

2001 Sandusky County Community Health Assessment

Executive Summary

On behalf of the Sandusky County Health Partners, a task force formed by the Sandusky County Health Department, Great Lakes Marketing, with the assistance of the Healthy Communities Foundation of Northwest Ohio, conducted a comprehensive Sandusky County community health assessment in the summer of 2001. The following executive summary provides an overview of the primary and secondary data for Sandusky County youth (defined as 12 to 18-year-olds) and adults (defined as 19 years and older). Additional data are available by topic in the *Detailed Findings* section.

Methodology

A total of 375 adult and 375 youth surveys were conducted with Sandusky County residents using a customized version of the CDC BRFSS (Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System) and YRBS (Youth Risk Behavior Survey) surveys. The margin of error for each sample of 375 is +/-6%. The BRFSS and YRBS are conducted nationally, and data are also available on the state level for comparative purposes. For the purposes of this study, some of the BRFSS and YRBS questions were excised to reduce the length of the survey, and others were added to reflect issues of particular relevance in Sandusky County. In most cases, the exact wording from the original questionnaire was retained so that the responses from Sandusky County residents could be compared with the state and across the nation. Note that a number of Ohio counties are involved in the same data collection process. As the data become available, Sandusky County will have the ability to compare its community's health with those of neighboring counties for benchmark purposes and to encourage regional planning and partnerships.

Sample Sizes:

- Adults 19 and older (n=375)
- 12 to 18-year-olds (n=375)

The data collection procedures were designed to protect the respondents' privacy and encourage them to answer honestly. All of the responses were anonymous. The surveys were self-administered at a variety of local facilities, including supermarkets, schools, libraries, and social or recreational clubs. In most cases, the respondents completed the survey on their own to encourage honest responses to, what is for some, delicate subjects. The youth surveys were designed to protect privacy, with a separate answer sheet for the respondents to record random letters on so that any observers could not determine their answers. Locations were selected throughout the county to result in a sample that can be generalized to the entire Sandusky County population. The sample was monitored throughout the data collection process to insure that it represents the population demographics.

After data collection was complete, a preliminary analysis was conducted to verify that the answer choices on each survey were logical. If two given answers did not pass the logic check, they were recorded as "no answer." For example, if a respondent reported

having never used marijuana, but then reported having used marijuana once or twice in the past 30 days, both questions were recorded as “no answer.” Surveys with more than three illogical choices were eliminated from the final sample and were not included in the data analysis. Approximately 40 of the surveys (20 adult and 20 youth) were eliminated from the final analysis because they did not pass the logic test or were less than 80% complete. (The 80% completion rule is the common standard set by the National Committee on Quality Assurance.) The Hispanic population was over-sampled to achieve a greater understanding of its health status.

To be representative of the county, the final sample was balanced by zip code and weighted by age, gender, and race using 2000 census data. The final data were segmented by gender, age, race, household income, and area of residence (categorized by zip code).

Where appropriate, the results from this survey are trended with secondary data compiled

<p>Comparative Data:</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sandusky County Health & Demographic Profile• Participating Ohio counties• CDC state & national data
--

by the Sandusky County Health Department with support from the Healthy Communities Foundation, Ohio counties participating in the GLM/HCF survey process, and state and national data from the 2000 survey conducted by CDC. Note that the CDC survey used a telephone methodology as opposed to the personal interviewing method used in Sandusky County. This data collection process has proven to

be comparable in past studies. As always, it is important to evaluate the causes of any statistically significant differences discovered through the research.

Data Analysis

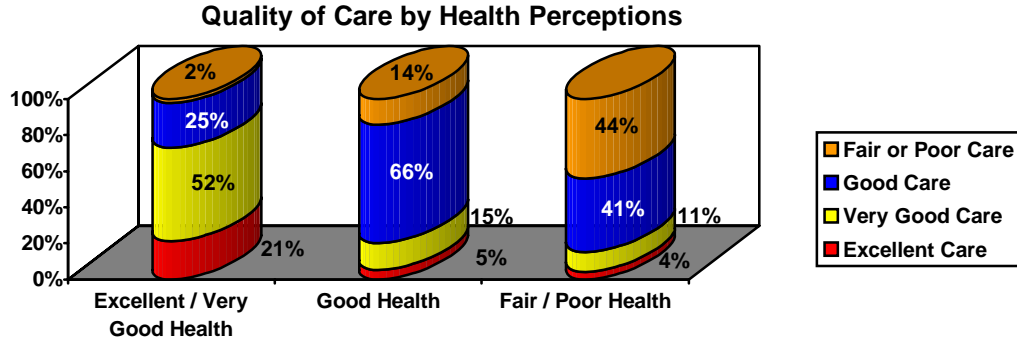
Health Perceptions. On average, Sandusky County adults rate their health as 2.6 out of 5, where one is excellent and five is poor. No statistical differences exist by gender or racial background. Health perceptions are poorest among the following groups:

