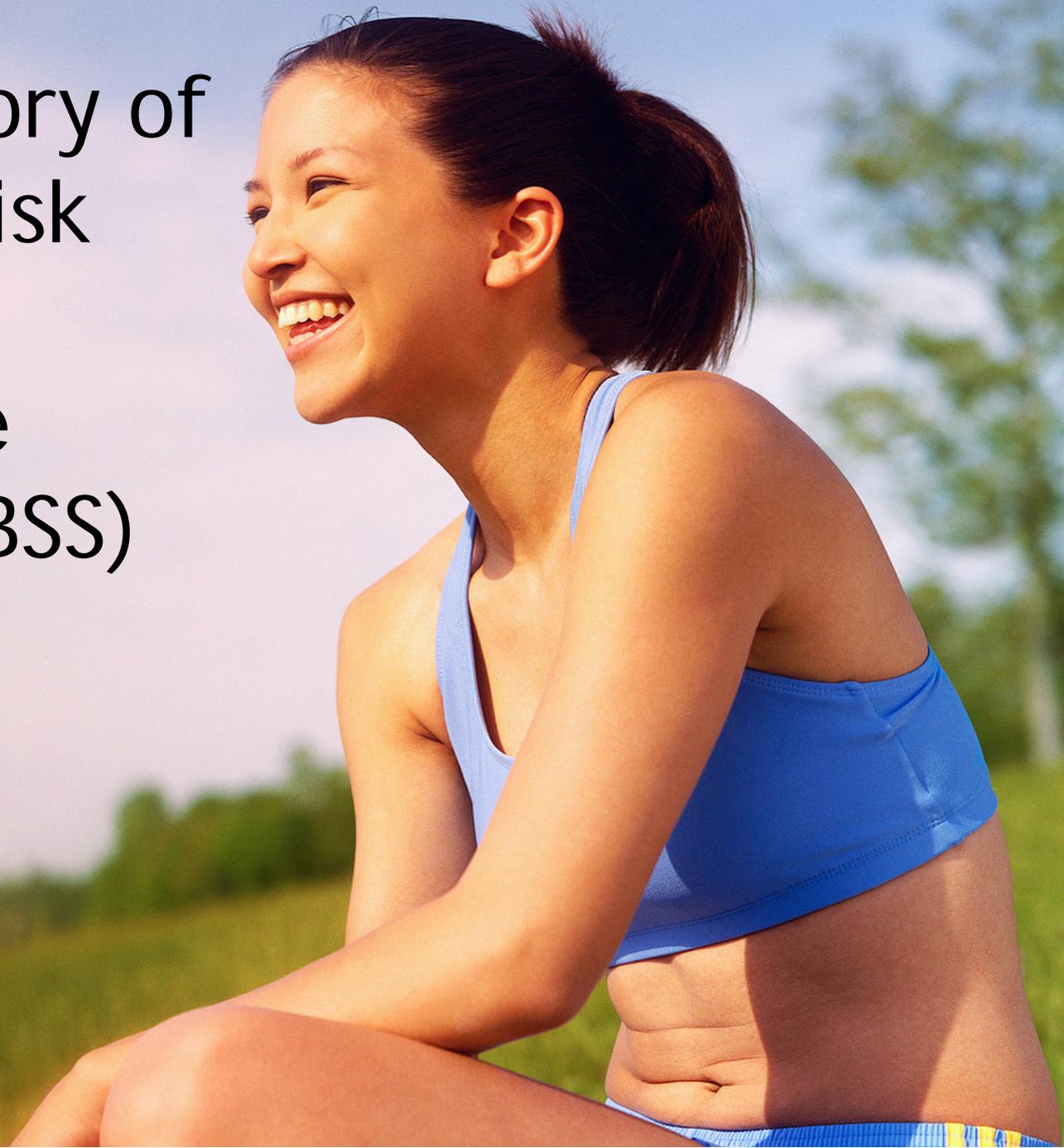


# Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS): What It Is and What It Can Do for You



Jennifer Haussler Garing, MS  
Center for Health Statistics  
June 21, 2011

# A Brief History of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)

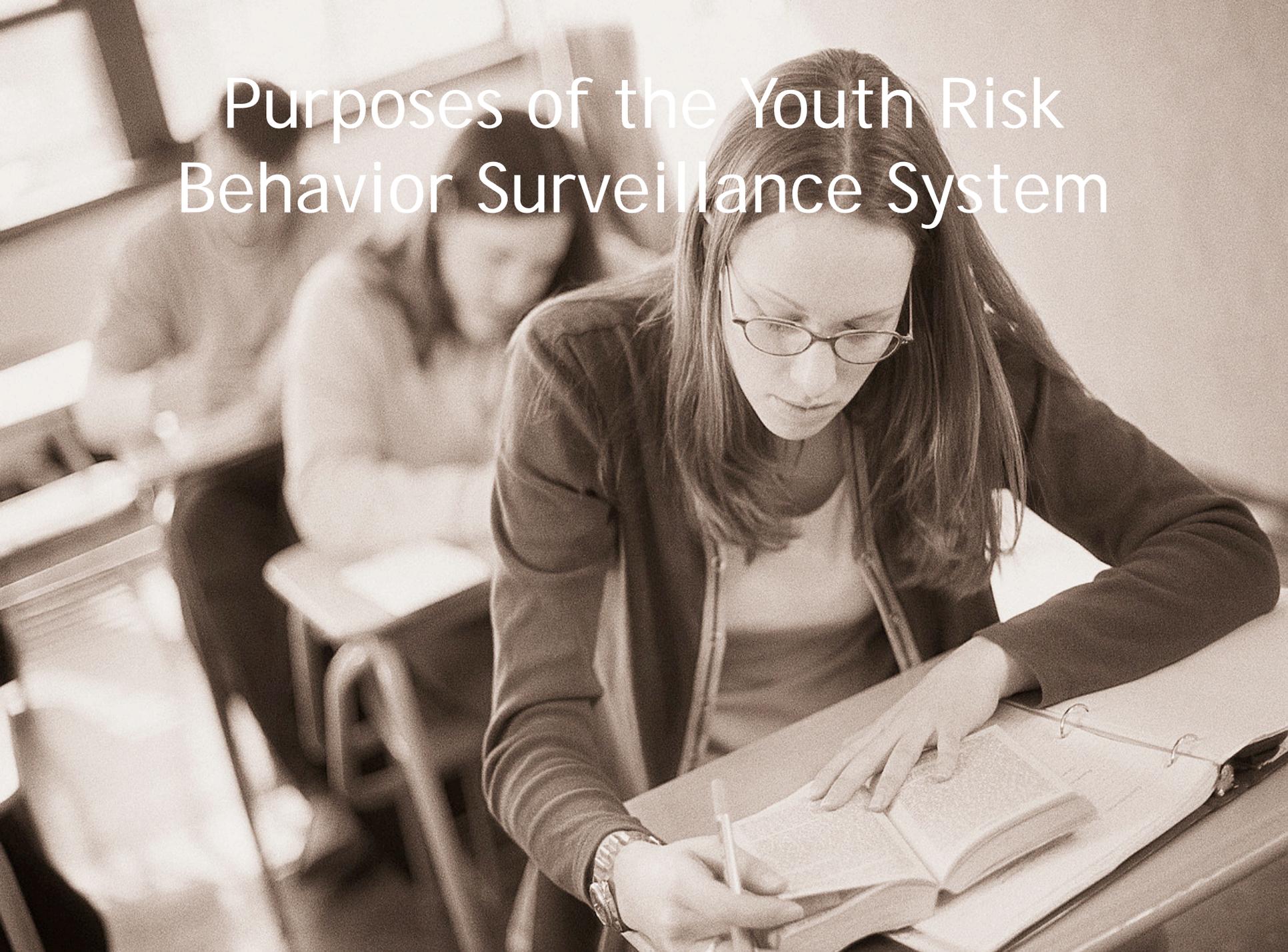




**“Without data  
you are just a  
schmuck with an  
opinion.”**

**Alan Greenspan,  
Former Chair of the  
U.S. Federal Reserve**

# Purposes of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System



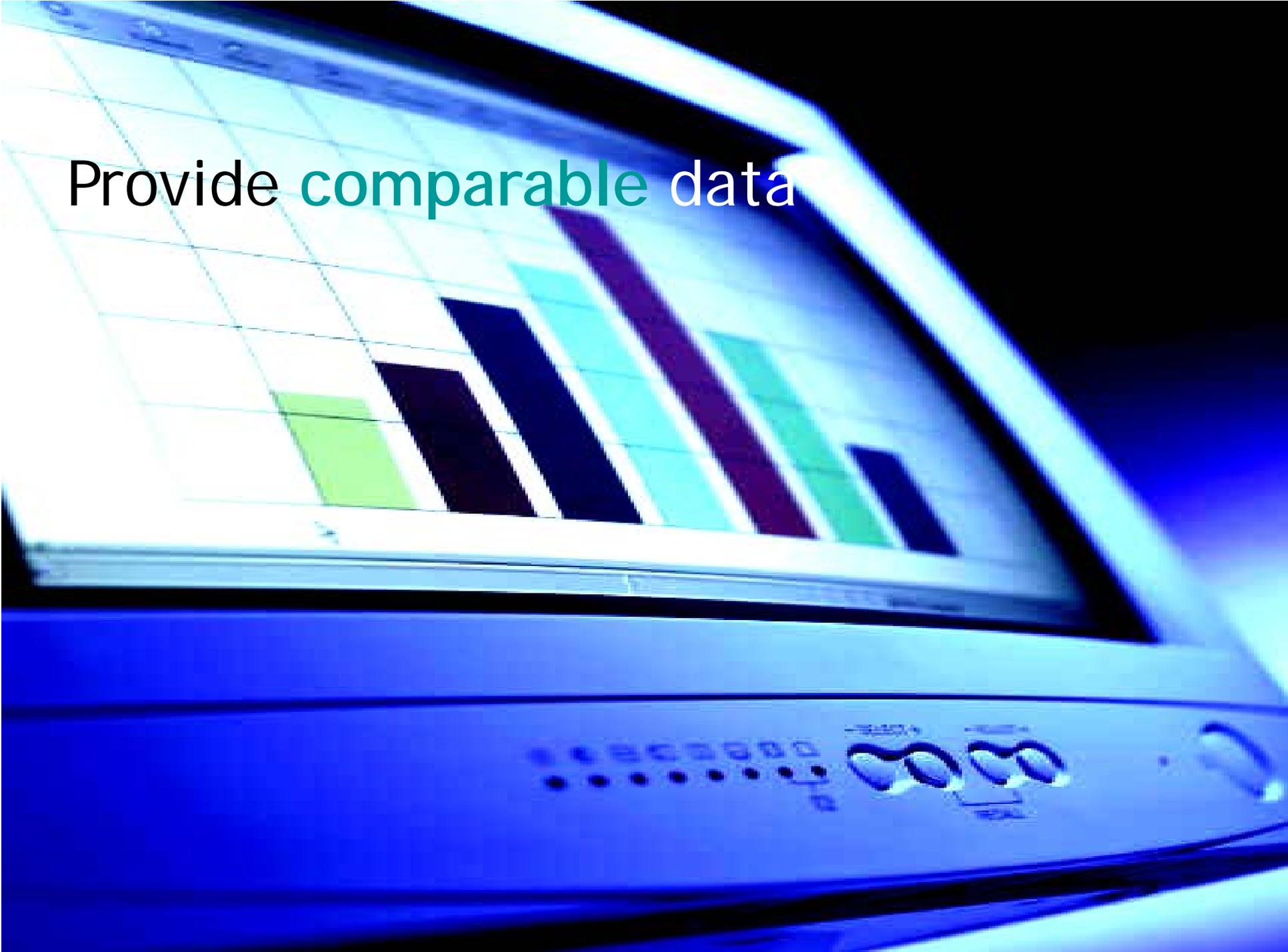
A close-up portrait of a young man with dark hair and eyes, looking slightly to the left. He is wearing a blue and white checkered shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green and yellow. Overlaid on the right side of his face is white text with the word "behaviors" in a teal color.

