

Youth Violence Issues

Key Findings

In Auglaize County, 13% of the youth had carried a weapon in the past month and 3% indicated they brought it to school. 4% of youth had been threatened or injured by a weapon on school property.

Violence-Related Behaviors

- ◆ In 2008 13% of Auglaize County youth had carried a weapon (such as a gun, knife or club) in the past 30 days, increasing to 22% of males. (2007 YRBS reported 17% for Ohio and 18% for the U.S.)
- ◆ 4% of youth were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property.
- ◆ 3% of youth had carried weapons to school in the past 30 days.
- ◆ 1% of youth did not go to school on one or more days because they did not feel safe at school or on their way to or from school (2007 YRBS reported 4% for Ohio and 6% for the U.S.).
- ◆ 28% of youth purposefully hurt themselves at least once by cutting, burning, scratching, hitting, or biting at some time in their life, increasing to 34% of females. 5% of youth had purposefully hurt themselves 40 or more times.
- ◆ 56% of youth had been bullied in the past year. The following types of bullying were reported:
 - 45% were verbally bullied (teased, taunted or called you harmful names)
 - 29% were indirectly bullied (spread mean rumors about you or kept you out of a “group”)
 - 15% were physically bullied (you were hit, kicked, punched or people took your belongings)
 - 8% were cyber bullied (teased, taunted or threatened by e-mail or cell phone)
- ◆ 8% of youth played the choking game, increasing to 11% of males and 11% of those ages 17 and older.
- ◆ In the past year, 25% of youth had been involved in a physical fight; 14% on more than one occasion. The 2007 YRBS reports 30% of Ohio youth had been in a physical fight and 36% of U.S. youth.
- ◆ 9% of youth had been in a physical fight on school property, increasing to 15% of males.
- ◆ Over half (51%) of youth reported that firearms were kept in or around their home.
- ◆ 6% of youth reported a boyfriend or girlfriend hit, slapped, or physically hurt them on purpose in the past 12 months, while 10% reported being hit, slapped or physically hurt by an adult or caregiver.
- ◆ 5% of youth were physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to, compared to 10% of Ohio youth and 8% of U.S. youth. (Source: 2007 YRBS).
- ◆ 8% of youth were touched in an unsafe sexual way, increasing to 11% of those ages 14-16.
- ◆ 10% of youth have been asked to participate in sexual activity while in a chat room. 2% of youth have had sex with someone they met in a chat room.
- ◆ Youth violence costs society over \$158 billion each year, according to the CDC. (Source: CDC, *Understanding Youth Violence Fact Sheet, 2006*)

Facts Concerning Youth Violence

- ❖ Youth violence is defined by the CDC as “harmful behaviors that can start early and continue into young adulthood.”
- ❖ In 2003, 5,570 youth ages 10-24 were murdered.
- ❖ Emergency rooms treated in excess of 780,000 youth ages 10-24 for violence-related injuries.
- ❖ Approximately 30% of kids (6th to 10th grade) reported being involved in bullying.

(Source: CDC, Understanding Youth Violence Fact Sheet, 2006)

Key Risk Factors for Youth Violence

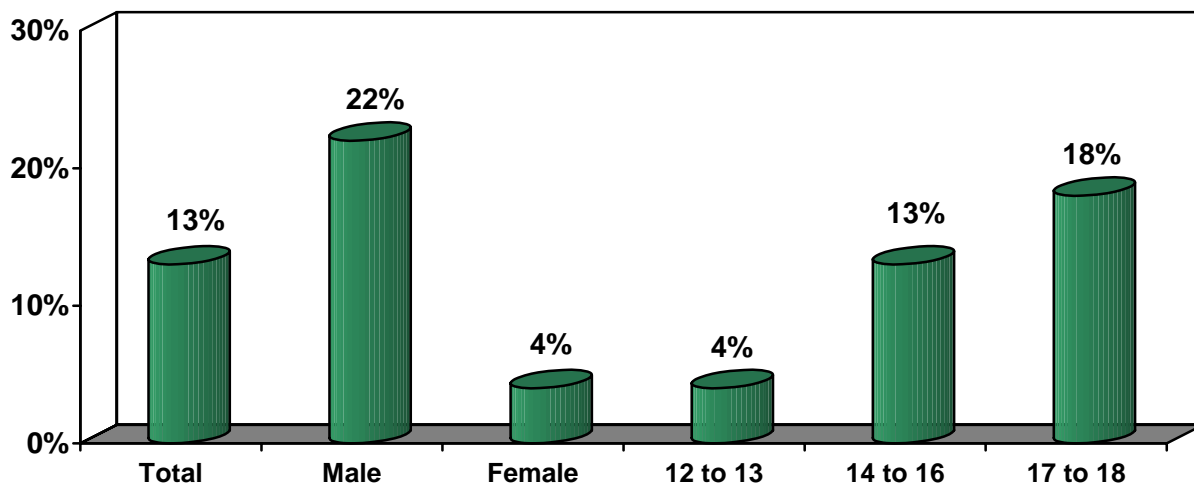
- ❖ Prior history of violence
- ❖ Drug, alcohol, or tobacco use
- ❖ Poor family functioning
- ❖ Poor grades in school
- ❖ Poverty in the community
- ❖ Association with delinquent peers

