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## 2025 Minnesota Student Survey Tables

November 2025

### **Minnesota Student Survey Interagency Team:**

Minnesota Department of Corrections

Minnesota Department of Education

Minnesota Department of Health

Minnesota Department of Human Services

Minnesota Department of Public Safety

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## In Appreciation

The Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) Interagency Team is indebted to the students, parents, teachers, district assessment coordinators, school and district administrators, principals, and superintendents across the state that agreed to participate in and supported the MSS when it was administered in the first half of 2025. These data are made available as a result of their interest and time, and we are grateful for their efforts.

The planning and implementation of the 2025 Minnesota Student Survey administration resulted from an important collaborative effort among members of the MSS Interagency team, local educators and health professionals, researchers, and community members throughout the state of Minnesota – all of whom encouraged and supported school participation in the MSS.

Members of the MSS Interagency Team include Seyma Birinci, Tai Do, Holly Ponto, and Lana Peterson at the Department of Education; Bob Kuziej, Kat Panas, Molly Meyer, Mark Lee, and Dan Fernandez-Baca at the Department of Health; Phyllis Bengtson, Jeffrey Carpenter, Andrea Orengo, Michele Maruska, Marcos Perez, and Andrea Abel at the Department of Human Services; and Amy Dorman at the Department of Public Safety.

We also thank Allie Hawley March at the Department of Health, Maira Rosas-Lee (formerly with the Department of Education), and Jacquelyn Freund of EpiCog for their valuable contributions to the successful collection of 2025 MSS data.

# 2025 Minnesota Student Survey

## Survey Participation

The 2025 Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) was administered in the first half of 2025 to students in grades 5, 8, 9, and 11 statewide. The survey was voluntary at all levels; districts, schools, parents, and students could all choose to opt out. Many traditional public school districts (61%) chose to participate. Across the state, approximately 50% of fifth graders, 50% of eighth graders, 46% of ninth graders, and 36% of eleventh graders participated in the 2025 MSS. Overall participation across the four grades was approximately 45% of total enrollment.

Results from regular public schools, charter schools, and online schools are included in these tables. Results from nonpublic schools, alternative learning centers, and juvenile correctional facilities are released separately.

All schools and districts that participated in the survey followed federal laws regarding parental notification as required by 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 (Juvenile Correctional Facilities are exempt from this requirement).

## Mode of Administration

In 2025, all levels of the MSS were administered online. Only Juvenile Correctional Facilities could choose to administer the MSS on paper.

## Items on the Tables

The tables in this report include the responses for all survey items. Items are ordered within the tables by an overarching subject area; the order that items appear on the tables is not necessarily the order that they appeared on the survey.

The table of contents is provided on pages vi-vii. The grade five survey version was shorter than the grade eight survey version, which in turn was shorter than the grade nine and eleven version. The grade five and grade eight versions did not include items appropriate only for older students. Items found on some versions of the survey but not on others are identified on the tables.

## Gender Breakdown in Reports

This report comes in two formats: by grade and grade-and-gender. Fifth grade surveys asked “are you a boy or girl” while all other grades were asked about their sex assigned at birth (as on original birth certificate). The grade-and-gender breakdowns are available when counts for sex assigned at birth are at least 25 male and 25 female respondents in each grade level cell.

## **New Questions and Year-to-Year Comparisons**

While most MSS survey questions stayed the same as previous administrations, other questions were updated with changes to the question or response options. 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, the student populations change between administrations of the survey.

## **Validity of Responses**

Caution was taken to identify invalid responses and remove them from the survey results. Surveys were removed when responses were highly inconsistent, when there was a pattern of likely exaggeration, when the survey was completed outside of school hours (this did not apply to online students), or when the survey was clearly a test of the online system. In addition, surveys were removed when only the background section of the survey was answered. In total, approximately 3.5% of cases were removed from the 2025 survey data.

## **Online Access to MSS Data**

Data from the Minnesota Student Survey (MSS) are available on the Minnesota Department of Education's [Data Reports and Analytics page](https://public.education.mn.gov/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242) (<https://public.education.mn.gov/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=242>). This web report provides access to all state, county, and district level data and provides options for filtering the data in multiple ways.

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**TABLE 1A**  
**DEMOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                      | Grade     |      |           |      |            |      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|-----------|------|------------|------|
|                                                                                      | 8th grade |      | 9th grade |      | 11th grade |      |
|                                                                                      | N         | %    | N         | %    | N          | %    |
| <b>Total number of surveys</b>                                                       |           |      |           |      |            |      |
|                                                                                      | 643       | 100% | 671       | 100% | 676        | 100% |
| <b>What was your sex assigned at birth (as on your original birth certificate)?^</b> |           |      |           |      |            |      |
| Male                                                                                 | 174       | 27%  | 215       | 32%  | 237        | 35%  |
| Female                                                                               | 460       | 72%  | 453       | 68%  | 434        | 64%  |
| No answer                                                                            | 9         | 1%   | 3         | 0%   | 5          | 1%   |
| <b>Age^^</b>                                                                         |           |      |           |      |            |      |
| 10 years old                                                                         | 0         | 0%   | 0         | 0%   | 0          | 0%   |
| 11 years old                                                                         | 0         | 0%   | 0         | 0%   | 0          | 0%   |
| 12 years old                                                                         | 1         | 0%   | 0         | 0%   | 0          | 0%   |
| 13 years old                                                                         | 249       | 39%  | 2         | 0%   | 0          | 0%   |
| 14 years old                                                                         | 384       | 60%  | 266       | 40%  | 0          | 0%   |
| 15 years old                                                                         | 8         | 1%   | 393       | 59%  | 3          | 0%   |
| 16 years old                                                                         | 1         | 0%   | 10        | 1%   | 265        | 39%  |
| 17 years old                                                                         | 0         | 0%   | 0         | 0%   | 396        | 59%  |
| 18 years old                                                                         | 0         | 0%   | 0         | 0%   | 12         | 2%   |
| 19-20 years old                                                                      | 0         | 0%   | 0         | 0%   | 0          | 0%   |
| <b>How do you describe yourself? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                           |           |      |           |      |            |      |
| American Indian or Alaskan Native only                                               | 9         | 1%   | 13        | 2%   | 8          | 1%   |
| Asian, South Asian or Asian American only                                            | 40        | 6%   | 45        | 7%   | 40         | 6%   |
| Black, African or African American only                                              | 51        | 8%   | 62        | 9%   | 59         | 9%   |
| Hispanic or Latino/Latina only                                                       | 44        | 7%   | 27        | 4%   | 36         | 5%   |
| Middle Eastern or North African only                                                 | 1         | 0%   | 1         | 0%   | 3          | 0%   |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander only                                       | 1         | 0%   | 3         | 0%   | 2          | 0%   |
| White only                                                                           | 394       | 61%  | 399       | 59%  | 432        | 64%  |
| Multiple Races (checked more than one)                                               | 99        | 15%  | 119       | 18%  | 93         | 14%  |
| No answer                                                                            | 4         | 1%   | 2         | 0%   | 3          | 0%   |

^ 5th grade survey asked "Are you a boy or girl" and included "Option not listed" as a response option

^^ Students who select "9 years old or younger" or "21 years old or older" were excluded from this report.



**TABLE 1B**  
**DEMOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                             | Grade     |     |           |     |            |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|------------|-----|
|                                                                                                             | 8th grade |     | 9th grade |     | 11th grade |     |
|                                                                                                             | N         | %   | N         | %   | N          | %   |
| <b>If you are American Indian or Alaskan Native, which group best describes you? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>  |           |     |           |     |            |     |
| Anishinaabe/ Ojibwe                                                                                         | 22        | 3%  | 29        | 4%  | 15         | 2%  |
| Dakota/Lakota                                                                                               | 11        | 2%  | 9         | 1%  | 9          | 1%  |
| Other tribal affiliation                                                                                    | 10        | 2%  | 10        | 1%  | 14         | 2%  |
| <b>If you are Asian or Asian American, which group best describes you? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>            |           |     |           |     |            |     |
| Bangladeshi                                                                                                 | 0         | 0%  | 0         | 0%  | 0          | 0%  |
| Burmese                                                                                                     | 0         | 0%  | 1         | 0%  | 0          | 0%  |
| Chinese                                                                                                     | 9         | 1%  | 13        | 2%  | 6          | 1%  |
| Filipino                                                                                                    | 10        | 2%  | 3         | 0%  | 5          | 1%  |
| Hmong                                                                                                       | 15        | 2%  | 27        | 4%  | 23         | 3%  |
| Indian                                                                                                      | 3         | 0%  | 7         | 1%  | 5          | 1%  |
| Karen                                                                                                       | 4         | 1%  | 3         | 0%  | 2          | 0%  |
| Korean                                                                                                      | 5         | 1%  | 5         | 1%  | 7          | 1%  |
| Lao                                                                                                         | 7         | 1%  | 3         | 0%  | 5          | 1%  |
| Nepali                                                                                                      | 1         | 0%  | 0         | 0%  | 0          | 0%  |
| Pakistani                                                                                                   | 2         | 0%  | 1         | 0%  | 0          | 0%  |
| Vietnamese                                                                                                  | 9         | 1%  | 4         | 1%  | 8          | 1%  |
| Other Asian                                                                                                 | 20        | 3%  | 10        | 1%  | 11         | 2%  |
| <b>If you are Black, African or African American, which group best describes you? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |           |     |           |     |            |     |
| African American                                                                                            | 68        | 11% | 93        | 14% | 72         | 11% |
| Ethiopian – Oromo                                                                                           | 5         | 1%  | 2         | 0%  | 1          | 0%  |
| Ethiopian – Other                                                                                           | 5         | 1%  | 3         | 0%  | 4          | 1%  |
| Liberian                                                                                                    | 4         | 1%  | 5         | 1%  | 6          | 1%  |
| Nigerian                                                                                                    | 8         | 1%  | 9         | 1%  | 9          | 1%  |
| Somali                                                                                                      | 4         | 1%  | 6         | 1%  | 4          | 1%  |
| Other Black, African or African American                                                                    | 24        | 4%  | 26        | 4%  | 18         | 3%  |

**TABLE 1B (CONT.)**  
**DEMOGRAPHIC DESCRIPTION**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                          | Grade     |    |           |    |            |    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----|-----------|----|------------|----|
|                                                                                                          | 8th grade |    | 9th grade |    | 11th grade |    |
|                                                                                                          | N         | %  | N         | %  | N          | %  |
| <b>If you are Hispanic or Latino/Latina, which group best describes you? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>       |           |    |           |    |            |    |
| Colombian                                                                                                | 2         | 0% | 2         | 0% | 1          | 0% |
| Ecuadoran                                                                                                | 6         | 1% | 3         | 0% | 1          | 0% |
| Guatemalan                                                                                               | 2         | 0% | 0         | 0% | 4          | 1% |
| Mexican                                                                                                  | 55        | 9% | 48        | 7% | 49         | 7% |
| Puerto Rican                                                                                             | 8         | 1% | 10        | 1% | 7          | 1% |
| Salvadoran                                                                                               | 4         | 1% | 1         | 0% | 3          | 0% |
| Spanish/Spanish-American                                                                                 | 15        | 2% | 4         | 1% | 11         | 2% |
| Other Hispanic or Latino/Latina                                                                          | 11        | 2% | 10        | 1% | 9          | 1% |
| <b>If you are Middle Eastern or North African, which group best describes you? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |           |    |           |    |            |    |
| Egyptian                                                                                                 | 1         | 0% | 0         | 0% | 1          | 0% |
| Iranian                                                                                                  | 1         | 0% | 1         | 0% | 2          | 0% |
| Iraqi                                                                                                    | 0         | 0% | 0         | 0% | 1          | 0% |
| Lebanese                                                                                                 | 2         | 0% | 1         | 0% | 1          | 0% |
| Palestinian                                                                                              | 0         | 0% | 0         | 0% | 2          | 0% |
| Other Middle Eastern or North African                                                                    | 4         | 1% | 1         | 0% | 5          | 1% |

**TABLE 2**  
**GENDER EXPRESSION; SEXUAL ORIENTATION; GENDER IDENTITY\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                           | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                           | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                           | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                           | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>A person's appearance, style, dress, or the way they walk or talk may affect how people describe them. How do you think other people at school would describe you?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Very or mostly feminine                                                                                                                                                   | 14%   | 12%    | 13%  | 13%    | 11%  | 14%    |
| Somewhat feminine                                                                                                                                                         | 17%   | 24%    | 23%  | 22%    | 19%  | 25%    |
| Equally feminine and masculine                                                                                                                                            | 33%   | 36%    | 30%  | 35%    | 28%  | 30%    |
| Somewhat masculine                                                                                                                                                        | 20%   | 19%    | 25%  | 19%    | 35%  | 21%    |
| Very or mostly masculine                                                                                                                                                  | 15%   | 9%     | 9%   | 12%    | 7%   | 11%    |
| <b>How do you describe your sexual orientation?</b>                                                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Straight (heterosexual)                                                                                                                                                   | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Asexual                                                                                                                                                                   | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Bisexual                                                                                                                                                                  | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Gay or Lesbian                                                                                                                                                            | 100%  | 100%   | 100% | 100%   | 100% | 100%   |
| Questioning/Not sure                                                                                                                                                      | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Pansexual                                                                                                                                                                 | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Queer                                                                                                                                                                     | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| I don't describe myself in any of these ways                                                                                                                              | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| I am not sure what this question means                                                                                                                                    | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| <b>What is your gender identity? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                                                                                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Agender                                                                                                                                                                   | 2%    | 3%     | 1%   | 3%     | 1%   | 4%     |
| Boy/man (cisgender, which means your gender identity matches your sex assigned at birth)                                                                                  | 71%   | 0%     | 81%  | 1%     | 78%  | 1%     |
| Boy/man (transgender, which means your gender identity does not match your sex assigned at birth)                                                                         | 7%    | 10%    | 3%   | 13%    | 3%   | 11%    |
| Genderfluid, gender non-conforming, or genderqueer                                                                                                                        | 3%    | 10%    | 5%   | 9%     | 3%   | 11%    |
| Girl/woman (cisgender, which means your gender identity matches your sex assigned at birth)                                                                               | 1%    | 63%    | 1%   | 65%    | 1%   | 65%    |
| Girl/woman (transgender, which means your gender identity does not match your sex assigned at birth)                                                                      | 6%    | 2%     | 5%   | 0%     | 9%   | 0%     |
| Nonbinary                                                                                                                                                                 | 8%    | 14%    | 5%   | 9%     | 7%   | 12%    |
| Two spirit                                                                                                                                                                | 3%    | 1%     | 4%   | 1%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| Questioning/ unsure                                                                                                                                                       | 4%    | 7%     | 7%   | 8%     | 4%   | 4%     |
| Identity not listed                                                                                                                                                       | 2%    | 4%     | 1%   | 4%     | 3%   | 3%     |

\* 5th grade surveys did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 3**  
**SCHOOL PLANS; ACADEMIC ADVISING; IEP; CHANGING SCHOOLS; ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                              | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                              | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>What is the MAIN thing you plan to do RIGHT AFTER high school?*</b>                                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I don't plan to graduate from high school                                                                                                                                    | 2%    | 0%     | 2%   | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| Get my GED                                                                                                                                                                   | 2%    | 2%     | 1%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Go to a two-year community or technical college                                                                                                                              | 8%    | 4%     | 4%   | 6%     | 14%  | 15%    |
| Go to a four-year college or university                                                                                                                                      | 50%   | 54%    | 58%  | 63%    | 53%  | 60%    |
| Get a license or certificate in a career field                                                                                                                               | 7%    | 4%     | 6%   | 4%     | 2%   | 4%     |
| Attend an apprenticeship program                                                                                                                                             | 1%    | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| Join the military                                                                                                                                                            | 7%    | 6%     | 3%   | 3%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| Work at a job                                                                                                                                                                | 11%   | 16%    | 17%  | 12%    | 16%  | 10%    |
| Other                                                                                                                                                                        | 12%   | 14%    | 9%   | 9%     | 9%   | 6%     |
| <b>Has an adult in your school helped you think about education options for after high school (college or other training program)?**</b>                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                          |       |        | 70%  | 64%    | 77%  | 80%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                           |       |        | 30%  | 36%    | 23%  | 20%    |
| <b>Has an adult in your school helped you find career-focused field experiences (job shadowing, work-based learning, service learning, career camps, apprenticeships)?**</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                          |       |        | 50%  | 39%    | 61%  | 48%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                           |       |        | 50%  | 61%    | 39%  | 52%    |
| <b>Do you receive special education services as part of an IEP (individualized education program)?</b>                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                          | 23%   | 16%    | 21%  | 15%    | 28%  | 18%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                           | 57%   | 60%    | 63%  | 66%    | 60%  | 70%    |
| Not sure                                                                                                                                                                     | 20%   | 24%    | 16%  | 19%    | 12%  | 12%    |
| <b>Since the beginning of this school year, have you changed schools?</b>                                                                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                          | 9%    | 5%     | 6%   | 4%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                           | 91%   | 95%    | 94%  | 96%    | 98%  | 97%    |
| <b>How would you describe your grades this school year?</b>                                                                                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Mostly A's                                                                                                                                                                   | 46%   | 42%    | 42%  | 53%    | 41%  | 48%    |
| Mostly B's                                                                                                                                                                   | 21%   | 27%    | 33%  | 26%    | 31%  | 31%    |
| Mostly C's                                                                                                                                                                   | 17%   | 18%    | 16%  | 12%    | 16%  | 15%    |
| Mostly D's                                                                                                                                                                   | 4%    | 4%     | 5%   | 5%     | 6%   | 3%     |
| Mostly F's                                                                                                                                                                   | 5%    | 4%     | 2%   | 2%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| Mostly Incompletes                                                                                                                                                           | 6%    | 3%     | 0%   | 2%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| None of these letter grades                                                                                                                                                  | 1%    | 2%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |

\* 5th grade surveys did not ask this question.

\*\* 5th and 8th grade surveys did not ask this question.

