

2013 Minnesota Student Survey

Ramsey County Tobacco Tables

Fall 2013

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Minnesota Department of Education
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2013 MINNESOTA STUDENT SURVEY

Survey Participation

The 2013 Minnesota Student Survey was administered in the first half of 2013 to public school students in Grades 5, 8, 9, and 11 statewide. All public school districts in Minnesota were invited to participate. Of the 334 public operating districts, 280 agreed to participate (84% of public operating school districts). All Ramsey County public school districts participated. Public school student participation was voluntary and surveys were anonymous.

All schools and districts that participated in the survey followed federal laws regarding parental notification as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). PPRA requires that schools that participate in the survey notify parents of the survey administration, provide parents the opportunity to review the survey instrument, and allow parents to opt their child out of participating.

Mode of Administration

In 2013, for the first time, schools could choose to administer the survey by computer or by using the traditional paper and pencil survey. Each participating school had to choose one method or the other. Overall, 35% of students took the survey by computer and 65% used the paper survey. The survey questions that students saw on their computer screens were the same as those in the paper survey booklets.

Researchers find that the mode of administration (in this case, computer or paper) may sometimes influence survey results in subtle ways. Students may feel that one method offers more privacy or anonymity than the other, or they may simply feel more comfortable with one method. The Minnesota Student Survey research team will be analyzing the results of the 2013 survey to see if they can detect any influence of the mode of administration on survey results.

New Questions and Year-to-Year Comparisons

Many of the 2013 survey instrument questions were changed from the 2010 survey instrument. While some questions stayed the same, other questions had updated or improved wording. Some entirely new questions were added and some questions were dropped. New questions are noted on each table. Caution must be used when making comparisons over time for any questions in which the wording has changed.

Please note that although these surveys are given repeatedly over time, student populations may change between administrations of the survey.

Validity of Responses

Approximately 2% of the surveys were eliminated from analyses because gender was missing, responses were highly inconsistent, or there was a pattern of likely exaggeration.

DEMOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION OF RAMSEY COUNTY STUDENTS COMPLETING THE 2013 MINNESOTA STUDENT SURVEY 2013

		Grade							
		5th		8th		9th		11th	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Total number of surveys		4,232	100%	3,490	100%	4,192	100%	3,699	100%
Gender	Male	2,164	51%	1,740	50%	2,042	49%	1,834	50%
	Female	2,068	49%	1,750	50%	2,150	51%	1,865	50%
Age	10 or younger	1,678	40%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
	11	2,450	58%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
	12	71	2%	6	0%	0	0%	0	0%
	13	5	0%	1,450	42%	6	0%	0	0%
	14	0	0%	1,951	56%	1,550	37%	0	0%
	15	0	0%	66	2%	2,490	59%	5	0%
	16	0	0%	3	0%	112	3%	1,343	36%
	17	0	0%	0	0%	14	0%	2,217	60%
	18	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	103	3%
	19-20	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	22	1%
	No answer	28	1%	14	0%	20	0%	9	0%
Are you a member of any of the following ethnic or cultural groups? [^] Hispanic or Latino/a	Yes	482	11%	420	12%	485	12%	338	9%
	No	3,242	77%	2,629	75%	3,152	75%	2,810	76%
	Not answered	508	12%	441	13%	555	13%	551	15%
Are you a member of any of the following ethnic or cultural groups? [^] Somali	Yes	105	2%	41	1%	64	2%	46	1%
	No	3,524	83%	2,847	82%	3,382	81%	2,955	80%
	Not answered	603	14%	602	17%	746	18%	698	19%
Are you a member of any of the following ethnic or cultural groups? [^] Hmong	Yes	572	14%	453	13%	726	17%	759	21%
	No	3,114	74%	2,577	74%	2,959	71%	2,556	69%
	Not answered	546	13%	460	13%	507	12%	384	10%
In addition, what is your race?[^] (If more than one describes you, mark ALL that apply)	American Indian or Alaskan Native only	97	2%	43	1%	44	1%	19	1%
	Asian only	802	19%	633	18%	952	23%	954	26%
	Black, African or African American only	668	16%	431	12%	532	13%	409	11%
	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander only	25	1%	12	0%	23	1%	13	0%
	White only	1,856	44%	1,712	49%	1,882	45%	1,757	47%
	Multiple race (checked more than one)	395	9%	416	12%	441	11%	289	8%
	No answer	389	9%	243	7%	318	8%	258	7%

[^] New question in 2013.

Individual school districts have the following tables by race/ethnicity.