- Adults with household incomes under \$25,000 (2.9 out of 5).
- Adults with arthritis (2.9 out of 5).
- Adults with high blood pressure (2.9 out of 5).
- Ages 60 and older (2.8 out of 5).
- Adults with high blood cholesterol (2.8 out of 5).
- Unmarried adults (2.7 out of 5).

Health Care Utilization. Sandusky County adults are somewhat satisfied with the quality of their health care services. About one out of ten (14%) rated their health care as excellent, and 71% rated it as good or very good. Low-income families are least satisfied with the quality of health care that they receive. Almost one out of four (24%) rated their quality of care as fair or poor, compared to 4% of those with higher incomes. Satisfaction with health care services is not correlated with age, gender, or race.

The survey results suggest that there are unmet health needs within Sandusky County. Almost half (44%) of those who rated their health as fair or poor rated their health care as

fair or poor, suggesting that those who are most in need of health services are the least satisfied with the quality of their care. The following chart further illustrates this trend. It shows that those with excellent or very good health are most likely to rate their health care as excellent or very good. Alternately, those with fair or poor health are more likely to rate their health care as fair or poor.



Health Care Coverage. Most Sandusky County adults have some kind of health care coverage, and 12% currently lack coverage. The following groups are least likely to have health coverage (the percentages shown are those who are currently without health care coverage):

- Ages 19 to 29 (31%).
- Single parents (30%).
- Those with a household income under \$25,000 (21%).

The following table shows uninsured Sandusky County adults by income.

Income level	% of uninsured adults in this income level
Less than \$25,000	21%
\$25,000 to \$50,000	6%
\$50,000 to \$75,000	5%
\$75,000 and up	0%

In the past twelve months, 23% of Sandusky County adults were without coverage. This percentage jumps among 19 to 29-year-olds (52%) and those with household incomes under \$25,000 (35%).

Most who have health care coverage said that their plan covers medical and prescription benefits. Dental, mental health, and vision are less commonly covered (though it is important to note that 20% don't know if they have mental health coverage), and about half of those with health care coverage do not know if they have home care or skilled nursing coverage. The following table summarizes the percentage of plan-holders who are aware of each type of coverage and the percentage of all Sandusky County adults with each type of coverage.

Type of coverage	% of policies with this type of coverage	% of Sandusky County adults with this type of coverage
Medical	99%	79%
Prescription coverage	89%	70%
Dental	64%	48%
Mental health	63%	46%
Vision	52%	39%
Home care	32%	23%
Skilled nursing	25%	18%

Physician Access. Two-thirds of Sandusky County adults have had a routine physician checkup in the past year, and approximately 17% have had one in the past one to two years. Overall, 15% of the Sandusky County adult population has had problems accessing desired physicians for themselves or their children. Those who said they wanted but could not get access to a physician are more likely to be without health coverage (44%) and under 50 years of age (20%).

Most Recent Physician Checkup

- In past year (66%)
- 1 to 2 years ago (17%)
- 2 to 5 years ago (6%)
- 5 or more years ago (8%)
- Never had one (1%)

Sandusky County is a designated HPSA (Health Professional Shortage Area) for both Physicians and Dentists. The physician to population ratio for Sandusky County is 1:1,574 versus Ohio's ratio of 1:874. The dentist to population ratio is 1:3,456 compared to Ohio's 1:2,156.

Program Access. Adults were asked if they have ever looked for programs for smoking cessation, depression, alcohol abuse, drug abuse, or a weight problem for themselves or their family. Demand is highest for programs for depression, smoking cessation, and weight problems, and unmet demand is highest for smoking cessation and weight problems. The following table summarizes program need (both met and unmet) as well as the sample segments with the highest unmet need for each individual program.

