

**Sarasota County Middle Schools
Youth Risk Behavior Survey**

2005-06 District Executive Summary

**Sarasota County Public Schools
Sarasota, Florida**

**Gary Norris
Superintendent**

Prepared by

Moya L. Alfonso, MSPH, Doctoral Candidate

with assistance from Kelli McCormack Brown, PhD, CHES

**Department of Community and Family Health
College of Public Health
University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida**



May 2006



Introduction

In the United States, 72% of all deaths among youths and young adults 10 to 24 years of age result from four causes: motor vehicle crashes (31%), other unintentional injuries (11%), homicide (18%), and suicide (12%) . Substantial morbidity and social problems also result from approximately 1 million pregnancies that occur each year among adolescents as well as an estimated 3 million cases of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) that occur each year among the same age group (Kann, Kinchen, Williams, Ross, Lowry, Grunbaum, Kolbe, & State and Local YRBSS Coordinators, 2000). In the United States, 67% of all deaths and substantial morbidity among adults greater than or equal to 25 years of age result from two causes: cardiovascular disease (43%) and cancer (24%). Therefore, six categories of behaviors contribute to the the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in the United States: behaviors that contribute to unintentional and intentional injuries; tobacco use; alcohol and other drug use; sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and STDs (including human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] infection); unhealthy dietary behaviors; and physical inactivity (Kann, Kinchen, Williams, Ross, Lowry, Hill, Grunbaum, Blumson, Collins, Kolbe, & State and Local Coordinators, 1998). These behaviors, which frequently are interrelated, often are established during youth and extend into adulthood.

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), a component of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), measures the prevalence of health-risk behaviors among adolescents through representative national, state, and local surveys (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1998). The district administration of Sarasota County Public Schools has attempted to assess the prevalence of priority health-risk behaviors of the Sarasota County Middle Schools by conducting the YRBS. This report contains results from the 2005-06 Sarasota County Youth Risk Behavior Survey, in addition to an overview

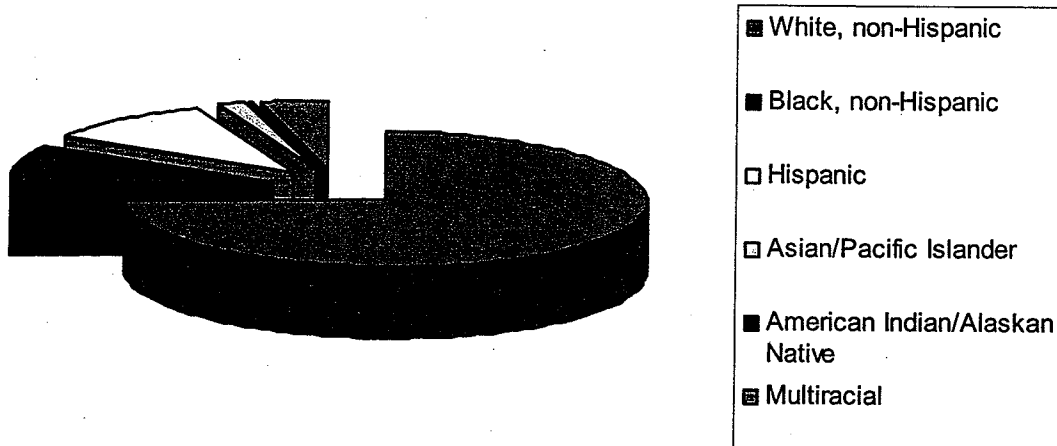
or some of the major findings of each risk behavior category.

Methods

Population

According to the Florida Department of Education's Statistical Brief (2005-2006) in the fall 2004, Sarasota County had 41,884 students in its public pre-kindergarten through 12th grades. Of those students, 9,663 were in middle school, with 2,939 (30.41%) sixth graders and 3,423 (35.42%) eighth graders. Sarasota county ranked 19th in the state with respect to its public school student membership, behind Pinellas county (ranked 7) with 112,127 students, and Hillsborough county (ranked 3) with 193,669 students. Sarasota County's public school membership is now less than adjacent Manatee County (ranked 17th) with 42,353 students and Charlotte County (ranked 31st) with 17,868 students. The Florida Department of Education reports racial/ethnic data at the county level for public school student membership. The majority of students in Sarasota county public schools are white, non-Hispanic (n=31,097; 74.25%), Hispanic (n=4,516; 10.78%), and black, non-Hispanic (n=3,735; 8.92%), with an overall minority population of 10,787 (25.75%) (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Percentage of Public School Student Membership by Racial/Ethnic Category, Sarasota County, Florida Fall 2005



Sample

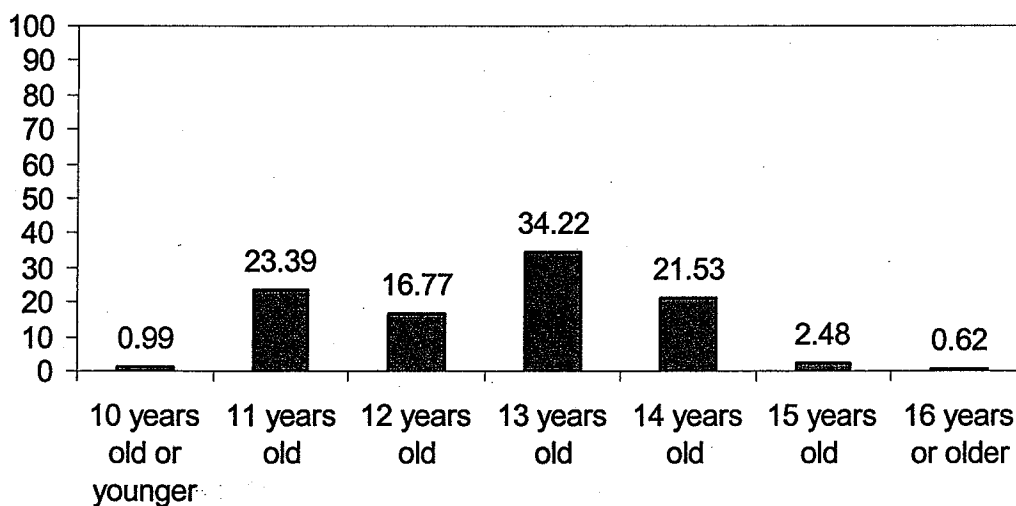
Out of approximately 2,350 surveys distributed, a total of 2003 valid surveys (i.e., not Christmas treed) were completed, resulting in an initial response rate of 85.23%. Scantrons that were wrinkled or smudged were numbered with a unique identifier and hand entered in a Microsoft Excel database to ensure data quality. Once all surveys were entered into a Microsoft Excel database, the investigator calculated frequencies for each variable to identify response values outside of the established response categories. Values outside of the expected range were double checked against the original scantrons using the unique identifier (i.e., ID variable). Corrections were made where possible. When a correction was not possible, the response was recoded as missing.

Participants were enrolled in grades 6 (n=678, 42%), 8 (n=911, 57%), and other (n=19, 1%). Three hundred and eight seven student surveys were omitted because students failed to answer 10 or more questions and/or reported they did not respond truthfully more than half of the time (i.e., response to question #103). Overall, 1616

student surveys were analyzed and are reported here, resulting in an effective response rate of 69% (1616/2350).

Participating students ranged in age from 10 to 16, however most were between the ages of 11 and 14. More females than males and more eighth graders than sixth graders participated (Figures 1 & 2). The race/ethnic composition of participants included: White (72%), Black or African American (9.6%), Hispanic or Latino (11.7%), American Indian or Alaskan Native (3.3%), Asian (2%) and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander (1.2%).

Figure 2. Percentage in Each Age Group, Sarasota County MS YRBS, Florida Fall 2005



Instrumentation

Data collection was performed using the Middle School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (MSYRBS). This questionnaire was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The YRBS is a school-based classroom survey of risk behaviors self-reported by middle school youth. Usually conducted at the high school level (grades 9-12), the 81 multiple choice questionnaire has been modified to questions which are pertinent to middle school

students (grades 6 and 8). The middle school survey continues to monitor the six categories of priority health-risk behaviors among youth and young adults: (1) unintentional and intentional injuries, (2) tobacco use, (3) alcohol and other drug use, (4) sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, (5) unhealthy dietary behaviors, and (6) physical inactivity (Kann et al, 1998). The Sarasota Middle School YRBS (MSYRBS) also included questions about demographics, delinquent behaviors, communication/relationship with parents/guardians, bullying, school climate, and self-reported grades. This survey contained 104 questions.

