

FALL 2022



FAIRFAX COUNTY 6TH GRADE YOUTH SURVEY

A PUBLICATION OF:



SCHOOL YEAR
2021-2022

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**2021 Fairfax County
6th Grade Youth Survey**

School Year 2021-2022

Results and Tabulations

Publication Date: September 2022

A complete copy of this report, as well as previous Youth Survey reports, may be found on our website at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/youthsurvey>

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes the results of the *2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students*. The survey examined behaviors, experiences, and other factors that influence the health and well-being of the county's youth. Students' participation in the survey was voluntary and anonymous. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board co-sponsor the survey to provide information about youth behaviors – those that are positive as well as those that are harmful. These data provide insight into the prevalence and frequency of substance use, violence and delinquency, health and health risk behaviors, and extracurricular activities of the students. The survey also assesses factors in the youth's environment that have been shown to protect youth from substance use and other problem behaviors.

This is the sixteenth year that the Fairfax County Youth Survey has been conducted and the fourteenth year that sixth-grade students have participated in the survey. The survey was administered in November and December 2021 and resulted in valid responses from 10,443 students in sixth grade. A simultaneous administration of a separate survey instrument to eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students resulted in 30,921 valid responses. This report, as well as a report of the *2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students* can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/youthsurvey.

KEY FINDINGS

Substance Use

- Alcohol was the most frequently used substance among Fairfax County sixth-grade students in their lifetime, with 16.0% having consumed it at least once. Male students were more likely to have reported using alcohol in their lifetime (17.3% vs. 14.4% of female students).
- Inhalants were the second most frequently used substance by the students in their lifetime (3.5%) and vapes were the third most frequently used substance (2.6%). Fewer students reported ever smoking cigarettes (0.9%), using marijuana (1.2%), or using other illegal drugs (1.3%).
- The percentages of students who reported ever having used inhalants or cigarettes have seen little variation since 2015, although all rates are lower than 2010. The lifetime rate of alcohol use in 2021 was 5.1 percentage points lower than in 2010, while lifetime inhalant use fell 4.5 percentage points since 2010.
- Over one percent of sixth-grade students (1.3%) reported using inhalants in the past month, and 1.2% reported using alcohol. Less than one percent of the students reported vaping (0.8%), smoking cigarettes (0.1%), using marijuana (0.1%), or other drugs (0.1%) in the past month.
- Nicotine was the most common substance inhaled through vaping in the past month (0.6%), followed by flavoring (0.5%) and marijuana (0.2%).

Aggressive Behaviors

- Over one third of the Fairfax County sixth-grade students (34.4%) reported having had something bad said to them about their race or culture in the past year, and approximately one in ten (9.7%) reported having made derogatory comments about someone's race or culture. Male students were more likely to report making such comments to others (12.1% vs. 7.3% of female students). Nearly half of the Black students (45.4%) reported experiencing derogatory comments.
- One fifth of the students (20%) reported having been bullied on school property in the past year, while 3.9% reported bullying someone on school property. Rates of being bullied on school property ranged from 16% of Asian students to 22.9% of Hispanic students.
- Twelve percent of the students (12.2%) reported having been cyberbullied by a student at their school in the past year, while 3.9% reported cyberbullying a student at their school. Female students were slightly more likely to report being cyberbullied (13.7% compared to 10.6% of male students). Rates of being cyberbullied ranged from 10.5% of White students to 14.6% of Hispanic students. The percentages of students who reported being cyberbullied showed a slight increase in 2021 from 2019.
- Approximately one in eleven of the sixth-grade students (9.3%) reported carrying a weapon in the past month, while more than one percent (1.3%) did so on school property. Male students were less than twice as likely to report carrying a weapon (11.4% compared to 7.0% of female students).

Physical Activity and Non-Academic Use of Electronic Media

- Approximately half of the students (44.1%) reported being physically active for at least one hour per day on five or more days in the past week. Male students were much more likely to report this level of activity than female students (50.1% and 38.2%, respectively). Rates of physical activity ranged from 32.7% of Hispanic students to 53.6% of White students. After declining over ten percentage points from 2011 through 2018, there was a slight increase in the percentage of physically active students in 2019, then a decline occurred again in 2021.
- One in five students (19.6%) reported watching three or more hours of television on an average school day, ranging from 14.4% of Asian students to 28.1% of Black students. The percentage of students who spend three or more hours watching television has steadily declined since 2010, when 28.6% of sixth-grade students reported doing so.
- Over one third of the students (38.5%) reported spending three or more hours on an average school day playing video games or using a computer or other electronic device (such as iPads or smartphones) for non-academic purposes. Male students were more likely to report spending three or more hours engaged in this activity (39.3% vs. 37.1% of female students). The percentages ranged from 32.5% of Asian students to 47.4% of Hispanic students. The overall rate for sixth-grade students has steadily increased since 2010, when 21.2% reported doing so.

Nutrition

- Nearly one quarter of Fairfax County sixth-grade students (24.4%) reported eating fruits and vegetables at least five times per day in the week prior to the survey, ranging from 19.4% of Black students to 27.5% of Asian students. This rate has generally declined since 2010 when 32.5% of sixth-grade students reported eating this number of fruits and vegetables in the past week.
- Almost half (48.4%) of the students reported that they had not consumed soda or pop (excluding diet soda) within the past week, while 9.1% reported drinking non-diet soda at least once a day in the week prior to the survey. Male students were more likely to report daily soda consumption (9.7% compared to 8.5% of female students). Daily soda consumption ranged from 4.4% of Asian students to 17.8% of Hispanic students. The percentage of students reporting daily soda use has declined 7.4 percentage points since 2010.
- Almost one in eight of the students (13.0%) reported drinking non-carbonated sugar-sweetened beverages (such as lemonade or sweetened tea) at least once per day, while 5.6% reported consuming sports drinks daily, and 2.3% consumed energy drinks daily.
- Three in ten sixth-grade students (30.6%) reported drinking a sweetened beverage (all categories combined) at least once per day. Male students were more likely to report consuming a sweetened beverage daily (33.6% compared to 27.5% of female students). Daily consumption of any sweetened beverage ranged from 19.2% of Asian students to 44.9% of Hispanic students.
- Over seven percent of the students (7.5%) reported going hungry in the past month (sometimes, most of the time, or always) due to a lack of food in the home. The percentage of students who reported going hungry in the past month has varied very little since 2010.

Mental Health

- Nearly 18 percent of the Fairfax County sixth-grade students (17.8%) reported experiencing stress most/all of the time and 62.3% reported experiencing stress a little/some of the time during the month prior to the survey. Female students were more likely to report experiencing stress most/all of the time in the past month (22.7% compared to 12.2% of male students).
- One third of sixth-grade students (33.1%) reported feeling so sad or hopeless every day for two or more weeks in a row within the past year that they stopped doing some usual activities. Female students were more likely to report experiencing this level of sadness (39.5% compared to 26.3% of male students). The overall rate has steadily risen since 2015 and this year was the highest rate reported in the past ten years.

Extracurricular Activities and Civic Behaviors

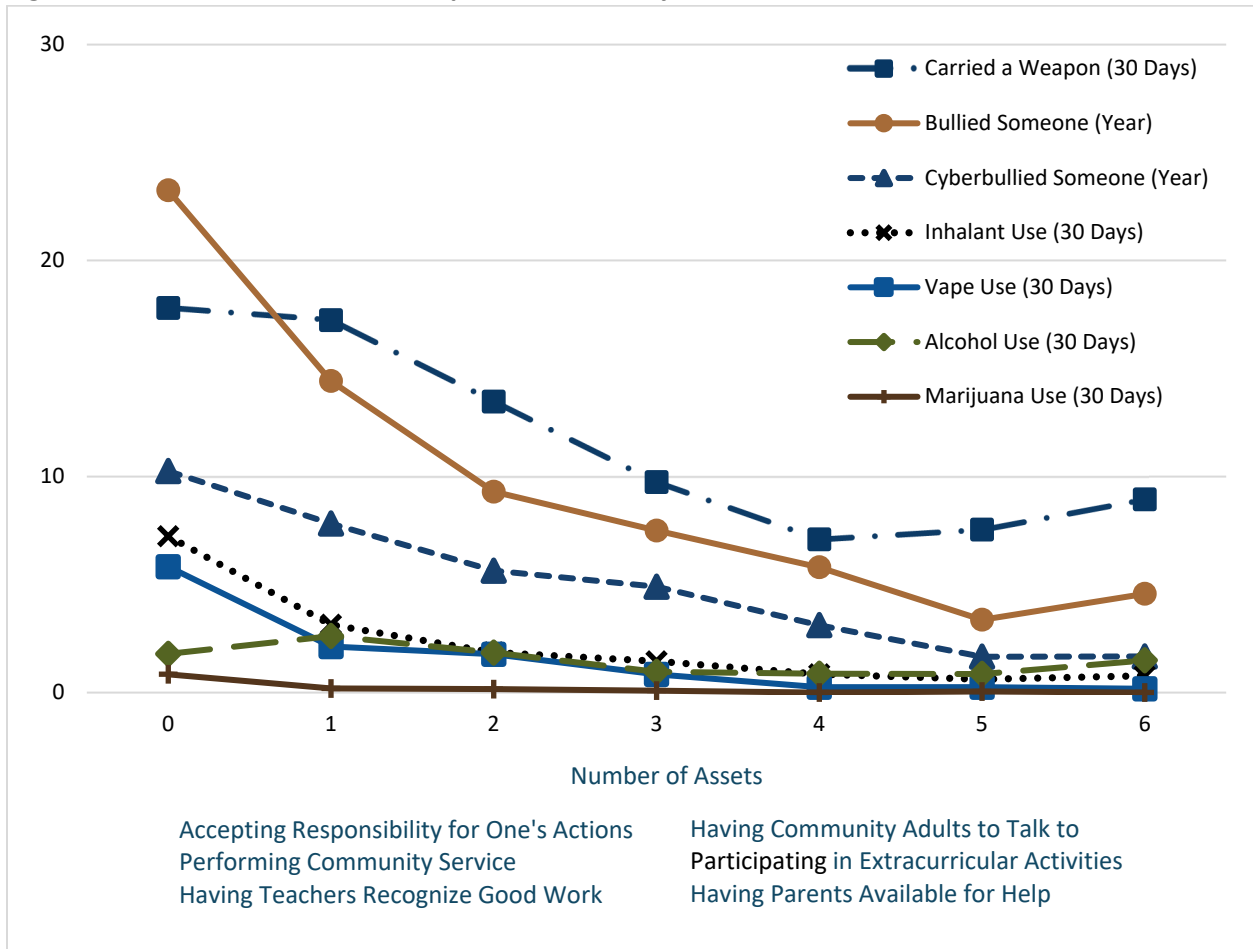
- Approximately one in seven of the Fairfax County students (14.5%) reported that they participate in extracurricular activities at school (such as participation in a team, club, or program) for one hour or more on an average school day, and 41.4% reported participating in such activities away from school for at least one hour. Participation in activities away from school ranged from 26.9% of Hispanic students to 52.6% of White students.
- Nearly one quarter of the students (24.5%) reported spending an hour or more doing homework on an average school day, while 19.3% reported going to work for an hour or more. Female students were more likely to report spending an hour or more on homework (25.6% compared to 23.5% of male students), while male students were more likely to work for an hour or more (23.2% compared to 15.2% of female students). The percentage of students who reported spending an hour or more doing homework ranged from 19.5% of White students to 32.8% of Asian students.
- Nearly thirty percent of the students (27.9%) reported volunteering in the past year to do community service, and 61.0% reported being a leader in a group or organization in the past year. Male students were more likely to report volunteering (28.3% compared to 27.8% of female students). Hispanic students were least likely to report being a leader or volunteering, while White students reported the highest rate for volunteering, and Other/Multiple race students reported the highest rate for being a leader. The rate for volunteering was the lowest reported in the past ten years.

Three to Succeed

The Three to Succeed concept is based on the Youth Survey analysis which shows that having at least three assets dramatically reduces risk behaviors and promotes thriving youth. Assets are strengths in young people, their families, schools, and communities that help them thrive in health, in school, in daily life, and in a safe environment. The more assets an individual has in his or her life, the less likely he or she is to engage in a variety of risk behaviors.

Most young people in Fairfax County report positive influences from their communities, families, schools, and friends. The lower rates of risk behaviors reported by students with at least three assets demonstrates the benefits that are derived when everyone plays a role in ensuring that children are thriving in Fairfax County.

Figure 1. Three to Succeed Asset Graph, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). The scale (y-axis) for this figure is reduced to aid in interpretation of the data.

INTRODUCTION

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among youth and adults in the United States are related to six categories of health-risk behaviors: 1) those that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence; 2) tobacco use; 3) alcohol and other drug use; 4) sexual behaviors related to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (including HIV infection); 5) unhealthy dietary behaviors; and 6) physical inactivity. These behaviors often are established during childhood and adolescence and are interrelated (Underwood et al., 2020).

To monitor the behaviors and attitudes that affect the health and well-being of Fairfax County youth, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board co-sponsor the Fairfax County Youth Survey. The survey, first administered in 2001, informs our community of essential factors related to youth health and well-being. This information provides a mechanism with which schools, community groups, and governmental agencies can plan, evaluate, and improve programs designed to prevent health problems and promote healthy behaviors. The results of the survey serve as a barometer of the extent to which our community has successfully fostered healthy choices in our youth.

The Fairfax County Youth Survey includes questions on substance use, aggression and other antisocial behaviors, health and health-risk behaviors, mental health, civic and extracurricular behaviors, and items to measure the levels of assets present in the students' environments. Assets are opportunities, experiences, and resources that foster healthy development in children and adolescents.

The survey's administration and the use of the survey's results represent a collaborative effort involving multiple county agencies and Fairfax County Public Schools. The support and contributions of these key individuals and groups, and their commitment to our youth, make the survey possible.

SURVEY INSTRUMENT

The 2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey was conducted in November and December 2021. The survey instrument for sixth-grade students contained 89 questions. The survey derives many of its questions from the Communities That Care Youth Survey (from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

This is the sixteenth year that the Fairfax County Youth Survey has been conducted. The survey instrument has been modified since it was first administered in 2001, but core questions related to risky and healthy behaviors have remained consistent. Sixth-grade students were included in the survey for the first time in 2005, when one survey instrument was administered to a sample of students in sixth, eighth, tenth, and twelfth grades. Due to concerns with both the length and language of the survey, a separate *6th Grade Survey* instrument was developed for administration in 2008. Also in that year, two separate instruments were administered to eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students: one focusing on risk and protective factors and the other focusing on healthy behaviors. From 2009 to 2014, the two instruments for older students (the *Risk and Protective Factors Survey* and the *Healthy Behaviors Survey*) were administered in alternating years, and the *6th Grade Survey* was administered annually. In 2015, a new questionnaire for the eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students was developed, maintaining items of interest from the two previous versions and adding additional questions on substance use, bullying, harassment, nutrition, and extracurricular activities. The questionnaire for sixth-grade students was also modified slightly in 2015. Both the *8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Survey* and the *6th Grade Survey* have been administered annually since 2015. In 2018, items were added to the eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade instrument to assess the use of vaping devices and to investigate prescription painkiller misuse. In 2019, additional items on school environment were added to the questionnaire for the older students. In 2020, the Fairfax County Youth Survey was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2021, the Fairfax County Youth Survey was conducted online for the first time. The survey was offered in 8 languages for the first time as well: Arabic, Chinese, English, Farsi, Korean, Spanish, Urdu, and Vietnamese. Sixth-grade students were asked to choose the language of the survey they completed. Below are the frequency counts of the different language forms selected by students in Grade 6.

Table 1. Language Selection for the Online Survey

	Number	Percent
Arabic	8	0.1
Chinese	4	0.0
English	10,776	97.4
Farsi	3	0.0
Korean	19	0.2
Spanish	245	2.2
Urdu	0	0.0
Vietnamese	4	0.0
Total	11,059	100.0

The results of the *2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students* are presented in a separate report, which can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/youthsurvey. A more detailed discussion of the history of the Fairfax County Youth Survey is provided in Appendix A on page 110.

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

The 2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey was the first ever administration of the survey online. A paper survey was offered as an option to accommodate students with disabilities. The paper format generated only 10 cases. All Fairfax County Public Schools sixth-grade students in class at the time of the survey administration were invited to participate. Parents and/or guardians were notified of the survey one month before survey administration. The notice included instructions on where to view the survey instrument and how to exclude their child from participation. In addition, students were informed that the survey was voluntary and that they could choose not to participate in the entire survey or to skip individual questions they did not want to answer. Instructions from survey administrators and online/written instructions on the front of all surveys assured students that their answers would be kept strictly confidential. Students completed the self-administered questionnaire during one class period. Responses were entered directly on the online survey or a computer-scannable booklet.

A total of 11,069 students participated in the *2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students*, representing 82.6% of all sixth-grade students enrolled in Fairfax County Public Schools.

Table 2. Response Rate

FCPS Enrollment^a	Number of Respondents	Response Rate
13,394	11,069	82.6%

^aTotal Fairfax County Public Schools enrollment in 6th grade, November 2021.

DATA PROCESSING

Significant changes were made in 2010 to the protocol used for validating responses. These changes were made to better align the methodology with those used by the national benchmarks. Changing the criteria used to determine which data to keep and which to eliminate from the analysis can have a significant effect on the results. Therefore, comparisons should not be made between this year's data and data from years prior to 2010.

Questionnaires were eliminated from the analysis if any of the following conditions were met:

- the student responded outside the data collection window (between November 15 and December 17)
- the student completed the survey during a weekend or Thanksgiving break (November 25 and 26)
- the student completed the survey between 6:00 pm and 6:00 am (survey needed to be completed during normal school hours)
- fewer than eight questions were answered
- the student answered "I was not honest at all" on the honesty question
- the student reported use of a fictitious drug (cabenerferol)
- the grade information was missing, or the student reported being in 5th or 7th grade
- the student provided more than two inconsistent responses regarding substance use
- the student provided pharmacologically implausible responses (i.e., a combination of drugs and frequencies of use whose cumulative effect would be lethal).

Missing data were not imputed. A more thorough description of the survey administration and validation is presented in Appendix B beginning on page 114.

A total of 626 questionnaires were rejected due to meeting at least one of the data cleaning criteria, leaving 10,443 usable questionnaires (94.3%). Table 3 lists the number of usable questionnaires for each year that the Fairfax County Youth Survey has been conducted.

Table 3. Number of Usable Questionnaires (2001-2021)

		Number of Usable Questionnaires
2001	Fairfax County Youth Survey ^a	11,631
2003	Virginia Community Youth Survey ^a	4,074
2005	Fairfax County Youth Survey ^b	13,235
	Risk & Protective Factors Survey ^a	12,468
2008	Healthy Behaviors Survey ^a	3,988
	6th Grade Survey	3,958
2009	Healthy Behaviors Survey ^a	29,223
	6th Grade Survey	10,927
2010	Risk & Protective Factors Survey ^a	30,399
	6th Grade Survey	11,049
2011	Healthy Behaviors Survey ^a	31,106
	6th Grade Survey	11,238
2012	Risk & Protective Factors Survey ^a	32,027
	6th Grade Survey	11,613
2013	Healthy Behaviors Survey ^a	32,439
	6th Grade Survey	11,597
2014	Risk & Protective Factors Survey ^a	32,590
	6th Grade Survey	11,778
2015	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	33,276
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	11,932
2016	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	32,491
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	11,961
2017	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	33,238
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	12,247
2018	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	32,904
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	12,175
2019	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	33,039
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	12,779
2020	No administration of the Fairfax County Youth Survey due to the COVID-19 pandemic	-
2021	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	30,921
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	10,443

^aQuestionnaires administered to 8th-, 10th-, and 12th-grade students. ^bQuestionnaires administered to 6th-, 8th-, 10th-, and 12th-grade students.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF SURVEYED YOUTH

Race/ethnicity was computed using two questions: 1) “What do you consider yourself to be?” (Response options were “Hispanic or Latino” and “Not Hispanic nor Latino”), and 2) “What do you consider yourself to be (Select one or more)?” (Response options were “American Indian or Alaskan native,” “Asian,” “Black or African-American,” “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander,” and “White”). For this report, students are referred to as “Hispanic” if they answered “Hispanic or Latino” to the first question, regardless of how they answered the second question. Students who answered, “Not Hispanic nor Latino” to the first question and selected only “White” to the second question are referred to as “White.” Students who answered, “Not Hispanic nor Latino” to the first question and selected only “Black or African-American” to the second question are referred to as “Black.” Students who answered, “Not Hispanic nor Latino” to the first question and selected only “Asian” or only “Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander” to the second question are referred to as “Asian.” Students who answered, “Not Hispanic nor Latino” to the first question and selected “American Indian or Alaskan native” or selected multiple responses to the second question are referred to as “Other/Multiple.” Students who did not answer the first question were classified according to their response to the second question. Race/ethnicity was classified as missing for students who did not answer either question and for students who answered “Not Hispanic nor Latino” on the first question and left the second question blank.