Focus the nation on  
**behaviors** among youth  
causing the most important  
health problems

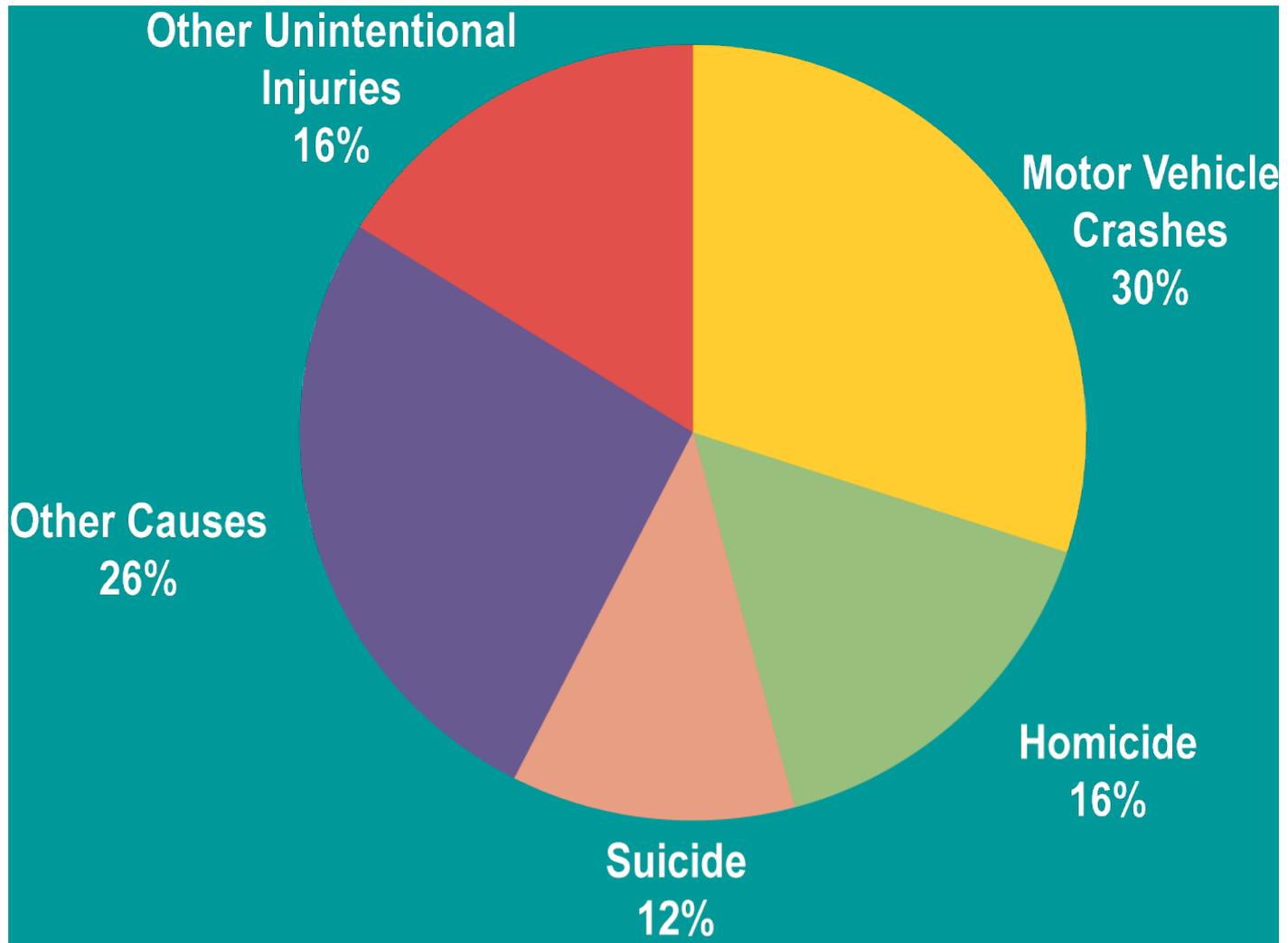
Assess how risk behaviors **change**  
over time



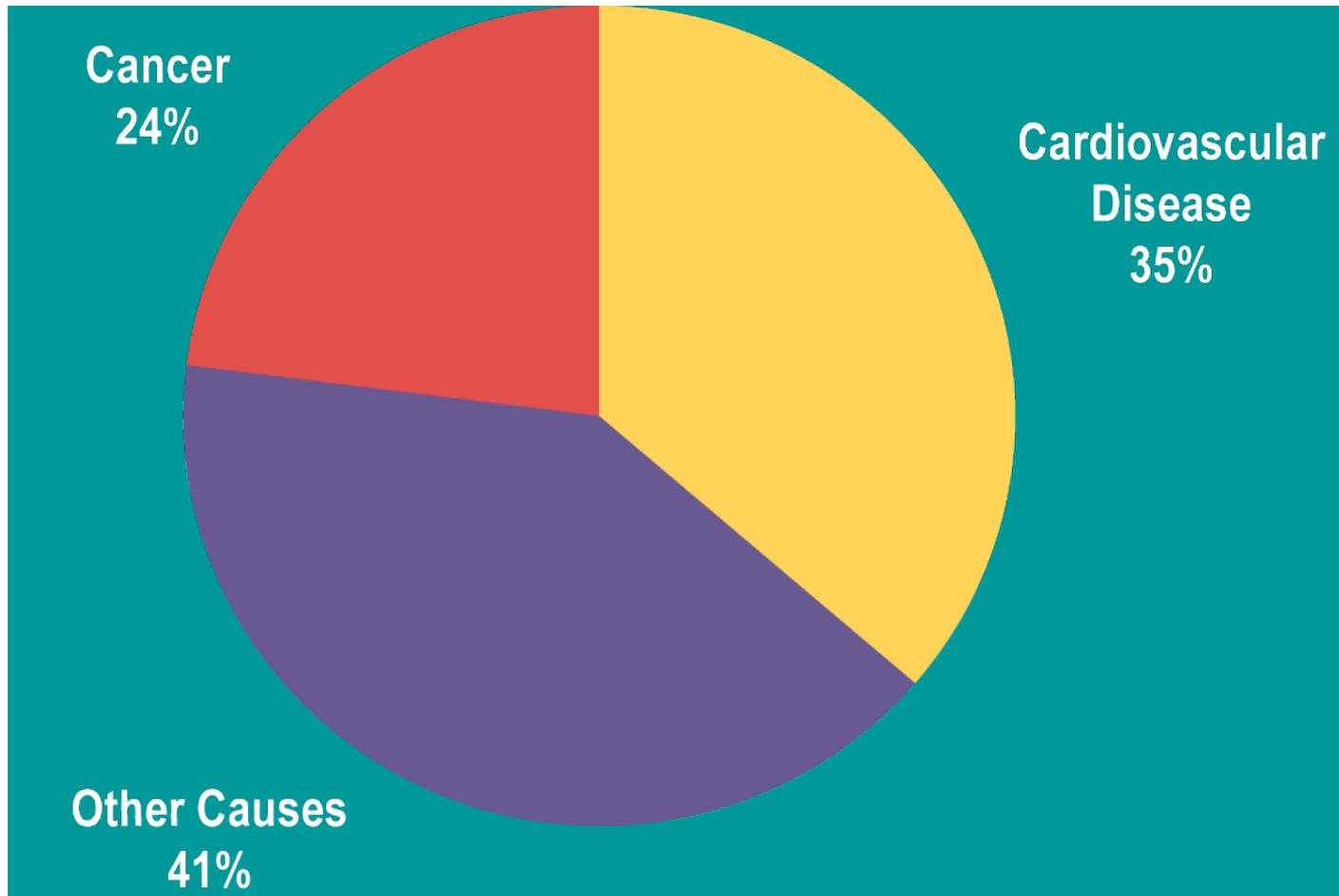
Provide **comparable** data



# Leading Causes of Death Among Persons Aged 10 - 24 Years in the United States, 2006

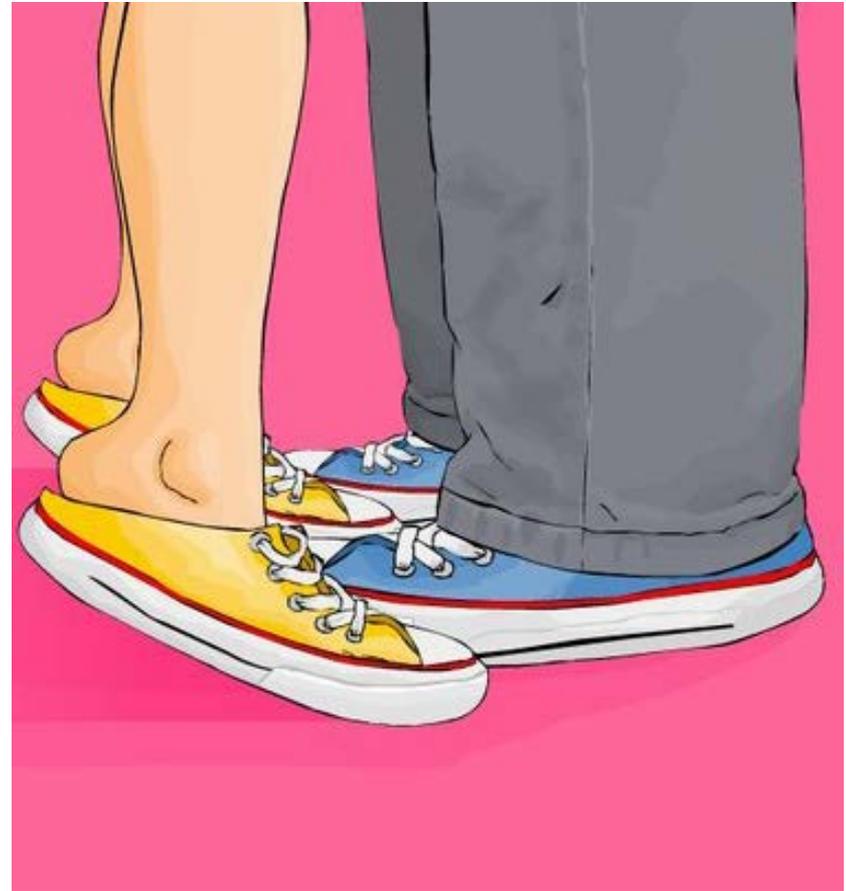


# Leading Causes of Death Among Persons Aged 25 Years and Older in the United States, 2006



# Impact of Sexual Behaviors

- 757,000 pregnancies among 15-19 year olds
- 9.1 million cases of STDs among 15 to 24 year olds
- 6,610 cases of HIV/AIDS among 15 to 24 year olds