**TABLE 4**  
**TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL\*\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                      | Grade |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|
|                                                                                                      | 8th   |        |
|                                                                                                      | Male  | Female |
|                                                                                                      | %     | %      |
| <b>On a typical school day, how do you normally travel to and from school? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |
| Walk                                                                                                 | 13%   | 14%    |
| Bike                                                                                                 | 6%    | 3%     |
| School bus                                                                                           | 58%   | 65%    |
| Family vehicle (riding with others from your family)                                                 | 41%   | 47%    |
| Carpools (riding with children from other families)                                                  | 3%    | 5%     |
| Transit (city bus, light rail, etc.)                                                                 | 2%    | 2%     |
| Other (skateboard, scooter, inline skates, etc)                                                      | 5%    | 2%     |

\* 9th and 11th grade surveys did not ask this question.

^ Change in question wording from 2022.

**TABLE 5**  
**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 30 days, how many times did you miss a full day of school? (Do not include school-sponsored activities like field trips, sports, academic or music events)^</b>                                                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 28%   | 31%    | 33%  | 33%    | 38%  | 32%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 39%   | 37%    | 37%  | 40%    | 35%  | 42%    |
| 3 to 5 times                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 18%   | 22%    | 18%  | 20%    | 16%  | 18%    |
| 6 or more times                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 15%   | 10%    | 12%  | 7%     | 12%  | 8%     |
| <b>During the last 30 days, how many times did you miss part of a day of school such as coming late, leaving early or missing class time during the day? (Do not include school-sponsored activities like field trips, sports, academic, or music events)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 36%   | 28%    | 35%  | 31%    | 29%  | 35%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 39%   | 40%    | 39%  | 43%    | 39%  | 37%    |
| 3 to 5 times                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 14%   | 19%    | 15%  | 17%    | 19%  | 16%    |
| 6 to 9 times                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 5%    | 5%     | 6%   | 4%     | 6%   | 7%     |
| 10 or more times                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 6%    | 7%     | 5%   | 5%     | 7%   | 6%     |
| <b>AMONG THOSE WHO MISSED PART OF OR A FULL DAY OF SCHOOL: What are the reasons you missed a full or part of a day of school in the last 30 days? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                                                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Felt sick                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 54%   | 63%    | 54%  | 63%    | 56%  | 65%    |
| Medical, dental or other health-related appointment                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 32%   | 48%    | 39%  | 45%    | 41%  | 40%    |
| Felt very sad, hopeless, anxious, stressed or angry                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 14%   | 30%    | 16%  | 25%    | 17%  | 25%    |
| Didn't get enough sleep                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 19%   | 16%    | 19%  | 22%    | 25%  | 27%    |
| Didn't feel safe at school                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 8%    | 7%     | 2%   | 4%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| Had to work (for pay or to help with a family business or chores)                                                                                                                                                                                             | 3%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| Had to take care of or help someone else (child, sibling, relative, etc.)^                                                                                                                                                                                    | 6%    | 4%     | 4%   | 4%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| Behind in schoolwork or not prepared for a test or class assignment                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3%    | 5%     | 6%   | 7%     | 8%   | 12%    |
| Bored with or not interested in school                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 10%   | 10%    | 11%  | 9%     | 9%   | 11%    |
| Suspended from school                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 2%    | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Other reason                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 16%   | 14%    | 9%   | 13%    | 15%  | 14%    |
| Was in quarantine^^                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 7%    | 2%     | 3%   | 1%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| Did not want to go^^                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 15%   | 16%    | 17%  | 16%    | 12%  | 19%    |
| Did not feel like I belonged at school^^                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8%    | 8%     | 4%   | 3%     | 5%   | 4%     |
| Hung out with friends instead^^                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 1%    | 2%     | 1%   | 1%     | 5%   | 3%     |
| Was out of town^^                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 11%   | 11%    | 11%  | 9%     | 11%  | 11%    |
| Had a religious holiday or cultural event^^                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2%    | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| Had issues with transportation^^                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 8%    | 9%     | 7%   | 9%     | 8%   | 7%     |

^ Change in response option wording from 2022.

^^ New response option in 2025.

**TABLE 6**  
**DISCIPLINE; FEELINGS ABOUT SCHOOL**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                      | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                      | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                      | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                      | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 30 days, how many times did you get sent out of the classroom for discipline?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| None                                                                                                 | 81%   | 93%    | 88%  | 95%    | 93%  | 97%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                        | 11%   | 4%     | 8%   | 4%     | 4%   | 2%     |
| 3 to 5 times                                                                                         | 2%    | 2%     | 1%   | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| 6 to 9 times                                                                                         | 2%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| 10 or more times                                                                                     | 5%    | 1%     | 3%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>How often do you care about doing well in school?</b>                                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| All of the time                                                                                      | 46%   | 37%    | 44%  | 53%    | 40%  | 50%    |
| Most of the time                                                                                     | 32%   | 43%    | 41%  | 32%    | 44%  | 36%    |
| Some of the time                                                                                     | 16%   | 17%    | 12%  | 12%    | 14%  | 13%    |
| None of the time                                                                                     | 7%    | 2%     | 4%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| <b>How often do you go to class unprepared?</b>                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| All of the time                                                                                      | 11%   | 4%     | 4%   | 3%     | 6%   | 2%     |
| Most of the time                                                                                     | 6%    | 10%    | 9%   | 9%     | 11%  | 8%     |
| Some of the time                                                                                     | 45%   | 45%    | 50%  | 51%    | 53%  | 56%    |
| None of the time                                                                                     | 38%   | 40%    | 37%  | 37%    | 30%  | 34%    |
| <b>How often do you pay attention in class?</b>                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| All of the time                                                                                      | 23%   | 14%    | 16%  | 18%    | 21%  | 16%    |
| Most of the time                                                                                     | 57%   | 57%    | 60%  | 61%    | 59%  | 64%    |
| Some of the time                                                                                     | 16%   | 27%    | 22%  | 20%    | 17%  | 19%    |
| None of the time                                                                                     | 5%    | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     | 3%   | 0%     |

**TABLE 7**  
**FEELINGS ABOUT SCHOOL**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                          | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                          | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                          | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>If something interests me, I try to learn more about it.</b>          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 58%   | 51%    | 56%  | 58%    | 60%  | 59%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 36%   | 47%    | 41%  | 41%    | 37%  | 39%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 3%    | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 3%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 3%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>I think things I learn at school are useful.</b>                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 17%   | 9%     | 16%  | 12%    | 11%  | 10%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 55%   | 68%    | 55%  | 61%    | 63%  | 65%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 18%   | 18%    | 25%  | 22%    | 19%  | 22%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 10%   | 6%     | 4%   | 5%     | 7%   | 3%     |
| <b>Being a student is one of the most important parts of who I am.</b>   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 16%   | 7%     | 13%  | 12%    | 13%  | 10%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 27%   | 31%    | 32%  | 31%    | 28%  | 33%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 37%   | 42%    | 39%  | 41%    | 39%  | 41%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 20%   | 21%    | 16%  | 16%    | 19%  | 16%    |
| <b>Overall, adults at my school treat students fairly.</b>               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 24%   | 16%    | 26%  | 15%    | 23%  | 16%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 50%   | 56%    | 55%  | 62%    | 60%  | 62%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 17%   | 22%    | 13%  | 20%    | 15%  | 18%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 9%    | 6%     | 5%   | 3%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| <b>Adults at my school listen to the students.</b>                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 21%   | 11%    | 20%  | 11%    | 17%  | 12%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 49%   | 57%    | 59%  | 62%    | 63%  | 63%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 20%   | 26%    | 16%  | 24%    | 16%  | 22%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 10%   | 6%     | 4%   | 3%     | 4%   | 3%     |
| <b>The school rules are fair</b>                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 19%   | 8%     | 16%  | 10%    | 14%  | 10%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 51%   | 60%    | 58%  | 64%    | 57%  | 63%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 15%   | 26%    | 19%  | 23%    | 20%  | 22%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 15%   | 6%     | 6%   | 3%     | 9%   | 5%     |
| <b>At my school, teachers care about students.</b>                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 33%   | 19%    | 27%  | 21%    | 29%  | 22%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 46%   | 67%    | 62%  | 68%    | 59%  | 69%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 13%   | 11%    | 8%   | 9%     | 8%   | 7%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 7%    | 3%     | 2%   | 1%     | 4%   | 2%     |
| <b>Most teachers at my school are interested in me as a person.</b>      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 20%   | 15%    | 17%  | 14%    | 22%  | 19%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 45%   | 45%    | 52%  | 53%    | 49%  | 53%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 25%   | 33%    | 23%  | 27%    | 21%  | 25%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 10%   | 7%     | 7%   | 6%     | 8%   | 3%     |



**TABLE 8A**  
**PRESENCE OF A SCHOOL RESOURCE/POLICE OFFICER\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                         | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                         | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                         | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Is there a police officer or School Resource Officer (SRO) at your school?</b>                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                     | 54%   | 56%    | 60%  | 61%    | 70%  | 67%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                      | 18%   | 13%    | 7%   | 8%     | 10%  | 11%    |
| I don't know                                                                                                                                            | 28%   | 32%    | 33%  | 30%    | 20%  | 22%    |
| <b>IF POLICE OFFICER OR SRO AT SCHOOL: If I knew about something unsafe or illegal at my school, I would tell the SRO or police officer.</b>            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                                                          | 37%   | 34%    | 26%  | 25%    | 28%  | 19%    |
| Agree                                                                                                                                                   | 46%   | 45%    | 46%  | 45%    | 41%  | 50%    |
| Disagree                                                                                                                                                | 13%   | 17%    | 24%  | 24%    | 25%  | 25%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                                                       | 4%    | 4%     | 4%   | 5%     | 5%   | 7%     |
| <b>IF POLICE OFFICER OR SRO AT SCHOOL: I would feel comfortable going to my school's police officer or SRO if I was having problems or needed help.</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                                                          | 24%   | 22%    | 24%  | 16%    | 24%  | 16%    |
| Agree                                                                                                                                                   | 38%   | 38%    | 47%  | 36%    | 38%  | 41%    |
| Disagree                                                                                                                                                | 31%   | 30%    | 19%  | 35%    | 33%  | 31%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                                                       | 7%    | 10%    | 10%  | 13%    | 5%   | 12%    |
| <b>IF POLICE OFFICER OR SRO AT SCHOOL: I think it is a good idea to have an SRO or police officer at our school.</b>                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                                                          | 57%   | 47%    | 52%  | 47%    | 50%  | 38%    |
| Agree                                                                                                                                                   | 34%   | 49%    | 45%  | 47%    | 43%  | 51%    |
| Disagree                                                                                                                                                | 4%    | 2%     | 2%   | 5%     | 4%   | 7%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                                                       | 4%    | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     | 3%   | 4%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 8B**  
**COMFORT GOING TO POLICE OFFICER\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                              | Grade |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|
|                                                                                              | 8th   |        |
|                                                                                              | Male  | Female |
|                                                                                              | %     | %      |
| <b>I would feel comfortable going to the police if I was having problems or needed help.</b> |       |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                               | 24%   | 11%    |
| Agree                                                                                        | 44%   | 45%    |
| Disagree                                                                                     | 22%   | 31%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                                            | 10%   | 13%    |

\* 9th and 11th grade surveys did not ask this question.

**TABLE 9**  
**PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                          | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                          | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                          | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>I feel safe going to and from school.</b>                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 44%   | 29%    | 43%  | 31%    | 37%  | 37%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 41%   | 59%    | 47%  | 62%    | 56%  | 56%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 7%    | 10%    | 7%   | 5%     | 5%   | 4%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 7%    | 2%     | 3%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| <b>I feel safe at school.</b>                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 29%   | 15%    | 29%  | 20%    | 26%  | 24%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 45%   | 60%    | 50%  | 60%    | 57%  | 59%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 17%   | 21%    | 16%  | 16%    | 11%  | 14%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 9%    | 5%     | 4%   | 4%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| <b>I feel safe in my neighborhood.</b>                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 56%   | 39%    | 53%  | 39%    | 48%  | 42%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 35%   | 52%    | 43%  | 55%    | 45%  | 51%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 5%    | 6%     | 1%   | 5%     | 4%   | 5%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 4%    | 3%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| <b>I feel safe at home.</b>                                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                           | 64%   | 55%    | 62%  | 57%    | 61%  | 53%    |
| Agree                                                                    | 27%   | 38%    | 32%  | 36%    | 34%  | 40%    |
| Disagree                                                                 | 4%    | 6%     | 3%   | 5%     | 4%   | 6%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                        | 5%    | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     |

**TABLE 10**  
**AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                     | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                     | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                     | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                     | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During a typical week, where do you go after school?^ (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I stay at my school or go to another school                                                         | 19%   | 19%    | 26%  | 28%    | 23%  | 29%    |
| My home or another home such as a friend's, relative's or neighbor's                                | 84%   | 93%    | 86%  | 91%    | 94%  | 93%    |
| A rec, community or other youth center                                                              | 7%    | 7%     | 6%   | 7%     | 4%   | 5%     |
| A park or other outdoor space                                                                       | 13%   | 12%    | 11%  | 13%    | 8%   | 10%    |
| A library                                                                                           | 7%    | 3%     | 6%   | 7%     | 8%   | 7%     |
| A church, synagogue, mosque, or other spiritual/religious place                                     | 2%    | 3%     | 3%   | 4%     | 1%   | 3%     |
| <b>During a typical week, how often are you home alone or somewhere unsupervised after school?*</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                              | 40%   | 34%    |      |        |      |        |
| 1 day                                                                                               | 22%   | 25%    |      |        |      |        |
| 2 days                                                                                              | 14%   | 18%    |      |        |      |        |
| 3 days                                                                                              | 7%    | 11%    |      |        |      |        |
| 4 days                                                                                              | 3%    | 4%     |      |        |      |        |
| 5 days                                                                                              | 16%   | 7%     |      |        |      |        |

\* 9th and 11th grade surveys did not ask this question.

^ Change in question wording and response options from 2022.

**TABLE 11**  
**BEING BULLIED FOR SPECIFIC REASONS**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                             | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                             | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                             | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                             | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 30 days, how often have other students harassed or bullied you?^</b>                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                       | 36%   | 45%    | 55%  | 57%    | 64%  | 69%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                               | 38%   | 38%    | 26%  | 29%    | 24%  | 25%    |
| Three or more times                                                                                                         | 27%   | 17%    | 19%  | 14%    | 12%  | 6%     |
| <b>IF BULLIED DURING THE LAST 30 DAYS, for which of these reasons were you harassed or bullied?^^ (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Your race, ethnicity or national origin                                                                                     | 7%    | 13%    | 7%   | 9%     | 13%  | 5%     |
| Your religion or religious beliefs, including a lack of religious beliefs (e.g., agnosticism or atheism)                    | 8%    | 7%     | 9%   | 7%     | 12%  | 8%     |
| Your sex or gender (being male, female, transgender, genderqueer, genderfluid.)^^^                                          | 28%   | 35%    | 20%  | 33%    | 24%  | 34%    |
| Your gender expression (your style, dress, or the way you walk or talk)*                                                    | 38%   | 50%    | 44%  | 49%    | 45%  | 46%    |
| Because you are bisexual, gay, lesbian, asexual, pansexual, queer, or because someone thought you were*                     | 63%   | 55%    | 60%  | 53%    | 63%  | 52%    |
| A physical or mental disability                                                                                             | 11%   | 16%    | 15%  | 13%    | 15%  | 12%    |
| Your size or weight                                                                                                         | 30%   | 29%    | 24%  | 26%    | 23%  | 28%    |
| Your physical appearance                                                                                                    | 37%   | 39%    | 36%  | 46%    | 29%  | 40%    |
| Reason not listed^^^^                                                                                                       | 17%   | 33%    | 22%  | 29%    | 23%  | 25%    |

\* 5th grade surveys did not ask this question.

^ New question in 2025.

^^ Change in question wording from 2022.

^^^ 5th grade survey item was worded "Your gender (being male or female)".

^^^^ New response option in 2025.

**TABLE 12**  
**BEING BULLIED OR HARRASSED AT SCHOOL**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                        | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                        | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                        | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| During the last 30 days, how often have other students at school...                    | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...pushed, shoved, slapped, hit or kicked you when they weren't kidding around?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                  | 76%   | 79%    | 86%  | 87%    | 90%  | 93%    |
| Once or twice                                                                          | 12%   | 15%    | 9%   | 10%    | 7%   | 5%     |
| About once a week                                                                      | 2%    | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| Several times a week                                                                   | 2%    | 2%     | 1%   | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Every day                                                                              | 8%    | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>...threatened to beat you up?</b>                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                  | 70%   | 85%    | 81%  | 88%    | 87%  | 93%    |
| Once or twice                                                                          | 17%   | 11%    | 13%  | 8%     | 9%   | 6%     |
| About once a week                                                                      | 2%    | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| Several times a week                                                                   | 3%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Every day                                                                              | 7%    | 2%     | 2%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| <b>...spread mean rumors or lies about you?</b>                                        |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                  | 65%   | 63%    | 61%  | 69%    | 76%  | 77%    |
| Once or twice                                                                          | 15%   | 23%    | 26%  | 22%    | 18%  | 17%    |
| About once a week                                                                      | 5%    | 6%     | 7%   | 4%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| Several times a week                                                                   | 4%    | 4%     | 4%   | 3%     | 1%   | 2%     |
| Every day                                                                              | 11%   | 5%     | 2%   | 1%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| <b>...made sexual jokes, comments or gestures towards you?*</b>                        |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                  | 49%   | 56%    | 54%  | 61%    | 61%  | 73%    |
| Once or twice                                                                          | 22%   | 27%    | 26%  | 25%    | 22%  | 17%    |
| About once a week                                                                      | 7%    | 7%     | 7%   | 6%     | 5%   | 6%     |
| Several times a week                                                                   | 7%    | 4%     | 6%   | 5%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| Every day                                                                              | 15%   | 5%     | 6%   | 3%     | 8%   | 2%     |
| <b>...excluded you from friends, other students or activities?</b>                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                  | 57%   | 51%    | 64%  | 58%    | 72%  | 71%    |
| Once or twice                                                                          | 22%   | 29%    | 21%  | 26%    | 17%  | 19%    |
| About once a week                                                                      | 5%    | 8%     | 7%   | 7%     | 4%   | 5%     |
| Several times a week                                                                   | 4%    | 6%     | 2%   | 6%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| Every day                                                                              | 11%   | 6%     | 5%   | 3%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| <b>Bullied once or more in the last 30 days^</b>                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                     | 32%   | 25%    | 33%  | 34%    | 48%  | 52%    |
| Yes                                                                                    | 68%   | 75%    | 67%  | 66%    | 52%  | 48%    |
| <b>Bullied weekly or more in last 30 days^</b>                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                     | 61%   | 64%    | 67%  | 74%    | 77%  | 81%    |
| Yes                                                                                    | 39%   | 36%    | 33%  | 26%    | 23%  | 19%    |
| <b>Bullied daily in the last 30 days^</b>                                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                     | 80%   | 90%    | 89%  | 94%    | 89%  | 96%    |
| Yes                                                                                    | 20%   | 10%    | 11%  | 6%     | 11%  | 4%     |

\* 5th grade surveys did not ask this question.

