

YOUTH INJURY AND VIOLENCE

HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY

Washington State Healthy Youth Survey Facts

- More than 200,000 students participate across the state, representing all 39 counties
- Questions ask about risk for injury, health outcomes, alcohol and drug use.
- Results are used by communities to support youth and reduce risks.

More info available at: www.askhys.net

Island County Facts

Represented School Districts *

Oak Harbor
Coupeville
South Whidbey

Survey Response Rates

6th Grade: 83%
8th Grade: 84%
10th Grade: 80%
12th Grade: 61%

*Camano Island youth are reported as part of the Stanwood School District in Snohomish County

UNINTENTIONAL INJURY	6th Graders	8th Graders	10th Graders	12th Graders
Recently drove a vehicle after drinking alcohol	~	2.8%	3.1%	5.6%
Recently rode in a car with someone who had been drinking alcohol	15.7%**	12.3%	16.7%	11.2%
Uses a bike helmet "most of the time" or "always"	50%	32.2%	20.1%	20.2%
Uses a lifejacket more than half the time	~	55.3%	53.1%	50.8%
** 6th grade students were asked if they have "ever" ridden in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol				
WEAPONS	6th Graders	8th Graders	10th Graders	12th Graders
Accessing a handgun would be "easy" or "sort of easy"	~	10.6%	18.8%	21.9%
Recently carried a weapon on school property	4%	6.1%	4.9%	2.9%
Recently carried a weapon for self-protection	~	7.5%	10.2%	5.5%
CONFLICT AND ABUSE	6th Graders	8th Graders	10th Graders	12th Graders
Involved in a physical fight in the past year	24%	27.8%	13.8%	17.5%
Member of a gang in the past year	~	5.4%	4.9%	4.9%
Recently been bullied	34.6%	31%	22.5%	16.9%
Recently been bullied because of race, ethnicity, or national origin	~	14.6%	9.4%	6.7%
Recently been bullied because someone thought you were gay, lesbian, or bisexual	~	11.8%	7.0%	4.2%
Threatened or felt unsafe by a boy/girlfriend	~	7.2%	5.8%	9.9%
Physically hurt by a boy/girlfriend	~	10.4%	5.4%	6.7%
Physically abused by an adult	~	19.8%	17%	16%

"Recently" = Within the last 30 days ~ = Question was not asked to these students

We are extremely appreciative for the participation of all our Island County School Districts in the Healthy Youth Survey. Their participation allows us to report on the current health status of our youth and track trends over time.

For more information about Island Counts or this Fact Sheet, contact :
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Island County
Public Health

YOUTH INJURY AND VIOLENCE

HEALTHY
YOUTH
SURVEY

WHAT WE CAN DO

ISLAND COUNTY STATISTIC

65% of deaths in children and youth are from **unintentional injury**.¹

YOUTH

- Never drink and drive.
- Never ride with someone who has been drinking.
- Wear a seatbelt on every trip, no matter how short.
- Obey speed limits.
- Know and follow the "Graduated Driving License" laws.

Violence is the leading cause of injury, disability, and premature death among youth in the United States.²

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Community leaders and **government officials** can work with **schools** to create a **VIOLENCE PREVENTION PLAN**. Work with **law enforcement officers, youth groups, health care professionals, and other community members** to help build and maintain a positive living environment for youth where they can feel safe and respected.

PARENTS

Parents can help reduce violence by:

- Talking to your child about how to resolve arguments without violence or weapons.
- Monitoring the media your child is allowed to watch; don't watch violent movies or TV shows, or play violent video games; limit the amount of screen time to 2 hours a day.
- Be a role model in handling situations in a nonviolent way.
- Teach your child how to handle anger and build positive relationships.³

Parents who own guns can be sure that:

- You talk to your child about gun safety.
- All guns are locked up and unloaded.
- Ammunition is locked separately from the gun.
- Your child or their friends are not allowed access to your gun without supervision.
- The gun is removed from your home if anyone is depressed or suicidal.

SCHOOLS

Schools can help prevent abuse and violence by:

- Teaching kids how to build and maintain proper relationships.
- Role model positive coping skills.
- Have and enforce anti-bullying and violence policies.
- Provide a safe and welcoming environment for all students.
- Learn and teach conflict resolution strategies to youth.⁴

GOVERNMENT

LOCAL OFFICIALS CAN strengthen and enforce existing policies on the minimum legal drinking age and zero tolerance laws.

- Support community outreach programs that educate on bullying and cyber-bullying laws.

ISLAND COUNTY RESOURCES

Island County Human Services

360-678-7882

Citizens Against Domestic Violence & Abuse (CADA)

800-215-5669

Safe Ride Home North Whidbey:

(360) 682-6920

South Whidbey:

(360) 341-8294

Teen Line WA

877-345-8336

www.theteenline.org

Child Abuse DSHS

866-363-4276

Teen Link Crisis Line

866-427-4747

www.866teenlink.org

1. Island County Death Certificate Data. 2002-2011.

2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (n.d.) *Why Prevention Must Be a Priority*. Retrieved from STRYVE; Striving To Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere: http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/stryve/prevention_priority.html

3. Palo Alto Medical Foundation (2013). *Parents & Teachers: Teens & Violence Prevention*. Retrieved from Palo Alto Medical Foundation; Sutter Health: <http://www.pamf.org/parenting-teens/emotions/violence/violence.html>

4. United National Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (2011). *Stopping Violence in Schools: A Guide for Teachers*. France.