West Virginia Youth Risk Behavior Survey/School Health Profiles

Sexual Behaviors

How large is the problem?

The 2017 West Virginia Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed the rates of sexual behaviors reported by WV high school students (right).

What is being done to address the problem?

Solutions focus on better health education, more health services, and healthier school environments. The 2016 West Virginia School Health Profiles indicated the percent of WV high schools that implemented the policies and practices (below).

Percentage of schools with required courses on...

- Pregnancy prevention: 92%
- Human sexuality: 86%
- STD prevention: 94%
- HIV prevention: 97%

Percentage of lead health teachers receiving training the past 2 years on...

- Pregnancy prevention: 39%
- Human sexuality: 23%
- STD prevention: 37%
- HIV prevention: 23%

52% of schools used the School Health Index to assess school policies and activities around HIV, STD, and teen pregnancy prevention.

Some schools provided information to families and community about how to communicate with their child about sex (23%); and about HIV prevention, STD prevention, or teen pregnancy prevention (37%).

Data Sources: West Virginia Department of Education, 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2016 School Health Profiles

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How large is the problem?

The 2017 West Virginia Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed the following rates of alcohol and drug use behavior reported by WV high school students (below).

### Percentage of students who had used alcohol or drugs

**ALCOHOL USE**
- Had at least one drink of alcohol during their life: 64%
- Had their first drink of alcohol before age 13*: 19%
- Had at least one drink of alcohol in the past month: 28%
- Had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row in the past month: 14%
- The largest number of drinks had in a row was 10 or more: 7%
- Obtained the alcohol they drank by someone giving it to them: 40%

**MARIJUANA USE**
- Had used marijuana during their life: 35%
- Tried marijuana before age 13: 9%
- Had used marijuana one or more times during the past month: 19%

**OTHER DRUG USE**
- Had ever used cocaine during their life**: 6%
- Had ever used inhalants to get high**: 7%
- Had used heroin: 3%
- Had used methamphetamine: 5%
- Had used ecstasy: 4%
- Had used synthetic marijuana: 8%
- Had taken steroids without a doctor's order: 4%
- Had injected an illegal drug: 3%
- Ever taken a prescription pain drug without a doctor's order**: 13%
- Was offered/sold/given an illegal drug on school property**: 24%

Notes: *Other than a few sips; **Including powder, crack, or freebase cocaine; ***Sniffed glue, breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled paints or sprays; ****Such as OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, codeine, Adderall, Ritalin, or Xanax; *****In the past year

What is being done to address the problem?

Solutions focus on improving alcohol and drug prevention education and creating healthier school environments. The 2016 West Virginia School Health Profiles indicated the percentages of WV high schools that implemented the following policies and practices (below).

Data Sources: West Virginia Department of Education, 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2016 School Health Profiles

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Bullying and Suicidal Behaviors

How large is the problem?
The 2017 West Virginia Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed the following rates of bullying and suicidal behaviors were reported by WV high school students (right).

What is being done to address the problem?
Solutions focus on improving health education, increasing family and community involvement, and creating healthier school environments. The 2016 West Virginia School Health Profiles indicated the percentage of WV high schools that required courses for students in the following topics (below).

Percentage of schools with required courses in...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suicide prevention</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence prevention, including bullying</td>
<td>97%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lead health education teachers reported receiving professional development in the past 2 years related to the following topics (below).

Percentage of lead health teachers receiving training in the past 2 years in...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emotional and mental health</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide prevention</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence prevention*</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Including bullying, fighting, or dating violence prevention

Regarding family and community involvement, 62% of schools provided parents and families with information about prevention of student bullying and sexual harassment including electronic aggression; and 29% participated in a program in which family or community members mentor or serve as role models to students.

Percentage of schools with the following supports in the school environment
- 68% had a club that gives students opportunities to learn about people different from themselves, such as students with disabilities, homeless youth, or people from different cultures
- 87% had staff who have received professional development on preventing, identifying, and responding to student bullying and sexual harassment
- 93% had a designated staff member to whom students can confidentially report student bullying and sexual harassment
- 93% used electronic, paper, or oral communication to publicize and disseminate policies, rules, or regulations on bullying and sexual harassment
- 38% prevented bullying and sexual harassment, including electronic aggression, among all students

Data Sources: West Virginia Department of Education, 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2016 School Health Profiles
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How large is the problem?

The 2017 West Virginia Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed the following rates of chronic diseases and other risk factors were reported by WV high school students (right).

What is being done to address the problem?

Solutions focus on improving chronic disease education and creating healthier school environments. The 2016 West Virginia School Health Profiles indicated the percentage of WV high schools that required courses for students in the following topics (below).

Lead health education teachers reported receiving professional development in the past 2 years related to the following topics at the rates shown below.

Regarding family and community involvement 25% of schools reported providing parents and families with health information designed to increase their knowledge about asthma and 35% provided information about diabetes.

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How large is the problem?

The 2017 West Virginia Youth Risk Behavior Survey revealed the rates of injury risk and violence reported by WV high school students (below).

### Percentage of students with the following injury risk and violence experiences

#### INJURY RISK
- Rarely or never wore a seat belt when riding in a car: 9%
- Rode in past month with driver who had been drinking alcohol: 13%
- Drove in the past month when drinking alcohol: 5%
- Texted or e-mailed while driving a car in the past month: 34%
- Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club in the past month: 24%
- Carried a gun in the past month: 7%
- Carried a weapon on school property in the past month*: 5%

#### VIOLENCE
- Absent in past month because felt unsafe at school, going to/from: 7%
- Had been threatened or injured with a weapon* at school: 7%
- Was in a physical fight in the past year: 19%
- Was in a physical fight on school property in the past year: 6%
- Experienced physical dating violence in the past year: 9%

#### SEXUAL VIOLENCE
- Physically forced to have sexual intercourse against their will: 9%
- Experienced sexual dating violence in the past year: 7%

Note: * Such as a gun, knife, or club

What is being done to address the problem?

Solutions focus on improving health education, creating safer schools and communities, and making schools healthier environments. The 2016 West Virginia School Health Profiles indicated the percentage of WV high schools that implemented the following policies and practices (below).

### Percentage of schools that required a course for students on the topics shown
- Injury prevention and safety: 98%
- Violence prevention*: 97%

### Percentage of lead health teachers receiving training in the past 2 years on...
- Injury prevention and safety: 41%
- Violence prevention*: 61%

Note: *Including bullying, fighting, and dating violence prevention

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