Over one third of the survey respondents (37.2%) identified themselves as non-Hispanic White. The largest minority population among survey respondents was Hispanic (26.1%), followed by Asian (19.1%). More than one third of the students (36.0%) reported that a language other than English is the primary language spoken in their home. Demographic characteristics of the students who participated in the survey are compared to the total Fairfax County Public Schools sixth-grade student population in Table 4.

Table 4. Selected Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents and Fairfax County Student Population, 2021

	Survey Respondents ^a		FCPS Enrollment ^b	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Gender				
Female	5,052	49.2	6,525	48.7
Male	5,214	50.8	6,859	51.2
Other ^c	-	-	10	0.1
Race/Ethnicity^d				
White	3,209	32.8	* 4,984	37.2
Black	1,103	11.3	* 1,323	9.9
Hispanic	2,711	27.7	* 3,491	26.1
Asian	1,947	19.9	2,559	19.1
Other/Multiple	821	8.4	* 1,037	7.7

Note. Data in this table are not weighted.

^aBecause of missing responses to the gender and race/ethnicity questions, sums for these categories do not equal the number of valid cases included in the report. ^bTotal 6th-grade enrollment in Fairfax County Public Schools in November 2021. ^cOther category (i.e., transgender, etc.) was not asked. ^dRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

* $p < .05$ (statistically significant differences between the percentage of survey respondents and percentage of enrolled students in that demographic category).

Table 5. Primary Language Spoken at Home, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Primary Language Spoken at Home				
	Amharic	Arabic	Chinese	English	Farsi
Overall	1.4	2.8	1.3	64.0	1.0
Gender					
Female	1.5	2.6	1.4	62.5	1.1
Male	1.2	3.1	1.2	65.5	1.0
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	0.0	2.6	0.0	89.9	0.9
Black	11.9	7.3	0.0	69.7	0.0
Hispanic	0.1	0.2	0.0	35.3	0.0
Asian	0.0	1.5	6.2	51.6	2.3
Other/Multiple	0.1	2.6	1.2	81.0	1.5

	Korean	Spanish	Urdu	Vietnamese	Other
Overall	2.0	17.2	1.1	1.3	7.9
Gender					
Female	1.9	17.7	1.1	1.5	8.7
Male	2.0	16.6	1.0	1.1	7.2
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	0.0	1.3	0.1	0.1	5.0
Black	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.1	10.2
Hispanic	0.0	62.5	0.1	0.1	1.7
Asian	9.5	0.1	4.3	6.1	18.5
Other/Multiple	1.6	1.5	1.1	1.1	8.4

Note. Data in this table are not weighted. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

DATA WEIGHTING

The ratio of sixth-grade survey respondents from a given pyramid* to all survey respondents (all pyramids) was compared to the ratio of all students enrolled in sixth grade in that pyramid to all students enrolled in sixth grade in all Fairfax County Public Schools. Corrective weights were applied to the data to ensure proportional representation based on enrollment by pyramid. The calculations for weighting are described in Appendix B on page 119. Although statistically significant differences were observed among sub-populations of the respondents and the FCPS enrollment, data were weighted by pyramid only. Because of the desire to analyze the data at the pyramid level, the number of male and female students in some racial/ethnic groups within a pyramid is small enough to jeopardize the anonymity of their responses if weights by gender or race/ethnicity are applied.

HOW TO INTERPRET RESULTS

This report provides data on both *prevalence* and *frequency* of health-related behaviors.

Lifetime prevalence is the percentage of respondents who report a specified behavior at least once in their lifetime. Lifetime prevalence of substance use is a general indicator of occasional or experimental use of a substance.

Past month prevalence is the percentage of respondents who report a specified behavior at least once in the 30 days prior to the administration of the survey. Monthly prevalence is useful for determining how many students are currently engaging in a specified behavior.

Frequency describes *how often* or *the number of times* a specific behavior is performed or experienced within the specified timeframe. For example, a student who reports use of marijuana on one or two days in the past month and a student who reports using marijuana on ten or more days in the past month are counted equally in the prevalence rate, although their levels of use are dramatically different.

Information about statistical significance is not included in the tables in the report, but differences of a percentage point or more typically would be significant at the 95 percent confidence level for a sample the size of the Fairfax County Youth Survey respondent pool. When the difference between estimates is statistically significant, it means that at a specified level of confidence there is a real or measurable difference between the values that is not due to random variation or chance. A statistically significant difference does not mean that the difference is large or important; this is a judgment that is made by those interpreting the results.

* The Fairfax County Public Schools' system that assigns schools to a pyramid which is comprised of a high school and its feeder elementary and middle schools.

SUBSTANCE USE

Students were asked about their use of alcohol, cigarettes, vape, inhalants, marijuana, and other illegal drugs in the *2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students*. The questions are based on those used in the Monitoring the Future* (MTF) survey, a nationwide study of substance use by eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students. Because sixth-grade students are not included in the MTF survey, comparisons between Fairfax County data and national data are not provided in this report.

Approximately one in six Fairfax County sixth-grade students (16.0%) reported having consumed alcohol at least once in their lifetime. Male students were more likely to report using alcohol in their lifetime compared to female students (17.3% vs. 14.4%, respectively). Rates of lifetime alcohol use varied among racial/ethnic groups, ranging from 13.0% of Asian students to 19.4% of other or multiple race students. Lifetime use of alcohol increased (1.3 percentage points) in 2021 compared to 2019. About 1.2% of the students reported drinking alcohol in the past month. Past month use of alcohol remained steady from 2019 which was 1.3%.

The second most commonly used substance was inhalants, with 3.5% reporting use in their lifetime. About 1.3% of the student reported using inhalants during the past month. Lifetime use of inhalants decreased (0.9 percentage points) and past month use of inhalants also decreased (0.6 percentage points) in 2021 compared to 2019.

Questions on vaping[†] were added to the survey in 2021. About 2.6% of the students reported vaping at least once in their lifetime and 0.8% of the students reported vaping in the past month. Female students were more likely to report vaping in their lifetime (2.7% compared to 2.4% of male students) and in the past month (0.9% compared to 0.7% of male students). Rates of ever vaping ranged from 1.7% of White students to 4.1% of Hispanic students, and rates of vaping in the past month ranged from 0.2% of other or multiple race students to 1.9% of Hispanic students. Nicotine was the most common substance inhaled through vaping in the past month (0.6%), followed by flavoring (0.5%) and marijuana (0.2%).

Few students reported using cigarettes, marijuana, or other drugs during their lifetime (1.3% or less) or in the 30 days prior to the survey (0.1% or less). Male students were slightly more likely to report ever smoking cigarettes (1.0% compared to 0.8% of female students). Female students were more likely to report ever used marijuana (1.5% vs. 1.0% of male students). Lifetime use of marijuana increased (0.5

* Monitoring the Future is an annual survey of substance use that is administered to eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students across the nation (Johnston et al., 2022).

[†] Vaping is the inhalation of an aerosol through a battery-powered device. The aerosol may contain nicotine, THC (the main psychoactive chemical in marijuana), and/or flavoring. Vaping devices include e-cigarettes, vape pens, and pods (e.g., Juul) which resemble a USB flash drive and come in flavors that appeal to youth, such as mango, crème, and fruit.

percentage points), and other drug use increased (0.7 percentage points), while prevalence rates for cigarettes decreased (0.3 percentage points) in 2021 compared to 2019.

Table 6. Percentage of Students Reporting Use of Selected Substances in Their Lifetime, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

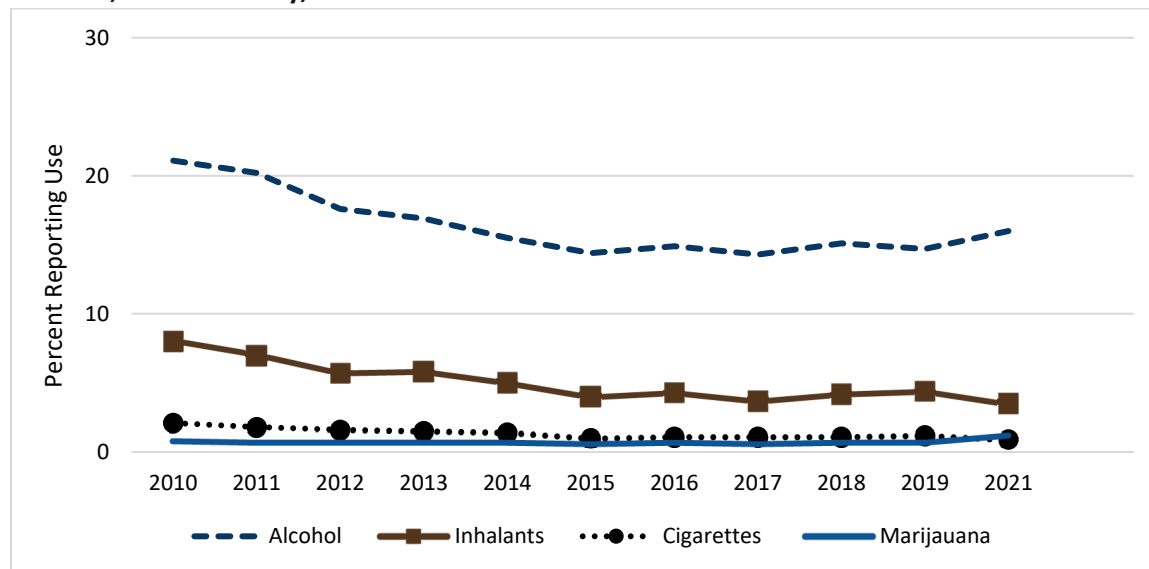
(Values are percentages)

	Alcohol	Inhalants	Cigarettes	Vape	Marijuana	Other Illegal Drugs
Overall	16.0	3.5	0.9	2.6	1.2	1.3
Gender						
Female	14.4	3.6	0.8	2.7	1.5	1.2
Male	17.3	3.3	1.0	2.4	1.0	1.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	16.9	2.8	0.6	1.7	0.9	0.9
Black	15.3	3.4	0.9	3.2	1.5	1.5
Hispanic	17.7	3.8	1.8	4.1	1.8	1.7
Asian	13.0	3.7	0.3	2.2	0.9	1.4
Other/Multiple	19.4	5.1	1.1	2.6	1.1	0.9

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 2. Percentage of Students Reporting Use of Alcohol, Inhalants, Cigarettes, or Marijuana in Their Lifetime, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). The scale (y-axis) for this figure is reduced to aid in interpretation of the data.

Table 7. Percentage of Students Reporting Use of Selected Substances in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Alcohol	Inhalants	Cigarettes	Vape	Marijuana	Other Illegal Drugs
Overall	1.2	1.3	0.1	0.8	0.1	0.1
Gender						
Female	1.0	1.4	0.1	0.9	0.1	0.0
Male	1.3	1.2	0.1	0.7	0.0	0.1
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	1.2	1.0	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0
Black	0.8	1.1	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.2
Hispanic	1.7	1.6	0.3	1.9	0.2	0.1
Asian/Pacific	0.7	1.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	1.4	2.2	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

ALCOHOL USE

Table 8. Lifetime Prevalence of Alcohol Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	14.4	14.9	14.3	15.1	14.7	16.0
Gender						
Female	10.8	11.3	11.3	11.9	12.0	14.4
Male	17.7	18.3	17.2	18.0	17.4	17.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	15.0	17.0	15.3	15.8	16.0	16.9
Black	15.0	14.9	14.9	12.8	15.1	15.3
Hispanic	17.3	15.8	16.9	17.7	17.4	17.7
Asian	10.5	10.9	10.1	11.8	10.3	13.0
Other/Multiple	15.5	16.2	14.8	18.4	16.4	19.4

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 9. Past Month Prevalence of Alcohol Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.3	1.2
Gender						
Female	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.4	0.9	1.0
Male	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.2
Black	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.3	2.0	0.8
Hispanic	1.8	1.7	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.7
Asian	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.7
Other/Multiple	1.2	1.6	1.8	2.4	1.4	1.4

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 10. Frequency of Alcohol Use in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	1-2 days	3-5 days	6-9 days	10+ days
Overall	98.8	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Gender					
Female	99.0	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.0
Male	98.7	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	98.8	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Black	99.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
Hispanic	98.3	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.0
Asian	99.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1
Other/Multiple	98.6	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding. ^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

INHALANT USE*

Table 11. Lifetime Prevalence of Inhalant Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	4.0	4.3	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.5
Gender						
Female	3.7	3.8	3.7	4.3	4.3	3.6
Male	4.2	4.8	3.7	4.1	4.6	3.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	3.3	3.7	3.0	2.8	4.0	2.8
Black	5.3	5.9	5.8	5.1	5.5	3.4
Hispanic	4.1	4.4	4.0	5.4	5.6	3.8
Asian	4.6	4.7	3.8	4.4	2.7	3.7
Other/Multiple	4.1	4.9	3.2	5.6	6.5	5.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

* Inhalants are fumes or gases that are inhaled to get high. They include common household substances such as glues, aerosols, butane, and solvents. Many household products are the most commonly used inhalants. Inhalant use is more prevalent among younger students, perhaps because they are often the easiest drugs for them to obtain: they are easily accessible, legal to obtain, and relatively cheap.

Table 12. Past Month Prevalence of Inhalant Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	1.8	1.9	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.3
Gender						
Female	1.7	1.6	2.0	2.2	2.0	1.4
Male	1.8	2.2	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.2
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.0
Black	2.1	2.4	3.3	2.4	2.0	1.1
Hispanic	1.7	2.4	2.2	2.8	2.7	1.6
Asian	2.1	1.9	1.5	2.0	1.2	1.3
Other/Multiple	2.0	2.1	1.7	2.3	2.8	2.2

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 13. Frequency of Inhalant Use in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	1-2 days	3-5 days	6-9 days	10+ days
Overall	98.7	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.1
Gender					
Female	98.6	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.2
Male	98.8	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	99.0	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.0
Black	98.9	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic	98.4	1.1	0.3	0.0	0.2
Asian	98.7	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other/Multiple	97.8	1.4	0.4	0.3	0.3

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

TOBACCO USE

Table 14. Lifetime Prevalence of Smoking Cigarettes, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.9
Gender						
Female	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
Male	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6
Black	1.5	1.4	2.3	1.8	0.8	0.9
Hispanic	2.2	2.4	1.7	2.2	2.4	1.8
Asian	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.3
Other/Multiple	1.7	0.7	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 15. Frequency of Smoking Cigarettes in Lifetime, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	Once or twice	Once in a while but not regularly	Regularly in the past	Regularly now
Overall	99.1	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1
Gender					
Female	99.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1
Male	99.0	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.1
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	99.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1
Black	99.1	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hispanic	98.2	1.5	0.1	0.1	0.2
Asian	99.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	98.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 16. Past Month Prevalence of Smoking Cigarettes, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Gender						
Female	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Male	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Black	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.2
Hispanic	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.3
Asian	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Other/Multiple	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 17. Frequency of Smoking Cigarettes in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

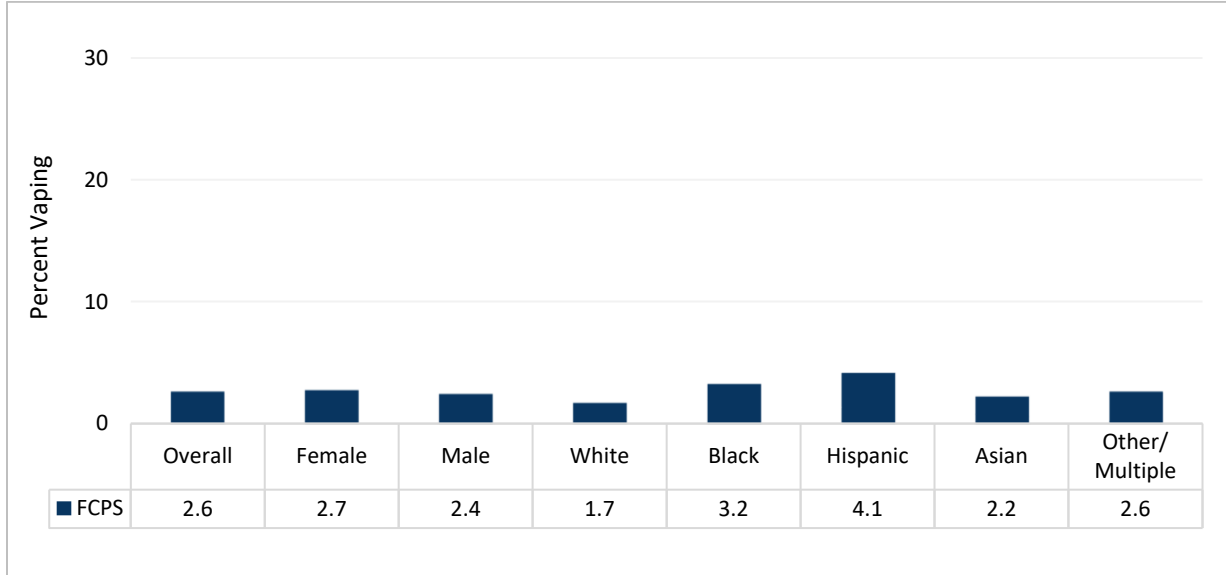
	Not at all	Less than 1 cigarette per day	1-5 cigarettes per day	About one-half pack per day	About one pack per day	More than one pack per day
Overall	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gender						
Female	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Male	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	99.8	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	99.7	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

VAPING

Figure 3. Lifetime Prevalence of Vaping (Any Substance), by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding. The scale (y-axis) for this figure is reduced to aid in interpretation of the data.
^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 18. Prevalence of Vaping Nicotine, Marijuana, or Flavoring Only in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Vaping (Any Substance)	Vaping Nicotine	Vaping Marijuana	Vaping Flavoring without Nicotine or Marijuana
Overall	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.5
Gender				
Female	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.6
Male	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.5
Race/Ethnicity^b				
White	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3
Black	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.6
Hispanic	1.9	1.4	0.3	1.2
Asian	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3
Other/Multiple	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 19. Frequency of Vaping Nicotine in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 occasions	1-2 occasions	3-5 occasions	6-9 occasions	10-19 occasions	40+ occasions
Overall	99.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Gender						
Female	99.3	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Male	99.6	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	99.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	99.5	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Hispanic	98.6	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1
Asian	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 20. Frequency of Vaping Marijuana in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 occasions	1-2 occasions	3-5 occasions	6-9 occasions	10-19 occasions
Overall	99.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gender					
Female	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Male	99.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	99.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Hispanic	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Asian	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 21. Frequency of Vaping Flavoring Without Nicotine or Marijuana in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 occasions	1-2 occasions	3-5 occasions	6-9 occasions	10-19 occasions	20-39 occasions	40+ occasions
Overall	99.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Gender							
Female	99.4	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Male	99.5	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	99.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Black	99.4	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
Hispanic	98.8	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Asian	99.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	99.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

MARIJUANA USE

Table 22. Lifetime Prevalence of Marijuana Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.2
Gender						
Female	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.5
Male	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.9
Black	1.1	1.6	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.5
Hispanic	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.8
Asian	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.9
Other/Multiple	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.4	1.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 23. Past Month Prevalence of Marijuana Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Gender						
Female	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Male	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Black	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1
Hispanic	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2
Asian	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 24. Frequency of Marijuana Use in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	1-2 days	3-5 days	6-9 days	10+ days
Overall	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gender					
Female	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Male	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Asian	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

USE OF OTHER DRUGS

Table 25. Lifetime Prevalence of Other Illegal Drug Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	1.3
Gender						
Female	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.2
Male	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.9
Black	0.7	0.7	1.1	0.7	0.7	1.5
Hispanic	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.7
Asian	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3	1.4
Other/Multiple	0.1	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.9

Note. Other illegal drugs do not include alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, or marijuana. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic persons who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 26. Past Month Prevalence of Other Illegal Drug Use, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Gender						
Female	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0
Male	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Black	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.2
Hispanic	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.1
Asian	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Other/Multiple	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.0

Note. Other illegal drugs do not include alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, or marijuana. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic persons who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 27. Frequency of Other Illegal Drug Use in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	1-2 days	3-5 days	6-9 days	10+ days
Overall	99.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gender					
Female	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Male	99.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Black	99.8	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0
Hispanic	99.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Asian	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other/Multiple	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note. Other illegal drugs do not include alcohol, tobacco, inhalants, or marijuana. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic persons who are treated as a separate category in this table.

AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIORS

The *2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students* included several questions on bullying, cyberbullying*, derogatory racial/ethnic comments, and carrying weapons. Many more students reported experiencing the aggressive behaviors than carrying them out. Approximately one in 10 students (9.7%) reported making derogatory comments about someone's race or culture†, while over one third (34.4%) reported having something bad said to them. Fewer male students reported experiencing derogatory comments compared to female students (33.0% and 35.5%, respectively), while more male students reported making derogatory comments compared to female students (12.1% and 7.3%, respectively). Nearly half of the Black students (45.4%) reported experiencing derogatory statements about their race or culture. Rates of both making and experiencing derogatory racial/ethnic comments have declined steadily since 2015 (when item wording changed).

While 3.9% of the students reported bullying‡ someone on school property in the past year, one fifth of the students (20.0%) reported having been bullied on school property. Rates of being bullied on school property ranged from 16.0% of Asian students to 22.9% of students of Hispanic ethnicity. Students who reported using any substance in the past month were much more likely to report both bullying someone on school property (12.2%) and being bullied by someone on school property (35.2%) compared to students who reported not using any substance in the past month (3.7% and 19.5%, respectively). The percentage of students who reported having been bullied on school property was the lowest since 2015 (when item wording changed).

Approximately one in eight of the students (12.2%) reported having been cyberbullied in the past year by a student at their school, and 3.9% reported that they had cyberbullied a student at their school in the past year. Female students were more likely to report having been cyberbullied by a student at their

* Cyberbullying was defined as electronic bullying, such as through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, websites, or text messaging.

† The wording of the response options for the derogatory comments items was changed in 2015. Comparisons of this year's results with years prior to 2015 are not advised.

‡ The definition of bullying and the response options for the bullying items were changed in 2015. The definition of bullying was expanded to clarify that bullying is any aggressive and unwanted behavior that is intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate the victim; involves a real or perceived power imbalance between the aggressor and victim; and is repeated over time or causes severe emotional trauma. The clarification that bullying does not include ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument, or peer conflict was added. The response options were also changed. Because of these changes, comparing this year's results with years prior to 2015 is not advised.

school (13.7% compared to 10.6% of male students). Rates of cyberbullying decreased and being cyberbullied increased slightly from 2019.

About one fifth of the sixth-grade students (21.4%) reported having been bullied, taunted, ridiculed, or teased by a parent or other adult in their household in the past year. A larger percentage of female students reported experiencing the behavior (23.3% vs. 18.9% of male students). Approximately 12.0% of the students reported having been hit, kicked, or physically hurt by a parent or adult in the past year.

Approximately one in eleven sixth-grade students (9.3%) reported carrying a weapon in the past month, with more than one percent (1.3%) doing so on school property. Male students were more likely to report carrying a weapon (11.4% compared to 7.0% of female students).

Table 28. Prevalence of Committing Selected Aggressive Behaviors in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Said something bad about someone's race or culture	Bullied someone on school property	Cyberbullied ^a a student attending your school
Overall	9.7	3.9	3.9
Gender			
Female	7.3	3.4	3.6
Male	12.1	4.4	4.3
Race/Ethnicity^b			
White	6.2	2.8	2.5
Black	12.2	5.4	4.2
Hispanic	12.5	5.0	5.6
Asian	10.9	3.6	4.2
Other/Multiple	10.7	3.9	3.4

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aCyberbullying was defined as bullying through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging.

^bRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 29. Prevalence of Experiencing Selected Aggressive Behaviors in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Had something bad said about your race or culture	Been bullied on school property	Been cyberbullied ^a by a student who attends your school
Overall	34.4	20.0	12.2
Gender			
Female	35.5	20.4	13.7
Male	33.0	19.3	10.6
Race/Ethnicity^b			
White	21.3	19.4	10.5
Black	45.4	20.8	12.2
Hispanic	36.5	22.9	14.6
Asian	43.0	16.0	10.9
Other/Multiple	42.9	21.3	14.3

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aCyberbullying was defined as bullying through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging.

^bRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

BULLYING

Table 30. Prevalence of Bullying Someone on School Property in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.0	3.9
Gender						
Female	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.7	3.4	3.4
Male	4.3	4.7	4.9	4.4	4.7	4.4
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	3.2	2.9	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.8
Black	6.3	7.6	7.1	5.8	6.6	5.4
Hispanic	5.9	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.2	5.0
Asian	2.5	2.9	2.0	3.0	2.3	3.6
Other/Multiple	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	3.9	3.9

Note. Bullying was defined as when one or more students tease, threaten, spread rumors about, hit, shove, or hurt another student over and over again. The wording for this item was changed in 2015. Therefore, it is not recommended to compare these rates with previous years. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 31. Prevalence of Bullying Someone Away from School Property in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.5
Gender						
Female	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.3	3.3	4.3
Male	5.0	5.1	4.8	4.7	5.1	4.7
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	3.0	3.6	3.0	2.5	2.6	2.7
Black	7.6	7.3	5.2	5.3	5.5	6.9
Hispanic	5.6	5.7	6.3	6.4	6.7	6.8
Asian	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.3	2.9	3.2
Other/Multiple	5.5	3.6	3.7	4.5	4.4	4.5

Note. Bullying was defined as when one or more students tease, threaten, spread rumors about, hit, shove, or hurt another student over and over again. The wording for this item was changed in 2015. Therefore, it is not recommended to compare these rates with previous years. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 32. Prevalence of Having Been Bullied on School Property in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	25.1	23.7	24.4	23.4	22.7	20.0
Gender						
Female	27.5	24.9	26.0	25.2	23.9	20.4
Male	22.6	22.4	22.9	21.7	21.4	19.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	24.8	22.8	24.8	22.9	22.8	19.4
Black	26.4	24.1	25.5	25.6	24.2	20.8
Hispanic	27.1	26.3	25.5	25.2	23.9	22.9
Asian	22.1	20.1	20.5	19.9	18.6	16.0
Other/Multiple	26.7	27.4	27.9	26.4	25.2	21.3

Note. Bullying was defined as when one or more students tease, threaten, spread rumors about, hit, shove, or hurt another student over and over again. The wording for this item was changed in 2015. Therefore, it is not recommended to compare these rates with previous years. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 33. Prevalence of Having Been Bullied Away from School Property in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

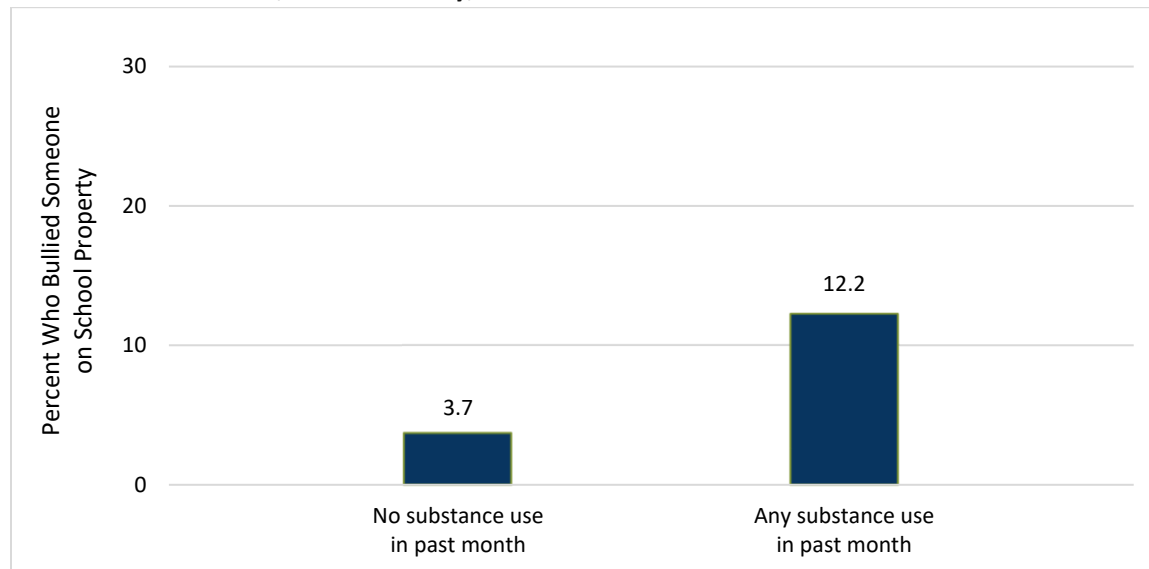
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	17.7	16.2	16.4	14.9	14.5	14.1
Gender						
Female	17.4	16.3	15.5	14.3	13.6	14.5
Male	17.9	16.1	17.2	15.4	15.3	13.4
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	17.1	16.2	15.7	14.0	14.0	13.3
Black	19.3	18.0	18.5	15.9	15.1	14.5
Hispanic	19.2	16.9	18.1	16.7	16.5	15.5
Asian	16.0	14.2	14.3	13.5	11.4	12.1
Other/Multiple	20.6	18.2	18.7	16.4	16.9	15.8

Note. Bullying was defined as when one or more students tease, threaten, spread rumors about, hit, shove, or hurt another student over and over again. The wording for this item was changed in 2015. Therefore, it is not recommended to compare these rates with previous years. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

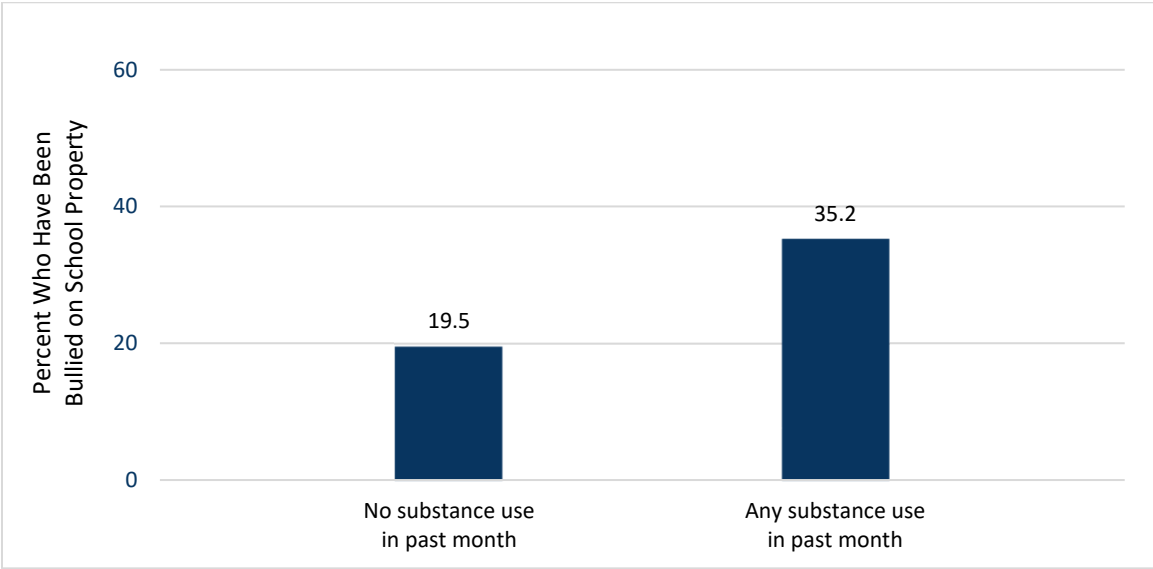
^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 4. Percentage of Students Who Bullied Someone on School Property in the Past Year, by Past Month Substance Use, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. Any substance use includes students who reported using alcohol, cigarettes, or other drugs in the past month. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). The scale (y-axis) for this figure is reduced to aid in interpretation of the data.

Figure 5. Percentage of Students Who Have Been Bullied by Someone on School Property in the Past Year, by Past Month Substance Use, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. Any substance use includes students who reported using alcohol, cigarettes, or other drugs in the past month. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). The scale (y-axis) for this figure is reduced to aid in interpretation of the data.

CYBERBULLYING

Table 34. Prevalence of Cyberbullying a Student Who Attends the Same School in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	3.2	3.2	3.7	3.7	4.2	3.9
Gender						
Female	3.1	3.2	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Male	3.4	3.2	3.8	3.7	4.8	4.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	2.1	2.1	2.7	2.3	2.8	2.5
Black	4.3	4.6	4.4	5.1	5.2	4.2
Hispanic	5.2	5.3	5.8	5.7	7.1	5.6
Asian	2.6	2.8	2.7	3.1	2.7	4.2
Other/Multiple	3.8	2.5	3.4	3.2	3.6	3.4

Note. Cyberbullying was defined as bullying through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 35. Frequency of Cyberbullying a Student Who Attends the Same School in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-29 times	30-39 times	40+ times
Overall	96.1	2.7	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Gender								
Female	96.5	2.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Male	95.7	2.9	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3
Race/Ethnicity^a								
White	97.5	1.8	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Black	95.8	2.5	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4
Hispanic	94.4	3.9	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2
Asian	95.8	2.9	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2
Other/Multiple	96.6	2.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.4

Note. Cyberbullying was defined as bullying through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 36. Prevalence of Having Been Cyberbullied in the Past Year by a Student Who Attends the Same School, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	10.6	10.0	10.3	10.0	10.9	12.2
Gender						
Female	12.9	12.2	12.5	11.1	12.5	13.7
Male	8.4	7.9	8.1	8.8	9.2	10.6
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	9.3	9.2	9.0	8.6	9.3	10.5
Black	11.4	10.3	10.9	10.5	10.5	12.2
Hispanic	13.9	12.5	13.1	11.8	14.5	14.6
Asian	9.5	8.6	8.0	9.4	8.4	10.9
Other/Multiple	11.2	11.8	11.8	12.0	12.1	14.3

Note. Cyberbullying was defined as bullying through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 37. Frequency of Having Been Cyberbullied in the Past Year by a Student Who Attends the Same School, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

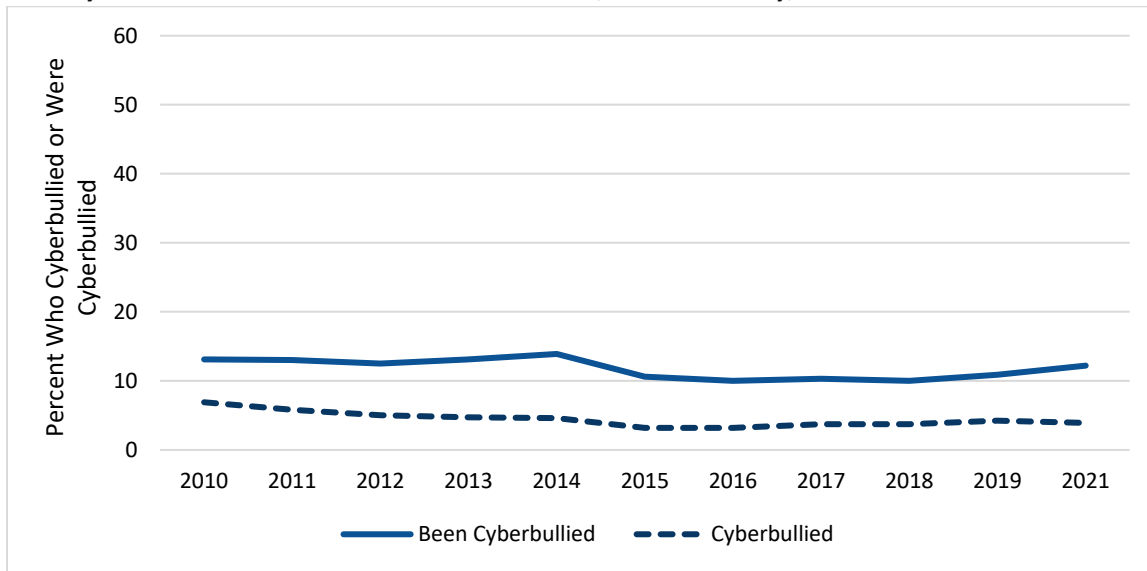
(Values are percentages)

	Never	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-29 times	30-39 times	40+ times
Overall	87.8	7.0	2.5	1.2	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.5
Gender								
Female	86.3	8.0	2.9	1.1	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.5
Male	89.4	5.9	2.1	1.3	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.5
Race/Ethnicity^a								
White	89.5	6.7	1.9	0.9	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.3
Black	87.8	6.6	2.3	1.3	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.7
Hispanic	85.4	7.5	3.4	1.8	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.7
Asian	89.1	6.3	2.2	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.5
Other/Multiple	85.7	8.7	2.6	1.5	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.5

Note. Cyberbullying was defined as bullying through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 6. Percentage of Students Who Reported Cyberbullying or Having Been Cyberbullied in the Past Year by a Student Who Attends the Same School, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. Cyberbullying was defined as bullying through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, web sites, or text messaging. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). The scale (y-axis) for this figure is reduced to aid in interpretation of the data.

OTHER AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIORS AND VICTIMIZATION

Table 38. Prevalence of Making Derogatory Statements about Someone’s Race or Culture in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	18.7	17.8	16.9	15.6	15.2	9.7
Gender						
Female	15.8	14.7	13.7	12.1	12.4	7.3
Male	21.5	21.0	20.0	18.9	17.8	12.1
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	15.4	14.8	13.9	12.8	11.2	6.2
Black	20.1	20.5	20.8	15.6	15.1	12.2
Hispanic	24.8	20.5	18.8	18.9	19.8	12.5
Asian	20.2	20.0	19.0	17.3	16.5	10.9
Other/Multiple	17.5	18.1	16.0	15.8	16.0	10.7

Note. The wording for this item was changed in 2015. Therefore, it is not recommended to compare these rates with previous years. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 39. Frequency of Making Derogatory Statements about Someone’s Race or Culture in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-29 times	30-39 times	40+ times
Overall	90.3	7.3	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.4
Gender								
Female	92.7	5.5	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3
Male	87.9	8.9	1.5	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.5
Race/Ethnicity^a								
White	93.8	4.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2
Black	87.8	8.3	1.6	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.8
Hispanic	87.5	9.4	1.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.6
Asian	89.1	8.3	1.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.3
Other/Multiple	89.3	8.2	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 40. Prevalence of Experiencing Derogatory Statements about Your Race or Culture in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	38.8	38.6	38.4	37.8	36.5	34.4
Gender						
Female	37.7	37.2	36.8	35.8	35.6	35.5
Male	39.8	39.9	39.9	39.6	37.4	33.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	25.2	25.1	26.0	24.9	23.6	21.3
Black	51.6	50.4	52.3	51.8	48.3	45.4
Hispanic	45.1	42.0	37.9	38.4	39.0	36.5
Asian	51.3	51.5	51.2	51.8	47.3	43.0
Other/Multiple	42.6	43.9	44.3	41.5	41.9	42.9

Note. The wording for this item was changed in 2015. Therefore, it is not recommended to compare these rates with previous years. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 41. Frequency of Experiencing Derogatory Statements about Your Race or Culture in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-29 times	30-39 times	40+ times
Overall	65.6	19.0	7.7	3.1	2.0	0.8	0.3	1.4
Gender								
Female	64.5	20.1	8.0	2.9	2.0	0.8	0.4	1.4
Male	67.0	17.8	7.3	3.3	2.0	0.8	0.3	1.4
Race/Ethnicity^a								
White	78.7	13.7	4.0	1.4	1.0	0.5	0.2	0.5
Black	54.6	20.7	11.5	4.9	3.2	1.2	0.6	3.2
Hispanic	63.5	20.5	8.2	3.1	1.7	0.7	0.5	1.8
Asian	57.0	23.4	10.3	4.0	2.8	1.0	0.3	1.3
Other/Multiple	57.1	22.3	9.7	4.3	3.2	1.5	0.1	1.7

