

OKLAHOMA YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY 2007

Injury and Violence

This issue summarizes a variety of data encompassing behaviors that result in intentional and unintentional injuries. **Helmet use-** Head injury is the leading cause of death in bicycle crashes. Helmet use has proven to be the most effective means of reducing fatalities, head injuries, and serious upper and mid-facial injuries. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that approximately 56% of bicycling deaths, and 65-88% of traumatic brain injuries may be prevented by helmet use.¹ **Seatbelt use-** Automobile accidents kill more youth aged 15-19 in the U.S. than any other cause. The frequency of safety belt use is important to ascertain because when used, they reduce fatal injuries to the front seat passenger by 45%. Seatbelts also reduce the risk of moderate-to-critical injuries by 50%.¹ **Physical Violence-** In the U.S. in 2004, 84% of homicide victims were killed with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club.¹ In 2005, 36% of U.S. high school students were involved in a physical fight and 14% had done so on school property one or more times in the previous 12 months. Also in 2005, 9% of high school students had been hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend in the 12 months preceding the survey. Forced sexual intercourse occurred in 8% of U.S. high school students in 2005.¹

Volume 1 Issue 6

2007 YRBS Findings:

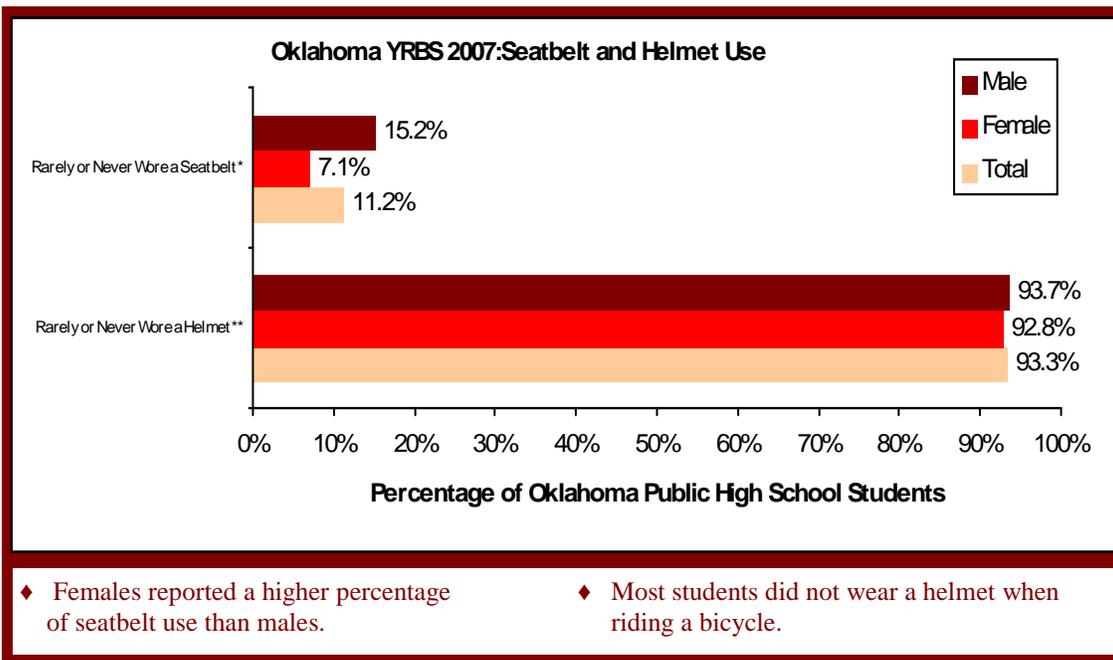
Over 90% of students did not wear a helmet when riding a bike.

Over 88% of students wore a seatbelt when riding in a car driven by someone else.

Over one-third of all males carried a weapon.

Just over 25% of males had property damaged or stolen on school property.

Over 13% of 12th grade females had been physically forced to have sexual intercourse.