Program	% looking for program	% who could not access program	Highest unmet need for program
Depression	14%	1%	Age 19-39 (3%)
Smoking cessation	12%	3%	Age 19-29 (6%)
Weight problem	10%	2%	Age 19-29 (7%)
Alcohol abuse	9%	Less than 1%	None
Drug abuse	7%	1%	None

For all of the above programs, the greatest obstacles to access were cost and finding a program.

Immunizations. Slightly less than half (44%) of Sandusky County adults have had a flu shot during the past 12 months, and about one out of four (22%) have had a pneumonia vaccination. Seniors (age 60 and up) are most likely to have their vaccinations, with 67% up-to-date on their flu shot and 48% having had their pneumonia vaccination. Sandusky County senior flu and pneumonia vaccination rates are consistent with state and national rates, according to 1999 BRFSS data.

Cardiovascular Disease. Cardiovascular disease accounted for 44% of all deaths in Sandusky County between 1990-98. Hispanic and Black populations are especially at risk of premature death due to cardiovascular disease. Almost half (46%) of Sandusky County adults said their doctor has advised them to make dietary or activity changes to reduce their risk of heart disease. This advice most commonly comes after the age of 60. Among those 60 and older, 72% said that their doctor advised them about preventing cardiovascular disease, compared to 37% of those under the age of 60. Although less than half are being advised to do so by their doctors, about two-thirds (69%) have made dietary or activity changes to reduce their risk of heart disease, suggesting that they are being influenced to do so by sources other than physicians.

Adult Cardiovascular Disease (CD) Prevention

- Modified diet to prevent CD (45%)
- Exercises more to prevent CD (44%)
- Does nothing to prevent CD (31%)

Approximately 6% of adults have been diagnosed with a heart attack or myocardial infarction; 6% have been diagnosed with angina or coronary heart disease, and 5% have been diagnosed with a stroke. In most cases, those who have been diagnosed with one of the aforementioned conditions believe they are receiving proper treatment.

Prevalence Issues. The following chart shows prevalence for selected health problems among Sandusky County adults. High blood pressure, high blood cholesterol, and arthritis are three of the most common health problems among Sandusky County adults. The chart shows the percentage diagnosed with each health problem, the percentage who are not receiving treatment but feel they should be, and the groups that are most likely to have each health problem.

Health Problem	% diagnosed with health problem	Highest % of diagnoses	% of all adults needing treatment
Arthritis	31%	Age 60 & up (59%)	3%
High blood pressure	25%	Age 60 & up (49%) Income <25K (32%)	1%
High blood cholesterol	22%	Age 60 & up (49%) Income <25K (28%)	2%
Asthma	11%	None	1%
Diabetes	11%	Age 60 & up (18%) Income <25K (16%)	1%
Heart attack	6%	Age 60 & up (15%)	<1%
Coronary heart disease	6%	Age 60 & up (16%) Income <25K (10%)	1%
Stroke	5%	Age 50-59 (16%)	<1%

Cancer. Cancer deaths accounted for 24% of all deaths in Sandusky County from 1990-98. Within the overall population, the majority of cancer deaths (26%) are respiratory in nature, followed by cancers of the digestive system (23%). Broken down by gender, cancers of the respiratory system remain the leading cause of cancer deaths, followed by prostate cancer for men. For women, cancers of the respiratory system and breast cancer tie for the leading cause of cancer deaths.

Health Screenings. Overall, Sandusky County adults are most likely to have a blood pressure screening during the past year, followed by blood cholesterol and breast or prostate cancer screenings (for females and males, respectively). Fewer adults have had skin or colorectal cancer screenings, with about one out of ten saying that they had one in the past 12 months.

Those age 60 and over are most likely to have had these screenings within the past year, particularly blood pressure (93%) and blood cholesterol (72%). Those who are without health care coverage are least likely to have had these screenings within the past year. Of those who are without health care coverage, 71% have had a blood pressure screening (compared to 88% of those with coverage), and 26% have had a blood cholesterol screening (compared to 48% of those with coverage).

