

were more likely than African-American students (21%) to have been taken to an emergency room for an injury. Males (27%) were more likely than females (20%) to have been taken to an emergency room for an injury.

- Six percent of students had been hospitalized at least one night for an illness in the 12 months prior to the survey. African-American students (9%) were almost twice as likely as white students (5%) to have spent at least one night in a hospital for an illness. There were no significant gender differences.
- Six percent of students had been hospitalized for an injury at least one night in the 12 months preceding the survey. African-American students (7%) were more likely than white students (5%) to have been hospitalized for an injury. Similarly, males (7%) were more likely than females (4%) to have been hospitalized for an injury.
- In 2002, 8% of students used a prescription drug or “pill” for hyperactivity (ADD or ADHD). Males were close to twice as likely as females to use these drugs (10% vs. 5%, respectively). Hispanics were also more likely to have been using drugs prescribed to treat hyperactivity (11% vs. 8% of non-Hispanics).
- In terms of psychological well-being, 11% of students said they often felt very depressed. Females (14%) were significantly more likely than males (9%) to have often felt very depressed. The tendency to feel depressed increased with grade level, from 9% among 6th graders to 11% among 7th graders and 13% among 8th graders.
- Among Tennessee middle school students, 7% reported that they had attempted suicide at least once in their lifetimes⁵. The prevalence of suicide attempts increased by grade level, from 5% of 6th graders to 7% of 7th graders to 10% of 8th graders.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use Prevalence

Cigarettes

- The lifetime prevalence (“ever smoked”) of cigarette smoking among Tennessee middle school students is 28%, while 19% of students reported smoking cigarettes in the 12 months preceding the survey. Smoking cigarettes in the past 30 days was reported by 13% of the students. Females were as likely to smoke as males, and whites (14%) more likely to smoke than African-Americans (10%).
- Three percent of middle school students surveyed were current smokers (defined as having smoked cigarettes on 20 or more days of the last 30 days).

⁵Survey question: “Have you ever attempted suicide?”