

2021 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey



Special Education Report

Health Risk Behaviors of
Students who Received Help From A
Resource Teachers, Speech Therapist, or Other
Special Education Teacher



Youth Risk Behavior Survey Program
Coordinated School Health Unit
March 2022

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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 2021 YRBS was conducted in February-March 2021. 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

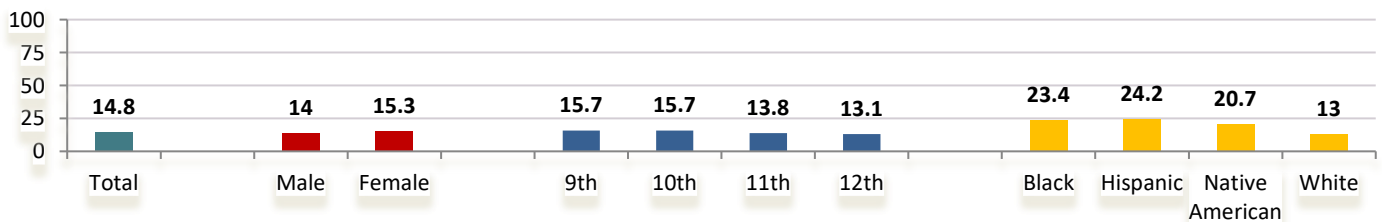
Data used in this report from the 2021 YRBS are based on a random sample survey of Montana high school students. The weighted data results contained in this report can be used to make inferences about the priority health-risk behaviors of all high school students in grades 9 through 12 in all schools in Montana.

For the purpose of this Special Education report, students with disabilities (SWD) are the 14.8% of students who responded “yes” to question 98 on the survey. Thirty-five separate health risk behaviors were queried for association with students with disabilities. These findings are presented in bullet, table, and graph forms in the following report.

98. During the past 12 months, did you receive help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher at school?	
A. Yes	14.8
B. No	85.2

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Statewide, 14.8 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 Montana YRBS go to www.opi.mt.gov/yrbs.

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Findings

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














- 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 students with disabilities compared to 5% of students without disabilities).
- Been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months (10% of students with disabilities compared to 5% of students without disabilities).
- Ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to (17% of students with disabilities compared to 10% of students without disabilities).
- Experienced sexual dating violence, such as unwanted kissing, touching, or sexual intercourse, by someone they were dating, during the past 12 months (13% of students with disabilities compared to 7% of students without disabilities).
- Been bullied on school property during the past 12 months (26% of students with disabilities compared to 14% of students without disabilities).
- Been electronically bullied, such as through texting, Instagram, Facebook, or other social media) during the past 12 months (29% of students with disabilities compared to 14% of students without disabilities).
- Been the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months (23% of students with disabilities compared to 12% of students without disabilities).
- Felt so sad or hopeless every day for 2 or more weeks in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities during the past 12 months (57% of students with disabilities compared to 39% of students without disabilities).
- Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months (32% of students with disabilities compared to 20% of students without disabilities).
- Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months (25% of students with disabilities compared to 17% of students without disabilities).
- Attempted suicide during the past 12 months (18% of students with disabilities compared to 9% of students without disabilities).
- Had a suicide attempt that resulted in injury or poisoning requiring medical treatment during the past 12 months (7% of students with disabilities compared to 3% of students without disabilities).
- Most of the time or always had poor mental health such as stress, anxiety and depression during the past 30 days (39% of students with disabilities compared to 30% of students without disabilities).
- Ever tried cigarette smoking (41% of students with disabilities compared to 25% of students without disabilities).
- Currently smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days (12% of students with disabilities compared to 6% of students without disabilities).
- Ever used electronic vapor products (56% of students with disabilities compared to 47% of students without disabilities).
- Had their first drink of alcohol before age 13 years (27% of students with disabilities compared to 16% of students without disabilities).
- Ever used marijuana in their lifetime (45% of students with disabilities compared to 35% of students without disabilities).
- Ever used methamphetamines in their lifetime (4% of students with disabilities compared to 1% of students without disabilities).
- Not eaten fruit during the past 7 days (16% of students with disabilities compared to 9% of students without disabilities).

