


Youth Risk Behavior Surveys

INJURY PREVENTION

LOUISIANA 2008 & 2009



 **LPHI**
Louisiana Public Health Institute

 Louisiana Department of
EDUCATION
PAUL G. PASTOREK | STATE SUPERINTENDENT
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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INJURY PREVENTION 2008 & 2009



LOUISIANA STATISTICS

In 2009, 92.9% of Louisiana students either never or rarely wore a helmet while riding a bicycle (Figure 1). This is a slight improvement from 2008, with 95.9% never/rarely wearing a helmet. However, it is much higher than the national average of 84.7% in 2009.

- » In both survey years, female and male students were very similar in their tendency to not wear helmets while riding bicycles. Likewise, black and white students were similar in 2008, as were all grades in 2009 (Figure 1).

ABOUT INJURIES

- » Injuries are the leading cause of death and disability in people 1 to 34 years of age in the U.S.
- » Injuries requiring medical attention affect more than 20 million children and adolescents and cost 17 billion dollars per year for medical treatment.
- » Injuries are not accidents. They can be prevented by changing the environment, individual behavior, products, social norms, legislation, and governmental and institutional policy¹.

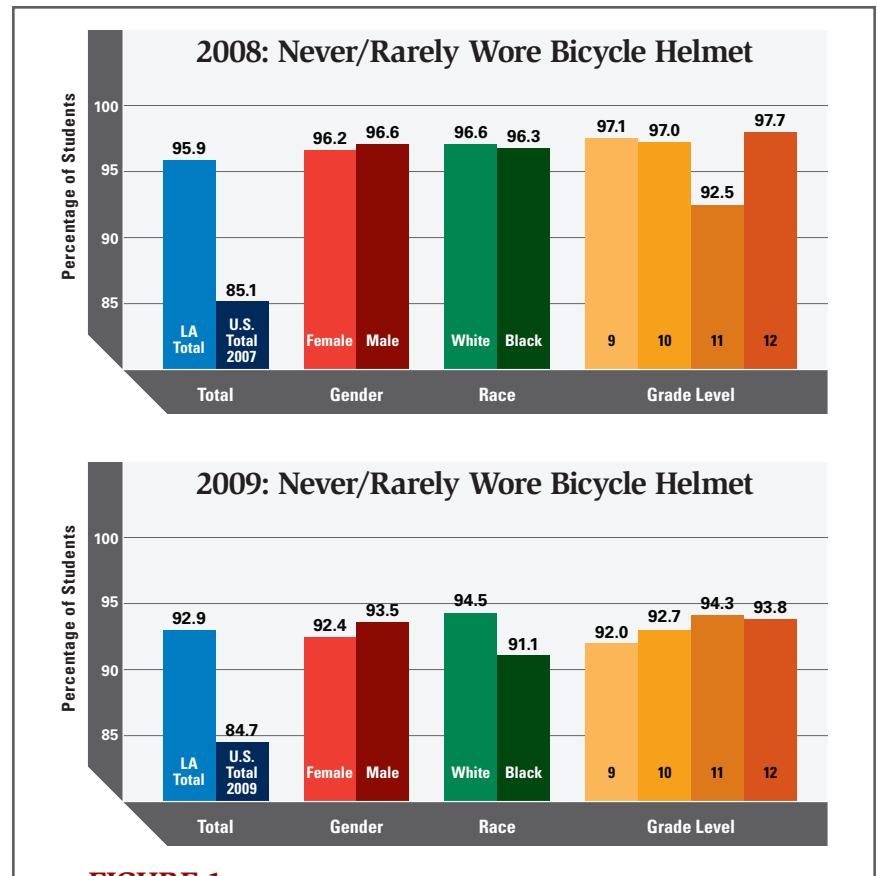


FIGURE 1

NEVER OR RARELY WORE SEAT BELT

In 2009, only 12.8% of Louisiana students never or rarely wore a seat belt, a slight increase from 11.1% in 2008 (Figure 2). In 2009, nationally only 9.7% never or rarely wore a seat belt, a slight improvement from 2008 with 11.1%.

- » Male students were more likely not wear a seat belt than female students (Figure 2).