^ These are computed variables based on combinations of responses to the first five questions on this table.

**TABLE 13**  
**BEING CYBERBULLIED**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                 | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                 | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                 | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                 | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 30 days, how often have you been cyberbullied? (Count being bullied through texting, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok or other social media)^</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                           | 77%   | 80%    | 75%  | 81%    | 89%  | 88%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                   | 13%   | 16%    | 18%  | 15%    | 8%   | 11%    |
| Three or more times                                                                                                                                             | 11%   | 4%     | 7%   | 5%     | 4%   | 2%     |

^ Change in response options from 2022.

**TABLE 14A**  
**AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                           | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                           | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                           | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                           | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Does your school or community offer a variety of programs for people your age to participate in outside of the regular school day?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                       | 73%   | 67%    | 77%  | 79%    | 73%  | 80%    |
| No                                                                                                                                        | 7%    | 3%     | 4%   | 2%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| I don't know what programs are available in my community                                                                                  | 20%   | 29%    | 19%  | 19%    | 21%  | 17%    |



**TABLE 14B**  
**ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                         | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                         | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                         | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                         | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During a typical week, how often do you participate in activities outside of the regular school day?^</b>                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                                  | 37%   | 33%    | 37%  | 27%    | 32%  | 26%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                                   | 10%   | 14%    | 10%  | 13%    | 11%  | 11%    |
| 2 days                                                                                                                                  | 13%   | 14%    | 15%  | 14%    | 14%  | 15%    |
| 3 days                                                                                                                                  | 14%   | 13%    | 12%  | 14%    | 14%  | 17%    |
| 4 days                                                                                                                                  | 10%   | 8%     | 9%   | 7%     | 14%  | 9%     |
| 5 or more days                                                                                                                          | 16%   | 19%    | 18%  | 25%    | 14%  | 22%    |
| <b>During a typical week, do you participate in the following activities outside of the regular school day?^^ (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Sports activities or physical activities^^^                                                                                             | 44%   | 52%    | 49%  | 57%    | 48%  | 56%    |
| School sponsored activities or clubs that are not sports, such as drama, music, chess, or science club                                  | 23%   | 27%    | 30%  | 38%    | 35%  | 37%    |
| Tutoring, homework help, or academic programs                                                                                           | 5%    | 4%     | 6%   | 6%     | 6%   | 11%    |
| Leadership activities such as student government, youth councils, or committees                                                         | 4%    | 5%     | 6%   | 6%     | 6%   | 9%     |
| Artistic activities, such as music, dance, drawing, photography, or pottery                                                             | 13%   | 26%    | 18%  | 30%    | 25%  | 31%    |
| Cultural heritage programs                                                                                                              | 2%    | 1%     | 1%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| Other community clubs and programs such as 4-H, Scouts, Y-clubs, or Community Ed                                                        | 6%    | 4%     | 6%   | 5%     | 5%   | 6%     |
| Religious activities such as religious services, education, or youth group                                                              | 7%    | 6%     | 6%   | 6%     | 4%   | 6%     |

^ New question in 2025.

^^ Response options changed from 2022.

^^^ New response option in 2025.

**TABLE 15**  
**REASONS FOR NOT PARTICIPATING IN ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                      | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                      | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                      | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                      | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>IF NO PARTICIPATION: What are the reasons you don't participate in any activities, programs or clubs outside of the regular school day? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I do not know what is available in my community.                                                                                                                     | 23%   | 24%    | 28%  | 26%    | 17%  | 22%    |
| Activities are not available in my community.                                                                                                                        | 3%    | 2%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Activities cost too much.                                                                                                                                            | 8%    | 12%    | 15%  | 13%    | 14%  | 12%    |
| My parents (or guardians) won't let me.                                                                                                                              | 11%   | 8%     | 5%   | 6%     | 4%   | 6%     |
| My friends are not there.                                                                                                                                            | 28%   | 29%    | 27%  | 24%    | 29%  | 20%    |
| I am not interested.                                                                                                                                                 | 72%   | 76%    | 63%  | 70%    | 67%  | 60%    |
| I am too busy with other things, such as a job or homework.                                                                                                          | 16%   | 26%    | 27%  | 37%    | 41%  | 49%    |
| I don't have a way to get there or home.                                                                                                                             | 8%    | 19%    | 16%  | 17%    | 13%  | 11%    |
| I have to take care of other family members.                                                                                                                         | 3%    | 8%     | 3%   | 7%     | 6%   | 6%     |
| It is not a safe place.                                                                                                                                              | 8%    | 6%     | 3%   | 5%     | 9%   | 1%     |
| Other                                                                                                                                                                | 13%   | 15%    | 17%  | 7%     | 17%  | 7%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask this question.

**TABLE 16**  
**QUALITY OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES<sup>^</sup>**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| When you do spend time doing activities outside of the regular school day, how often do you... | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...feel safe?</b>                                                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Rarely or never                                                                                | 12%   | 3%     | 5%   | 2%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| Sometimes                                                                                      | 8%    | 14%    | 10%  | 12%    | 12%  | 9%     |
| Often                                                                                          | 34%   | 42%    | 40%  | 42%    | 35%  | 38%    |
| Very often                                                                                     | 46%   | 41%    | 46%  | 44%    | 50%  | 50%    |
| <b>...learn skills like teamwork or leadership?</b>                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Rarely or never                                                                                | 18%   | 13%    | 9%   | 9%     | 8%   | 9%     |
| Sometimes                                                                                      | 30%   | 33%    | 27%  | 35%    | 28%  | 28%    |
| Often                                                                                          | 33%   | 35%    | 41%  | 36%    | 36%  | 37%    |
| Very often                                                                                     | 20%   | 18%    | 23%  | 20%    | 28%  | 27%    |
| <b>...develop trusting relationships with peers your age?</b>                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Rarely or never                                                                                | 15%   | 13%    | 8%   | 11%    | 12%  | 12%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                      | 25%   | 30%    | 26%  | 33%    | 23%  | 27%    |
| Often                                                                                          | 34%   | 36%    | 39%  | 34%    | 38%  | 34%    |
| Very often                                                                                     | 27%   | 21%    | 27%  | 23%    | 27%  | 27%    |
| <b>...develop trusting relationships with adults?</b>                                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Rarely or never                                                                                | 16%   | 18%    | 11%  | 16%    | 12%  | 14%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                      | 26%   | 33%    | 27%  | 33%    | 23%  | 31%    |
| Often                                                                                          | 36%   | 32%    | 38%  | 31%    | 41%  | 34%    |
| Very often                                                                                     | 22%   | 16%    | 24%  | 20%    | 24%  | 22%    |
| <b>...help make decisions?</b>                                                                 |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Rarely or never                                                                                | 15%   | 13%    | 11%  | 10%    | 9%   | 7%     |
| Sometimes                                                                                      | 33%   | 41%    | 34%  | 38%    | 27%  | 34%    |
| Often                                                                                          | 38%   | 33%    | 36%  | 38%    | 43%  | 38%    |
| Very often                                                                                     | 14%   | 13%    | 19%  | 15%    | 21%  | 22%    |
| <b>...do something that gives you joy and energy?</b>                                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Rarely or never                                                                                | 11%   | 6%     | 6%   | 7%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| Sometimes                                                                                      | 13%   | 20%    | 20%  | 18%    | 18%  | 20%    |
| Often                                                                                          | 38%   | 39%    | 38%  | 41%    | 35%  | 38%    |
| Very often                                                                                     | 38%   | 35%    | 36%  | 35%    | 42%  | 37%    |
| <b>...learn skills that you can use in a future job?</b>                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Rarely or never                                                                                | 20%   | 16%    | 15%  | 14%    | 10%  | 10%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                      | 27%   | 36%    | 28%  | 38%    | 30%  | 33%    |
| Often                                                                                          | 27%   | 31%    | 28%  | 27%    | 34%  | 33%    |
| Very often                                                                                     | 25%   | 18%    | 28%  | 21%    | 26%  | 24%    |

<sup>^</sup> These items are a subscale of the Constructive Use of Time Scale from the Developmental Assets Profile (DAP) (Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN).

**TABLE 17**  
**LIVING SITUATIONS**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                  | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Have you ever been in foster care?^</b>                                                                                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                              | 11%   | 4%     | 6%   | 5%     | 7%   | 5%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                               | 89%   | 96%    | 94%  | 95%    | 93%  | 95%    |
| <b>During the past 12 months, have you stayed in a shelter, somewhere not intended as a place to live, or someone else's home because you had no other place to stay?^ (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                               | 89%   | 94%    | 90%  | 96%    | 96%  | 96%    |
| Yes, I was with my parents or an adult family member                                                                                                                                             | 9%    | 6%     | 9%   | 3%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| Yes, I was on my own without any adult family member                                                                                                                                             | 2%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| <b>Has there been an adult in your household who makes sure your basic needs were met, such as looking after your safety and making sure you have clean clothes and enough to eat?^^</b>         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                            | 6%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| Rarely                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4%    | 3%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| Sometimes                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2%    | 3%     | 3%   | 5%     | 3%   | 5%     |
| Most of the time                                                                                                                                                                                 | 14%   | 17%    | 20%  | 18%    | 11%  | 16%    |
| Always                                                                                                                                                                                           | 74%   | 75%    | 74%  | 74%    | 83%  | 76%    |
| <b>Have any of your parents or guardians ever been in jail or prison?^^</b>                                                                                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                              | 28%   | 26%    | 30%  | 21%    | 17%  | 22%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                               | 72%   | 74%    | 70%  | 79%    | 83%  | 78%    |
| <b>IF YOU HAVE OR HAVE HAD PARENT OR GUARDIAN IN JAIL OR PRISON: Did you live with a parent or guardian at the time they went to jail or prison?*</b>                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                              | 46%   | 57%    | 50%  | 50%    | 43%  | 48%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                               | 54%   | 43%    | 50%  | 50%    | 57%  | 52%    |

\* 5th grade surveys did not ask this question.

^ Response options changed from 2022.

^^ New question in 2025.

**TABLE 18**  
**COMMUNICATION WITH ADULTS**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                   | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                   | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                   | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                   | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Which of these adults can you talk to about problems you are having? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Parent or guardian                                                                                | 77%   | 64%    | 73%  | 68%    | 74%  | 66%    |
| Adult at school                                                                                   | 32%   | 29%    | 39%  | 24%    | 36%  | 36%    |
| Some other adult                                                                                  | 18%   | 25%    | 31%  | 26%    | 35%  | 38%    |
| I don't have any adults that I can talk to about problems I am having                             | 15%   | 22%    | 13%  | 22%    | 13%  | 14%    |

**TABLE 19**  
**PERCEPTIONS OF FAMILY AND OTHERS CARING**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                    | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                    | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                    | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                    | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>How much do you feel...</b>                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| <b>...your parents care about you?</b>             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                         | 3%    | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| A little                                           | 5%    | 5%     | 2%   | 6%     | 5%   | 5%     |
| Some                                               | 7%    | 13%    | 13%  | 13%    | 9%   | 11%    |
| Quite a bit                                        | 23%   | 26%    | 19%  | 26%    | 21%  | 25%    |
| Very much                                          | 62%   | 54%    | 64%  | 54%    | 64%  | 56%    |
| <b>...other adult relatives care about you?</b>    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                         | 4%    | 5%     | 3%   | 5%     | 2%   | 4%     |
| A little                                           | 5%    | 11%    | 6%   | 10%    | 7%   | 9%     |
| Some                                               | 11%   | 20%    | 12%  | 21%    | 17%  | 18%    |
| Quite a bit                                        | 32%   | 33%    | 32%  | 33%    | 29%  | 32%    |
| Very much                                          | 48%   | 32%    | 46%  | 32%    | 45%  | 37%    |
| <b>...friends care about you?</b>                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                         | 6%    | 4%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| A little                                           | 7%    | 7%     | 4%   | 8%     | 5%   | 6%     |
| Some                                               | 15%   | 17%    | 15%  | 18%    | 12%  | 16%    |
| Quite a bit                                        | 32%   | 32%    | 24%  | 31%    | 31%  | 32%    |
| Very much                                          | 40%   | 40%    | 55%  | 41%    | 50%  | 46%    |
| <b>...teachers at school care about you?</b>       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                         | 14%   | 8%     | 6%   | 7%     | 6%   | 5%     |
| A little                                           | 9%    | 17%    | 14%  | 20%    | 8%   | 16%    |
| Some                                               | 24%   | 39%    | 28%  | 40%    | 37%  | 37%    |
| Quite a bit                                        | 33%   | 29%    | 33%  | 21%    | 32%  | 31%    |
| Very much                                          | 20%   | 8%     | 19%  | 11%    | 16%  | 11%    |
| <b>...other adults at school care about you?</b>   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                         | 14%   | 16%    | 12%  | 18%    | 9%   | 11%    |
| A little                                           | 12%   | 20%    | 13%  | 26%    | 20%  | 29%    |
| Some                                               | 33%   | 34%    | 31%  | 30%    | 35%  | 34%    |
| Quite a bit                                        | 24%   | 22%    | 25%  | 18%    | 22%  | 19%    |
| Very much                                          | 16%   | 7%     | 19%  | 8%     | 14%  | 8%     |
| <b>...adults in your community care about you?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                         | 15%   | 19%    | 12%  | 18%    | 15%  | 17%    |
| A little                                           | 21%   | 22%    | 17%  | 26%    | 17%  | 25%    |
| Some                                               | 31%   | 31%    | 33%  | 31%    | 32%  | 32%    |
| Quite a bit                                        | 21%   | 19%    | 22%  | 16%    | 23%  | 17%    |
| Very much                                          | 13%   | 8%     | 17%  | 10%    | 13%  | 9%     |

**TABLE 20**  
**ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                           | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                           | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                           | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                           | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Do you live with anyone who drinks too much alcohol?</b>                                                                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 18%   | 15%    | 11%  | 11%    | 8%   | 15%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 82%   | 85%    | 89%  | 89%    | 92%  | 85%    |
| <b>Do you live with anyone who uses illegal drugs or abuses prescription drugs?</b>                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 8%    | 6%     | 4%   | 3%     | 5%   | 6%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 92%   | 94%    | 96%  | 97%    | 95%  | 94%    |
| <b>Do you live with anyone who is depressed or has any other mental health issues?</b>                                                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 35%   | 47%    | 36%  | 49%    | 37%  | 51%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 65%   | 53%    | 64%  | 51%    | 63%  | 49%    |
| <b>Does a parent or other adult in your home regularly swear at you, insult you or put you down?</b>                                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 20%   | 26%    | 19%  | 25%    | 18%  | 21%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 80%   | 74%    | 81%  | 75%    | 82%  | 79%    |
| <b>Has a parent or other adult in your home ever hit, beat, kicked or physically hurt you in any way?</b>                                                                 |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 15%   | 12%    | 15%  | 16%    | 10%  | 17%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 85%   | 88%    | 85%  | 84%    | 90%  | 83%    |
| <b>Have your parents or other adults in your home ever slapped, hit, kicked, punched or beat each other up?</b>                                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 11%   | 11%    | 8%   | 8%     | 7%   | 10%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 89%   | 89%    | 92%  | 92%    | 93%  | 90%    |
| <b>Has anyone who was not a relative/family member ever pressured, tricked, or forced you to do something sexual or done something sexual to you against your wishes?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 14%   | 14%    | 9%   | 15%    | 12%  | 15%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 86%   | 86%    | 91%  | 85%    | 88%  | 85%    |
| <b>Has any relative/family member ever pressured, tricked, or forced you to do something sexual or done something sexual to you?</b>                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       | 5%    | 7%     | 3%   | 11%    | 3%   | 9%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        | 95%   | 93%    | 97%  | 89%    | 97%  | 91%    |
| <b>Have you ever traded sex or sexual activity to receive money, food, drugs, alcohol, a place to stay, or anything else?*</b>                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                       |       |        | 4%   | 1%     | 4%   | 3%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                        |       |        | 96%  | 99%    | 96%  | 97%    |
| <b>ACEs Score-short^</b>                                                                                                                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| None                                                                                                                                                                      | 40%   | 33%    | 41%  | 29%    | 43%  | 34%    |
| One                                                                                                                                                                       | 26%   | 26%    | 27%  | 31%    | 29%  | 23%    |
| Two                                                                                                                                                                       | 11%   | 18%    | 14%  | 18%    | 13%  | 16%    |
| Three                                                                                                                                                                     | 10%   | 10%    | 7%   | 11%    | 8%   | 13%    |
| Four or more                                                                                                                                                              | 12%   | 12%    | 11%  | 11%    | 7%   | 14%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

\*\* 8th grade survey did not ask this question.

^ An adverse childhood experience (ACE) describes a traumatic experience in a person's life occurring before age 18. The ACEs Score-short is a measure of cumulative exposure to adverse childhood conditions, and combines the responses to all but the last question in this table plus the responses to the first question about parental incarceration (See Table 17).

**TABLE 21A**  
**GUN VIOLENCE<sup>^</sup>**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                          | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                          | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                          | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                          | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Have you ever experienced people using guns to threaten or hurt others in person?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                      | 10%   | 11%    | 11%  | 8%     | 8%   | 6%     |
| No                                                                                       | 90%   | 89%    | 89%  | 92%    | 92%  | 94%    |

<sup>^</sup> New question in 2025.