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 42. Frequency of Having Been Bullied, Taunted, Ridiculed or Teased by a Parent or Adult in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-29 times	30-39 times	40+ times
Overall	78.6	10.0	3.5	2.0	1.8	0.9	0.5	2.7
Gender								
Female	76.7	10.7	3.9	2.2	2.3	1.0	0.5	2.7
Male	81.1	9.2	2.8	1.8	1.2	0.8	0.4	2.7
Race/Ethnicity^a								
White	81.9	9.5	2.7	1.5	1.3	0.7	0.5	1.9
Black	78.7	9.6	3.1	2.3	2.2	0.5	0.6	3.1
Hispanic	77.3	10.2	3.9	2.2	2.0	1.0	0.7	2.7
Asian	75.2	12.1	4.0	2.6	1.8	1.1	0.3	2.9
Other/Multiple	75.6	9.5	4.0	2.5	2.5	1.5	0.4	4.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 43. Frequency of Having Been Hit, Beat, Kicked, or Physically Hurt by a Parent or Adult in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	1-2 times	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-29 times	30-39 times	40+ times
Overall	88.1	6.8	1.9	1.1	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.8
Gender								
Female	88.5	6.7	1.8	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.8
Male	87.7	6.8	2.0	1.2	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.9
Race/Ethnicity^a								
White	92.4	4.5	1.1	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.5
Black	84.7	8.0	3.2	1.6	0.7	0.3	0.2	1.3
Hispanic	87.0	7.3	1.9	1.2	1.2	0.3	0.3	1.0
Asian	85.5	8.4	2.5	1.3	0.8	0.2	0.4	0.9
Other/Multiple	85.7	8.1	1.8	1.6	1.3	0.8	0.1	0.7

Note. This item was added to the survey in 2021. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 44. Past Month Prevalence of Carrying a Weapon, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	9.5	10.1	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.3
Gender						
Female	5.2	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.8	7.0
Male	13.5	14.1	13.0	13.0	12.7	11.4
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	11.8	12.3	11.4	10.8	10.2	9.7
Black	6.8	7.9	8.5	8.3	8.2	7.3
Hispanic	7.6	8.7	7.6	8.3	9.0	9.3
Asian	7.9	8.3	8.3	8.9	8.2	8.7
Other/Multiple	11.9	12.7	12.5	10.1	11.5	12.4

Note. Weapons include guns, knives, or clubs. The wording and response options for the questions pertaining to weapons were changed in 2015 in order to align with the national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). Comparing this year's results with years prior to 2015 is not advised. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 45. Frequency of Carrying a Weapon in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 days	1 day	2-3 days	4-5 days	6 or more days
Overall	90.7	4.4	2.7	0.7	1.5
Gender					
Female	93.0	3.3	2.2	0.7	0.9
Male	88.6	5.4	3.1	0.8	2.2
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	90.3	4.8	2.9	0.7	1.3
Black	92.7	3.6	1.8	0.3	1.6
Hispanic	90.7	4.9	2.4	0.6	1.4
Asian	91.3	3.3	2.7	0.8	2.0
Other/Multiple	87.6	5.1	4.1	1.5	1.7

Note. Weapons include guns, knives, or clubs. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 46. Past Month Prevalence of Carrying a Weapon on School Property, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.3
Gender						
Female	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.6	0.6	1.0
Male	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.5
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
Black	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.7	0.7	1.2
Hispanic	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	2.3
Asian	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7
Other/Multiple	1.2	0.6	1.1	1.0	0.5	2.2

Note. Weapons include guns, knives, or clubs. The wording and response options for the questions pertaining to weapons were changed in 2015 in order to align with the national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). Comparing this year's results with years prior to 2015 is not advised. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 47. Frequency of Carrying a Weapon on School Property in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

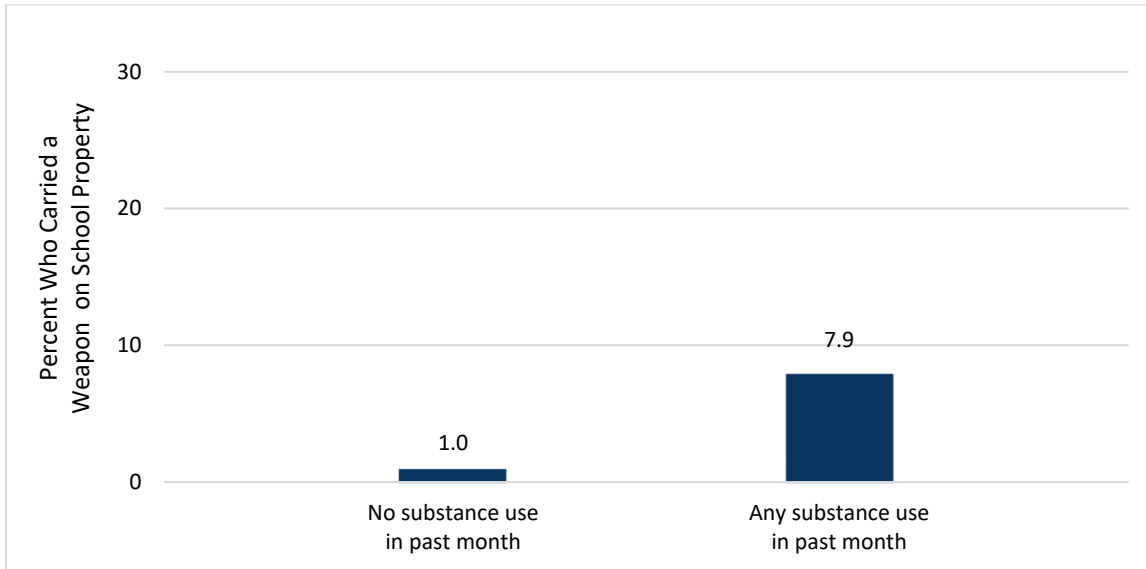
(Values are percentages)

	0 days	1 day	2-3 days	4-5 days	6 or more days
Overall	98.7	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.3
Gender					
Female	99.0	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.2
Male	98.5	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.3
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	99.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.2
Black	98.8	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.5
Hispanic	97.7	1.4	0.3	0.2	0.4
Asian	99.4	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1
Other/Multiple	97.8	1.1	0.7	0.1	0.3

Note. Weapons include guns, knives, or clubs. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 7. Percentage of Students Who Carried a Weapon on School Property in the Past Month, by Past Month Substance Use, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. Weapons include guns, knives, or clubs. Any substance use includes students who reported using alcohol, cigarettes, or other drugs in the past month. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). The scale (y-axis) for this figure is reduced to aid in interpretation of the data.

PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

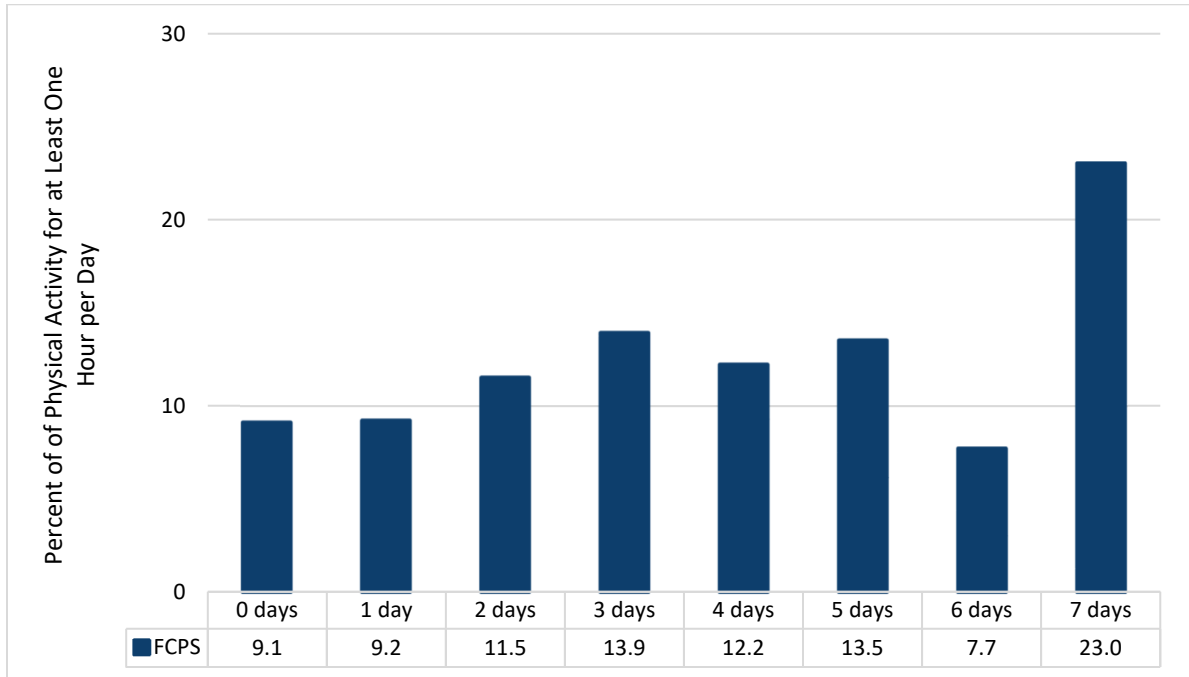
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND NON-ACADEMIC USE OF ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Nearly one quarter of the students (23.0%) indicated that they were physically active for at least one hour per day on all seven days in the week before the survey, while 9.1% reported not engaging in that level of activity on any of the previous seven days. Less than half of the students (44.1%) reported being physically active for at least one hour per day on five or more days in the past week. This rate decreased from 2019. A larger percentage of male students (50.1%) reported being physically active on five or more days than female students (38.2%). The rates of physical activity on five or more days ranged from 32.7% of Hispanic students to 53.6% of White students.

Students were asked how many hours they spend watching television on an average school day. Nearly twenty percent of the students (19.6%) reported watching three or more hours. The percentage of students who spent three or more hours watching television varied by race/ethnicity, ranged from 14.4% of Asian students to 28.1% of Black students. The rate of watching three or more hours of television on an average school day declined between 2010 and 2019. However, the percentage of students watching three or more hours of television on an average school day increased by five percentage points in 2021 from 2019 (19.6% vs. 14.6%, respectively).

Students were also asked how many hours they spend on an average school day playing video games or using a computer or other electronic device (such as Xbox, iPads, or smartphones) for non-academic purposes. Over one third of the students (38.5%) reported spending three or more hours on such activities. Male students were more likely to report spending three or more hours on an average school day (39.3% compared to 37.1% of female students). The rates of playing on electronic devices for three or more hours per day ranged from 32.5% of Asian students to 47.4% of Hispanic students. The overall rate has increased steadily since 2010, when 21.2% of sixth-grade students reported this amount of use.

Figure 8. Frequency of Physical Activity for at Least One Hour per Day in the Past Week, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. Physical activity was defined as participating in activity that increased the student’s heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 48. Frequency of Physical Activity for at Least One Hour per Day in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 days	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	6 days	7 days
Overall	9.1	9.2	11.5	13.9	12.2	13.5	7.7	23.0
Gender								
Female	9.4	10.3	13.5	15.2	13.3	13.0	7.2	18.0
Male	8.7	8.0	9.5	12.6	11.1	13.8	8.2	28.2
Race/Ethnicity^a								
White	5.1	6.6	9.2	12.6	12.9	14.8	10.9	27.9
Black	10.4	9.8	13.0	13.9	11.0	12.7	5.4	23.7
Hispanic	16.0	13.2	13.1	14.4	10.7	10.5	4.8	17.4
Asian	6.8	8.6	12.1	15.6	14.1	14.6	7.1	21.3
Other/Multiple	6.4	7.3	12.9	14.4	11.3	14.0	8.3	25.3

Note. Physical activity was defined as activity that increased the student’s heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 49. Percentage of Students Who Were Physically Active for at Least One Hour on Five or More Days in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	50.8	50.4	48.5	45.2	47.7	44.1
Gender						
Female	45.8	44.9	42.7	41.2	41.8	38.2
Male	55.5	55.6	53.9	48.9	53.4	50.1
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	56.9	58.2	55.5	53.5	56.2	53.6
Black	48.8	50.8	44.4	42.3	43.9	41.9
Hispanic	44.2	40.2	41.2	36.1	36.0	32.7
Asian	47.0	46.5	47.2	43.5	48.2	42.9
Other/Multiple	53.0	55.1	50.6	47.8	51.7	47.7

Note. Physical activity was defined as activity that increased the student’s heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 50. Amount of Time Spent Watching Television on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Not at all	Less than 1 hour per day	1 hour per day	2 hours per day	3 hours per day	4 hours per day	5 or more hours per day
Overall	18.5	25.7	19.6	16.6	9.3	4.1	6.2
Gender							
Female	17.9	26.9	19.6	16.4	9.4	3.9	6.0
Male	19.1	24.5	19.6	16.8	9.2	4.4	6.5
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	15.2	28.7	23.2	16.3	9.1	3.7	3.8
Black	22.7	17.7	15.6	15.9	10.2	4.8	13.1
Hispanic	16.7	24.2	16.8	18.1	10.7	5.6	8.1
Asian	24.7	26.7	18.3	15.8	7.2	3.2	4.0
Other/Multiple	18.0	24.5	21.5	17.1	10.2	2.7	6.1

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 51. Percentage of Students Who Spend Three or More Hours Watching TV on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	16.1	15.4	14.7	14.7	14.6	19.6
Gender						
Female	15.4	15.2	14.5	14.5	13.5	19.3
Male	16.8	15.6	14.8	15.0	15.5	20.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	10.5	10.7	10.9	9.5	10.9	16.6
Black	29.6	29.6	25.5	28.1	24.3	28.1
Hispanic	24.7	23.2	19.4	20.4	18.2	24.3
Asian	10.1	8.0	8.4	10.0	10.1	14.4
Other/Multiple	16.1	12.9	15.9	13.3	16.2	19.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 52. Amount of Time Spent Playing Video Games or Using a Computer for Non-Academic Purposes on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021
(Values are percentages)

	Not at all	Less than 1 hour per day	1 hour per day	2 hours per day	3 hours per day	4 hours per day	5 or more hours per day
Overall	11.6	16.4	15.0	18.6	14.0	9.2	15.2
Gender							
Female	10.6	18.6	15.3	18.4	13.5	9.2	14.5
Male	12.5	14.4	14.9	19.0	14.6	9.2	15.6
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	10.1	16.3	18.8	21.6	14.0	8.8	10.4
Black	15.9	14.2	11.0	15.1	12.7	9.7	21.6
Hispanic	11.3	13.2	11.5	16.7	15.4	11.1	21.0
Asian	11.4	21.5	16.4	18.2	12.6	7.6	12.3
Other/Multiple	10.1	18.1	14.1	18.6	14.5	9.4	15.3

Note. Video/computer games include playing games, watching videos, texting, or using social media on a smartphone, computer, Xbox, PlayStation, iPad, or other tablet. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 53. Percentage of Students Who Spend Three or More Hours Playing Video Games or Using a Computer for Non-Academic Purposes on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

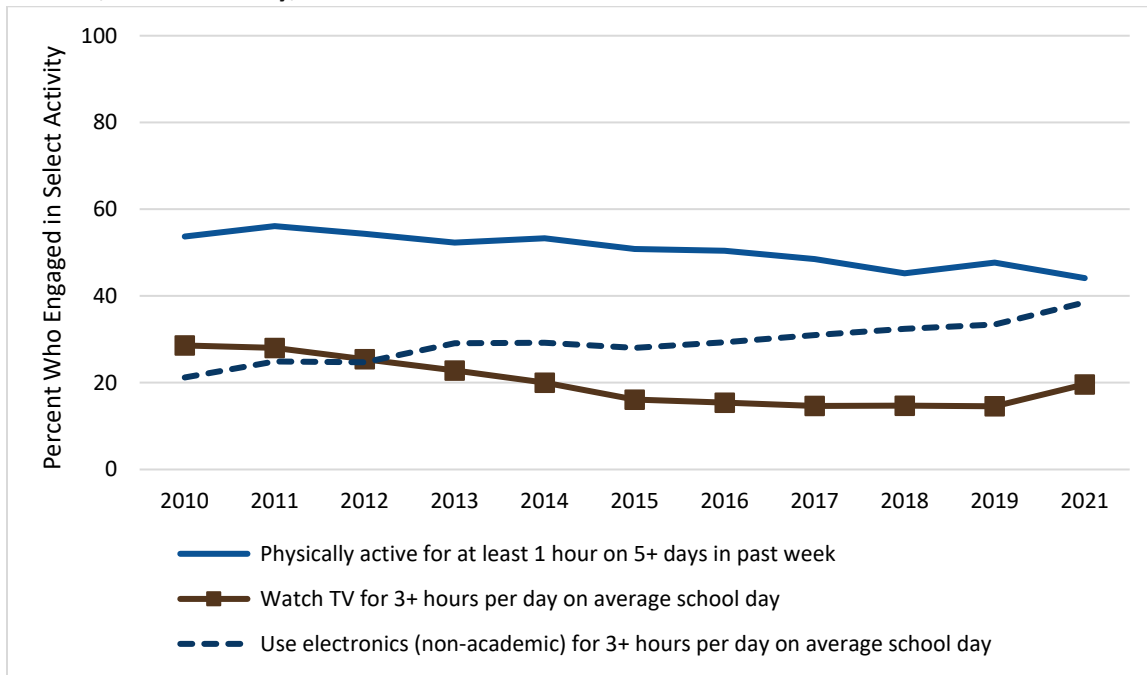
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	28.0	29.3	31.0	32.4	33.4	38.5
Gender						
Female	24.7	26.3	28.1	29.2	29.8	37.1
Male	31.2	32.1	33.5	35.6	36.8	39.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	23.5	24.6	25.5	26.0	27.7	33.2
Black	38.4	39.5	40.1	44.1	41.9	43.9
Hispanic	35.8	37.4	39.9	42.4	43.4	47.4
Asian	23.8	23.6	24.4	25.6	26.4	32.5
Other/Multiple	26.7	28.2	31.2	31.6	32.2	39.2

Note. Video/computer games include playing games, watching videos, texting, or using social media on a smartphone, computer, Xbox, PlayStation, iPad, or other tablet. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 9. Prevalence of Physical Activity, Television Viewing, and Non-Academic Use of Electronic Devices, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. Physical activity was defined as activity that increased the student’s heart rate and made them breathe hard some of the time. Video/computer games include playing games, watching videos, texting, or using social media on a smartphone, computer, Xbox, PlayStation, iPad, or other tablet. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

NUTRITION

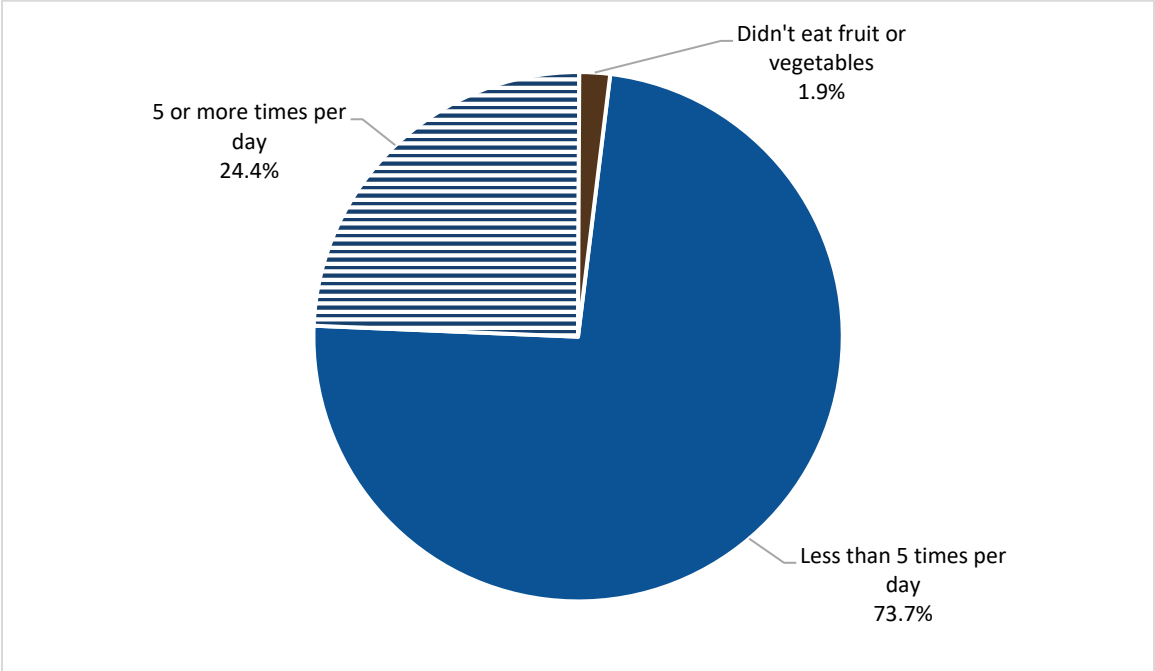
While nearly all students reported eating some fruits and vegetables in the week prior to the survey, only 24.4% reported eating them at least five times per day. The percentage of reported eating some fruits and vegetables at least five times per day decreased by 4.4 percentage points in 2021 from 2019 (28.8%).