Data Collection

Each school conducted an inservice training for teachers describing the YRBS protocol for collecting data. Each student was also provided with passive consent forms to advise parents of the survey. An effort was made to survey all students enrolled in half of 6th and 8th grades. The teachers, in their respective subjects, then administered the self-reported questionnaire to students during a regular class period. Survey procedures have been designed to protect the students' privacy and allow for anonymous, voluntary participation. Standard electronic answer sheets ("bubble sheets") were used by students to record their responses. Data were then read by an optical scanner and analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The survey was administered during December 2005. Normally more middle school students complete the survey; however, this year *Community That Care® Youth Survey* (Channing Bete, 2003) was administered to half of sixth and eighth graders. This survey assesses risk and protective factors. The University of South Florida conducted secondary data analysis. Results from the *Community That Care® Youth Survey* were not

available in time for inclusion in this report. Thus, references are not made as were made in prior years.

Data Reporting

The data are reported using frequencies. When data are reported valid percentages are used. Original figures were rounded to the nearest integer to a maximum of one decimal place.

The Sarasota County data are a convenience sample, are not weighted, and **cannot** be generalized to Sarasota sixth and eighth graders. Convenience samples are not considered representative of the population. To be representative or generalized to the population as a whole a random sample must be drawn.

Frequencies are provided for the following:

1. All Sarasota County Youth (all grades, both genders)
2. All Sarasota County 6th Graders (both genders)
3. All Sarasota County 8th Graders (both genders)
4. All Sarasota County Males (all grades)
5. All Sarasota County Females (all grades)
6. All Sarasota County Students Reporting Earning Mostly As & Mostly As & Bs in School Assignments
7. All Sarasota County Students Reporting Earning Mostly Bs & Mostly Cs & Cs in School Assignments
8. All Sarasota County Students Reporting Earning Mostly Cs & Mostly Cs & Ds in School Assignments
9. All Sarasota County Students Reporting Earning Mostly Ds, Mostly Ds & Fs & Mostly Fs in School Assignments

REFERENCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (1998). Trends in sexual risk behaviors among high school students- United States, 1991-1997. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 280(21), 1819-1820.
- Channing Bete Co. (2003). *Communities That Care Youth Report: Sarasota County Middle School, 2003-04*. South Deerfield, MI.
- Florida Department of Education (January 2006). *Membership in Florida's Public Schools, Fall 2005*. Statistical Brief, Bureau of Education Information and Accountability Services, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Kann, L., Kinchen, S. A., Williams, B. I., Ross, J. G., Lowry, R., Grunbaum, J., Kolbe, L. J., & State and Local YRBSS Coordinators. (2000). Youth risk behavior surveillance-United States, 1999. *MMWR*, 49(SS-5), 1-63.
- Kann, L., Kinchen, S. A., Williams, B. I., Ross, J. G., Lowry, R., Hill, C., Grunbaum, J., Blumson, P., Collins, J. L., Kolbe, L., State and Local YRBSS Coordinators. (1998). Youth risk behavior surveillance-United States, 1997. *MMWR*, 47(SS-5), 1-89.

Major Findings

For key behavioral questions, a graph is provided that includes district data (both grades, both genders and, when available, district data from prior administrations.

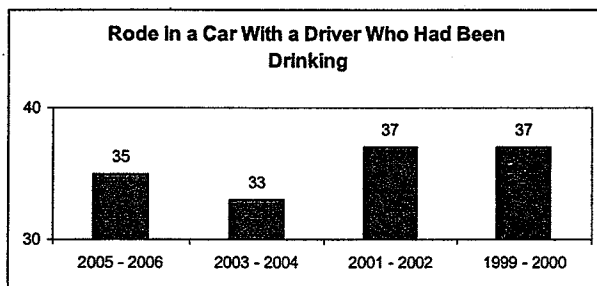
A narrative for each graph includes an overall statement, followed by specific percentages for males (both grades), females (both grades), 6th graders (both genders), and 8th graders (both genders). In addition, each graph is labeled as “Improved,” “Not improved,” “Increased,” or “Stayed the same” based on changes in proportions from 2003 – 2004 to 2005 – 2006.

Perceived General Health

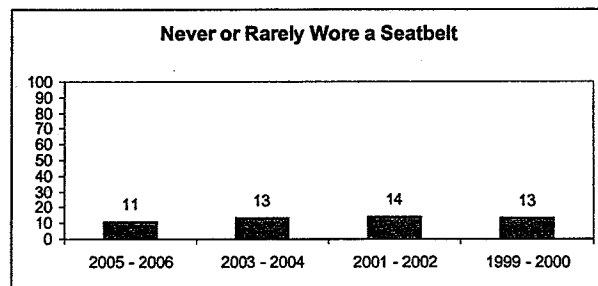
- 70% of students described their general health as very good or excellent; 70% of females, 71% of males, 73% of 6th graders, and 68% of 8th graders

Behaviors Contributing to Unintentional Injuries

- 35% of students rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol (compared to 33% in 2003 – 2004, 37% in 2001-2002, and 37% in 1999-2000); 36% of females, 34% of males, 27% of 6th graders, and 41% of 8th graders
- 11% of students never or rarely wore a seatbelt when riding in a car (compared to 13% in 2003 – 2004, 14% in 2001 – 2002, and 13% in 1999 – 2000); 10% of females, 13% of males, 7% of 6th graders, and 14% of 8th graders

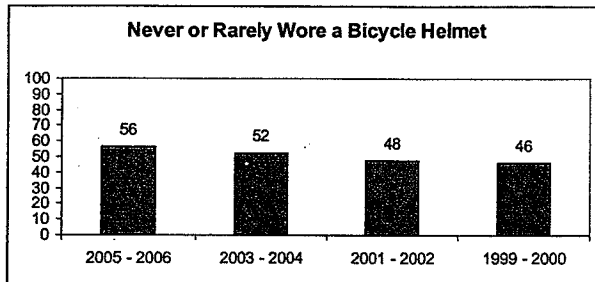


Not improved

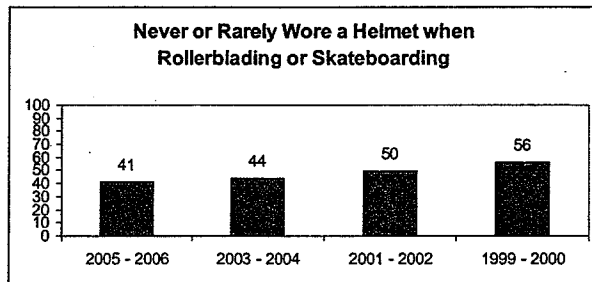


Improved

- 56% of students never or rarely wore a bicycle helmet (compared to 52% in 2003 – 2004, 48% in 2001-2002, and 46% in 1999-2000); 51% of females, 60% of males, 49% of 6th graders, and 60% of 8th graders
- 41% of students never or rarely wore a helmet when rollerblading or riding a skateboard (compared to 44% in 2003 – 2004, 50% in 2001 – 2002, and 56% in 1999 – 2000); 42% of females, 60% of males, 41% of 6th graders, and 41% of 8th graders



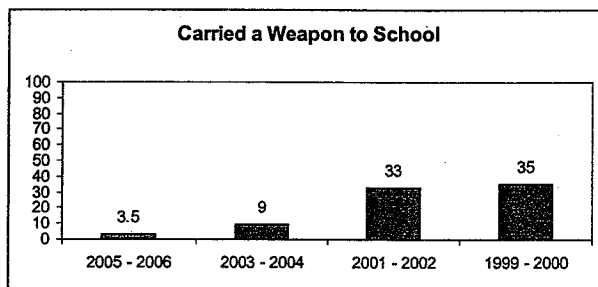
Not improved



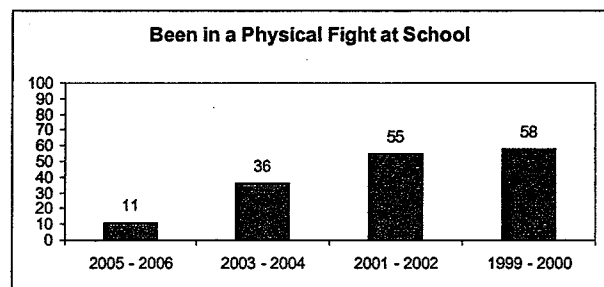
Improved

Behaviors Contributing to Intentional Injuries

- 3.5% of students had carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club (compared to 9% in 2003 – 2004, 33% in 2001-2002, 35% in 1999-2000); 2% of females, 6% of males, 2% of 6th graders, and 5% of 8th graders
- 11% of students had been in a physical fight (compared to 36% in 2003 – 2004, 55% in 2001-2002, and 58% in 1999-2000); 6% of females, 16% of males, 12% of 6th graders, and 9% of 8th graders