**TABLE 21B**  
**RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Have you been in a casual or serious relationship where your partner ever physically hurt you on purpose (shoved, kicked, slapped, punched, pulled hair, strangled, injured you with an object or weapon, etc.)?</b>                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 14%   | 7%     | 5%   | 8%     | 6%   | 11%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 86%   | 93%    | 95%  | 92%    | 94%  | 89%    |
| <b>Have you been in a casual or serious relationship where your partner ever verbally hurt or controlled you (called you names, told you what you could wear or eat, told you who you could see or talk to, threatened you, blamed you for their behavior, etc.)?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 18%   | 17%    | 10%  | 21%    | 20%  | 24%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 82%   | 83%    | 90%  | 79%    | 80%  | 76%    |
| <b>Have you been in a casual or serious relationship where your partner ever pressured, tricked, or forced you to do something sexual, or did something sexual to you against your wishes?**</b>                                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |       |        | 10%  | 13%    | 15%  | 17%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |       |        | 90%  | 87%    | 85%  | 83%    |
| <b>Have YOU ever pressured, tricked, or forced someone to do something sexual, or have you done something sexual to someone against their wishes?**</b>                                                                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |       |        | 5%   | 5%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |       |        | 87%  | 91%    | 94%  | 94%    |
| Not sure                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |       |        | 8%   | 4%     | 3%   | 3%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

\*\* 8th grade survey did not ask this question.

**TABLE 22**  
**PHYSICAL HEALTH**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                      | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                      | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                      | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>How would you describe your health in general?</b>                                                                                                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Excellent                                                                                                                                                                            | 17%   | 7%     | 17%  | 8%     | 11%  | 12%    |
| Very good                                                                                                                                                                            | 29%   | 24%    | 27%  | 29%    | 38%  | 26%    |
| Good                                                                                                                                                                                 | 34%   | 38%    | 35%  | 38%    | 31%  | 36%    |
| Fair                                                                                                                                                                                 | 13%   | 26%    | 16%  | 19%    | 17%  | 22%    |
| Poor                                                                                                                                                                                 | 7%    | 5%     | 5%   | 6%     | 4%   | 4%     |
| <b>Do you have any physical disabilities, or long-term health problems (such as asthma, cancer, diabetes, epilepsy or something else)? Long-term means lasting 6 months or more.</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                  | 23%   | 23%    | 20%  | 26%    | 18%  | 26%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                   | 77%   | 77%    | 80%  | 74%    | 82%  | 74%    |
| <b>Has a doctor or nurse ever told you that you have diabetes?</b>                                                                                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                  | 11%   | 2%     | 2%   | 3%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                   | 89%   | 98%    | 98%  | 97%    | 97%  | 99%    |
| <b>Has a doctor or nurse ever told you that you have pre-diabetes?</b>                                                                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                  | 5%    | 3%     | 3%   | 3%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                   | 95%   | 97%    | 97%  | 97%    | 97%  | 96%    |
| <b>Has a doctor or nurse ever told you that you have asthma?</b>                                                                                                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                  | 23%   | 17%    | 18%  | 15%    | 15%  | 18%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                   | 77%   | 83%    | 82%  | 85%    | 85%  | 82%    |
| <b>Has a doctor or nurse ever told you that you have an allergy that requires you to carry an epi-pen?</b>                                                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                  | 11%   | 4%     | 4%   | 6%     | 5%   | 5%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                   | 89%   | 96%    | 96%  | 94%    | 95%  | 95%    |
| <b>Weight status according to Body Mass Index (BMI)*</b>                                                                                                                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Normal                                                                                                                                                                               | 58%   | 64%    | 62%  | 69%    | 58%  | 65%    |
| Underweight                                                                                                                                                                          | 5%    | 3%     | 5%   | 1%     | 9%   | 4%     |
| Overweight                                                                                                                                                                           | 19%   | 19%    | 12%  | 16%    | 8%   | 14%    |
| Obese                                                                                                                                                                                | 18%   | 14%    | 21%  | 13%    | 24%  | 17%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask this question. Body Mass Index (BMI) is a number calculated from a child's self-reported weight and height. BMI is calculated using a standard formula. BMI-for-age percentiles are used to interpret BMI numbers for children and teens. CDC BMI-for-age growth charts were used to determine weight status according to BMI for participants in the Minnesota Student Survey. Underweight: Less than the 5th percentile Not overweight or underweight: 5th to less than the 85th percentile Overweight: 85th to less than the 95th percentile Obese: Equal to or greater than the 95th percentile

**TABLE 23**  
**MENTAL HEALTH**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                            | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                            | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                            | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                            | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Do you have any long-term mental health, behavioral or emotional problems? Long-term means lasting 6 months or more.*</b>               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                        | 46%   | 67%    | 46%  | 67%    | 52%  | 68%    |
| No                                                                                                                                         | 54%   | 33%    | 54%  | 33%    | 48%  | 32%    |
| <b>Have you ever been treated for a mental health, emotional or behavioral problem? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                         | 59%   | 51%    | 61%  | 45%    | 47%  | 39%    |
| Yes, during the last year                                                                                                                  | 23%   | 40%    | 22%  | 38%    | 35%  | 41%    |
| Yes, more than a year ago                                                                                                                  | 22%   | 17%    | 25%  | 27%    | 29%  | 38%    |
| <b>Have you ever been treated for an alcohol or drug problem? (Mark ALL that apply)*</b>                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                         | 92%   | 97%    | 97%  | 97%    | 96%  | 97%    |
| Yes, during the last year                                                                                                                  | 3%    | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| Yes, more than a year ago                                                                                                                  | 5%    | 1%     | 1%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| <b>When you are feeling upset, stressed or having problems, how comfortable are you talking to a counselor or social worker at school?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Very comfortable                                                                                                                           | 17%   | 8%     | 13%  | 4%     | 12%  | 8%     |
| Somewhat comfortable                                                                                                                       | 39%   | 45%    | 47%  | 38%    | 48%  | 41%    |
| Not at all comfortable                                                                                                                     | 41%   | 47%    | 37%  | 58%    | 40%  | 50%    |
| There is no counselor or social worker at my school                                                                                        | 4%    | 0%     | 3%   | 0%     | 0%   | 1%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask this question.

**TABLE 24**  
**ORAL HEALTH**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                               | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                               | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                               | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                               | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>When was the last time you saw a dentist for a check-up, exam, or teeth cleaning or other dental work?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| During the last year                                                                                          | 77%   | 81%    | 76%  | 81%    | 77%  | 78%    |
| Between 1 and 2 years ago                                                                                     | 11%   | 10%    | 12%  | 10%    | 12%  | 12%    |
| More than 2 years ago                                                                                         | 7%    | 8%     | 9%   | 7%     | 9%   | 8%     |
| Never                                                                                                         | 5%    | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| <b>Have you had any dental problems during the past 12 months?^</b>                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                           | 33%   | 28%    | 25%  | 27%    | 28%  | 25%    |
| No                                                                                                            | 67%   | 72%    | 75%  | 73%    | 72%  | 75%    |
| <b>Have you had any of the following dental problems during the past 12 months? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Toothaches or pain                                                                                            | 14%   | 16%    | 12%  | 16%    | 9%   | 14%    |
| Decayed teeth or cavities                                                                                     | 15%   | 16%    | 13%  | 14%    | 18%  | 15%    |
| Swollen, painful or bleeding gums                                                                             | 6%    | 5%     | 3%   | 5%     | 6%   | 5%     |
| Could not eat certain foods because of a dental problem                                                       | 2%    | 6%     | 3%   | 4%     | 2%   | 5%     |
| Missed one or more school days because of a dental problem                                                    | 12%   | 4%     | 5%   | 4%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| <b>IF ONE OR MORE DENTAL PROBLEMS: Have you had this dental problem treated by a dentist?</b>                 |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                           | 52%   | 67%    | 72%  | 71%    | 70%  | 69%    |
| No, but I will see a dentist                                                                                  | 31%   | 22%    | 24%  | 24%    | 23%  | 26%    |
| No, I am not able to get dental treatment                                                                     | 17%   | 10%    | 4%   | 5%     | 8%   | 5%     |

^ New question in 2025.

**TABLE 25A**  
**PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SLEEP**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                        | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                        | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                        | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                        | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of AT LEAST 60 MINUTES PER DAY?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                 | 15%   | 16%    | 23%  | 16%    | 20%  | 20%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                  | 12%   | 15%    | 10%  | 10%    | 11%  | 12%    |
| 2 days                                                                                                                 | 13%   | 16%    | 12%  | 15%    | 12%  | 16%    |
| 3 days                                                                                                                 | 22%   | 16%    | 11%  | 14%    | 19%  | 14%    |
| 4 days                                                                                                                 | 11%   | 13%    | 10%  | 12%    | 12%  | 11%    |
| 5 days                                                                                                                 | 14%   | 10%    | 10%  | 17%    | 10%  | 12%    |
| 6 days                                                                                                                 | 4%    | 5%     | 9%   | 7%     | 5%   | 7%     |
| 7 days                                                                                                                 | 9%    | 11%    | 15%  | 9%     | 11%  | 9%     |
| <b>During a typical school night, how many hours of sleep do you get?</b>                                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 4 hours or less                                                                                                        | 16%   | 15%    | 16%  | 14%    | 11%  | 7%     |
| 5 hours                                                                                                                | 15%   | 15%    | 13%  | 16%    | 13%  | 18%    |
| 6 hours                                                                                                                | 17%   | 19%    | 23%  | 19%    | 26%  | 29%    |
| 7 hours                                                                                                                | 16%   | 22%    | 23%  | 25%    | 31%  | 27%    |
| 8 hours                                                                                                                | 25%   | 20%    | 19%  | 19%    | 13%  | 15%    |
| 9 hours                                                                                                                | 8%    | 6%     | 6%   | 5%     | 4%   | 3%     |
| 10 or more hours                                                                                                       | 3%    | 3%     | 1%   | 2%     | 3%   | 1%     |

**TABLE 25B**  
**SOCIAL MEDIA USE^**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During an average week when you are in school, on how many school nights do you use technology between midnight and 5AM? (Count time spent playing games, watching videos, texting, or using social media on your devices.)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 school nights                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 38%   | 35%    | 33%  | 34%    | 36%  | 37%    |
| 1 school night                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 15%   | 10%    | 14%  | 14%    | 14%  | 15%    |
| 2 school nights                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 8%    | 13%    | 12%  | 11%    | 13%  | 16%    |
| 3 school nights                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 10%   | 11%    | 6%   | 9%     | 10%  | 10%    |
| 4 school nights                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 5%    | 5%     | 4%   | 5%     | 6%   | 5%     |
| 5 school nights                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 24%   | 27%    | 31%  | 26%    | 22%  | 18%    |
| <b>In a typical week, how often do you use social media?*</b>                                                                                                                                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I do not use social media                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 13%   | 11%    | 13%  | 9%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| Less than once a week                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 4%    | 3%     | 3%   | 4%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| A couple days a week                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 4%    | 9%     | 7%   | 6%     | 5%   | 5%     |
| About once a day                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 10%   | 12%    | 12%  | 12%    | 11%  | 12%    |
| Several times a day                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 52%   | 44%    | 42%  | 51%    | 50%  | 56%    |
| About once an hour or more                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 17%   | 20%    | 24%  | 17%    | 25%  | 21%    |
| <b>IF USE SOCIAL MEDIA: Do you feel that you might have a problem with spending too much time on social media?*</b>                                                                                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 40%   | 44%    | 39%  | 42%    | 42%  | 45%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 60%   | 56%    | 61%  | 58%    | 58%  | 55%    |
| <b>IF USE SOCIAL MEDIA: Do you skip important social or recreational activities like sports or being with friends or relatives to be on social media?*</b>                                                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 13%   | 15%    | 13%  | 10%    | 9%   | 7%     |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 87%   | 85%    | 87%  | 90%    | 91%  | 93%    |
| <b>IF USE SOCIAL MEDIA: Do you have trouble getting your homework, chores, or other major responsibilities done because you were spending time on social media?*</b>                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 40%   | 40%    | 41%  | 40%    | 41%  | 44%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 60%   | 60%    | 59%  | 60%    | 59%  | 56%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask this question.

^ New questions in 2025.

**TABLE 26A**  
**EATING LUNCH^**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                  | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                  | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                  | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                  | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During a typical school week, where do you usually get your lunch?<br/>(Mark the number of days for each)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| <b>I don't eat lunch^^</b>                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                           | 58%   | 50%    | 49%  | 52%    | 54%  | 51%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                            | 16%   | 14%    | 14%  | 13%    | 8%   | 12%    |
| 2 days                                                                                                           | 6%    | 9%     | 12%  | 10%    | 9%   | 14%    |
| 3 days                                                                                                           | 5%    | 8%     | 7%   | 5%     | 6%   | 8%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                           | 2%    | 5%     | 4%   | 7%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                           | 13%   | 14%    | 14%  | 13%    | 19%  | 13%    |
| <b>Regular school lunch from the cafeteria</b>                                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                           | 21%   | 23%    | 15%  | 26%    | 24%  | 25%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                            | 5%    | 5%     | 4%   | 7%     | 5%   | 5%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                           | 5%    | 10%    | 5%   | 6%     | 8%   | 12%    |
| 3 days                                                                                                           | 6%    | 6%     | 12%  | 8%     | 9%   | 10%    |
| 4 days                                                                                                           | 9%    | 10%    | 8%   | 11%    | 4%   | 8%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                           | 53%   | 47%    | 55%  | 43%    | 50%  | 40%    |
| <b>The a la carte line (buy individual items)</b>                                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                           | 70%   | 76%    | 63%  | 68%    | 76%  | 69%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                            | 8%    | 10%    | 9%   | 10%    | 7%   | 10%    |
| 2 days                                                                                                           | 6%    | 7%     | 10%  | 8%     | 6%   | 8%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                           | 4%    | 3%     | 5%   | 5%     | 4%   | 4%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                           | 6%    | 1%     | 5%   | 3%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                           | 5%    | 3%     | 7%   | 6%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| <b>School store or vending machine</b>                                                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                           | 86%   | 90%    | 72%  | 74%    | 79%  | 78%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                            | 7%    | 4%     | 13%  | 13%    | 8%   | 10%    |
| 2 days                                                                                                           | 3%    | 3%     | 9%   | 6%     | 4%   | 5%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                           | 3%    | 1%     | 1%   | 2%     | 4%   | 3%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                           | 1%    | 0%     | 2%   | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                           | 0%    | 1%     | 3%   | 3%     | 4%   | 2%     |
| <b>Fast food restaurant, gas station or somewhere else outside of school</b>                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                           | 75%   | 75%    | 67%  | 75%    | 67%  | 70%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                            | 10%   | 12%    | 11%  | 13%    | 15%  | 12%    |
| 2 days                                                                                                           | 6%    | 7%     | 12%  | 5%     | 9%   | 9%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                           | 6%    | 4%     | 3%   | 4%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                           | 3%    | 1%     | 4%   | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                           | 0%    | 1%     | 4%   | 1%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| <b>I bring lunch from home</b>                                                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                           | 78%   | 75%    | 78%  | 72%    | 74%  | 67%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                            | 2%    | 3%     | 5%   | 5%     | 4%   | 7%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                           | 1%    | 3%     | 2%   | 4%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                           | 3%    | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     | 2%   | 5%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                           | 3%    | 2%     | 1%   | 1%     | 2%   | 4%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                           | 12%   | 15%    | 12%  | 16%    | 14%  | 14%    |

^ Response options have changed from 2022.

^^ Change in question wording from 2022.

**TABLE 26B**  
**EATING BREAKFAST; SKIPPING MEALS**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| During a typical school week, where do you usually get your breakfast? (Mark the number of days for each)             | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                       | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                       | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                       | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>I don't eat breakfast^</b>                                                                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                | 46%   | 41%    | 41%  | 41%    | 36%  | 42%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                 | 7%    | 9%     | 5%   | 8%     | 7%   | 7%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                                | 9%    | 8%     | 12%  | 9%     | 10%  | 8%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                                | 12%   | 6%     | 13%  | 8%     | 8%   | 8%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                                | 5%    | 6%     | 2%   | 8%     | 8%   | 6%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                                | 22%   | 31%    | 27%  | 25%    | 31%  | 29%    |
| <b>Regular school breakfast from the cafeteria^</b>                                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                | 50%   | 67%    | 57%  | 59%    | 57%  | 62%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                 | 8%    | 8%     | 4%   | 11%    | 11%  | 6%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                                | 8%    | 6%     | 8%   | 9%     | 5%   | 6%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                                | 11%   | 4%     | 10%  | 6%     | 7%   | 5%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                                | 4%    | 4%     | 3%   | 4%     | 3%   | 5%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                                | 20%   | 11%    | 18%  | 11%    | 18%  | 16%    |
| <b>The a la carte line (buy individual items)^</b>                                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                | 89%   | 94%    | 92%  | 96%    | 95%  | 94%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                 | 1%    | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                                | 3%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 0%   | 2%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                                | 3%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                                | 1%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                                | 3%    | 2%     | 3%   | 0%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| <b>School store or vending machine^</b>                                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                | 91%   | 97%    | 90%  | 93%    | 91%  | 94%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                 | 2%    | 1%     | 3%   | 4%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                                | 2%    | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                                | 1%    | 0%     | 2%   | 1%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                                | 1%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                                | 3%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>Fast food restaurant, gas station or somewhere else outside of school^</b>                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                | 79%   | 87%    | 84%  | 90%    | 82%  | 89%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                 | 11%   | 6%     | 7%   | 5%     | 9%   | 5%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                                | 3%    | 3%     | 2%   | 3%     | 5%   | 3%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                                | 3%    | 3%     | 2%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                                | 1%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                                | 3%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| <b>I eat breakfast from home^</b>                                                                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                | 44%   | 46%    | 39%  | 48%    | 44%  | 45%    |
| 1 day                                                                                                                 | 8%    | 11%    | 9%   | 10%    | 7%   | 9%     |
| 2 days                                                                                                                | 8%    | 5%     | 11%  | 8%     | 9%   | 9%     |
| 3 days                                                                                                                | 6%    | 6%     | 6%   | 5%     | 8%   | 6%     |
| 4 days                                                                                                                | 7%    | 5%     | 4%   | 5%     | 4%   | 4%     |
| 5 days                                                                                                                | 28%   | 27%    | 30%  | 24%    | 30%  | 26%    |
| <b>During the last 30 days, have you had to skip meals because your family did not have enough money to buy food?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                   | 12%   | 5%     | 7%   | 5%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| No                                                                                                                    | 88%   | 95%    | 93%  | 95%    | 94%  | 96%    |

^ New questions in 2025.