*When riding in a car driven by someone else

**Who rode a bicycle during the past 12 months

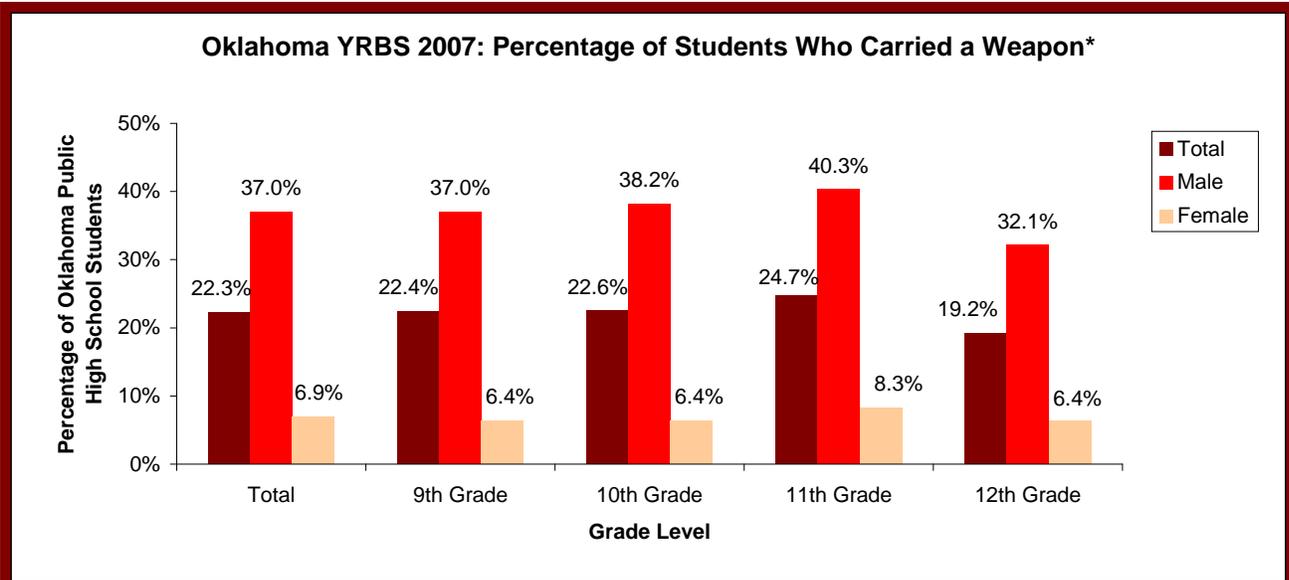


Oklahoma State
Department of Health
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The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was developed by the Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH), National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The YRBS is administered to students in grades 9-12 who attend Oklahoma public high schools. The survey is administered every odd year. It serves to monitor risk behaviors among adolescents that are the leading contributors of mortality, morbidity, and social problems among youth and adults. The behaviors covered in the YRBS fall into six categories: intentional and unintentional injury, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual behaviors, dietary behaviors and physical activity.⁴ All data are self-reported. Data in this report were provided by the CDC. The data in this report are statistically weighted to represent all Oklahoma public high school students. The results presented reflect observed rates and do not necessarily represent statistically significant differences.

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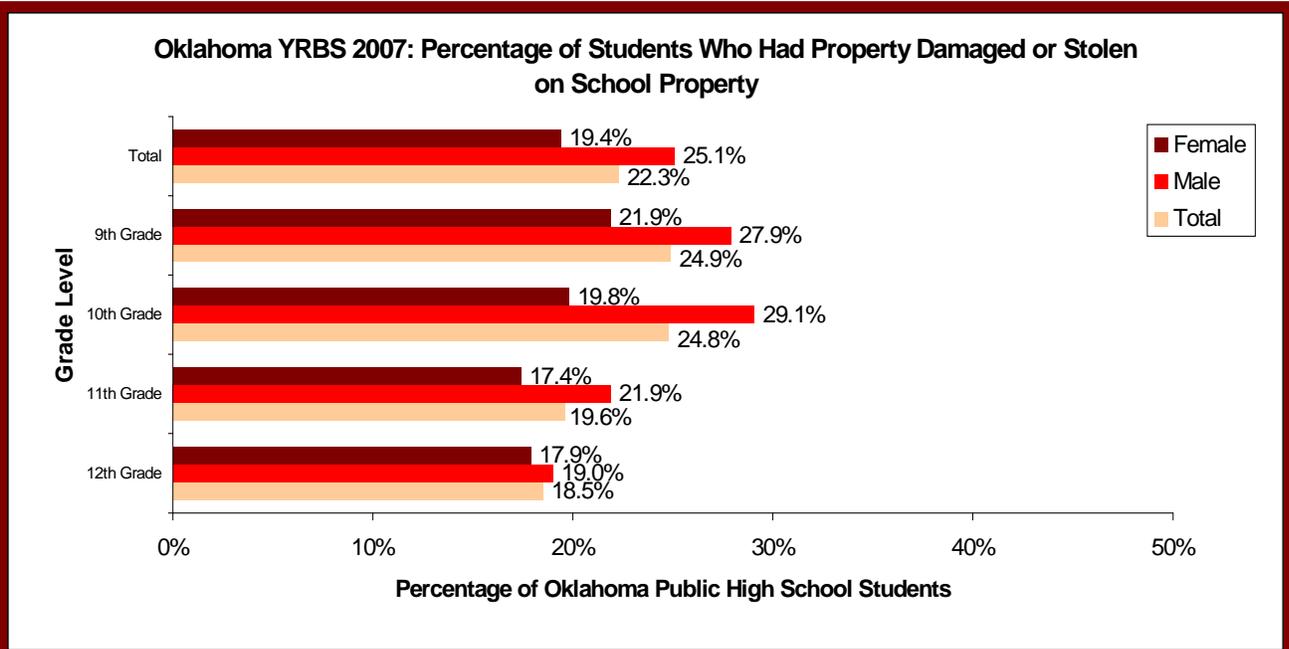
Oklahoma YRBS 2007 Results for Injury and Violence



