

TEEN ASSESSMENT PROJECT

2018 Report



Tapping into Teen Concerns, Perceptions and Behaviors in Southampton Town, NY

SPONSORED BY:

Town of Southampton Youth Bureau

ADMINISTERED BY:

Town of Southampton Youth Bureau

ANALYSIS AND REPORT BY:

Town of Southampton Youth Bureau and the
Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare



Southampton Youth Bureau
@SouthamptonYB

www.southamptontownny.gov/Youth-Bureau



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Youth Bureau gratefully acknowledges the participation of the following school districts in planning and administering this survey:

Hampton Bays Union Free School District

Mr. Lars Clemensen, Superintendent
Mr. Christopher Richardt, Principal, Hampton Bays High School
Mr. Dennis Shug, Principal, Hampton Bays Middle School
Mr. Drew Walker, Director of Physical Education, Health, and Athletics

Riverhead Central School District

Dr. Aurelia Henriquez, Superintendent
Mr. Charles Regan, Principal, Riverhead High School
Ms. Andrea Pikar, Principal, Riverhead Middle School
Ms. Debra Nigrel, Violence Prevention Coordinator

Sag Harbor Union Free School District

Ms. Katy Graves, Superintendent
Mr. Jeff Nicholls, Principal, Pierson Middle/High School
Ms. Lindsay Reilly, Social Worker

Southampton Union Free School District

Dr. Nick Dyno, Superintendent
Dr. Brian Zahn, Principal, Southampton High School
Mr. Timothy Frazier, Principal, Southampton Intermediate School
Mr. Darren Phillips, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health and Wellness

Tuckahoe Common School District

Mr. Len Skuggevik, Superintendent
Ms. Arlette Sicari, Principal

Westhampton Beach Union Free School District

Mr. Michael Radday, Superintendent
Mr. Christopher Herr, Principal, Westhampton Beach High School
Ms. Charisse Miller, Principal, Westhampton Beach Middle School
Ms. Kathleen Masterson, Director of Physical Education, Health and Athletics

Bridgehampton Union Free School District

Ms. Lois Favre, Superintendent/Principal
Ms. Danielle Doscher, Guidance Counselor

We would also like to acknowledge Dr. Robert Marmo, PhD, LMSW, School of Social Welfare, Stony Brook University, who provided technical assistance, consultation, and data processing services.

This survey also could not have been completed without the cooperation of the 1,738 Southampton Town youth who participated in the project.

Permission is granted to duplicate parts or sections of this report for planning and program development, educational use and administration, and community awareness. Please send copies of printed use of these data to the Town of Southampton Youth Bureau, 655 Flanders Rd., Flanders, NY 11901.

This report contains analysis of selected data findings. Additional data and further analysis is available by contacting Nancy Lynott at nlynott@southamptontownny.gov.

Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	2
I. Introduction	5
Survey Implementation	5
II. Profile of Respondents	6
III. Reported Risk Behaviors	7
Substance Abuse	7
Alcohol.....	7
Tobacco and Related Products.....	9
Marijuana	9
Illicit Drug Use	9
Ease of Access	9
Perception of Risk	9
Sexual Activity	10
Trends and Comparisons	10
Local Data	10
State and National Data	11
IV. Health & Lifestyle Indicators	12
Mental Health	13
Stress & Anxiety.....	13
Depression	13

Suicidality	14
Self-injury	14
Running Away from Home.....	15
Sleep Habits	15
Social and Relational Health	15
Intimate Partner Violence and Domestic Assault	15
Victims of Bullying/Harassment.....	15
Illegal Activities	16
Use of Time Outside of School	16
V. Protective Factors	18
Community Activities.....	19
Parental Involvement.....	20
Adults Youth Live With	20
Parenting Practices.....	20
Adults in the Community.....	22

I. Introduction

The Teen Assessment Project (TAP) is sponsored by the Town of Southampton Youth Bureau with technical assistance provided by the Stony Brook University School of Social Welfare Graduate Research Methods classes. In December 2017, the Youth Bureau conducted the TAP, surveying 1,738 youth in 8th, 10th and 12th grades in Southampton Town and an additional 682 youth from Riverhead Town, asking them specific questions about their quality of life and their sense of the community in which they live. The survey asked youth about risk behaviors, recreational and work activities, parental involvement, and protective factors that affect adolescent lives. This report will present data from the 1,738 youth from Southampton Township for use in planning and supporting programs that address the needs of youth and families in the Town of Southampton and to improve out-of-school resources and supervision.