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Montana high school students with disabilities are *less likely* than those students without disabilities to have:

- Been physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days (41% of students with disabilities compared to 54% of students without disabilities).

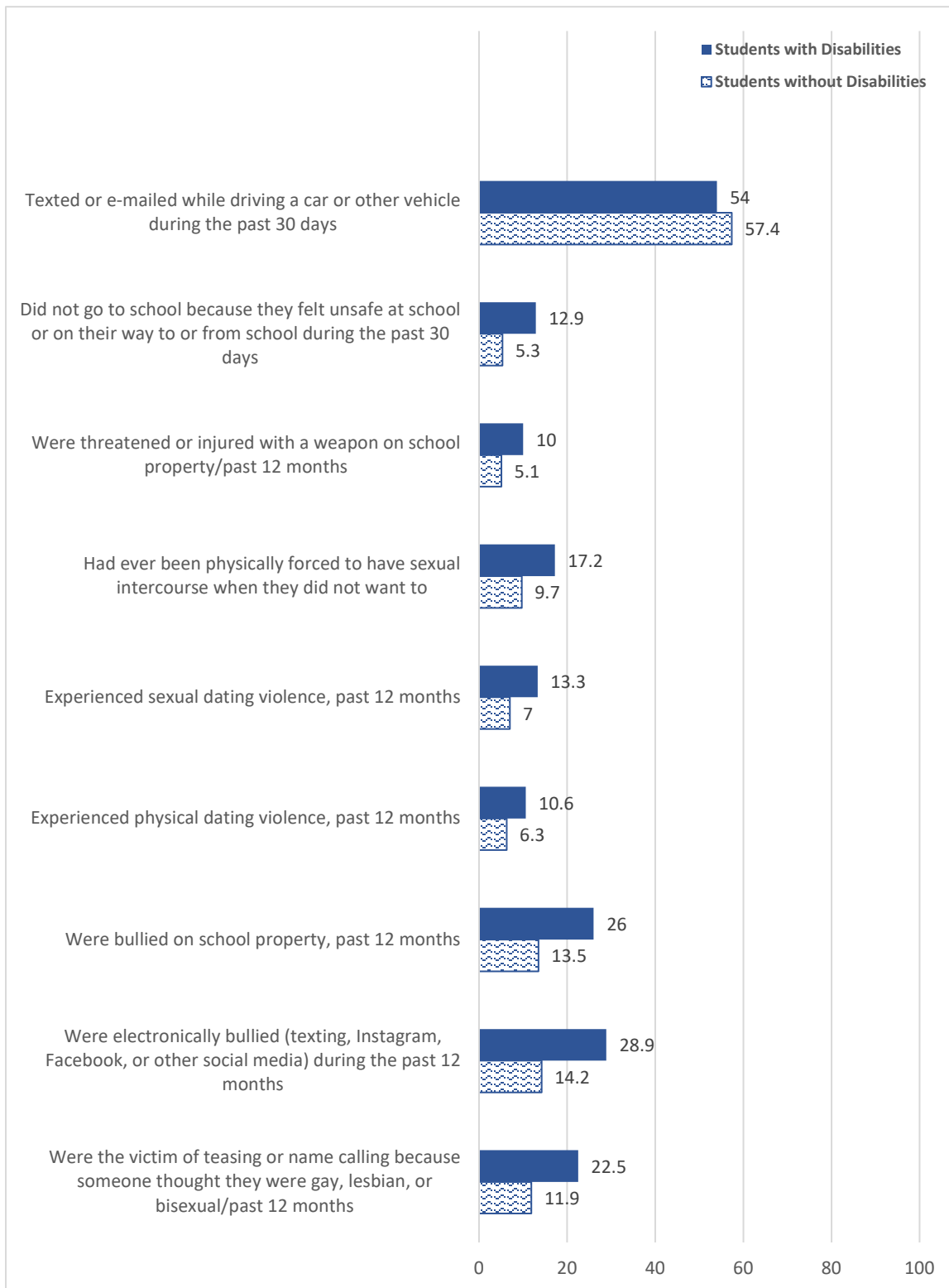
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Health Risk Behavior by percentage of students	Students with disabilities	Students without disabilities	Statistical Difference
Texted or e-mailed while driving a car or other vehicle during the past 30 days	54.0% (49.0-59.0)	57.4% (54.3-60.5)	
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days	12.9% (9.4-16.3)	5.3% (4.6-6.1)	
Were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months	10.0% (7.5-12.6)	5.1% (4.1-6.2)	
Ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	17.2% (14.1-20.3)	9.7% (8.3-11.1)	
Experienced sexual dating violence (unwanted kissing, touching, or sexual intercourse by someone they were dating), past 12 months	13.3% (10.5-16.2)	7.0% (5.8-8.3)	
Experienced physical dating violence (hit, slammed into something, or injured with an object or weapon by someone they were dating), past 12 months	10.6% (7.3-13.9)	6.3% (5.3-7.4)	
Were bullied on school property during the past 12 months	26.0% (22.7-29.3)	13.5% (11.8-15.3)	
Were electronically bullied (texting, Instagram, Facebook, or other social media) during the past 12 months	28.9% (25.4-32.3)	14.2% (12.8-15.6)	
Were the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months	22.5% (19.7-25.4)	11.9% (10.4-13.3)	
Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months	57.0% (52.5-61.5)	38.8% (36.1-41.4)	
Seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months	31.7% (27.9-35.4)	20.0% (18.2-21.9)	
Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months	25.2% (21.6-28.8)	16.6% (15.1-18.2)	
Attempted suicide during the past 12 months	18.0% (14.2-21.8)	8.7% (7.3-10.1)	
Had a suicide attempt that resulted in injury or poisoning requiring medical treatment	7.3% (5.1-9.5)	2.5% (1.9-3.1)	
Most of the time or always had poor mental health such as stress, anxiety, and depression, during the past 30 days	38.7% (34.8-42.6)	30.4% (28.5-32.3)	