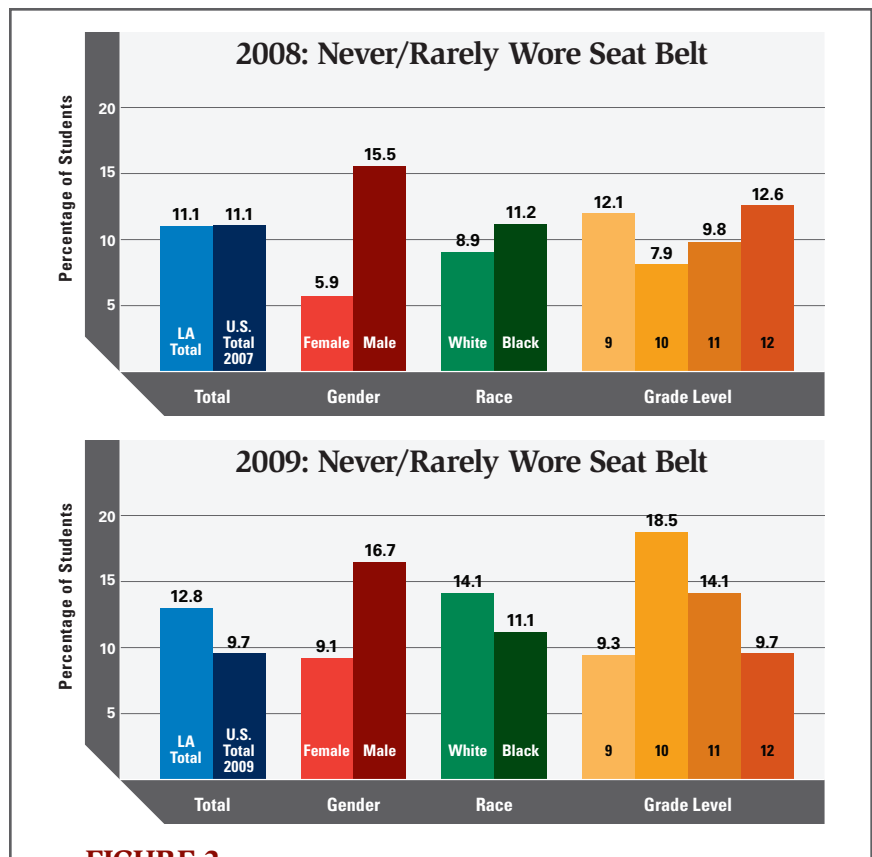


FIGURE 2

RODE IN VEHICLE AT LEAST ONE TIME WITH DRINKING DRIVER

In 2009, 35.9% of Louisiana students rode at least one time in the past month with someone who had been drinking alcohol (Figure 3). This is an increase from 2008 (32.2%). National percentages were lower, with 28.3% of students having ridden with someone who was drinking in 2009.

- » In both years, the percentages were similar between genders and races. However, increases occurred in all gender and race groups.