This is the sixth administration of this survey. The first administration was conducted in 2002 and included all 7th through 12th grade youth in Southampton Town. The TAP survey was originally chosen as the instrument for this project after evaluation of other survey programs. It was a broader survey, intended to establish a baseline of data with which to compare future data and determine patterns of behavior and community influences in adolescent lives.

The second administration was conducted in November of 2005 and surveyed only 8th, 10th, and 12th grade youth. Due to the wealth of national data that exists for youth in grades 8, 10, and 12, the Town opted to survey these same three grades in order to best compare local data to national data. A modified version was used in 2005, reducing the number of questions from 160 to 103, while adding some new topics. The instrument was again modified in 2008 and included some additional topics of inquiry, resulting in an instrument of 100 questions. Additional modifications were made in 2011 and in 2014, again adding some new topics and removing questions that were no longer providing useful data, resulting in a 101-question instrument.

Further modifications were implemented in the 2017 survey, which included clarifying questions regarding gender identity and sexual orientation, adding questions on vaping, use of marijuana edibles, stress and anxiety, and removing questions on steroid use and weight. The survey was administered exclusively online in 2017 through Qualtrics.

Survey Implementation

The Southampton Town Youth Bureau administers the TAP survey in schools, with assistance from school personnel. Prior to filling out the survey, youth are encouraged to respond honestly to the questions and are assured that all answers will be anonymous.

The seven school districts serving Southampton Town youth that participate in the survey are: Bridgehampton Union Free School District (UFSD), Hampton Bays UFSD, Riverhead Central School District, Sag Harbor UFSD, Southampton UFSD, Tuckahoe Common School District, and Westhampton Beach UFSD. All survey data are combined in one database, which includes survey findings from these participating districts.

II. Profile of Respondents

A total of 1,738 youth from Southampton Town completed the 2017 Tap survey. Youth gender was comprised of 50% male, 48.5% female, and 1.4% transgender. A majority of youth were identified as 13 years old (29%), 15 years old (27%), or 17 years old (26.5%). Corresponding grades included 36% of youth in 8th grade, 31.5% in 10th grade, and 32% in 12th grade. Youth completing the survey attended the following school districts in Southampton Township: Westhampton Beach (30%), Hampton Bays (24.5%), Southampton (20%), Riverhead (10.5%), Pierson (10.5%), Tuckahoe (3%), and Bridgehampton (2%). Those reporting special needs included 7% reporting a learning disability, 4% reporting an emotional or behavioral disability, 2% reporting a physical disability, and 3% reporting another disability. Students were also asked to report their sexual orientation, with 87% identifying as heterosexual, 2% as homosexual, 4.5% as bisexual, 2% as other, and 5% as unsure. Eleven percent (11%) of youth identify themselves as an immigrant or refugee, while 17% of students did not identify English as their primary language. When queried about school achievement, 47% reported earning grades above 90, and 38.5% reported earning grades of 80 or above. Only 2% reported earning failing grades. This profile defines the majority of youth as having few special needs and being successful in school. In the balance of this report, we will look beyond the profile to understand some of the challenges that exist in these young peoples' lives and identify clues as to how the Southampton Town community can continue to meet those challenges.

III. Reported Risk Behaviors

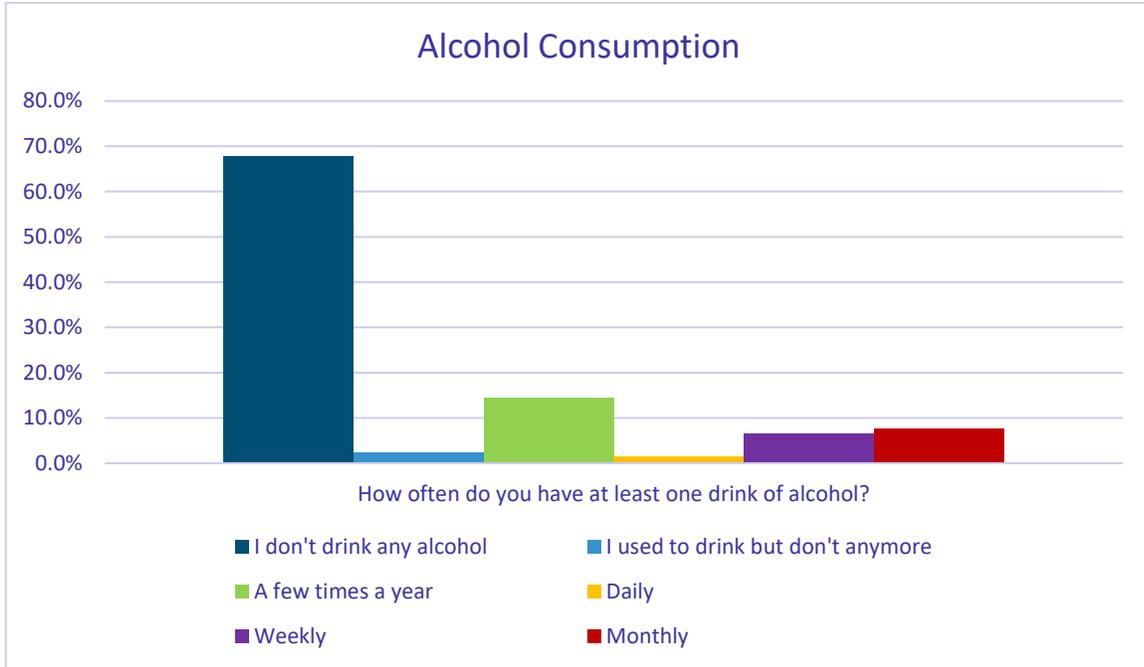
Risk Behaviors:

