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ABSTRACT

Fights, weapons, and stolen or intentionally damaged property are common concerns of most schools in North Carolina. The results of this survey indicate that 27 percent of all 9th-12th grade students reported carrying a weapon (gun, knife, club) within the month prior to this survey. A significant percentage of students do not feel safe at school or coming and going from school. Ten percent (approximately 30,000) of all high school students reported being threatened or injured by a weapon on school property during the previous school year. Physical fighting is often considered a normal part of adolescent development, rather than a cause for concern. However, research has shown that fighting is the single most common precursor to homicide among youth. Students in this survey report a significant amount of physical fighting. Nearly 40 percent (approximately 120,000) of all 9th to 12th grade students were involved in a physical fight in the previous year. Fifteen percent (an estimated 45,000) of all high school students reported fighting on school property one or more times in the previous year. As of 1993 bringing a gun to school constitutes a felony violation. This survey was conducted prior to the passage of this legislation, so it will provide a benchmark of the rate of weapons carrying among high school students. Future surveys may serve as an indicator of the impact of this legislation. (BF)

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SELECTED INDICATORS OF
ADOLESCENT VIOLENCE AND SAFETY AT SCHOOL

FINDINGS FOR 9TH-12 GRADE STUDENTS
FROM THE 1993 NORTH CAROLINA YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY

Report Prepared
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North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
Bob Etheridge, State Superintendent

1994

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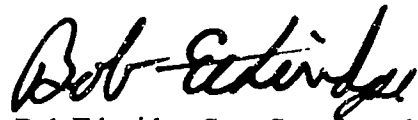
FOREWORD

Public schools in North Carolina face a serious challenge in finding ways to reduce violent and aggressive behavior by students and to ensure that our schools remain a safe place so that they can fulfill their primary purpose: to educate our young people.

As noted in our report from the Task Force on School Violence, violent crime in North Carolina, particularly by young people, has increased substantially in just a few short years. So, it is not surprising that violent behavior has increased in public schools as well.

The findings from this study show that we need to increase our efforts to develop effective strategies to reduce violence. Effective strategies depend on people who care about children. Teachers, principals, guidance counselors, support staff, parents - all have important roles in setting the standards by which our children behave. Schools have an enormous responsibility, but schools cannot solve the problem of violence alone. We need the entire community to help solve these issues together. We need your help in doing more to assist our children, particularly children who are in trouble.

Although the news from this survey raises concern, we are working to find solutions to the problem of school violence. Our Safe Schools initiative is now underway. Education in skills to resolve conflicts peacefully has been undertaken in many schools throughout the state. Legislation requiring that violent students be removed from the classroom has been enacted. Community programs are needed as well. Children can learn to tolerate differences and work to resolve difficulties in a peaceful fashion. Altogether, these measures will help to make our school safer. Working together, we believe that we can make our schools safe once again.



Bob Etheridge, State Superintendent

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Successful completion of a study of this size cannot be accomplished without the assistance of numerous people. Thanks are due to Regina Petteway, formerly of the Department of Public Instruction, for her belief in the need for the survey and her truly inspired organizational skills with many mundane tasks. Shirley Banks carried out much of the difficult work in making sure that training sites were found, follow-up calls made, and all of the pieces of the survey were together in one place. Michael Felts, Ph.D., East Carolina University, conducted the partial YRBS study in 1990 with 9th and 12th grade students and is the author of the 1991 report. Victoria A. Mikow, Ph.D., Division of Innovation and Development Services, has lead responsibility for the administration and oversight of the North Carolina Youth Risk Behavior Survey and is the author of this report. The Department of Public Instruction is especially grateful to the superintendents, principals, local ADD and Health Education coordinators, and other school personnel throughout North Carolina who agreed to support and participate in the survey. A special thanks is due to the students who filled out the questionnaires with integrity, sincerity, and truthfulness.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The apparent rise in school violence deeply concerns parents, teachers, citizens, and legislators. Fights, weapons, and stolen or intentionally damaged property are common concerns at most schools in North Carolina. Teachers and principals worry about their own safety and wonder how to effectively deal with everything from an "attitude" problem to homicides by guns on campus. As legislators respond to the public demand that "something be done" about school violence, they need to know how widespread violence is in our state's schools. This study begins to answer these important questions. The findings presented here provide information about the kinds of behaviors that are likely to result in injury and death among high school students, both in and outside of school. The indicators of violent behavior and school safety show that there is cause for concern.

Since 1990, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has participated in a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to conduct the North Carolina Youth Risk Behavior Survey (NC YRBS). In 1993, 71 schools were selected as NC YRBS survey sites from a base of 407 public schools containing approximately 300,000 students in grades 9-12. Fifty-nine (83%) schools and 2531 students participated in the survey. In all, 2439 (82%) students from grades 9-12 completed usable surveys.

Citizen concern about violence in North Carolina appears to be well-founded. Twenty-seven percent of all 9th-12th grade students reported carrying a weapon (gun, knife, club) in the month prior to the administration of the survey. More students are carrying guns and other weapons to school now than in previous years. A YRBS survey administered to 9th and 12th graders in 1990 provides some comparisons of the increase.

- The percent of ninth-grade males carrying weapons (gun, knife, or club) increased from 36 percent to 49 percent from 1990 to 1993. The percent of twelfth-grade males carrying weapons increased from 36 percent to 41 percent.
- The percent of males carrying guns in the month prior to the survey increased from 9 to 20 percent for ninth-grade males and from 9 to 23 percent for twelfth-grade males from 1990 to 1993.

