

2016 Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey
 Report for Frederick County, MD
 Risk Behaviors and Sexual Identity Report

The 2016 Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was administered to 10 high schools in Frederick County containing grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 to 3,816 students. 3,769 questionnaires were usable after data editing.

Note that the survey was not issued in 2015.

Comparison to Maryland by Year

11.9% of respondents to the 2016 YRBS in Frederick County reported that they described themselves as gay, lesbian, or bisexual. This is an increase from 8.9% in 2014 with the larger increase seen in the percent of respondents identifying as bisexual. An additional 4.6% reported being not sure in Frederick County in 2016. Frederick County continues to have slightly lower percentages of respondents identifying as gay, lesbian, or bisexual than Maryland.

The tables below shows Frederick County in comparison to Maryland for 2014 and 2016.

Frederick County	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	90.1%	87.1%	83.5%
Gay or Lesbian	2.0%	2.3%	3.2%
Bisexual	4.2%	6.6%	8.7%
Not sure	3.7%	4.1%	4.6%
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual	6.3%	8.9%	11.9%

2016 Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Question #67.

Maryland	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual		84.4%	82.2%
Gay or Lesbian		3.5%	3.7%
Bisexual		7.7%	9.0%
Not sure		4.3%	5.1%
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual	9.0%	11.2%	12.7%

2016 Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey, Question #67.

11.4% of Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual students reported being transgender, compared to 1.2% of Heterosexual students in 2016. This is the first year this question was asked.

Mental Health

These are the top three biggest differences between the Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students and the Heterosexual students who answered the survey questions:

1. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are FOUR TIMES (4.0) more likely than Heterosexual students to report having seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months. A decrease was seen for both heterosexual and gay, lesbian or bisexual students from 2014 to 2016.

Considered Suicide	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	12.9%	12.8%	11.7%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	50.7%	51.5%	46.5%

2016 YRBS Question #26, 2014 #27, 2013 #27

2. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are FOUR TIMES (3.7) more likely than Heterosexual students to report having made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months. More than a third of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported having a plan for suicide, which was a slight decrease from 2014.

Made Suicide Plan	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	9.8%	9.9%	10.2%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	37.3%	42.2%	38.0%

2016 YRBS Question #27, 2014 #28, 2013 #28

3. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are almost THREE TIMES (2.7) more likely than Heterosexual students to report feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities during the past 12 months. Almost 2/3 of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported feeling this way, which was a continued increase from 2013 and 2014.

Feel Sad or Hopeless	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	21.6%	24.1%	23.6%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	51.8%	59.2%	62.9%

2016 YRBS Question #25, 2014 #26, 2013 #26

- One in four (29.6%) of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported not having an adult outside of school they can talk to about things that are important to them, compared to 10.2% of Heterosexual students. This was an increase from 26.8% of LGB students in 2014. (2016 YRBS Question #117, 2014 #110)
- Almost 1 in 3 (30.5%) of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (up from 24.7%) reported that they do not feel comfortable seeking help from adults besides their parents if they had an important question affecting their life, compared to 18% of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #118, 2014 #111)

Unintentional Injury and Violence

These are the top two biggest differences between the Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students and the Heterosexual students who answered the survey questions on unintentional injury and violence:

1. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are TWO TIMES (1.9) more likely than Heterosexual students to report ever being bullied on school property during the past 12 months: 34.2% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students compared to 17.6% of Heterosexual students. Both group answers showed a decrease from 2014.

Bullied on School Property	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	22.5%	20.0%	17.6%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	45.7%	43.8%	34.2%

2016 YRBS Question #23, 2014 #24, 2013 #24

2. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are almost THREE TIMES (2.7) more likely than Heterosexual students to report experiencing sexual violence (being forced by anyone to do sexual things [counting such things as kissing, touching, or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse] that they did not want to, one or more times during the 12 months before the survey) before the survey. A quarter (24.7%) of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported this answer as compared to 9.1% of heterosexual students.

