

An Analysis of Recent Reports as They Relate to Indiana

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 2, WINTER 2010

Indicators of School Crime and Safety 2009 Report
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010012.pdf>

Recently, the twelfth annual *Indicators of School Crime and Safety* was published jointly by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the Institute of Education Sciences in the U.S. Department of Education, along with the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) in the U.S. Department of Justice. The report, as expressed by the authors, is not intended to be an exhaustive compilation of school crime and safety information or to explore reasons for crime and violence in schools; rather the report is “to serve as a reference for policymakers and practitioners so that they can develop effective programs and policies aimed at violence

and school crime prevention” (Dinks, Kemp, Baum, & Snyder, 2009).

A total of 21 indicators of school crime and safety are analyzed in the report, organized into six broader sections aimed to describe the distinct aspects of school crime and safety: violent deaths; nonfatal student and teacher victimization; school environment; fights, weapons, and illegal substances; fear and avoidance; and discipline, safety and security measures. The indicators are compared across different population subgroups and over time, and data on crimes that occur away from school are offered as a point of comparison where available. The indicators are based on information from multiple independent data

sources, including national surveys of students, teachers, and principals and universal data collections from federal departments and agencies, including BJS, NCES, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

This “Focus on Indiana” report presents tables and figures from *Indicators of School Crime and Safety 2009* which relate to Indiana and surrounding states. Nine sets of data from eight different indicators are presented below, with tables and figures organized by state and year. Data sets from the other 13 indicators were not disaggregated by state in the original report, and, therefore, are not presented here.

INDICATOR: THREATS AND INJURIES WITH WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

As indicated in Table 1 and Figure 1, the percentage of high school students who reported being threatened or injured on school property in Indiana has been on the rise, from 6.7 percent in 2003 to 9.6 percent in 2007. Indiana students reported a significantly higher percentage of threats and injuries on school property than the national average of 7.8 percent in 2007. The lowest percentage of threats and injuries was reported in Massachusetts and North Dakota (approximately 5 percent), while the highest percentage was reported in Arizona, the District of Columbia, and Utah (approximately 11 percent). Among states in its region, Indiana had the highest percentage of student-reported threats and injuries in 2007.

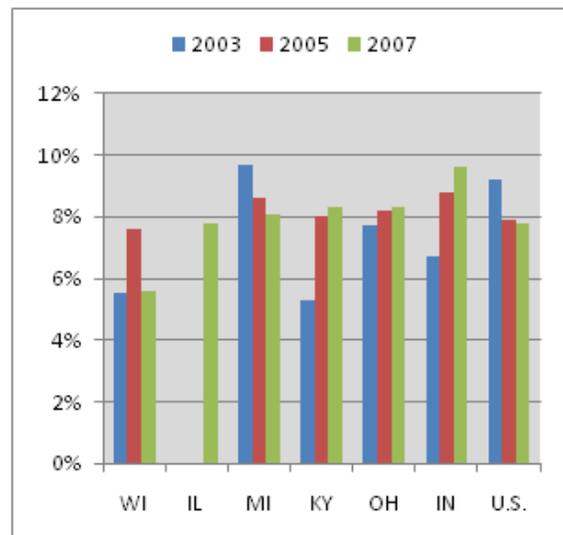
TABLE 1. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported being threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the previous 12 months, by state: 2003, 2005, and 2007

State	2003	2005	2007
Illinois	unavailable	unavailable	7.8
Indiana	6.7	8.8	9.6
Kentucky	5.3	8.0	8.3
Michigan	9.7	8.6	8.1
Ohio	7.7	8.2	8.3
Wisconsin	5.5	7.6	5.6
U.S. Average	9.2	7.9	7.8

NOTE: “On school property” was not defined for survey respondents. The estimate for the United States is drawn from a nationally representative sample of schools and is not the aggregate of participating states. Each state estimate is based on a sample that is representative of that state. Estimates were revised and may differ from previously published data.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), previously unpublished tabulation, 2003, 2005, and 2007.