Adult Health Screenings in Past Year

- Blood pressure (84%)
- Breast cancer (51% women)
- Blood cholesterol (43%)
- Prostate cancer (29% men)
- Colorectal cancer (17%)
- Skin cancer (14%)

Tobacco Use. About one third (36%) of Sandusky County adults are current smokers, and 48% are exposed to second-hand smoke in their homes. This percentage exceeds the state smoking rate of 26% as well as the national rate of 23% as reported in the 2000 BRFSS data. Demographically, Sandusky County adults who do not have health care coverage (65%), those under age 30 (60%) and those with household incomes under \$25,000 (45%) are most likely to be current smokers. Minorities are not more likely to be current smokers (24% compared to 36% of whites). Overall, smokers are less likely to have health care coverage, more likely to have felt depressed for two or more weeks

during the past year, and more likely to have used marijuana in the past month. Yet, they are also more likely to have discussed smoking with a health care provider and less likely to have been diagnosed with high blood cholesterol. The following chart provides a profile of smoker versus non-smoker behavior:

Health Issue	Smokers	Non-Smokers
Has health coverage	73%	93%
Discussed smoking with a health provider	53%	13%
Felt depressed for two or more weeks during past year	24%	11%
Has used marijuana in the past 30 days	22%	6%
Has been diagnosed with high blood cholesterol	12%	27%

About two-thirds (68%) of current adult smokers have tried to quit smoking cigarettes. About half (53%) said that they discussed quitting smoking with a health care provider, and 22% have looked for a program to help them stop smoking.

Sandusky County youth were also asked about their tobacco use habits. Almost two-thirds (59%) of Sandusky County youth have tried cigarette smoking, and 27% are current smokers. Among youth, boys and girls are equally as likely to be current smokers. Smoking is less common among 12 and 13-year-olds (3%) than among those 14 to 16 (26%) or 17 to 18 (51%). About three-quarters of youth smokers said someone bought or gave them cigarettes, and the remainder bought their cigarettes at a store or gas station (only four were under 18 years of age).

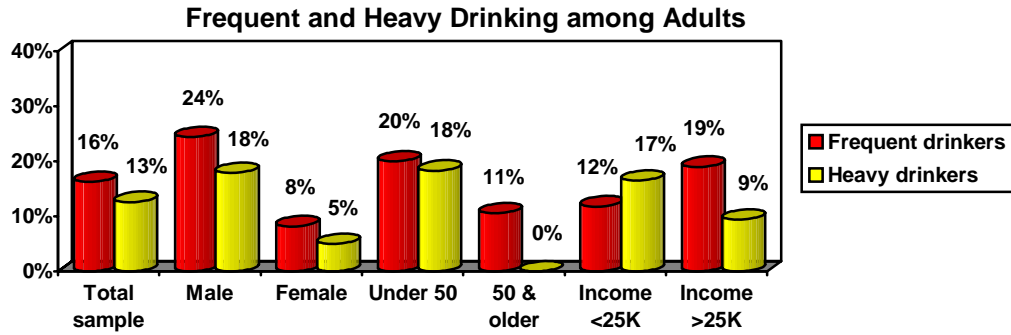
**Youth Smoking
in Past 30 Days**

- Do not smoke (73%)
- Once or twice (5%)
- 3 to 9 days (4%)
- 10 to 29 days (6%)
- All 30 days (11%)

Alcohol Consumption. Slightly more than half (53%) of Sandusky County adults have had at least one alcoholic beverage during the past 30 days. 32% had an average of one or two drinks a week, and 16% drank an average of three or more days per week.

Of those who drank alcoholic beverages in the past month, 46% had an average of only one or two drinks per occasion. 29% had 3 to 5 drinks, and 13% had an average of more than five drinks per occasion.

The following graph shows the percentage of frequent drinkers (who drink an average of three or more times a week) and heavy drinkers (who drink six or more drinks per occasion) for all Sandusky County adults. It shows that excessive drinking behaviors are most common among males and those under 50 and that lower income adults are more likely to drink heavily, whereas higher income adults drink more frequently.



Binge drinking, defined as having five or more drinks on one occasion within a couple of hours, occurs among 20% of Sandusky County adults. About one out of ten (9%) binged an average of once or twice in the past month and 11% binging three or more times. Binge drinking is particularly common among males (31% compared to 9% of females) and 19 to 29-year olds (39% compared to 16% of those 30 and older).

Although binge and heavy drinking occurs among approximately 20% of the population, only 6% of Sandusky County adults said that they drove a car when they felt they had too much to drink.

Few (15%) adults have received preventive counseling from a doctor about alcohol abuse. This percentage drops to 11% among heavy drinkers.

About two-thirds (66%) of Sandusky County youth have tried alcohol at least once in their lifetime, and 27% drank on 20 or more days during their life. 17 and 18-year-olds tend to be more frequent drinkers and consume more alcoholic beverages per occasion than younger teens. The following chart shows the percentage of youth who drank during the past 30 days, frequent drinkers (defined as ten or more days during the past month), and binge drinkers (defined as having five or more drinks on an occasion within a couple of hours).