Improved



Improved

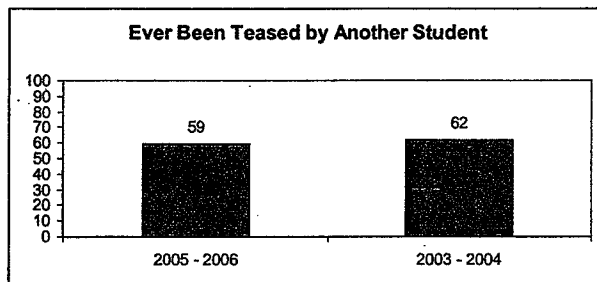
- 9% of students had been hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend; 6% of females, 12% of males, 8% of 6th graders, and 9% of 8th graders

Bullying Education

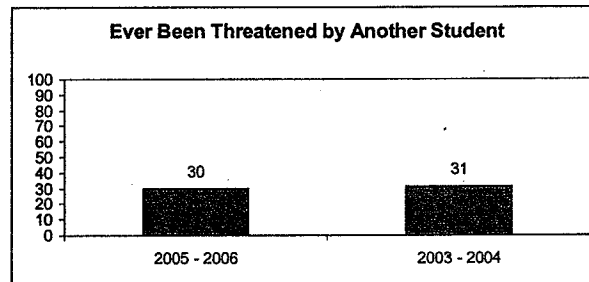
- 90% of students had been taught about not bullying at school; 93% of females, 87% of males, 90% of 6th graders, and 90% of 8th graders

Being Bullied (in past 30 days)

- 59% of students reported ever being *teased* or *called names* by another student (compared to 62% in 2003 – 2004); 58% of females, 59% of males, 59% of 6th graders, and 58% of 8th graders
- 30% of students reported being *threatened* by another student (compared to 31% in 2003 – 2004); 23% of females, 37% of males, 28% of 6th graders, and 31% of 8th graders

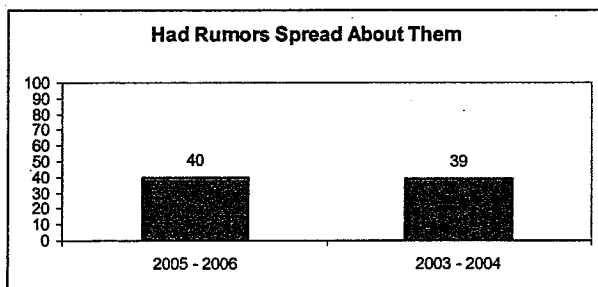


Improved

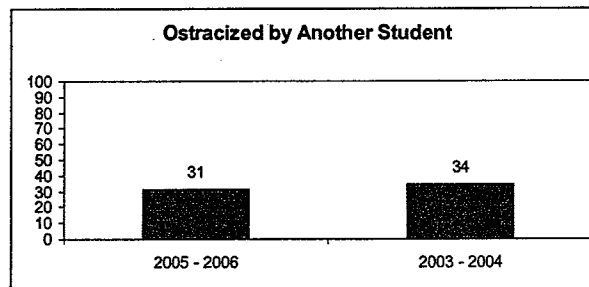


Improved

- 40% of students reported having other students *spread rumors* about them (compared to 39% in 2003 – 2004); 46% of females, 33% of males, 40% of 6th graders, and 40% of 8th graders
- 31% of students reported being *ostracized* by another student (compared to 34% in 2003 – 2004); 34% of females, 28% of males, 34% of 6th graders, and 30% of 8th graders

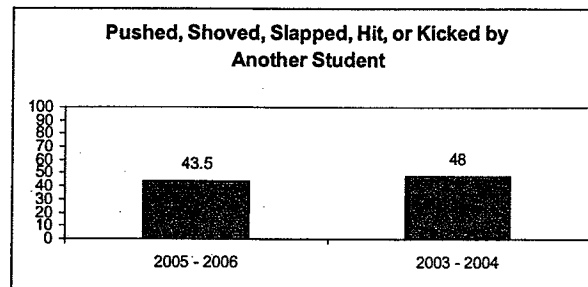


Not improved



Improved

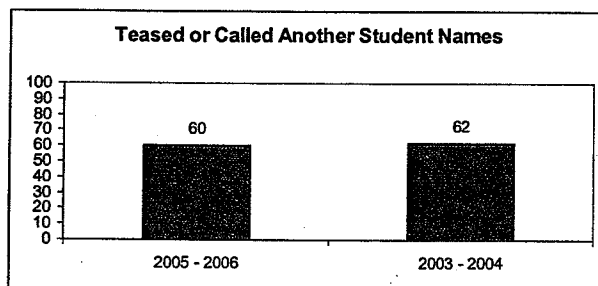
- 43.5% of students reported being *pushed, shoved, slapped, hit* or *kicked* by another student (compared to 48% in 2003 – 2004); 36% of females, 51% of males, 43% of 6th graders, and 44% of 8th graders



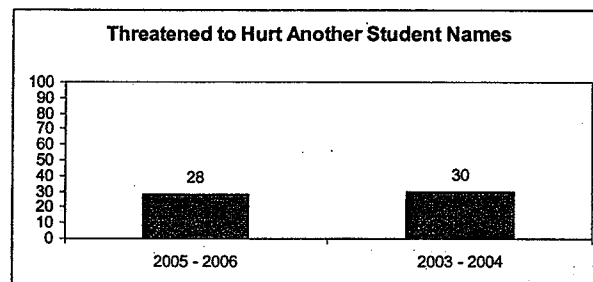
Improved

Bullying (in the past 30 days)

- 60% of students reported *teasing* or *calling* another student names (compared to 62% in 2003 – 2004); 57% of females, 63% of males, 54% of 6th graders, and 64% of 8th graders
- 28% of students reported *threatening to hit* or *hurt* another student (compared to 30% in 2003 – 2004); 24% of females, 32% of males, 21% of 6th graders, and 33% of 8th graders

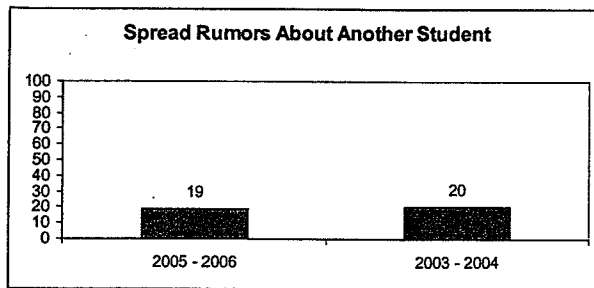


Improved

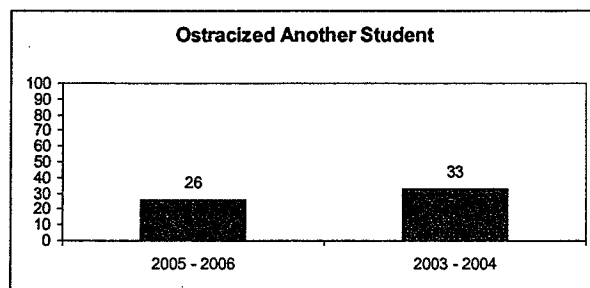


Improved

- 19% of students reported *spreading rumors* about another student (compared to 20% in 2003 – 2004); 20% of females, 17% of males, 18% of 6th graders, and 20% of 8th graders
- 26% of students reported *ostracizing* another student (compared to 33% in 2003 – 2004); 23% of females, 29% of males, 25% of 6th graders, and 27% of 8th graders