FIGURE 1. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported being threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the previous 12 months, by state: 2003, 2005, and 2007



INDICATOR: TEACHERS THREATENED WITH INJURY OR PHYSICALLY ATTACKED BY STUDENTS

As indicated in Table 2 and Figure 2, the percentage of public school teachers in Indiana who reported being threatened with injury during the previous 12 months has decreased overall since 1993-94, but has increased since 1999-2000, to 10.2 percent during the 2007-08 school year. This percentage is more than two percentage points higher than the national average of 8.1 percent in 2007-08. The state with the lowest percentage of teachers reporting threats with injury in 2007-08 was North Dakota (approximately 3 percent), while the District of Columbia reported the highest percentage (approximately 17 percent). Among states in its region, Indiana had the highest percentage of teacher-reported threats with injury in the 2007-08 school year.

Similar trends are indicated by teachers reporting being physically attacked, as seen in Table 3 and Figure 3. Reports from Indiana public school teachers of physical attacks have increased steadily since 1993-94, from 3.0 percent in 1993-94 to 4.7 percent in 2007-08. Although Indiana ranked higher than the national average of 4.3 percent in 2007-08, both Wisconsin and Kentucky teachers reported higher percentages of being physically attacked than Indiana teachers. The highest percentage nationwide was reported in Maryland, by 8.4 percent of teachers.

TABLE 2. Percentage and number of public school teachers who reported that they were threatened with injury by a student from school during the previous 12 months, by state: 1993-94 through 2007-08

State	Percent				Number			
	1993-94	1999-00	2003-04	2007-08	1993-94	1999-00	2003-04	2007-08
Illinois	10.8	8.2	8.0	8.2	12,100	11,200	11,000	11,800
Indiana	13.8	7.6	7.2	10.2	8,000	4,600	4,500	7,000
Kentucky	14.0	12.6	7.9	9.9	5,800	5,400	3,800	4,300
Michigan	10.8	8.0	9.3	6.0	8,900	8,000	9,200	5,900
Ohio	15.2	9.6	6.2	8.7	16,900	11,800	8,300	11,700
Wisconsin	13.8	10.1	4.7	9.0	8,600	6,800	3,500	6,200
United States	12.8	9.6	7.5	8.1	326,300	287,700	242,500	276,700

NOTE: Teachers who taught only prekindergarten students are excluded. Private school teachers are excluded because the data are not state representative. The public sector includes public, public charter, and Bureau of Indian Education school teachers. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding. Estimates of number of reports are rounded to the nearest 100.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS), "Public School Teacher Data File," 1993-94, 1999-2000, 2003-04, and 2007-08; "Charter School Teacher Data File," 1999-2000; and "Bureau of Indian Education Teacher Data File," 1999-2000, 2003-04, and 2007-08.

FIGURE 2. Percentage and number of public school teachers who reported that they were threatened with injury by a student from school during the previous 12 months, by state: 1993-94 through 2007-08