**TABLE 26C**  
**FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                      | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                      | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                      | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| During the last 7 days, how many times did you...?                                                                                                   | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...drink 100% fruit juices such as orange, apple or grape juice? (Do not count punch, Kool-Aid, sports drinks or other fruit-flavored drinks)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                          | 34%   | 32%    | 31%  | 34%    | 36%  | 33%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 35%   | 38%    | 34%  | 38%    | 34%  | 41%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 13%   | 12%    | 15%  | 10%    | 10%  | 11%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                       | 8%    | 6%     | 9%   | 8%     | 10%  | 7%     |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 2%    | 4%     | 4%   | 4%     | 5%   | 3%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 3%    | 3%     | 1%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                              | 5%    | 5%     | 5%   | 4%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| <b>...eat fruit? (Do not count fruit juice)</b>                                                                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                          | 13%   | 7%     | 11%  | 6%     | 15%  | 6%     |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 22%   | 26%    | 24%  | 23%    | 28%  | 26%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 19%   | 19%    | 20%  | 24%    | 18%  | 20%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                       | 9%    | 16%    | 14%  | 14%    | 16%  | 17%    |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 18%   | 15%    | 13%  | 16%    | 11%  | 15%    |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 5%    | 9%     | 7%   | 7%     | 7%   | 7%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                              | 13%   | 8%     | 10%  | 10%    | 5%   | 8%     |
| <b>...eat green salad, potatoes, carrots or other vegetables? (Do not count French fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips)</b>                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                          | 15%   | 11%    | 15%  | 11%    | 16%  | 7%     |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 21%   | 24%    | 25%  | 25%    | 22%  | 24%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 23%   | 21%    | 19%  | 19%    | 18%  | 22%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                       | 14%   | 16%    | 18%  | 17%    | 19%  | 21%    |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 13%   | 14%    | 9%   | 17%    | 14%  | 14%    |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 4%    | 7%     | 5%   | 6%     | 6%   | 6%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                              | 10%   | 7%     | 10%  | 6%     | 5%   | 6%     |
| <b>...eat from a fast food restaurant, including carry-out or delivery?</b>                                                                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                          | 26%   | 24%    | 24%  | 24%    | 22%  | 24%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 50%   | 58%    | 60%  | 60%    | 61%  | 59%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                      | 11%   | 11%    | 5%   | 8%     | 8%   | 9%     |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                       | 6%    | 4%     | 4%   | 4%     | 4%   | 5%     |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 0%    | 1%     | 1%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                      | 1%    | 0%     | 2%   | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                              | 5%    | 2%     | 4%   | 1%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| <b>Servings of fruits, fruit juice and vegetables per day during the last 7 days^</b>                                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Less than five                                                                                                                                       | 80%   | 81%    | 80%  | 80%    | 83%  | 80%    |
| Five or more                                                                                                                                         | 20%   | 19%    | 20%  | 20%    | 17%  | 20%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ This is a computed variable based on combinations of responses to the first three questions on this table.

**TABLE 26D**  
**MILK AND WATER CONSUMPTION\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| During the last 7 days, how many times did you drink...?                                       | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>... a glass of milk? (Count the milk you drank in a cup, from a carton, or with cereal)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                    | 28%   | 33%    | 33%  | 37%    | 34%  | 40%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                | 15%   | 25%    | 20%  | 24%    | 20%  | 26%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                | 21%   | 14%    | 11%  | 10%    | 17%  | 10%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                 | 17%   | 15%    | 15%  | 12%    | 15%  | 11%    |
| 2 times per day                                                                                | 7%    | 7%     | 10%  | 8%     | 8%   | 8%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                | 3%    | 2%     | 6%   | 3%     | 4%   | 3%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                        | 9%    | 4%     | 4%   | 6%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| <b>... a glass or drink of tap water from a drinking fountain, faucet or sink?</b>             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                    | 20%   | 20%    | 19%  | 20%    | 20%  | 15%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                | 10%   | 12%    | 14%  | 12%    | 9%   | 9%     |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                | 15%   | 13%    | 11%  | 11%    | 10%  | 11%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                 | 9%    | 9%     | 7%   | 10%    | 11%  | 10%    |
| 2 times per day                                                                                | 8%    | 11%    | 10%  | 11%    | 9%   | 14%    |
| 3 times per day                                                                                | 9%    | 11%    | 15%  | 12%    | 14%  | 12%    |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                        | 28%   | 24%    | 24%  | 24%    | 28%  | 29%    |
| <b>... a bottle of water (plain water that is not flavored or carbonated)?</b>                 |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                    | 25%   | 23%    | 25%  | 24%    | 25%  | 30%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                | 14%   | 13%    | 14%  | 13%    | 13%  | 11%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                | 13%   | 13%    | 10%  | 11%    | 12%  | 10%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                 | 14%   | 11%    | 12%  | 11%    | 13%  | 12%    |
| 2 times per day                                                                                | 8%    | 10%    | 6%   | 11%    | 8%   | 10%    |
| 3 times per day                                                                                | 8%    | 9%     | 12%  | 7%     | 9%   | 8%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                        | 18%   | 22%    | 22%  | 23%    | 20%  | 20%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 26E**  
**SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGE CONSUMPTION\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| During the last 7 days, how many times did you drink...?                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>... a can, bottle or glass of pop or soda, such as Coke, Pepsi or Sprite (Do not count diet pop or diet soda)?</b>                                                                                                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 21%   | 27%    | 30%  | 35%    | 33%  | 33%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 45%   | 41%    | 38%  | 38%    | 37%  | 40%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 13%   | 11%    | 16%  | 12%    | 13%  | 14%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8%    | 11%    | 7%   | 8%     | 8%   | 9%     |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5%    | 6%     | 3%   | 5%     | 6%   | 2%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3%    | 2%     | 4%   | 1%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 5%    | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| <b>... a can, bottle or glass of a sports drink, such as Gatorade or Powerade? (Do not count low-calorie sports drinks such as Propel or G2)</b>                                                                                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 57%   | 64%    | 62%  | 64%    | 73%  | 66%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 25%   | 21%    | 23%  | 22%    | 15%  | 19%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5%    | 8%     | 7%   | 5%     | 3%   | 8%     |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5%    | 3%     | 3%   | 5%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5%    | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1%    | 1%     | 2%   | 0%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 2%    | 2%     | 1%   | 1%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| <b>... a can, bottle or glass of an energy drink, such as Rockstar, Red Bull, Monster or Full Throttle?</b>                                                                                                                                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 66%   | 67%    | 63%  | 62%    | 63%  | 56%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 18%   | 19%    | 15%  | 21%    | 17%  | 22%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5%    | 4%     | 9%   | 7%     | 7%   | 10%    |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 4%    | 5%     | 6%   | 6%     | 6%   | 7%     |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3%    | 2%     | 4%   | 2%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1%    | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 4%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 5%   | 1%     |
| <b>... a can, bottle or glass of coffee or tea that had sugar, syrups or honey added to it? (Count coffee/ tea you added a sweetener to/ already had sweetener, e.g. Arizona Iced Tea/Frappuccinos. Don't count artificial sweeteners e.g. Splenda/diet drinks)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 59%   | 54%    | 48%  | 54%    | 47%  | 49%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 23%   | 28%    | 31%  | 30%    | 32%  | 33%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 7%    | 9%     | 9%   | 7%     | 9%   | 8%     |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5%    | 6%     | 7%   | 5%     | 8%   | 6%     |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2%    | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1%    | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 4%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| <b>... a can, bottle or glass of a sweetened fruit drink, such as Kool-Aid, Capri Sun or lemonade? (Do not include 100% fruit juice, such as 100% pure orange juice)</b>                                                                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I did NOT eat or drink this                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 51%   | 54%    | 56%  | 54%    | 67%  | 63%    |
| 1 to 3 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 28%   | 28%    | 29%  | 29%    | 20%  | 26%    |
| 4 to 6 times in the last 7 days                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 10%   | 10%    | 7%   | 8%     | 2%   | 5%     |
| 1 time per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 5%    | 5%     | 4%   | 5%     | 7%   | 2%     |
| 2 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2%    | 1%     | 1%   | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     |
| 3 times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1%    | 1%     | 2%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| 4 or more times per day                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 3%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 27**  
**VEHICLE SAFETY**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>When driving a car, truck or SUV, how often do you handle your phone to do things like send or read text messages, take pictures, use social media, stream videos, or videochat?*</b> <sup>^</sup> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I don't drive a car, truck or SUV                                                                                                                                                                     |       |        | 71%  | 78%    | 39%  | 35%    |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                                 |       |        | 21%  | 19%    | 37%  | 44%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                                                                                                                             |       |        | 5%   | 2%     | 17%  | 20%    |
| Always                                                                                                                                                                                                |       |        | 3%   | 1%     | 7%   | 1%     |
| <b>How often do you wear a seat belt when you are driving or riding in a car, truck, or SUV?</b> <sup>^</sup> <sup>^^</sup>                                                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 7%    | 2%     | 4%   | 1%     | 4%   | 1%     |
| Sometimes                                                                                                                                                                                             | 12%   | 13%    | 13%  | 13%    | 9%   | 10%    |
| Always                                                                                                                                                                                                | 82%   | 85%    | 83%  | 86%    | 87%  | 89%    |

\* 5th and 8th grade surveys did not ask this question.

<sup>^</sup> Response options changed from 2022.

<sup>^^</sup> On the 5th grade survey, this question was worded 'How often do you wear a seat belt when you are riding in a car, truck or SUV?'

**TABLE 28A**  
**SELF DESCRIPTION<sup>^</sup>**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                       | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                       | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                       | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| In general, how does each of the following statements describe you?   | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>I feel in control of my life and future.<sup>^^</sup></b>          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                  | 9%    | 14%    | 10%  | 16%    | 11%  | 11%    |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                                 | 30%   | 38%    | 28%  | 36%    | 35%  | 42%    |
| Very or often                                                         | 34%   | 37%    | 38%  | 35%    | 42%  | 36%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                            | 26%   | 11%    | 24%  | 14%    | 12%  | 11%    |
| <b>I feel good about myself.</b>                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                  | 17%   | 25%    | 13%  | 21%    | 16%  | 18%    |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                                 | 38%   | 46%    | 36%  | 47%    | 37%  | 44%    |
| Very or often                                                         | 32%   | 20%    | 34%  | 25%    | 36%  | 31%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                            | 13%   | 8%     | 17%  | 7%     | 12%  | 7%     |
| <b>I feel good about my future.</b>                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                  | 12%   | 21%    | 15%  | 21%    | 17%  | 16%    |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                                 | 25%   | 39%    | 29%  | 37%    | 36%  | 42%    |
| Very or often                                                         | 42%   | 27%    | 35%  | 33%    | 34%  | 31%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                            | 21%   | 13%    | 21%  | 10%    | 13%  | 11%    |
| <b>I deal with disappointment without getting too upset.</b>          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                  | 13%   | 19%    | 11%  | 20%    | 8%   | 16%    |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                                 | 33%   | 42%    | 36%  | 47%    | 39%  | 42%    |
| Very or often                                                         | 41%   | 28%    | 39%  | 26%    | 38%  | 33%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                            | 13%   | 10%    | 14%  | 7%     | 15%  | 9%     |
| <b>I find good ways to deal with things that are hard in my life.</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                  | 14%   | 21%    | 15%  | 21%    | 7%   | 14%    |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                                 | 33%   | 45%    | 37%  | 44%    | 44%  | 44%    |
| Very or often                                                         | 38%   | 28%    | 35%  | 27%    | 35%  | 33%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                            | 15%   | 5%     | 13%  | 8%     | 14%  | 9%     |
| <b>I am thinking about what my purpose is in life.<sup>^^^</sup></b>  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                  | 14%   | 11%    | 9%   | 8%     | 8%   | 7%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                                 | 23%   | 30%    | 25%  | 26%    | 23%  | 28%    |
| Very or often                                                         | 38%   | 31%    | 38%  | 35%    | 37%  | 35%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                            | 26%   | 28%    | 28%  | 31%    | 32%  | 30%    |

<sup>^</sup> These items are adapted from the Developmental Assets Profile (DAP) under a license agreement with Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN.

<sup>^^</sup> On the 5th grade survey, this item was worded 'I can shape and influence what happens in my life and future.'

<sup>^^^</sup> On the 5th grade survey, this item was worded 'I think about what I want to do in my life when I grow up.'

**TABLE 28B**  
**SELF DESCRIPTION<sup>^</sup>**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                     | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                     | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                     | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| In general, how does each of the following statements describe you? | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>I say no to things that are dangerous or unhealthy.</b>          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 7%    | 9%     | 8%   | 8%     | 4%   | 6%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 16%   | 23%    | 17%  | 17%    | 14%  | 22%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 29%   | 30%    | 36%  | 32%    | 39%  | 30%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 47%   | 38%    | 39%  | 43%    | 43%  | 42%    |
| <b>I build friendships with other people.</b>                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 13%   | 10%    | 8%   | 11%    | 9%   | 10%    |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 25%   | 39%    | 25%  | 31%    | 20%  | 34%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 34%   | 31%    | 39%  | 38%    | 48%  | 36%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 28%   | 19%    | 28%  | 21%    | 23%  | 20%    |
| <b>I express my feelings in proper ways.</b>                        |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 17%   | 25%    | 15%  | 21%    | 10%  | 18%    |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 28%   | 40%    | 31%  | 42%    | 38%  | 38%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 35%   | 26%    | 38%  | 28%    | 38%  | 34%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 20%   | 9%     | 16%  | 10%    | 15%  | 11%    |
| <b>I plan ahead and make good choices.</b>                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 14%   | 13%    | 9%   | 14%    | 9%   | 7%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 34%   | 41%    | 33%  | 32%    | 35%  | 38%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 35%   | 36%    | 39%  | 38%    | 42%  | 41%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 17%   | 10%    | 18%  | 16%    | 14%  | 15%    |
| <b>I stay away from bad influences.</b>                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 9%    | 11%    | 8%   | 9%     | 6%   | 6%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 19%   | 22%    | 22%  | 20%    | 19%  | 21%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 37%   | 35%    | 36%  | 34%    | 35%  | 37%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 35%   | 31%    | 34%  | 37%    | 40%  | 36%    |
| <b>I resolve conflicts without anyone getting hurt.</b>             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 10%   | 7%     | 7%   | 6%     | 3%   | 4%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 19%   | 27%    | 22%  | 27%    | 21%  | 22%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 46%   | 43%    | 43%  | 45%    | 43%  | 47%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 25%   | 23%    | 27%  | 22%    | 34%  | 28%    |

<sup>^</sup> These items are adapted from the Developmental Assets Profile (DAP) under a license agreement with Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN.

**TABLE 28C**  
**SELF DESCRIPTION^**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                     | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                     | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                     | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| In general, how does each of the following statements describe you? | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>I accept people who are different from me.</b>                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 6%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 5%    | 4%     | 5%   | 4%     | 6%   | 7%     |
| Very or often                                                       | 25%   | 26%    | 31%  | 26%    | 28%  | 30%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 64%   | 69%    | 62%  | 69%    | 64%  | 62%    |
| <b>I am sensitive to the needs and feelings of others.</b>          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 8%    | 8%     | 4%   | 5%     | 5%   | 5%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 18%   | 21%    | 24%  | 18%    | 14%  | 17%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 48%   | 34%    | 40%  | 34%    | 41%  | 35%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 26%   | 37%    | 32%  | 43%    | 40%  | 43%    |
| <b>I feel valued and appreciated by others.</b>                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 10%   | 15%    | 9%   | 15%    | 13%  | 8%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 29%   | 45%    | 28%  | 37%    | 24%  | 43%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 41%   | 30%    | 39%  | 34%    | 42%  | 34%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 21%   | 10%    | 24%  | 13%    | 21%  | 15%    |
| <b>I am included in family tasks and decisions.</b>                 |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 8%    | 9%     | 7%   | 9%     | 7%   | 8%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 28%   | 35%    | 23%  | 29%    | 25%  | 32%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 39%   | 37%    | 46%  | 41%    | 43%  | 38%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 25%   | 19%    | 24%  | 21%    | 25%  | 22%    |
| <b>I am given useful roles and responsibilities.</b>                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all or rarely                                                | 8%    | 8%     | 4%   | 8%     | 8%   | 5%     |
| Somewhat or sometimes                                               | 24%   | 31%    | 31%  | 29%    | 16%  | 28%    |
| Very or often                                                       | 45%   | 41%    | 40%  | 40%    | 49%  | 43%    |
| Extremely or almost always                                          | 23%   | 20%    | 25%  | 23%    | 27%  | 24%    |

^ These items are adapted from the Developmental Assets Profile (DAP) under a license agreement with Search Institute, Minneapolis, MN.