- 32% of youth reported ever drinking alcohol
- 22% of youth reported ever binge drinking
- 4% of youth reported ever smoking cigarettes
- 34.4% of youth reported ever vaping with tobacco
- 20% of youth reported ever smoking marijuana
- 17% of youth reported ever vaping with marijuana
- More than 90% of youth reported never using synthetic marijuana, inhalants, heroin, ecstasy, cocaine, or prescription medications
- 24% of youth reported ever having sexual intercourse
- 25% of youth reported receiving or sending naked pictures of themselves or another person through text, email or social media
- 23% of youth reported using some form of birth control

Substance Abuse

Alcohol

The majority of all youth reported no alcohol use with only 511 respondents citing current alcohol consumption ranging from a few times a year (14%) to monthly (8%) weekly (6%), and daily (1%) use.



The majority of youth (78%) reported not using alcohol or never engaging in any binge drinking with only 22% of youth reporting that they consume 5 or more alcoholic beverages within 2 or 3 hours more than one time.



Youth, reporting alcohol use, obtained alcohol from their home (3%) or a friend’s home (3%) without parental or guardian awareness. Twelve percent (12%) of youth reported being drunk or high while attending school or an afterschool activity at least once. Additionally, 7% of youth were able to obtain alcohol from someone of legal age whom purchased it for them or from their parents (4%). Three percent (3%) of youth purchased alcohol at a store or bar, while 11% of youth obtained alcohol from “some other source”.

Tobacco and Related Products

The overwhelming majority (96%) of youth surveyed reported never using cigarettes. Approximately 66% of youth reported never “vaping” tobacco or using e-cigarettes (including Juul or Hookah) with tobacco, 6% reported vaping daily, and 3% reported vaping weekly. Thirteen percent (13%) stated that they tried vaping once. Eight percent (8%) of respondents stated they engaged in vaping in the past and not currently. The majority of youth (97%) reported never using any other tobacco related products such as chewing tobacco.

Marijuana

Overall, 80% of youth reported never using marijuana, while 5% reported smoking marijuana in the past but not currently. Eleven percent (11%) reported regular use; daily (4%), weekly (3%) or monthly (3%). Youth were also surveyed about vaping with marijuana. Overall, 5% of respondents stated that they vape with marijuana a few times a year, while 3% reported vaping with marijuana monthly, 3% reported weekly use, and 3% reported daily use. Approximately 9% of youth reported some use of marijuana edibles (pot brownies, cookies, gummies, lollipops, etc.). Of those reporting some marijuana use, youth obtained marijuana most often from friends (9%), followed by sellers/dealers (5%),

Illicit Drug Use

The majority of youth surveyed reported no use of illicit drugs. Rates of illicit substance use included some use of oxycodone/heroin 5%, over the counter medications 5%, Adderall/Ritalin 4.5%, synthetic marijuana (3%), and cocaine (2%).

Ease of Access

Youth reported that obtaining heroin (8.4%), prescription drugs (19.6%), and other illicit substances (13.1%) would be difficult while obtaining marijuana (39%), tobacco (34%), and alcohol (51%) were deemed relatively easy to access.

Perception of Risk

An important predictor of substance abuse is how risky that behavior is perceived to be by the user. Those perceiving higher levels of risk are less likely to use while those perceiving lower levels of risk are more likely to use. In 2017, 41% of respondents reported no or slight risk in using alcohol and 51% of respondents reported no or slight risk in using marijuana.

