

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH: ISLAND COUNTY 2006



Findings from the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey

SUICIDE (PAST YEAR)	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Seriously considered attempting suicide	11.5%	16.3%	12%
Planned how you would attempt suicide	9.6%	12.7%	12.9%
Attempted suicide	3%	5.7%	2.8%
<i>15.3% of 6th graders seriously considered suicide and 3.7% attempted suicide</i>			

DEPRESSION (PAST YEAR)	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Have been severely depressed *	23.5%	29.6%	29.1%
<i>*Depressed –Student self report of being so sad or hopeless they stopped doing usual activities for two or more weeks in a row.</i>			

SOCIAL SUPPORT	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Do not feel they can ask a parent for help with a personal problem	27.5%	27%	22.6%
Do not have an adult to turn to when they feel sad or hopeless	12.2%	15.7%	13.4%
Feel alone in life	14%	12.1%	15.3%
Do not look forward to the future	6%	7.5%	6.7%
<i>12.2% of 6th graders do not feel they can ask a parent for help with a personal problem</i>			

HARASSMENT (PAST 30 DAYS)	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Recently bullied, harassed or intimidated because:			
Of your race, ethnicity or national origin <i>(or what someone thought it was)</i>	9.3%	10.5%	7.5%
Someone thought you were gay, lesbian or bisexual <i>(whether or not you are)</i>	12.5%	11.1%	9.4%
Of your religion <i>(or what someone thought it was)</i>	11.9%	11.8%	10.8%
You have a health problem or disability <i>(or someone thought you did)</i>	12.8%	6.4%	7%
Of your gender <i>(being male or female) (sexual jokes, gestures, or comments)</i>	16.2%	18.6%	14.6%

ABUSE	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Boyfriend/girlfriend has limited your activities or threatened you	8.7%	7.3%	11.3%
Boyfriend/girlfriend physically hurt you	6.4%	5.7%	10.7%
Ever been physically abused by an adult	18.8%	24.8%	18.6%

We are extremely appreciative of the participation of all four 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 this data sheet contact Carrie McLachlan, MPA, Supervisor, Assessment and Healthy Communities, Island County Public Health, 360-221-8486, carriem@co.island.wa.us