**TABLE 29A**  
**EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING AND DISTRESS\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                  | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                  | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                  | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Over the last two weeks, how often have you been bothered by...? | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...little interest or pleasure in doing things?</b>           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                       | 35%   | 28%    | 36%  | 21%    | 27%  | 24%    |
| Several days                                                     | 34%   | 35%    | 37%  | 41%    | 43%  | 42%    |
| More than half the days                                          | 20%   | 18%    | 16%  | 23%    | 22%  | 19%    |
| Nearly every day                                                 | 11%   | 19%    | 11%  | 15%    | 9%   | 14%    |
| <b>...feeling down, depressed or hopeless?</b>                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                       | 42%   | 26%    | 41%  | 25%    | 39%  | 30%    |
| Several days                                                     | 29%   | 32%    | 33%  | 39%    | 37%  | 39%    |
| More than half the days                                          | 16%   | 21%    | 15%  | 17%    | 14%  | 15%    |
| Nearly every day                                                 | 13%   | 21%    | 11%  | 19%    | 10%  | 16%    |
| <b>...feeling nervous, anxious or on edge?</b>                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                       | 28%   | 15%    | 31%  | 11%    | 21%  | 16%    |
| Several days                                                     | 33%   | 27%    | 29%  | 33%    | 43%  | 35%    |
| More than half the days                                          | 21%   | 26%    | 21%  | 26%    | 21%  | 22%    |
| Nearly every day                                                 | 18%   | 33%    | 18%  | 29%    | 16%  | 27%    |
| <b>...not being able to stop or control worrying?</b>            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                       | 46%   | 24%    | 43%  | 25%    | 36%  | 23%    |
| Several days                                                     | 25%   | 28%    | 29%  | 29%    | 36%  | 36%    |
| More than half the days                                          | 9%    | 24%    | 14%  | 21%    | 15%  | 21%    |
| Nearly every day                                                 | 20%   | 25%    | 14%  | 25%    | 13%  | 20%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.



**TABLE 29B**  
**EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING AND DISTRESS\***  
***GAY OR LESBIAN***

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|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| <b>No data in this table.</b> |
|-------------------------------|

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\* Only the 5th grade survey asked these questions.

**TABLE 30**  
**SELF-INFLICTED INJURY; SUICIDAL THOUGHTS AND SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                          | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 12 months, how many times did you do something to purposely hurt or injure yourself without wanting to die, such as cutting, burning, scratching or bruising yourself on purpose?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 69%   | 43%    | 74%  | 49%    | 80%  | 63%    |
| 1 or 2 times                                                                                                                                                                                             | 13%   | 13%    | 10%  | 16%    | 10%  | 14%    |
| 3 to 5 times                                                                                                                                                                                             | 7%    | 14%    | 6%   | 9%     | 4%   | 8%     |
| 6 to 9 times                                                                                                                                                                                             | 3%    | 10%    | 4%   | 5%     | 1%   | 5%     |
| 10 to 19 times                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1%    | 7%     | 1%   | 8%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| 20 or more times                                                                                                                                                                                         | 8%    | 13%    | 6%   | 12%    | 2%   | 8%     |
| <b>Have you ever seriously considered attempting suicide? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                                                                                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 65%   | 50%    | 64%  | 49%    | 61%  | 54%    |
| Yes, during the last year                                                                                                                                                                                | 18%   | 34%    | 15%  | 30%    | 18%  | 20%    |
| Yes, more than a year ago                                                                                                                                                                                | 20%   | 24%    | 24%  | 30%    | 28%  | 35%    |
| <b>Have you ever actually attempted suicide? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                                                                                                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 84%   | 73%    | 86%  | 78%    | 83%  | 78%    |
| Yes, during the last year                                                                                                                                                                                | 10%   | 15%    | 5%   | 9%     | 4%   | 6%     |
| Yes, more than a year ago                                                                                                                                                                                | 7%    | 16%    | 11%  | 16%    | 14%  | 19%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 31**  
**PROBLEMATIC AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR\*^**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                               | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                               | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                               | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                               | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 12 months, how often have you...</b>       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| <b>...run away from home?</b>                                 |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                         | 91%   | 93%    | 95%  | 94%    | 93%  | 93%    |
| Once or twice                                                 | 6%    | 6%     | 4%   | 6%     | 7%   | 6%     |
| More than 3 times                                             | 3%    | 2%     | 1%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| <b>...damaged or destroyed property?</b>                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                         | 85%   | 82%    | 81%  | 86%    | 90%  | 89%    |
| Once or twice                                                 | 10%   | 13%    | 17%  | 12%    | 9%   | 9%     |
| More than 3 times                                             | 5%    | 5%     | 2%   | 3%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| <b>...hit or beat up another person?</b>                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                         | 86%   | 84%    | 84%  | 90%    | 92%  | 94%    |
| Once or twice                                                 | 8%    | 12%    | 12%  | 8%     | 6%   | 5%     |
| More than 3 times                                             | 6%    | 3%     | 4%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| <b>...taken something from a store without paying for it?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                         | 89%   | 85%    | 85%  | 83%    | 90%  | 86%    |
| Once or twice                                                 | 7%    | 11%    | 10%  | 10%    | 8%   | 9%     |
| More than 3 times                                             | 4%    | 4%     | 5%   | 6%     | 2%   | 6%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ Response options have changed from 2022.

**TABLE 32A**  
**GAMBLING BEHAVIOR\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                            | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                            | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                            | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                            | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the last 12 months, how often have you gambled, made bets, bought lottery tickets or scratch offs, or made purchases in online games?^</b>                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                                                                                                                                 | 68%   | 82%    | 73%  | 85%    | 77%  | 86%    |
| Less than once a month                                                                                                                                                     | 17%   | 12%    | 13%  | 11%    | 10%  | 10%    |
| About once a month                                                                                                                                                         | 8%    | 3%     | 6%   | 3%     | 6%   | 2%     |
| About once a week                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 1%     | 3%   | 0%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| 2 to 6 times a week                                                                                                                                                        | 1%    | 1%     | 2%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                      | 5%    | 1%     | 3%   | 0%     | 4%   | 0%     |
| <b>INCLUDES ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN ANY GAMBLING ACTIVITIES DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS: Which of the following activities did you do? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Bet on informal games of personal skill such as playing cards, video games, pool, golf, etc.^ ^                                                                         | 29%   | 43%    | 49%  | 44%    | 43%  | 34%    |
| ...Bet on formal sports/events or games including esports^ ^                                                                                                               | 12%   | 18%    | 13%  | 2%     | 13%  | 15%    |
| ...Bought lottery tickets or scratch offs^ ^                                                                                                                               | 17%   | 16%    | 9%   | 23%    | 22%  | 17%    |
| ...Gambled in a casino^ ^                                                                                                                                                  | 8%    | 1%     | 4%   | 0%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| ...Purchased mystery or random paid items (weapons/tools, power ups, new graphics, etc.) in online games without previewing the content first^ ^                           | 40%   | 31%    | 26%  | 27%    | 24%  | 36%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ New question in 2025.

^^ Change in response options from 2022.

**TABLE 32B**  
**GAMBLING BEHAVIOR\*^**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| During the last 12 months, how often have you done the following gambling/betting activities? Includes all respondents, not just those who have gambled in the last 12 months. | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Bet on informal games of personal skill such as playing cards, video games, pool, golf, etc.</b>                                                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                                                                                                                                     | 87%   | 92%    | 86%  | 93%    | 91%  | 96%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 8%    | 4%     | 8%   | 5%     | 6%   | 3%     |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 3%     | 3%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                    | 1%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                          | 2%    | 1%     | 2%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>Bet on formal sports events or games including esports</b>                                                                                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                                                                                                                                     | 96%   | 96%    | 95%  | 99%    | 96%  | 98%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 2%    | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                    | 0%    | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                          | 0%    | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| <b>Bought lottery tickets or scratch offs</b>                                                                                                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                                                                                                                                     | 94%   | 96%    | 97%  | 95%    | 94%  | 97%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 4%    | 2%     | 1%   | 4%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                    | 0%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| <b>Gambled in a casino</b>                                                                                                                                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                                                                                                                                     | 99%   | 99%    | 99%  | 100%   | 98%  | 99%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                    | 0%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>Gambled for money online including loot boxes</b>                                                                                                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all                                                                                                                                                                     | 89%   | 95%    | 92%  | 97%    | 93%  | 96%    |
| Once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 7%    | 2%     | 4%   | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                          | 2%    | 2%     | 2%   | 0%     | 4%   | 1%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                    | 1%    | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ Change in response options from 2022.

**TABLE 32C**  
**GAMBLING BEHAVIOR\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| INCLUDES ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN ANY<br>GAMBLING ACTIVITIES DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS: During the<br>last 12 months, how often have you... | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                        | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                        | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                        | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...hidden your gambling/betting from your parents, other family members or teachers?</b>                                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                  | 84%   | 85%    | 73%  | 93%    | 82%  | 89%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                                                                              | 5%    | 8%     | 17%  | 3%     | 9%   | 2%     |
| Many times                                                                                                                                             | 5%    | 2%     | 2%   | 3%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| All of the time                                                                                                                                        | 7%    | 5%     | 7%   | 0%     | 7%   | 6%     |
| <b>...felt that you might have a problem with gambling/betting?</b>                                                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                  | 88%   | 90%    | 76%  | 95%    | 79%  | 85%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                                                                              | 2%    | 8%     | 14%  | 5%     | 14%  | 11%    |
| Many times                                                                                                                                             | 0%    | 2%     | 5%   | 0%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| All of the time                                                                                                                                        | 9%    | 0%     | 5%   | 0%     | 5%   | 2%     |
| <b>...skipped hanging out with friends who do not gamble/bet to hang out with friends who do gamble/bet?</b>                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                  | 84%   | 92%    | 95%  | 98%    | 91%  | 96%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                                                                              | 0%    | 3%     | 0%   | 2%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Many times                                                                                                                                             | 5%    | 3%     | 0%   | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| All of the time                                                                                                                                        | 11%   | 2%     | 5%   | 0%     | 7%   | 4%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 33**  
**SUMMARY OF SUBSTANCE USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                       | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                       | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                       | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                       | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Have you EVER used the following?^ (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Nicotine/tobacco                                                                                                                                   | 7%    | 14%    | 14%  | 14%    | 15%  | 22%    |
| ...Alcoholic beverages to drink                                                                                                                       | 12%   | 14%    | 17%  | 19%    | 22%  | 32%    |
| ...Marijuana (pot, weed) or hashish (hash, hash oil) (Do NOT count medical marijuana prescribed for you by a doctor)                                  | 6%    | 9%     | 8%   | 12%    | 19%  | 27%    |
| ...I have never used any of the above                                                                                                                 | 84%   | 80%    | 77%  | 77%    | 72%  | 60%    |
| <b>Use of conventional tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco) during the past 30 days^^</b>                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                                    | 98%   | 98%    | 98%  | 97%    | 97%  | 97%    |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                   | 2%    | 2%     | 2%   | 3%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| <b>Use of any tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and hookah, during the past 30 days^^</b>                                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                                    | 94%   | 91%    | 93%  | 91%    | 92%  | 88%    |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                   | 6%    | 9%     | 7%   | 9%     | 8%   | 12%    |
| <b>Frequent binge drinking in the past year (typically drank 5 or more drinks at a time and drank on 10 or more occasions during the past year)^^</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                                    | 99%   | 99%    | 100% | 100%   | 99%  | 98%    |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                   | 1%    | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 2%     |
| <b>Any alcohol and/or other drug use during the past year (excluding tobacco)^^</b>                                                                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No alcohol or marijuana or other drug use in the past year                                                                                            | 82%   | 82%    | 82%  | 81%    | 76%  | 68%    |
| Used only alcohol in the past year                                                                                                                    | 5%    | 4%     | 6%   | 5%     | 6%   | 9%     |
| Used alcohol and marijuana in past year, but not other drugs                                                                                          | 1%    | 3%     | 1%   | 4%     | 6%   | 11%    |
| Used marijuana or other drugs but not alcohol in the past year                                                                                        | 9%    | 9%     | 8%   | 6%     | 9%   | 8%     |
| Used alcohol and marijuana or other drugs in the past year                                                                                            | 3%    | 2%     | 3%   | 3%     | 4%   | 4%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ New question in 2025.

^^ This is a computed variable based on combinations of responses to two or more survey items.

**TABLE 34**  
**SUBSTANCE ABUSE\***  
***GAY OR LESBIAN***

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|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| <b>No data in this table.</b> |
|-------------------------------|

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\* Only the 5th grade survey asked these questions.



**TABLE 35A**  
**TOBACCO USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                       | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                       | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                       | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                       | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the past 12 months, have you used the following?^</b>                                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Nicotine/tobacco                                                                                                                                                   | 5%    | 9%     | 7%   | 10%    | 9%   | 15%    |
| <b>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you smoke a cigarette?^^</b>                                                                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                                                                | 99%   | 98%    | 98%  | 97%    | 98%  | 97%    |
| 1 to 19 days                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 2%     | 2%   | 3%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                                                                       | 0%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| <b>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you smoke cigars, cigarillos or little cigars?^^</b>                                                                 |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                                                                | 99%   | 99%    | 99%  | 100%   | 98%  | 99%    |
| 1 to 19 days                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 1%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                                                                       | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you use chewing tobacco, snuff or dip?^^</b>                                                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                                                                | 99%   | 100%   | 99%  | 100%   | 99%  | 100%   |
| 1 to 19 days                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                                                                       | 1%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| <b>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you vape or use an e-cigarette that contains nicotine, such as JUUL, VUSE, NJOY, Puff Bar, Blu, or Bidi Stick?^^</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                                                                | 95%   | 91%    | 93%  | 93%    | 92%  | 89%    |
| 1 to 19 days                                                                                                                                                          | 4%    | 6%     | 5%   | 5%     | 7%   | 6%     |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                                                                       | 1%    | 3%     | 2%   | 3%     | 1%   | 5%     |
| <b>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you use a hookah or a waterpipe to smoke tobacco?^^</b>                                                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                                                                | 98%   | 99%    | 99%  | 99%    | 99%  | 99%    |
| 1 to 19 days                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                                                                       | 1%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ New question in 2025.

^^ Change in response options from 2022.

**TABLE 35B**  
**FLAVORED TOBACCO USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                    | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                    | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                    | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                    | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>IF VAPED IN PAST 30 DAYS: Which flavors of cigarettes (or e-juice) have you used in the past 30 days? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Tobacco-flavored                                                                                                                   | 25%   | 10%    | 0%   | 10%    | 0%   | 10%    |
| Menthol or mint                                                                                                                    | 50%   | 30%    | 30%  | 41%    | 43%  | 54%    |
| Clove or spice                                                                                                                     | 25%   | 3%     | 0%   | 0%     | 14%  | 3%     |
| Fruit                                                                                                                              | 62%   | 67%    | 60%  | 72%    | 50%  | 82%    |
| Chocolate                                                                                                                          | 12%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 7%   | 3%     |
| An alcoholic drink                                                                                                                 | 38%   | 27%    | 0%   | 10%    | 14%  | 13%    |
| A non-alcoholic drink                                                                                                              | 0%    | 3%     | 0%   | 7%     | 7%   | 10%    |
| Candy, desserts, or other sweets                                                                                                   | 50%   | 40%    | 20%  | 31%    | 21%  | 33%    |
| Some other flavor                                                                                                                  | 25%   | 33%    | 0%   | 17%    | 29%  | 18%    |
| No flavor (unflavored)                                                                                                             | 12%   | 3%     | 40%  | 3%     | 7%   | 3%     |
| <b>IF VAPED IN PAST 30 DAYS: Student used a flavored e-cigarette in the past 30 days^</b>                                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                 | 12%   | 15%    | 42%  | 7%     | 0%   | 12%    |
| Yes                                                                                                                                | 88%   | 85%    | 58%  | 93%    | 100% | 88%    |
| <b>IF SMOKED CIGARETTE IN PAST 30 DAYS: Student smoked a flavored (i.e., menthol) cigarette in the past 30 days</b>                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                 | 0%    | 33%    | 75%  | 67%    | 67%  | 8%     |
| Yes                                                                                                                                | 100%  | 67%    | 25%  | 33%    | 33%  | 92%    |
| <b>IF SMOKED CIGAR IN PAST 30 DAYS: Student smoked a flavored cigar in the past 30 days</b>                                        |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                 | 50%   | 67%    | 100% | 0%     | 67%  | 67%    |
| Yes                                                                                                                                | 50%   | 33%    | 0%   | 0%     | 33%  | 33%    |
| <b>IF USED SMOKELESS TOBACCO IN PAST 30 DAYS: Student used flavored smokeless tobacco in the past 30 days</b>                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                 | 50%   | 0%     | 100% | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |
| Yes                                                                                                                                | 50%   | 100%   | 0%   | 0%     | 100% | 100%   |
| <b>IF USED HOOKAH IN PAST 30 DAYS: Student used flavored hookah in the past 30 days</b>                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                 | 33%   | 0%     | 100% | 67%    | 50%  | 50%    |
| Yes                                                                                                                                | 67%   | 100%   | 0%   | 33%    | 50%  | 50%    |
| <b>IF PAST 30 DAYS TOBACCO USE: Student used a flavored tobacco product in the past 30 days^^</b>                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No                                                                                                                                 | 11%   | 18%    | 42%  | 11%    | 7%   | 11%    |
| Yes                                                                                                                                | 89%   | 82%    | 58%  | 89%    | 93%  | 89%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ Tobacco-flavor is excluded from the definition of flavored e-cigarettes.

^^ This is a computed variable based on combinations of responses to two or more survey items.

**TABLE 36**  
**ACCESS TO E-CIGARETTES\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                              | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                              | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                              | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                              | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>IF VAPED IN PAST 30 DAYS: When you vaped or used an e-cigarette during the last 30 days, how did you get it?</b><br>(Mark ALL that apply) |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I bought it at stores other than vape/tobacco shops (e.g., gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores, discount stores, drug stores)^  | 0%    | 3%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 17%    |
| I bought it on the internet                                                                                                                  | 14%   | 3%     | 8%   | 0%     | 21%  | 7%     |
| I bought it at vape shops or other stores that sell only e-cigarettes                                                                        | 14%   | 3%     | 0%   | 0%     | 36%  | 17%    |
| I got it from friends                                                                                                                        | 71%   | 63%    | 67%  | 62%    | 64%  | 61%    |
| I got it from my parents or other family members^                                                                                            | 14%   | 23%    | 8%   | 10%    | 14%  | 10%    |
| I got it by getting someone else to buy it for me                                                                                            | 0%    | 23%    | 25%  | 21%    | 14%  | 24%    |
| I took it from my home or a friend's home^                                                                                                   | 0%    | 13%    | 0%   | 7%     | 0%   | 7%     |
| I got it some other way                                                                                                                      | 14%   | 33%    | 17%  | 31%    | 14%  | 22%    |
| I got it at parties^                                                                                                                         | 0%    | 10%    | 0%   | 0%     | 14%  | 5%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask this question.