Sexual Activity

Three quarters of youth (75%) reported never having sexual intercourse or engaging in oral sex. These are unchanged since the last TAP survey conducted in 2014. Of those youth reporting prior sexual intercourse, 62% said they always used a form a birth control. This is up from the 2014 report where 43% of youth reported use of birth control. Almost 13% of youth who reported prior sexual intercourse stated they never use any form of birth control.

Sexting, the sending of sexually explicit photos, images, text messages, or emails by using a cellphone or other device, is a risk behavior that was first addressed in this survey in 2014. In 2017, youth reported receiving or sending naked pictures of themselves or another person through text, email or social media at a rate of 27%. This is up from the 2014 survey where 15% reported ever engaging in sexting. Approximately 8% of youth in 2017 reported sending or receiving an explicit message on many occasions.

Trends and Comparisons

Local Data

The Southampton Town Teen Assessment Project (TAP) has recorded a general decline in teenage alcohol consumption since 2002.

Reported use of alcohol – at least one drink in your lifetime:

	2002	2005	2008	2011	2014	2017
8 th grade	41%	32%	23%	15%	7%	8%
10 th grade	67%	67%	61%	47%	35%	35%
12 th grade	85%	81%	74%	73%	57%	54%

Since 2002, reported use of prescription medicines (pain killers, stimulants) and over the counter medications has decreased or remained unchanged though 2017. Tobacco use has also steadily decreased since 2002. The addition of the vaping with tobacco question appears to indicate that tobacco use has shifted to vaping from cigarettes without a change in the total number of youth using tobacco. Marijuana use has also declined from 2002 through 2017; 2017 being the lowest with 19% reporting ever using marijuana.

Reported use of drugs other than alcohol since 2002:

	2002	2005	2008	2011	2014	2017
Ever used prescription medicines	11%	12%	12%	7%	5%	5%
Ever used over the counter drugs	n/a	10%	9%	6%	6%	5%
Ever used tobacco	34%	29%	25%	20%	13%	34% vaping 5% "cigarettes"
Ever used marijuana	38%	37%	36%	29%	30%	19%

State and National Data

For the third consecutive survey administration, Southampton Town’s reported rates of alcohol use among youth are not dramatically higher than nationwide rates. In fact, in 2017, youth alcohol use rates in Southampton Town are lower for every grade when compared to national survey data. Current alcohol use rates for 8th graders are less than nationwide rates (8% NIDA, 3% Southampton), for 10th graders (20% NIDA, 14% Southampton), and for 12 graders (33% NIDA, 28% Southampton).

Marijuana rates were also lower than nationally reported averages for 8th graders (6% NIDA, 3% Southampton), 10th graders (16% NIDA, 11% Southampton), and 12th graders (23% NIDA, 20% Southampton).

National data in this section was taken from the National Institute on Drug Abuse’s (NIDA) *Monitoring the Future Survey* report, 2017.

Alcohol use – last 30 days:

	National (NIDA)	Southampton	New York State
8 th grade	8%	3%	NA
10 th grade	20%	14%	24%
12 th grade	33%	28%	38%

Marijuana use – last 30 days:

	National (NIDA)	Southampton	New York State
8 th grade	6%	3%	NA

10th grade	16%	11%	19%
12th grade	23%	20%	24%

Reported Cigarette use – last 30 days:

	National (NIDA)	Southampton	New York State
8th grade	2%	2%	NA
10th grade	5%	3%	4%
12th grade	10%	7%	8%

Reported Vape use – last 30 days:

	National (NIDA)	Southampton	New York State
8th grade	7%	5%	NA
10th grade	13%	15%	13%
12th grade	17%	22%	17%

IV. Health & Lifestyle Indicators

Health and Lifestyle Behaviors:

- 44% of youth reported depressive symptoms for a period of two weeks or longer
- 18% of youth have experienced suicidal ideation, with or without a plan or attempt
- 10% of youth reported self-injurious behavior
- 50% of youth reported experiencing frequent stress or anxiety in the past 30 days
- Rates of depression, self-injury and suicidality were highest among transgender, bisexual and homosexual youth
- 4% of youth reported being physically hit, slapped or physically/sexually hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend
- 37% of transgender youth reported physical and/sexual intimate partner violence
- 10% of youth reported being physically attacked in their home by an adult
- 22% of youth reported experiencing bullying/harassment from peers in the past year
- 37% of transgender youth reported bullying or harassment
- 24% of youth reported sleeping 8 or more hours a night

Mental Health

Stress & Anxiety

Youth were asked if they had recently experienced anxiety or stress within the past 30 days. Approximately 50% of surveyed youth stated that they had experienced stress within the past 30 days either frequently or always. Fewer youth reported difficulties in their social life, school activities and school work due to stress. Forty-four percent (44%) of youth reported stress or anxiety causing difficulties in their school work either frequently (26%), or always (18%). Twenty-eight percent (28%) of youth reported stress or anxiety related difficulties in their school activities either frequently (16%), or always (12%). Thirty-two percent (32%) of youth reported stress or anxiety causing difficulties in their social lives either frequently (17%), or always (15%).