# School Absenteeism



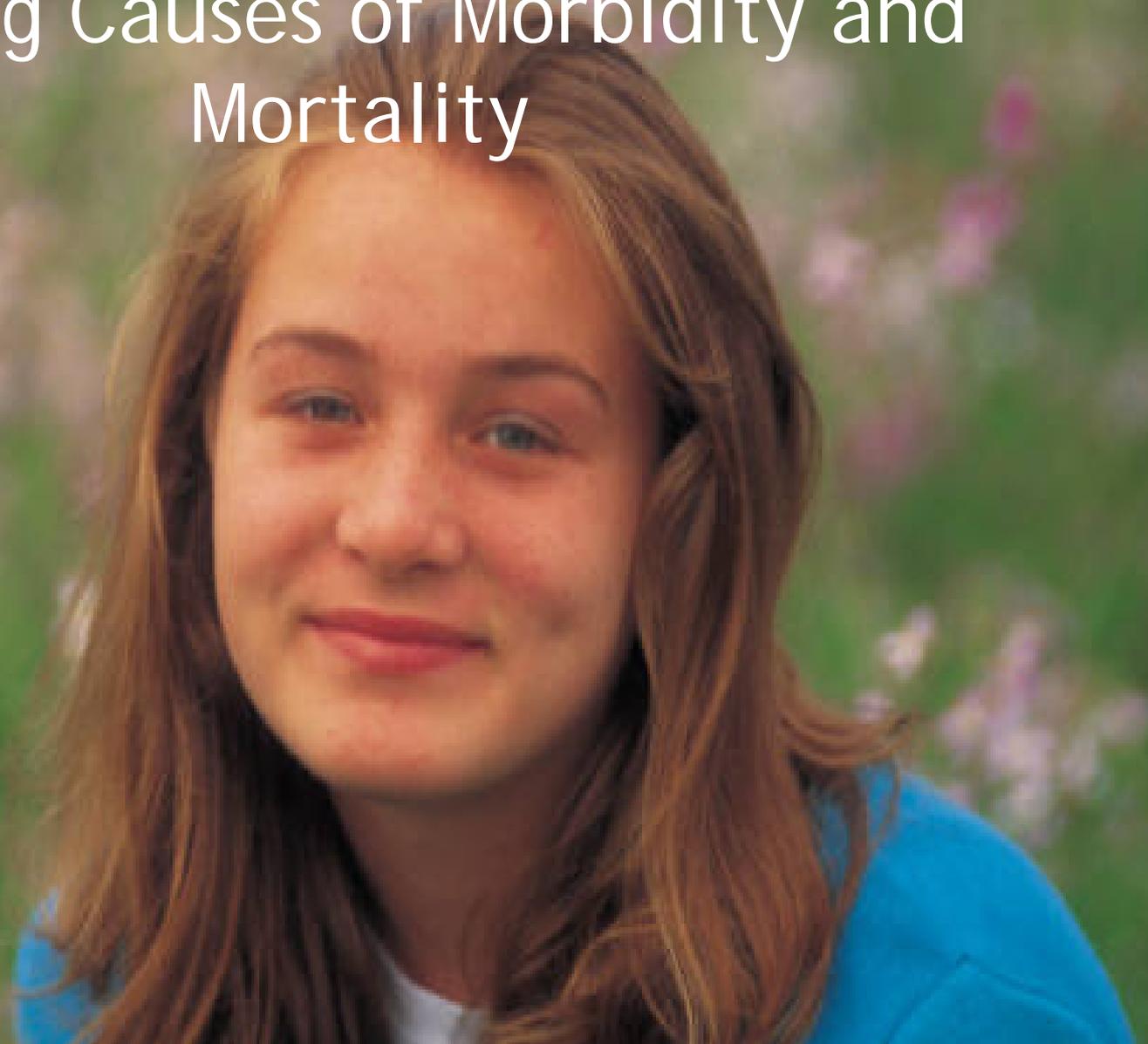
Asthma



# Mental Illness



# Behaviors That Contribute to the Leading Causes of Morbidity and Mortality



# Behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence



Tobacco use



# Alcohol and other drug use



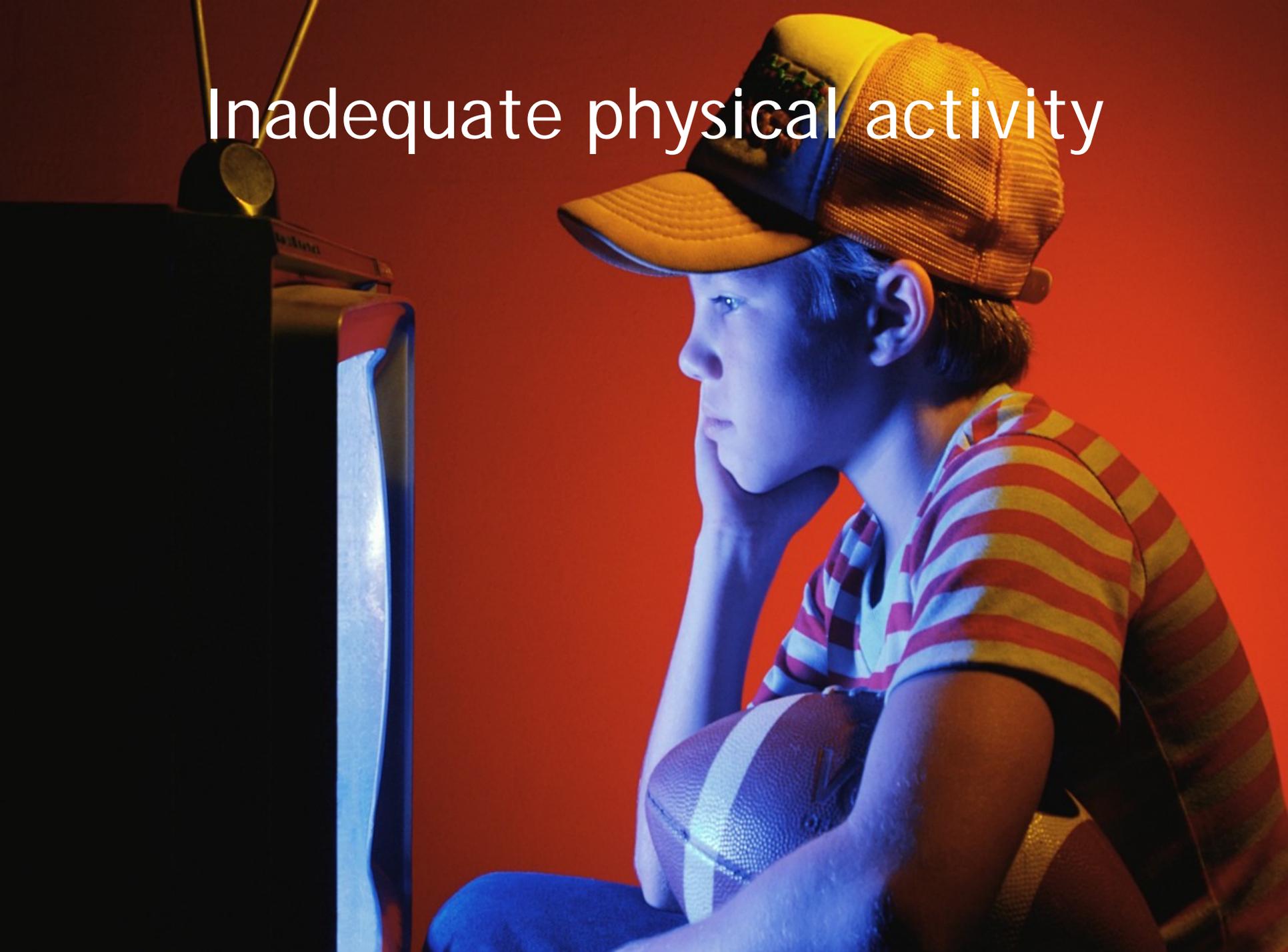
# Sexual behaviors



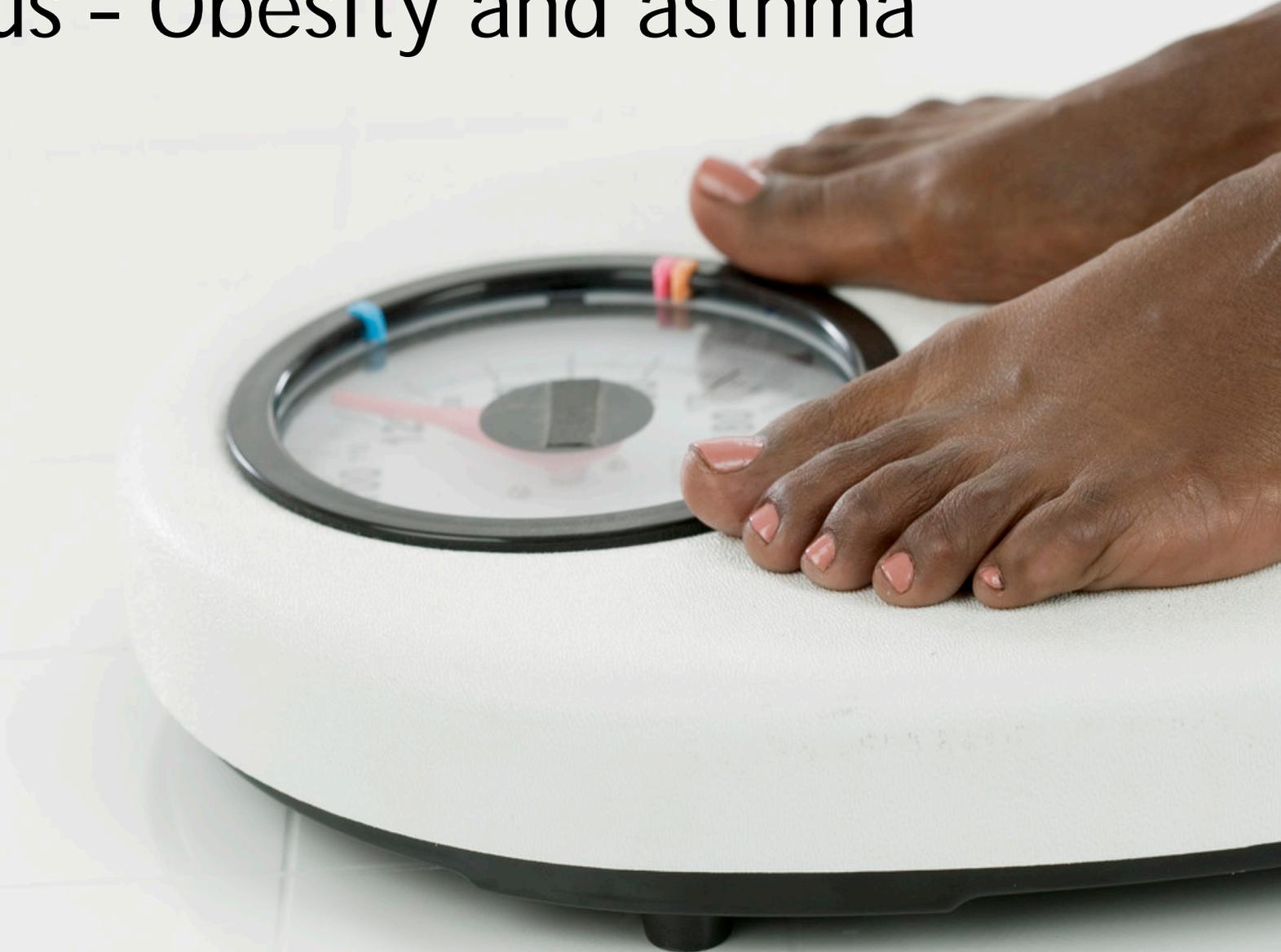
Unhealthy dietary behaviors



Inadequate physical activity



Plus - Obesity and asthma



# YRBS Participation 1991 - 2009

	1991	1993	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
# of states	26	40	39	38	41	37	43	44	44	47
# of cities	11	14	17	17	17	19	22	23	22	23
# of territories	2	2	5	5	4	7	5	4	5	4
# of tribal governments	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
Total # of sites	38	56	61	60	62	63	70	71	71	76
Total % of sites with weighted data	45%	59%	61%	72%	61%	60%	80%	90%	93%	87%

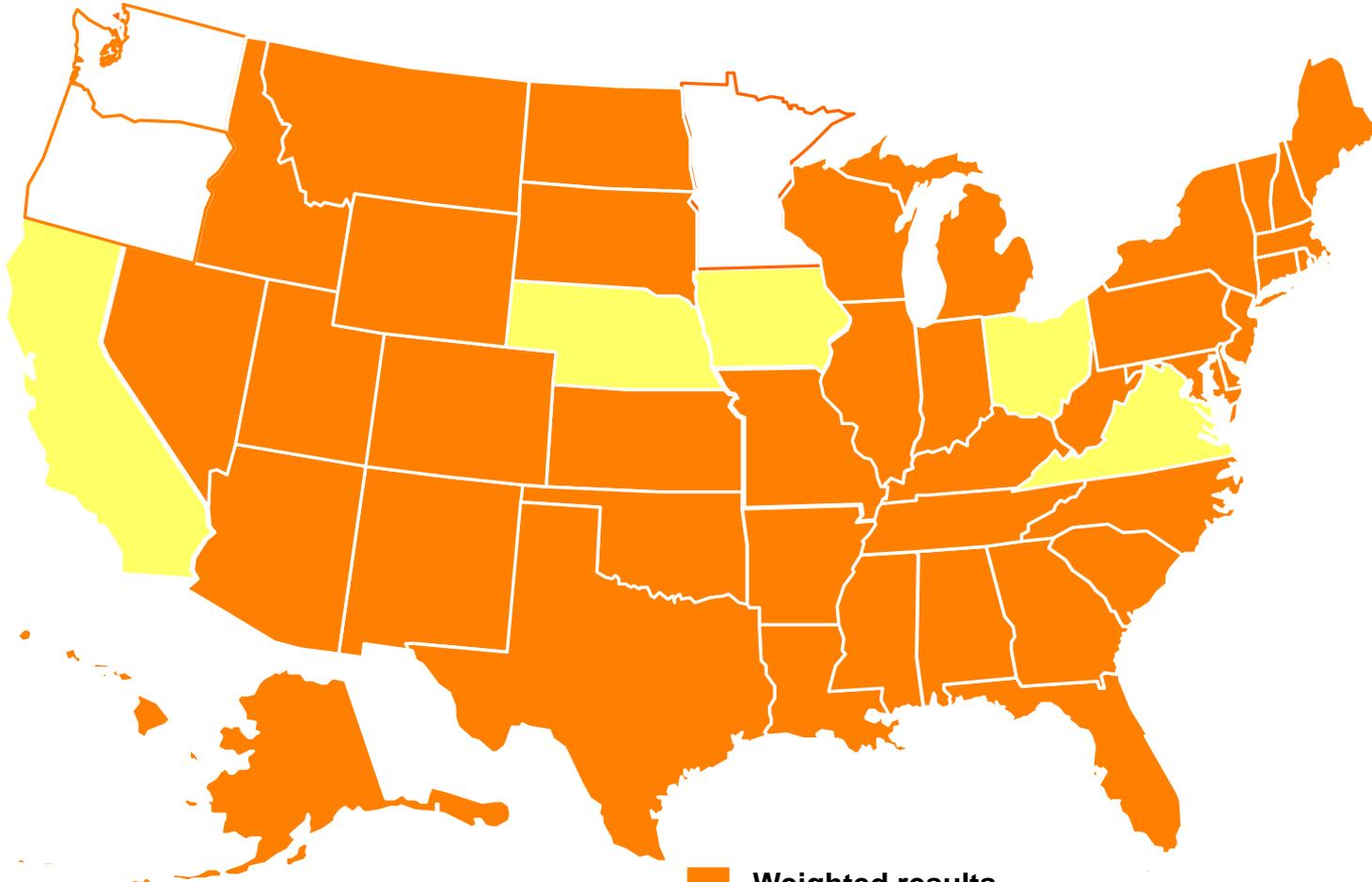
# 2009 YRBS Sites

**TRIBAL  
GOVERNMENTS**  
Cherokee Nation  
Winnebago Tribe

**TERRITORIES**  
Guam  
Northern Mariana  
Islands  
Palau

**CITIES**  
Baltimore  
Boston  
Broward County  
Charlotte  
Chicago  
Clark County  
Dallas  
Detroit  
District of Columbia  
Duval County  
Houston  
Los Angeles  
Memphis  
Miami-Dade County  
Milwaukee  
New York City  
Orange County  
Palm Beach County  
Philadelphia  
San Bernardino  
San Diego  
San Francisco  
Seattle

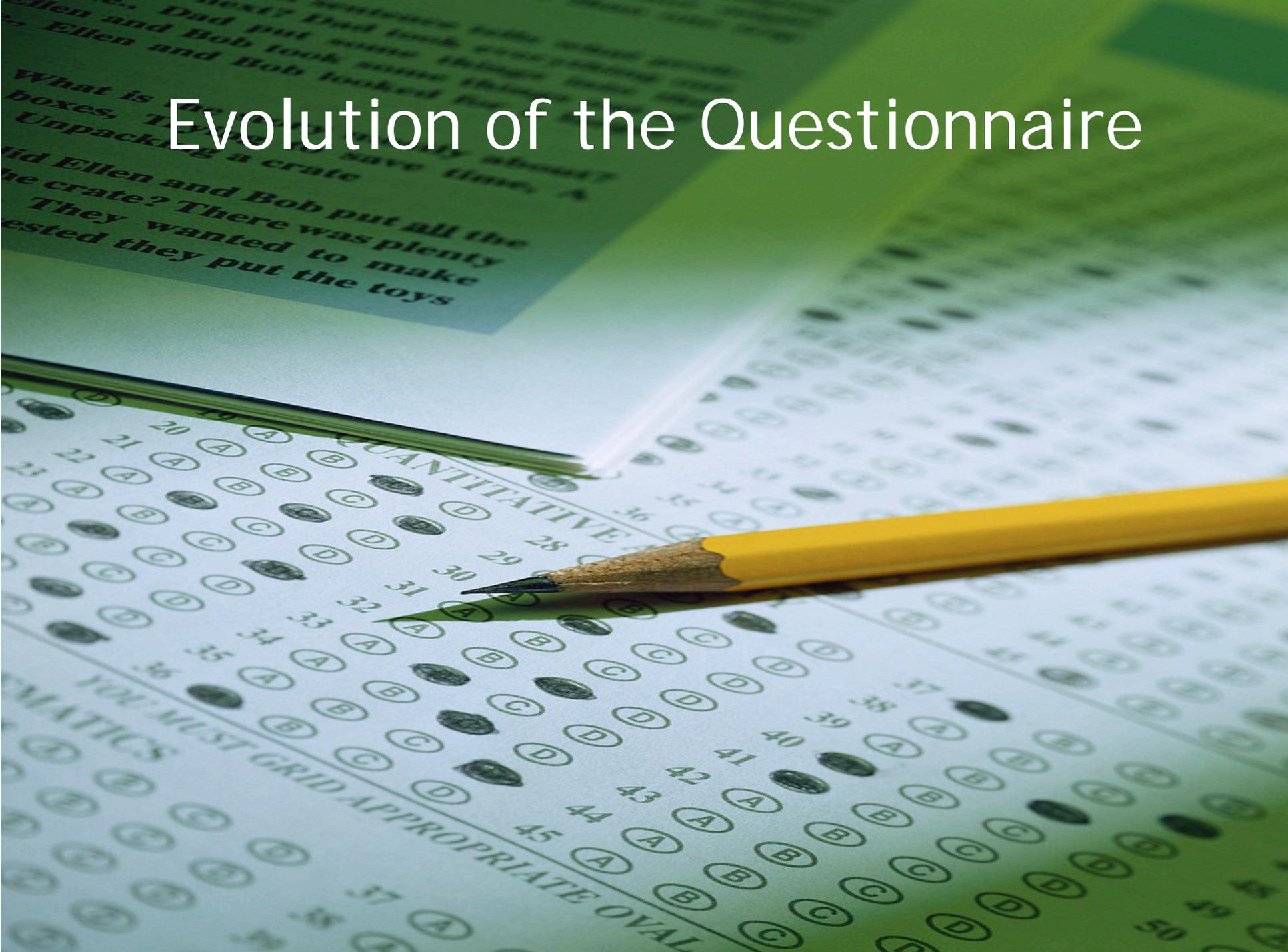
 **Weighted results**  
 **Unweighted results**



