

# 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey

## Special Report: Bullying

A Health Risk Behavior Comparison of Montana High School Students  
Being Bullied on School Property



October 2015

Youth Risk Behavior Survey Program  
Health Enhancement and Safety Division



Montana  
**Office of Public Instruction**  
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

[opi.mt.gov](http://opi.mt.gov)

## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying 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 2015 YRBS was conducted in February 2015. 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.

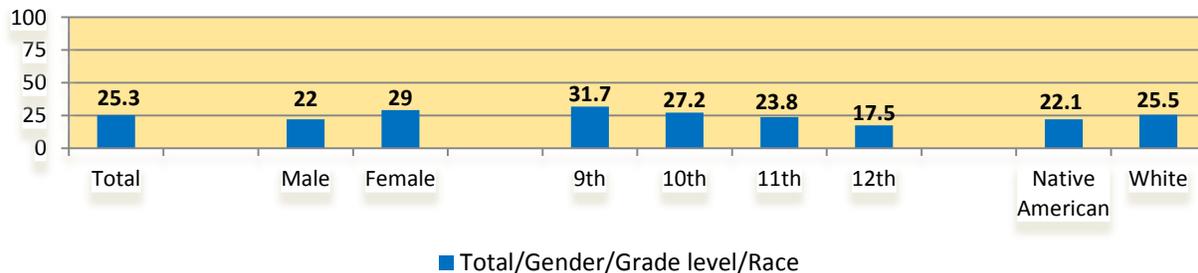
### Survey Validity, Limitations and Results

Data used in this report from the 2015 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 “bullied” are those students who answered ‘yes’ to the question, ‘During the past 12 months, have you ever been bullied on school property?’ Forty-two separate risk behaviors were queried for association with being the victim of bullying. These findings are presented in bullet, table and graph forms in the following report.

### MONTANA STUDENTS BULLIED ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

During the past 12 months, 25.3 percent of high school students had been bullied on school property.



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

## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report

### Findings +

---

Montana high school students who have been bullied on school property are more likely than not bullied students to have:

- Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days (12% of bullied students compared to 9% of not bullied students).
- Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club during the past 30 days (32% of bullied students compared to 24% of not bullied students).
- Not gone to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days (13% of bullied students compared to 2% of not bullied students).
- Been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months (14% of bullied students compared to 3% of not bullied students).
- Ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to (17% of bullied students compared to 6% of not bullied students).
- Been electronically bullied (e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or texting) during the past 12 months (52% of bullied students compared to 7% of not bullied students).
- Been the victim of teasing, name calling, or bullying because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months (40% of bullied students compared to 6% of not bullied students).
- Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months (54% of bullied students compared to 21% of not bullied students).
- Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months (38% of bullied students compared to 12% of not bullied students).
- Attempted suicide during the past 12 months (19% of bullied students compared to 5% of not bullied students).
- Ever smoked a cigarette in their lifetime (47% of bullied students compared to 36% of not bullied students).
- Smoked a cigarette during the past 30 days (19% of bullied students compared to 11% of not bullied students).
- Ever used an electronic vapor product (e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens such as blu, NJOY, or Starbuzz) in their lifetime (58% of bullied students compared to 49% of not bullied students).
- Used electronic vapor products during the past 30 days (36% of bullied students compared to 27% of not bullied students).
- Ever had a drink of alcohol in their lifetime (77% of bullied students compared to 67% of not bullied students).
- Had a drink of alcohol during the past 30 days (39% of bullied students compared to 33% of not bullied students).
- Ever used ecstasy in their lifetime (8% of bullied students compared to 5% of not bullied students).
- Ever taken prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription (such as OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax) in their lifetime (32% of bullied students compared to 18% of not bullied students).
- Had sexual intercourse during the past 3 months (38% of bullied students compared to 31% of not bullied students).

## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report

- Drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop daily during the past 7 days (23% of bullied students compared to 17% of not bullied students).
- Watched 3 or more hours of TV on an average school day (26% of bullied students compared to 21% of not bullied students).
- Played video or computer games 3 or more hours per day on an average school day (42% of bullied students compared to 32% of not bullied students).
- Received help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher during the past 12 months (21% of bullied students compared to 10% of not bullied students).

Montana high school students who have been bullied on school property are *less likely* than those students were not bullied to have:

- Been physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days (50% of bullied students compared to 56% of not bullied students).
- Played on at least one sports team during the past 12 months (57% of bullied students compared to 64% of not bullied students).
- Got 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night (25% of bullied students compared to 35% of not bullied students).