Drinking behavior	Total	Ages 12 to 16	Ages 17 to 18
Current drinkers	36%	29%	55%
Frequent drinkers	7%	3%	18%
Binge drinkers	23%	16%	41%

Approximately one quarter (26%) of Sandusky County youth have ridden in a car with someone who has been drinking, and 9% have driven a car after drinking alcoholic beverages. One out of five (20%) 17 to 18-year-olds have driven a car after drinking alcohol.

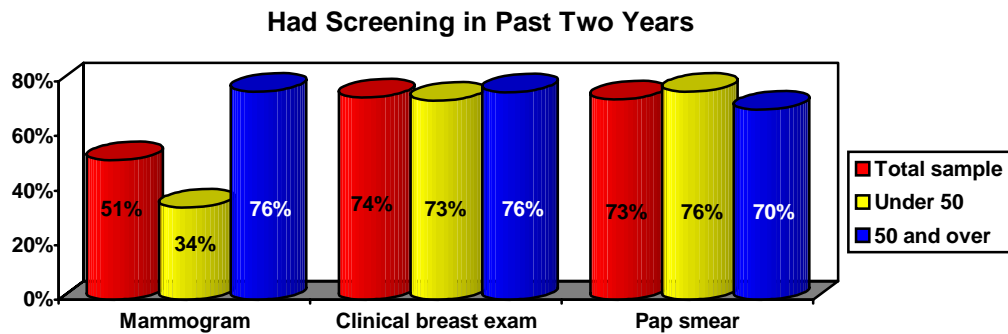
Drug Use. Among Sandusky County youth, 17% currently use marijuana, and 12% have used it more than once or twice in the past 30 days. Less than 10%

Youth Drug Use During Lifetime

- Inhalants (9%)
- Cocaine (7%)
- Steroids (5%)
- Methamphetamines (4%)
- Heroin (2%)

have used other illegal substances such as cocaine, methamphetamines, and inhalants. 17 to 18-year-olds are more likely to be current marijuana users (28% compared to 13% of 12 to 16-year-olds), but lifetime use of the other drugs surveyed is not correlated with age.

Women’s Health. Adult women were asked when they last had a mammogram, clinical breast exam, and Pap smear. As expected, women over the age of 50 are more likely to have had a mammogram within the past two years. Age is less of a factor in clinical breast exams, and Pap smears. The following graph shows the prevalence of women’s health exams for the total sample and by age:



These data suggest that women without health coverage and those with household incomes under \$25,000 are less likely to receive needed mammograms and Pap smears. Note that the sample size for these subsets is small, and therefore the exact percentages are not reported here.

Sexual Behavior. Approximately three quarters of Sandusky County adults are currently sexually active. Most have had one partner during the past twelve months, leaving almost one out of ten who have had multiple partners. Adults under the age of 50 are most likely to have had multiple sexual partners (12% compared to 3% of those 50 and older).

Sexual Partners

- None (25%)
- One (61%)
- More than one (8%)
- Don’t know (5%)

Adults with multiple sexual partners are not more likely to use birth control in comparison to those with single partners (67% compared to 78% of those with single partners). However, they are more likely to use condoms (34% compared to 11% of those with single partners).

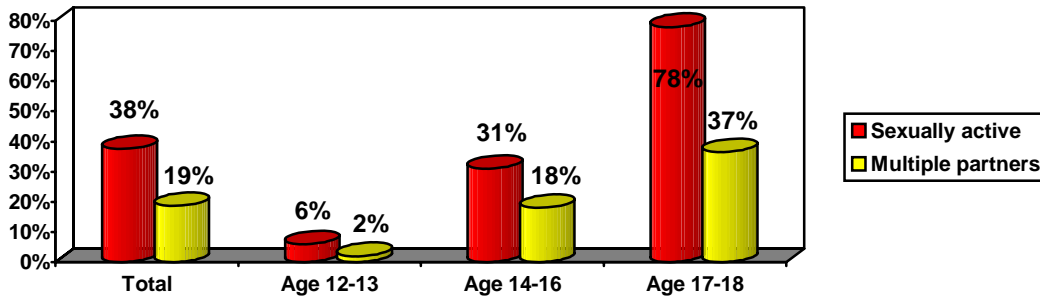
Approximately 6% of sexually active adults are fertile and do not want to get pregnant, but do not use birth control. This number increases to 17% among those with multiple sexual partners. These respondents said that they do not want to use birth control. About one third (31%) of Sandusky County adults have been tested for HIV. This percentage increases to 44% among those with multiple partners and to 39% among those who do not use birth control. The following table shows adults’ perceptions of their chances to contract HIV. Note that 77% of those with multiple sex partners and 88% of those who

do not use birth control believe that they have a low chance or no chance of contracting HIV.