# Texas and the YRBS



# Evolution of the Questionnaire



... Ellen and Bob looked  
... Dad put  
... Ellen and Bob took  
... Ellen and Bob looked  
What is  
boxes, they  
Unpacking a crate  
id Ellen and Bob put all the  
e crate? There was plenty  
They wanted to make  
ested they put the toys

QUANTITATIVE  
20 (A) (B) (C) (D)  
21 (A) (B) (C) (D)  
22 (A) (B) (C) (D)  
23 (A) (B) (C) (D)  
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99 (A) (B) (C) (D)  
100 (A) (B) (C) (D)

YOU MUST GRID APPROPRIATE OVAL

# Partnership with the TEA

**Healthy students lead healthy lives.**



# Plans for 2013



# An Overview of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)



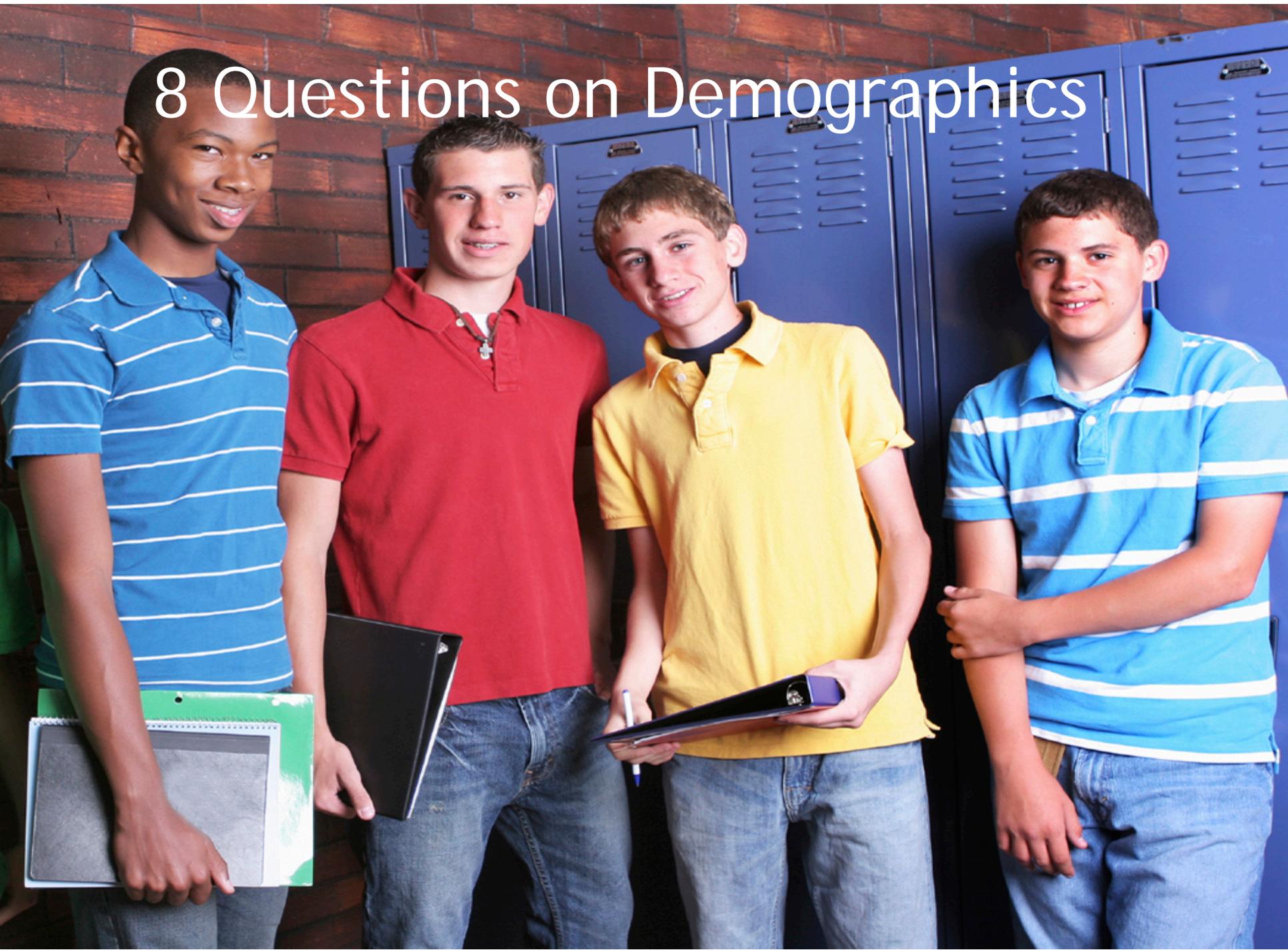
# What is the YRBS?



# What Kind of Information is Collected by BRFSS?



# 8 Questions on Demographics



# 4 Questions about Safety



# 10 Questions about Violence



# 2 Questions about Bullying



# 5 Questions about Depression and Suicide



# 11 Questions about Tobacco use



# 6 Questions about Alcohol



# 4 Questions about Marijuana



# 10 Questions about Other Drugs



# 7 Questions about Sexual Behavior



# 5 Questions about Body Weight and Eating Disorders



# 7 Questions about Nutrition



# 7 Questions about Physical Activity



9 Questions about Other Topics  
including Asthma, HIV/AIDS  
Education, and Community  
Involvement



# Confidentiality



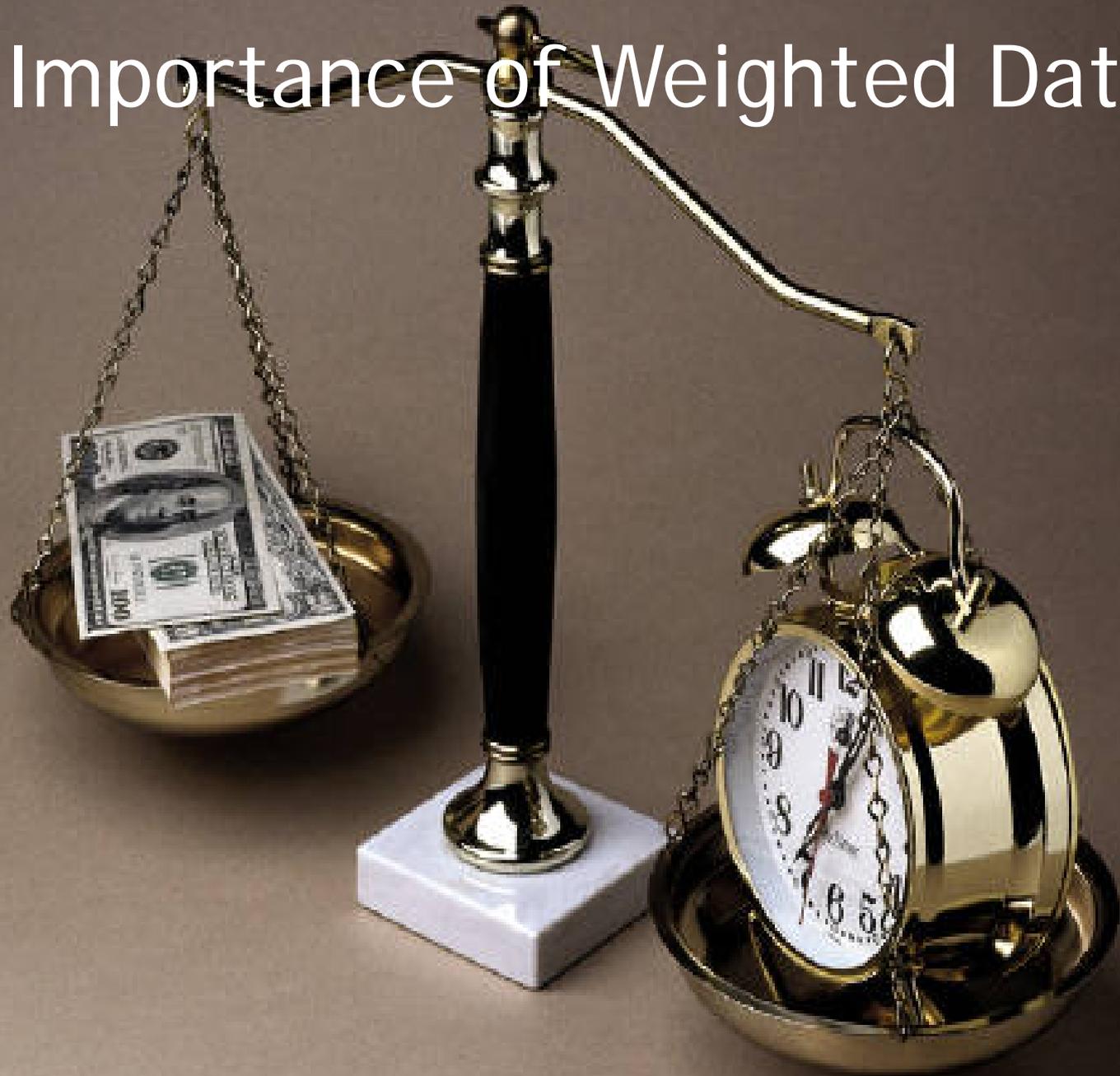
# Why is the no local data?



# The Sample



# The Importance of Weighted Data



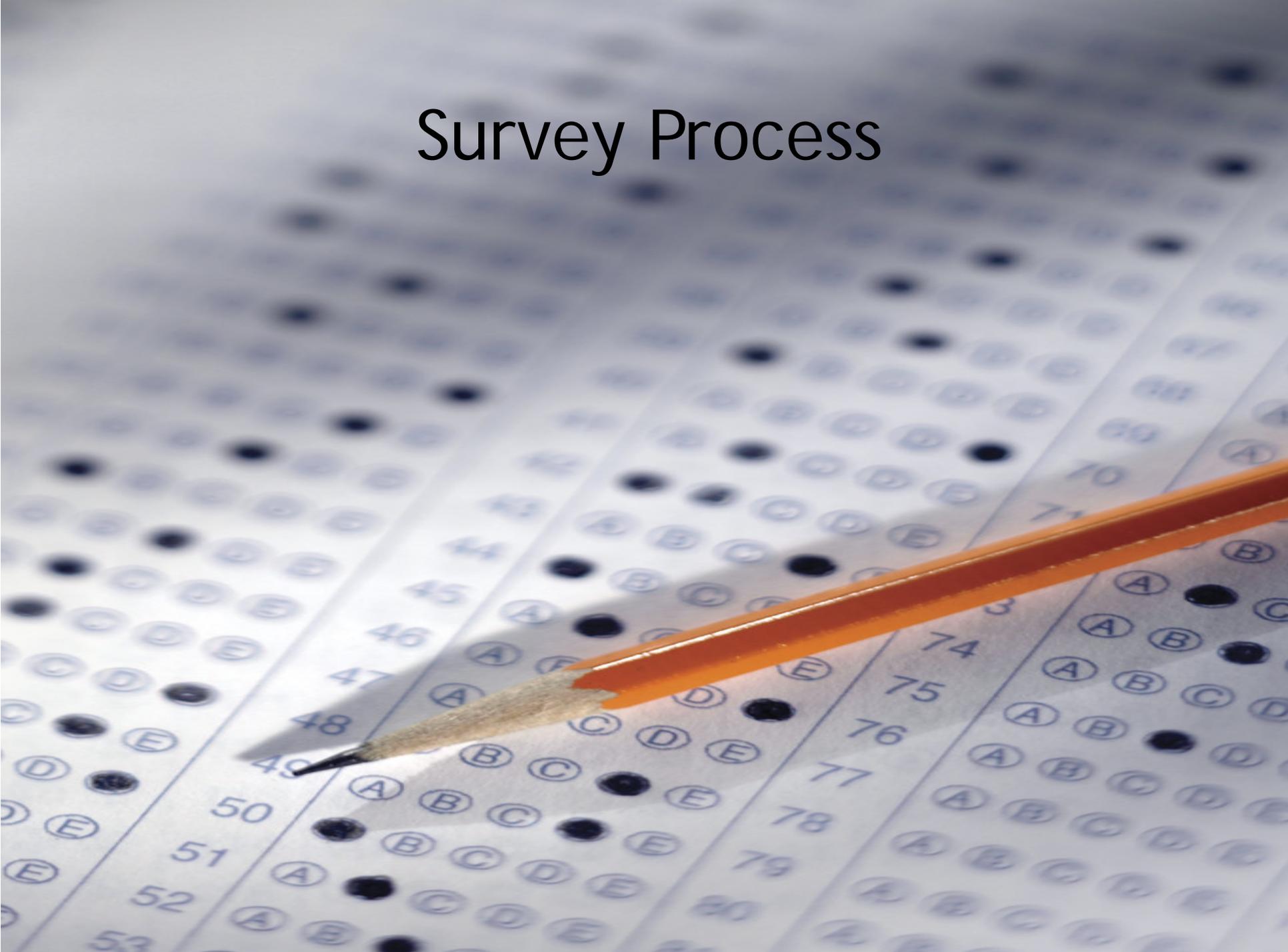
# How We Sample for the YRBS



# Clearance Packets Sent to Superintendents



# Survey Process



# Survey Coordination



Refusals, Refusals, Refusals



Do Kids Tell the Truth?