Sexual Violence	2016
Heterosexual	9.1%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	24.7%

2016 YRBS Question #20

- More than a quarter (26.6%) of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported ever being electronically bullied during the past 12 months (down from 33.6% in 2014), compared to 13.2% of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #24, 2014 #25)
- One in five (18.4%) of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (down from 20% in 2014) reported being in a physical fight on school property one or more times during the past 12 months, compared to 7.0% of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #18, 2014 Question #20)
- Three times more Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (18.4%, up from 16.5% in 2014) reported ever being physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to, compared to 6.0% of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #19, 2014 #21)
- Three times more Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (14.7%, down from 29.1% in 2014) reported experiencing sexual dating violence (being forced by someone they were dating or going out with to do sexual things [counting such things as kissing, touching, or being physically forced to have sexual intercourse] that they did not want to, one or more times during the 12 months before the survey, among students who dated or went out with someone during the 12 months before the survey), compared to 4.6% of Heterosexual students (down from 9.5% in 2014). (2016 YRBS Question #21, 2014 #23)

Unintentional Injury and Violence, continued

- 15.5% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported experiencing physical dating violence one or more times during the 12 months before the survey, including being physically hurt on purpose by someone they were dating or going out with [counting such things as being hit, slammed into something, or injured with an object or weapon] one or more times during the 12 months before the survey, among students who dated or went out with someone during the 12 months before the survey, compared to 6.3% of Heterosexual students (2016 YRBS Question #22, 2014 #22)
- 14.3% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (down from 16.7% in 2014) reported being threatened or injured with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property one or more times during the past 12 months, compared to 6.5% of Heterosexual students, down from 7.0% in 2013. (2016 YRBS Question #16, 2014 #17)
- 8.9% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported that carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property on one or more of the past 30 days (down from 9.4% in 2014), compared to 4.5% of Heterosexual students, up from 3.4%. (2016 YRBS Question #13, 2014 #15)

Sexual Behaviors

These are the biggest differences between the Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students and the Heterosexual students who answered the survey questions on sexual activity:

1. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are ONE AND A HALF TIMES (1.5) more likely than Heterosexual students to report drinking alcohol or using drugs before last sexual intercourse (among students who were currently sexually active). More than half Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported this answer, compared to over a third of Heterosexual students: 34.3% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students compared to 22.4% of Heterosexual students.

Alcohol or Drugs Before Sex	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	25.6%	24.4%	22.4%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	29.8%	31.7%	34.3%

2016 & 2013 YRBS Question #63, 2014 Question #64

- 63.2% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (decreased from 62.8% in 2014) reported not using a condom during last sexual intercourse among students who were currently sexually active, compared to 43.8% of Heterosexual students, up from, 34.4% in 2014. (2016 YRBS Question #64, 2014 Question #65)
- 37.6% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (down from 39.2% in 2014) reported ever having sexual intercourse, compared to 28.4% of Heterosexual students, down from 29.4% in 2014. (2016 YRBS Question #59 and 2014 Question #60)
- 27.9% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (down from 28.6% in 2014) reported being currently sexually active (had sexual intercourse with at least one person during the 3 months before the survey), compared to 20.7% of Heterosexual students, same in 2014. (2016 YRBS Question #61 and 2014 Question #62, 2014 Question #63)
- 13.3% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (down from 13.2% in 2014) reported having had sexual intercourse with four or more people during their life, compared to 6.3% of Heterosexual students, same in 2014. (2016 YRBS Question #61 and 2014 Question #62)
- 7.4% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students (up from 7.2% in 2014) reported having sexual intercourse before age 13 years, compared to 2.4% of Heterosexual students, same in 2014. (2016 YRBS Question #60 and 2014 Question #61)

Tobacco Use

These are the top three biggest differences between the Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students and the Heterosexual students who answered the survey questions on substance abuse:

1. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are THREE TIMES (3.4) more likely than Heterosexual students to report currently frequently smoking cigarettes on 20 or more days during the 30 days before the survey. Both groups saw significant decreases.