SUMMARY OF TOBACCO USE **
Ramsey County, 2013

		Grade					
		8th		9th		11th	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%
Use of any tobacco products during the past 30 days	Yes	6%	5%	10%	9%	18%	11%
		Frequent (20+ days) use of any tobacco products during the past 30 days	2%	1%	3%	2%	6%

** These are all computed variables based on combinations of responses to two or more survey item

CIGARETTE USE AMONG 5TH GRADE STUDENTS*^
Ramsey County, 2013

		5 th Grade	
		Male	Female
		%	%
During the last 30 days, have you smoked any cigarettes?	Yes	1%	0%
	No	99%	100%

* Only 5th grade survey asked these questions

^ All questions on this table were new in 2013

TOBACCO USE*
Ramsey County, 2013

<i>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you ...</i>		Grade					
		8th		9th		11th	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%
...smoke a cigarette?	0 days	96%	96%	93%	93%	88%	91%
	1 to 2 days	2%	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%
	3 to 5 days	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	6 to 9 days	0%	1%	0%	1%	1%	1%
	10 to 19 days	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	20 to 29 days	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%
	All 30 days	1%	0%	1%	1%	3%	1%
...smoke cigars, cigarillos or little cigars?	0 days	96%	98%	94%	97%	89%	96%
	1 to 2 days	2%	1%	3%	1%	6%	2%
	3 to 5 days	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	6 to 9 days	0%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%
	10 to 19 days	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
	20 to 29 days	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
	All 30 days	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
...use chewing tobacco, snuff or dip?	0 days	98%	98%	96%	99%	93%	99%
	1 to 2 days	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%
	3 to 5 days	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
	6 to 9 days	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
	10 to 19 days	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
	20 to 29 days	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
	All 30 days	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%

* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

EXPOSURE TO SECONDHAND SMOKE[^]
Ramsey County, 2013

		Grade							
		5th		8th		9th		11th	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
During the last 7 days, on how many days were you in the same room as someone who was smoking cigarettes?	0 days	77%	79%	74%	71%	70%	69%	66%	68%
	1 or 2 days	14%	13%	16%	17%	17%	17%	18%	17%
	3 or 4 days	4%	3%	4%	5%	6%	5%	7%	5%
	5 or 6 days	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	All 7 days	4%	4%	4%	5%	6%	7%	7%	6%
During the last 7 days, on how many days did you ride in a car with someone who was smoking cigarettes?	0 days	83%	84%	81%	78%	78%	77%	74%	75%
	1 or 2 days	9%	9%	10%	11%	12%	11%	14%	14%
	3 or 4 days	4%	3%	4%	5%	4%	5%	6%	5%
	5 or 6 days	1%	1%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	All 7 days	2%	3%	3%	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%

[^] All questions on this table were new in 2013.

PERCEIVED RISK OF HARM FROM SUBSTANCE USE
Ramsey County, 2013

<i>How much do you think People risk harming themselves physically or in other ways if they...</i>		Grade							
		5th		8th		9th		11th	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
... smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day?	No risk	25%	23%	13%	11%	15%	8%	10%	7%
	Slight risk	10%	9%	9%	12%	8%	10%	9%	9%
	Moderate risk	16%	14%	24%	20%	20%	21%	20%	19%
	Great risk	50%	53%	54%	56%	58%	61%	61%	66%

[^] New question in 2013.

PERCEPTIONS OF OTHERS DISAPPROVAL OF SMOKING CIGARETTES
Ramsey County, 2013

		Grade							
		5th		8th		9th		11th	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
How wrong do your parents feel it would be for you to smoke cigarettes?	Not at all wrong	4%	4%	6%	3%	8%	3%	5%	3%
	A little bit wrong	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%	3%	6%	4%
	Wrong	5%	5%	11%	9%	12%	10%	16%	14%
	Very wrong	89%	90%	81%	86%	77%	83%	73%	79%
How wrong do your friends feel it would be for you to smoke cigarettes?	Not at all wrong	6%	5%	9%	5%	14%	8%	16%	10%
	A little bit wrong	4%	2%	10%	8%	15%	12%	20%	17%
	Wrong	19%	12%	26%	20%	25%	26%	27%	25%
	Very wrong	72%	81%	54%	67%	46%	53%	37%	48%

[^] All questions on this table were new in 2013.

**USE OF TOBACCO
Ramsey County, 2013**

<i>How often do you use each of the following?</i>		Grade					
		8th		9th		11th	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%
Tobacco (cigarettes, chew)	Never	94%	96%	90%	91%	80%	89%
	Tried once or twice	2%	2%	4%	3%	4%	4%
	Once or twice a year	1%	0%	1%	1%	3%	2%
	Once a month	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	Twice a month	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%
	Once a week	0%	0%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	Daily	1%	0%	2%	1%	6%	2%

* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions. ^ All questions on this table were new in 2013.

**PERCEPTIONS OF OTHERS' USE OF TOBACCO
Ramsey County, 2013**

<i>In your opinion, how often do you think MOST STUDENTS in your school use each of the following?</i>		Grade					
		8th		9th		11th	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
		%	%	%	%	%	%
Tobacco (cigarettes, chew)	Never	51%	39%	29%	17%	18%	11%
	Tried once or twice	24%	30%	20%	22%	17%	18%
	Once or twice a year	6%	6%	7%	5%	5%	6%
	Once a month	5%	6%	8%	10%	8%	9%
	Twice a month	2%	3%	4%	7%	6%	7%
	Once a week	6%	9%	15%	15%	16%	18%
	Daily	6%	7%	18%	24%	30%	32%

* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.
^ All questions on this table were new in 2013.