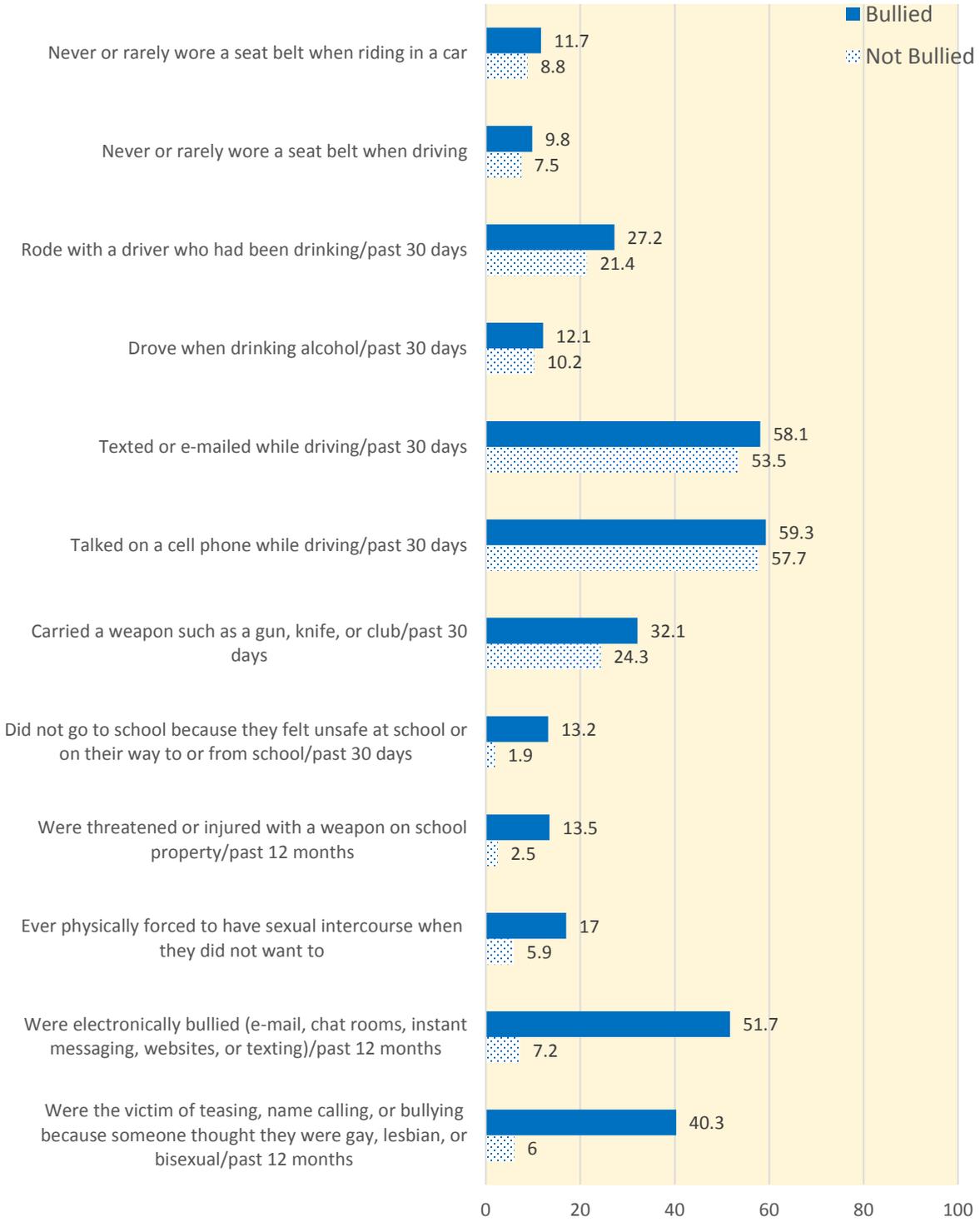
## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report