Depression

Approximately 19% of youth reported feeling depressed, helpless, hopeless, or very sad for a period of two weeks or longer at least once during the past year; another 25% reported these feelings either more than once (13%) or many times (12%), for an overall total of 44% reporting depressive feelings. Transgender youth are more likely to report depressive symptoms than any other group. Transgender youth reported depressive feelings 34% of the time, with 30% reporting these feelings many times during the past year and 4% more than once. Females reported feeling depressed 51% of the time with 15% reporting more than once and 15% many times. Males were less likely to report feeling depressed with 11% reporting feeling depressed more than once and 8% reporting many times.

Students differed on feeling depressed based upon their sexual orientation. 22% of youth identifying their sexual orientation as heterosexual reported feeling depressed either more than once or many times. 72% of youth identifying their sexual orientation as bisexual reported feeling depressed either more than once or many times. 44% of youth identifying their sexual orientation as homosexual reported feeling depressed either more than once or many times. 48% of youth identifying their sexual orientation as other reported feeling depressed either more than once or many times and 21% of youth identifying their sexual orientation as unsure reported feeling depressed either more than once or many times.

In comparison to 2014, youth reported somewhat higher rates of feeling depressed. In 2014, 44% of females reported at least one period of depression compared to 51% in 2017. Twenty-seven percent (27%) of males reported depressive symptoms in 2014 compared to 35% in 2017. When examined by grade level, 37% of 8th graders, 42% of 10th graders, and 50% of 12th graders reported these feelings associated with depression. Overall, these percentages are higher than in 2014.

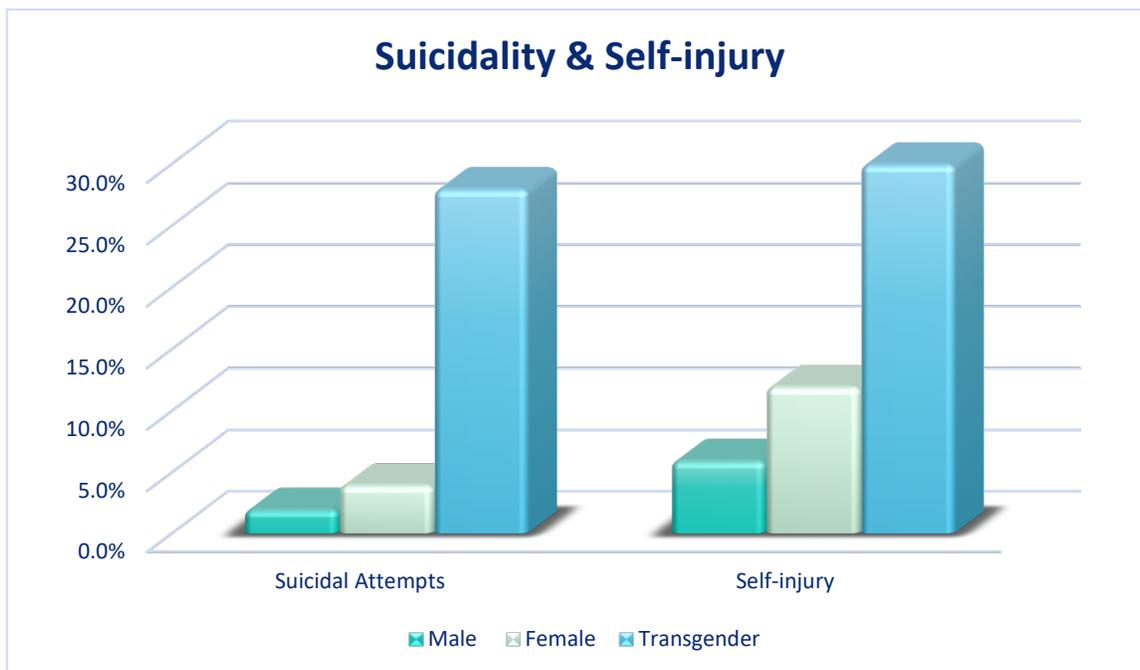
Suicidality

A total of 83% of respondents stated that they had never considered suicide while 3% of youth reported a past suicide attempt. Transgender youth are much more likely to report a past suicide attempt than either females or males. About 28% of transgender youth reported a past suicide attempt compared to 4% of females and 2% of males. Suicide rates differed based upon sexual orientation. 21% of students identifying their sexual orientation as “other” reported a past suicide attempt compared to 15% of bisexual, 7% of homosexual, 4% “unsure”, and 2% heterosexual.