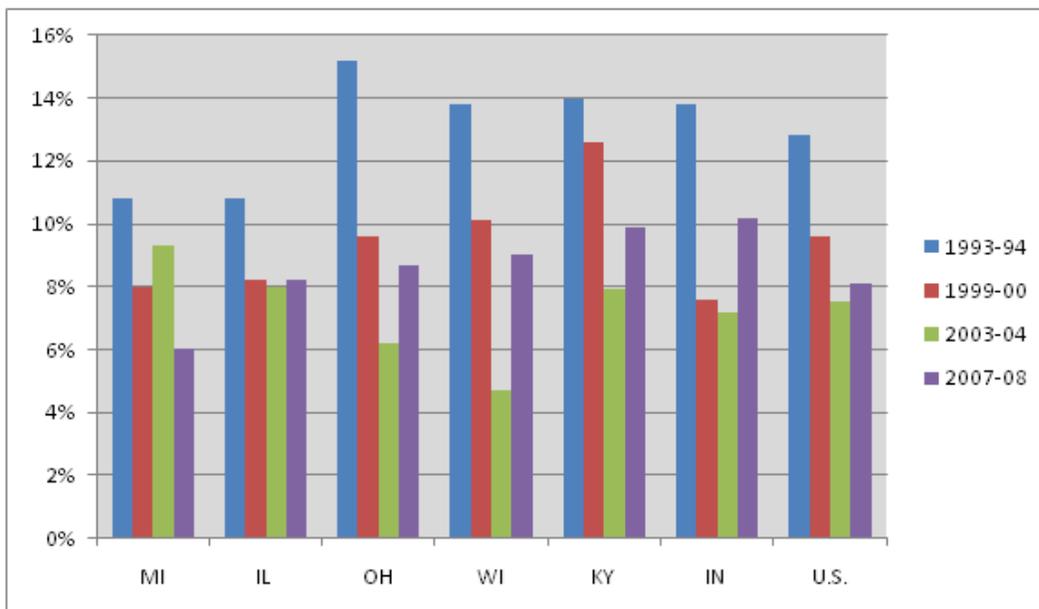


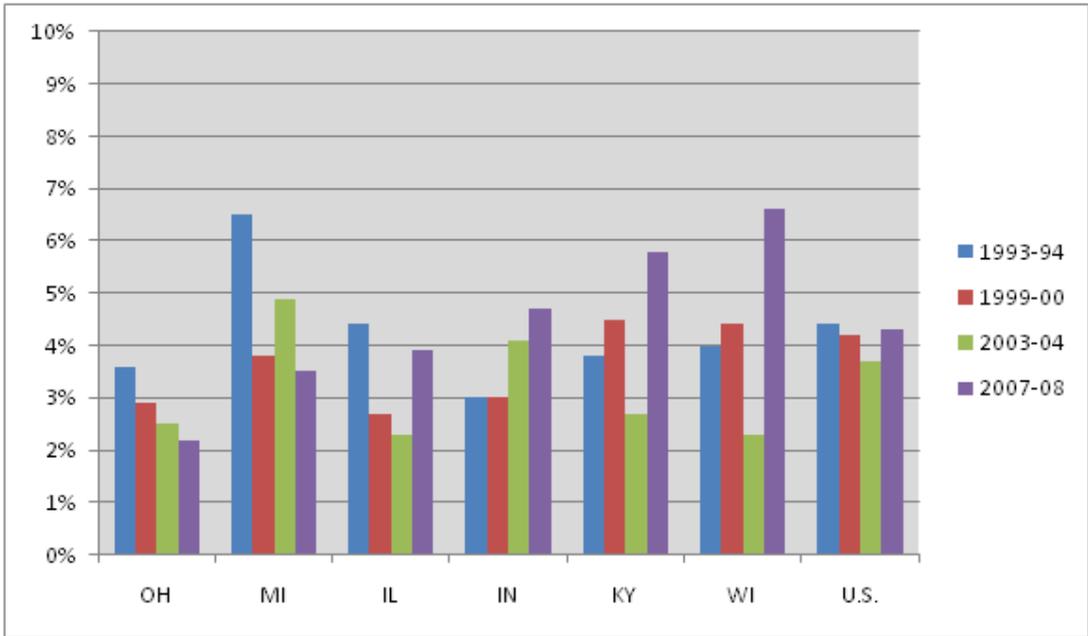
TABLE 3. Percentage and number of public school teachers who reported that they were physically attacked by a student from school during the previous 12 months, by state: 1993-94 through 2007-08

State	Percent				Number			
	1993-94	1999-00	2003-04	2007-08	1993-94	1999-00	2003-04	2007-08
Illinois	4.4	2.7	2.3	3.9	4,900	3,700	3,200	5,700
Indiana	3	3	4.1	4.7	1,700	1,800	2,600	3,200
Kentucky	3.8	4.5	2.7	5.8	1,600	1,900	1,300	2,600
Michigan	6.5	3.8	4.9	3.5	5,300	3,800	4,900	3,400
Ohio	3.6	2.9	2.5	2.2	4,000	3,500	3,400	2,900
Wisconsin	4	4.4	2.3	6.6	2,500	3,000	1,700	4,600
United States	4.4	4.2	3.7	4.3	111,300	125,100	120,000	145,100

NOTE: Teachers who taught only prekindergarten students are excluded. Private school teachers are excluded because the data are not state representative. The public sector includes public, public charter, and Bureau of Indian Education school teachers. Details may not sum to totals because of rounding. Estimates of number of reports are rounded to the nearest 100.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS), "Public School Teacher Data File," 1993-94, 1999-2000, 2003-04, and 2007-08; "Charter School Teacher Data File," 1999-2000; and "Bureau of Indian Education Teacher Data File," 1999-2000, 2003-04, and 2007-08.