Health Risk Behavior - percentage of students	Bullied Students	Not bullied Students
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else	<b>11.7%</b> (9.2-14.2)	<b>8.8%</b> (7.3-10.2)
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when driving	<b>9.8%</b> (7.0-12.7)	<b>7.5%</b> (6.3-8.7)
Rode with a driver who had been drinking during the past 30 days	<b>27.2%</b> (24.5-29.9)	<b>21.4%</b> (19.5-23.3)
Drove when drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	<b>12.1%</b> (9.9-14.3)	<b>10.2%</b> (8.2-12.3)
Texted or e-mailed while driving a car or other vehicle during the past 30 days	<b>58.1%</b> (53.5-62.7)	<b>53.5%</b> (49.9-57.1)
Talked on a cell phone while driving during the past 30 days	<b>59.3%</b> (55.2-63.3)	<b>57.7%</b> (54.2-61.2)
Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club during the past 30 days	<b>32.1%</b> (29.1-35.1)	<b>24.3%</b> (22.1-26.4)
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>13.2%</b> (11.0-15.4)	<b>1.9%</b> (1.2-2.7)
Were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months	<b>13.5%</b> (11.0-16.1)	<b>2.5%</b> (1.8-3.2)
Ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	<b>17.0%</b> (14.1-20.0)	<b>5.9%</b> (4.9-6.9)
Were electronically bullied (e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or texting) during the past 12 months	<b>51.7%</b> (48.5-54.9)	<b>7.2%</b> (6.1-8.3)
Were the victim of teasing, name calling, or bullying because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months	<b>40.3%</b> (37.3-43.3)	<b>6.0%</b> (5.0-7.0)
Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months	<b>53.7%</b> (50.8-56.7)	<b>21.0%</b> (19.1-23.0)
Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months	<b>38.1%</b> (35.6-40.6)	<b>12.3%</b> (10.9-13.6)
Attempted suicide during the past 12 months	<b>18.8%</b> (16.3-21.3)	<b>5.3%</b> (4.5-6.2)
Ever tried cigarette smoking	<b>47.4%</b> (43.5-51.3)	<b>36.2%</b> (32.7-39.7)
Smoked a cigarette during the past 30 days	<b>18.9%</b> (18.9-22.0)	<b>11.0%</b> (9.1-13.0)
Used smokeless tobacco during the past 30 days	<b>13.9%</b> (11.1-16.7)	<b>11.5%</b> (10.0-13.1)
Smoked a cigar, little cigar, or cigarillo during the past 30 days	<b>15.2%</b> (12.3-18.2)	<b>11.6%</b> (10.2-13.0)
Ever used electronic vapor products (e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pipes, vaping pens, e-hookahs, and hookah pens such as blu, NJOY, or Starbuzz)	<b>57.8%</b> (53.4-62.2)	<b>48.7%</b> (46.2-51.2)
Used electronic vapor products during the past 30 days	<b>35.7%</b> (31.8-39.7)	<b>27.3%</b> (25.2-29.3)

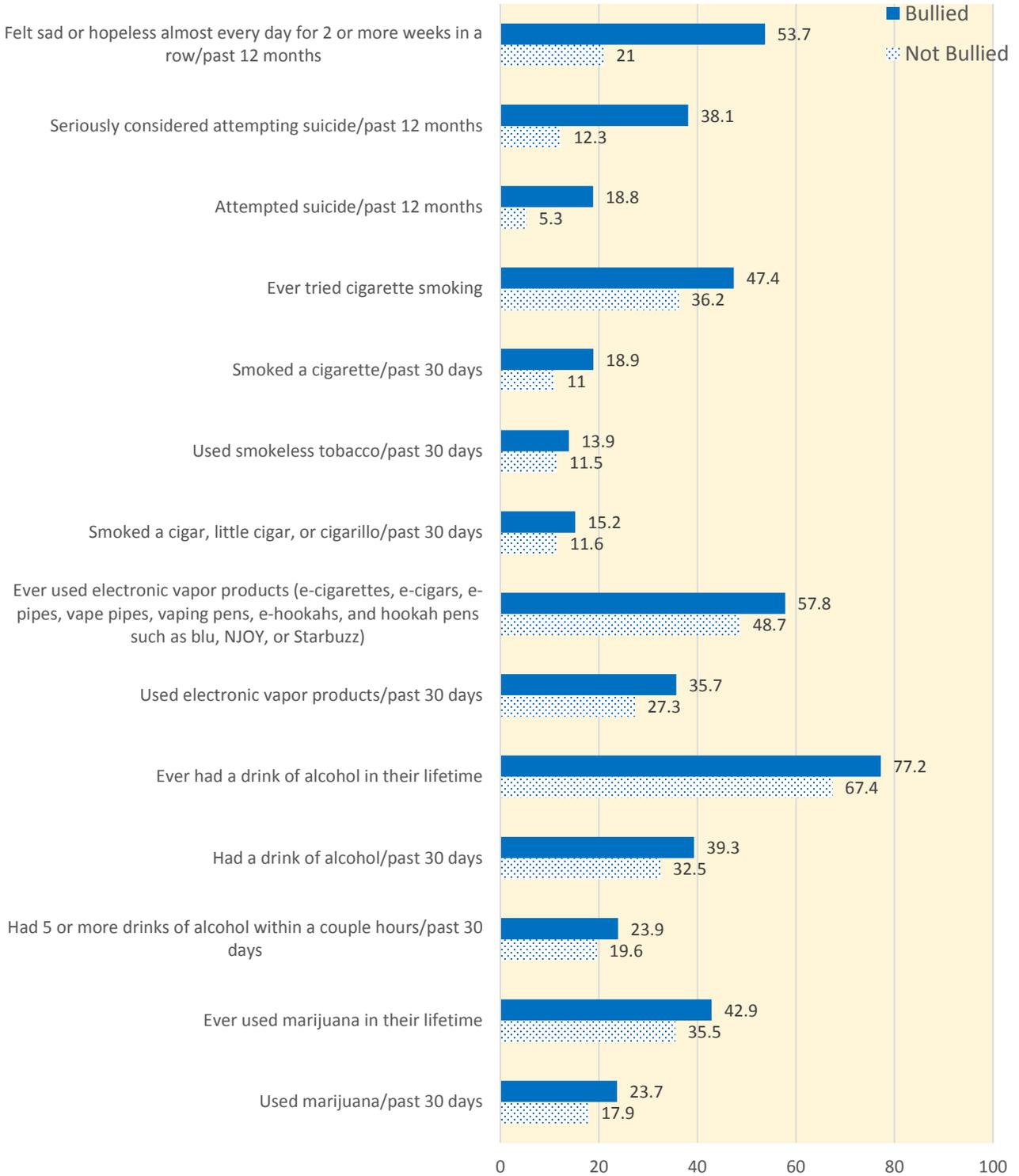
## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report