Approximately one in eleven of the students (9.1%) reported drinking non-diet soda at least once a day in the week prior to the survey. Rates of daily consumption of soda have decreased since 2010, when 16.5% reported drinking soda daily. One in eight of the students (13.0%) reported drinking non-carbonated sugar-sweetened drinks (such as lemonade and sweetened tea) at least once per day, while 5.6% reported consuming sports drinks daily, and 2.3% consumed energy drinks daily. A larger percentage of male students reported daily consumption of soda, non-carbonated sweetened beverages, sports drinks, and energy drinks than did female students.

Approximately one third of the Fairfax County students (30.6%) reported drinking a sweetened beverage (all categories combined) at least once per day. Male students were more likely to report consuming a sweetened beverage daily (33.6% compared to 27.5% of female students). Daily consumption of sweetened beverages varied widely by race/ethnicity, ranging from 19.2% of Asian students to 44.9% of Hispanic students.

Close to eight percent of the students (7.5%) reported going hungry in the past month (sometimes, most of the time, or always) due to a lack of food in the home. White students were least likely to report going hungry in the past month (3.0%) while Hispanic students reported the highest rate (13.9%). The percentage of students who reported going hungry in the past month has fluctuated very little since 2010.

Figure 10. Frequency of Eating Fruits and Vegetables in the Past Week, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. Fruits and vegetables do not include fruit juice, french fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 54. Frequency of Eating Fruits and Vegetables in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	No fruits or vegetables	Less than 5 times per day	5 or more times per day
Overall	1.9	73.7	24.4
Gender			
Female	1.6	75.5	22.9
Male	2.1	71.7	26.2
Race/Ethnicity^a			
White	1.3	73.4	25.3
Black	1.9	78.8	19.4
Hispanic	3.2	74.5	22.3
Asian	1.3	71.2	27.5
Other/Multiple	1.8	73.6	24.7

Note. Fruits and vegetables do not include fruit juice, french fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 55. Percentage of Students Who Ate Fruits and Vegetables Five or More Times Per Day in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

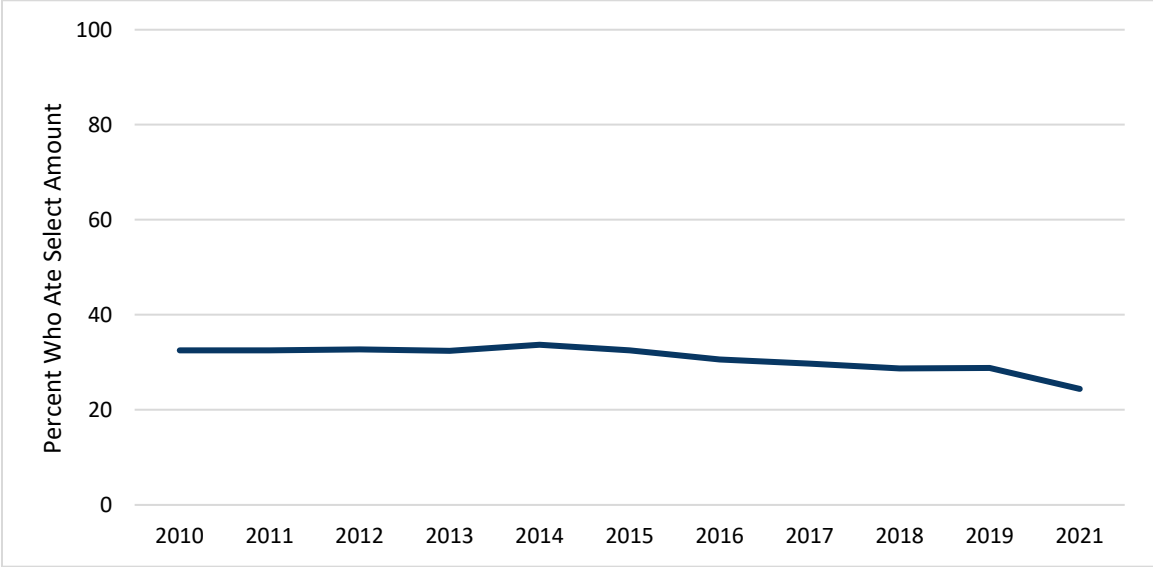
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	32.5	30.6	29.7	28.7	28.8	24.4
Gender						
Female	32.7	30.4	29.6	28.2	27.4	22.9
Male	32.3	30.8	29.7	29.2	30.0	26.2
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	32.0	31.7	28.9	27.8	29.4	25.3
Black	29.2	27.6	25.8	28.0	25.6	19.4
Hispanic	31.1	26.7	28.1	27.4	25.8	22.3
Asian	36.7	34.0	34.1	31.7	32.7	27.5
Other/Multiple	35.3	33.1	32.8	30.6	31.5	24.7

Note. Fruits and vegetables do not include fruit juice, french fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 11. Percentage of Students Who Ate Fruits and Vegetables Five or More Times Per Day in the Past Week, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. Fruits and vegetables do not include fruit juice, french fries, fried potatoes, or potato chips. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

Table 56. Frequency of Eating Fruits in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 times	1-3 times	4-6 times	Once per day	2 times per day	3 times per day	4+ times per day
Overall	5.0	16.8	18.0	14.1	20.5	12.2	13.4
Gender							
Female	4.7	18.3	18.7	14.1	20.7	11.6	11.9
Male	5.4	15.1	17.0	14.4	20.3	12.7	15.1
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	3.8	15.2	15.7	15.6	24.3	14.3	11.2
Black	7.8	21.1	20.0	12.7	16.0	8.6	13.9
Hispanic	6.4	19.6	19.1	11.6	15.8	11.3	16.2
Asian	4.0	14.5	17.7	16.5	22.4	11.7	13.3
Other/Multiple	4.7	15.3	20.1	12.2	22.0	13.2	12.5

Note. Fruits do not include fruit juice. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 57. Frequency of Eating Vegetables in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 times	1-3 times	4-6 times	Once per day	2 times per day	3 times per day	4+ times per day
Overall	7.8	19.6	16.9	16.3	17.5	10.0	12.0
Gender							
Female	7.2	20.2	17.2	16.1	18.5	10.4	10.5
Male	8.4	18.8	16.5	16.6	16.6	9.8	13.4
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	5.8	15.0	16.6	20.4	21.8	10.0	10.5
Black	11.0	26.5	18.9	13.6	11.6	6.7	11.8
Hispanic	12.0	25.8	16.5	12.9	13.0	8.1	11.8
Asian	4.8	15.6	17.2	15.1	19.3	14.2	13.8
Other/Multiple	6.5	20.2	15.0	17.9	18.2	9.8	12.5

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 58. Frequency of Drinking Soda or Pop in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 times	1-3 times	4-6 times	Once per day	2 times per day	3 times per day	4+ times per day
Overall	48.4	37.4	5.1	5.0	2.2	0.7	1.1
Gender							
Female	50.7	36.4	4.4	4.7	1.9	0.8	1.0
Male	46.1	38.4	5.8	5.4	2.4	0.6	1.3
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	53.0	37.1	4.5	3.3	1.3	0.5	0.5
Black	47.0	36.8	5.3	5.2	2.6	1.1	1.9
Hispanic	33.8	40.9	7.6	9.6	4.5	1.4	2.2
Asian	57.4	34.8	3.5	3.0	0.7	0.3	0.3
Other/Multiple	51.5	36.3	4.8	4.0	1.8	0.5	1.1

Note. Students were instructed not to include diet soda. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

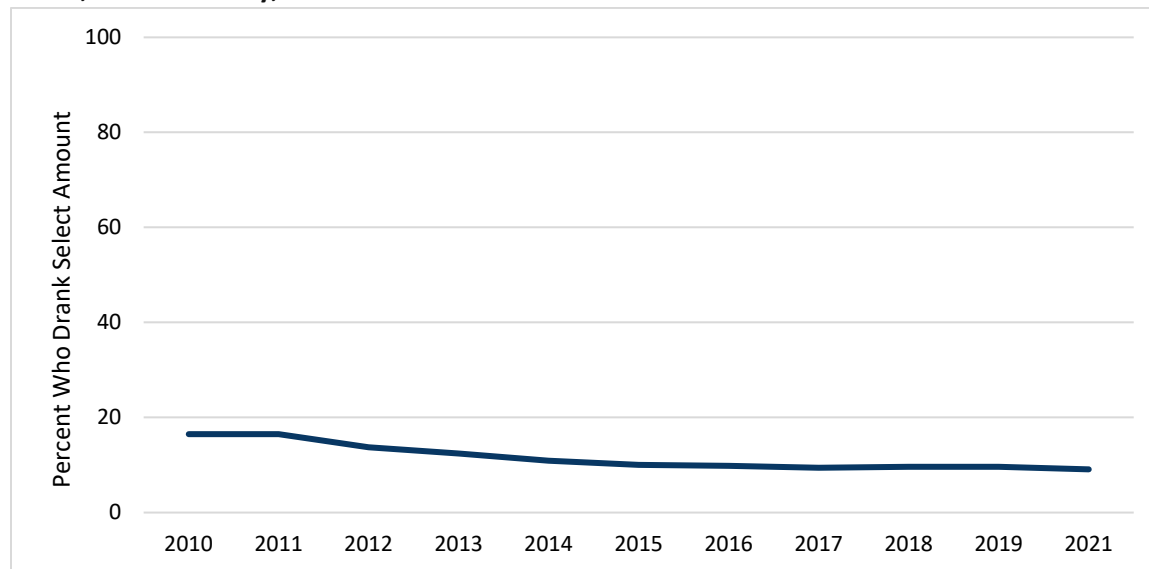
Table 59. Percentage of Students Who Drank Soda or Pop At Least One Time per Day in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	10.0	9.8	9.4	9.6	9.6	9.1
Gender						
Female	8.0	8.2	7.7	8.1	7.6	8.5
Male	11.7	11.3	10.9	10.9	11.4	9.7
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	6.6	6.1	5.5	6.0	6.8	5.5
Black	16.0	15.2	13.7	14.6	12.8	10.9
Hispanic	18.1	17.9	17.2	17.1	16.7	17.8
Asian	5.6	4.4	4.2	3.8	3.7	4.4
Other/Multiple	8.2	10.5	7.0	9.4	9.2	7.4

Note. Students were instructed not to include diet soda. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 12. Percentage of Students Who Drank Soda or Pop At Least One Time per Day in the Past Week, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. Students were instructed not to include diet soda. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

Table 60. Frequency of Drinking Sugar-Sweetened Beverages in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 times	1-3 times	4-6 times	Once per day	2 times per day	3 times per day	4+ times per day
Overall	37.8	39.7	9.5	7.3	3.0	1.3	1.4
Gender							
Female	36.8	41.3	9.4	7.1	3.2	1.1	1.1
Male	38.7	38.2	9.6	7.5	2.8	1.4	1.7
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	40.7	40.6	9.1	6.3	1.9	0.8	0.7
Black	32.9	38.9	11.8	7.4	3.8	1.8	3.4
Hispanic	29.1	40.2	10.3	10.7	5.1	2.4	2.3
Asian	44.3	40.3	7.9	4.5	1.7	0.6	0.8
Other/Multiple	37.3	39.8	8.7	8.3	3.5	1.2	1.3

Note. Sugar-sweetened beverages include lemonade, sweetened tea or coffee drinks, flavored milk, Snapple, and Sunny Delight. Students were instructed not to count soda, sports drinks, energy drinks, or 100% fruit juice. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 61. Prevalence of Drinking Sugar-Sweetened Beverages At Least One Time per Day in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	14.4	14.5	14.0	14.4	14.0	13.0
Gender						
Female	13.1	13.4	12.4	13.6	12.0	12.5
Male	15.7	15.5	15.5	15.3	15.9	13.5
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	10.6	11.0	9.8	10.3	11.0	9.7
Black	23.4	23.0	20.5	21.4	18.9	16.5
Hispanic	21.9	21.3	21.5	21.5	20.6	20.4
Asian	9.3	9.4	8.2	8.8	8.5	7.6
Other/Multiple	12.9	14.3	14.4	15.5	12.7	14.3

Note. Sugar-sweetened beverages include lemonade, sweetened tea or coffee drinks, flavored milk, Snapple, and Sunny Delight. Students were instructed not to count soda, sports drinks, energy drinks, or 100% fruit juice. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 62. Frequency of Drinking Sports Drinks in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 times	1-3 times	4-6 times	Once per day	2 times per day	3 times per day	4+ times per day
Overall	68.2	22.5	3.7	3.2	1.1	0.5	0.9
Gender							
Female	74.5	19.3	2.3	2.3	0.8	0.3	0.6
Male	61.8	25.8	5.1	4.0	1.4	0.7	1.1
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	68.3	24.3	3.6	2.2	0.7	0.3	0.5
Black	66.9	21.2	4.2	3.8	1.4	0.7	2.0
Hispanic	59.5	25.7	4.5	6.0	1.9	0.9	1.6
Asian	77.4	17.9	2.3	1.6	0.6	0.1	0.2
Other/Multiple	70.2	21.8	3.8	1.7	1.0	0.8	0.6

Note. Sports drinks include Gatorade and PowerAde. Students were instructed not to count low-calorie sports drinks such as Propel or G2. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 63. Prevalence of Drinking Sports Drinks At Least One Time per Day in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	7.5	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.8	5.6
Gender						
Female	4.7	4.8	4.4	4.6	4.2	4.0
Male	10.2	9.6	9.1	8.9	9.2	7.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	5.2	4.7	4.4	3.9	4.6	3.8
Black	11.9	12.2	9.2	10.8	10.8	7.8
Hispanic	13.5	13.3	12.4	11.8	11.5	10.3
Asian	3.8	3.0	3.2	3.6	3.0	2.5
Other/Multiple	7.2	6.7	6.2	6.9	5.9	4.2

Note. Sports drinks include Gatorade and PowerAde. Students were instructed not to count low-calorie sports drinks such as Propel or G2. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 64. Frequency of Drinking Energy Drinks in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	0 times	1-3 times	4-6 times	Once per day	2 times per day	3 times per day	4+ times per day
Overall	91.4	5.5	0.8	1.2	0.5	0.2	0.4
Gender							
Female	92.7	4.7	0.7	1.2	0.3	0.2	0.2
Male	90.3	6.2	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.3	0.5
Race/Ethnicity^a							
White	94.3	4.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.2
Black	88.4	6.2	0.9	2.3	0.6	0.8	0.8
Hispanic	86.1	8.2	1.3	2.5	1.0	0.3	0.6
Asian	93.4	4.4	1.0	0.7	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other/Multiple	92.8	4.6	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.0	0.5

Note. Energy drinks include Red Bull and Jolt. Students were instructed not to count diet energy drinks or sports drinks such as Gatorade or PowerAde. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 65. Prevalence of Drinking Energy Drinks At Least One Time per Day in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.3
Gender						
Female	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.9
Male	3.2	2.7	2.4	2.8	3.1	2.5
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	1.0	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.8
Black	5.1	4.4	2.8	3.1	3.3	4.5
Hispanic	4.7	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.5	4.4
Asian	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.2
Other/Multiple	1.2	1.9	0.7	3.0	3.1	2.0

Note. Energy drinks include Red Bull and Jolt. Students were instructed not to count diet energy drinks or sports drinks such as Gatorade or PowerAde. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 66. Frequency of Drinking Any Sweetened Beverage in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Did not drink any sweetened beverage	Less than one time per day	One time per day	More than one time per day
Overall	19.6	49.8	7.7	23.0
Gender				
Female	21.6	50.9	7.6	19.9
Male	17.7	48.7	7.7	25.9
Race/Ethnicity^a				
White	21.6	52.7	8.1	17.6
Black	17.2	46.1	7.4	29.3
Hispanic	10.5	44.6	8.1	36.8
Asian	27.0	53.8	5.8	13.4
Other/Multiple	19.4	51.5	8.7	20.4

Note. Any sweetened beverage includes non-diet soda; sweetened beverages such as lemonade, sweetened tea or coffee drinks, flavored milk, Snapple, and Sunny Delight; energy drinks such as Red Bull and Jolt; and sports drinks such as Gatorade and PowerAde. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 67. Prevalence of Drinking Any Sweetened Beverage At Least One Time per Day in the Past Week, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	32.6	33.3	31.2	30.9	30.9	30.6
Gender						
Female	26.8	27.7	25.9	26.5	25.2	27.5
Male	38.2	38.6	36.3	35.2	36.5	33.6
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	27.8	27.3	26.7	25.1	27.2	25.7
Black	43.6	46.3	41.1	41.3	39.8	36.7
Hispanic	48.1	46.6	44.0	44.2	43.2	44.9
Asian	21.6	23.2	20.1	20.2	18.3	19.2
Other/Multiple	28.0	34.4	27.5	31.0	30.2	29.1

Note. Any sweetened beverage includes non-diet soda; sweetened beverages such as lemonade, sweetened tea or coffee drinks, flavored milk, Snapple, and Sunny Delight; energy drinks such as Red Bull and Jolt; and sports drinks such as Gatorade and PowerAde. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 68. Frequency of Going Hungry in the Past Month Due to Lack of Food in the Home, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Most of the Time	Always
Overall	77.0	15.6	5.5	1.4	0.5
Gender					
Female	78.3	14.6	5.4	1.3	0.4
Male	75.9	16.4	5.5	1.4	0.7
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	86.1	10.9	2.2	0.7	0.2
Black	70.9	19.9	6.1	2.4	0.8
Hispanic	64.6	21.5	10.6	2.4	0.9
Asian	79.4	14.6	4.5	1.0	0.5
Other/Multiple	80.0	13.6	5.0	0.9	0.5

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

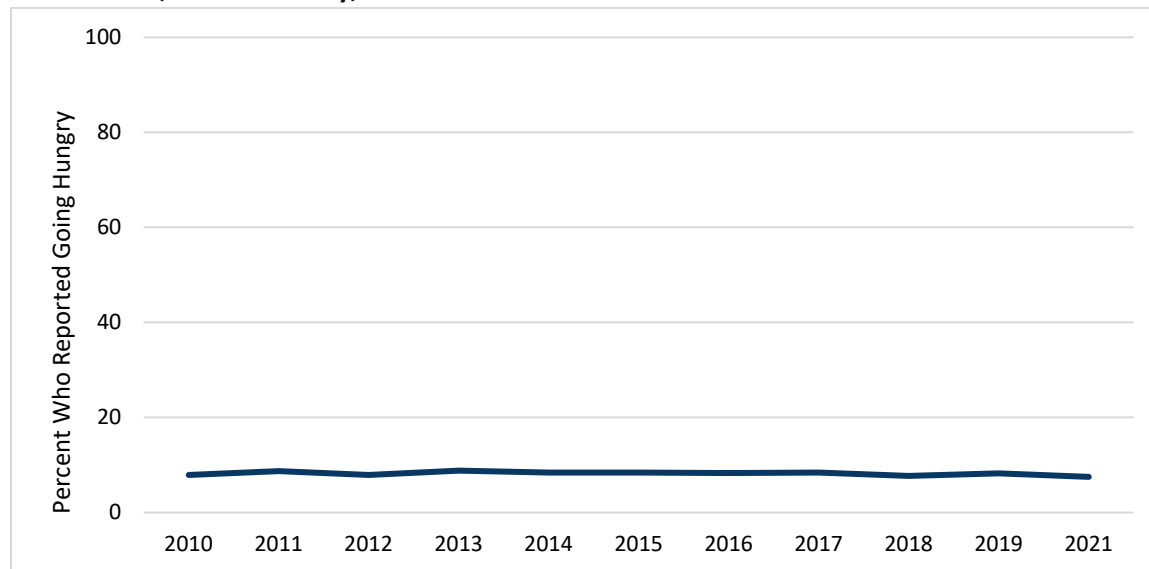
Table 69. Percentage of Students Who Reported Going Hungry in the Past Month Due to Lack of Food in the Home, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	8.4	8.3	8.4	7.7	8.2	7.5
Gender						
Female	7.5	8.1	8.2	7.4	8.1	7.1
Male	9.2	8.4	8.5	8.1	8.4	7.6
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	3.7	3.6	3.5	2.9	3.7	3.0
Black	11.7	12.9	11.8	9.3	11.9	9.3
Hispanic	16.8	16.0	16.0	14.9	15.0	13.9
Asian	6.7	6.4	5.7	5.6	5.6	6.0
Other/Multiple	7.9	6.4	7.1	8.7	6.9	6.4

Note. Students who reported going hungry “sometimes”, “most of the time”, or “always” are included. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 13. Percentage of Students Who Reported Going Hungry in the Past Month Due to Lack of Food in the Home, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. Students who reported going hungry “sometimes”, “most of the time”, or “always” are included. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

MENTAL HEALTH

Students were asked how often they felt stressed within the last 30 days, with stress being defined as a situation in which a person feels tense, restless, nervous, anxious, or is unable to sleep at night because their mind is troubled. Response choice consisted of “None of the time,” “A little of the time,” “Some of the time,” “Most of the time,” and “All of the time.” In the analysis, responses for “A little of the time” and “Some of the time” were combined. Responses for “Most of the time” and “All of the time” were combined as well. Approximately one in six of the students (17.8%) reported experiencing stress most/all of the time, and approximately two thirds (62.3%) reported experiencing stress a little/some of the time in the past month. A larger percentage of female students reported experiencing stress most/all of the time in the past month (22.7% compared to 12.2% of male students). Rates of experiencing stress most/all of the time ranged from 14.9% of Asian students to 21.8% of students of other or multiple races.