A significant percentage of students do not feel safe at school or coming and going from school. An estimated 15,000 students (5%) in grades 9-12 reported that they stayed home from school on one or more days in the month prior to the survey in 1993 because they did not feel safe. Ten percent (approximately 30,000) of all high school students reported being threatened or injured by a weapon on school property in the year prior to the survey. An estimated 105,000 high school students (35%) indicated that some personal property had been stolen or deliberately damaged on school property in the year prior to the survey.

The public fears escalating violence by young people. Physical fighting is often considered a normal part of adolescent development, rather than a cause for concern. However, research has shown that fighting is the single most common precursor to homicide among youth. In North Carolina, high school students report a significant amount of physical fighting.

- Nearly 40 percent (approximately 120,000) of all ninth to twelfth grade students were involved in a physical fight in the year previous to the survey.
- Fifteen percent (an estimated 45,000) of all high school students reported fighting on school property one or more times in the previous year.

Of particular importance to legislators as well as school personnel is the legislation passed in 1993 concerning safe schools. Bringing a gun to school now constitutes a felony violation. The 1993 NC YRBS was conducted prior to the passage of this legislation, so it will provide a benchmark for the rate of weapons' carrying among high school students. Any change in the percentage of students reporting possession of weapons at school on the 1995 NC YRBS may serve as an indicator of the impact of this legislation.

In summary, we cautiously conclude that violence and victimization among high school students has increased. In 1993, more high school students in North Carolina carried weapons than did high school students nationally or statewide in 1990. High school students were victimized at an alarming rate with more than a third reporting damaged or stolen property at school. North Carolina faces a serious challenge in addressing the problems associated with violence, both on and off campus.

**SELECTED INDICATORS OF
ADOLESCENT VIOLENCE AND SAFETY AT SCHOOL
FINDINGS FOR 9TH-12TH GRADE STUDENTS FROM
THE 1993 NORTH CAROLINA YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY**

INTRODUCTION

Fights, weapons, and stolen or intentionally damaged property are common concerns at many schools in North Carolina. Teachers and principals worry about their own safety and wonder how to effectively deal with the issues of student violence or guns on campus. Most people believe that violence committed by young people has reached epidemic proportions. As legislators respond to the public demand that "something be done" about violence, information is needed to determine how widespread violence is in our state's schools.

The 1993 North Carolina Education Poll reported that school violence was a matter of great concern to the majority of respondents. Over half (57%) of those participating in the survey stated that the problem of violence in public schools was serious or very serious. Violence has transcended the traditional confines of the police department and the criminal courts. It has been declared a public health issue for youth.

Recently, a study from the Children's Defense Fund (1994) reported that homicide is now the third leading cause of death among elementary and middle school children. The cumulative impact of the rising death toll is one reason why the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) emphasized the reduction of violence among youth as a primary health objective. As a part of the national health promotion efforts, the CDC developed the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to determine the extent to which 9th-12th grade students across the nation engage in the high risk behaviors that are associated with the leading causes of death and disability in high school youth. The information provided by the YRBS is intended to be used to help focus school programs and resources to address particular health problems, such as violence.

Since 1990, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has participated in a cooperative agreement with the CDC to conduct the Youth Risk Behavior Survey. The Youth Risk Behavior Survey contains indicators of high risk behavior in six areas:

- Unintentional (accidental) and intentional (physical violence) injuries
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Sexual behavior that results in HIV infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, and unintended pregnancies
- Tobacco use
- Physical fitness
- Nutritional and dietary habits

OVERVIEW OF THE NORTH CAROLINA YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY

The purpose of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey is to examine the behaviors associated with the six leading causes of death or disability in high school youth. For this report, selected indicators of violent behavior, taken from the 1993 North Carolina Youth Risk Behavior Survey (NC YRBS), are specifically examined in order to help to answer the question posed earlier: How widespread is violent behavior in public schools? The selected indicators provide a fairly comprehensive, though not exhaustive, view of the extent of risk for violence among high school students as reported by the students themselves.

In 1990, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction contracted with East Carolina University to conduct the first, limited YRBS survey. The partial 1990 survey excluded some YRBS questions and sampled only 9th and 12th grade students. In 1993, North Carolina elected to participate fully in the YRBS. However, a modified version of the CDC's Youth Risk Behavior Survey was developed so that some questions from the Alcohol and Drug Defense (ADD) Student Survey could be included. The 1993 NC YRBS was administered to a representative sample of all 9th-12th grade public school students in 59 schools in the spring of 1993.

Seventy-one schools were selected as NC YRBS survey sites from a base of 407 public schools containing approximately 300,000 students in grades 9-12. Of the 71 schools chosen, 12 (16.9%) schools elected not to participate in the study at all, four (5.6%) schools required active parental permission to participate in the survey, and six (8.5%) chose not to include the sexual behavior questions located at the end of the survey. The two reasons cited most often for non-participation in the survey were: (1) the questions about adolescent sexual behavior were unacceptable or inappropriate at the local level, and (2) other similar surveys or educational activities were scheduled at the same time. The final sample included 59 (83.1% response rate) schools and 2531 students (82% student response rate by class) completing the survey. To ensure accurate responses to sensitive questions as well as privacy and confidentiality, participation in the NC YRBS was entirely voluntary; students could decline to participate at any point in the survey administration.

Eighty-two percent (2439) of the students sampled completed usable surveys. Of those, 49.2 percent (1200) were male and 50.6 percent (1235) were female. Four students did not identify their sex. Summarizing participating students by grade, the results indicate that 29.6 percent (722) were in 9th grade, 28.5 percent (694) were in the 10th grade, 23.9 percent (582) were in grade 11, and 17.4 percent (425) were in the 12th grade. There were 16 (.6%) students who did not identify their grade level. Of all students completing usable surveys, 65.4 percent (1595) identified themselves as white, 28.4 percent (693) as black, 1.2 percent (30) as Hispanic, and 4.8 percent (117) as "other."