Self-injury

Self-injury can often take many forms, but the most commonly reported method involves cutting. The rate of self-injury reported by Southampton Town youth for 2017 was 10% with 5% reporting one prior attempt and 5% reporting more than one time. In 2014 the number reporting self-injury was 12%.

Transgender youth reported much higher rates of self-injury at 30%, with 22% of transgender youth reporting they engaged in self-injury “many times”. Twelve percent (12%) of females reported one or more incidents of self-injury followed by males at 6%. Self-injurious behavior rates also differed based on sexual orientation, with 27% of those who identify as other than heterosexual reporting one or more incidents of self-injurious behavior.



Running Away from Home

The 2017 survey included a question regarding whether a youth has run away from home. Three percent (3%) of youth reported they had run away from home in the past year. Approximately 11% of youth reported they thought about running away over the past year.

Sleep Habits

More than half of youth (57%) reported sleeping 6-7 hours a night, 24% of youth reported sleeping 8 or more hours a night, and 19% reported sleeping less than 6 hours a night.

Social and Relational Health

Intimate Partner Violence and Domestic Assault

Youth were asked to complete questions regarding their relationships among peers and adults. Four percent (4%) of youth reported being physically hit, slapped, or sexually hurt on purpose by a boyfriend or girlfriend. Rates of physical or sexual violence among transgender youth was much higher with 25% of transgender youth reporting experiencing some form of relational violence “many times”.

Additionally, rates of partner violence were higher for youth identifying their sexual orientation as other than heterosexual. Approximately 11% of these youth reported experiencing some form of relational violence “more than one time”.

Approximately 9% of youth reported experiencing a physical attack by an adult in their home within the past year. This included youth who reported being kicked, beat up, or attacked with an object by an adult in their home.

Victims of Bullying/Harassment

About 23% of respondents in Southampton Town reported that they have been bullied or harassed (including cyberbullying) by their peers in the past year. Analyzing the Southampton Town data by grade level reveals that 26% of 8th graders, 21% of 10th graders, and 17% of 12th graders experienced bullying or harassment within the past year.

Rates of bullying and harassment by gender reveal that transgender youth experience the highest rates of bullying or harassment at 38%, followed by females (26%), and males (19%). Additionally, these rates were much higher among youth reporting their sexual orientation as homosexual (47%), bisexual (36%), other (25%), and unsure (30%). Youth identifying as heterosexual reported rates of bullying and harassment at 21%. Youth with special needs reported bullying at varying rates depending on their needs (emotional-53%, physical-44%, other-20%, and learning disability 39%).

Overall, youth experiencing bullying and harassment by a peer or cohort cited higher rates of depression, suicide, self-injury and physical assault when compared to those whom did not experience bullying or harassment.

	Bullied/Harassed	Not Bullied/Harassed
Experienced Symptoms of Depression Many Times	24%	8%
Attempted Suicide	8.5%	2%
Self-injury Many Times	6%	1.5%
Physically Hurt by Boyfriend/Girlfriend Many Times	4%	0.7%
Hurt By An Adult In The Home Many Times	5%	0.8%

Lastly, approximately 14% of youth stated that they had been treated poorly due to their race, religion or cultural background.

Illegal Activities

Responses to the Southampton Town survey included information on whether youth were aware of or involved with an adult (21 years of age or older) whom was involved in specific types of illegal or dangerous activity. Approximately 30% of youth reported knowing an adult who used illegal drugs within the past year. Additionally, 15% of youth reported knowing an adult that sold illegal drugs in the past year. Another 28% of youth reported knowing an adult that had done something that could get them in trouble with the police within the past year. A total of 25% of youth reported carrying or knowing someone that carried a weapon, such as a gun or a knife within the past year. Regarding gang activity, only 3% of youth reported being involved in a gang and 5% of youth reported being approached to join a gang.