# Survey Analysis: What is Raking?



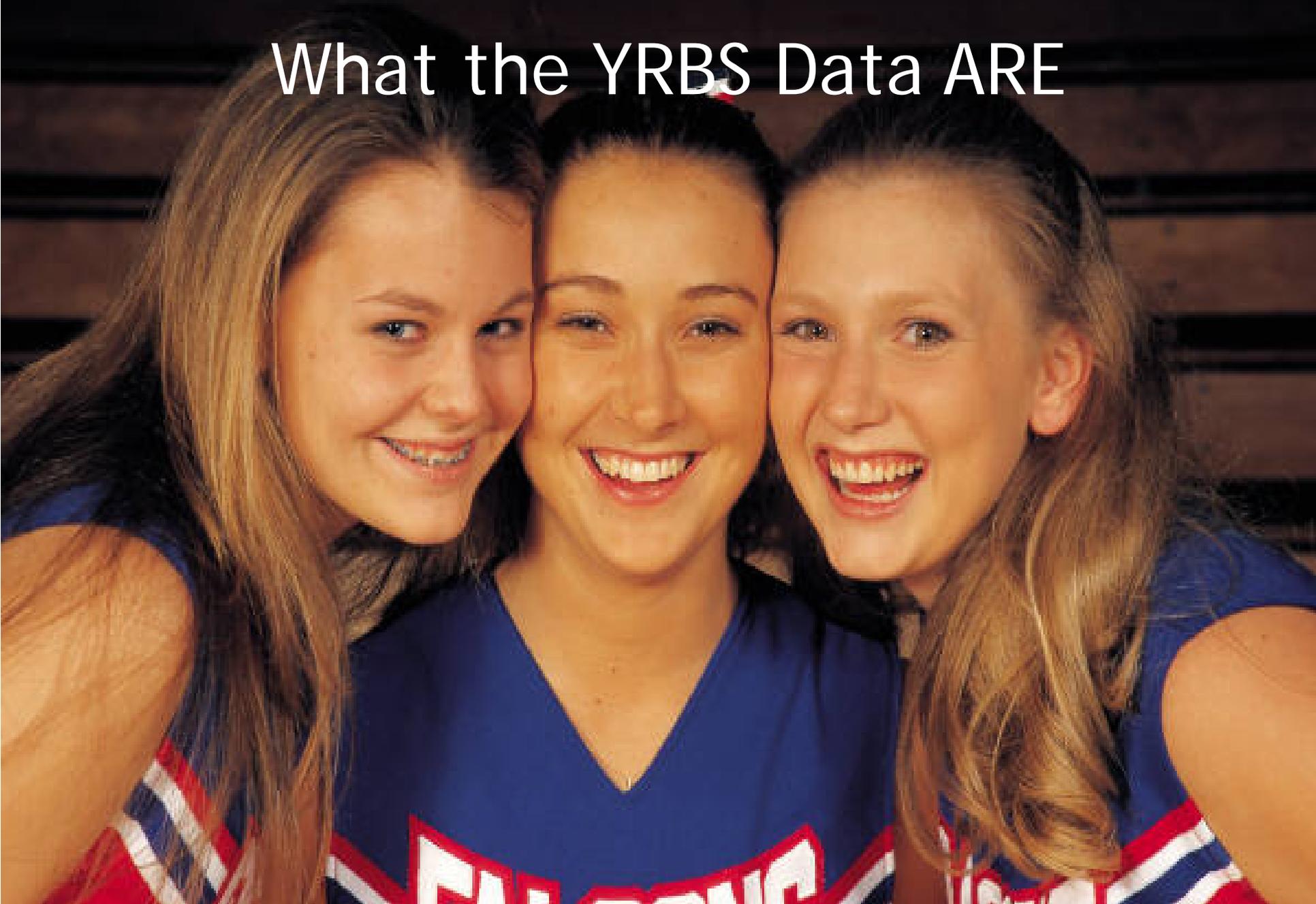
# Reporting the Data



# Uses of the YRBS Data



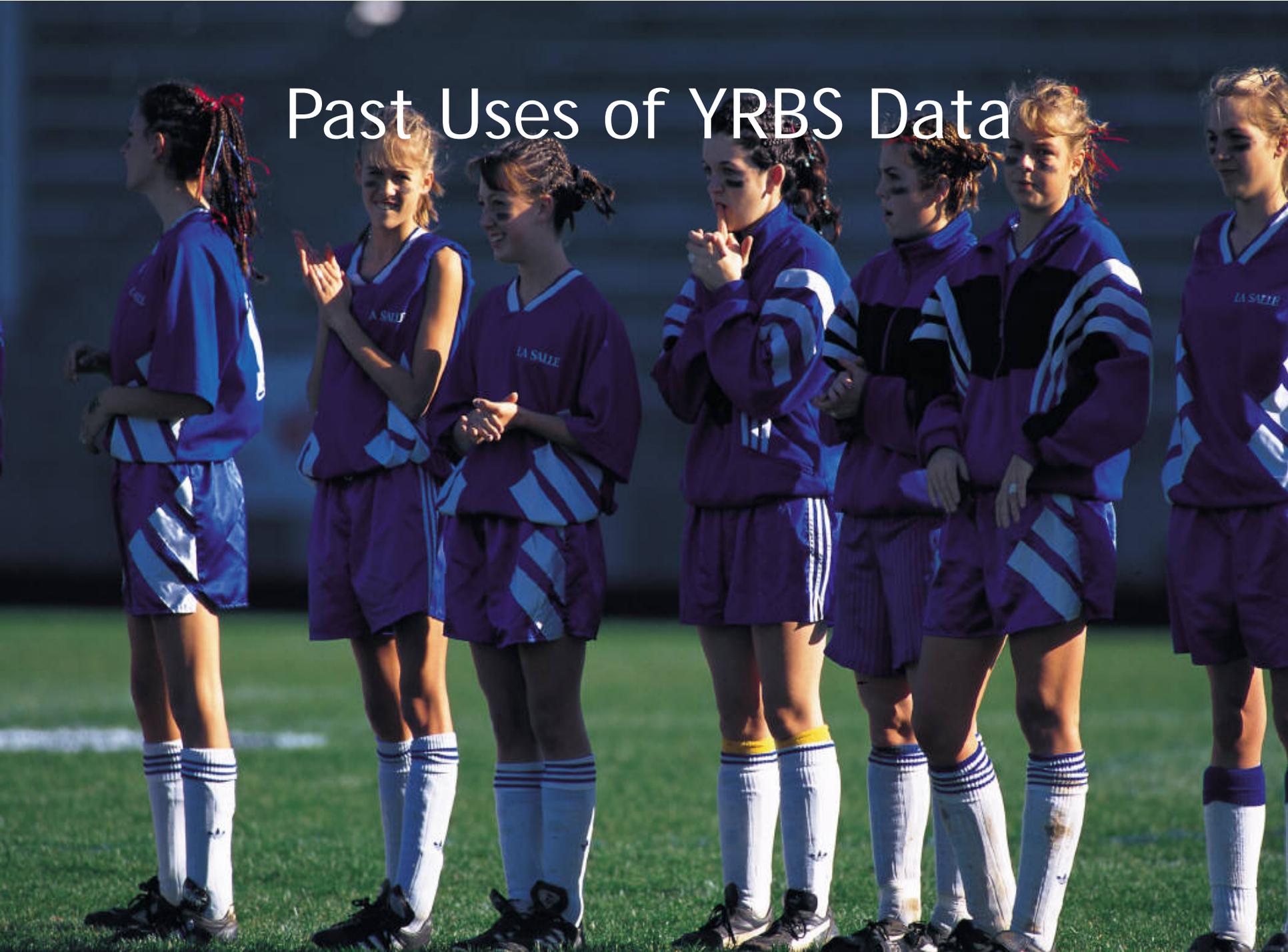
# What the YRBS Data ARE



# What the YRBS Data ARE NOT



# Past Uses of YRBS Data



# Future Uses of YRBS Data



# What Do We Learn From YRBS?

- Having mandates is important.
  - Compare the rates of students who never or rarely wear a seatbelt with students who never or rarely wear a bicycle helmet
  - 5.7% vs. 91.8%
- How does Texas measure up against the U.S.?
  - Students who never or rarely wear a seatbelt in the U.S. is 9.7%