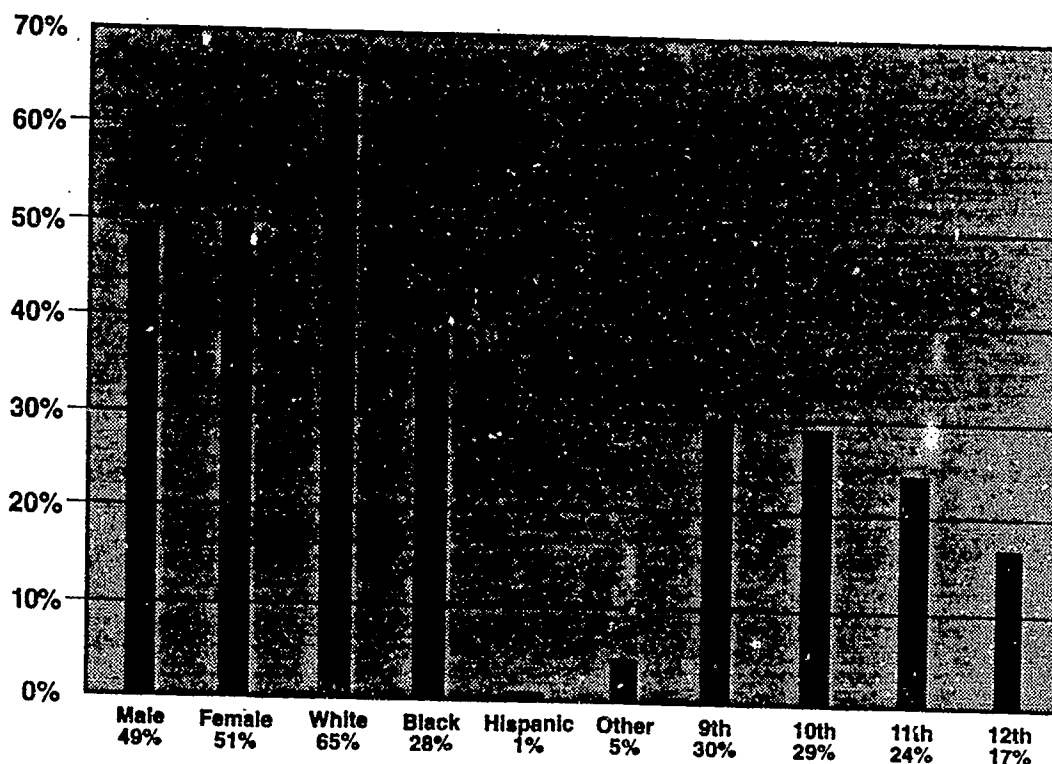


Figure 1: 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of male and female students and percent of all students by race and grade

VIOLENCE AND SAFETY INDICATORS

This report focuses on several indicators of violent behavior both in and outside of school such as carrying weapons, physical fighting, and school safety issues. Specifically, the 1993 NC YRBS includes an assessment of the regularity and frequency with which students carried a weapon (e.g., knife, gun, club), carried a gun, or brought a weapon onto school property. To assess students' perception of safety at school, 9th-12th grade students were asked how often they stayed home from school because they did not feel safe, how often they had been threatened or injured by a weapon on school property, and how often they had personal property stolen or damaged at school. Finally, students reported on how often they participated in physical fights and how often they fought on school property. Findings from the 1993 NC YRBS are presented for all 9th-12th grade students on the indicators of violence listed above. See the Appendix for the actual 1993 NC YRBS questions.

Where possible, some comparisons are made to findings from the 1990 NC YRBS and the 1993 NC YRBS for 9th and 12th grade students only. The comparisons are quite limited due to the nature of the survey questions from the 1990 NC YRBS and the inclusion of only 9th and 12th grade students.

Weapons Carrying by 9th-12th Grade Students

The availability of a gun or other lethal weapon is believed to be the single most important factor that turns an altercation between youth into a lethal event. The American Medical Association (1990) reported that an estimated 135,000 youth brought guns to school every day in 1990. In a national study, the Centers for Disease Control (1990) found that nearly 20 percent of all 9th-12th grade students carried a weapon to school in the 30 days prior to the study. The CDC's study findings indicated that male African American (39.4%) and Hispanic (41.4%) students were more likely to take weapons to school than white (28.6%) male students.

Results from the 1990 NC YRBS indicate that 36 percent of 9th grade males and 12 percent of 9th grade females carried weapons in the 30 day period prior to the survey. During the same period, 36 percent of 12th grade males and 9 percent of 12th grade females carried weapons. Figure 2.1 presents findings from the 1993 NC YRBS concerning the number of students who carried a weapon in the month prior to the administration of the survey:



Figure 2.1 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of students carrying a weapon in past 30 days (by sex, race and grade)

- In 1993, 27 percent of all 9th-12th grade students reported carrying a weapon in the month prior to the survey.
- Male students (44%) were much more likely than female students (10%) to carry weapons.
- There was little difference in the percentage of white (26%) and black (27%) students in their reported possession of weapons. The number of Hispanics reporting the carrying of weapons was too low to be reportable. Slightly more difficult to interpret is the finding that the "other" (34%) ethnic category reports a greater percentage of weapons' carrying.
- Compared to results from the 1990 NC YRBS, findings from 1993 suggest that carrying weapons is up for 9th grade male (49% vs. 36%) and down for 9th grade female students (9% vs. 12%).
- In 1993, 41 percent (vs. 36%) of 12th grade males and 13 percent (vs. 9%) of 12th grade females reported carrying weapons. Cautious interpretation suggests that weapons carrying by both male and female 12th grade students is up in 1993, compared to 1990.