◆ Eleventh grade males reported the highest percentage of having carried a weapon.

◆ Over one-third of all males had carried a weapon.

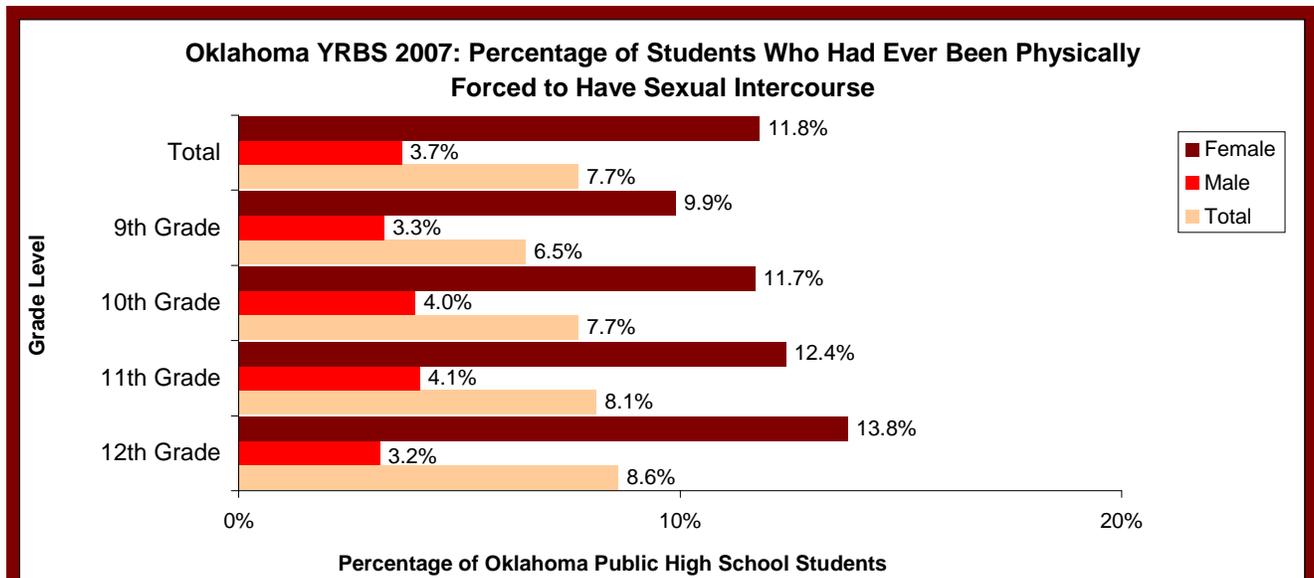
* Such as a gun, knife or club



◆ Over one-fifth of students reported they had property damaged or stolen on school property.

