

Teen Suicidal Behavior

A Survey of Oregon High School Students, 1997

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Prepared by: David Hopkins

Desktop Publishing by: Melissa Grace Franklin

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Appendix B

Suicidal Behavior, a Survey of Oregon High School Students, 1997

YRBS Questions Included in this Report

2. What is your sex?

- a. Female
- b. Male

3. In what grade are you?

- a. 9th grade
- b. 10th grade
- c. 11th grade
- d. 12th grade
- e. Ungraded or other

4. How do you describe yourself?

- a. White - not Hispanic
- b. Black - not Hispanic
- c. Hispanic or Latino
- d. Asian or Pacific Islander
- e. American Indian or Alaskan Native
- f. Other

The next questions ask about safety and violence.

5. How often do you wear a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else?

- a. Never
- b. Rarely
- c. Sometimes
- d. Most of the time
- e. Always

11. During the past 30 days, how many times did *you* drive a car or other vehicle when you had been drinking alcohol?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 time
- c. 2 or 3 times
- d. 4 or 5 times
- e. 6 or more times

"In the survey, I think depression should be discussed, I have found that most of the people I know have experienced it in one form or another, including myself. All problems (such as the ones discussed) have roots, and the roots are the actual disease. Alcoholism, anorexia, etc. are merely the side-effects. I have found that school counselors really don't do much, besides plan peer groups and other events of the sort."

13. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a gun as a weapon on school property ?

- a. 0 days
- b. 1 day
- c. 2 or 3 days
- d. 4 or 5 days
- e. 6 or more days

15. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon (other than a gun) such as a knife or club on school property ?

- a. 0 days
- b. 1 day
- c. 2 or 3 days
- d. 4 or 5 days
- e. 6 or more days

17. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone threatened or injured you with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property ?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 time
- c. 2 or 3 times
- d. 4 or 5 times
- e. 6 or 7 times
- f. 8 or 9 times
- g. 10 or 11 times
- h. 12 or more times

The next two questions ask about harassment at school. Harassment can include bullying; name calling or obscenities; offensive notes or graffiti; exclusion from groups; and unwanted attention or unwanted touching.

23. During the past 30 days have you been harassed at school by another student?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know

24. In the past 30 days, what were you harassed about? (If more than one reason, what was the most upsetting or offensive to you?)

- a. I was not harassed
- b. Race or national origin
- c. Unwanted sexual attention or comments
- d. Perceived sexual orientation(gay/lesbian/bisexual)
- e. Physical disability
- f. Other not listed
- g. Don't know why I was harassed

32. During the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 time
- c. 2 or 3 times
- d. 4 or 5 times
- e. 6 or more times

33. If you attempted suicide during the past 12 months, did any attempt result in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse?

- a. I did not attempt suicide during the past 12 months
- b. Yes
- c. No

The next fourteen questions ask about tobacco use.

34. How old were you when you smoked a whole cigarette for the first time?

- a. I have never smoked a whole cigarette
- b. 8 years old or younger
- c. 9 or 10 years old
- d. 11 or 12 years old
- e. 13 or 14 years old
- f. 15 or 16 years old
- g. 17 years old or more

36. During the past 30 days, on the days you smoked, how many cigarettes did you smoke per day ?

- a. I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days
- b. Less than 1 cigarette per day
- c. 1 cigarette per day
- d. 2 to 5 cigarettes per day
- e. 6 to 10 cigarettes per day
- f. 11 to 20 cigarettes per day
- g. More than 20 cigarettes per day

43. Does someone living in your house (other than you) smoke cigarettes?

- a. Nobody smokes
- b. Someone smokes, but not inside the house
- c. Someone smokes inside the house.

44. Do you think smoking is "cool"?

- a. Yes
- b. No

The following three questions are about physical abuse.

25. Have you ever been physically abused (hit, kicked or struck by someone when you were not involved in a fight)?

- a. Yes
- b. No

c. Don't know

26. If you have ever been physically abused, when was the last time this happened to you?

- a. I have never been physically abused
- b. Within the past week
- c. Within the past month
- d. Within the past year
- e. Within the past 5 years
- f. Over 5 years ago
- g. Don't know

The next three questions are about sexual abuse.

28. Have you ever been sexually abused (For example: touched sexually when you did not want to be, or forced to have sexual intercourse when you did not want to)?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Don't know

29. If you have been sexually abused, when was the last time this happened?

- a. I have never been sexually abused
- b. Within the past week
- c. Within the past month
- d. Within the past year
- e. Within the past 5 years
- f. Over 5 years ago
- g. Don't know

Sometimes people feel so depressed and hopeless about the future that they may consider attempting suicide, that is, taking some action to end their own life.