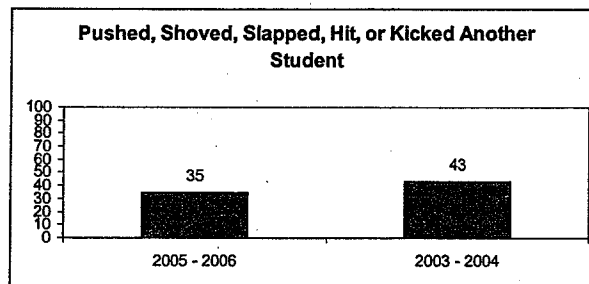


Improved



Improved

- 35% of students reported *shoving, slapping, hitting, or kicking* another student (compared to 43% in 2003 – 2004); 29% of females, 42% of males, 29% of 6th graders, and 40% of 8th graders



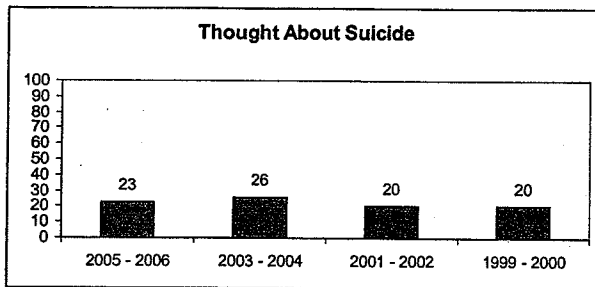
Improved

Cyberbullying

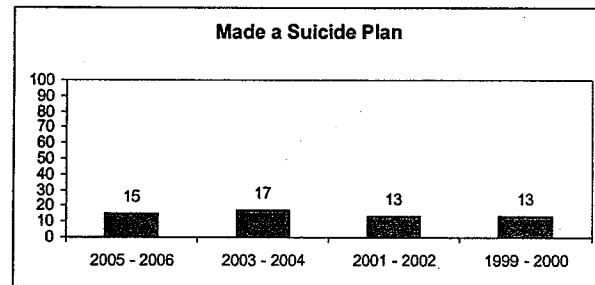
- 24% of students had ever been cyberbullied; 26% of females, 21% of males, 19% of 6th graders, and 27% of 8th graders
- 14% of students were the victim of cyberbullying during the 30 days prior to survey administration; 15% of females, 13% of males, 11% of 6th graders, and 16% of 8th graders
- 19% of students had ever cyberbullied someone else; 17% of females, 20% of males, 12% of 6th graders, and 23% of 8th graders
- 11.5% of students had cyberbullied someone else during the 30 days prior to survey administration; 11% of females, 12% of males, 7% of 6th graders, and 14% of 8th graders

Suicide Ideation

- 23% of students had seriously thought about killing themselves (compared to 26% in 2003 – 2004, 20% in 2001-2002, and 20% in 1999-2000); 25% of females, 21% of males, 18% of 6th graders, and 27% of 8th graders
- 15% of students had made a specific plan to kill themselves (compared to 17% in 2003 – 2004, 13% in 2001-2002, and 13% in 1999-2000); 16% of females, 14% of males, 11% of 6th graders, and 17% of 8th graders

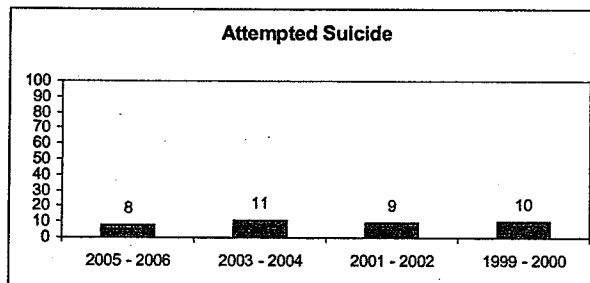


Improved



Improved

- 8% of students had actually tried to kill themselves (compared to 11% in 2003 – 2004, 9% in 2001-2002, and 10% in 1999-2000); 9% of females, 7% of males, 6% of 6th graders, and 10% of 8th graders



Improved

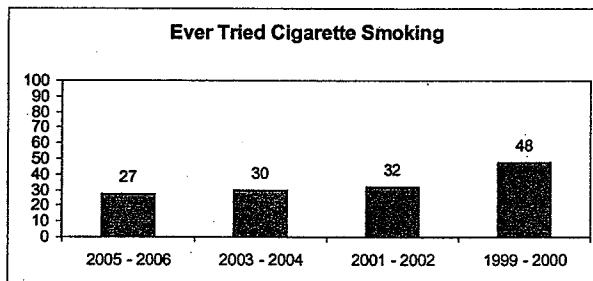
Self-injury

- 29% of students had ever hurt themselves on purpose (cutting, scratching, burning, not allowing wounds to heal, pinching); 32% of females, 24% of males, 28% of 6th graders, and 29% of 8th graders
- 15.5% of students had hurt themselves on purpose 1 time during the past month; 15% of females, 16% of males, 17% of 6th graders, and 14% of 8th graders

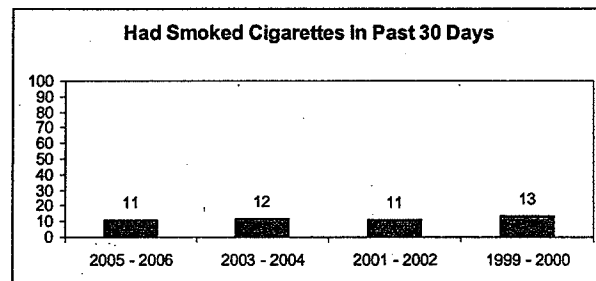
- 6% of students had hurt themselves 2 or 3 times during the past month; 7% of females, 5% of males, 5% of 6th graders, and 7% of 8th graders
- 2% of students had hurt themselves 4 or 5 different times during the past month; 2% of females, 1% of males, 1% of 6th graders, and 2% of 8th graders
- 4% of students had hurt themselves on purpose 6 or more different times during the past month; 4% of females, 4% of males, 3% of 6th graders, and 4% of 8th graders
- 48% of students said one or more of their friends had hurt themselves on purpose (cutting, scratching, burning, not allowing wounds to heal, pinching); 55% of females, 39% of males, 37% of 6th graders, 56% of 8th graders

Tobacco Use

- 27% of students had tried cigarette smoking (compared to 30% in 2003 – 2004, 32% in 2001-2002, and 48% in 1999-2000); 25% of females, 28% of males, 15% of 6th graders, and 35% of 8th graders
- 11% of students had smoked cigarettes on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey (current users) (compared to 12% in 2003 – 2004, 11% in 2001-2002, and 13% in 1999-2000); 11% of females, 11% of males, 5% of 6th graders, and 15% of 8th graders

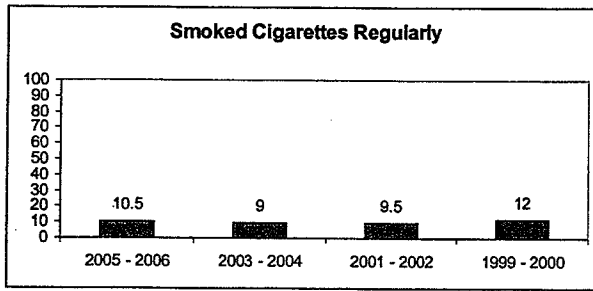


Improved

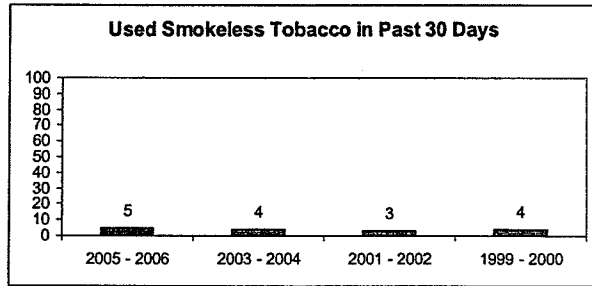


Improved

- 10.5% of students smoked cigarettes regularly, that is, at least one cigarette, every day for 30 days (compared to 9% in 2003 – 2004, 9.5% in 2001-2002, and 12% in 1999-2000); 9% of females, 11% of males, 6% of 6th graders, and 13% of 8th graders
- 5% of students had used smokeless tobacco on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey (compared to 4% in 2003 – 2004, 3% in 2001-2002, and 4% in 1999-2000); 3% of females, 7% of males, 3% of 6th graders, and 6% of 8th graders