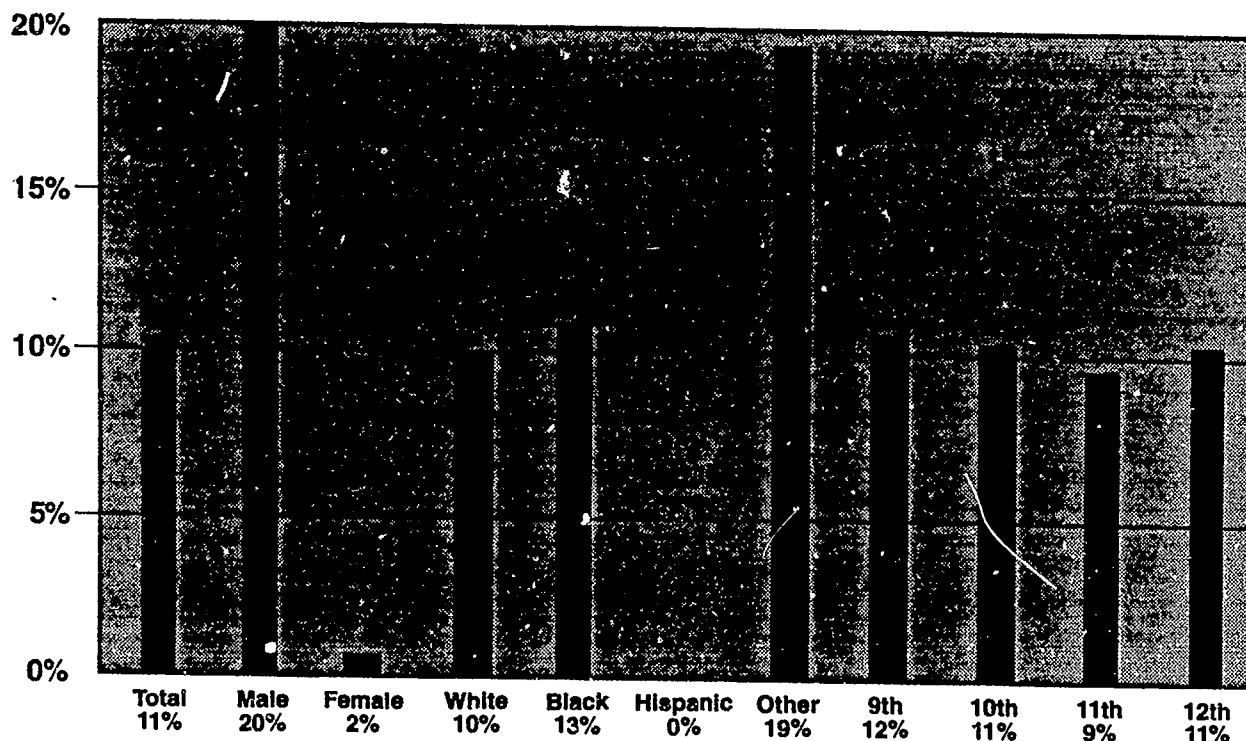


Figure 2.2 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of students **carrying a gun** in previous 30 days (by sex, race, and grade)

- In 1993, 11 percent of all 9th-12th grade students reportedly carried a gun in the 30 days prior to the survey.
- Male students (20%) were much more likely than female students (2%) to have carried a gun.
- Black students (13%) were only slightly more likely than white students (10%) to carry a gun in the month prior to the survey in 1993. A greater percentage of "other" (19%) students reported carrying a gun in 1993.
- The percentage of 9th graders (12%) carrying a gun was slightly higher than any other grade.
- In 1990, a total of 9 percent of the male students in both grades 9 and 12 reported having carried a gun in the past month.
- In 1993, 23 percent of the male students in 9th grade and 20 percent of the male students in grade 12 reported carrying a gun in the 30 days prior to the survey. Compared to 1990, this is a substantial increase in the percentage of male students reporting carrying a gun.