^ New response option in 2025.

**TABLE 37**  
**EXPOSURE TO SECONDHAND SMOKE AND SECONDHAND AEROSOL\***  
***GAY OR LESBIAN***

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**No data in this table.**

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\* Only the 5th grade survey asked these questions.

**TABLE 38**  
**ALCOHOL USE FREQUENCY AND QUANTITY\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                              | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                              | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                              | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                              | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the past 12 months, have you used the following?^</b>                                                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Alcoholic beverages to drink                                                                                              | 9%    | 9%     | 10%  | 13%    | 15%  | 24%    |
| <b>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you drink one or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage?^^</b>                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                       | 94%   | 94%    | 95%  | 95%    | 91%  | 88%    |
| 1-19 days                                                                                                                    | 5%    | 5%     | 5%   | 5%     | 8%   | 11%    |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                              | 1%    | 1%     | 0%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| <b>During the last 12 months, on how many occasions have you had alcoholic beverages to drink?^^</b>                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0                                                                                                                            | 92%   | 88%    | 89%  | 87%    | 81%  | 75%    |
| 1-2                                                                                                                          | 5%    | 7%     | 6%   | 8%     | 11%  | 13%    |
| 3-9                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 4%     | 2%   | 3%     | 7%   | 7%     |
| 10 or more                                                                                                                   | 2%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 5%     |
| <b>If you drink beer/wine/wine coolers/liquor, generally how much do you drink at one time?</b>                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No alcohol use                                                                                                               | 92%   | 89%    | 90%  | 88%    | 82%  | 75%    |
| 1 glass/can/drink                                                                                                            | 3%    | 7%     | 4%   | 8%     | 9%   | 12%    |
| 2 glasses/cans/drinks                                                                                                        | 4%    | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     | 4%   | 4%     |
| 3 glasses/cans/drinks                                                                                                        | 0%    | 1%     | 2%   | 0%     | 2%   | 4%     |
| 4 glasses/cans/drinks                                                                                                        | 1%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 3%     |
| 5 or more glasses/cans/drinks                                                                                                | 1%    | 1%     | 0%   | 1%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| <b>Binge drinking (4 or more drinks in a row (females) or 5 or more drinks in a row (males) within a couple of hours)^^^</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                       | 99%   | 97%    | 99%  | 98%    | 97%  | 95%    |
| 1 to 19 days                                                                                                                 | 1%    | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     | 3%   | 5%     |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                              | 0%    | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ New question in 2025.

^^ Change in response options from 2022.

^^^ This is a computed variable based on combinations of responses to two or more survey items.

**TABLE 39**  
**ACCESS TO ALCOHOL\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                               | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                               | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                               | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                               | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>INCLUDES ONLY THOSE WHO USED ALCOHOL IN THE LAST 30 DAYS</b>                                                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| <b>When you used alcohol during the last 30 days, how did you get it? (Mark ALL that apply)</b>                                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I bought it at bars or restaurants or stores other than liquor stores (e.g., gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores, discount stores, drug stores)^ | 0%    | 5%     | 0%   | 0%     | 7%   | 7%     |
| I bought it at liquor stores or other stores that sell only alcohol                                                                                           | 0%    | 0%     | 12%  | 5%     | 7%   | 7%     |
| I bought alcohol on the internet                                                                                                                              | 12%   | 5%     | 0%   | 0%     | 13%  | 0%     |
| I got alcohol from friends                                                                                                                                    | 12%   | 50%    | 25%  | 38%    | 40%  | 40%    |
| I got alcohol from my parents or other family members^                                                                                                        | 62%   | 45%    | 38%  | 29%    | 27%  | 37%    |
| I got alcohol by getting someone else to buy it for me                                                                                                        | 0%    | 10%    | 12%  | 10%    | 20%  | 23%    |
| I got alcohol at parties                                                                                                                                      | 0%    | 10%    | 0%   | 5%     | 20%  | 26%    |
| I took alcohol from my home or a friend's home^                                                                                                               | 0%    | 35%    | 38%  | 43%    | 27%  | 14%    |
| I got alcohol some other way                                                                                                                                  | 12%   | 15%    | 25%  | 19%    | 13%  | 14%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ New response option in 2025.

**TABLE 40**  
**USE OF MARIJUANA\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                       | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                       | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                       | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                       | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the past 12 months, have you used the following?^</b>                                                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Marijuana (pot, weed) or hashish (hash, hash oil) (Do NOT count medical marijuana prescribed for you by a doctor)                                                  | 3%    | 6%     | 6%   | 9%     | 13%  | 20%    |
| <b>During the last 30 days, on how many days did you use marijuana?^^</b>                                                                                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 days                                                                                                                                                                | 99%   | 94%    | 96%  | 92%    | 89%  | 86%    |
| 1-19 days                                                                                                                                                             | 0%    | 4%     | 4%   | 5%     | 9%   | 9%     |
| 20 or more days                                                                                                                                                       | 1%    | 2%     | 0%   | 2%     | 3%   | 5%     |
| <b>IF EVER USED MARIJUANA, how old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?^</b>                                                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 8 years old or younger                                                                                                                                                | 25%   | 6%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| 9 or 10 years old                                                                                                                                                     | 12%   | 10%    | 8%   | 4%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| 11 or 12 years old                                                                                                                                                    | 50%   | 52%    | 38%  | 35%    | 9%   | 14%    |
| 13 or 14 years old                                                                                                                                                    | 0%    | 32%    | 38%  | 52%    | 34%  | 38%    |
| 15 or 16 years old                                                                                                                                                    | 0%    | 0%     | 15%  | 8%     | 46%  | 40%    |
| 17 years old or older                                                                                                                                                 | 12%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 9%   | 5%     |
| <b>IF USED MARIJUANA IN THE PAST 30 DAYS, in which ways did you use marijuana or other THC-containing products (e.g., edibles, beverages)? (Mark ALL that apply)^</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Smoke it (for example, in a joint, bong, pipe, or blunt)                                                                                                              | 0%    | 85%    | 67%  | 66%    | 81%  | 70%    |
| Eat it (for example, in gummies, brownies, cakes, cookies, or candy)                                                                                                  | 50%   | 30%    | 33%  | 38%    | 43%  | 42%    |
| Drink it (for example, in seltzers, tea, cola, or alcohol)                                                                                                            | 50%   | 10%    | 17%  | 14%    | 10%  | 20%    |
| Vape it (for example, in an e-cigarette-like vaporizer or another vaporizing)                                                                                         | 0%    | 60%    | 67%  | 62%    | 57%  | 60%    |
| Dab it (for example, using a dabbing rig, knife, or dab pen)                                                                                                          | 0%    | 5%     | 17%  | 0%     | 14%  | 4%     |
| Use it some other way                                                                                                                                                 | 0%    | 5%     | 0%   | 0%     | 5%   | 2%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ New question in 2025.

^^ Change in response options from 2022.

**TABLE 41**  
**ACCESS TO MARIJUANA\*\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| INCLUDES ONLY THOSE WHO USED MARIJUANA IN THE LAST 30 DAYS                                                                                                    | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                               | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                               | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                               | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>When you used marijuana or other THC-containing products (e.g., edibles, beverages) during the last 30 days, how did you get it? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| I bought it at dispensaries or other stores that sells only marijuana and other THC-containing products                                                       | 50%   | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 11%  | 17%    |
| I bought it at bars or restaurants or stores other than dispensaries (e.g., gas stations, convenience stores, grocery stores, discount stores, drug stores)   | 50%   | 0%     | 0%   | 4%     | 5%   | 2%     |
| I bought it on the internet                                                                                                                                   | 0%    | 6%     | 0%   | 4%     | 16%  | 6%     |
| I got it from friends                                                                                                                                         | 0%    | 61%    | 80%  | 46%    | 74%  | 65%    |
| I got it from my parents or other family members                                                                                                              | 0%    | 22%    | 20%  | 11%    | 16%  | 19%    |
| I got it by getting someone else to buy it for me                                                                                                             | 0%    | 22%    | 40%  | 25%    | 32%  | 25%    |
| I got it at parties                                                                                                                                           | 0%    | 17%    | 0%   | 0%     | 5%   | 6%     |
| I took it from my home or a friend's home                                                                                                                     | 0%    | 11%    | 20%  | 14%    | 11%  | 12%    |
| I got it some other way                                                                                                                                       | 0%    | 28%    | 20%  | 36%    | 21%  | 17%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ New question in 2025.



**TABLE 42**  
**PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUG USE\*<sup>^</sup>**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                    | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                    | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                    | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                    | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the past 12 months, have you used the following?^</b>                                                                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Over-the-counter drugs such as cough syrup, cold medicine, or diet pills that you took only to get high                                                         | 4%    | 3%     | 2%   | 3%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| ...Prescription stimulants such as Amphetamines or diet pills, without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told you to use it                 | 3%    | 1%     | 2%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| ...Prescription ADHD or ADD drugs (Ritalin, Adderall, hyper pills), without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told you to use it            | 5%    | 2%     | 4%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| ...Prescription pain relievers (OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, or others), without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told you to use it      | 3%    | 3%     | 1%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| ...Prescription tranquilizers (Valium, Xanax, Klonopin, Ativan, anxiety pills, sedatives, or benzos (downers)), without a doctor's prescription or differently tha | 4%    | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ Change in response options from 2022.

**TABLE 43**  
**OTHER DRUG AND INHALANT USE\*^**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                              | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                              | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                              | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                              | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>During the past 12 months, have you used the following?^</b>                                              |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Sniffed glue or huffed or inhaled the contents of aerosol spray cans or other gases to get high           | 4%    | 4%     | 1%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| ...LSD (acid), PCP (wet sticks or dipped joints) or other psychedelics (mushrooms, angel dust)               | 2%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| ...MDMA (E, X, ecstasy, Molly), GHB (G, Liquid E, Liquid X, roofies), or Ketamine (Special K)                | 2%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| ...Crack, coke, or cocaine in any form                                                                       | 3%    | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| ...Heroin (smack, junk, China White)                                                                         | 3%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |
| ...Methamphetamine (meth, glass, crank, crystal meth, ice)                                                   | 3%    | 1%     | 0%   | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| ...Synthetic marijuana (K2, Gold) that you took only to get high                                             | 2%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| ...Any other synthetic drugs such as bath salts (Ivory Wave, White Lightning) that you took only to get high | 3%    | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     | 1%   | 0%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ Change in response options from 2022.

**TABLE 44**  
**PERCEIVED RISK OF HARM FROM SUBSTANCE USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically<br>or in other ways if they... | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day?</b>                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No risk                                                                                        | 19%   | 10%    | 20%  | 11%    | 14%  | 9%     |
| Slight risk                                                                                    | 7%    | 10%    | 11%  | 11%    | 9%   | 7%     |
| Moderate risk                                                                                  | 24%   | 26%    | 20%  | 23%    | 19%  | 23%    |
| Great risk                                                                                     | 50%   | 53%    | 49%  | 56%    | 57%  | 61%    |
| <b>...have five or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage once or twice per week?</b>            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No risk                                                                                        | 13%   | 9%     | 19%  | 11%    | 13%  | 7%     |
| Slight risk                                                                                    | 22%   | 15%    | 11%  | 14%    | 16%  | 9%     |
| Moderate risk                                                                                  | 32%   | 37%    | 31%  | 31%    | 34%  | 41%    |
| Great risk                                                                                     | 33%   | 39%    | 38%  | 44%    | 37%  | 43%    |
| <b>...use marijuana once or twice per week?</b>                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No risk                                                                                        | 21%   | 15%    | 25%  | 20%    | 27%  | 21%    |
| Slight risk                                                                                    | 33%   | 25%    | 25%  | 31%    | 37%  | 42%    |
| Moderate risk                                                                                  | 23%   | 36%    | 27%  | 26%    | 21%  | 21%    |
| Great risk                                                                                     | 24%   | 24%    | 22%  | 22%    | 15%  | 16%    |
| <b>...use prescription drugs not prescribed for them?</b>                                      |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No risk                                                                                        | 17%   | 11%    | 19%  | 10%    | 11%  | 7%     |
| Slight risk                                                                                    | 10%   | 10%    | 7%   | 10%    | 7%   | 6%     |
| Moderate risk                                                                                  | 27%   | 26%    | 27%  | 31%    | 23%  | 32%    |
| Great risk                                                                                     | 47%   | 52%    | 47%  | 49%    | 59%  | 55%    |
| <b>...vape or use e-cigarettes?</b>                                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| No risk                                                                                        | 15%   | 9%     | 20%  | 10%    | 15%  | 8%     |
| Slight risk                                                                                    | 15%   | 20%    | 16%  | 17%    | 15%  | 18%    |
| Moderate risk                                                                                  | 29%   | 34%    | 32%  | 39%    | 34%  | 36%    |
| Great risk                                                                                     | 42%   | 36%    | 33%  | 34%    | 36%  | 38%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 45A**  
**PERCEPTIONS OF PARENTS' DISAPPROVAL OF SUBSTANCE USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                              | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                              | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                              | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| How wrong do your PARENTS feel it would be for you to...                     | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...smoke cigarettes?</b>                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                             | 9%    | 3%     | 4%   | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                           | 2%    | 4%     | 2%   | 4%     | 4%   | 6%     |
| Wrong                                                                        | 17%   | 19%    | 19%  | 24%    | 16%  | 23%    |
| Very wrong                                                                   | 71%   | 74%    | 75%  | 70%    | 77%  | 69%    |
| <b>...have one or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                             | 9%    | 3%     | 4%   | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                           | 2%    | 3%     | 4%   | 7%     | 6%   | 5%     |
| Wrong                                                                        | 19%   | 18%    | 17%  | 19%    | 19%  | 18%    |
| Very wrong                                                                   | 69%   | 76%    | 75%  | 73%    | 72%  | 74%    |
| <b>...use marijuana?</b>                                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                             | 7%    | 6%     | 6%   | 4%     | 8%   | 7%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                           | 7%    | 7%     | 8%   | 8%     | 14%  | 17%    |
| Wrong                                                                        | 15%   | 14%    | 18%  | 26%    | 22%  | 20%    |
| Very wrong                                                                   | 71%   | 73%    | 68%  | 62%    | 56%  | 56%    |
| <b>...use prescription drugs not prescribed for you?</b>                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                             | 7%    | 3%     | 5%   | 3%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                           | 3%    | 3%     | 2%   | 3%     | 2%   | 4%     |
| Wrong                                                                        | 16%   | 13%    | 14%  | 17%    | 12%  | 13%    |
| Very wrong                                                                   | 74%   | 82%    | 79%  | 78%    | 84%  | 81%    |
| <b>...vape or use e-cigarettes?</b>                                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                             | 7%    | 4%     | 4%   | 3%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                           | 4%    | 5%     | 3%   | 4%     | 6%   | 7%     |
| Wrong                                                                        | 18%   | 17%    | 18%  | 22%    | 17%  | 22%    |
| Very wrong                                                                   | 70%   | 75%    | 75%  | 72%    | 74%  | 68%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 45B**  
**PERCEPTIONS OF FRIENDS' DISAPPROVAL OF SUBSTANCE USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                           | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                           | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                           | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| How wrong do your FRIENDS feel it would be for you to...                  | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>...smoke cigarettes?</b>                                               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                          | 11%   | 4%     | 9%   | 7%     | 9%   | 9%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                        | 7%    | 9%     | 8%   | 14%    | 17%  | 13%    |
| Wrong                                                                     | 23%   | 29%    | 29%  | 27%    | 28%  | 33%    |
| Very wrong                                                                | 59%   | 57%    | 53%  | 51%    | 47%  | 45%    |
| <b>...have one or more drinks of alcoholic beverage nearly every day?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                          | 11%   | 5%     | 6%   | 6%     | 8%   | 6%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                        | 8%    | 9%     | 10%  | 13%    | 15%  | 13%    |
| Wrong                                                                     | 26%   | 27%    | 29%  | 25%    | 32%  | 27%    |
| Very wrong                                                                | 56%   | 60%    | 54%  | 55%    | 45%  | 54%    |
| <b>...use marijuana?</b>                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                          | 9%    | 7%     | 10%  | 12%    | 26%  | 22%    |
| A little bit wrong                                                        | 12%   | 12%    | 17%  | 14%    | 19%  | 25%    |
| Wrong                                                                     | 25%   | 23%    | 23%  | 27%    | 20%  | 21%    |
| Very wrong                                                                | 55%   | 58%    | 50%  | 47%    | 35%  | 32%    |
| <b>...use prescription drugs not prescribed for you?</b>                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                          | 8%    | 3%     | 8%   | 5%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| A little bit wrong                                                        | 8%    | 9%     | 6%   | 7%     | 6%   | 9%     |
| Wrong                                                                     | 22%   | 20%    | 21%  | 26%    | 28%  | 29%    |
| Very wrong                                                                | 63%   | 69%    | 65%  | 62%    | 60%  | 58%    |
| <b>...vape or use e-cigarettes?</b>                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Not at all wrong                                                          | 11%   | 8%     | 9%   | 11%    | 10%  | 15%    |
| A little bit wrong                                                        | 9%    | 12%    | 16%  | 12%    | 20%  | 21%    |
| Wrong                                                                     | 24%   | 23%    | 24%  | 30%    | 25%  | 22%    |
| Very wrong                                                                | 56%   | 57%    | 51%  | 47%    | 46%  | 41%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 46**  
**PERCEPTIONS ABOUT ALCOHOL USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>How do you feel about each of the following statements? - Parents and other adults should clearly communicate with their children about the importance of not using alcohol.</b>                                                     |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 54%   | 59%    | 59%  | 58%    | 60%  | 54%    |
| Agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 27%   | 29%    | 30%  | 30%    | 27%  | 35%    |
| Neither agree nor disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 10%   | 7%     | 8%   | 9%     | 8%   | 7%     |
| Disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2%    | 1%     | 2%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 7%    | 4%     | 1%   | 2%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| <b>How do you feel about each of the following statements? - Drinking alcohol is never a good thing for anyone my age to do.</b>                                                                                                        |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 59%   | 63%    | 60%  | 58%    | 48%  | 45%    |
| Agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 19%   | 23%    | 24%  | 22%    | 25%  | 28%    |
| Neither agree nor disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 13%   | 8%     | 10%  | 14%    | 17%  | 18%    |
| Disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2%    | 1%     | 5%   | 3%     | 4%   | 5%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 7%    | 5%     | 1%   | 2%     | 6%   | 4%     |
| <b>In your opinion, how do you think MOST STUDENTS in your school feel about each of the following statements? - Parents and other adults should clearly communicate with their children about the importance of not using alcohol.</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 30%   | 24%    | 28%  | 17%    | 19%  | 18%    |
| Agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 42%   | 45%    | 35%  | 46%    | 44%  | 46%    |
| Neither agree nor disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 16%   | 24%    | 35%  | 29%    | 29%  | 26%    |
| Disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 4%    | 4%     | 1%   | 5%     | 6%   | 7%     |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 8%    | 3%     | 1%   | 3%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| <b>In your opinion, how do you think MOST STUDENTS in your school feel about each of the following statements? - Drinking alcohol is never a good thing for anyone my age to do.</b>                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Strongly agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 26%   | 23%    | 24%  | 16%    | 15%  | 12%    |
| Agree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 40%   | 39%    | 33%  | 33%    | 27%  | 26%    |
| Neither agree nor disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 20%   | 28%    | 33%  | 36%    | 34%  | 35%    |
| Disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 7%    | 6%     | 7%   | 12%    | 19%  | 21%    |
| Strongly disagree                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 8%    | 4%     | 3%   | 4%     | 5%   | 6%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 47A**  
**USE OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA AND E-CIGARETTES\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                      | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                      | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                      | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| How often do you use each of the following?                                                                                                                                          | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Tobacco (cigarettes, chew) ^</b>                                                                                                                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                | 94%   | 96%    | 93%  | 93%    | 92%  | 92%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 3%    | 2%     | 5%   | 4%     | 6%   | 5%     |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                                | 0%    | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     | 2%   | 1%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                          | 0%    | 1%     | 0%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                                | 3%    | 0%     | 0%   | 0%     | 0%   | 1%     |
| <b>Alcohol (beer, wine, liquor) ^</b>                                                                                                                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                | 76%   | 83%    | 77%  | 76%    | 73%  | 64%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 18%   | 14%    | 17%  | 20%    | 19%  | 25%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                                | 3%    | 3%     | 5%   | 3%     | 7%   | 10%    |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                          | 0%    | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                                | 3%    | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| <b>Marijuana (pot, hash, hash oil) ^</b>                                                                                                                                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                | 91%   | 93%    | 92%  | 89%    | 83%  | 76%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 2%    | 3%     | 3%   | 4%     | 8%   | 13%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                                | 4%    | 1%     | 5%   | 2%     | 5%   | 7%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                          | 1%    | 1%     | 0%   | 2%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                                | 2%    | 1%     | 0%   | 2%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| <b>Vaping device or e-cigarette with nicotine ^</b>                                                                                                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                | 88%   | 86%    | 87%  | 84%    | 84%  | 77%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 4%    | 8%     | 7%   | 9%     | 9%   | 13%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                                | 3%    | 2%     | 4%   | 2%     | 3%   | 3%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                          | 3%    | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                                | 2%    | 2%     | 1%   | 3%     | 1%   | 5%     |
| <b>Vaping device or e-cigarette with marijuana, THC or hash oil, or THC wax ^</b>                                                                                                    |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                | 92%   | 91%    | 94%  | 90%    | 86%  | 80%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                                                                                                                  | 4%    | 4%     | 2%   | 5%     | 7%   | 11%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                                                                                                                | 0%    | 2%     | 3%   | 2%     | 4%   | 3%     |
| Once a week                                                                                                                                                                          | 2%    | 1%     | 0%   | 1%     | 3%   | 1%     |
| Daily                                                                                                                                                                                | 2%    | 2%     | 1%   | 2%     | 1%   | 4%     |
| <b>IF USED ALCOHOL AND MARIJUANA: In the last year, how often did you use alcohol and marijuana or other THC-containing products (e.g., edibles, beverages) at the same time? ^^</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Usually                                                                                                                                                                              | 100%  | 53%    | 0%   | 31%    | 12%  | 25%    |
| Sometimes                                                                                                                                                                            | 0%    | 47%    | 43%  | 65%    | 44%  | 32%    |
| Never                                                                                                                                                                                | 0%    | 0%     | 57%  | 4%     | 44%  | 44%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ Change in response options from 2022.