Use of Time Outside of School

Respondents were asked how they spend their time outside of the classroom. Students reported they spent one or more hours a week in the following activities:

- ❖ *Social networking (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram) – 85%*
- ❖ *Doing homework or studying – 93%*
- ❖ *Reading for fun – 46%*
- ❖ *Texting friends – 92%*
- ❖ *Participating in school or community sponsored activities (clubs, dances, etc.) – 71%*
- ❖ *Participating in school or community sports – 63%*

-
- ❖ *Participating in community sports (PAL, summer league, private) – 37%*
 - ❖ *Exercising – 83%*
 - ❖ *Spending time with parents and family – 86%*
 - ❖ *Working a job – 42%*

Students reported engaging in the following activities 6 or more hours per week:

- ❖ *Social networking – 43%*
- ❖ *Texting friends – 37%*
- ❖ *Homework/Study – 36%*
- ❖ *Spending time with parents/family – 30%*
- ❖ *School/community sports – 30%*

According to the above data, a majority of youth prefer spending their free time engaged in social activities, including texting and communicating with friends via social media, spending time with family, and engaging in community sports activities.

V. Protective Factors

Protective Factors:

- Youth rated family/parents as most important in helping to keep them away from engaging in illegal or harmful activities
- Youth reported wanting more sports and physical activities in their community
- Youth reported having conversations about sexual activity and drug use with adults they live with

Avoiding Harmful/Illegal Activities

One of the final survey questions asked youth to order, in importance from 1 to 5, the programs, specific persons, or activities that help keep them from involvement in illegal or harmful activities. A ranking of 1 was considered most important, while a ranking of 5 was considered least important.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Family members | 49% |
| 2. Positive role models | 21% |
| 3. Afterschool programs | 16% |
| 4. School counselor/social worker | 10% |
| 5. In-school prevention programs | 4% |

In the past ten years, TAP respondents have rated the most important factors that help keep them from involvement in illegal or harmful activities. Most have stayed consistent with the exception of family members increasing in importance for the 2017 survey.

	2008	2011	2014	2017
Family members	25%	26%	25%	49%
Positive role models	26%	26%	31%	21%
Afterschool programs	31%	30%	24%	16%
School counselor/social worker	13%	12%	12%	10%
In-school prevention programs	5%	6%	6%	4%

Community Activities

Youth were asked to report whether they believed there were fun things to do for people their age within the local community. Since 2008, the majority of youth have reported agreement with having fun things to do in the community.

	2008	2011	2014	2017
Agree	59%	62%	67%	69%

The final question on the survey asked youth an open-ended question about whether there were programs or activities a youth would like to see developed in their community. Youth responses were analyzed and then categorized according to topic area. The most frequent response to the question related to the addition of sports or physical activities. The second most frequently reported program or activity youth hoped to see in their future community related to the development of a hangout space. Educational programs and clubs were ranked third and fourth, respectively. Overall, the data reveals that youth seek additional program supports in their local community, especially related to physical activities, sports and hangout spaces.

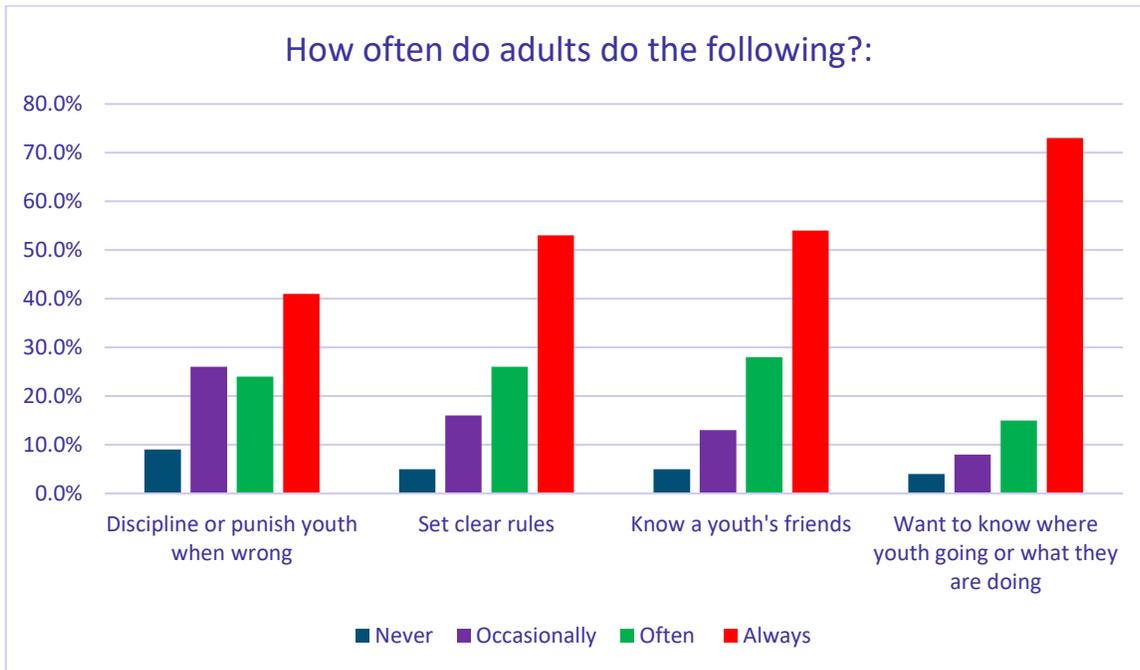
Categories	Frequency
Sports/Physical activity	139
Hang out space	72
Educational programs	31
Clubs	27
Soccer	23
Skate Park	22
Gaming	22
Drug use prevention programs	20
After school activities	18
Family recreation activities	18
Support groups/Mentor programs	17
Movie theater (or just movies)	17
YMCA	15
Nature-related, Parks	15
Amusement park	12
Art	11
Paintball	9
Food venues	9
Community Service opportunities	8
Go Karts	7
Foreign Language	7
Music	7