Subgroup	High/Medium Chance of HIV	Low/No Chance of HIV	Doesn't Know Chance of HIV
All adults	3%	91%	7%
Multiple partners	13%	77%	11%
No birth control	4%	88%	8%

Over one-third (38%) of Sandusky County youth have had sexual intercourse. This number jumps to 78% among 17 and 18-year-olds and to 61% among all minority youth. Approximately 19% of youth have had one sexual partner during their lifetime, and 19% have had intercourse with multiple partners. The following graph shows the percentage of youth who have had sexual intercourse and those who have had multiple partners.

Youth Sexual Activity

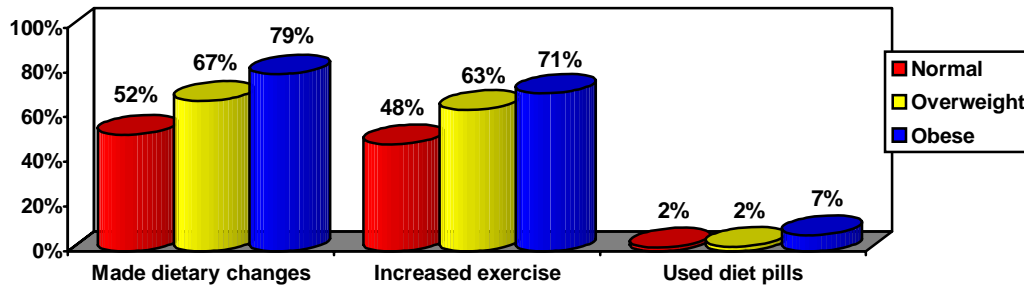


Two-thirds (66%) of youth who are sexually active used a condom the last time they had intercourse, 22% used birth control pills, 15% did not use any method of birth control, and 7% used the withdrawal method. This equates to 8% of all Sandusky County youth who are sexually active and do not use a reliable form of birth control.

Weight Control. Approximately one out of three (33%) Sandusky County adults are classified as normal weight using BMI (Body Mass Index); 31% are classified as overweight, and 33% are classified as obese. Although almost two-thirds of adults are overweight or obese, only half (47%) are trying to lose weight.

However, overweight and obese adults are more likely to be trying to lose weight than adults of normal weight. Half (48%) of overweight adults said they are trying to lose weight, increasing to 76% among obese adults. The following graph shows weight loss activity for adults of normal weight compared to those who are overweight or obese. It shows that obese adults are significantly more likely than normal weight adults to make dietary and physical activity changes to lose weight.

Activities to Lose Weight Among Adults



Slightly more than one-third (38%) of Sandusky County youth are classified as overweight by BMI (Body Mass Index). BMI classification is not correlated with gender, age, or race. About half (48%) of Sandusky County youth said they are about the right weight, and 37% rated themselves as overweight or slightly overweight. Although only a third believe they are overweight, 48% are trying to lose weight. Almost half (44%) of normal weight girls are trying to lose weight.

Girls are also more likely to engage in inappropriate weight loss behaviors. About 20% of girls have fasted during the past 30 days (compared to 9% of boys), and 7% vomited during the past 30 days to lose weight (compared to 0% of boys). These behaviors are also more common among 17 to 18-year-olds.

Youth Weight Loss

- Fasted (14%)
- Took diet pills without doctor's advice (7%)
- Vomited (4%)

Depression and Suicide. Among Sandusky County adults, 16% report feeling depressed for two weeks or longer in the past 12 months. Depression is more common among the following groups:

- Single parents (33%).
- 19 to 39-year-olds (29%).
- Adults who rate their health as fair or poor (29%).

Comparatively few (3%) seriously considered attempting suicide, and 1% reported actually attempting suicide.