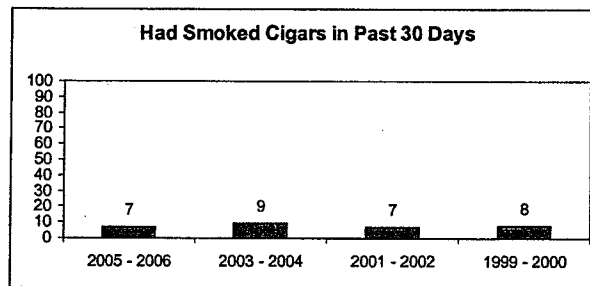


Not improved



Not improved

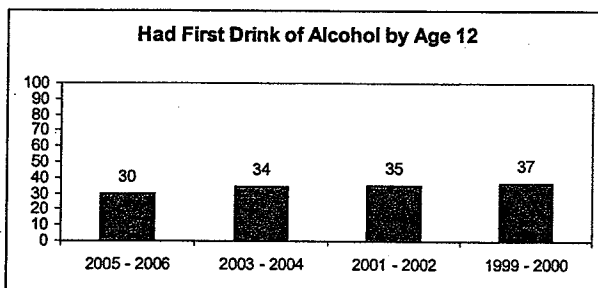
- 7% of students had smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars on one or more of the 30 days preceding the survey (compared to 9% in 2003 – 2004, 7% in 2001 – 2002, and 8% in 1999 – 2000); 7% of females, 8% of males, 4% of 6th graders, and 10% of 8th graders



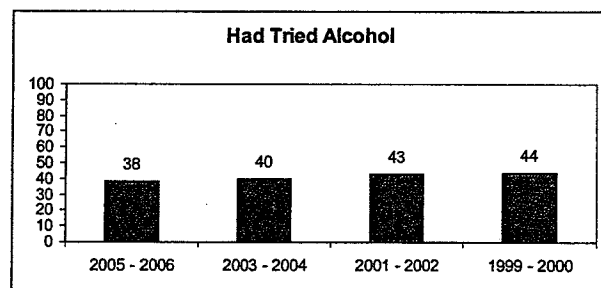
Improved

Alcohol Use

- 38% of students had ever had at least one drink of alcohol (other than a few sips) (compared to 40% in 2003 – 2004, 43% in 2001-2002; 44% in 1999-2000); 38% of females, 38% of males, 22% of 6th graders, and 50% of 8th graders
- 30% of students consumed their first drink of alcohol (other than a few sips) by age 12 (compared to 34% in 2003 – 2004, 35% in 2001-2002, and 37% in 1999-2000); 28% of females, 31% of males, 23% of 6th graders, and 35% of 8th graders

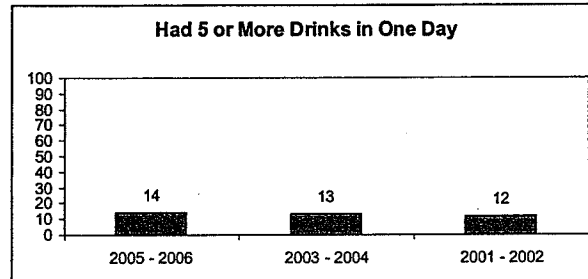


Improved



Improved

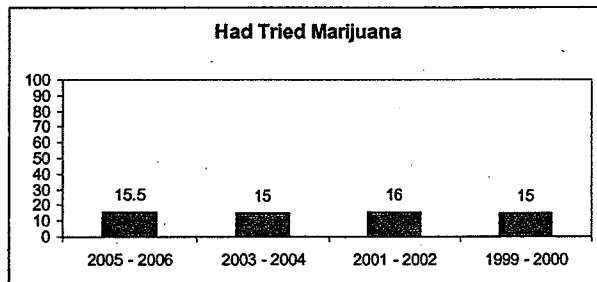
- 14% had 5 or more drinks of alcohol in one day within the past year (compared to 13% in 2003 – 2004 and 12% in 2001-2002); 14% of females, 14% of males, 8% of 6th graders, and 18% of 8th graders



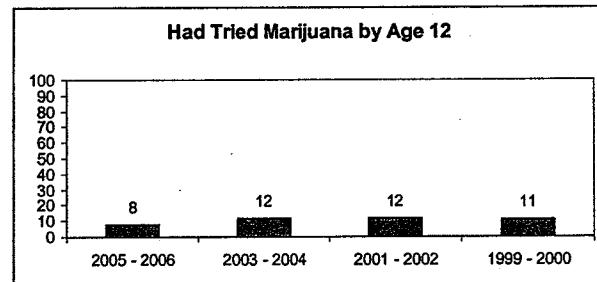
Not Improved

Marijuana Use

- 15.5% of students had used marijuana during their lifetime (compared to 15% in 2003 – 2004, 16% in 2001-2002, and 15% in 1999-2000); 14% of female, 17% of males, 7% of 6th graders, and 21% of 8th graders
- 8% of students had tried marijuana for the first time by the age of 12 (compared to 12% in 2003 – 2004, 12% in 2001-2002, and 11% in 1999-2000); 6% of females, 9% of males, 4% of 6th graders, and 10% of 8th graders



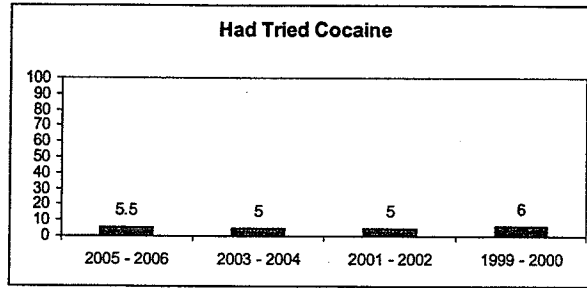
Not improved



Improved

Cocaine Use

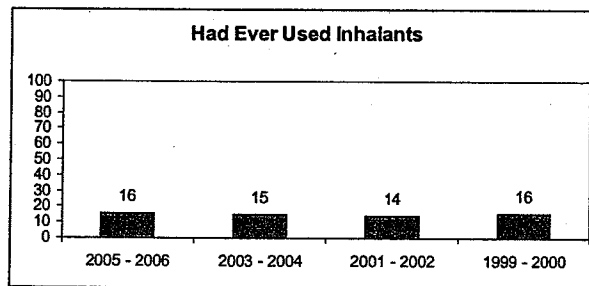
- 5.5% of students had used some form of cocaine during their lifetime (compared to 5% in 2003 – 2004, 5% in 2001-2002, and 6% in 1999-2000); 5% of females, 6% of males, 3% of 6th graders, and 7% of 8th graders



Not improved

Inhalant Use

- 16% of students had used inhalants to get high during their lifetime (compared to 15% in 2003 – 2004, 14% in 2001-2002, and 16% in 1999-2000); 16% of females, 15% of males, 13% of 6th graders, and 18% of 8th graders



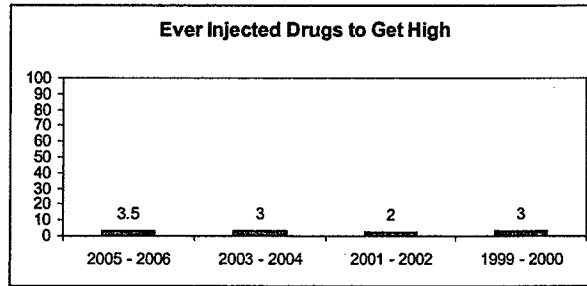
Not Improved

Prescription or Over-the-Counter Drug Use

- 6% of students had used prescription drugs or over the counter medicine to get high; 5% of females, 6% of males, 2% of 6th graders, and 8% of 8th graders.

