



YOUTH GANGS & BULLYING

Snohomish County Facts

- The amount of 6th and 10th grade students who said they were in at least one physical fight in the past year has gone down nearly one-quarter in the past 10 years
- For 8th grade students, black or African-American students reported being bullied because of their race at the highest rates—nearly three times that of their white classmates

BULLYING	6TH GRADERS	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Been bullied past 30 days	27.8%	27.0%	22.9%	16.1%
Been cyber bullied past 30 days	~	11.0%	11.6%	12.5%
Been bullied past 30 days due to race, ethnicity, or national origin	~	13.5%	12.7%	8.7%
Been bullied past 30 days due to sexual orientation	~	10.6%	10.0%	7.9%
Was in a physical fight 2 or more times in past year	11.6%	13.1%	10.3%	7.8%
Has seen an adult hurt another adult (not counting tv, video games, or sporting events) more than once	~	22.0%	24.2%	25.4%
Feels safe at school	89.5%	82.1%	81.7%	82.0%
<i>Bullying is defined in the survey as being both verbal or physical</i>				
GANGS	6TH GRADERS	8TH GRADERS	10TH GRADERS	12TH GRADERS
Carried a gun in the last 30 days*	~	3.3%	4.2%	4.3%
Had a weapon (gun, knife, or club) on school property in the last 30 days	3.1%	3.8%	5.9%	7.1%
Said they were a member of a gang in the past 12 months	~	4.7%	5.3%	5.0%
<i>*Does not include hunting</i>				
<i>~ Not asked of students in this grade</i>				



YOUTH ABUSE & BULLYING: 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.