



YOUTH ABUSE

Snohomish County Facts

- Students who say they had experienced unwanted touching, kissing, or sexual intercourse were overwhelmingly female across all grades
- Compared to the state average, 10th graders in Snohomish County were more likely to say they were verbally abused in their home “often”
- 12th graders in Snohomish County were more likely to say they had been intimidated or threatened by the person they were dating compared to the state—and 2016’s rate was significantly higher than 2014

DATING VIOLENCE	6TH GRADERS	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Boyfriend/girlfriend has limited your activities or threatened you in the past year	~	5.2%	9.0%	11.3%
Boyfriend/girlfriend physically hurt you in past year	~	2.7%	5.5%	7.4%
Ever been in a situation where kissing, touching, or intercourse occurred when they did not want it to	~	11.9%	19.4%	23.5%
ABUSE	6TH GRADERS	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Ever been physically hurt on purpose by an adult	~	18.8%	23.1%	22.7%
Says an adult in their home often or very often swears at them, insults them, humiliates them or puts them down	~	12.5%	15.5%	14.4%
~ Not asked of students in this grade				



YOUTH ABUSE: WHAT WE CAN DO

Washington State Healthy Youth Survey Facts

- Questions ask about risk for injury, health outcomes, alcohol and drug use
- Results are used by communities to support youth and reduce risks

More info available at: www.askhys.net

PARENTS

- If you suspect a child is being bullied, intervene—respectfully. Let children know bullying is not acceptable.
- Inform your children as early as possible the impact their words can have on others.
- Teach your children how to behave in healthy romantic relationships and how to handle rejection. Abuse of any kind should not be tolerated.
- Let those being abused or bullied know it is not their fault.
- Demonstrate tolerance for others to set an example for your children.

SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Ensure students are aware of their resources at school and ensure they feel comfortable going to your guidance counselor.
- Teach children from an early age how to handle romantic rejection and enforce on-campus harassment policies.
- Contact organizations like Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County to teach healthy dating and anti-bullying workshops at your school.

GOVERNMENT

- A current bill has been proposed to add rules against bullying or discriminating against transgender individuals in schools and businesses.

The Snohomish Health District has indicated youth physical abuse as a target for their community health improvement plan. If you are interested in being an advocate for this topic, please contact Carrie McLachlan, MPA, Program Manager, Healthy Communities and Assessment at: cmclachlan@snohd.org or 425.339.8650

Participation by all of the Snohomish County school districts in the Healthy Youth Survey is extremely appreciated. School participation allows us to report on the current health status of our youth and track trends over time.

For more information about the Healthy Youth Survey, check out <http://www.askhys.net/> or to see Snohomish County Healthy Youth Survey Fact Sheets go to www.snohd.org.

Assessment, Planning and Evaluation Center

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