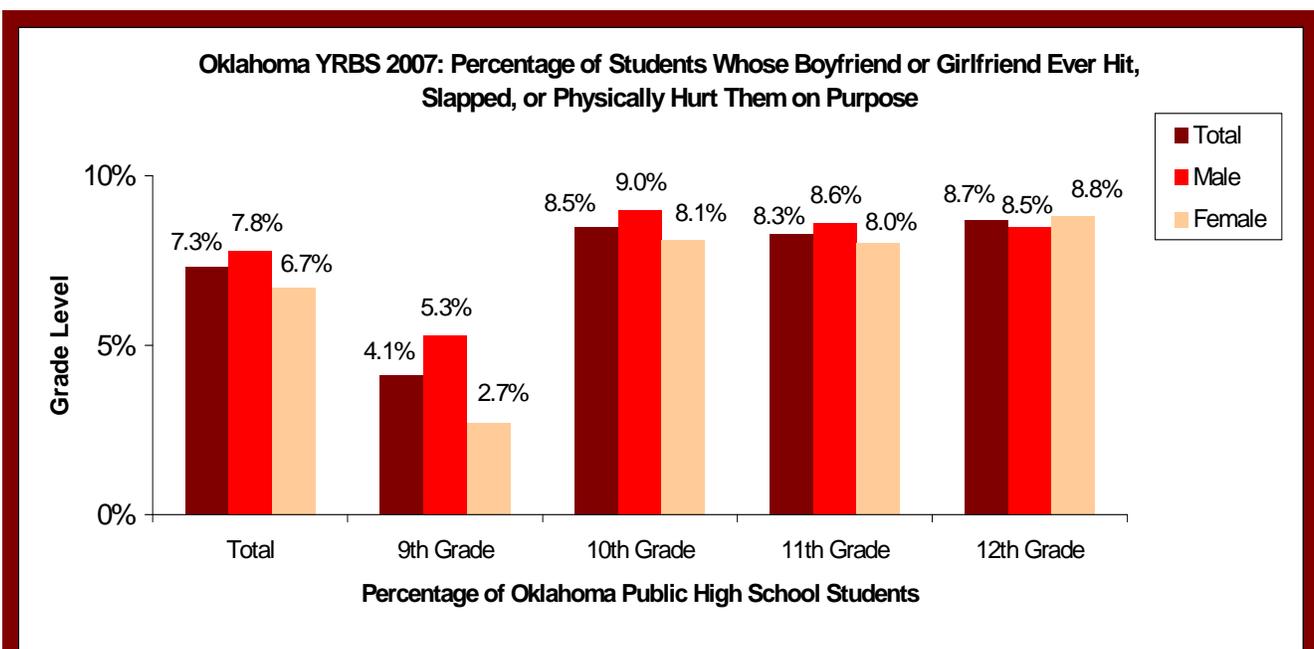
◆ Tenth grade males reported the highest percentage of having their property stolen or damaged than any other grade of males or females of any grade.

Oklahoma YRBS 2007 Results for Injury and Violence



◆ Females reported higher percentages of being forced to have sexual intercourse than males.

◆ Compared to other grades, twelfth graders reported the highest percentage of being forced to have sexual intercourse.



◆ Tenth grade males reported the highest percentage of ever being hit, slapped, or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend.

◆ Ninth grade females reported the lowest percentage of ever being hit, slapped, or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend.

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Summary Table

SURVEY QUESTION	National % 2007	OK % 2007	GENDER %		GRADE %				Trends %		
			M	F	9	10	11	12	2003	2005	2007
Students who rode a bicycle during the past 12 months and never or rarely wore a bicycle helmet	85.1	93.3	93.7	92.8	91.6	95.5	93.2	93.2	92.8	93.2	93.3
Students who never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else	11.1	11.2	15.2	7.1	10.5	9.1	14.3	11.3	11.1	9.5	11.2
Students who carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on one or more of the past 30 days	18.0	23.3	37.0	6.9	22.4	22.6	24.7	19.2	21.8	18.9	22.3
Students who carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property on one or more of the past 30 days	5.9	9.0	14.8	3.0	7.8	11.0	10.4	6.5	8.0	7.0	9.0
Students who did not go to school on one or more of the past 30 days because they felt they would be unsafe at school or on their way to or from school	5.5	5.1	4.4	5.7	7.0	6.5	3.3	2.5	4.1	3.0	5.1
Students who had either been threatened or injured with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property one or more times during the past 12 months	7.8	7.0	9.9	4.0	8.0	7.8	6.5	5.0	7.4	6.0	7.0
Students who had property, such as their car, clothing, or books stolen or deliberately damaged on school property one or more times during the past 12 months	27.1	22.3	25.1	19.4	24.9	24.8	19.6	18.5	25.1	24.4	22.3
Students who were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months	35.5	29.2	39.2	18.6	29.4	34.2	25.5	26.4	28.4	31.1	29.2
Students who were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months in which they were injured and had to be treated by a doctor or nurse	4.2	3.6	5.3	1.7	4.0	4.5	2.7	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.6
Students who were in a physical fight on school property one or more times during the past 12 months	12.4	10.6	15.4	5.4	14.1	11.8	5.7	9.5	11.4	12.1	10.6
Percentage of students who were ever hit, slapped, or physically hurt on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend during the past 12 months	9.9	7.3	7.8	6.7	4.1	8.5	8.3	8.7	9.5	8.8	7.3
Students who had ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	7.8	7.7	3.7	11.8	6.5	7.7	8.7	8.6	8.2	7.2	7.7

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2007). *Handbook for Conducting Youth Risk Behavior Surveys 2007*. Division of Adolescent and School Health.