Smoke Cigarettes Frequently	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	3.8%	2.1%	1.6%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	13.0%	7.5%	5.4%

YRBS Question FRCIG

2. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are almost FOUR TIMES (3.8) more likely than Heterosexual students to report currently smoking cigarettes daily on all 30 days during the 30 days before the survey. Both groups saw significant decreases.

Smoke Cigarettes Daily	2014	2016
Heterosexual	2.1%	0.9%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	7.5%	3.4%

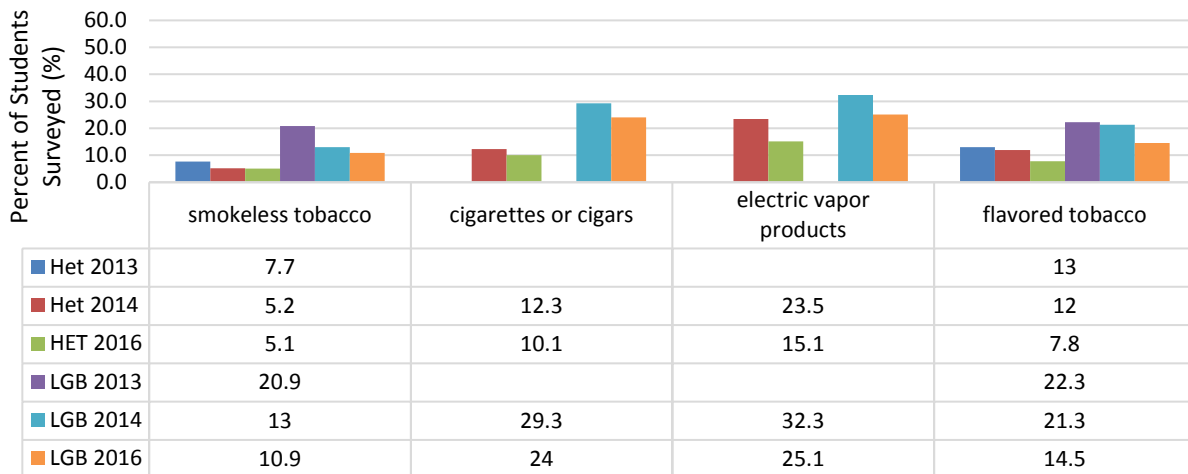
YRBS Question DAYCIG

3. Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are THREE TIMES (3.1) more likely than Heterosexual students to report having smoked a whole cigarette before age 13 years (for the first time). Both groups saw significant decreases.

Smoked Whole Cigarette Before Age 13	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	6.1%	5.2%	4.6%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	24.5%	18.1%	14.4%

2016 YRBS Question #94, 2014 #32, 2013 #32

Frederick County High School Students who reported using the following tobacco products at least once in the last 30 days, 2013, 2014, and 2016