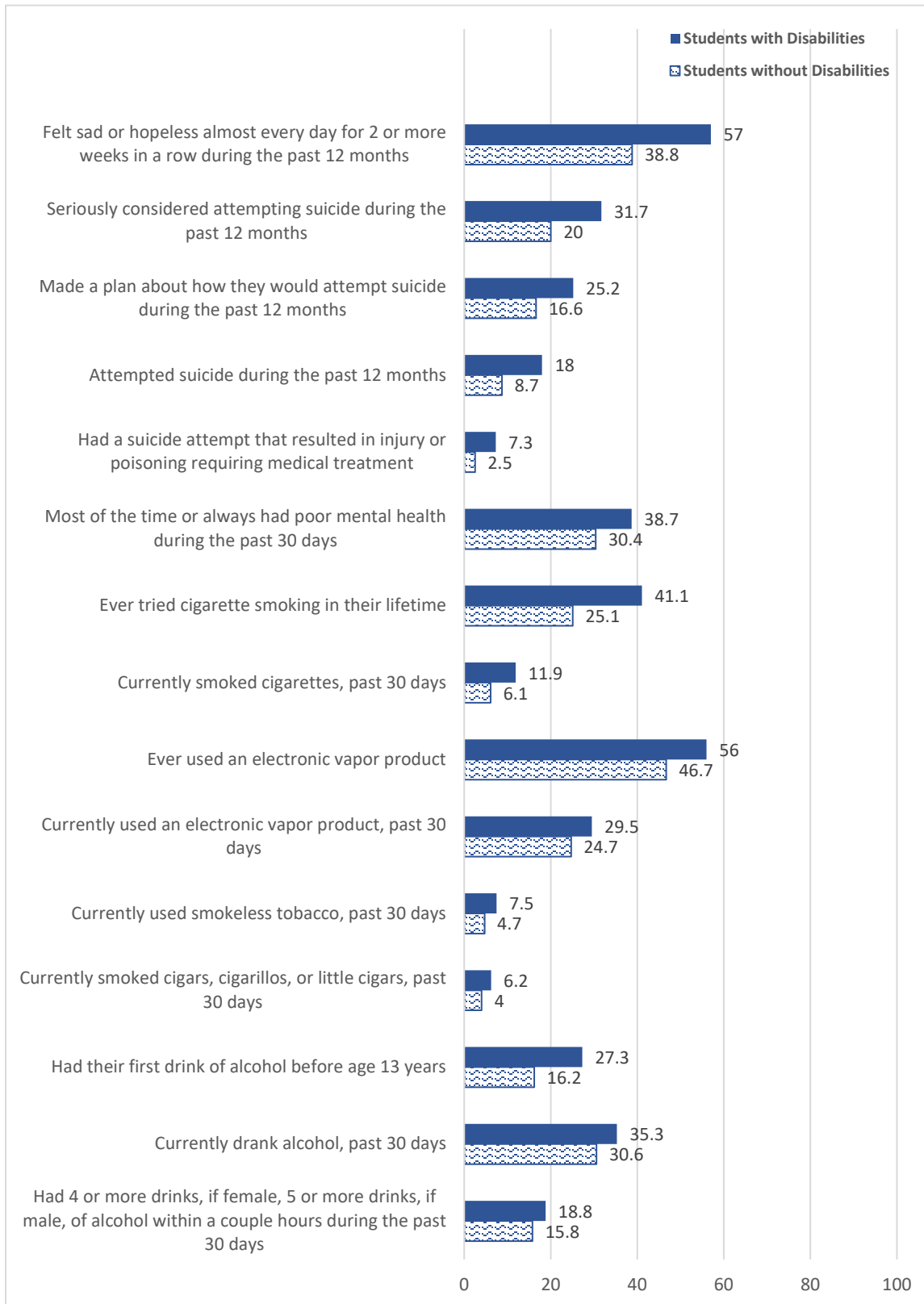
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Health Risk Behavior by percentage of students	Students with disabilities	Students without disabilities	Statistical Difference
Ever tried cigarette smoking in their lifetime	41.1% (37.2-45.1)	25.1% (22.5-27.7)	
Currently smoked cigarettes, past 30 days	11.9% (8.6-15.2)	6.1% (4.7-7.5)	
Ever used an electronic vapor product	56.0% (52.0-60.0)	46.7% (44.1-49.4)	
Currently used an electronic vapor product, past 30 days	29.5% (25.6-33.5)	24.7% (22.6-26.7)	
Currently used smokeless tobacco, past 30 days	7.5% (5.1-9.9)	4.7% (3.7-5.7)	
Currently smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars, past 30 days	6.2% (3.8-8.6)	4.0% (3.1-4.9)	
Had their first drink of alcohol before age 13 years	27.3% (23.7-31.0)	16.2% (14.6-17.9)	
Currently drank alcohol, past 30 days	35.3% (31.3-39.3)	30.6% (28.4-32.8)	
Had 4 or more drinks, if female, 5 or more drinks, if male, of alcohol within a couple hours during the past 30 days	18.8% (15.1-22.5)	15.8% (14.2-17.4)	
Ever used marijuana in their lifetime	45.0% (40.6-49.4)	35.4% (32.6-38.1)	
Ever used methamphetamines in their lifetime	3.5% (1.9-5.1)	1.4% (1.0-1.8)	
Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime	46.9% (42.3-51.5)	40.4% (37.6-43.2)	
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse	45.8% (38.5-53.0)	52.8% (49.2-56.4)	
Did not use any method to prevent unintended pregnancy or infection with STD during last sexual intercourse	8.4% (4.3-12.5)	7.7% (6.0-9.4)	
Did not eat fruit during the past 7 days	16.0% (13.3-18.7)	9.4% (8.3-10.4)	
Did not eat vegetables during the past 7 days	7.2% (5.1-9.4)	5.0% (4.2-5.9)	
Did not eat breakfast during the past 7 days	20.6% (17.0-24.2)	16.4% (14.9-18.0)	
Were physically active at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days	41.4% (36.7-46.1)	53.5% (51.1-55.9)	
Spent 3 or more hours per day on screen time (TV, computer, smart phone, or other electronic device watching shows or videos, playing games, accessing the Internet, or using social media, <i>not counting time doing schoolwork</i>) on an average school day	70.5% (66.9-74.1)	72.5% (70.9-74.1)	
Got 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night	24.9% (21.6-28.2)	29.2% (27.2-31.3)	

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