Health Risk Behavior by percentage of students	Bullied Students	Not bullied Students
Ever had a drink of alcohol in their lifetime	<b>77.2%</b> (73.6-80.8)	<b>67.4%</b> (65.4-69.5)
Had a drink of alcohol during the past 30 days	<b>39.3%</b> (35.6-43.1)	<b>32.5%</b> (30.2-34.8)
Had 5 or more drinks of alcohol within a couple hours during the past 30 days	<b>23.9%</b> (20.6-27.1)	<b>19.6%</b> (17.9-21.3)
Ever used marijuana in their lifetime	<b>42.9%</b> (38.7-47.0)	<b>35.5%</b> (31.7-39.4)
Used marijuana during the past 30 days	<b>23.7%</b> (20.3-27.2)	<b>17.9%</b> (15.6-20.3)
Ever used methamphetamines in their lifetime	<b>4.0%</b> (2.5-5.5)	<b>2.5%</b> (1.7-3.2)
Ever used ecstasy in their lifetime	<b>8.4%</b> (6.7-10.1)	<b>5.0%</b> (4.1-6.0)
Ever took prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription (such as OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax)	<b>32.0%</b> (28.5-35.6)	<b>18.2%</b> (16.6-19.9)
Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime	<b>48.9%</b> (44.4-53.3)	<b>42.4%</b> (39.1-45.6)
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life	<b>16.0%</b> (13.1-18.9)	<b>12.6%</b> (10.7-14.4)
Had sexual intercourse during the past 3 months	<b>37.6%</b> (33.3-41.9)	<b>30.6%</b> (28.1-33.0)
Did not eat fruit or drink 100% fruit juice during the past 7 days	<b>6.2%</b> (4.9-7.4)	<b>4.7%</b> (3.9-5.6)
Did not eat green salad, potatoes, carrots, or other vegetables during the past 7 days	<b>7.2%</b> (5.3-9.2)	<b>4.4%</b> (3.5-5.3)
Drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop daily during the past 7 days	<b>23.0%</b> (20.6-25.4)	<b>17.0%</b> (15.6-18.4)
Did not drink milk during the past 7 days	<b>17.1%</b> (14.8-19.4)	<b>15.3%</b> (14.0-16.6)
Did not eat breakfast during the past 7 days	<b>14.0%</b> (12.0-16.0)	<b>12.0%</b> (10.7-13.4)
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days	<b>49.9%</b> (45.4-52.5)	<b>55.9%</b> (53.9-57.7)
Watched 3 or more hours of TV on an average school day	<b>26.2%</b> (23.1-29.5)	<b>20.5%</b> (18.2-22.7)
Played video or computer games 3 or more hours per day on an average school day	<b>41.7%</b> (38.4-45.1)	<b>31.7%</b> (30.0-33.5)
Played on at least one sports team during the past 12 months	<b>57.4%</b> (54.1-60.6)	<b>64.1%</b> (62.0-66.2)
Had 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night	<b>25.4%</b> (22.6-28.3)	<b>35.1%</b> (33.0-37.2)
Made mostly A's or B's in school during the past 12 months	<b>71.7%</b> (68.2-75.1)	<b>76.4%</b> (74.0-78.7)
Received help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher during the past 12 months	<b>20.6%</b> (17.5-23.8)	<b>9.6%</b> (8.2-11.0)