Mental Health programs	7
Theater	4
LGBTQ programs	3
Cultural Awareness	2

Parental Involvement

Adults Youth Live With

Data collected in the Southampton Town survey highlight the role parents and guardians play in a youth’s life. Youth reported that the adults they live with either often or always set clear rules, know their friends, want to know their whereabouts, and implement discipline in the home. Youth reported less frequent instances of adults failing to provide this structure in their lives.



Additionally, 71% of respondents stated that they had a specific conversation with the adults they live with about drugs. A total of 56% of youth reported they had specific conversations in the home about sexual activity.

Parenting Practices

The TAP survey explored reported parenting practices and their relationship to risk behaviors among youth. Specifically, setting clear rules, following through with consequences when rules are broken, knowing your child’s friends, knowing where your child is and what they are doing, talking

with your child about risk behaviors and parent expectations, and having regular family dinners were compared to reported risk behaviors. These comparisons clearly indicate that when parents use these strategies they are extremely effective in curbing youth choices to engage in risk behaviors. The data are summarized below.

When Parents Do Make Clear Rules

10% report frequent symptoms of depression
7% report recent binge drinking
3% report daily marijuana use
44% report grades in the 90-100 range

When Parents Don't Make Clear Rules

25% report frequent symptoms of depression
18% report recent binge drinking
15% report daily marijuana use
30% report grades in the 90-100 range

When Parents Discipline Consistently

4% report daily marijuana use
8% report recent binge drinking
11% report frequent symptoms of depression
47% report grades in the 90-100 range

When Parents Don't Discipline

12% report daily marijuana use
13% report recent binge drinking
17% report frequent symptoms of depression
33% report grades in the 90-100 range

When Parents Ask Where Youth Are Going

3% report daily marijuana use
47% report grades in the 90-100 range
11% report frequent symptoms of depression
8% report recent binge drinking

When Parents Don't Ask Where Youth Are Going

16% report daily marijuana use
33% report grades in the 90-100 range
20% report frequent symptoms of depression
17% report recent binge drinking

When Parents Know children's friends

3% report daily marijuana use
21% report symptoms of depression
51% report grades in the 90-100 range
8% report recent binge drinking

When Parents Don't Know children's friends

10% report daily marijuana use
41% report symptoms of depression
31% report grades in the 90-100 range
13% report recent binge drinking

Adults in the Community

The TAP survey findings also tell us about the impact adults in the community can have on youth participation in risk behaviors. While 84% of respondents' report that there is an adult in the community that they can go to with a serious problem, the data also illustrate that when youth know adults who engage in risk behaviors, they consistently show elevated rates of risk behaviors.

Thirty-nine percent (39.2%) of youth report knowing adults who have used illegal drugs in the past year, 71.1% report knowing adults who have been drunk in the past year, 39.1% know adults who have been high in the last year, 20.5% report that they know adults who have sold or dealt drugs in the past year, and 35.9% report that they know adults who have done something that could get them in trouble with the police in the past year.

Youth who report knowing adults involved with drug and alcohol use, drug sales, or other illegal behaviors are much more likely to engage in risk behaviors. They also report elevated rates of gang involvement, being arrested, and being suspended.