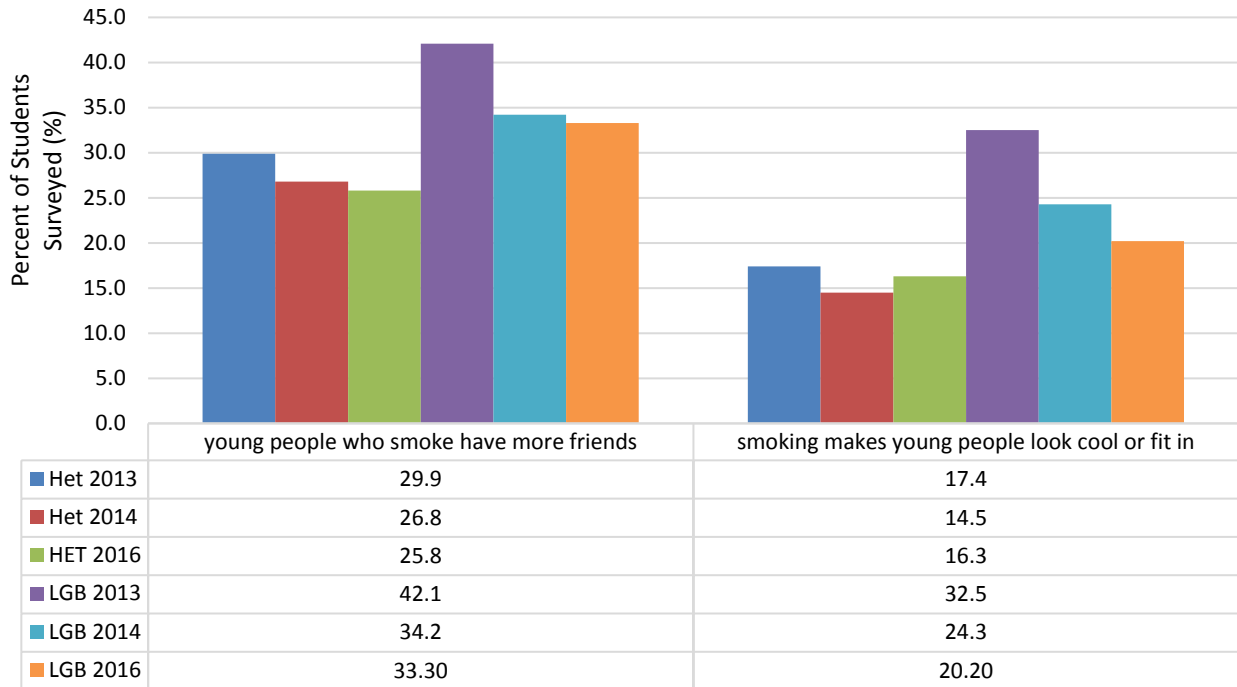


2016 YRBS Questions #35, 37, TB3, 102

Tobacco Use continued

- Use of smokeless tobacco, cigarettes or cigars, electronic vapor products, and flavored tobacco are all consistently higher for Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students than Heterosexual students. Rates of use are decreasing for both groups.
- 36.4% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported being in the same room with someone who was smoking cigarettes on at least one day during the 7 days before the survey, compared to 21.3% of Heterosexual students, showing a continued decrease for both groups. (2014: 43.3% LGB, 26.4% Het; 2013: 50.8% LGB, 30.8% Het) (2016 YRBS Question #107, 2014 #101, 2013 #98)
- 35.0% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students live with someone who now smokes cigarettes or cigars, compared to 26.4% of Heterosexual students, showing a continued decrease for both groups. (2014: 42.1% LGB, 32.4% het; 2013: 55.9% LGB, 34.1% Het) (2016 YRBS Question #105, 2014 #99, 2013 #96)
- 24.4% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students described the rule about smoking inside the home where they live is that it is always allowed inside their home or allowed only at some times or in some places, compared to 12.6% of Heterosexual students. (2014: 24.8% LGB, 11.6% Het; 2013: 34.1% LGB, 13% Het) (2016 YRBS Question #106, 2014 #100, 2013 #97)
- 16.2% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported ever using an electronic vapor product to smoke marijuana, THC or hash oil, or THC wax, compared to 8.1% of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #100)
- 14.4% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students smoked a whole cigarette before age 13 years (for the first time), compared to 4.6% of Heterosexual students, showing a continued decrease for both groups, showing a continued decrease for both groups. (2014: 18.1% LGB, 5.2% het; 2013: 24.5% LGB, 6.1% Het) (2016 YRBS Question #94, 2014 #32, 2013 #32)
- 11.1% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students smoked tobacco in a hookah, narghile, or other type of waterpipe (on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey), compared to 3.5% of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #98)

Frederick County High School Students who reported thoughts on tobacco use, 2013, 2014, and 2016



2016 Questions 113 and 114, 2014 #106 and 107

- Perceptions that young people who smoke have more friends and that smoking makes young people look cool or fit in are consistently higher for Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students than Heterosexual students. These perceptions are decreasing for both groups.

Alcohol Use

Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students are more than TWO TIMES (2.2) more likely than Heterosexual students to report having their first drink of alcohol other than a few sips before age 13 years. More than a quarter of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported this answer, but responses have decreased for both groups.