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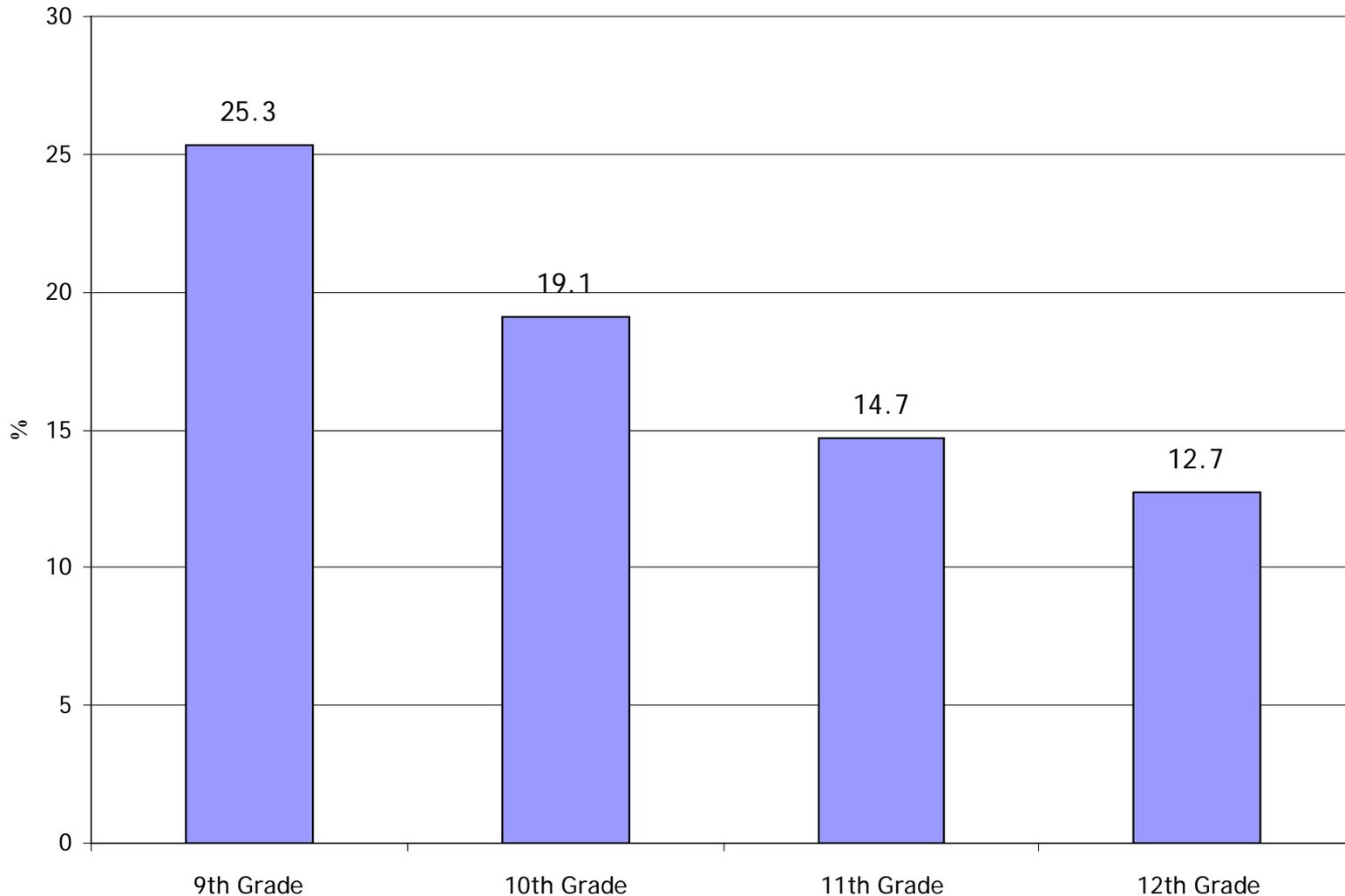
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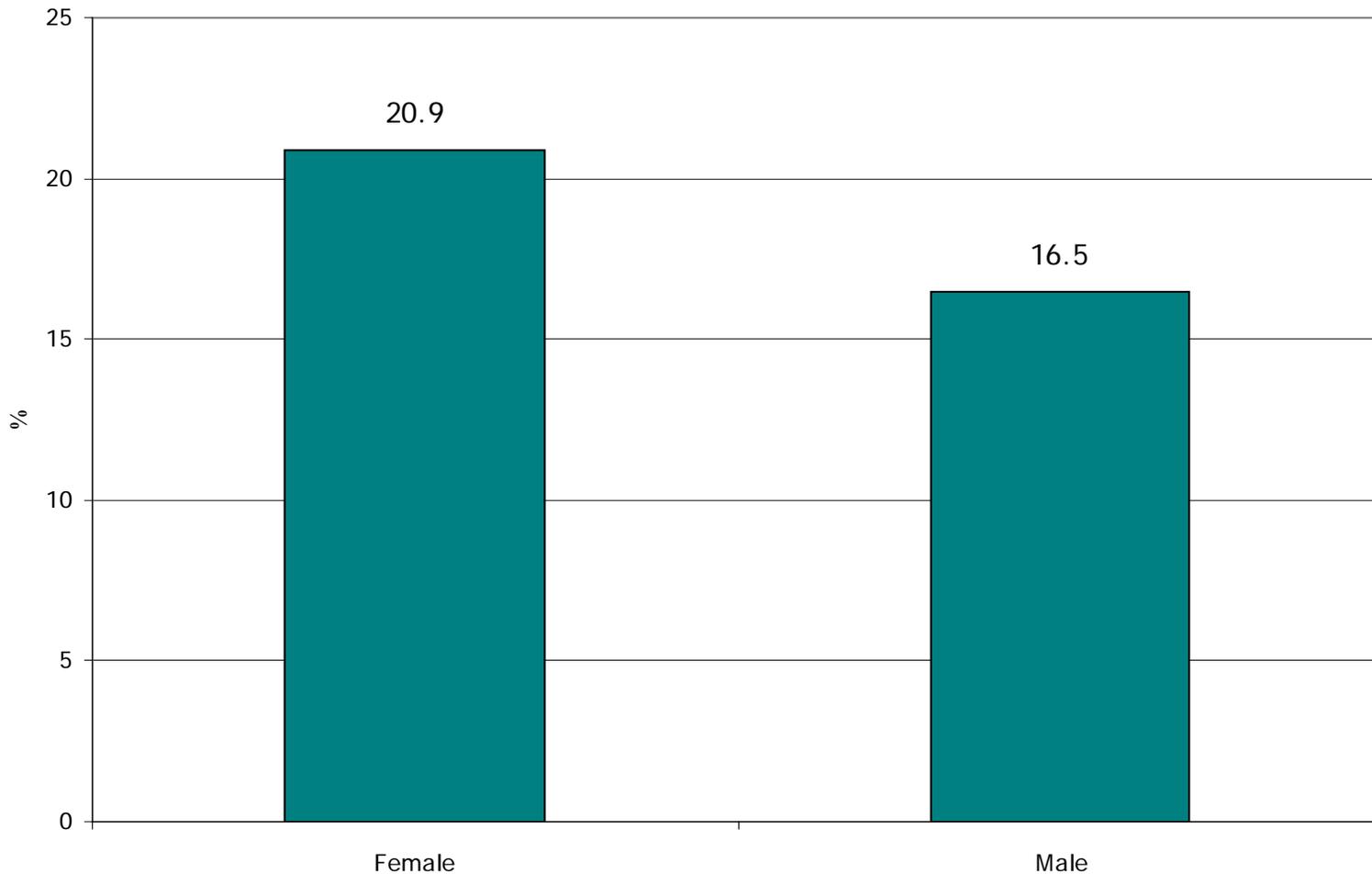
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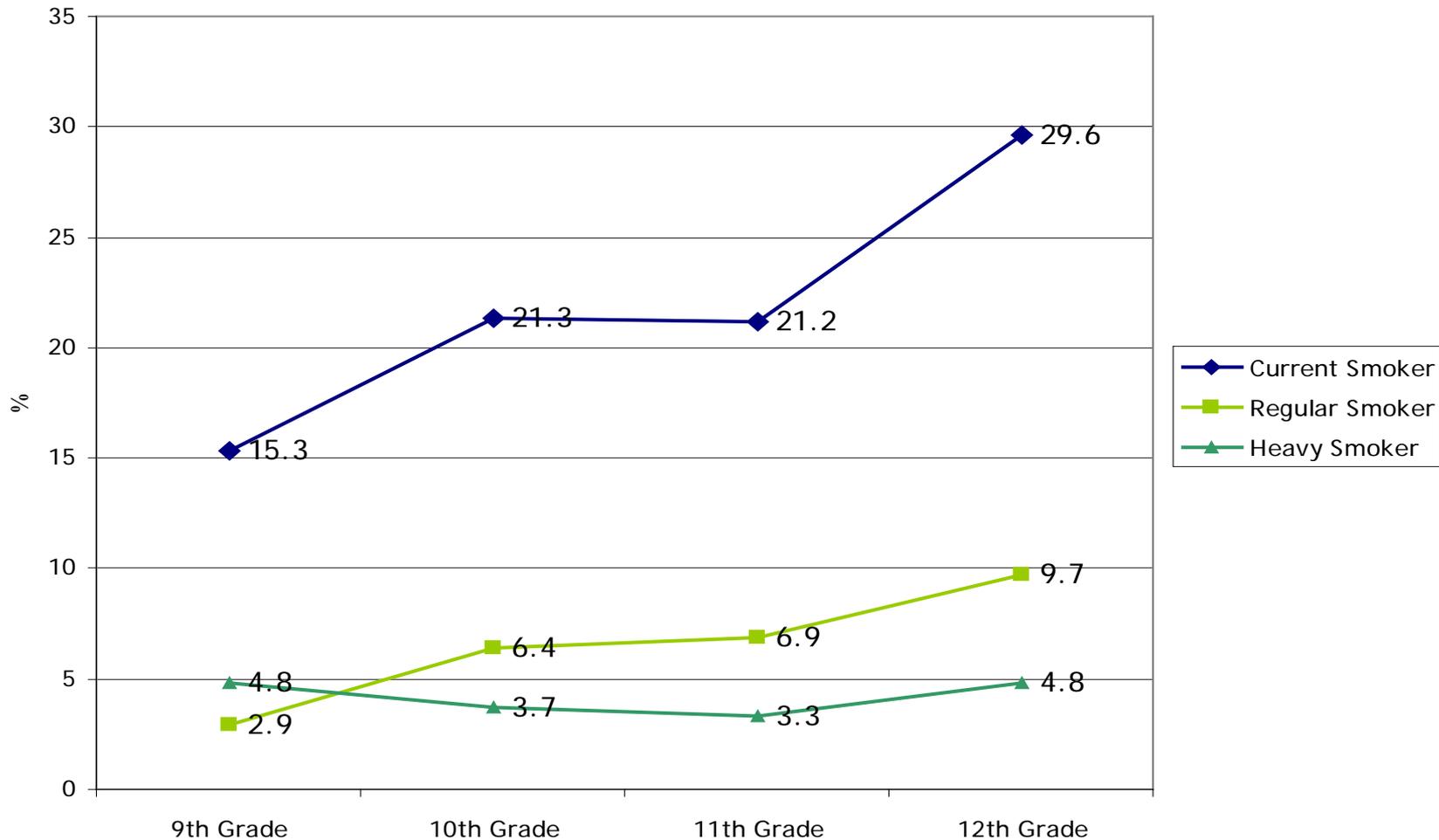
# Students who are Bullied on School Property by Grade, 2009 Texas YRBS



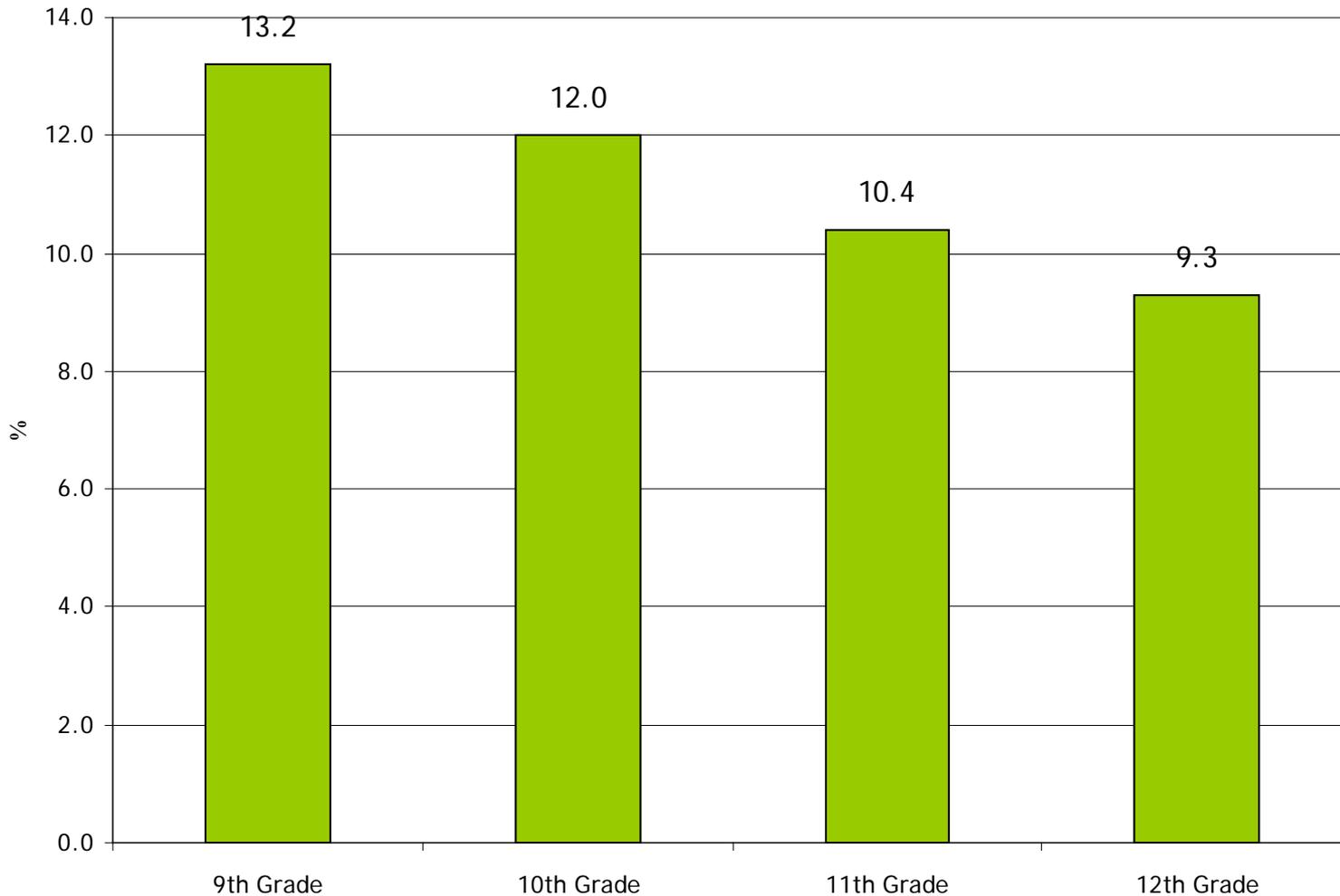
# Students who were Bullied on School Property by Sex, 2009 Texas YRBS



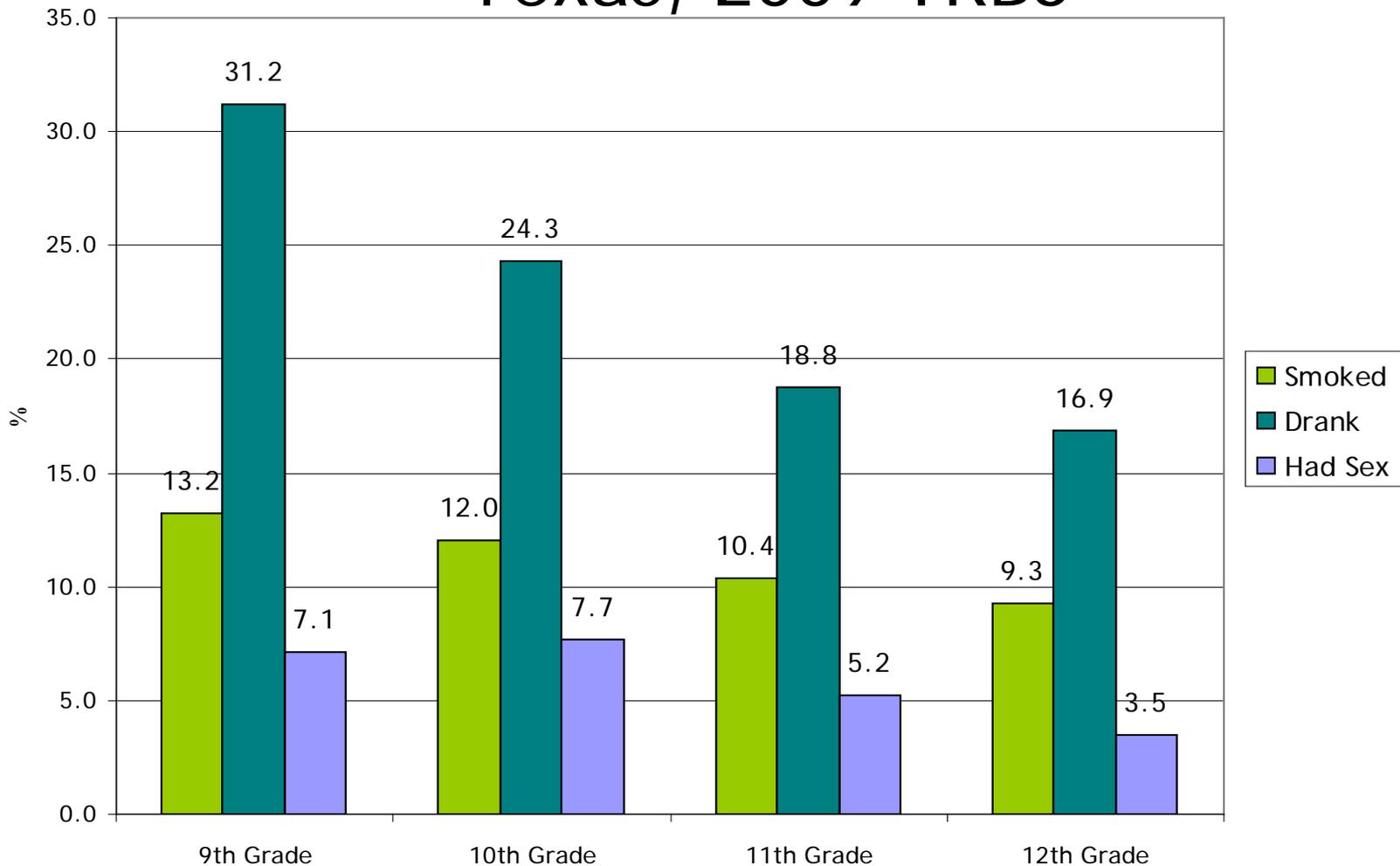
# Types of Smokers by Grade, 2009 Texas YRBS