DISPARITIES IN TOBACCO USE

The Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey offers great detail on tobacco use and tobacco prevention, but the sample size is too small to provide reliable estimates of tobacco use among Minnesota’s racial/ethnic groups and other small population groups. The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS), on the other hand, is many times larger than the MYTS and can provide data on a handful of tobacco use indicators for racial/ethnic groups and other groups.

The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) has been conducted every three years since 1989. Tobacco use questions were asked of students in grades 8, 9, and 11. In 2013, 84 percent of public school districts participated, and 71 percent of all 8th graders, 69 percent of all 9th graders, and 62 percent of all 11th graders in Minnesota’s regular public schools took the survey.

Current Tobacco Use

In 2013, 5.5 percent of 8th graders, 10.4 percent of 9th graders, and 18.9 percent of 11th graders reported using cigarettes, cigar products or smokeless tobacco in the past 30 days. The Student Survey identifies several groups with tobacco use rates well above the statewide average.

- Among racial-ethnic groups, American Indian students had the highest tobacco use rates in all three grades – 29.2 percent of American Indian 11th grade students had used tobacco in the past 30 days. African American and Hispanic students had rates slightly above average in 8th and 9th grades.
- Students who did not identify as heterosexual had exceptionally high tobacco use rates, reaching 37.1 percent among bisexual 11th grade students and 29.2 percent among gay or lesbian 11th grade students.
- Students from low-income households as identified by receiving free or reduced-price school lunch reported tobacco use rates that were substantially above average in 8th and 9th grades.
- Students experiencing economic distress had very high rates of tobacco use; 34.5% of 11th grade students who had to skip meals in the past month and 38.7% of 11th grade students who were homeless at some time in the past year reported using tobacco in the past 30 days.
- Smaller school districts in Greater Minnesota had tobacco use rates slightly above average.

Percent of Minnesota students who used any tobacco products* in the past 30 days, by grade and population groups: 2013.

POPULATION GROUP	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 11
ALL STUDENTS	5.5%	10.4%	18.9%
RACE-ETHNIC GROUP			
American Indian or Alaska Native	11.6%	21.3%	29.2%
Asian	3.6%	6.1%	8.9%
Black, African or African American	7.9%	12.8%	14.8%
Hispanic	8.9%	14.0%	18.4%
White	5.2%	10.3%	20.0%

SEXUAL ORIENTATION**			
Heterosexual	N/A	9.5%	18.1%
Bisexual	N/A	33.4%	37.1%
Gay or Lesbian	N/A	29.5%	29.2%
Not Sure (questioning)	N/A	12.2%	23.8%
ECONOMIC HARDSHIP			
Receives free or reduced-price school lunch	9.3%	15.1%	20.5%
Had to skip meals because family did not have enough money to buy food.	19.0%	28.7%	34.5%
Homeless in past 12 months	16.2%	28.3%	38.7%
PLACE AND DISTRICT SIZE			
Twin Cities Metro area (seven counties)	4.6%	9.0%	16.2%

*Based on three questions that asked about use of cigarettes; cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars; and chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip in the past 30 days.

**Grades 9 and 11 only

Source: Minnesota Student survey, 2013

Secondhand smoke exposure

The same race, economic and demographic groups with higher rates of tobacco use also showed above average exposure to secondhand smoke in a room or in a vehicle during the previous seven days.

Percent of Minnesota students who were exposed to secondhand smoke* in the past 30 days, by grade and population groups, 2013

POPULATION GROUP	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 11
ALL STUDENTS	32.3%	35.4%	39.6%
RACE-ETHNIC GROUP			
American Indian or Alaska Native	53.4%	56.5%	61.2%
Asian	23.5%	26.0%	31.1%
Black, African or African American	36.1%	39.7%	40.1%
Hispanic	34.3%	37.4%	39.2%
White	32.8%	36.1%	40.5%
SEXUAL ORIENTATION**			
Heterosexual	N/A	34.3%	38.7%
Bisexual	N/A	63.2%	64.0%
Gay or Lesbian	N/A	56.4%	54.7%
Not Sure (questioning)	N/A	38.2%	43.3%
ECONOMIC HARDSHIP			
Receives free or reduced-price school lunch	47.1%	50.5%	52.4%
Had to skip meals because family did not have enough money to buy food.	63.3%	65.1%	65.4%

Homeless in past 12 months	48.8%	57.1%	63.7%
PLACE AND DISTRICT SIZE			
Twin Cities Metro area (seven counties)	27.2%	30.3%	34.3%

*Based on two questions: “During the last 7 days, on how many days were you in the same room as someone who was smoking cigarettes”, and “During the last 7 days, on how many days did you ride in a car with someone who was smoking cigarettes”?

**Grades 9 and 11 only

Source: Minnesota Student survey, 2013