(Source: CDC, Understanding Youth Violence Fact Sheet, 2006)

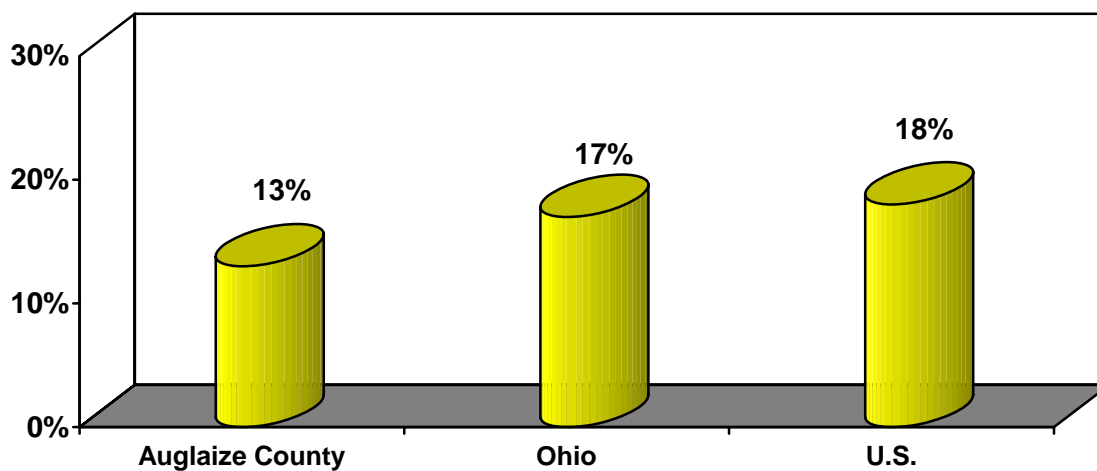
Youth Violence Issues

The following graphs show Auglaize County youth carrying a weapon in the past 30 days and those involved in a physical fight in the past year. The graphs show the number of youth in each segment giving each answer (i.e., the first graph shows that 13% of all youth carried a weapon in the past 30 days, 22% of males and 4% of females).

Auglaize County Youth Carrying a Weapon during the Past 30 Days



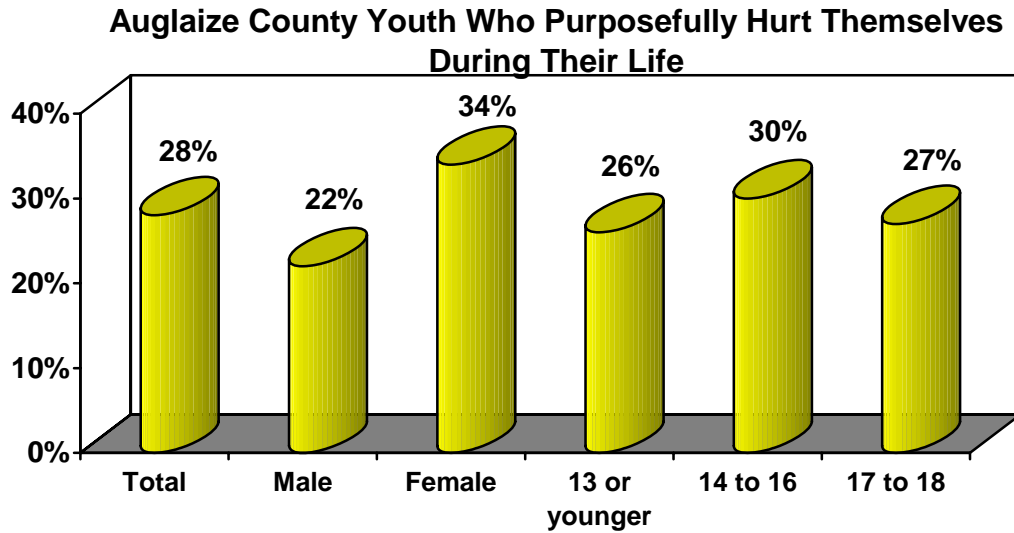
Youth Carrying a Weapon in the Past Month



(Source: 2008 Auglaize County Health Assessment and 2007 YRBS)

Youth Violence Issues

The following graph shows Auglaize County youth who purposefully hurt themselves at some time in their life. The graphs show the number of youth in each segment giving each answer (i.e., the first graph shows that 28% of all youth hurt themselves at some time in their life, 22% of males and 34% of females).



Types of Bullying Auglaize County Youth Experienced in Past Year

Youth Behaviors	Total	Male	Female	13 or younger	14-16 Years old	17 and older
Physically Bullied	19%	19%	11%	24%	16%	4%
Verbally Bullied	45%	46%	45%	57%	45%	34%
Indirectly Bullied	29%	22%	37%	38%	25%	29%
Cyber Bullied	8%	4%	12%	11%	9%	5%