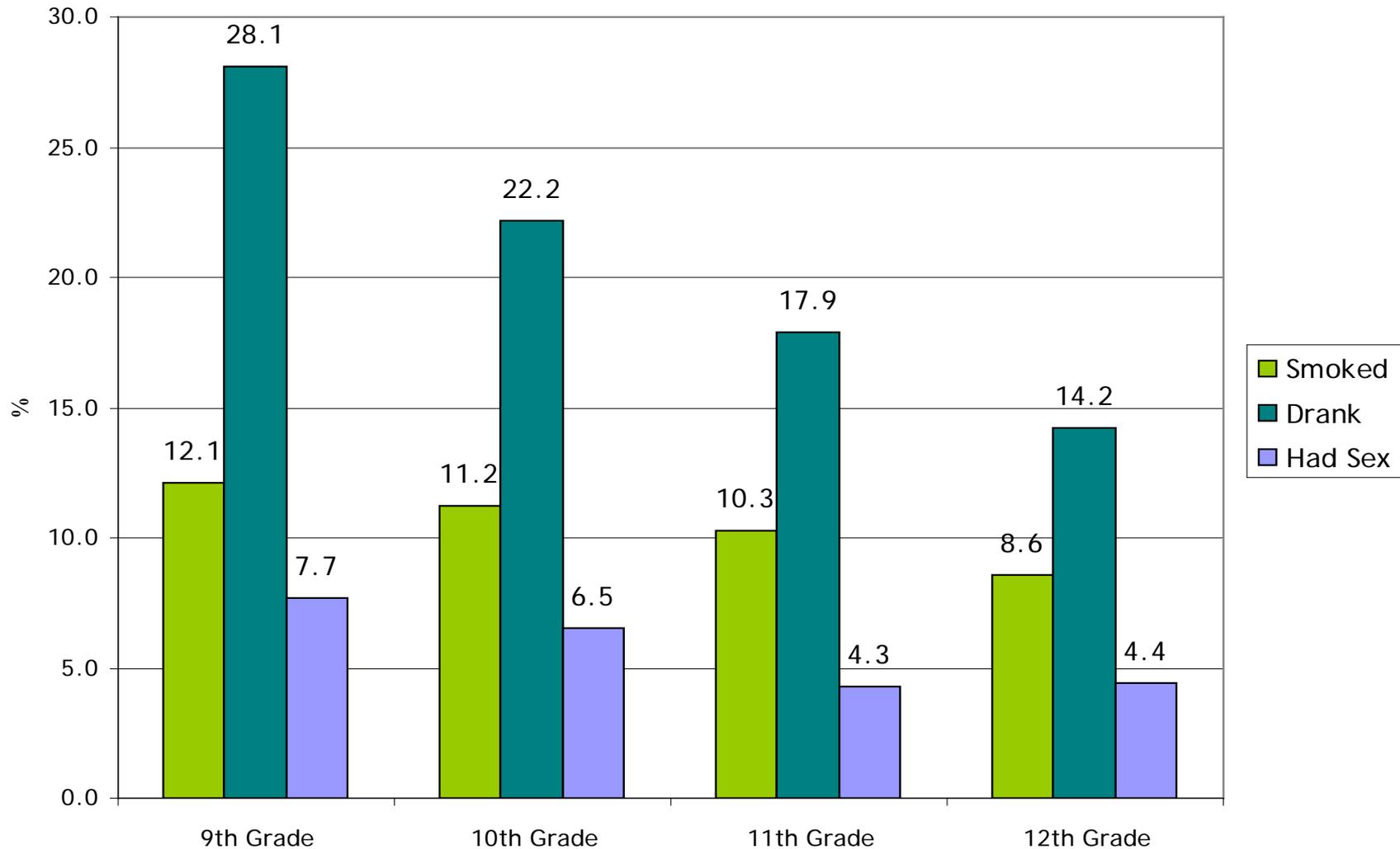
# Smoked First Whole Cigarette Before Age 13 by Grade, 2009 Texas YRBS



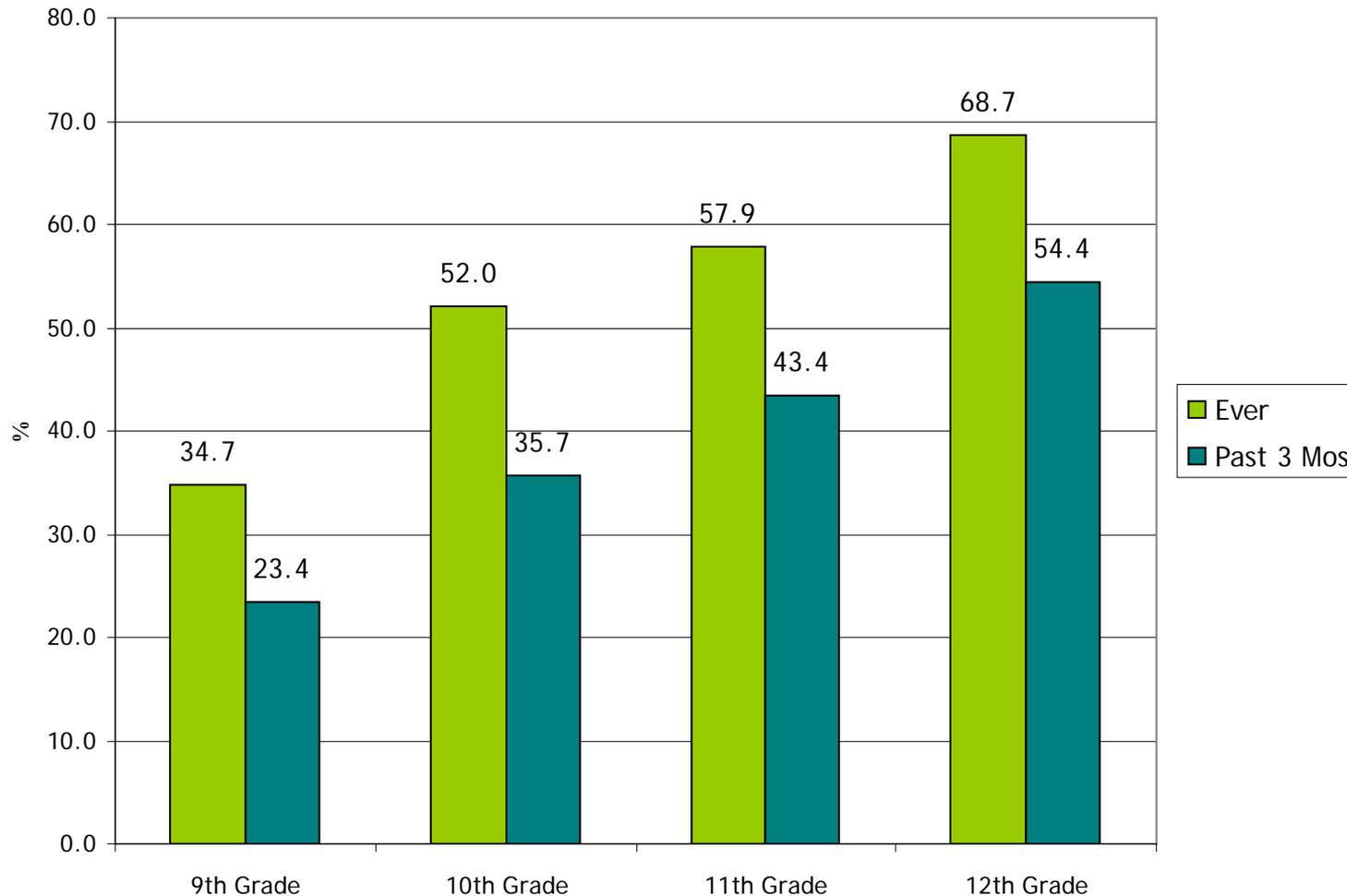
# Risk Behaviors Before the Age of 13 (Smoking, Drinking, Having Sex) in Texas, 2009 YRBS



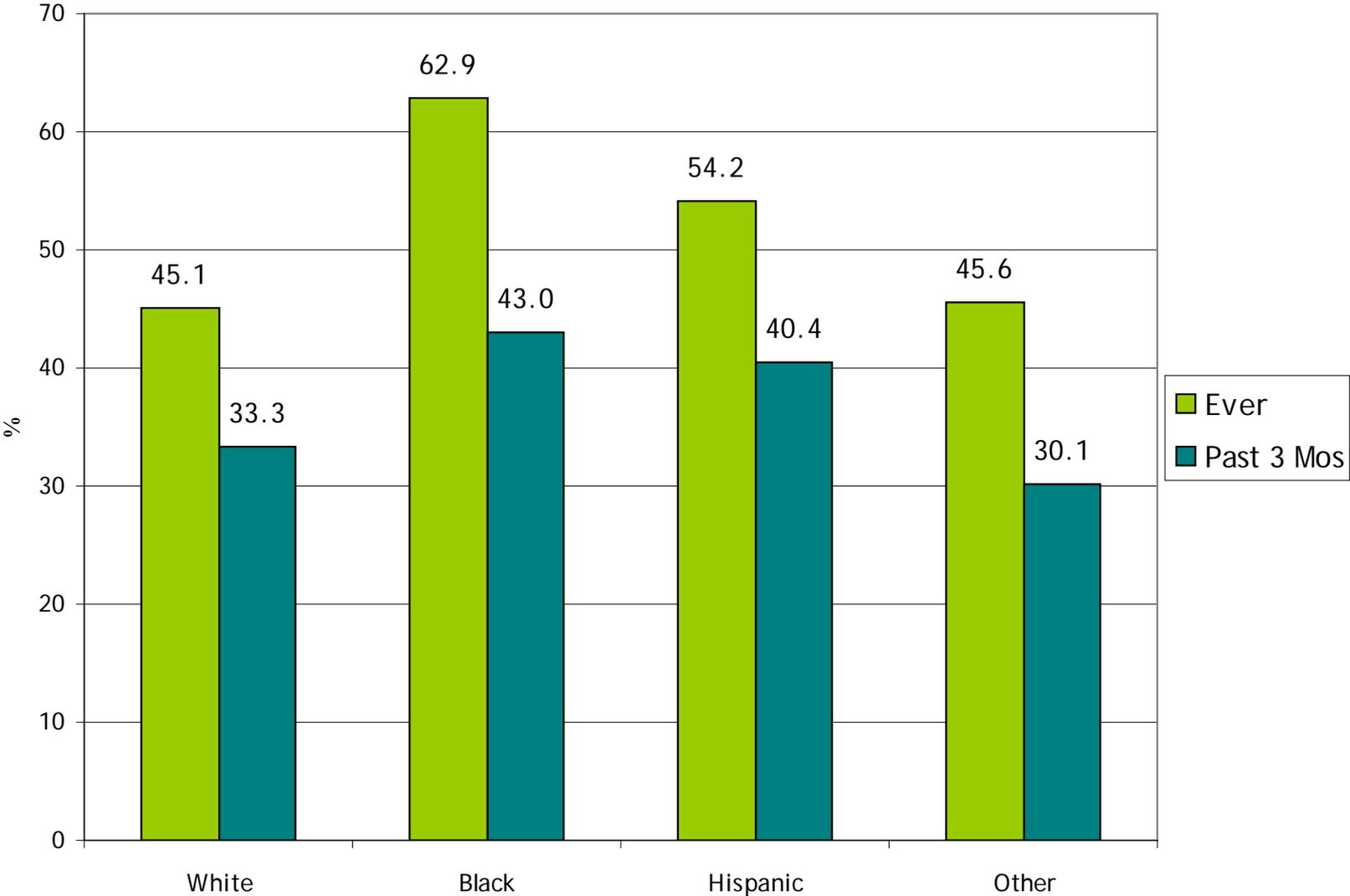
# Risk Behaviors Before the Age of 13 (Smoking, Drinking, Having Sex) in US, 2009 YRBS



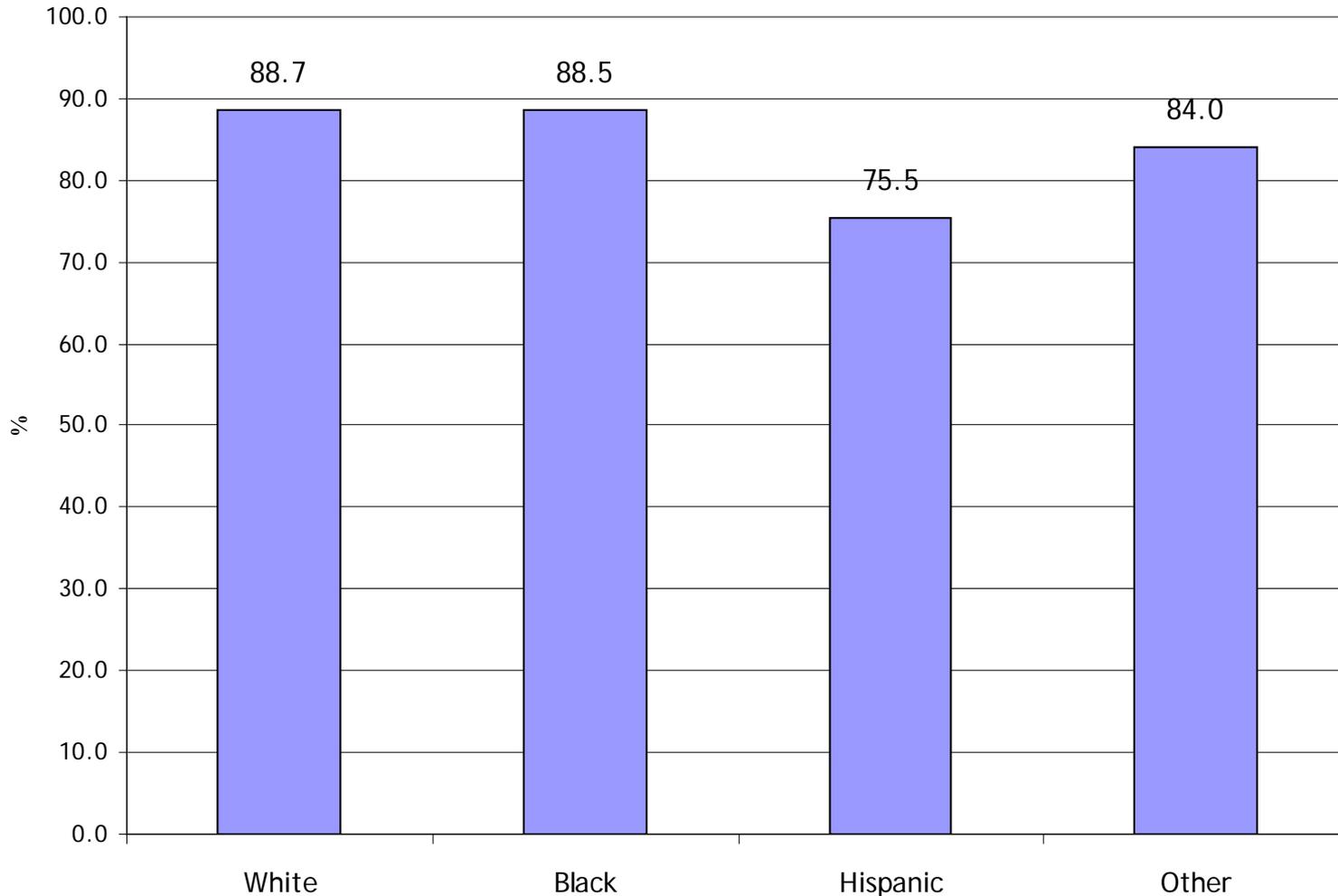
# Ever and Current Sexual Activity by Grade Level, 2009 Texas YRBS