Injecting Drug Use

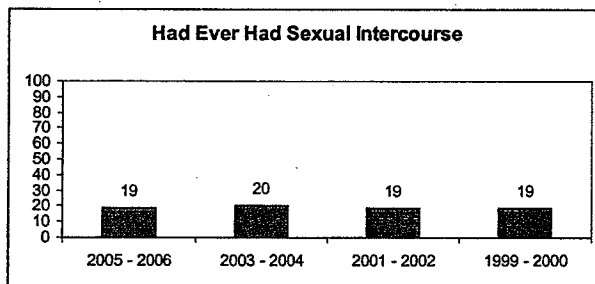
- 3.5% of students had injected illegal drugs into their body during their lifetime (compared to 3% in 2003 – 2004, 2% in 2001-2002, and 3% in 1999-2000); 2% of females, 4% of males, 2% of 6th graders, and 4% of 8th graders



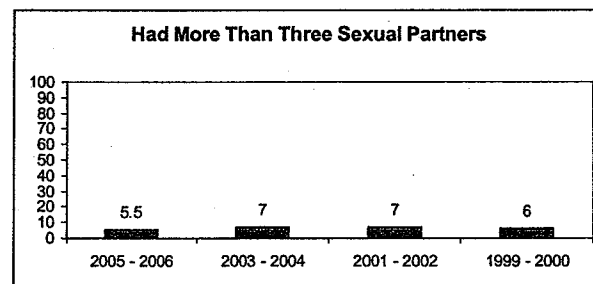
Not Improved

Sexual Behaviors

- 19% of students had sexual intercourse during their lifetime (compared to 20% in 2003 – 2004, 19% in 2001-2002 and 1999-2000); 15% of females, 23% of males, 10% of 6th graders, and 26% of 8th graders
- 5.5% of students had three or more sex partners during their lifetime (compared to 7% in 2003 – 2004, 7% in 2001-2002, and 6% in 1999-2000); 3% of females, 8% of males, 2% of 6th graders, and 8% of 8th graders

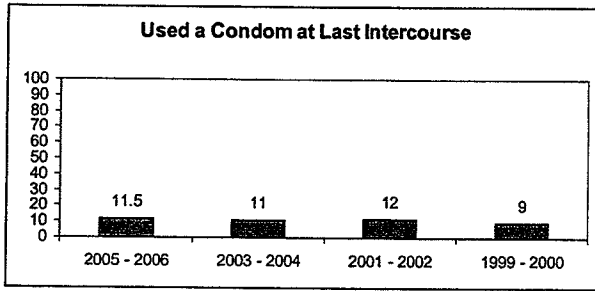


Improved

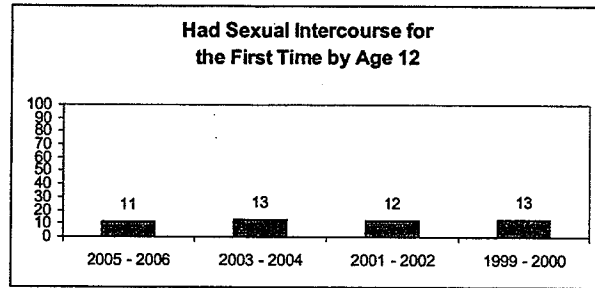


Improved

- 11.5% of students used a condom during last sexual intercourse (compared to 11% in 2003 – 2004, 12% in 2001-2002, and 9% in 1999-2000); 10% of females, 13% of males, 5% of 6th graders, and 16% of 8th graders
- 11% of students had sexual intercourse for the first time by the age of 12 (compared to 13% in 2003 – 2004, 12% in 2001-2002, and 13% in 1999-2000); 7% of females, 14% of males, 7% of 6th graders, and 13% of 8th graders



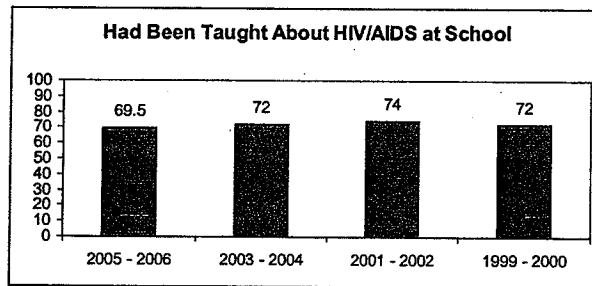
Improved



Improved

HIV Infection or AIDS Education

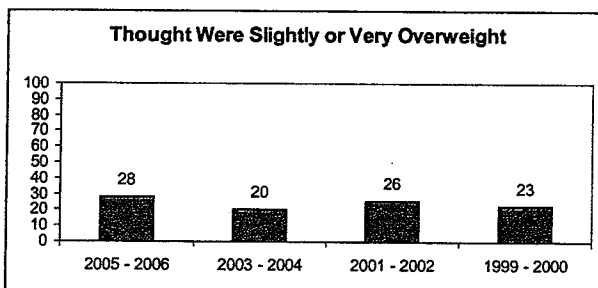
- 69.5% of students had been taught about HIV infection or AIDS in school (compared to 72% in 2003 – 2004, 74% in 2001-2002, and 72% in 1999-2000); 68% of females, 71% of males, 52% of 6th graders, and 82% of 8th graders



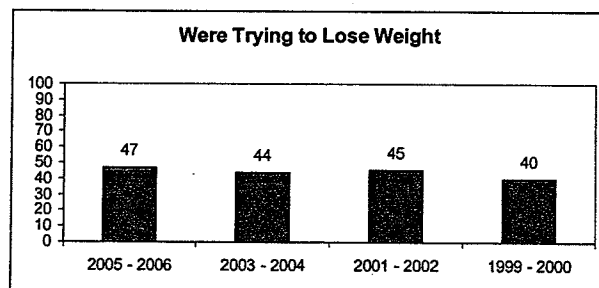
Improved

Body Weight

- 28% of students thought they were slightly or very overweight (compared to 20% in 2003 – 2004, 26% in 2001-2002, and 23% in 1999-2000); 20% of females, 21% of males, 23% of 6th graders, and 19% of 8th graders
- 47% of students were trying to lose weight (compared to 44% in 2003 – 2004, 45% in 2001-2002, and 40% in 1999-2000); 55% of females, 38% of males, 45% of 6th graders, and 49% of 8th graders

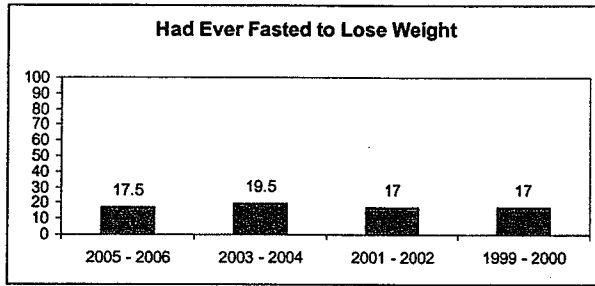


Increased

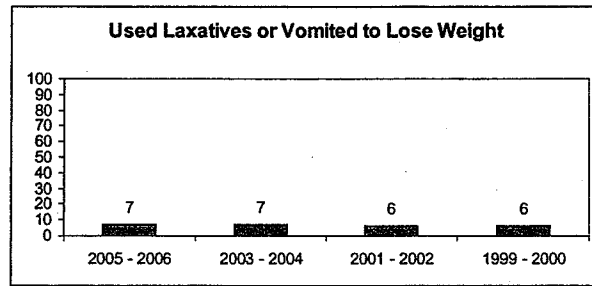


Increased

- 17.5% of students did not eat for 24 hours or more (fasting) to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight (compared to 19.5% in 2003 – 2004, 17% in 2001-2002 and 1999-2000); 22% of females, 12% of males, 15% of 6th graders, and 19% of 8th graders
- 7% of students had taken laxatives or vomited to lose weight or to control weight gain (compared to 7% in 2003 – 2004, 6% in 2001-2002 and 1999-2000); 8% of females, 5% of males, 5% of 6th graders, and 8% of 8th graders



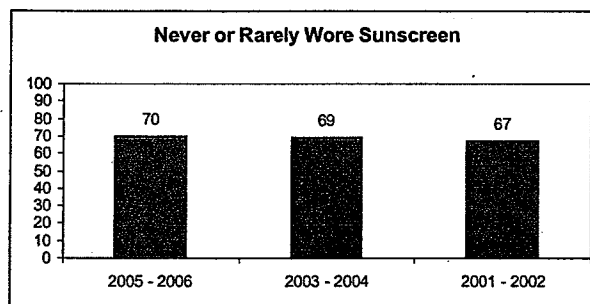
Improved



Stayed the same

Sun Exposure

- 70% of students never or rarely wore sunscreen or sun block when they were outside for more than one hour (compared to 69% in 2003 – 2004 and 67% in 2001 – 2002); 64% of females, 77% of males, 61% of 6th graders, and 77% of 8th graders



