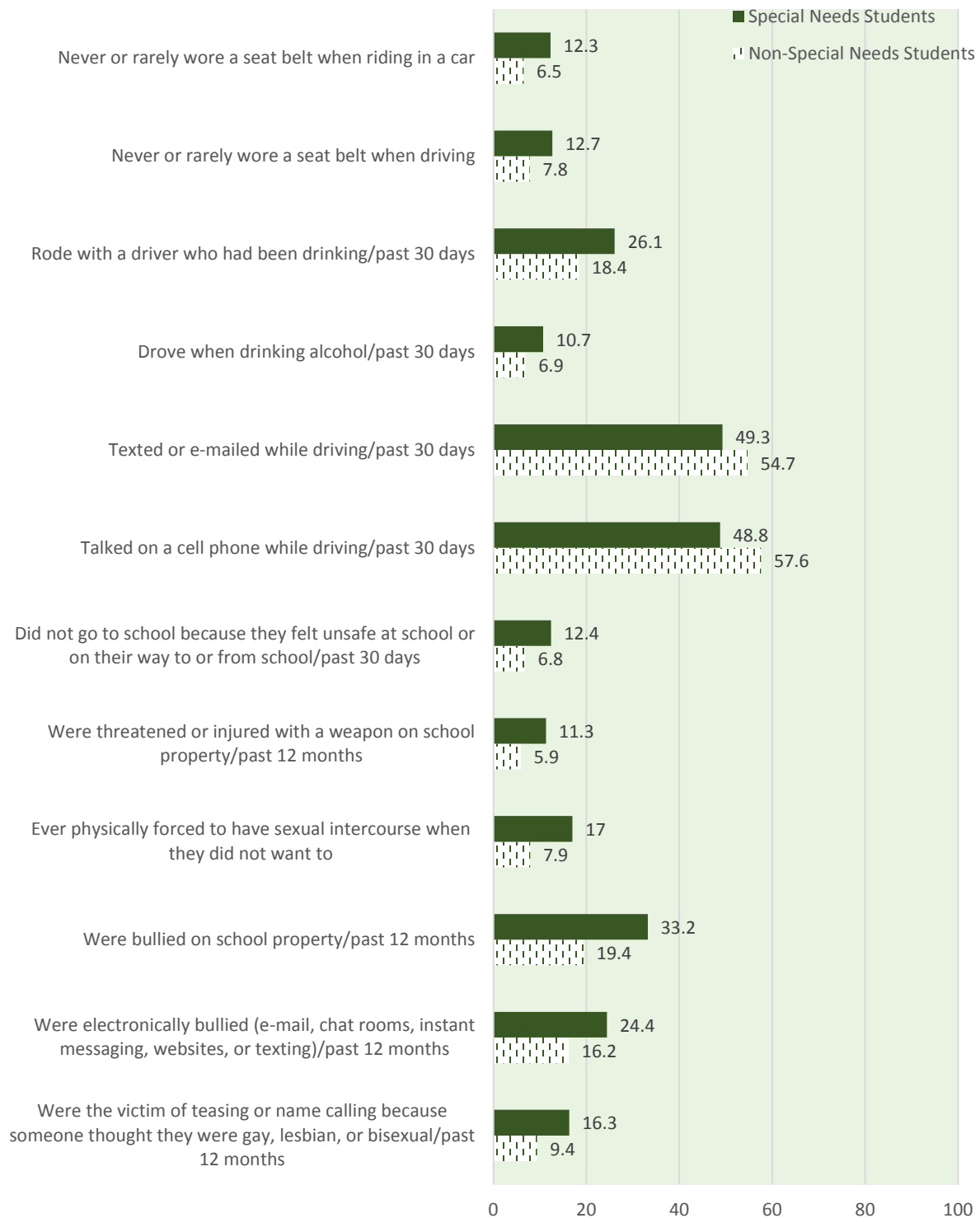
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Health Risk Behavior - percentage of students	Students With Special Needs	Students Without Special Needs
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else	12.3% (8.9-15.7)	6.5% (5.5-7.5)
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when driving	12.7% (9.0-16.5)	7.8% (6.5-9.2)
Rode with a driver who had been drinking during the past 30 days	26.1% (21.3-31.0)	18.4% (17.0-19.7)
Drove when drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	10.7% (6.7-14.8)	6.9% (5.8-7.9)
Texted or e-mailed while driving a car or other vehicle during the past 30 days	49.3% (42.9-55.7)	54.7% (51.8-57.6)
Talked on a cell phone while driving during the past 30 days	48.8% (42.3-55.3)	57.6% (54.6-60.6)
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days	12.4% (9.1-15.8)	6.8% (4.1-9.5)
Were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months	11.3% (8.2-14.4)	5.9% (4.8-7.0)
Ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	17.0% (12.3-21.7)	7.9% (6.8-9.0)
Were bullied on school property during the past 12 months	33.2% (29.2-37.1)	19.4% (17.5-21.2)
Were electronically bullied (e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or texting) during the past 12 months	24.4% (20.9-27.9)	16.2% (14.8-17.6)
Were the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months	16.3% (13.3-19.2)	9.4% (8.1-10.6)
Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months	42.0% (38.1-46.0)	29.0% (27.0-31.0)
Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months	28.0% (23.6-32.4)	19.5% (17.7-21.2)
Attempted suicide during the past 12 months	17.2% (14.0-20.5)	8.1% (6.7-9.4)
Ever tried cigarette smoking	44.2% (40.1-48.2)	31.5% (28.7-34.4)
Smoked a cigarette during the past 30 days	19.2% (15.3-23.1)	10.3% (9.0-11.6)
Used smokeless tobacco during the past 30 days	14.7% (11.3-18.1)	8.4% (7.0-9.7)
Ever used electronic vapor products	52.9% (48.7-57.0)	45.0% (42.7-47.3)
Used an electronic vapor product during the past 30 days	27.2% (23.3-31.1)	21.3% (18.9-23.8)
Smoked a cigar, cigarillos, or little cigar during the past 30 days	17.1% (13.9-20.3)	11.7% (10.3-13.1)

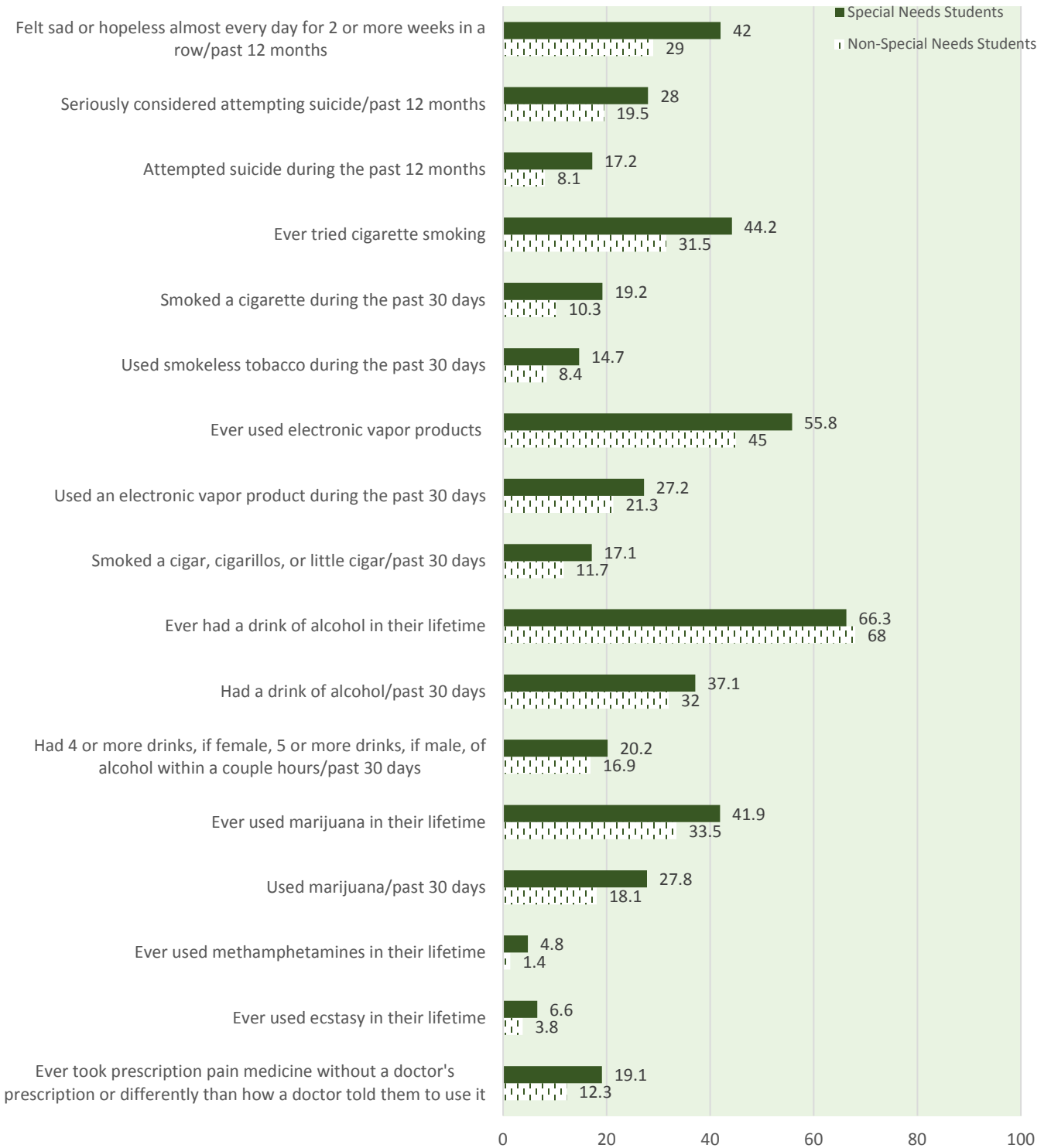
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Health Risk Behavior - percentage of students	Students With Special Needs	Students Without Special Needs
Ever had a drink of alcohol in their lifetime	66.3% (61.5-71.0)	68.0% (65.7-70.3)
Had a drink of alcohol during the past 30 days	37.1% (32.5-41.7)	32.0% (29.9-34.2)
Had 4 or more drinks, if female, 5 or more drinks, if male, of alcohol within a couple hours during the past 30 days	20.2% (17.3-23.1)	16.9% (15.4-18.3)
Ever used marijuana in their lifetime	41.9% (37.7-46.2)	33.5% (30.7-36.2)
Used marijuana during the past 30 days	27.8% (23.7-31.8)	18.1% (16.2-20.1)
Ever used methamphetamines in their lifetime	4.8% (3.1-6.6)	1.4% (1.0-1.8)
Ever used ecstasy in their lifetime	6.6% (4.5-8.7)	3.8% (3.0-4.6)
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	19.1% (16.1-22.1)	12.3% (11.1-13.6)
Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime	50.3% (45.4-55.1)	41.7% (39.1-44.3)
Had sexual intercourse during the past 3 months	37.2% (32.5-41.9)	30.5% (28.0-33.0)
Did not eat fruit or drink 100% fruit juice during the past 7 days	10.3% (7.4-13.3)	4.2% (3.5-4.9)
Did not eat any vegetables (green salad, potatoes, carrots, or other vegetables) during the past 7 days	9.2% (6.7-11.7)	3.9% (3.3-4.6)
Drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop daily during the past 7 days	22.2% (18.7-25.6)	13.9% (12.4-15.4)
Did not drink milk during the past 7 days	26.1% (22.2-30.0)	17.6% (16.2-18.9)
Did not eat breakfast during the past 7 days	18.5% (15.6-21.4)	10.1% (8.9-11.3)
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days	45.2% (41.2-49.2)	55.1% (52.9-57.3)
Were not physically active for at least 60 minutes per day on any of the past 7 days	17.0% (14.0-20.0)	9.9% (8.7-11.2)
Watched 3 or more hours of TV on an average school day	19.0% (15.6-22.3)	17.7% (16.2-19.2)
Played video or computer games 3 or more hours per day on an average school day	34.9% (31.1-38.6)	34.8% (32.9-36.7)
Played on at least one sports team during the past 12 months	49.1% (44.9-53.4)	63.4% (61.2-65.5)
Had a concussion from playing a sport or being physically active during the past 12 months	19.6% (16.3-22.9)	15.2% (13.6-16.8)
Had 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night	31.5% (27.5-35.5)	33.0% (30.8-35.2)
Made mostly A's or B's in school during the past 12 months	64.4% (60.8-68.1)	80.5% (78.7-82.3)

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