FIGURE 3. Percentage and number of public school teachers who reported that they were physically attacked by a student from school during the previous 12 months, by state: 1993-94 through 2007-08



INDICATOR: STUDENTS' REPORTS OF DRUG AVAILABILITY ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

As seen in Table 4 and Figure 4, the percentage of Indiana high school students reporting that drugs were offered, sold, or given to them on school property has decreased significantly from 28.3 percent in 2003 to 20.5 percent in 2007. This percentage in Indiana is the lowest among states in its region and is lower than the national average of 22.3 percent. Iowa boasts the lowest percentage of student-reported drug availability on school property (10.1 percent), while Arizona has the highest percentage (37.1 percent)

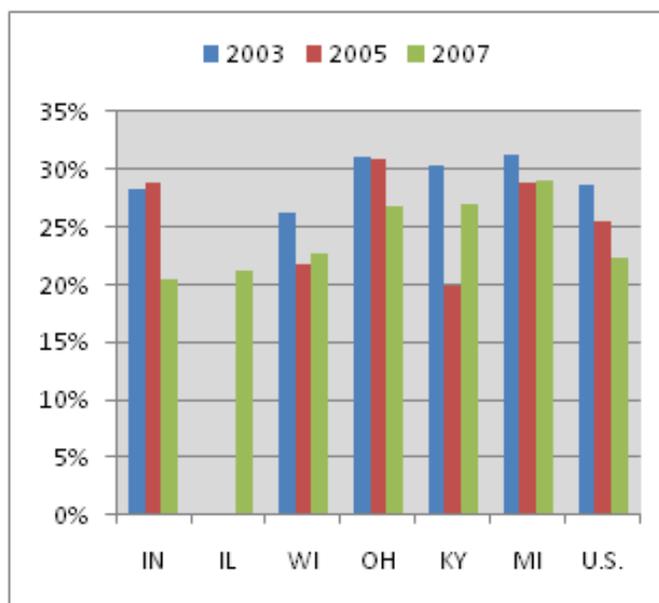
TABLE 4. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported that drugs were made available to them on school property during the previous 12 months, by state: 2003, 2005, and 2007

State	2003	2005	2007
Illinois	unavailable	unavailable	21.2
Indiana	28.3	28.9	20.5
Kentucky	30.4	19.8	27
Michigan	31.3	28.8	29.1
Ohio	31.1	30.9	26.7
Wisconsin	26.3	21.7	22.7
United States	28.7	25.4	22.3

NOTE: "On school property" was not defined for survey respondents. The estimate for the United States is drawn from a nationally representative sample of schools and is not the aggregate of participating states. Each state estimate is based on a sample that is representative of that state. Estimates were revised and may differ from previously published data.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), previously unpublished tabulation, 2003, 2005, and 2007.

FIGURE 4. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported that drugs were made available to them on school property during the previous 12 months, by state: 2003, 2005, and 2007



INDICATOR: TEACHERS' REPORTS ON SCHOOL CONDITIONS

As seen in Table 5, the percentage of Indiana public school teachers who agreed or strongly agreed that student misbehavior and student tardiness and class cutting interfered with their teaching was the highest among states in its region and higher than the national average in school year 2007-08. The highest national percentage was reported in the District of Columbia (58.7 percent) for student misbehavior interfering with teaching, and in New Mexico (50.5 percent) for student tardiness and cutting class interfering with teaching. Although the percentage of Indiana public school teachers who agreed that school rules are enforced by other teachers was the highest among states in its region and higher than the national average, the percentage of Indiana teachers who agreed that school rules were enforced by the principal was the lowest among states in its region and lower than the national average in 2007-08.

TABLE 5. Percentage of public school teachers who agreed or strongly agreed that student misbehavior and student tardiness and class cutting interfered with their teaching and that school rules are enforced by other teachers and by the principal, by state: School year 2007-08

State	Interfered with Teaching		School Rules Enforced	
	Student Misbehavior	Student Tardiness and Cutting Class	By Other Teachers	By the Principal
Illinois	35.3	31.2	68.0	87.1
Indiana	42.3	35.6	72.8	86.5
Kentucky	39.1	32.9	71.8	87.7
Michigan	36.4	32.3	71.3	88.5
Ohio	36.8	30.0	69.1	88.7
Wisconsin	38.2	30.2	65.5	86.2
United States	36.1	33.5	70.6	88.0

NOTE: Teachers who taught only prekindergarten students are excluded. The public sector includes public, public charter, and Bureau of Indian Education school teachers. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS), "Public School Teacher Data File," 2007-08; and "Bureau of Indian Education Teacher Data File," 2007-08.