One third of the students (33.1%) reported feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for two or more weeks in a row within the past year that they stopped doing usual activities. Female students were more likely to report experiencing this level of sadness (39.5% compared to 26.3% of male students). Among racial/ethnic groups, Hispanic students reported the highest rate of experiencing this level of sadness (43.9%) while White students reported the lowest rate (26.0%). Over half of the students who reported substance use in the past month indicated experiencing this level of sadness or hopelessness (66.5%) compared to one third (32.1%) of students who did not use substances. The percentage of students who reported feeling this sad or hopeless in the past year has risen gradually since 2015 and was the highest recorded since 2010, increasing by 8.3% in 2021 from 2019.

Table 70. Percentage of Students Who Experienced Selected Levels of Stress in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	A little/Some	Most/All
Overall	19.9	62.3	17.8
Gender			
Female	14.5	62.8	22.7
Male	25.5	62.3	12.2
Race/Ethnicity^a			
White	19.9	62.9	17.1
Black	26.4	57.0	16.6
Hispanic	18.5	61.4	20.2
Asian	18.3	66.7	14.9
Other/Multiple	15.7	62.5	21.8

Note. In the 2021 survey, the question on experiencing stress was changed; “Stress means a situation in which a person feels tense, restless, nervous, or anxious, or is unable to sleep at night because their mind is troubled all the time. Within the last 30 days, how often have you felt this kind of stress?” The response options were “None of the time,” “A little of the time,” “Some of the time,” “Most of the time,” or “All of the time”. Responses indicating stress “A little of the time” and “Some of the time” in the past month were merged in the analysis, as well as responses indicating stress “Most of the time” and “All of the time” in the past month. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 71. Percentage of Students Who Experienced High Levels of Stress in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2019
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Overall	13.6	13.7	14.2	14.9	15.4
Gender					
Female	14.9	15.0	15.4	17.4	18.6
Male	12.3	12.4	12.8	12.4	12.3
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	12.2	13.6	13.3	13.3	13.7
Black	14.8	13.9	16.2	15.4	16.3
Hispanic	15.7	14.5	15.4	16.6	16.7
Asian	12.4	12.0	12.3	13.7	15.1
Other/Multiple	17.3	17.2	17.2	17.8	18.6

Note. From 2015 to 2019, students were asked to rate their average level of stress using a 10-point scale where 1 means “little or no stress” and 10 means “a great deal of stress”. Up until 2019, responses were categorized as “Low” (responses of 1, 2, or 3), “Moderate” (responses of 4, 5, 6, or 7) or “High” (responses of 8, 9, or 10) based on the American Psychological Association’s report “Stress in America™: Are Teens Adopting Adults’ Stress Habits?” (American Psychological Association, 2014). All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 72. Percentage of Students Who Experienced High Levels of Stress in the Past Month, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2021
Overall	17.8
Gender	
Female	22.7
Male	12.2
Race/Ethnicity^a	
White	17.1
Black	16.6
Hispanic	20.2
Asian	14.9
Other/Multiple	21.8

Note. In the 2021 survey, the question on experiencing stress was changed; “Stress means a situation in which a person feels tense, restless, nervous, or anxious, or is unable to sleep at night because their mind is troubled all the time. Within the last 30 days, how often have you felt this kind of stress?” The response options were “None of the time,” “A little of the time,” “Some of the time,” “Most of the time,” or “All of the time”. Responses indicating stress “Most of the time” and “All of the time” were merged and categorized as “High Levels of Stress”. **A direct comparison between 2015-2019 and 2021 is not recommended.**

All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 73. Percentage of Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

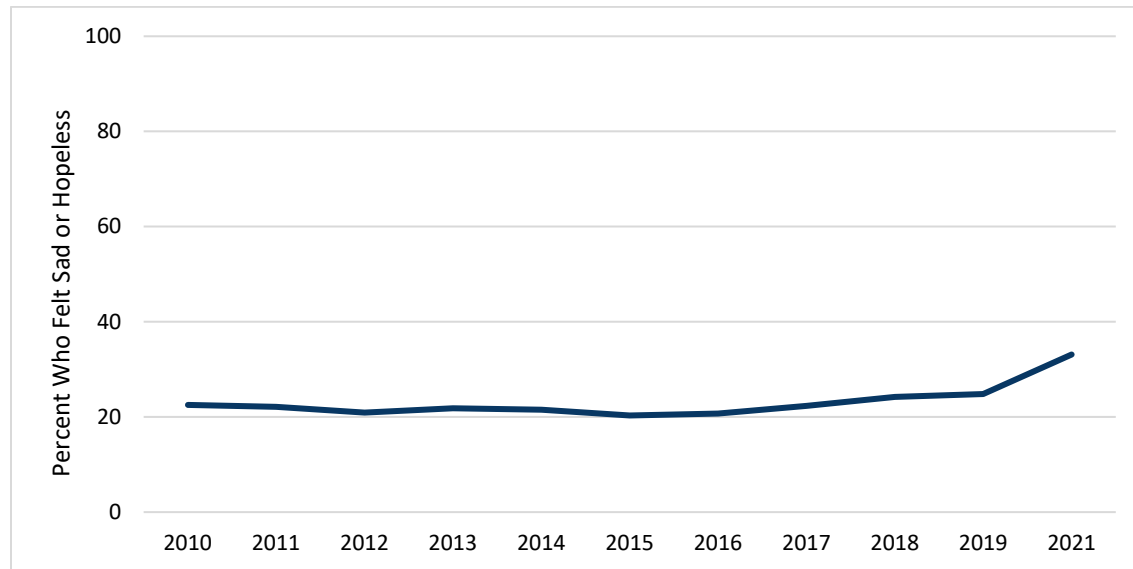
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	20.3	20.7	22.3	24.2	24.8	33.1
Gender						
Female	21.9	22.5	24.2	27.0	28.8	39.5
Male	18.6	18.8	20.1	21.5	20.8	26.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	15.9	16.1	18.2	17.9	18.3	26.0
Black	24.1	26.6	25.8	26.4	28.0	35.0
Hispanic	27.2	26.8	28.7	34.1	33.8	43.9
Asian	18.3	17.7	18.4	20.3	21.5	29.0
Other/Multiple	23.5	22.9	25.2	27.5	27.0	35.8

Note. Students were asked if they ever felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

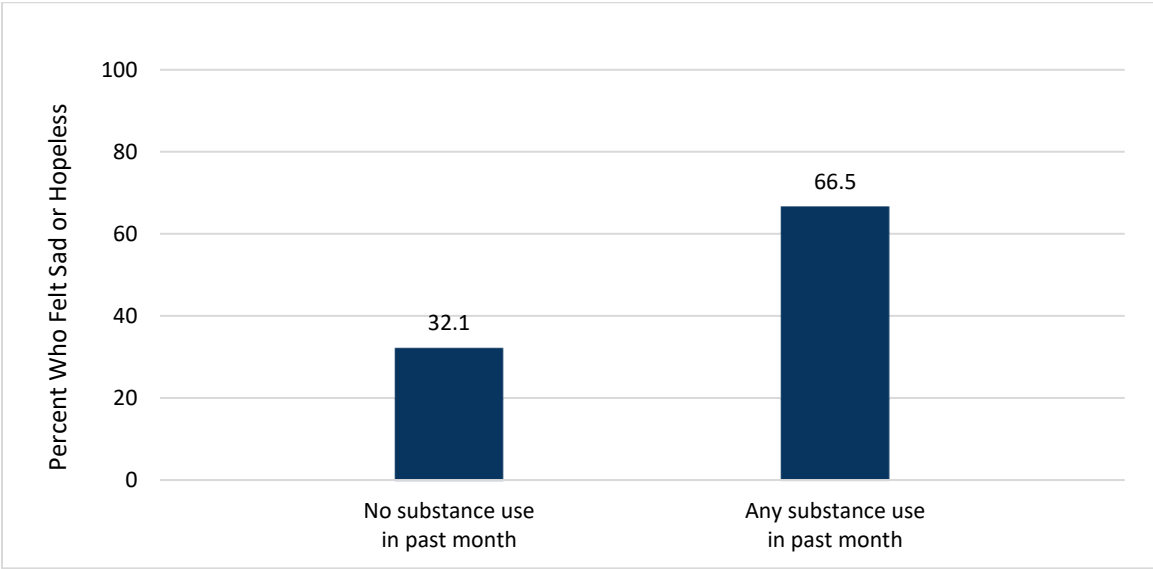
^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 14. Percentage of Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless in the Past Year, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. Students were asked if they ever felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

Figure 15. Percentage of Students Who Felt Sad or Hopeless in the Past Year, by Past Month Substance Use, Fairfax County, 2021



Note. Students were asked if they ever felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities. Any substance use includes students who reported using alcohol, cigarettes, or other drugs in the past month. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

EXTRACURRICULAR AND CIVIC BEHAVIORS

Nearly fifteen percent of the sixth-grade students (14.5%) reported participating in extracurricular activities at school (such as participation in a team, club, or program) for one hour or more on an average school day, and over forty percent (41.4%) reported participating in such activities away from school for at least one hour. Rates of participation in extracurricular activities away from school varied substantially by race/ethnicity, ranging from 26.9% of Hispanic students to 52.6% of White students, while rates of participation in such activities at school ranged from 13.2% of White students to 17.5% of Black students. The percentage of students who spend an hour or more in extracurricular activities has declined steadily since 2015 when 26.9% reported participating at school for an hour or more, and 58.3% participated to that extent in activities away from school.

Students were also asked to indicate how much time they spend on an average school day doing homework and going to work. Nearly one fourth of the students (24.5%) reported spending an hour or more doing homework, and 19.3% reported going to work for an hour or more, which is a steep increase from 2019 (7.7%) and previous years. Male students were more likely to work for an hour or more on an average school day (23.2% compared to 15.2% of female students), while female students were more likely to report spending an hour or more on homework (25.6% compared to 23.5% of male students). Among racial/ethnic groups, Asian students were most likely to report doing an hour or more of homework (32.8%), while students of other or multiple races were most likely to report spending an hour or more at work (21.9%). The percentage of students who spend an hour or more doing homework on an average school day has declined steadily since 2015, when 33.8% reported doing so.

Table 82 shows the amount of time students spend on an average school day in all afterschool activities combined. Over one fifth of the students (22.3%) spends more than 3½ hours on the combined activities.

Approximately two sevenths of the students (27.9%) reported volunteering in the past year to do community service, and 61.0% reported being a leader in a group or organization in the past year. Male students were more likely to report volunteering in the past year (28.3% compared to 27.8% of female students). Rates of volunteering and being a group leader in the past year varied by race/ethnicity, ranging from 20.0% of Hispanic students to 36.1% of White students volunteering, and 54.1% of Hispanic students to 68.0% of students of other or multiple races being a leader. The percentage of students who reported volunteering in the past year was the lowest rate since 2010, while rates of being a leader were up very slightly from 2019.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Table 74. Frequency of Participating in Extracurricular Activities at School on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	Half hour or less	Between ½ - 1 hour	1 hour	2 hours	3 or more hours
Overall	74.7	5.6	5.3	7.8	4.6	2.1
Gender						
Female	75.4	6.1	5.8	7.7	3.7	1.4
Male	74.0	5.1	4.9	7.9	5.3	2.8
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	75.0	6.4	5.4	7.5	4.3	1.5
Black	71.7	4.8	5.9	9.0	5.7	2.7
Hispanic	76.1	5.3	4.7	6.8	4.6	2.6
Asian	75.5	5.5	5.1	8.3	3.8	1.8
Other/Multiple	73.7	4.6	5.3	8.8	5.6	2.0

Note. Students were asked how many hours they spend on an average school day staying after school to participate in a team, club, program, etc. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 75. Percentage of Students Who Spend One Hour or More on Extracurricular Activities at School on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	26.9	25.6	24.9	24.0	22.9	14.5
Gender						
Female	27.4	26.5	25.7	24.9	22.7	12.8
Male	26.4	24.7	24.2	23.1	23.3	16.1
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	24.4	23.8	22.4	21.1	22.3	13.2
Black	33.3	27.4	30.2	29.0	26.8	17.5
Hispanic	28.7	28.5	26.1	25.8	23.1	13.9
Asian	26.6	24.4	24.6	24.5	23.0	13.9
Other/Multiple	25.6	25.3	26.8	23.3	21.0	16.4

Note. Extracurricular activities include participation in a team, club, program, etc. The wording for the questions pertaining to extracurricular activities was changed in 2015. Comparing this year's results with years prior to 2015 is not advised. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 76. Frequency of Participating in Extracurricular Activities Away from School on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	Half hour or less	Between ½ - 1 hour	1 hour	2 hours	3 or more hours
Overall	43.9	6.0	8.8	17.9	16.7	6.8
Gender						
Female	44.6	6.1	9.1	18.2	15.4	6.6
Male	43.0	5.9	8.4	17.7	18.0	7.0
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	32.5	5.1	9.8	22.7	23.3	6.6
Black	48.5	5.9	8.7	15.0	15.6	6.4
Hispanic	59.5	6.9	6.7	11.0	9.9	6.0
Asian	41.2	6.4	8.9	20.2	15.7	7.6
Other/Multiple	37.2	5.9	10.2	18.8	19.4	8.6

Note. Students were asked how many hours they spend on an average school day participating in a team, club, program, etc. somewhere other than at school. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 77. Percentage of Students Who Spend One Hour or More on Extracurricular Activities Away from School on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	58.3	57.4	56.4	54.5	54.3	41.4
Gender						
Female	57.3	55.6	54.7	52.8	53.5	40.2
Male	59.5	59.4	58.2	56.2	55.2	42.7
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	69.7	68.8	67.6	67.1	67.9	52.6
Black	50.5	50.9	53.6	49.2	47.5	37.0
Hispanic	43.9	41.5	40.5	38.5	36.8	26.9
Asian	57.7	59.1	58.1	56.4	57.5	43.5
Other/Multiple	59.5	60.7	62.3	57.1	58.0	46.7

Note. Extracurricular activities include participation in a team, club, program, etc. The wording for the questions pertaining to extracurricular activities was changed in 2015. Comparing this year's results with years prior to 2015 is not advised. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 78. Frequency of Doing Homework Outside of School on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	Half hour or less	Between ½ - 1 hour	1 hour	2 hours	3 or more hours
Overall	11.8	32.6	31.2	13.1	7.6	3.8
Gender						
Female	10.1	31.9	32.4	12.9	8.6	4.2
Male	13.2	33.4	29.9	13.5	6.6	3.5
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	10.8	35.3	34.4	11.5	6.0	2.0
Black	13.8	30.5	26.1	15.3	9.5	4.7
Hispanic	16.6	34.2	28.3	11.8	5.2	3.9
Asian	6.7	28.0	32.5	15.2	11.3	6.3
Other/Multiple	10.7	28.4	32.2	15.1	10.8	2.9

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 79. Percentage of Students Who Spend One Hour or More Doing Homework on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	33.8	29.3	27.6	27.3	26.1	24.5
Gender						
Female	37.1	30.9	29.1	29.2	28.0	25.6
Male	30.7	27.9	26.0	25.4	24.2	23.5
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	32.2	28.6	25.8	24.7	22.3	19.5
Black	32.6	28.2	28.4	29.3	29.3	29.6
Hispanic	29.6	25.2	22.6	23.0	23.2	21.0
Asian	41.3	35.9	35.0	35.1	33.9	32.8
Other/Multiple	33.5	28.9	30.1	30.7	27.2	28.8

Note. This item was added to the survey in 2015. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 80. Frequency of Going to Work on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	None	Half hour or less	Between ½ - 1 hour	1 hour	2 hours	3 or more hours
Overall	64.2	10.5	6.1	4.5	3.7	11.1
Gender						
Female	68.7	10.1	6.0	3.7	2.6	8.9
Male	59.8	10.9	6.1	5.2	4.6	13.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	65.2	10.5	5.5	3.4	3.6	11.9
Black	61.9	8.4	8.0	5.3	4.9	11.5
Hispanic	62.5	11.8	7.0	5.5	3.2	9.9
Asian	65.2	10.4	5.7	4.5	3.7	10.5
Other/Multiple	62.3	10.5	5.4	4.0	4.2	13.7

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 81. Percentage of Students Who Spend One Hour or More Going to Work on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021

(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	8.3	8.4	8.4	7.7	7.7	19.3
Gender						
Female	5.2	5.7	6.3	5.6	5.2	15.2
Male	11.3	10.9	10.5	9.7	10.0	23.2
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	6.7	8.2	6.9	5.7	5.8	18.9
Black	9.6	9.2	9.1	8.3	7.2	21.7
Hispanic	10.4	9.0	10.5	10.5	10.1	18.7
Asian	7.8	7.6	7.2	7.0	7.6	18.7
Other/Multiple	10.0	8.7	10.4	8.7	8.4	21.9

Note. This item was added to the survey in 2015. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 82. Total Amount of Time Spent Doing Homework, Going to Work, and Participating in Extracurricular Activities on an Average School Day, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Less than 2 hours	2 – 3 ½ hours	3 ¾ - 5 ½ hours	5 ¾ - 7 ¾ hours	8 or more hours
Overall	48.7	29.1	15.4	5.5	1.3
Gender					
Female	50.8	29.2	14.4	4.8	0.8
Male	46.5	29.1	16.3	6.3	1.8
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	44.9	32.8	15.6	5.8	0.8
Black	46.0	29.6	16.4	6.4	1.7
Hispanic	58.9	22.9	12.0	5.0	1.3
Asian	44.7	30.4	17.8	5.3	1.8
Other/Multiple	42.8	30.2	19.0	6.1	1.9

Note. Extracurricular activities include participation in a team, club, program, etc. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

CIVIC BEHAVIORS

Table 83. Frequency of Volunteering to Do Community Service, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	I've done it but not in past year	Less than once a month	About once a month	2 – 3 times a month	Once a week or more
Overall	47.3	24.8	10.5	8.2	5.2	4.0
Gender						
Female	45.8	26.4	11.0	7.6	5.1	4.2
Male	48.6	23.2	10.2	8.8	5.4	3.9
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	34.6	29.3	15.4	11.3	5.5	4.0
Black	54.0	24.0	6.6	6.3	5.2	4.0
Hispanic	60.8	19.2	6.0	5.5	4.6	4.0
Asian	49.2	24.2	10.0	7.3	5.6	3.7
Other/Multiple	40.7	28.0	11.9	10.1	5.1	4.3

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 84. Percentage of Students Who Reported Volunteering to Do Community Service in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	40.5	39.1	39.7	39.1	38.3	27.9
Gender						
Female	42.7	41.1	42.1	40.7	40.8	27.8
Male	38.3	37.2	37.5	37.4	35.6	28.3
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	51.3	50.5	51.4	51.1	50.2	36.1
Black	34.4	33.7	33.9	32.3	32.6	22.0
Hispanic	28.8	26.3	28.3	26.7	25.7	20.0
Asian	37.2	36.8	37.4	38.2	36.5	26.6
Other/Multiple	38.6	42.5	42.3	40.6	40.9	31.3

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Table 85. Frequency of Being a Leader in a Group or Organization in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2021

(Values are percentages)

	Never	Once	Twice	3-4 times	5 or more times
Overall	39.0	17.4	14.6	13.3	15.7
Gender					
Female	38.1	17.6	15.1	14.6	14.6
Male	39.6	17.2	14.2	12.0	16.9
Race/Ethnicity^a					
White	34.8	17.2	15.1	14.7	18.3
Black	40.7	15.8	15.7	11.6	16.2
Hispanic	46.0	17.8	13.0	11.1	12.2
Asian	38.4	18.3	15.0	14.1	14.1
Other/Multiple	32.0	18.2	15.9	14.6	19.2

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included). Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

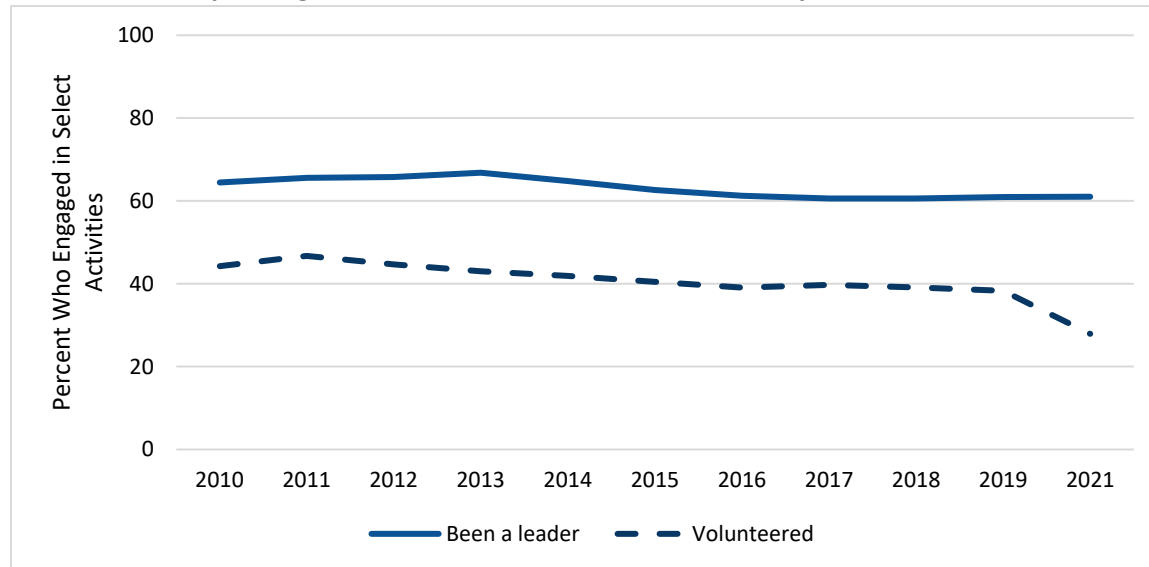
Table 86. Percentage of Students Who Reported Being a Leader in a Group or Organization in the Past Year, by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fairfax County, 2015 – 2021
(Values are percentages)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021
Overall	62.6	61.2	60.6	60.6	60.9	61.0
Gender						
Female	63.3	62.4	61.5	62.0	60.9	61.9
Male	62.1	60.2	59.8	59.3	61.0	60.4
Race/Ethnicity^a						
White	66.7	67.3	66.2	66.1	65.9	65.2
Black	63.4	60.8	62.4	61.9	59.8	59.3
Hispanic	55.5	52.6	53.4	52.5	53.7	54.1
Asian	62.1	61.8	59.9	61.4	61.8	61.6
Other/Multiple	65.3	62.4	65.0	63.4	63.8	68.0

Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

^aRacial categories do not include Hispanic students who are treated as a separate category in this table.