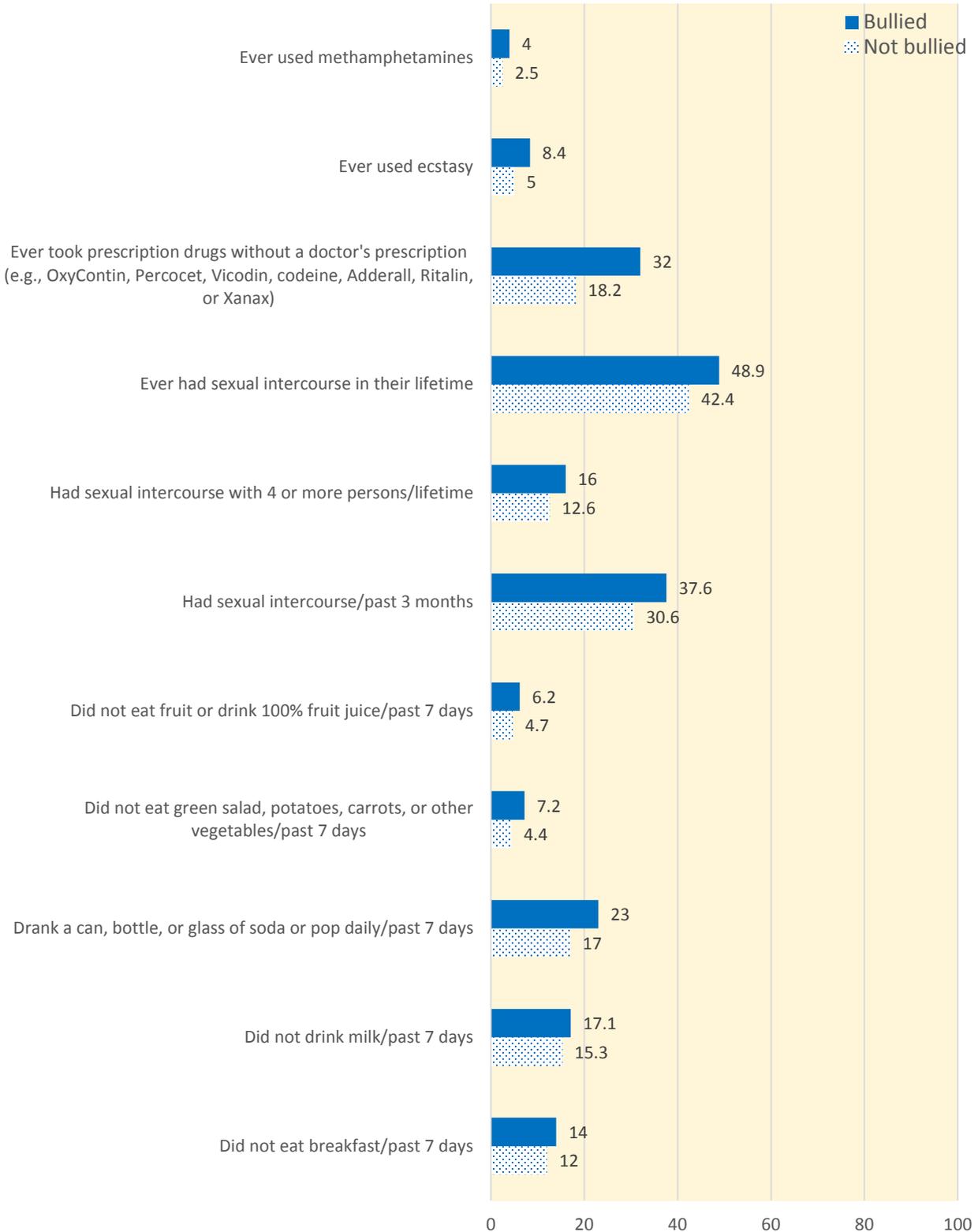
## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report



## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report



## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report



## 2015 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey Bullying Report