31. During the past 12 months, did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?

- a. Yes
- b. No

"These test are a biased attempt to separated and control the weary youth of society, who are just fighting to swim in this dunking tank of stress"

The next five questions ask about drinking alcohol. This includes drinking beer, wine, wine coolers, and liquor such as rum, gin, vodka, or whiskey. For these questions, drinking alcohol does not include drinking a few sips of wine for religious purposes.

48. How old were you when you had your first drink of alcohol other than a few sips?

- a. I have never had a drink of of alcohol other than a few sips
- b. 8 years old or younger
- c. 9 or 10 years old
- d. 11 or 12 years old
- e. 13 or 14 years old
- f. 15 or 16 years old
- g. 17 years old or older

50. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol? a. 0 days

- b. 1 or 2 days
- c. 3 to 5 days
- d. 6 to 9 days

- e. 10 to 19 days
- f. 20 to 29 days
- g. All 30 days

51. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have 5 or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours?

- a. 0 days
- b. 1 day
- c. 2 days
- d. 3 to 5 days
- e. 6 or 9 days
- f. 10 to 19 days
- g. 20 or more days

The next four questions ask about the use of marijuana, which is also called grass or pot.

55. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 or 2 times
- c. 3 to 9 times
- d. 10 to 19 times
- e. 20 to 39 times
- f. 40 or more times

The next nine questions ask about cocaine and other drug use.

59. During the past 30 days, how many times have you used any form of cocaine, including powder, crack, or freebase?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 or 2 times
- c. 3 to 9 times
- d. 10 to 19 times
- e. 20 to 39 times
- f. 40 or more times

61. During the past 30 days, how many times have you sniffed glue, or breathed the contents of aerosol spray cans, or inhaled any paints or sprays to get high?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 or 2 times
- c. 3 to 9 times
- d. 10 to 19 times
- e. 20 to 39 times
- f. 40 or more times

63. During your life, how many times have you used any other type of illegal drug, such as LSD, PCP, ecstasy, mushrooms, speed, ice, or heroin?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 or 2 times
- c. 3 to 9 times
- d. 10 to 19 times
- e. 20 to 39 times
- f. 40 or more times

64. During your life, how many times have you used a needle to inject any illegal drug into your body?

- a. 0 times

- b. 1 or 2 times
- c. 3 to 9 times
- d. 10 to 19 times
- e. 20 to 39 times
- f. 40 or more times

The next sixteen questions ask about sexual behavior.

72. During your life, with how many people have you had sexual intercourse?

- a. I have never had sexual intercourse
- b. 1 person
- c. 2 people
- d. 3 people
- e. 4 people
- f. 5 people
- g. 6 or more people

73. During the past 3 months, with how many people did you have sexual intercourse?

- a. I have never had sexual intercourse
- b. I have had sexual intercourse, but not during the past 3 months
- c. 1 person
- d. 2 people
- e. 3 people
- f. 4 people
- g. 5 people
- h. 6 or more people

77. How many times have you been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant?

- a. 0 times
- b. 1 time
- c. 2 or more times
- d. Not sure

The next six questions ask about body weight.

89. How do you describe your weight?

- a. Very underweight
- b. Slightly underweight
- c. About the right weight
- d. Slightly overweight
- e. Very overweight

93. During the past 30 days, did you vomit or take laxatives to lose weight or to keep from gaining weight?

- a. Yes
- b. No

The last questions ask about health care and community resources.

104. During the past 12 months, did you have any of the following health care needs? (On your answer sheet MARK ALL THAT APPLY.)

- a. Check-up or sports physical
- b. Injury or accident
- c. Illness
- d. Immunization
- e. Reproductive health services (exam or birth control/condoms)

- f. Pregnancy test or sexually transmitted disease test
- g. Alcohol or other drug problem
- h. Personal or emotional problem
- i. Other need not listed
- j. I had no health care needs

110. When you are scared, worried, or concerned about yourself or your friends, is there a caring adult you can talk to?

- a. No, there is no adult
- b. Yes, 1 adult
- c. Yes, 2 or 3 adults
- d. Yes, 4 or more adults

"Through taking this survey I have realized that alot of my friends, acquaintances in my environment, & myself have mental disorders, drug problems, eating disorders, & etc. This survey showed me that this world is awful. I'm proud of myself for staying together and Sticking through it all."