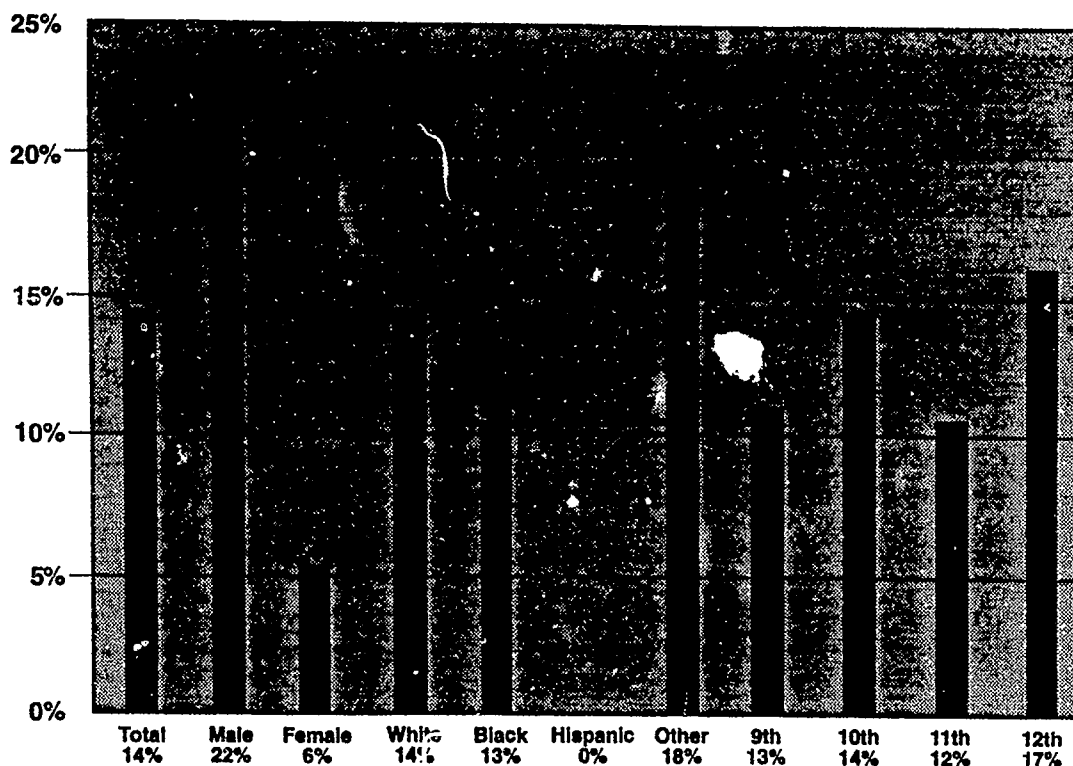


Figure 2.3 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of students reporting carrying a weapon to school in the 30 days prior to the survey (by sex, race, and grade)

- Nearly 14 percent of all 9th-12th grade students reported that they took a weapon (e.g., knife, gun, or club) to school in the 30 days prior to the survey in 1993.
- Male students (22%) were much more likely than female students (6%) to take a weapon to school.
- Nearly equal proportions of white (13.9%) and black (13.4%) students carried weapons to school in 1993. A greater percentage of "other" (18%) students reported carrying weapons to school in the month prior to the survey.
- In 1993, 12th grade students (17%) were slightly more likely to report taking a weapon to school than any other grade level.

Perception of School Safety among North Carolina Students

In 1991, the Department of Justice released a report on school crime indicating that 9 percent of students aged 12-19 were victimized at school during the six month period prior to the study. Of those, 2 percent were intentionally injured. In North Carolina, more than five percent (5.3%) of all 9th-12th grade students reported that they had stayed home from school in the month prior to the survey because they felt that they would not be safe at school or walking to and from school. Additionally, 9.5 percent of high school students reported that they had been threatened or injured with a weapon (e.g., knife, gun, or club) on school property one or more times in the previous year. Over 35 percent of 9th-12th grade students had some personal property stolen or deliberately damaged on school grounds in the previous 12 months.

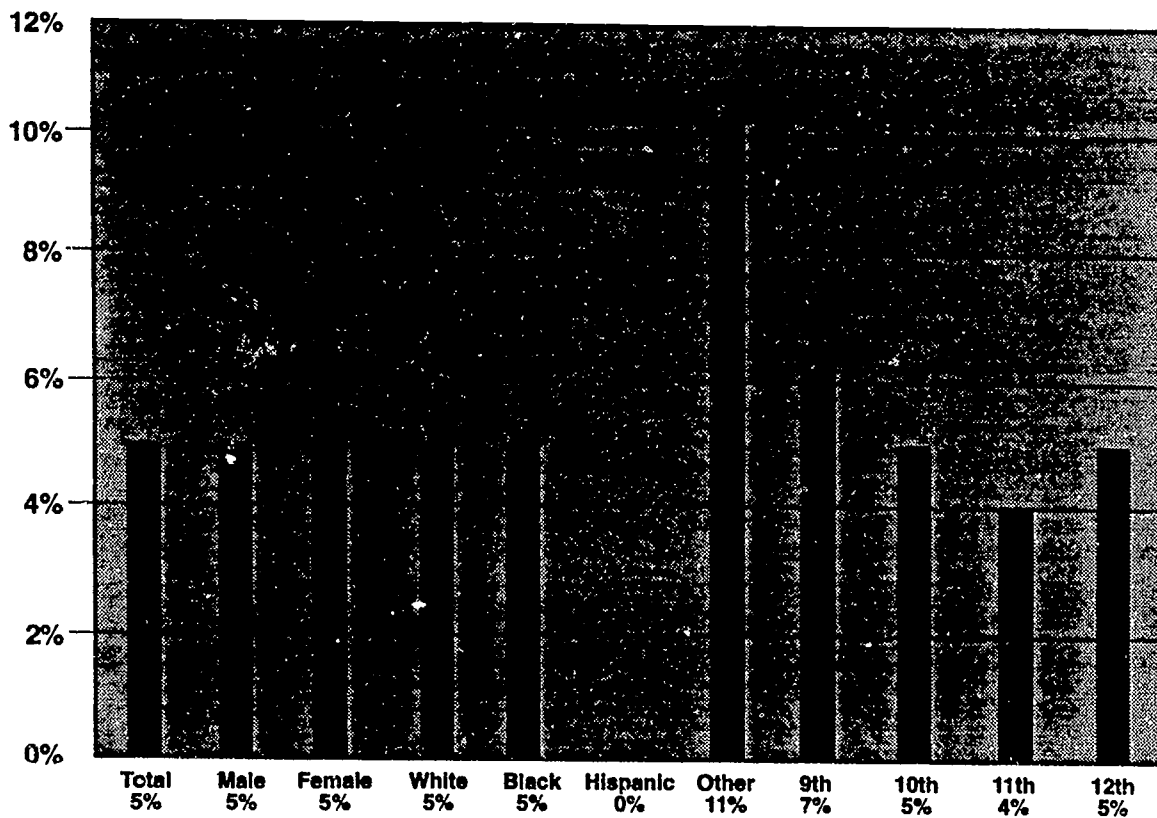


Figure 3.1 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of students who **did not go to school** in previous month because they felt unsafe (by sex, race, and grade)