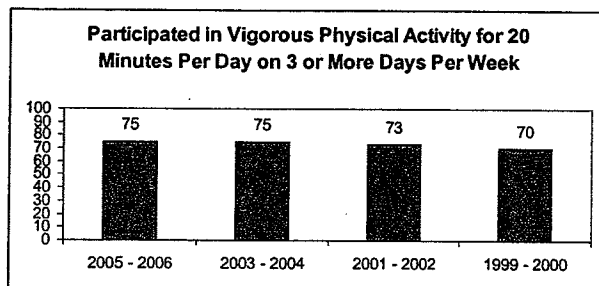
Not improved

Physical Activity

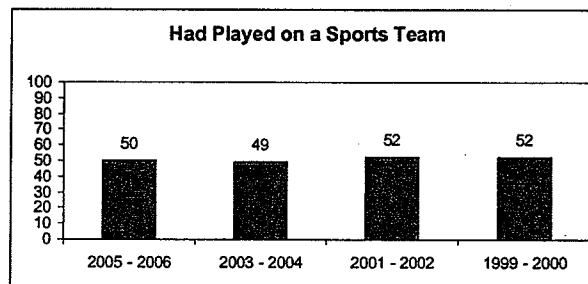
- 75% of students had participated in vigorous physical activity for at least 20 minutes on three or more days of the seven days preceding the survey (compared to 75% in 2003 – 2004, 73% in 2001-2002, and 70% in 1999-

2000); 71% of females, 79% of males, 77% of 6th graders, and 73% of 8th graders

- 50% of students had played on a sports team (compared to 49% in 2003 – 2004, 52% in 2001-2002 and 1999-2000); 46% of females, 54% of males, 51% of 6th graders, and 49% of 8th graders

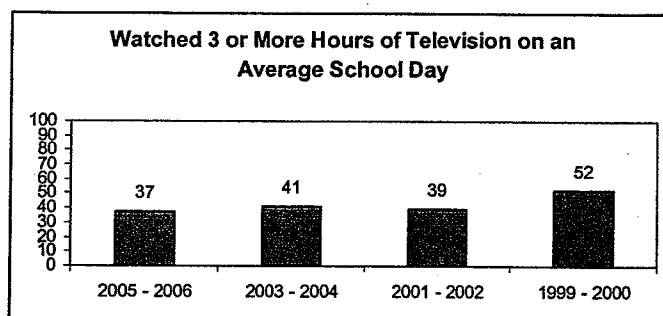


Stayed the same

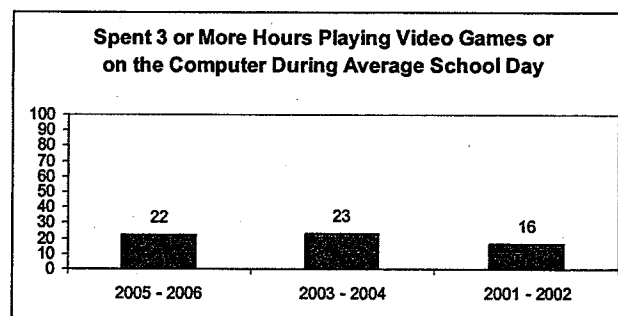


Improved

- 37% of students watched 3 or more hours of television on an average school day (compared to 41% in 2003 – 2004, 39% in 2001-2002, and 52% in 1999-2000); 37% of females, 37% of males, 33% of 6th graders, and 40% of 8th graders
- 22% of students spent 3 or more hours playing video games or using a computer for fun (compared to 23% in 2003 – 2004 and 16% in 2001 – 2002); 17% of females, 28% of males, 19% of 6th graders, and 25% of 8th graders



Improved

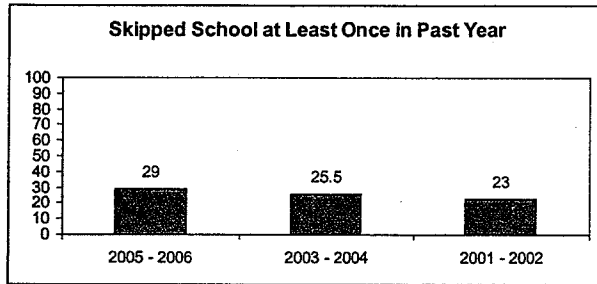


Improved

- 42.5% of students did not go to physical education (PE) classes during an average school week; 46% of females, 38% of males, 39% of 6th graders, and 45% of 8th graders
- 31% of students spent five days out of the average school week in physical education (PE) classes; 28% of females, 36% of males, 31% of 6th graders, and 32% of 8th graders

Delinquent Behaviors

- 29% of students skipped school 1 or more times since school started (compared to 25.5% in 2003 – 2004 and 23% in 2001-2002); 28% of females, 29% of males, 22% of 6th graders, and 33% of males
- 16% of students shoplifted within the past year (compared to 20% in 2003 – 2004 and 16% in 2001-2002); 15% of females, 17% of males, 9% of 6th graders, and 21% of 8th graders

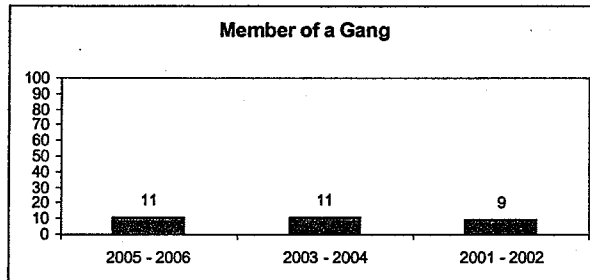


Not improved



Improved

- 11% report being a gang member (compared to 11% in 2003 – 2004 and 9% in 2001-2002); 8% of females, 12% of males, 7% of 6th graders, and 12% of 8th graders



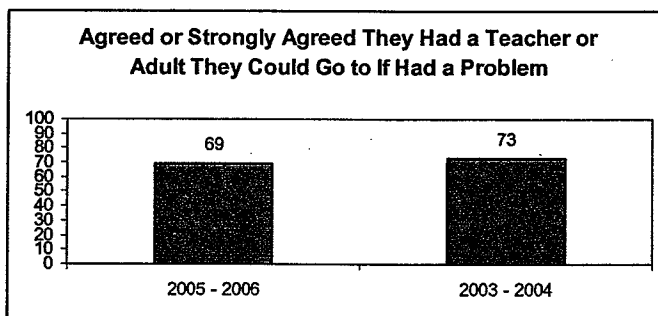
Stayed the same

Grades

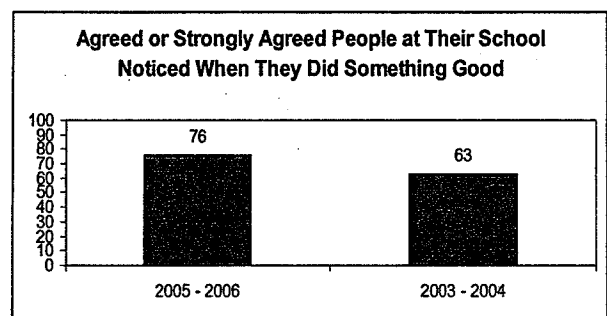
- 67% reported getting mostly As, and mostly As and Bs on school assignments; 72% of females, 61% of males, 74% of 6th graders, and 62% of 8th graders
- 23% reported getting mostly Bs, and mostly Bs and Cs on school assignments; 20% of females, 27% of males, 19% of 6th graders, and 27% of 8th graders
- 7% reported getting mostly Cs, and mostly Cs and Ds on school assignments; 7% of females, 8% of males, 6% of 6th graders, and 8% of 8th graders
- 2% reported getting mostly Ds, and mostly Ds and Fs on school assignments; 2% of females, 2% of males, 1% of 6th graders, and 2% of 8th graders
- 1% reported getting mostly Fs on school assignments; .5% of females, 2% of males, .44% of 6th graders, and 1% of 8th graders

School Climate

- 69% of students agreed or strongly agreed there was at least 1 teacher or adult at school they could talk with if they had a problem (compared to 73% in 2003 – 2004); 69% of females, 70% of males, 76% of 6th graders, and 65% of 8th graders
- 76% of students agreed or strongly agreed people at their school noticed when they were good at something (compared to 63% in 2003 – 2004); 75% of females, 77% of males, 80% of 6th graders, and 73% of 8th graders