Teens are just as likely as adults to have suicidal thoughts; however, they are more likely to make a suicide attempt. About 16% of Sandusky County youth have felt depressed for two weeks or longer in the past 12 months, and 12% seriously considered attempting suicide. Approximately 5% of Sandusky County youth attempted suicide within the past 12 months. The following chart highlights suicidal behaviors among Sandusky County youth. It shows that older youth (particularly older girls) are most likely to have suicidal thoughts and to attempt suicide.

Behavior	Total youth	Boys	Girls	Age 12-13	Age 14-18
Felt depressed for two weeks or longer	16%	15%	17%	6%	20%
Considered suicide	12%	9%	14%	4%	15%
Attempted suicide	5%	3%	7%	2%	7%

Quality of Life. About a third (38%) of Sandusky County adults are limited in their activities because of an impairment or health problem. Adults age 60 and over (52%) are most likely to be limited in their activities because of health problems.

Although approximately one-third of the adult population has some type of impairment or health problem, only 2% need assistance with personal care, and 4% need assistance with routine care needs such as routine chores, shopping, or business.

Adult Health Problems

- None (61%)
- Arthritis (9%)
- Back or neck problem (6%)
- Bone or joint injury (4%)
- Diabetes (3%)
- Lung problem (3%)

Social Context. About 34% of Sandusky County adults keep firearms in their home, and 5% keep a loaded and unlocked firearm. Among households with children age 18 and younger, 37% have firearms, and 4% have loaded and unlocked firearms.

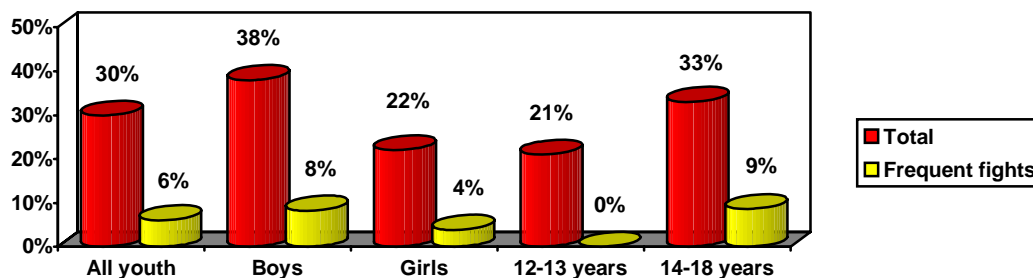
One in ten (11%) adults said that someone has threatened to abuse them in the past 12 months. 19 to 29-year-olds (21%) are most likely to report abuse threats. These data suggest that the majority of abuse threats are carried out. Almost all of the adults who reported being threatened reported being abused (9% of all adults).

In the past 30 days, 13% of adults have been concerned about getting enough food for their family. 19 to 39-year-olds (23%) and those with a household income under \$25,000 (20%) are most likely to report being concerned about having enough food for their family. About two-thirds of concerned adults looked for and received help. This leaves 6% of Sandusky County adults who were concerned about having enough food but did not receive any assistance.

Weapons and Violence. During the past 30 days, 10% of Sandusky County youth carried a weapon, and 7% carried a gun. Weapons possession is most common among boys (17% weapons possession, 13% gun possession). Although 6% have been threatened with a weapon on school property, 3% of youth stayed home from school because they felt they would be unsafe there or on the way there.

One-third (30%) of Sandusky County youth have been in a physical fight in the past 12 months. The following graph shows the percentage of youth who have been involved in fights during the past year and the percentage of frequent fighters, who have been involved in four or more fights in the past year.

Youth Participation in Physical Fights



One in ten youth reports having been physically struck by a boyfriend or girlfriend, and one in twenty reports having been forced to have sexual intercourse.

Minority Data. The following tables compare Sandusky County minorities and whites on selected variables. Among Sandusky County adults, minorities are more likely to rate their health as fair or poor and more likely to be overweight or obese according to BMI. However, adult minorities and whites are comparable in terms of health care coverage, physician's visits, and alcohol and tobacco use.

Adult Health Issue	White	Minority
Rated health as fair or poor	14%	22%
Rated quality of health care as fair or poor	12%	19%
Currently has health care coverage	86%	80%
Visited a doctor for a routine checkup in past year	66%	72%
Binged (drank 5 or more alcoholic beverages on an occasion within a few hours) in the past 30 days	40%	39%
Had a blood pressure screening in the past year	85%	77%
Had a blood cholesterol screening in the past year	43%	47%
Smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days	37%	25%
Had multiple sexual partners in the past year	8%	11%
Keeps a firearm in the household	35%	26%
Classified as overweight or obese according to BMI	63%	79%

Among Sandusky County youth, minorities are less likely to wear seat belts and more likely to binge drink and have sexual intercourse.