- A total of 5 percent of all 9th-12th grade students stayed out of school at least one day in the month prior to the survey because they did not feel safe at school or going to or from school in 1993.
- Female students (5%) were just as likely as male students (5%) to report staying home from school in the month prior to the survey because they felt unsafe.
- There was little difference in the percentage of black (5.2%) and white students (5.0%) who stayed home from school because they did not feel safe. However, 11% of "other" students reported that they did not go to school because they felt unsafe.
- Ninth grade students (7%) were somewhat more likely than students in any other grades to stay home from school because they did not feel safe.

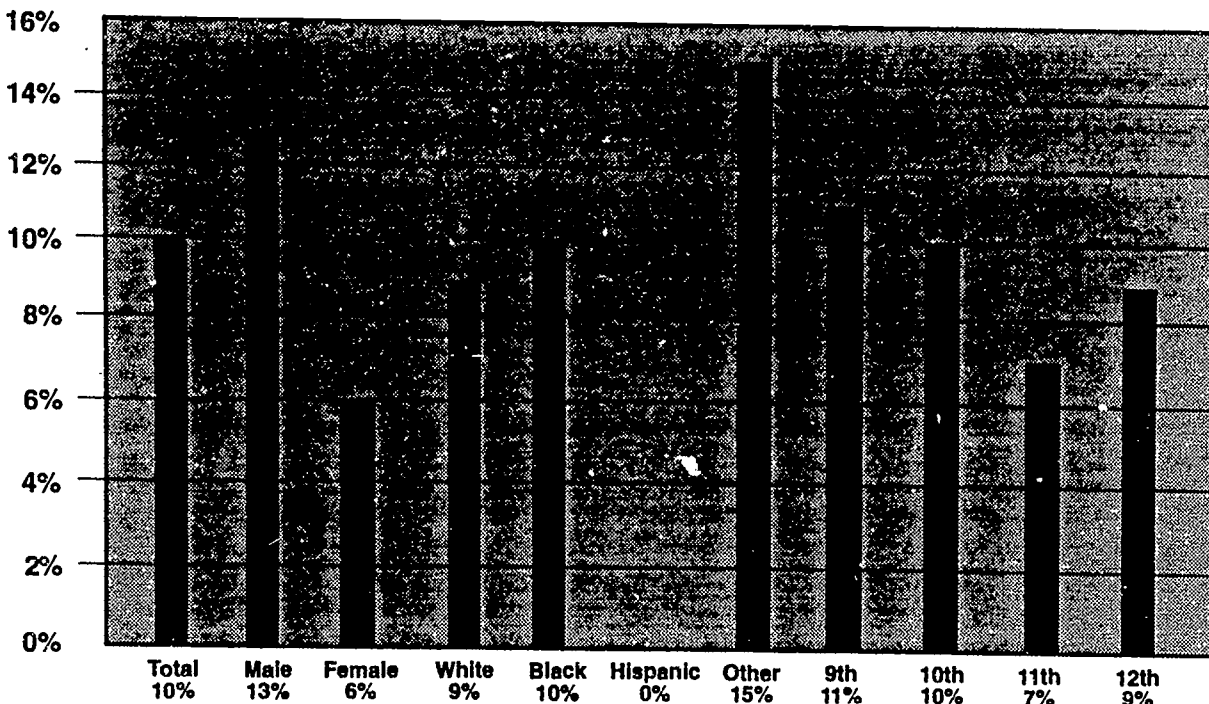


Figure 3.2 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of students who had been threatened or injured by a weapon on school property in past year (by sex, race, and grade)

- In 1993, ten percent of all 9th-12th grade students were threatened or injured by a weapon on school property in the year prior to the survey.
- Male students (13%) were more likely than female students (6%) to report that they had been threatened or injured by a weapon at school.
- Slightly more black (10.2%) than white students (8.9%) reported having been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property one or more times in the past year. Students who identified themselves as "other" (15%) were most likely to report being threatened or injured at school.
- More 9th grade students (11%) were likely to have been threatened or injured at school than those in 10th (10%), 11th (7%), or 12th (9%) grades.