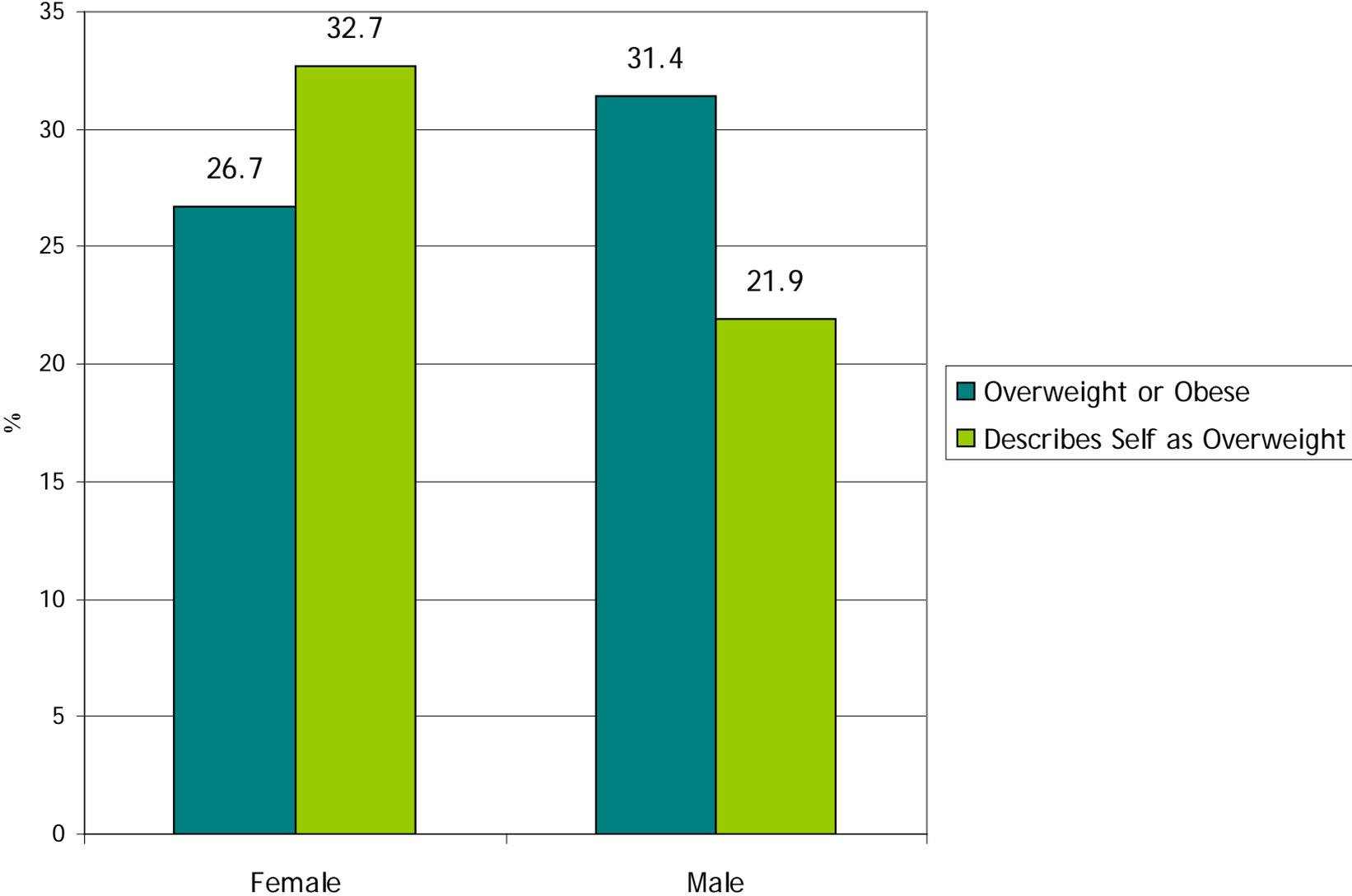
# Ever and Current Sexual Activity by Race/Ethnicity, 2009 Texas YRBS



# Students who have Ever Been Taught About HIV/AIDS by Race/Ethnicity, 2009 Texas YRBS



# Dichotomy of Self Perception vs. Reality of Overweight & Obesity by Sex, 2009 Texas YRBS



# Interpreting YRBS Data



# Things to Remember



Why use Estimates?



# Cost



# Logistics



Accuracy



# Bias



# Limitations of Estimates



# Technical Definition of a Confidence Interval

- Upon repeated sampling of the same population in the same manner, 95% of such confidence intervals would include the true value of the estimate
- There is a 5% probability that the estimate calculated within the confidence interval occurred solely by chance

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Quick and Dirty!



# Confidence Intervals: The Importance of Overlap



# A Closer Look at Confidence Intervals

	Sample size	Rate	Confidence Interval	
			Lower	Upper
Obesity	3,257	13.6	11.9	15.5
Obesity in 11th grade Hispanic Females	112	14.3	9.1	21.7

# A Closer Look at Confidence Intervals

Smoked a whole cigarette before age 13	Sample size	Rate	Confidence Interval	
			Lower	Upper
2001	6,831	21.3	18.5	24.3
2005	4,013	16.4	15.2	17.7
2007	3,279	14.3	12.7	15.9
2009	3,428	11.4	9.9	13.1

# A Closer Look at Confidence Intervals

Drove when Drinking Alcohol	Sample size	Rate	Confidence Interval	
			Lower	Upper
Female	1,621	8.5	6.7	10.8
Male	1,819	15.1	12.3	18.3

# YRBS Data Websites



# Where Do We Find YRBS Data?



# YRBS Data Online

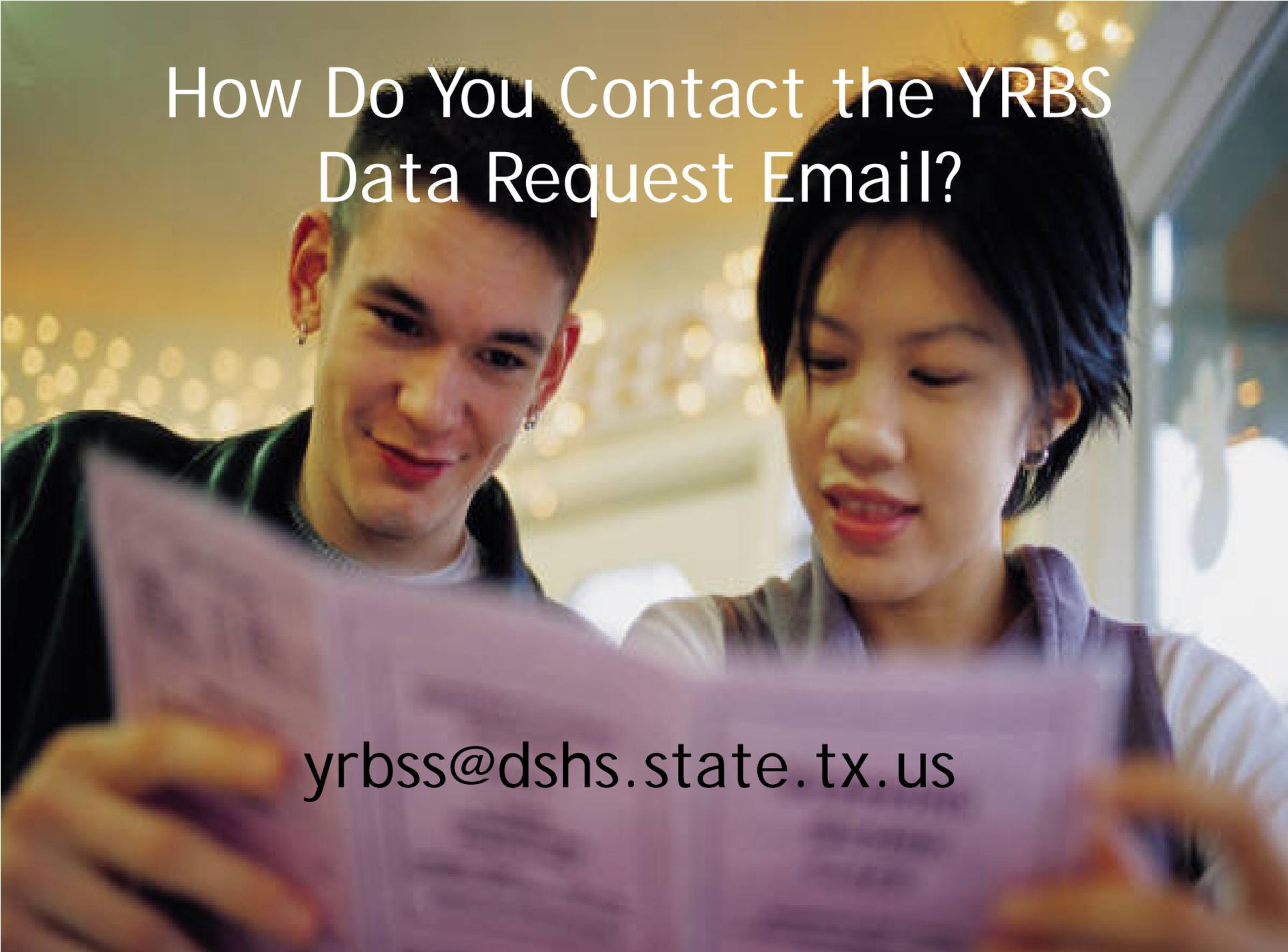
- DSHS website:  
<http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/yrbs>
- Please check your browser. May not work with Internet Explorer version 6.
- Does work with IE 7, 8 and 9, Firefox, and Chrome.
- CDC Youth Online:  
<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/youthonline>



When Will 2011 Data Be Available?

# Using the YRBS Data Request Email



A young man and woman are looking at a document together. The man is on the left, wearing a dark jacket, and the woman is on the right, wearing a light-colored shirt. They are both smiling and looking at the document. The background is a warm, bokeh-lit indoor setting.

# How Do You Contact the YRBS Data Request Email?

[yrbss@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:yrbss@dshs.state.tx.us)

You Can Also Request the Entire Dataset



# Example 1

Prevalence of Having Sex in the Last 3 months Among Current Smokers, Texas YRBS 2009				
			95% C.I.	
	Sample Size	Percent	Upper	Lower
Had Sex in Last 3 mos				
Yes	1233	37.4%	34.1%	40.8%
No	2054	11.6%	9.7%	13.8%
Note: All reported rates are weighted for Texas Public High School demographics and the probability of selection				
Prepared by: Community Assessment Team				
Center for Health Statistics				
Texas Department of State Health Services				
March 24, 2011				

# Example 2

Prevalence of Smoking Among High School Student Having Sex in the Last 3 months , Texas YRBS 2009				
	Sample Size	Percent	95% C.I.	
			Upper	Lower
Current smoker				
Yes	721	65.7%	62.1%	69.1%
No	2566	29.5%	26.6%	32.7%

Note: All reported rates are weighted for Texas Public High School demographics and the probability of selection

Prepared by: Community Assessment Team  
 Center for Health Statistics  
 Texas Department of State Health Services  
 March 24, 2011

# Example 3

Prevalence of Spending More than 3 Hours per Day on Computer or Watching TV among Obese or Overweight Teens by Gender , Texas YRBS 2009				
	Sample Size	Percent	95% C.I.	
			Upper	Lower
Gender				
Female	388	48.8%	43.6%	54.1%
Male	542	52.2%	47.8%	56.5%

Note: All reported rates are weighted for Texas Public High School demographics and the probability of selection

Prepared by: Community Assessment Team  
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# Conclusions



# Where Are You Now?

- You should know the story behind the YRBSS
- You should know where YRBS data come from and how they were collected
- You should know where to find them and how to interpret them
- You should feel comfortable talking about YRBS data

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# What comes next?

- Join the YRBS HSUG (if you haven't already)! There's a form up front.
- Fill out the evaluation form and give us feedback on this breakout.
- Consider attending our annual training in Austin next April!

Questions?



# Thank you for Spending Your Time with ME!

- You can always get more information from Jennifer Haussler Garing at 512-458-7111, x.2564 or

[jennifer.garing@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:jennifer.garing@dshs.state.tx.us)

- Data requests can be made to

[yrbss@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:yrbss@dshs.state.tx.us)

- Special thanks to the whole Community Assessment Team at CHS, Laura Kann at CDC and Lee Hilyer at University of Houston.