INDICATOR: PHYSICAL FIGHTS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY AND ANYWHERE

As can be seen in Table 6 and Figures 5 and 6, the percentage of Indiana high school students who reported having been in a fight anywhere and on school property has remained fairly steady and below the national average since 2003. Curiously, while the percentage of reports of fights in general in Indiana is lower than all states in its region except Kentucky, the percentage of reports of fights on school property in particular is the highest among states in its region. Nationally, the District of Columbia posted the highest percentage of students who reported being in a fight anywhere (43 percent) and on school property in particular (19.8 percent).

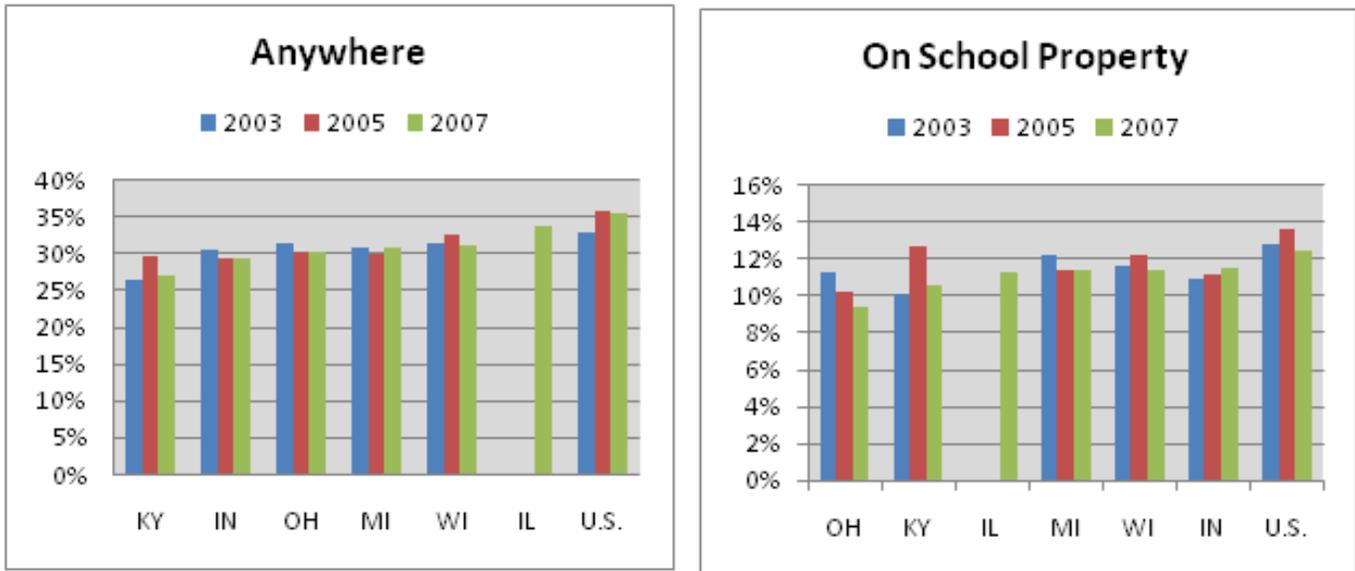
TABLE 6. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported having been in a physical fight during the previous 12 months, by location and state: 2003, 2005, and 2007

State	Anywhere			On School Property		
	2003	2005	2007	2003	2005	2007
Illinois	unavailable	unavailable	33.9	unavailable	unavailable	11.3
Indiana	30.6	29.3	29.5	10.9	11.2	11.5
Kentucky	26.4	29.6	27.0	10.1	12.7	10.6
Michigan	30.8	30.1	30.7	12.2	11.4	11.4
Ohio	31.5	30.2	30.4	11.3	10.2	9.4
Wisconsin	31.4	32.6	31.2	11.6	12.2	11.4
United States	33.0	35.9	35.5	12.8	13.6	12.4

NOTE: "On school property" was not defined for survey respondents. The term "anywhere" is not used in the YRBS questionnaire; students are simply asked how many times in the last 12 months they had been in a physical fight. The estimate for the United States is drawn from a nationally representative sample of schools and is not the aggregate of participating states. Each state estimate is based on a sample that is representative of that state. Estimates were revised and may differ from previously published data.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBS), previously unpublished tabulation, 2003, 2005, and 2007.