Youth Health Issue	White	Minority
Wears a seat belt always or most of the time	64%	52%
Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife or club in the past 30 days	10%	8%
Was in a physical fight in the past 12 months	30%	31%
Smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days	27%	27%
Drank alcohol in the past 30 days	36%	37%
Binged (drank 5 or more alcoholic beverages on an occasion within a few hours) in the past 30 days	22%	33%
Has had sexual intercourse	34%	61%
Classified as overweight according to BMI	37%	44%

Comparison with State and National Data. The following tables compare Sandusky County with selected variables that are trended with state and national data by the CDC. The comparative data was collected by CDC through the 1999 YBRS (9th through 12th grade only) and the BRFSS.

Youth Variables – 9-12th Grade Only	Sandusky County	Ohio	National
Injury-Related Behaviors			
Never or rarely wore a seat belt	25%	16%	16%
Rode with a drunk driver in past 30 days	30%	32%	33%
Carried a gun in past 30 days	5%	5%	5%
Carried a weapon on school property in past 30 days	1%	6%	7%
Involved in a physical fight in past 12 months	31%	37%	36%
Involved in a physical fight on school property in past 12 months	8%	12%	14%
Felt too unsafe to go to school during past 30 days	2%	9%	5%
Threatened or injured with a weapon on school property in past 12 months	5%	8%	8%
Seriously considered suicide in past 12 months	13%	20%	19%
Attempted suicide in past 12 months	7%	8%	8%
Alcohol Use			
Used alcohol during past 30 days	43%	56%	50%
Used alcohol on school property during past 30 days	6%	5%	5%
Binged during past 30 days (5 or more drinks in a couple of hours on an occasion)	30%	37%	32%
Tobacco Use			
Lifetime cigarette use (ever tried cigarette smoking, even 1 or 2 puffs)	74%	73%	70%
Used cigarettes on 20 or more of the past 30 days	16%	N/A	17%
Used smokeless tobacco in past 30 days	9%	11%	8%
Sexual Behaviors			
Ever had sexual intercourse	49%	47%	50%
Sexually active during past 3 months	39%	34%	36%
Had four or more sexual partners	12%	16%	16%
Used a condom at last sexual intercourse	66%	59%	58%
Used birth control pills at last sexual intercourse	26%	19%	16%
Physical Activity			
Has participated in strengthening exercises at least 3 of the past 7 days	46%	50%	54%

Adult Variables	Sandusky County	Ohio	National
Alcohol Consumption (comparative data from 1999)			
Had at least one alcoholic beverage in past month	53%	44%	54%
Drank 16 or more days in past month	11%	8%	14%
Binged in past month (5 or more drinks in a couple of hours on an occasion)	20%	10%	12%
Asthma and Diabetes (comparative data from 2000)			
Has been diagnosed with asthma	11%	11%	11%
Has been diagnosed with diabetes	11%	6%	6%
Hypertension and Cholesterol Awareness (comparative data from 1999)			
Had blood pressure checked in past year	84%	91%	89%
Has been diagnosed with high blood pressure	25%	27%	24%
Has had blood cholesterol checked in past year	43%	51%	52%
Has been diagnosed with high blood cholesterol	22%	32%	30%
Health Care Access (comparative data from 2000)			
Has health care coverage	86%	90%	88%
Visited a doctor for a routine checkup in past year	66%	74%	72%
Health Status (comparative data from 2000)			
Rated general health as fair or poor	15%	13%	14%
HIV/AIDS (comparative data from 2000)			
Rated chances of HIV infection as medium/high	3%	6%	6%
Has been tested for HIV in lifetime	31%	43%	46%
Immunization (comparative data from 1999)			
Has had a flu shot in past 12 months	44%	31%	31%
Has had a pneumonia vaccination in lifetime	22%	19%	18%
Oral Health (comparative data from 1999)			
Dental visit within past year	55%	69%	68%
Weight Control (comparative data from 2000)			
Trying to lose weight	47%	38%	38%
Women's Health (comparative data from 2000)			
Had mammogram in past year	34%	45%	43%
Had clinical breast exam in past year	51%	67%	70%