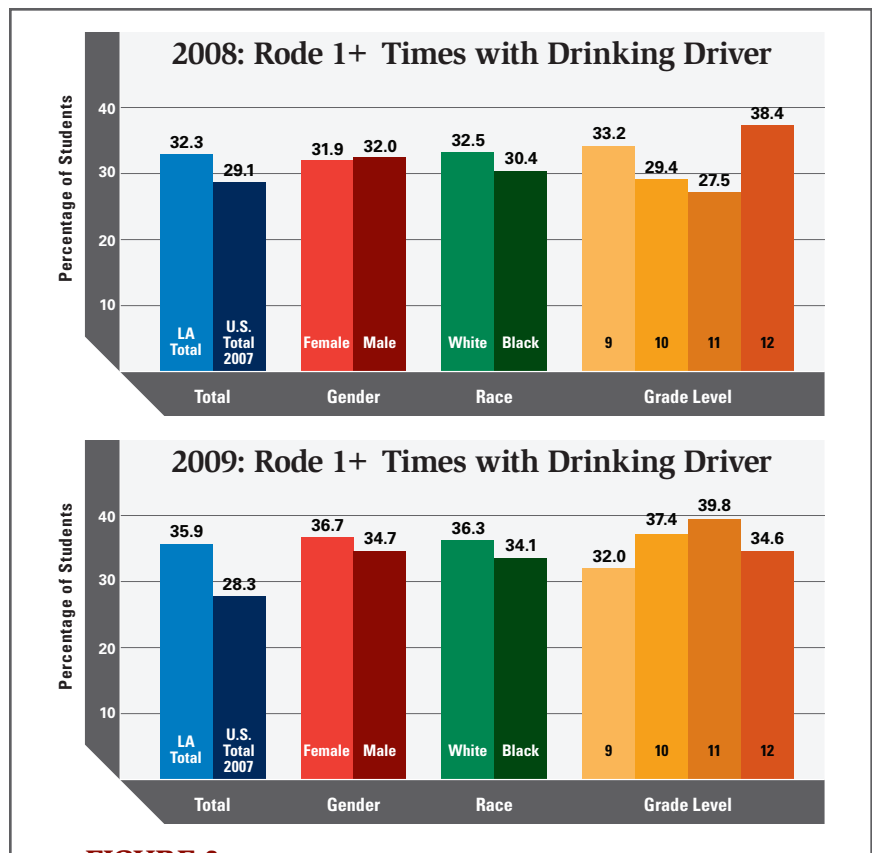


FIGURE 3

¹ Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/injury/facts.htm>

DROVE VEHICLE AT LEAST ONE TIME WHEN DRINKING

In 2009, 13.9% of Louisiana students drove at least once in the past 30 days when they had been drinking alcohol, an increase from 2008 (11.4%) (Figure 4). National averages were slightly lower than in Louisiana, with 9.7% of students having driven after drinking in 2009, and 10.5% in 2008.

- » In both survey years, male students drank and drove more often than female students, and white students more often than black students by a factor of 3 (Figure 4).
- » The percentage of students who drove while/after drinking generally increased with grade level in both years.

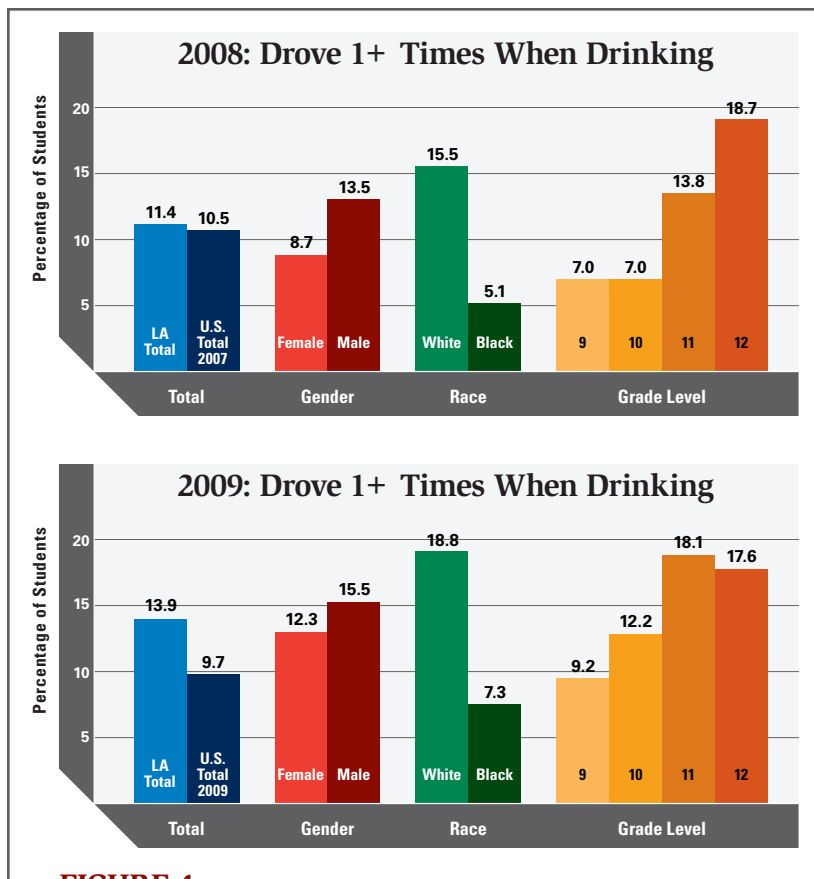


FIGURE 4

For more information on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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