FIGURES 5 and 6. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported having been in a physical fight during the previous 12 months, by location



INDICATOR: STUDENTS CARRYING WEAPONS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY AND ANYWHERE

As seen in Table 7 and Figures 7 and 8, the percentage of Indiana high school students who reported carrying a weapon anywhere and on school property at least one day during the previous thirty days has increased since 2003. In 2007, 20.9 percent of students reported carrying a weapon anywhere in the previous thirty days (up from 17.8 percent in 2003), and 6.9 percent reported carry a weapon on school property during the same time period (up from 6.2 percent in 2003.) In both categories, Indiana posted higher than national average percentages, and, among states in its region, only Kentucky reported higher percentages of students carrying weapons anywhere and on school property than Indiana. In 2007, the state with the highest percentage of reports of students carrying weapons anywhere was New Mexico (27.5 percent), and on school property was Wyoming (11.4%). Iowa was among the lowest percentage-wise of all states in both categories.

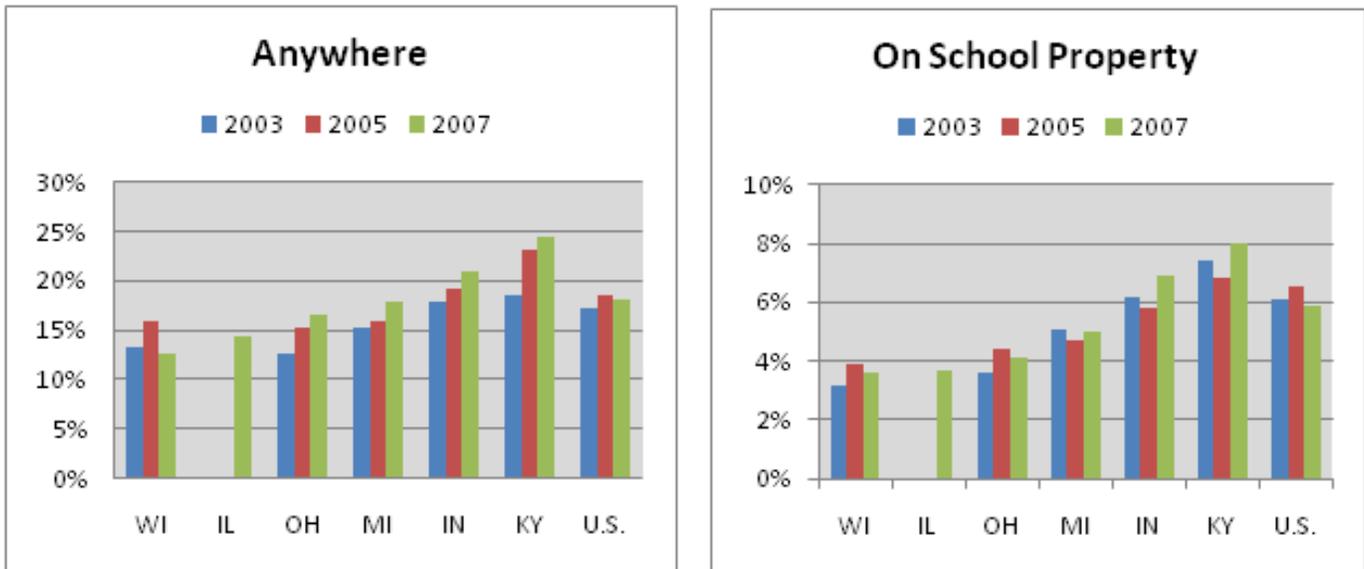
TABLE 7. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported carrying a weapon at least 1 day during the previous 30 days, by location and state: 2003, 2005, and 2007

State	Anywhere			On School Property		
	2003	2005	2007	2003	2005	2007
Illinois	unavailable	unavailable	14.3	unavailable	unavailable	3.7
Indiana	17.8	19.2	20.9	6.2	5.8	6.9
Kentucky	18.5	23.1	24.4	7.4	6.8	8.0
Michigan	15.2	15.8	17.9	5.1	4.7	5.0
Ohio	12.5	15.2	16.6	3.6	4.4	4.1
Wisconsin	13.2	15.8	12.7	3.2	3.9	3.6
United States	17.1	18.5	18.0	6.1	6.5	5.9

NOTE: "On school property" was not defined for survey respondents. The term "anywhere" is not used in the YRBS questionnaire; students are simply asked how many times in the last 12 months they had been in a physical fight. The estimate for the United States is drawn from a nationally representative sample of schools and is not the aggregate of participating states. Each state estimate is based on a sample that is representative of that state. Estimates were revised and may differ from previously published data.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), previously unpublished tabulation, 2003, 2005, and 2007.