Figure 16. Percentage of Students Who Reported Volunteering to Do Community Service or Being a Leader in a Group or Organization in the Past Year, Fairfax County, 2010 – 2021



Note. All percentages were calculated from valid cases (missing responses were not included).

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APPENDIX A. HISTORY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

YOUTH SURVEYS

In 1999, Fairfax County convened a Youth Survey Work Group sponsored collaboratively by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County School Board, Fairfax County Human Services Council, and Fairfax County Partnership for Youth. The work group reviewed national youth surveys and made the recommendation to design the 2001 Fairfax County Youth Survey using the Communities That Care Youth Survey, with additional items related to safety, mental health, use of leisure time, and violence from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Classes were randomly selected from eighth- and tenth-grade Physical Education courses and twelfth-grade Government courses. A total of 11,951 students participated in the survey, representing just over 37% of the students in eighth, tenth, and twelfth grades.

In 2003, the county participated in the Virginia Community Youth Survey sponsored by the Commonwealth of Virginia. The questionnaire was comprised of items from the Communities That Care Youth Survey with almost all items in common with the 2001 Fairfax County Youth Survey. Students in eighth, tenth, and twelfth grades from randomly-selected English classes were surveyed. A total of 4,239 questionnaires were completed by students, representing nearly 13% of the total FCPS student membership in those grades.

In 2005, additional items on substance use and risk factors were added to the previous survey instrument. Students in the sixth grade were included in the survey for the first time. Classes were randomly selected from all sixth-grade classes, and eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade English classes. Almost every elementary, middle, and high school (including the three alternative high schools) were represented. A total of 13,235 questionnaires were completed by students, representing nearly one third of all students in sixth, eighth, tenth, and twelfth grades.

In 2008, the Fairfax County Youth Survey Team weighed the desire to add more questions to the questionnaire related to youth's use of time, general health, and other behaviors against the need to keep the instrument at a length that would allow for completion within one class period, as specified by survey protocol. In order to include a larger number of items, the questions were divided into two instruments: the *Healthy Behaviors Survey* and the *Risk and Protective Factors Survey*. These questionnaires were administered to eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students. To allow for year-to-year comparisons, both instruments included 39 "core questions." The *Risk and Protective Factors Survey* included additional questions about risk and protective factors while the *Healthy Behaviors Survey* included additional questions about health, health risks, and outcomes. A separate *6th Grade Survey* was developed for administration in 2008 due to concerns with both the length and language of the questionnaires for use with older students. The 2008 *6th Grade Survey* had fewer questions but included most of the core items in the other questionnaires.

For the eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade survey, English classrooms were randomly selected from every school. The number of classrooms selected was proportional to the pyramid* size to ensure a representative sample to allow for generalized survey results. Of the selected classrooms, 75% received the *Risk and Protective Factors Survey* and 25% received the *Healthy Behaviors Survey*. The sixth-grade sampling utilized a two-step process. First, schools containing sixth-grade classrooms were randomly selected proportionately by pyramid. Then, sixth-grade classrooms within the selected schools were randomly selected to participate in the *6th Grade Survey*.

In 2009, the decision was made to administer the Fairfax County Youth Survey every year, alternating between the *Healthy Behaviors Survey* and the *Risk and Protective Factors Survey* for the eighth, tenth, and twelfth grades and administering the *6th Grade Survey* annually. A census approach was adopted in 2009, giving all students in the targeted grades the opportunity to participate in the surveys. Survey data were weighted by grade and race. Since 2010 the survey data have been weighted by grade within each pyramid to allow generalization of survey results to the entire population.

The questionnaire for the eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students was re-designed in 2015. A single instrument was developed that combined items of interest from the two previous versions into one questionnaire, to be administered annually. Wording on some questions was changed to align with new wording on national surveys used for comparison of Fairfax County youth results, and additional questions were added on substance use, bullying and harassment, nutrition and extracurricular activities. The instrument for sixth-grade students was modified slightly in 2015. In 2018, items were added to the eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade instrument to assess the use of vaping devices and to investigate prescription painkiller misuse. Items on school environment were added to the instrument for older students in 2019. In 2020, the Fairfax County Youth Survey was not conducted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2021, the Fairfax County Youth Survey was conducted online for the first time. The survey was offered in 8 languages for the first time as well: Arabic, Chinese, English, Farsi, Korean, Spanish, Urdu, and Vietnamese. Sixth-grade students were asked to choose the language of the survey they completed. Below are the frequency counts of the different language forms selected by students in Grade 6. A paper survey in English was offered as an option to accommodate students with disabilities. Additional demographic questions, as well as questions on specific behaviors and experiences were modified or added to the survey in 2021.

* The Fairfax County Public Schools' system that assigns schools to a pyramid which is comprised of a high school and its feeder elementary and middle schools.

Table 87. Instruments Used to Survey Fairfax County Youth, 2001 – 2021

Year	Survey	Targeted Population	Number of Questions	National Comparison
2001	Fairfax County Youth Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	228	MTF
2003	Virginia Community Youth Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	135	MTF
2005	Fairfax County Youth Survey	6th, 8th, 10th, 12th	137	MTF (for 8th, 10th, and 12th)
2008	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Risk and Protective Factors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	154	MTF
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Healthy Behaviors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	109	YRBS
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: 6th Grade Survey	6th	62	None
2009	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Healthy Behaviors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	151	MTF & YRBS
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: 6th Grade Survey	6th	82	None
2010	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Risk and Protective Factors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	203	MTF
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: 6th Grade Survey	6th	84	None
2011	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Healthy Behaviors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	155	MTF & YRBS
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: 6th Grade Survey	6th	84	None
2012	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Risk and Protective Factors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	207	MTF
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: 6th Grade Survey	6th	84	None
2013	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Healthy Behaviors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	155	MTF & YRBS
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: 6th Grade Survey	6th	84	None
2014	Fairfax County Youth Survey: Risk and Protective Factors Survey	8th, 10th, 12th	210	MTF
	Fairfax County Youth Survey: 6th Grade Survey	6th	84	None
2015	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	8th, 10th, 12th	164	MTF & YRBS
2016	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	6th	84	None
2017	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	6th	84	None
2018	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8 th , 10 th , and 12 th Grade Students	8th, 10th, 12th	170	MTF
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6 th Grade Students	6th	84	None
2019	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8th, 10th, and 12th Grade Students	8th, 10th, 12th	174	MTF & YRBS
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students	6th	84	None

Table 87 (continued).

Year	Survey	Targeted Population	Number of Questions	National Comparison
2020	No administration of the Fairfax County Youth Survey due to the COVID-19 pandemic	-	-	-
2021	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 8 th , 10 th , and 12 th Grade Students	8th, 10th, 12th	173	MTF & YRBS
	Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6 th Grade Students	6th	89	None

Note. Monitoring the Future (MTF) is an annual survey of substance use that is administered to eighth-, tenth-, and twelfth-grade students across the nation (Johnston et al., 2022). The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a national survey conducted in odd years by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention among students in grades 9 – 12 (Underwood et al., 2020).

APPENDIX B. SURVEY METHODOLOGY

SURVEY VALIDITY, RELIABILITY, AND SAMPLING

The validity of a survey is the extent to which it measures what its designers intend it to measure. Reliability is an estimate of how consistently survey items measure the same concept each time they are administered under the same conditions and with the same subjects. To ensure the validity and reliability of the information about student behaviors, the 2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey used items from nationally-validated youth surveys. Approximately forty percent of the questions come from the Communities That Care Youth Survey from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and approximately one third come from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Other questions are derived from the Search Institute and other surveys.

The 2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey used a census sampling method, where all students in sixth, eighth, tenth, and twelfth grades were invited to participate. Non-response bias may occur if one or more shared characteristics differentiate those who completed the survey from those who did not (if the answers of respondents differ from the potential answers of those who chose not to participate.) A non-response bias limits the extent to which the results of the survey can be generalized to populations other than the sample who completed the survey.

The 2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students had a response rate of 82.6%. Table 4 on page 13 presents a comparison of the students who completed the survey and the total enrollment figures, by selected demographic characteristics. Statistical differences were observed for some of the racial/ethnic sub-groups: for example, White students were under-represented in the sample while Black students were over-represented ($p < .05$). However, because the data are analyzed at the pyramid level*, and the number of male and female students in some racial/ethnic groups within a pyramid is small enough to jeopardize the anonymity of their responses, the data were not weighted by gender or race/ethnicity. The data were weighted by pyramid only.

* The Fairfax County Public Schools' system that assigns schools to a pyramid which is comprised of a high school and its feeder elementary and middle schools.

DATA PROCESSING METHODOLOGY

The following seven conditions were used to clean the *2021 Fairfax County Youth Survey of 6th Grade Students* data. Missing data were not imputed.

Condition 1: Survey Window Period

Responses that were collected outside the data collection window (between November 15 and December 17), during a weekend or Thanksgiving break (November 25 and 26), or between 6:00 pm and 6:00 am (survey needed to be completed during normal school hours) were eliminated from the data analysis.

Condition 2: Blank Surveys

There was a total of 84 questions on the survey instrument, including seven questions that asked about students' demographic information. Cases where students provided seven or fewer responses were eliminated from the data analysis.

Condition 3: Truthfulness

The final item of the survey instrument asked students, "How honest were you in filling out this survey?" The response options for this question were:

- I was very honest.
- I was honest pretty much of the time.
- I was honest some of the time.
- I was honest once in a while.
- I was not honest at all.

Cases where students responded "I was not honest at all" were eliminated from the data analysis.

Condition 4: Cabeniferol (cabbies) Use

There were two items on "cabeniferol (cabbies)" use – in their lifetime and during the past 30 days. The drug is fictitious and was created to check the validity of students' responses. Cases where students reported any use were eliminated from the data analysis.

Condition 5: Missing or Incorrect Grade Information

Cases where students reported being in fifth or seventh grade were eliminated from the data analysis, as were cases where students did not provide an answer to the grade question.

Condition 6: Substance Use Inconsistencies

The consistency of responses between lifetime and 30-day use of substances was checked. There are five substances that were queried for both lifetime and 30-day use: cigarettes, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, and other illegal drugs. Responses were considered inconsistent if students answered “never” to lifetime use of a substance but indicated use of the substance in the past month. Surveys with three or more inconsistent responses were eliminated from the data analysis. Surveys with fewer than three inconsistencies were kept in the dataset but the inconsistent responses were set to missing.

Condition 7: Pharmacological Implausibility

The over-reporting of substance use was examined through patterns of responses that are pharmacologically implausible. The 30-day use of the following substances was examined: alcohol, marijuana, inhalants, and other illegal drugs (cigarettes were not included). Cases where students reported “10 or more days” for all four of the substances were eliminated from data analysis.

Table 88 presents the number of surveys eliminated from the analysis at each step of the data cleaning process.

Table 88. Results of Data Cleaning Procedures, Fairfax County, 2021

	Number	Percent
Rejected questionnaires		
Invalid survey dates	5	0.0
Invalid survey time	8	0.1
Blank questionnaires	257	2.3
“Not honest at all” responses	40	0.4
Reported fictitious drug use	150	1.4
Rejected by grade check	162	1.5
Rejected by consistency check	4	0.0
Rejected by dose check	0	0.0
Total number of usable questionnaires	10,443	94.3
Total	11,069	100.0

DATA ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

The ratio of sixth-grade survey respondents from a given pyramid to all survey respondents (all pyramids) was compared to the ratio of all students enrolled in sixth grade in that pyramid to all students enrolled in sixth grade in all Fairfax County Public Schools. Corrective weights were applied to the data to ensure proportional representation based on the total sixth-grade student enrollment in each pyramid. Each record was weighted by the factor

$$w_i = \frac{X_i \div X}{Y_i \div Y}$$

Where

X_i = # of students enrolled in sixth grade in Pyramid i

X = total # of students enrolled in sixth grade in Pyramids 1-25

Y_i = # of survey respondents in sixth grade in Pyramid i

Y = total # of survey respondents in sixth grade in Pyramids 1-25

($1 \leq i \leq 25$)

SAS 9.4 was used to generate all tables in this report. The SAS and SPSS data analysis programs use slightly different weighting processes so readers using SPSS for data analysis may receive slightly different outputs (0.1% or less).

APPENDIX C. UNIVARIATE TABLES*

1. How old are you?

	Number	%
10 or younger	51	0.5
11	7,970	76.5
12	2,355	22.6
13	37	0.4
14 or older	7	0.1
Total	10,420	100.0
Missing	23	
Total	10,443	

2. What grade are you in?

	Number	%
6th	10,443	100.0

3. Gender

	Number	%
Female	5,053	49.2
Male	5,215	50.8
Total	10,268	100.0
Missing	175	
Total	10,443	

4. & 5. Race/Ethnicity

	Number	%
White	3,196	32.6
Black	1,110	11.3
Hispanic	2,711	27.7
Asian/Pacific Islander	1,952	19.9
Other/Multiple	823	8.4
Total	9,791	100.0
Missing	652	
Total	10,443	

6. Which of the following people live there with you?

	Number	%
Mother	9,966	96.4
Father	8,593	83.1
Stepmother	236	2.3
Stepfather	510	4.9
Grandmother(s)	1,250	12.1
Grandfather(s)	690	6.7
Foster parent	14	0.1
Other adults	728	7.0
Sister(s)	5,232	50.6
Brother(s)	5,619	54.3
Stepsister(s)	185	1.8
Stepbrother(s)	170	1.6
Other children	469	4.5

Note: Multiple responses allowed. Students who did not respond to any of the multiple-choice items on Q6 are excluded from the calculations (missing = 103).

7. What language do you use most often at home?

	Number	%
Amharic	142	1.4
Arabic	294	2.8
Chinese	135	1.3
English	6,638	64.0
Farsi	107	1.0
Korean	201	1.9
Spanish	1,783	17.2
Urdu	111	1.1
Vietnamese	135	1.3
Other	830	8.0
Total	10,376	100.0
Missing	67	
Total	10,443	

*Univariate tables reflect weighted data. Due to rounding, percentages may not sum to 100.0.

8. Has your parent or guardian ever served in the military (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Space Force, National Guard, and Reserves)?

	Number	%
Yes	2,096	20.3
No	6,766	65.5
Not sure	1,469	14.2
Total	10,331	100.0
Missing	112	
Total	10,443	

9. Do you have someone in your family (like a parent, brother, sister) who is currently in the military (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, Space Force, National Guard, and Reserves)?

	Number	%
Yes	1,160	11.2
No	8,186	78.8
Not sure	1,037	10.0
Total	10,383	100.0
Missing	60	
Total	10,443	

10. Putting them all together, what were your grades like last year?

	Number	%
Mostly Fs	70	0.7
Mostly Ds	166	1.7
Mostly Cs	650	6.7
Mostly Bs	3,809	39.4
Mostly As	4,978	51.5
Total	9,674	100.0
Missing	769	
Total	10,443	

11. I think sometimes it is okay to cheat at school.

	Number	%
NO!!	6,746	65.4
no	3,045	29.5
yes	468	4.5
YES!!	54	0.5
Total	10,313	100.0
Missing	130	
Total	10,443	

12. I can do well in school if I want to.

	Number	%
Strongly Agree	3,212	31.4
Agree	3,853	37.7
Not Sure	2,193	21.4
Disagree	671	6.6
Strongly Disagree	302	3.0
Total	10,232	100.0
Missing	211	
Total	10,443	

13. I feel safe at my school.

	Number	%
NO!!	181	1.8
no	951	9.3
yes	5,723	55.7
YES!!	3,428	33.3
Total	10,283	100.0
Missing	160	
Total	10,443	

14. My teacher notices when I am doing a good job and lets me know about it.

	Number	%
NO!!	241	2.4
no	1,551	15.2
yes	5,853	57.4
YES!!	2,549	25.0
Total	10,193	100.0
Missing	250	
Total	10,443	

15. The school lets my parents know when I have done something well.

	Number	%
NO!!	669	6.6
no	3,160	31.4
yes	4,688	46.6
YES!!	1,550	15.4
Total	10,067	100.0
Missing	376	
Total	10,443	

16. During the past 12 months, did you ever: feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?

	Number	%
Yes	3,332	33.1
No	6,725	66.9
Total	10,056	100.0
Missing	387	
Total	10,443	

17. Stress means a situation in which a person feels tense, restless, nervous, or anxious, or is unable to sleep at night because their mind is troubled all the time. Within the last 30 days, how often have you felt this kind of stress?

	Number	%
None of the time	2,022	19.9
A little of the time	3,357	33.1
Some of the time	2,974	29.3
Most of the time	1,413	13.9
All of the time	389	3.8
Total	10,155	100.0
Missing	288	
Total	10,443	

18. I ignore rules that get in my way.

	Number	%
Very false	4,513	45.0
Somewhat false	3,894	38.9
Somewhat true	1,432	14.3
Very true	184	1.8
Total	10,022	100.0
Missing	421	
Total	10,443	

19. There are lots of adults in my neighborhood I could talk to about something important.

	Number	%
NO!!	2,154	21.4
no	3,796	37.7
yes	3,061	30.4
YES!!	1,061	10.5
Total	10,071	100.0
Missing	372	
Total	10,443	

20. My neighbors notice when I am doing a good job and let me know about it.

	Number	%
NO!!	3,865	38.6
no	3,891	38.9
yes	1,806	18.0
YES!!	452	4.5
Total	10,014	100.0
Missing	429	
Total	10,443	

21. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you: carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club?

	Number	%
0 days	9,192	90.7
1 day	442	4.4
2 or 3 days	271	2.7
4 or 5 days	73	0.7
6 or more days	155	1.5
Total	10,133	100.0
Missing	310	
Total	10,443	

22. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you: carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property?

	Number	%
0 days	10,028	98.7
1 day	71	0.7
2 or 3 days	21	0.2
4 or 5 days	8	0.1
6 or more days	28	0.3
Total	10,156	100.0
Missing	287	
Total	10,443	

23. How important is the following to you in your life? Accepting responsibility for my actions when I make a mistake or get in trouble.