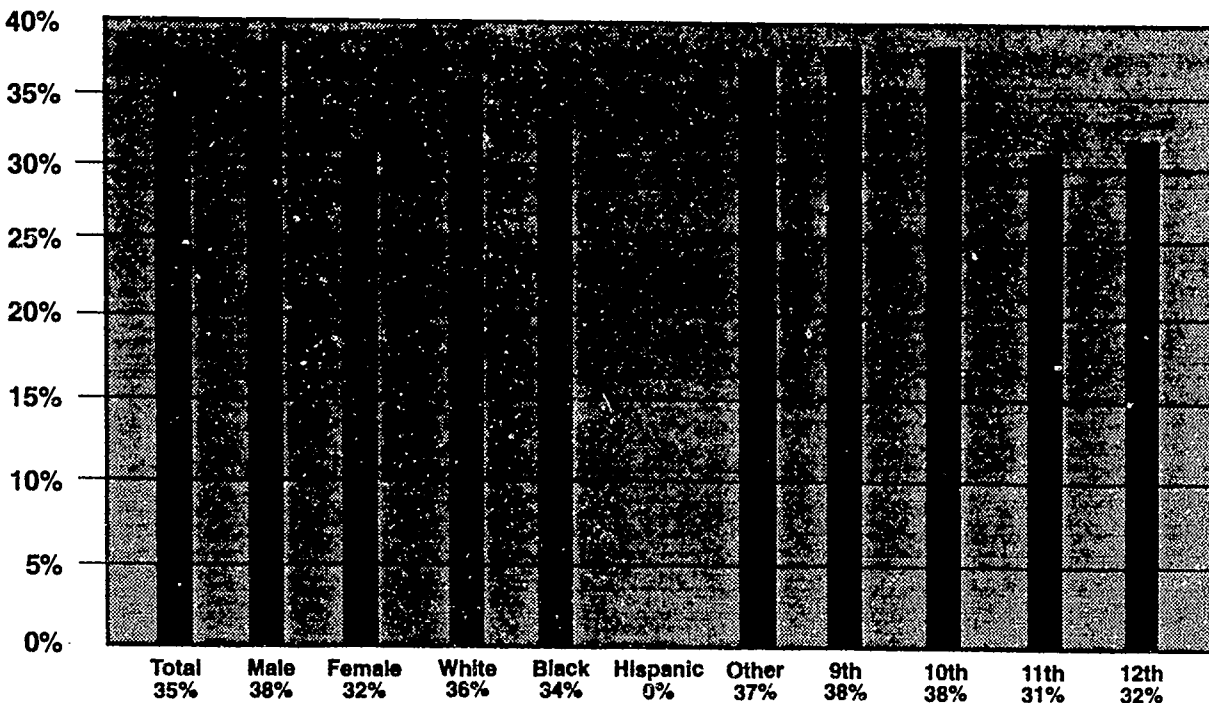


Figure 3.3 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of student whose personal property was stolen or damaged at school property (by sex, race, and grade)

- In 1993, 35 percent of all 9th-12th grade students stated that some personal property had been deliberately stolen or damaged at school in the previous year.
- More male students (38%) than female students (32%) reported damaged or stolen personal property in 1993.
- Slightly more white (35.5%) than black students (33.7%) in grades 9-12 reported that they had personal property deliberately damaged or stolen one or more times in the previous school year. Students who defined themselves as "other" (37%) were slightly more likely to report being victimized than black or white students.
- Both 9th (38%) and 10th graders (38%) were equally likely to report victimization at school. Eleventh (31%) and 12th (32%) grade students were slightly less likely to report having personal property stolen or damaged at school than the younger students.

Physical Fighting among 9th-12th Grade Students

Although physical fighting among adolescents is usually considered a normal part of growing up, fighting is the most common precursor to injury and homicide in this age group (American Medical Association, 1990). Findings from the 1993 NC YRBS indicate that nearly 40 percent of all high school students were involved in a physical fight in the year previous to the survey. Male students were much more likely to report fighting than female students.



Figure 4.1 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of students who were in a physical fight one or more times in previous 12 months (by sex, race, and grade)

- In 1993, nearly 40 percent of 9th-12th grade students reported having one or more physical fights in the year previous to the survey.
- Male students (46.5%) were much more likely than female students (29.2%) to fight physically.
- More black (41.2%) and "other" (42%) than white students (36.1%) reported fighting at least once in the previous school year.
- Ninth grade students (44%) were more likely to report fighting than 10th (40%), 11th (32%), or 12th (33%) grade students.

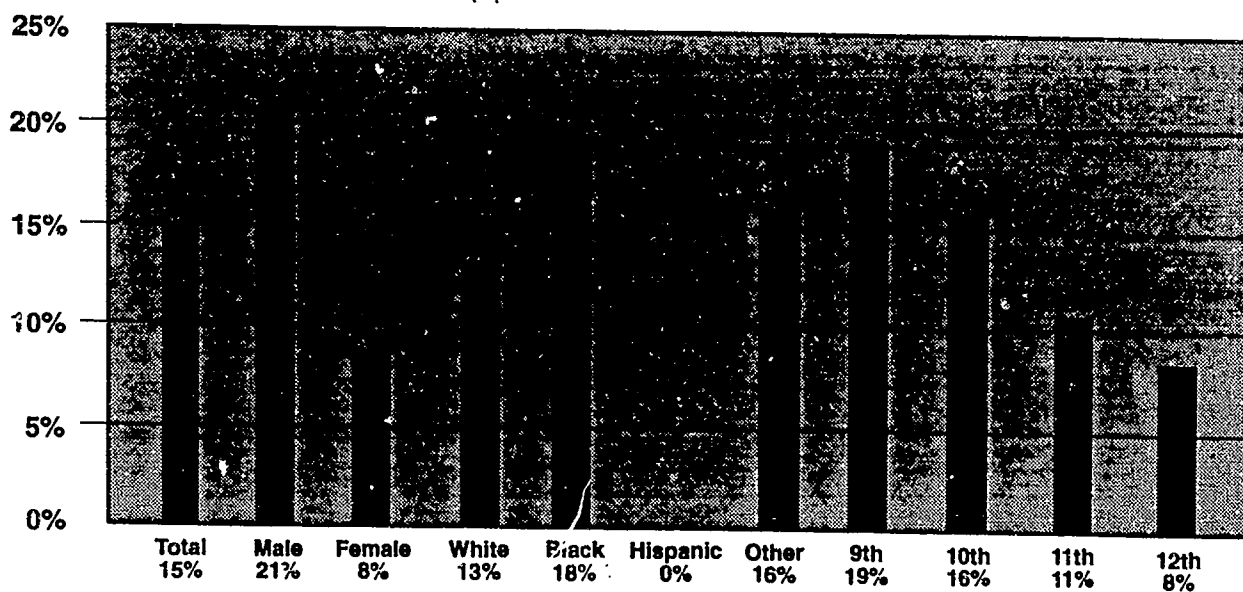


Figure 4.2 1993 NC YRBS - Percent of students who were in a physical fight on school property in last year (by sex, race, and grade)