FIGURES 7 and 8. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported carrying a weapon at least 1 day during the previous 30 days, by location and state: 2003, 2005, and 2007



INDICATOR: STUDENTS' USE OF ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PROPERTY AND ANYWHERE

As seen in Table 8 and Figures 9 and 10, the percentage of Indiana high school students in 2007 who reported using alcohol anywhere during the previous thirty days has increased since 2005 (from 41.4 percent to 43.9 percent) but decreased slightly since 2003 (from 44.9 percent). On the other hand, the percentage of alcohol use on school property has increased slightly since 2003 and even greater since 2005 (from 3.9 percent in 2003 to 3.4 percent in 2005 to 4.1 percent in 2007). Indiana ranks in the middle of the pack in the percentage of reported alcohol use anywhere and on school property both among states in its region and among states nationwide. In 2007 the highest percentage of reported alcohol use anywhere was Wisconsin (48.9 percent) and on school property was New Mexico (8.7 percent).

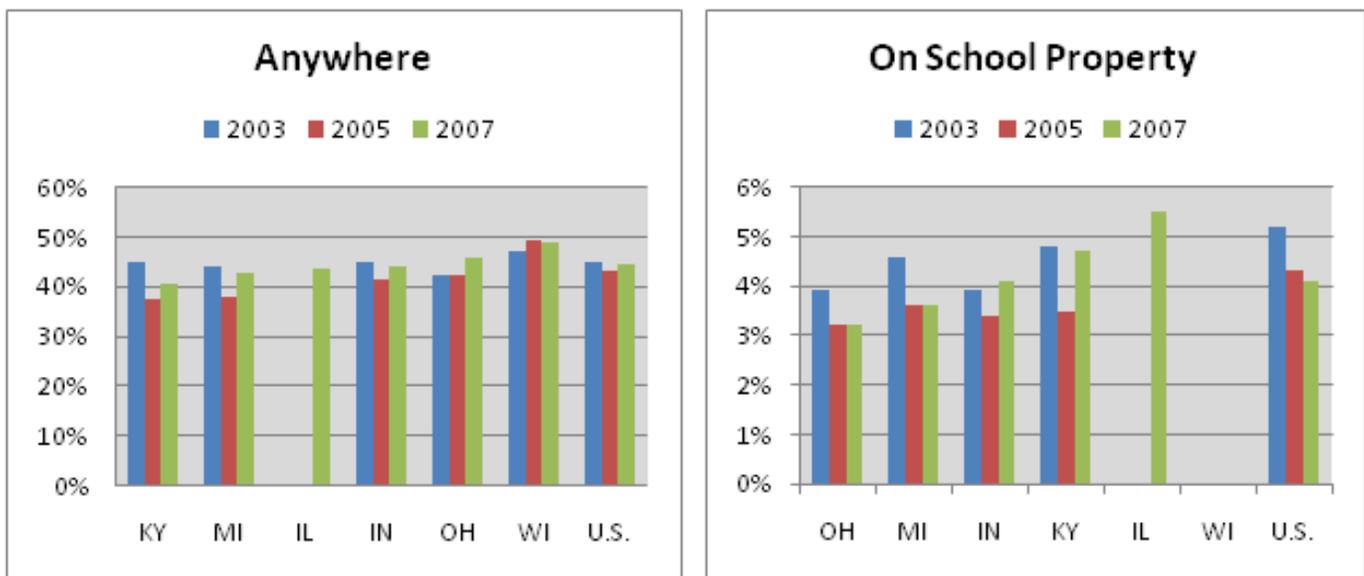
TABLE 8. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported using alcohol during the previous 30 days, by location and state: 2003, 2005, and 2007

State	Anywhere			On School Property		
	2003	2005	2007	2003	2005	2007
Illinois	unavailable	unavailable	43.7	unavailable	unavailable	5.5
Indiana	44.9	41.4	43.9	3.9	3.4	4.1
Kentucky	45.1	37.4	40.6	4.8	3.5	4.7
Michigan	44.0	38.1	42.8	4.6	3.6	3.6
Ohio	42.2	42.4	45.7	3.9	3.2	3.2
Wisconsin	47.3	49.2	48.9	unavailable	unavailable	unavailable
United States	44.9	43.3	44.7	5.2	4.3	4.1

NOTE: "On school property" was not defined for survey respondents. The term "anywhere" is not used in the YRBS questionnaire; students are simply asked how many times in the last 12 months they had been in a physical fight. The estimate for the United States is drawn from a nationally representative sample of schools and is not the aggregate of participating states. Each state estimate is based on a sample that is representative of that state. Estimates were revised and may differ from previously published data.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), previously unpublished tabulation, 2003, 2005, and 2007.