	Number	%
Extremely Important	3,173	31.4
Quite Important	4,546	45.0
Not Sure	1,696	16.8
Somewhat Important	581	5.8
Not Important	102	1.0
Total	10,098	100.0
Missing	345	
Total	10,443	

24. How important is the following to you in your life? Doing my best even when I have to do a job I don't like.

	Number	%
Extremely Important	3,071	30.5
Quite Important	4,263	42.3
Not Sure	1,639	16.3
Somewhat Important	946	9.4
Not Important	166	1.6
Total	10,085	100.0
Missing	358	
Total	10,443	

25. When things don't go well for me, I am good at finding a way to make things better.

	Number	%
Strongly Agree	1,545	15.2
Agree	4,551	44.8
Not Sure	2,682	26.4
Disagree	1,033	10.2
Strongly Disagree	342	3.4
Total	10,152	100.0
Missing	291	
Total	10,443	

26. I feel as if I can solve most problems in my life.

	Number	%
Strongly Agree	1,530	15.1
Agree	4,236	41.9
Not Sure	2,779	27.5
Disagree	1,153	11.4
Strongly Disagree	414	4.1
Total	10,112	100.0
Missing	331	
Total	10,443	

27. I have much in life to be thankful for.

	Number	%
Strongly Agree	6,682	65.5
Agree	2,632	25.8
Not Sure	660	6.5
Disagree	164	1.6
Strongly Disagree	73	0.7
Total	10,210	100.0
Missing	233	
Total	10,443	

28. How much do you do the following when you have a problem of any kind? I try to find different solutions to the problem.

	Number	%
A lot	3,117	31.1
Sometimes	5,520	55.1
A little	1,196	11.9
Never	189	1.9
Total	10,023	100.0
Missing	420	
Total	10,443	

29. How many times have you: participated in school or non-school-based activities after the regular school day ended (e.g., sports, clubs, art or music groups, student government, scouting, etc.)?

	Number	%
Never	1,521	15.4
I've done it, but not in the past year	1,976	20.0
Less than once a month	314	3.2
About once a month	367	3.7
Two or three times a month	610	6.2
Once a week or more	5,110	51.6
Total	9,898	100.0
Missing	545	
Total	10,443	

30. How many times have you: volunteered to do community service?

	Number	%
Never	4,565	47.3
I've done it, but not in the past year	2,395	24.8
Less than once a month	1,018	10.5
About once a month	793	8.2
Two or three times a month	500	5.2
Once a week or more	387	4.0
Total	9,658	100.0
Missing	785	
Total	10,443	

31. On an average school day, how many hours do you spend: doing homework outside of school?

	Number	%
None	1,180	11.8
Half hour or less	3,271	32.6
Between a half hour and an hour	3,129	31.2
1 hour	1,317	13.1
2 hours	761	7.6
3 hours or more	382	3.8
Total	10,041	100.0
Missing	402	
Total	10,443	

32. On an average school day, how many hours do you spend: going to work?

	Number	%
None	5,637	64.2
Half hour or less	921	10.5
Between a half hour and an hour	536	6.1
1 hour	392	4.5
2 hours	322	3.7
3 hours or more	979	11.1
Total	8,787	100.0
Missing	1,656	
Total	10,443	

33. On an average school day, how many hours do you spend: staying after school to participate in a team, club, program, etc.?

	Number	%
None	7,367	74.7
Half hour or less	547	5.6
Between a half hour and an hour	518	5.3
1 hour	772	7.8
2 hours	452	4.6
3 hours or more	203	2.1
Total	9,860	100.0
Missing	583	
Total	10,443	

34. On an average school day, how many hours do you spend: participating in a team, club, program, etc. somewhere other than at school?

	Number	%
None	4,298	43.9
Half hour or less	585	6.0
Between a half hour and an hour	861	8.8
1 hour	1,754	17.9
2 hours	1,634	16.7
3 hours or more	662	6.8
Total	9,793	100.0
Missing	650	
Total	10,443	

35. On an average school day, how many hours do you: watch TV?

	Number	%
Not at all	1,842	18.5
Less than 1 hour per day	2,554	25.7
1 hour per day	1,945	19.6
2 hours per day	1,651	16.6
3 hours per day	921	9.3
4 hours per day	412	4.1
5 or more hours per day	619	6.2
Total	9,943	100.0
Missing	500	
Total	10,443	

36. On an average school day, how many hours do you: play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not school work?

	Number	%
Not at all	1,144	11.6
Less than 1 hour per day	1,617	16.4
1 hour per day	1,485	15.0
2 hours per day	1,838	18.6
3 hours per day	1,385	14.0
4 hours per day	911	9.2
5 or more hours per day	1,504	15.2
Total	9,885	100.0
Missing	558	
Total	10,443	

37. During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day?

	Number	%
0 days	885	9.1
1 day	888	9.2
2 days	1,115	11.5
3 days	1,346	13.9
4 days	1,185	12.2
5 days	1,305	13.5
6 days	748	7.7
7 days	2,229	23.0
Total	9,701	100.0
Missing	742	
Total	10,443	

38. During the past 12 months, have you ever bullied someone else on school property?

	Number	%
Yes	395	3.9
No	9,672	96.1
Total	10,067	100.0
Missing	376	
Total	10,443	

39. During the past 12 months, have you ever bullied someone else away from school property?

	Number	%
Yes	445	4.5
No	9,566	95.6
Total	10,011	100.0
Missing	432	
Total	10,443	

40. During the past 12 months, have you ever: been bullied on school property?

	Number	%
Yes	1,995	20.0
No	7,966	80.0
Total	9,961	100.0
Missing	482	
Total	10,443	

41. During the past 12 months, have you ever: been bullied away from school property?

	Number	%
Yes	1,408	14.1
No	8,583	85.9
Total	9,991	100.0
Missing	452	
Total	10,443	

42. How many times in the past year have you: said something bad about someone's race or culture?

	Number	%
Never	9,065	90.3
1 to 2 times	728	7.3
3 to 5 times	112	1.1
6 to 9 times	43	0.4
10 to 19 times	31	0.3
20 to 29 times	17	0.2
30 to 39 times	5	0.1
40 or more times	38	0.4
Total	10,040	100.0
Missing	403	
Total	10,443	

43. How many times in the past year has anyone done any of the following TO YOU: said something bad about your race or culture?

	Number	%
Never	6,532	65.6
1 to 2 times	1,895	19.0
3 to 5 times	767	7.7
6 to 9 times	310	3.1
10 to 19 times	194	2.0
20 to 29 times	83	0.8
30 to 39 times	33	0.3
40 or more times	141	1.4
Total	9,955	100.0
Missing	488	
Total	10,443	

44. How many times in the past year has a parent or adult in your household bullied, taunted, ridiculed, or teased you?

	Number	%
Never	7,759	78.6
1 to 2 times	989	10.0
3 to 5 times	341	3.5
6 to 9 times	198	2.0
10 to 19 times	175	1.8
20 to 29 times	91	0.9
30 to 39 times	50	0.5
40 or more times	264	2.7
Total	9,867	100.0
Missing	576	
Total	10,443	

45. How often did a parent or adult in your home ever hit, beat, kick, or physically hurt you in any way? Do not include spanking.

	Number	%
Never	8,651	88.1
1 to 2 times	665	6.8
3 to 5 times	187	1.9
6 to 9 times	110	1.1
10 to 19 times	84	0.9
20 to 29 times	29	0.3
30 to 39 times	18	0.2
40 or more times	80	0.8
Total	9,826	100.0
Missing	617	
Total	10,443	

46. How many times in the past year have you been cyberbullied by a student who attends your school?

	Number	%
Never	8,797	87.8
1 to 2 times	696	7.0
3 to 5 times	247	2.5
6 to 9 times	122	1.2
10 to 19 times	76	0.8
20 to 29 times	23	0.2
30 to 39 times	8	0.1
40 or more times	47	0.5
Total	10,017	100.0
Missing	426	
Total	10,443	

47. How many times in the past year have you cyberbullied a student attending your school?

	Number	%
Never	9,591	96.1
1 to 2 times	272	2.7
3 to 5 times	51	0.5
6 to 9 times	23	0.2
10 to 19 times	19	0.2
20 to 29 times	4	0.0
30 to 39 times	3	0.0
40 or more times	19	0.2
Total	9,982	100.0
Missing	461	
Total	10,443	

48. Do you agree or disagree that harassment and bullying by other students is a problem at your school?

	Number	%
Strongly Agree	2,384	24.3
Agree	1,790	18.3
Neutral	2,684	27.4
Disagree	1,862	19.0
Strongly Disagree	1,088	11.1
Total	9,808	100.0
Missing	635	
Total	10,443	

49. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they: smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day?

	Number	%
No risk	782	8.0
Slight risk	662	6.8
Moderate risk	1,907	19.5
Great risk	6,413	65.7
Total	9,764	100.0
Missing	679	
Total	10,443	

50. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they: try marijuana once or twice?

	Number	%
No risk	1,021	11.0
Slight risk	2,226	24.0
Moderate risk	2,946	31.8
Great risk	3,085	33.3
Total	9,278	100.0
Missing	1,165	
Total	10,443	

51. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they: smoke marijuana regularly ?

	Number	%
No risk	776	8.4
Slight risk	471	5.1
Moderate risk	1,505	16.2
Great risk	6,538	70.4
Total	9,291	100.0
Missing	1,152	
Total	10,443	

52. How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they: take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor) nearly every day?

	Number	%
No risk	907	9.4
Slight risk	1,835	19.1
Moderate risk	3,245	33.8
Great risk	3,616	37.7
Total	9,603	100.0
Missing	840	
Total	10,443	

53. Have you ever smoked cigarettes?

	Number	%
Never	9,845	99.1
Once or twice	71	0.7
Once in a while but not regularly	5	0.1
Regularly in the past	4	0.0
Regularly now	9	0.1
Total	9,934	100.0
Missing	509	
Total	10,443	

54. How often have you smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days?

	Number	%
Not at all	9,895	99.9
Less than one cigarette per day	10	0.1
One to five cigarettes per day	3	0.0
Total	9,909	100.0
Missing	534	
Total	10,443	

55. To “vape” is to use a device such as a vape-pen, an e-cigarette, an e-hookah, or e-vaporizer to inhale a mist or vapor into the lungs. Have you ever vaped?

	Number	%
Yes	255	2.6
No	9,508	97.4
Total	9,762	100.0
Missing	681	
Total	10,443	

56. On how many occasions (if any) have you: vaped nicotine during the past 30 days?

	Number	%
0 occasions	9,647	99.4
1-2 occasions	33	0.3
3-5 occasions	8	0.1
6-9 occasions	4	0.0
10-19 occasions	7	0.1
40 or more occasions	2	0.0
Total	9,701	100.0
Missing	742	
Total	10,443	

57. On how many occasions (if any) have you: vaped marijuana during the past 30 days?

	Number	%
0 occasions	9,630	99.8
1-2 occasions	13	0.1
3-5 occasions	2	0.0
6-9 occasions	1	0.0
10-19 occasions	1	0.0
Total	9,646	100.0
Missing	797	
Total	10,443	

58. On how many occasions (if any) have you: vaped flavoring, without any nicotine or marijuana in it during the past 30 days?

	Number	%
0 occasions	9,524	99.5
1-2 occasions	31	0.3
3-5 occasions	7	0.1
6-9 occasions	4	0.0
10-19 occasions	2	0.0
20-39 occasions	1	0.0
40 or more occasions	7	0.1
Total	9,576	100.0
Missing	867	
Total	10,443	

59. Have you ever, even once in your lifetime, had more than a sip or two of beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin)?

	Number	%
Yes	1,566	16.0
No	8,239	84.0
Total	9,805	100.0
Missing	638	
Total	10,443	

60. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you drink beer, wine, or hard liquor?

	Number	%
None	9,696	98.8
1-2 days	99	1.0
3-5 days	10	0.1
6-9 days	2	0.0
10 or more days	4	0.0
Total	9,811	100.0
Missing	632	
Total	10,443	

61. Have you ever, even once in your lifetime, smoked marijuana?

	Number	%
Yes	121	1.2
No	9,622	98.8
Total	9,743	100.0
Missing	700	
Total	10,443	

62. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use marijuana?

	Number	%
None	9,744	99.9
1-2 days	7	0.1
Total	9,751	100.0
Missing	692	
Total	10,443	

63. Have you ever, even once in your lifetime, sniffed glue, breathed (huffed) the contents of an aerosol spray can, or inhaled other gases or sprays in order to get high?

	Number	%
Yes	329	3.5
No	9,218	96.6
Total	9,547	100.0
Missing	896	
Total	10,443	

64. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you sniff glue, breathe (huff) the contents of an aerosol spray can, or inhale other gases or sprays in order to get high?

	Number	%
None	9,449	98.7
1-2 days	93	1.0
3-5 days	16	0.2
6-9 days	4	0.0
10 or more days	10	0.1
Total	9,572	100.0
Missing	871	
Total	10,443	

67. Have you ever, even once in your lifetime, used other illegal drugs (not counting alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana)?

	Number	%
Yes	120	1.3
No	9,533	98.8
Total	9,653	100.0
Missing	790	
Total	10,443	

68. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use other illegal drugs (not counting alcohol, tobacco, or marijuana)?

	Number	%
None	9,659	99.9
1-2 days	3	0.0
3-5 days	1	0.0
10 or more days	2	0.0
Total	9,665	100.0
Missing	778	
Total	10,443	

69. How easy or hard would it be for you to get: some beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin)?

	Number	%
Very hard	6,106	69.6
Sort of hard	1,491	17.0
Sort of easy	756	8.6
Very easy	424	4.8
Total	8,778	100.0
Missing	1,665	
Total	10,443	

70. How easy or hard would it be for you to get: some cigarettes?

	Number	%
Very hard	7,429	85.9
Sort of hard	746	8.6
Sort of easy	281	3.3
Very easy	191	2.2
Total	8,648	100.0
Missing	1,795	
Total	10,443	

71. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat fruit? (Do not count fruit juice.)

	Number	%
I did not eat fruit during the past 7 days	492	5.0
1 to 3 times during the past 7 days	1,646	16.8
4 to 6 times during the past 7 days	1,764	18.0
1 time per day	1,384	14.1
2 times per day	2,005	20.5
3 times per day	1,193	12.2
4 or more times per day	1,316	13.4
Total	9,801	100.0
Missing	642	
Total	10,443	

72. During the past 7 days, how many times did you eat vegetables?

	Number	%
I did not eat vegetables during the past 7 days	760	7.8
1 to 3 times during the past 7 days	1,911	19.6
4 to 6 times during the past 7 days	1,644	16.9
1 time per day	1,585	16.3
2 times per day	1,706	17.5
3 times per day	977	10.0
4 or more times per day	1,167	12.0
Total	9,751	100.0
Missing	692	
Total	10,443	

73. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop (such as Coke, Pepsi, or Sprite)? Do not include diet soda or diet pop.

	Number	%
I did not drink soda or pop during the past 7 days	4,725	48.4
1 to 3 times during the past 7 days	3,652	37.4
4 to 6 times during the past 7 days	497	5.1
1 time per day	492	5.0
2 times per day	213	2.2
3 times per day	71	0.7
4 or more times per day	111	1.1
Total	9,760	100.0
Missing	683	
Total	10,443	

74. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink a can, bottle, or glass of a sugar-sweetened beverage, such as lemonade, sweetened tea or coffee drinks, flavored milk, Snapple, or Sunny Delight?

	Number	%
I did not drink sugar-sweetened beverages during the past 7 days	3,644	37.8
1 to 3 times during the past 7 days	3,822	39.7
4 to 6 times during the past 7 days	916	9.5
1 time per day	705	7.3
2 times per day	290	3.0
3 times per day	121	1.3
4 or more times per day	138	1.4
Total	9,636	100.0
Missing	807	
Total	10,443	

75. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink a can, bottle, or glass of an energy drink, such as Red Bull or Jolt? (Do not count diet energy drinks or sports drinks such as Gatorade or PowerAde.)

	Number	%
I did not drink energy drinks during the past 7 days	8,759	91.4
1 to 3 times during the past 7 days	526	5.5
4 to 6 times during the past 7 days	81	0.8
1 time per day	114	1.2
2 times per day	46	0.5
3 times per day	20	0.2
4 or more times per day	35	0.4
Total	9,581	100.0
Missing	862	
Total	10,443	

76. During the past 7 days, how many times did you drink 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.)

	Number	%
I did not drink sports drinks during the past 7 days	6,537	68.2
1 to 3 times during the past 7 days	2,157	22.5
4 to 6 times during the past 7 days	354	3.7
1 time per day	305	3.2
2 times per day	106	1.1
3 times per day	47	0.5
4 or more times per day	82	0.9
Total	9,586	100.0
Missing	857	
Total	10,443	

77. How many times have you changed homes since kindergarten?

	Number	%
None	4,253	43.7
1-2 times	3,491	35.8
3-4 times	1,450	14.9
5-6 times	353	3.6
7 or more times	194	2.0
Total	9,741	100.0
Missing	702	
Total	10,443	

78. My parents ask me what I think before most family decisions affecting me are made.

	Number	%
NO!!	869	9.5
no	2,281	24.9
yes	3,984	43.5
YES!!	2,016	22.0
Total	9,151	100.0
Missing	1,292	
Total	10,443	

79. If I had a personal problem, I could ask my mom or dad for help.

	Number	%
NO!!	449	4.6
no	972	10.1
yes	3,474	35.9
YES!!	4,775	49.4
Total	9,670	100.0
Missing	773	
Total	10,443	

80. People in my family often insult or yell at each other.

	Number	%
NO!!	3,433	36.0
no	3,887	40.7
yes	1,764	18.5
YES!!	465	4.9
Total	9,550	100.0
Missing	893	
Total	10,443	

81. During the past 30 days, how often did you go hungry because there was not enough food in your home?

	Number	%
Never	7,488	77.0
Rarely	1,517	15.6
Sometimes	539	5.5
Most of the time	134	1.4
Always	52	0.5
Total	9,729	100.0
Missing	714	
Total	10,443	

82. During the last 12 months, how many times have you: been a leader in a group or organization?

	Number	%
Never	3,699	39.0
Once	1,647	17.4
Twice	1,386	14.6
3-4 Times	1,263	13.3
5 or more Times	1,489	15.7
Total	9,485	100.0
Missing	958	
Total	10,443	

83. During the last 12 months, how many times have you: helped make sure that all people are treated fairly?

	Number	%
Never	1,012	10.9
Once	1,136	12.2
Twice	1,438	15.5
3-4 Times	2,174	23.4
5 or more Times	3,523	38.0
Total	9,283	100.0
Missing	1,160	
Total	10,443	

84. People who know me would say this: Giving up when things get hard for me is...

	Number	%
Not at all like me	3,151	33.5
A little like me	3,649	38.8
Somewhat like me	1,665	17.7
Quite like me	633	6.7
Very much like me	314	3.3
Total	9,412	100.0
Missing	1,031	
Total	10,443	

85. People who know me would say this: Knowing how to say 'no' when someone wants me to do things I know are wrong or dangerous is ...

	Number	%
Not at all like me	998	10.9
A little like me	771	8.4
Somewhat like me	852	9.3
Quite like me	2,192	23.9
Very much like me	4,374	47.6
Total	9,187	100.0
Missing	1,256	
Total	10,443	

86. People who know me would say this: Thinking through the possible good and bad results of different choices before I make decisions is...

	Number	%
Not at all like me	700	7.9
A little like me	1,362	15.3
Somewhat like me	2,299	25.9
Quite like me	2,803	31.5
Very much like me	1,724	19.4
Total	8,889	100.0
Missing	1,554	
Total	10,443	

87. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?: I get along well with students who are different from me.

	Number	%
Strongly Agree	3,369	35.8
Agree	4,242	45.0
Not sure	1,487	15.8
Disagree	189	2.0
Strongly Disagree	139	1.5
Total	9,426	100.0
Missing	1,017	
Total	10,443	

88. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?: I know how to disagree without starting an argument or fight.

	Number	%
Strongly Agree	1,969	21.0
Agree	4,140	44.3
Not sure	2,443	26.1
Disagree	560	6.0
Strongly Disagree	245	2.6
Total	9,357	100.0
Missing	1,086	
Total	10,443	

89. How honest were you in filling out this survey?

	Number	%
I was very honest	6,923	70.9
I was honest pretty much of the time	2,580	26.4
I was honest some of the time	205	2.1
I was honest once in a while	61	0.6
Total	9,770	100.0
Missing	673	
Total	10,443	

