



Youth Risk Behavior Survey Highlights Iber Holmes Gove Middle School

May 2009

In partnership with RCFY



Sponsored by

Allies in Substance Abuse Prevention

- ❑ Students grades 6 through 8 participated by answering 77 questions
- ❑ Participation was voluntary
- ❑ Questions were allowed to be skipped if the student was uncomfortable answering
- ❑ Results are reported by grade level and by gender and by ethnicity



Population data

- 110 Grade 6 students
- 94 Grade 7 students
- 116 Grade 8 students
- 150 female students
- 147 male students
- 260 white students
- 36 other ethnic students
- Confidence level of plus/minus 1.5 percentage points



Purpose of survey

- ❑ To identify risk points for prevention at home and school and community
- ❑ To identify non-risk points to continue to support throughout the community
- ❑ To identify precautionary areas for school and home and community
- ❑ To enhance safe practices in home, school and community and develop others



Community that cares for its youth

- Partnering with many agencies, the RCFY, Police and the Raymond School District work together, focused on many healthy areas for children
- Results show that grade 6 and 7 responders are generally responding well to the work of our community that cares – home, school and town
- Results show that Grade 8 responders are developing specific risky behaviors that need to be addressed by the whole “Community that Cares”



Risky behavior areas

- ❑ Marijuana usage and danger beliefs
- ❑ Alcohol usage and danger beliefs
- ❑ Seatbelt usage
- ❑ DUI concerns as a passenger
- ❑ Body weight and dieting concerns
- ❑ Thoughts of suicide
- ❑ Use of helmets as appropriate
- ❑ Physical fighting



Seatbelt usage

- Grade 6 students - mostly and always 87.3%
- Grade 7 students - mostly and always 87.9%
- Grade 8 students - mostly and always 74%

Helmet usage

- When riding a bike....
 - Grade 6 – mostly and always 55.3%
 - Grade 7 – mostly and always 36.3%
 - Grade 8 – mostly and always 26.8%
- For those responders who roller blade or skateboard...26.3 to 28.9% report they never wear a helmet.



Physical fighting

- 50.5% to 58.3% of responders say they have been in a fight (35.8% of these were female and 72.6% were males reporting)

Alcohol usage and beliefs

- Responders that reported having at least one drink in the past 30 days
 - Grade 6 – 6.9%
 - Grade 7 – 7.1 %
 - Grade 8 – 18.1%

- How easy is it to get possession of alcohol?
 - Grade 6 - 25.3% say easy
 - Grade 7 – 38.4 % say easy
 - Grade 8 – 43.3% say easy

Alcohol usage

- How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to drink?

Grade 6 - 92.1% wrong; IDK 5%

Grade 7 – 87.9 % wrong; IDK 5.1%

Grade 8 – 79.4% wrong; IDK 7.2%

- How wrong do you think it is for someone your age to drink?

Grade 6 - 84.3% Grade 7 - 77.8% Grade 8 - 66 %

Marijuana usage and beliefs

- Have you ever used marijuana?
 - Grade 6 – 2%
 - Grade 7 – 8%
 - Grade 8 – 25%

- Responders report having used marijuana in past 30 days
 - Grade 6 – 1%
 - Grade 7 – 5%
 - Grade 8 – 18.7%

Marijuana usage and beliefs

- How easy is it to get possession of marijuana?
 - Grade 6 – 12.3% say easy
 - Grade 7 – 14.1% say easy
 - Grade 8 – 29.8% say easy

- How wrong do you think your parents would say it is to use marijuana?
 - Grade 6 – 99.1%
 - Grade 7 – 93.9%
 - Grade 8 – 87.5%

Marijuana usage and beliefs

- How wrong do you think it is to smoke marijuana?
 - Grade 6 – 92.1%
 - Grade 7 – 89.9%
 - Grade 8 – 66%

- Do you believe there is a risk of harm to smoke?
 - Grade 6 & 7 – 8.8 to 10.1% little to no risk
 - Grade 8 – 20.6% little or no risk



DUI concerns as a passenger

- Have you ever ridden in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol?

22.8 to 26.5% of students said yes



Suicide related attitudes

- 20.9% of students reported seriously considering attempting suicide and 13.9% of students reported developing a plan
- 7.9% of students reported attempting suicide
- Female students reported higher rates of suicide related attitudes and behaviors than male students

Body weight and dieting

- 32.7% of female students and 23.3% of male students describe themselves as either slightly or very overweight
- 59.5% of females and 38.1% of males say they are trying to lose weight (only 15% of the students are trying to gain weight)
- 78.5% of the females and 63% of the males say they have to exercise to lose or not gain weight

Body weight and dieting

- 6.2% of students in grade 7 to 19.6% in grade 8 say they have fasted for at least 24 hours to lose or not gain weight
- 3.1 to 4.9% have tried diet pills
- 3.1 to 6.2% have vomited or taken laxatives to lose or not gain weight



Prevention and interventions

- Continue our work together as a “community that cares” with RCFY and its members, including the School District and Raymond Police
- Continue to support and run Project Safeguard (January 20)
- Implement Project ALERT – funded by RCFY
- Provide a refresher course in Connect Youth Suicide Prevention model to middle school staff – funded by RCFY



Prevention and interventions

- Train grade 8 students in the Connect model through high school peer trainers
- Collaboration and teamwork with families and young adults in our community



Prevention and interventions

- Staff at IHGMS and School Resource Officer will be trained in the Project Alert Model (grade 6-8), an evidence based program offered for middle school students addressing the issues of alcohol, marijuana, and making good choices
- RCFY has funding to offer informational evenings for the community and parents to raise more awareness and provide education on prevention and intervention



Raymond Coalition for Youth Mission Statement

Raymond Coalition for Youth empowers the community to promote positive youth development and strengthen community assets by coordinating services and opportunities through prevention initiatives, including suicide, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

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