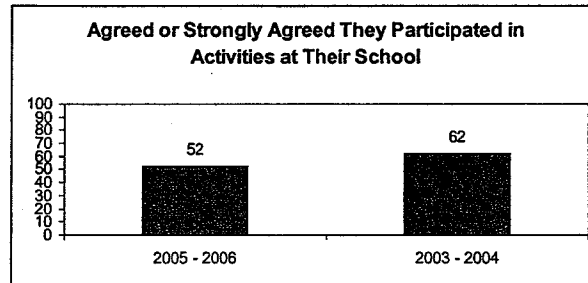


Not improved



Improved

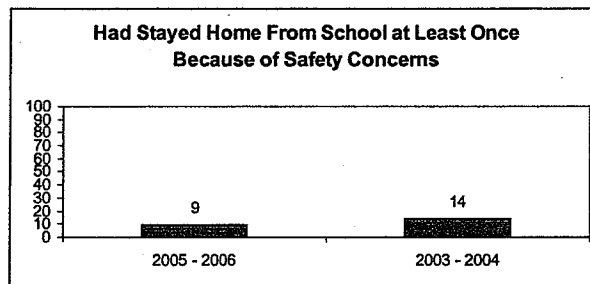
- 52% of students agreed or strongly agreed they participated in activities at their school (compared to 62% in 2003 – 2004); 52% of females, 51% of males, 48% of 6th graders, and 54% of 8th graders



Not improved

Perceived School Safety

- 9% of students did not go to school during the 30 days prior to survey administration because they felt they would be unsafe at school or on their way home from school (compared to 14% in 2003 – 2004); 9% of females, 9% of males, 10% of 6th graders, and 8% of 8th graders



Improved

Youth Risk Behaviors by Grades on School Assignments

	<i>Mostly As Mostly As & Bs</i> (n=1070)	<i>Mostly Bs Mostly Bs & Cs</i> (n=375)	<i>Mostly Cs Mostly Cs & Ds</i> (n=119)	<i>Mostly Ds Mostly Ds & Fs Mostly Fs</i> (n=43)
Described general health as very good or excellent	77%	64%	45%	50%
Students who ever rode in a car with someone who had been drinking alcohol	31%	36%	56%	61%
Students who never or rarely wore a seatbelt	8%	15%	23%	36%
Students who never or rarely wore a bicycle helmet	51%	62%	69%	79%
Students who never or rarely wore a helmet while rollerblading or skateboarding	37%	44%	54%	65%
Students who reported carrying a weapon to school in the past 30 days	2%	3%	7%	26%
Students who had been in a physical fight at school in past 30 days	8%	13%	19%	33%
Students who had been physically hurt by a partner on purpose	7%	9%	15%	29%
Students who had been taught about bullying at school	91%	89%	86%	77%
Students who were teased or called names in past 30 days	57%	64%	63%	51%
Students who were threatened by another	27%	36%	36%	51%
Students who had rumors spread about them in past 30 days	37%	46%	47%	47%
Students who had been ostracized in past 30 days	31%	31%	33%	29%
Students who had been pushed, shoved, slapped, hit, or kicked on purpose in past 30 days	40%	49%	53%	53%
Students who had teased another student in past 30 days	55%	68%	70%	73%
Students who had threatened to hit or hurt another student in past 30 days	23%	33%	42%	60%

	<i>Mostly As Mostly As & Bs</i> (n=1070)	<i>Mostly Bs Mostly Bs & Cs</i> (n=375)	<i>Mostly Cs Mostly Cs & Ds</i> (n=119)	<i>Mostly Ds Mostly Ds & Fs Mostly Fs</i> (n=43)
Students who had spread rumors about another student in past 30 days	17%	20%	30%	35%
Students who had ostracized another student in past 30 days	23%	30%	30%	60%
Students who had shoved, slapped, hit, or kicked another student in past 30 days	30%	44%	47%	63%
Students who had been cyberbullied	21%	26%	29%	48%
Students who were victims of cyberbullying at least once during past 30 days	11%	18%	19%	33%
Students who had cyberbullied someone else	16%	21%	26%	51%
Students who cyberbullied someone else at least once in past 30 days	10%	11%	14%	40%
Students who reported seriously thought about attempting suicide in the past 12 months	18%	28%	42%	40%
Students who reported planning to commit suicide in the past 12 months	11%	20%	29%	33%
Students who reported actually attempting suicide in the past 12 months	6%	9%	15%	26%
Students who had self-injured on purpose	24%	35%	41%	50%
Students who self-injured at least once during past 30 days	22%	32%	41%	40%
Students who knew of a friend who self-injured	44%	53%	61%	62%
Students who reported trying smoking (lifetime use)	19%	36%	52%	64%
Students who smoked cigarettes during past 30 days	8%	12%	31%	50%
Students who smoked at least 1 cigarette daily every day for 30 days (lifetime daily cigarette use)	9%	10%	16%	44%
Students who reported using chewing tobacco 1 or more times in the past 30 days	4%	5%	7%	29%
Students who reported smoking a cigar on 1 or more days in the past 30 days	5%	8%	15%	37%

	<i>Mostly As Mostly As & Bs</i> (n=1070)	<i>Mostly Bs Mostly Bs & Cs</i> (n=375)	<i>Mostly Cs Mostly Cs & Ds</i> (n=119)	<i>Mostly Ds Mostly Ds & Fs Mostly Fs</i> (n=43)
Students who reported have had at least 1 drink of alcohol	31%	45%	61%	79%
Students who had consumed their first drink of alcohol by age 12	30%	35%	44%	70%
Students who had 5 or more drinks in a row on 1 or more days in the past year (binge drinking)	10%	17%	32%	40%
Students who reported using marijuana (lifetime use)	12%	18%	31%	48%
Students who had tried marijuana for the first time by age 12	5%	9%	17%	35%
Students who reported having used cocaine (lifetime use)	4%	5%	8%	36%
Students who reported using inhalants to get high 1 or more times in their life (lifetime inhalant use)	11%	21%	29%	49%
Students who reported using prescription drugs or over the counter medicine to get high (lifetime use)	4%	7%	13%	33%
Students who reported injecting drugs into their body in their lifetime	3%	2%	5%	31%
Sarasota youth who reported having had sexual intercourse (ever had sexual intercourse)	13%	26%	34%	58%
Students who reported having sexual intercourse with 3 or more people during their life	4%	5%	12%	34%
Students who reported using a condom during last sexual intercourse	7%	19%	19%	22%
Students who reported having been taught about HIV infection or AIDS in school	69%	74%	71%	52%
Students who described themselves as <i>very</i> or <i>slightly</i> overweight	26%	29%	35%	35%
Students who reported trying to lose weight	45%	52%	48%	52%
Students who reported fasting for 24 hours to lose weight or keep from gaining weight	14%	22%	30%	38%

	<i>Mostly As Mostly As & Bs</i> (n=1070)	<i>Mostly Bs Mostly Bs & Cs</i> (n=375)	<i>Mostly Cs Mostly Cs & Ds</i> (n=119)	<i>Mostly Ds Mostly Ds & Fs Mostly Fs</i> (n=43)
Students who reported taking laxatives or vomiting to lose or control weight gain	6%	7%	9%	28%
Students who reported never or rarely wearing sunscreen or sun block when they were outside for more than one hour	65%	79%	86%	86%
Students who reported participating in vigorous physical activity for at least 20 minutes on 3 or more days of the past week	76%	74%	68%	56%
Students who reported having played on a sports team	56%	39%	35%	54%
Students who reported watching 3 or more hours of television on an average school day	34%	43%	38%	59%
Students who reported spending 3 or more hours playing video games or using a computer for fun	20%	24%	27%	42%
Students who reported not going to PE classes during an average school week	44%	38%	41%	47%
Students who reported spending five days out of the average school week in physical education (PE) classes	30%	37%	26%	37%
Students who reported skipping school 1 or more times since school started this year	24%	34%	46%	55%
Students who reported shoplifting within the past year	10%	21%	36%	53%
Students who reported being a gang member	7%	14%	16%	44%
Students who reported not going to school during past 30 days because they felt they would be unsafe at school or on their way home from school	7%	10%	12%	31%