^^ New question in 2025.

**TABLE 47B**  
**PERCEPTIONS OF OTHERS' USE OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, MARIJUANA AND E-CIGARETTES\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| In your opinion, how often do you think MOST STUDENTS in your school use each of the following? | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                 | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                 | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                 | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Tobacco (cigarettes, chew) ^</b>                                                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                           | 57%   | 57%    | 44%  | 30%    | 43%  | 34%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                             | 28%   | 26%    | 27%  | 45%    | 31%  | 35%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                           | 7%    | 9%     | 17%  | 14%    | 12%  | 13%    |
| Once a week                                                                                     | 1%    | 5%     | 6%   | 5%     | 9%   | 10%    |
| Daily                                                                                           | 5%    | 3%     | 7%   | 5%     | 4%   | 7%     |
| <b>Alcohol (beer, wine, liquor) ^</b>                                                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                           | 49%   | 39%    | 28%  | 19%    | 18%  | 12%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                             | 30%   | 42%    | 36%  | 40%    | 41%  | 29%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                           | 14%   | 13%    | 22%  | 26%    | 21%  | 34%    |
| Once a week                                                                                     | 3%    | 4%     | 8%   | 11%    | 16%  | 18%    |
| Daily                                                                                           | 4%    | 3%     | 5%   | 4%     | 4%   | 7%     |
| <b>Marijuana (pot, hash, hash oil) ^</b>                                                        |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                           | 61%   | 54%    | 39%  | 27%    | 25%  | 16%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                             | 22%   | 24%    | 25%  | 31%    | 27%  | 25%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                           | 10%   | 10%    | 17%  | 17%    | 15%  | 20%    |
| Once a week                                                                                     | 2%    | 6%     | 11%  | 12%    | 16%  | 20%    |
| Daily                                                                                           | 6%    | 6%     | 9%   | 13%    | 15%  | 19%    |
| <b>Vaping device or e-cigarette with nicotine ^</b>                                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                           | 32%   | 24%    | 19%  | 9%     | 16%  | 9%     |
| Tried once or twice                                                                             | 34%   | 31%    | 21%  | 22%    | 23%  | 15%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                           | 14%   | 14%    | 18%  | 19%    | 12%  | 13%    |
| Once a week                                                                                     | 8%    | 12%    | 21%  | 18%    | 13%  | 18%    |
| Daily                                                                                           | 13%   | 18%    | 21%  | 33%    | 36%  | 45%    |
| <b>Vaping device or e-cigarette with marijuana, THC or hash oil, or THC wax ^</b>               |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                           | 51%   | 43%    | 34%  | 22%    | 24%  | 15%    |
| Tried once or twice                                                                             | 28%   | 24%    | 21%  | 24%    | 22%  | 23%    |
| Once or twice a month                                                                           | 11%   | 12%    | 18%  | 19%    | 14%  | 13%    |
| Once a week                                                                                     | 2%    | 8%     | 12%  | 16%    | 14%  | 18%    |
| Daily                                                                                           | 8%    | 13%    | 15%  | 19%    | 26%  | 31%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

^ Change in response options from 2022.



**TABLE 48A**  
**CONSEQUENCES OF SUBSTANCE USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| During the last 12 months ...                                                                                                                                                                     | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>IF USED: Have you found that you had to use a lot more alcohol or drugs than before to get the same effect?</b>                                                                                |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                               | 28%   | 23%    | 12%  | 15%    | 8%   | 17%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                | 72%   | 77%    | 88%  | 85%    | 92%  | 83%    |
| <b>IF USED: Have you tried to cut down on your use of alcohol or drugs but couldn't?</b>                                                                                                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                               | 12%   | 22%    | 14%  | 16%    | 8%   | 12%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                | 88%   | 78%    | 86%  | 84%    | 92%  | 88%    |
| <b>IF USED: Have you continued to use alcohol or drugs even though you knew it was hurting your relationships with friends or family?</b>                                                         |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                               | 20%   | 23%    | 6%   | 23%    | 6%   | 10%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                | 80%   | 77%    | 94%  | 77%    | 94%  | 90%    |
| <b>IF USED: Were there any times when you felt such a strong desire or urge to drink alcohol or to use a drug that you couldn't resist or could not think of anything else?</b>                   |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                                                                                               | 27%   | 35%    | 20%  | 29%    | 18%  | 19%    |
| No                                                                                                                                                                                                | 73%   | 65%    | 80%  | 71%    | 82%  | 81%    |
| <b>IF USED: How many times have you spent all or most of the day using alcohol or drugs, or getting over their effects?</b>                                                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                                                                           | 79%   | 75%    | 79%  | 75%    | 78%  | 73%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                                                                            | 4%    | 4%     | 9%   | 12%    | 8%   | 9%     |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4%    | 13%    | 0%   | 1%     | 2%   | 9%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                                                                                   | 12%   | 7%     | 12%  | 12%    | 12%  | 9%     |
| <b>IF USED: How many times have you given up important social or recreational activities like sports or being with friends or relatives to use alcohol or drugs or to get over their effects?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                                                                           | 74%   | 87%    | 83%  | 84%    | 92%  | 87%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                                                                            | 13%   | 7%     | 3%   | 4%     | 2%   | 8%     |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4%    | 3%     | 3%   | 7%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                                                                                   | 9%    | 3%     | 11%  | 5%     | 4%   | 3%     |
| <b>IF USED: How many times have you missed work or school, or neglected other major responsibilities because of alcohol or drug use?</b>                                                          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                                                                           | 75%   | 88%    | 91%  | 89%    | 92%  | 89%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                                                                            | 8%    | 3%     | 0%   | 5%     | 4%   | 6%     |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4%    | 6%     | 3%   | 1%     | 2%   | 3%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                                                                                   | 12%   | 3%     | 6%   | 4%     | 2%   | 2%     |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

**TABLE 48B**  
**CONSEQUENCES OF SUBSTANCE USE\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

| During the last 12 months ...                                                                                                             | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                           | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                           | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                           | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>IF USED: How many times have you driven a motor vehicle after using alcohol or drugs?**</b>                                            |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                   |       |        | 94%  | 99%    | 92%  | 90%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                    |       |        | 3%   | 0%     | 2%   | 4%     |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                   |       |        | 0%   | 1%     | 4%   | 2%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                           |       |        | 3%   | 0%     | 2%   | 4%     |
| <b>IF USED: How many times have you hit someone or become violent while using alcohol or drugs?</b>                                       |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                   | 74%   | 91%    | 91%  | 99%    | 94%  | 97%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                    | 9%    | 6%     | 3%   | 1%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                   | 4%    | 1%     | 3%   | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                           | 13%   | 1%     | 3%   | 0%     | 2%   | 2%     |
| <b>IF USED: How many times have you used so much alcohol or drugs that the next day you could not remember what you had said or done?</b> |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                   | 75%   | 80%    | 84%  | 82%    | 82%  | 78%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                    | 8%    | 7%     | 0%   | 8%     | 6%   | 11%    |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                   | 8%    | 10%    | 6%   | 4%     | 8%   | 6%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                           | 8%    | 3%     | 9%   | 5%     | 4%   | 6%     |
| <b>IF USED: How many times have you used more alcohol or drugs than you intended to?</b>                                                  |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                   | 67%   | 78%    | 78%  | 79%    | 84%  | 71%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                    | 12%   | 7%     | 6%   | 11%    | 4%   | 14%    |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                   | 4%    | 12%    | 6%   | 7%     | 8%   | 7%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                           | 17%   | 3%     | 9%   | 4%     | 4%   | 8%     |
| <b>IF USED: How many times has alcohol or drug use left you feeling depressed, agitated, paranoid, or unable to concentrate?</b>          |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| 0 times                                                                                                                                   | 69%   | 70%    | 66%  | 66%    | 71%  | 70%    |
| 1 time                                                                                                                                    | 12%   | 11%    | 14%  | 14%    | 14%  | 10%    |
| 2 times                                                                                                                                   | 8%    | 9%     | 9%   | 13%    | 8%   | 8%     |
| 3 or more times                                                                                                                           | 12%   | 10%    | 11%  | 7%     | 6%   | 13%    |

\* 5th grade survey did not ask these questions.

\*\* 8th grade survey did not ask this question.

**TABLE 49**  
**SEXUAL BEHAVIOR\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                        | Grade |        |      |        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                        | 9th   |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                        | Male  | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                        | %     | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>Have you ever had sex?</b>                                                                          |       |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                    | 13%   | 10%    | 22%  | 26%    |
| No                                                                                                     | 87%   | 90%    | 78%  | 74%    |
| <b>IF EVER HAD SEX: During the last 12 months, how many different partners have you had sex with?^</b> |       |        |      |        |
| None                                                                                                   | 91%   | 93%    | 82%  | 79%    |
| 1 person                                                                                               | 6%    | 6%     | 14%  | 16%    |
| 2 persons                                                                                              | 1%    | 1%     | 3%   | 2%     |
| 3 persons                                                                                              | 0%    | 0%     | 1%   | 2%     |
| 4 or more persons                                                                                      | 2%    | 0%     | 1%   | 1%     |
| <b>IF EVER HAD SEX: Did you drink alcohol or use drugs before you had sex the LAST time?</b>           |       |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                    | 33%   | 17%    | 7%   | 14%    |
| No                                                                                                     | 67%   | 83%    | 93%  | 86%    |

\* 5th and 8th grade surveys did not ask these questions.

^ Change in response option from 2022.

**TABLE 50**  
**PREVENTION OF PREGNANCY AND INFECTION\***  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                                                                  | Grade |        |      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                                                                  | 9th   |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                                                                  | Male  | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                                                                  | %     | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>INCLUDES ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE EVER HAD SEX</b>                                                                                 |       |        |      |        |
| <b>Have you talked with your partner(s) about protecting yourselves from getting sexually transmitted infections/HIV/AIDS?</b>   |       |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                            | 44%   | 32%    | 29%  | 24%    |
| Not with every partner                                                                                                           | 0%    | 6%     | 7%   | 5%     |
| At least once with every partner                                                                                                 | 33%   | 32%    | 56%  | 46%    |
| Does not apply to me^                                                                                                            | 22%   | 29%    | 7%   | 24%    |
| <b>Have you talked with your partner(s) about preventing pregnancy?</b>                                                          |       |        |      |        |
| Never                                                                                                                            | 50%   | 41%    | 27%  | 30%    |
| Not with every partner                                                                                                           | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 3%     |
| At least once with every partner                                                                                                 | 6%    | 12%    | 15%  | 22%    |
| Does not apply to me^                                                                                                            | 44%   | 47%    | 59%  | 45%    |
| <b>The LAST time you had sex, what method or methods did you or your partner use to prevent pregnancy? (Mark ALL that apply)</b> |       |        |      |        |
| No method was used to prevent pregnancy                                                                                          | 29%   | 19%    | 22%  | 22%    |
| Birth control pills                                                                                                              | 6%    | 6%     | 8%   | 7%     |
| Condoms                                                                                                                          | 18%   | 10%    | 20%  | 10%    |
| Birth control shot, ring, or patch^^                                                                                             | 0%    | 0%     | 2%   | 0%     |
| Implant or IUD^^                                                                                                                 | 0%    | 0%     | 0%   | 9%     |
| Withdrawal                                                                                                                       | 0%    | 3%     | 0%   | 2%     |
| Not sure                                                                                                                         | 0%    | 3%     | 5%   | 3%     |
| Not applicable                                                                                                                   | 53%   | 59%    | 60%  | 59%    |
| <b>The LAST time you had sex, did you or your partner use a condom or dental dam (barrier)?^^^</b>                               |       |        |      |        |
| Yes                                                                                                                              | 50%   | 12%    | 49%  | 14%    |
| No                                                                                                                               | 50%   | 88%    | 51%  | 86%    |

\* 5th and 8th grade surveys did not ask these questions.

^ New response option in 2025.

^^ Change in response option wording from 2022.

^^^ Change in question wording from 2022.

**TABLE 51**  
**RESOURCES IN THE HOME (PROXY FOR SES)^**  
**GAY OR LESBIAN**

|                                                                                 | Grade |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                                                                 | 8th   |        | 9th  |        | 11th |        |
|                                                                                 | Male  | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
|                                                                                 | %     | %      | %    | %      | %    | %      |
| <b>About how many books are there in your home?</b>                             |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| Few (0-10)                                                                      | 18%   | 13%    | 18%  | 8%     | 15%  | 10%    |
| Enough to fill one shelf (11-25)                                                | 15%   | 16%    | 16%  | 18%    | 19%  | 12%    |
| Enough to fill one bookcase (26-100)                                            | 32%   | 33%    | 31%  | 30%    | 33%  | 37%    |
| Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)                                | 35%   | 39%    | 35%  | 45%    | 34%  | 41%    |
| <b>Do you have any of the following in your home?</b>                           |       |        |      |        |      |        |
| ...Access to the internet                                                       | 95%   | 99%    | 97%  | 99%    | 97%  | 98%    |
| ...Your own bedroom                                                             | 89%   | 86%    | 90%  | 93%    | 91%  | 94%    |
| ...A desktop or laptop computer (including Chromebooks) that you can use        | 79%   | 81%    | 88%  | 89%    | 87%  | 92%    |
| ...A tablet (for example, Surface Pro, iPad, Kindle Fire) that you can use      | 67%   | 68%    | 63%  | 70%    | 55%  | 64%    |
| ...A smartphone (for example, iPhone, Samsung Galaxy, HTC One) that you can use | 90%   | 95%    | 93%  | 97%    | 97%  | 99%    |

^ Source: National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)  
 (https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/researchcenter/socioeconomic\_factors.pdf).