- Fifteen percent of all students in grades 9-12 reported fighting at school at least once in the year prior to the survey in 1993.
- Males (21%) were much more likely than females (8%) to fight at school.
- In grades 9-12, black students (18.1%) were more likely than white (12.8%) or "other" (16%) students to fight on school property.
- Ninth graders (19%) were more likely to fight on school property than 10th (15%), 11th (11%), or 12th (8%) grade students.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Recent polls of America's citizens show that violent crime is their number one concern. This study, while not exhaustive, provides solid information about the kinds of behaviors that are likely to result in death or injury among high school students, both in and outside of school. These indicators of violent behavior and school safety show that there is cause for concern.

The percentage of high school students carrying weapons (27%) in North Carolina in 1993 was higher than the percentage (20%) nationally in 1990. In North Carolina there was little difference by race in the proportion of students who carried weapons in 1993. In contrast, national studies show a differential effect of race on weapons' carrying with more Hispanic and black students carrying weapons than white students. Additionally, the findings from the limited comparisons available from the 1990 and 1993 NC YRBS show that more male 9th and 12th grade students were carrying weapons in 1993.

In 1990, a total of 9 percent of male students in grades 9 and 12 reportedly carried a gun in the month prior to the survey. In contrast, 23 percent of 9th grade male students and 20 percent of 12th grade male students reported carrying a gun in the 30 days prior to the survey in 1993. Findings from the 1993 NC YRBS survey indicate that 11 percent or about 33,000 of all 9th-12th grade students reported carrying a gun in the previous month. There has been a marked increase in the number of North Carolina students carrying weapons, including guns.

Using population estimates to compute the total number of students bringing weapons to school in North Carolina, 14 percent of 300,000 students in grades 9-12 translates to approximately 42,000 students who carried weapons such as a knife, club, or gun to school in the month prior to the survey in 1993.

High school students are very concerned about their personal safety at school. Five percent of all students reported that they stayed home from school in the month prior to the survey. Extrapolating the findings, this indicates that about 15,000 North Carolina students a month in 1993 may have stayed home from school because they did not feel safe.

In 1993, nearly 30,000 (10%) students were threatened or injured by a weapon on school property, based on population estimates. Over 105,000 (35%) students had personal property deliberately stolen or damaged on school property in the year prior to the survey.

High school students engage in a significant amount of physical fighting. Forty percent or about 120,000 9th-12th graders had at least one physical fight in the year previous to the survey. Based on population estimates, 45,000 students (15%) reported fighting at least once in the past year on school property.

The study shows that younger students, particularly those in the 9th grade, are more likely to report involvement in all forms of violence or victimization. Given the increasingly lethal nature of interpersonal violence and victimization, it is recommended that further study be undertaken to understand these important findings. It may be that educational programs that focus on methods for reducing conflict should be targeted to specific age or grade levels.

Findings from this study indicate that the "other" students in the race/ethnic category often comprised the largest percentage of students engaged in high risk behaviors or experiencing victimization at school. For more complete analyses in future studies, the elimination of the "other" ethnic category and the addition of more ethnic/racial categories that reflect representative population groups in North Carolina is recommended. This will assist in determining whether a particular ethnic or minority group is at risk for both violent behavior and/or victimization.

Since 1993 was the first year in which NC YRBS was administered in its entirety to 9th-12th grade students, it establishes a baseline of information about the rates of student violence and school safety, based on the selected indicators contained in it. When the NC YRBS is conducted again in 1995, it will provide a basis for trends in the indicators of violence.

Of particular importance to legislators as well as school personnel is the effect of the recent legislation making it a felony violation to bring a gun to school. Since the 1993 NC YRBS was conducted prior to the passage of this legislation, a drop in the percentage of students reporting possession of guns at school on the 1995 NC YRBS may be interpreted as one indicator of the effectiveness of the legislation.

In summary, we cautiously conclude that violence and victimization among high school youth has increased. In 1993, more high school students in North Carolina than high school students statewide or nationally in 1990 carried weapons. High school students were victimized at an alarming rate with 35 percent reporting personal property stolen or deliberately damaged on school property in 1993. It is particularly alarming that an estimated 33,000 students carried a gun in the month prior to the survey in 1993. North Carolina faces a serious challenge in addressing the problems associated with violence, both on and off campus.

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APPENDIX

QUESTIONS FROM THE 1993 NORTH CAROLINA YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY

13. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club?
- a. 0 (zero) days
 - b. 1 day
 - c. 2 or 3 days
 - d. 4 or 5 days
 - e. 6 or more days
14. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a gun?
- a. 0 (zero) 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 such as a gun, knife, or club **on school property?**
- a. 0 (zero) days
 - b. 1 day
 - c. 2 or 3 days
 - d. 4 or 5 days
 - e. 6 or more days
16. During the past 30 days, how many days did you not go to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to and from school?
- a. 0 (zero) days
 - b. 1 day
 - c. 2 or 3 days
 - d. 4 or 5 days
 - e. 6 or more days

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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 (zero) 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
18. During the past 12 months, how many times has someone stolen or deliberately damaged your property such as your car, clothing, or books, **on school property**?
- a. 0 (zero) 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
19. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight?
- a. 0 (zero) 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
22. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight **on school property**?
- a. 0 (zero) 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