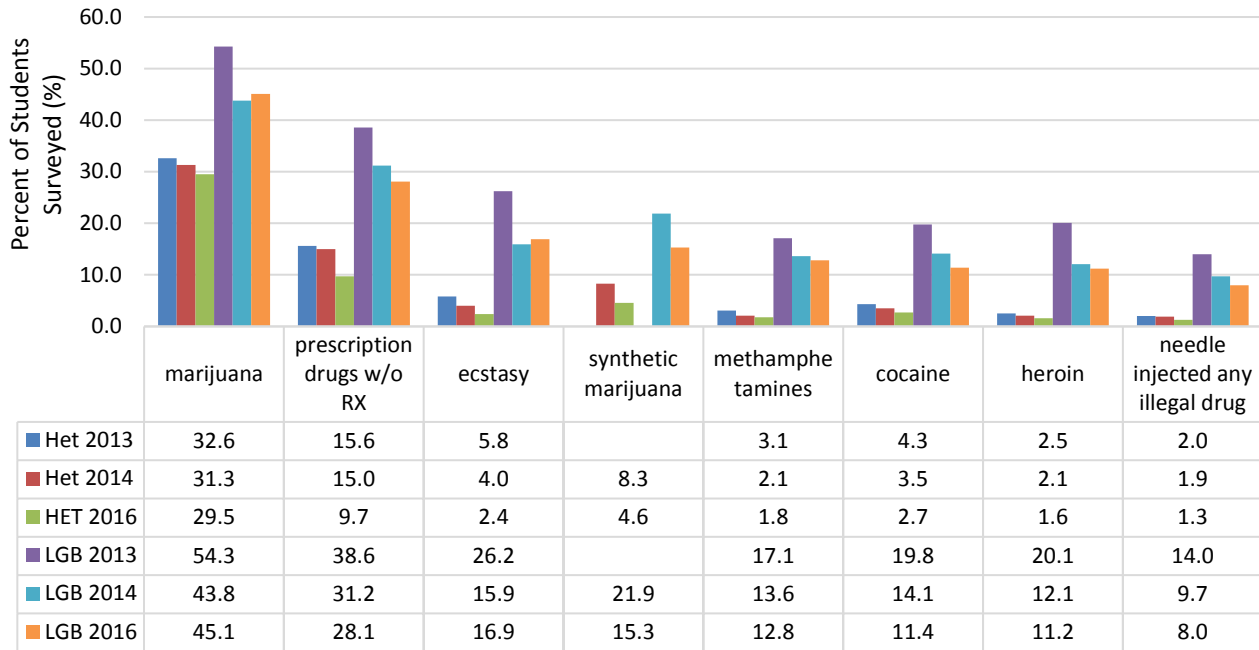
First Alcohol Before Age 13	2013	2014	2016
Heterosexual	15.8%	14.7%	12.1%
Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual	37.2%	31.2%	26.3%

2016 YRBS Question #41, 2014 Question #42, 2013 Question #42

- 72.9% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported having at least one drink of alcohol on at least 1 day during their life, compared to 56.5% of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #40)
- 46.8% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students strongly or somewhat approve or neither approve nor disapprove of someone their age having one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage nearly every day, compared to one third (34.0%) of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #115, 2014 Question #108)
- 24.9% of Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students think people are at no risk or slight risk of harming themselves (physically and in other ways) if they have five or more drinks of alcohol once or twice a week (such as beer, wine, or liquor), compared to one fifth (20.7%) of Heterosexual students. (2016 YRBS Question #116, 2014 #109)

Other Drug Use

Frederick County High School Students who reported using the following substances one or more times, 2013, 2014, and 2016



YRBS Questions #46, 49-57

- Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported using the ALL of the substances listed above on one at consistently higher rates than Heterosexual students.
- Use is decreasing for both groups for all substances except marijuana use among Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students.
- Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual students reported ever using...

Marijuana	1.5 TIMES
prescription pain medicine without a doctor's prescription	THREE TIMES
Ecstasy	SEVEN TIMES
synthetic marijuana	More than THREE TIMES
methamphetamine	More than SEVEN TIMES
cocaine	More than FOUR TIMES
Heroin	SEVEN TIMES
injecting any illegal drug	More than SIX TIMES

...than Heterosexual students.