FIGURES 9 and 10. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported using alcohol during the previous 30 days, by location and state: 2003, 2005, and 2007



INDICATOR: STUDENTS' USE OF MARIJUANA ON SCHOOL PROPERTY AND ANYWHERE

As seen in Table 9 and Figures 11 and 12, the trends of reported marijuana use by Indiana high school students are similar to reported alcohol use (Table 8 and Figures 9 and 10). As with alcohol use, marijuana use in general has decreased since 2003 (from 22.1 percent to 18.9 percent), but has increased slightly on school property during the same time frame (from 3.8 percent to 4.1 percent). The numbers indicate that approximately half as many students reported using marijuana anywhere than reported using alcohol anywhere in the previous 30 days; however, the percentage of reported marijuana use on school property is identical to the reported alcohol use on school property. As with alcohol use, Indiana ranks approximately in the middle of the pack in the percentage of reported marijuana anywhere and on school property both among states in its region and among states nationwide. In 2007 the highest percentage of marijuana use anywhere was reported in Delaware and New Mexico (approximately 25 percent) and on school property was New Mexico (7.9 percent).

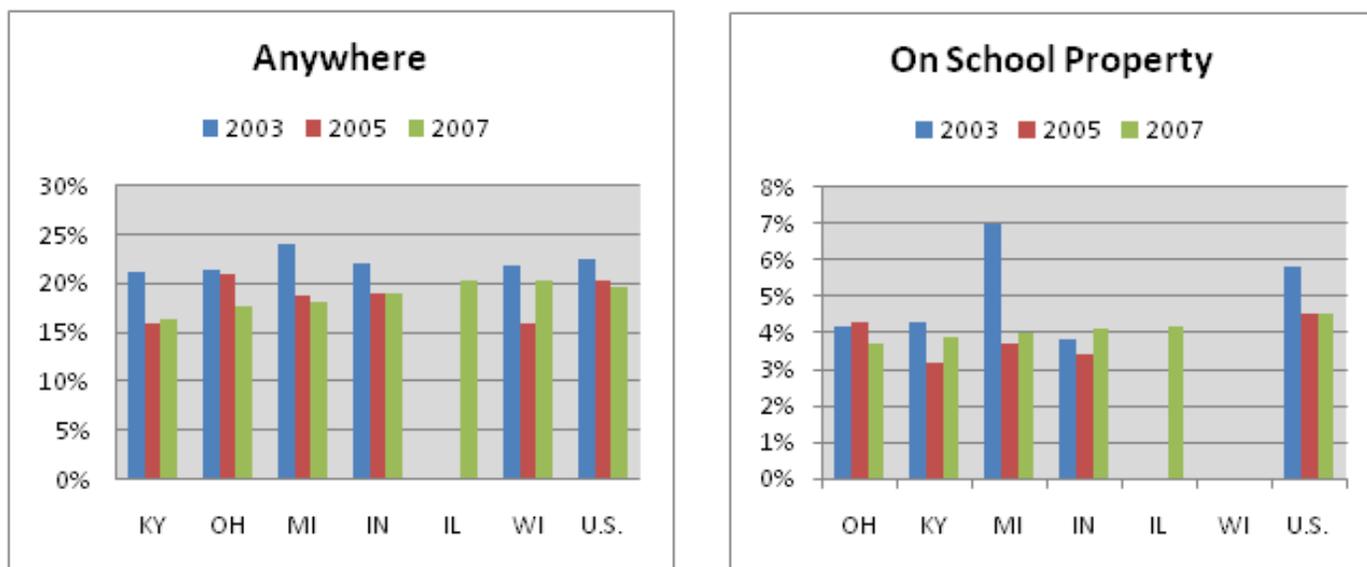
TABLE 9. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported using marijuana during the previous 30 days, by location and state: 2003, 2005, and 2007

State	Anywhere			On School Property		
	2003	2005	2007	2003	2005	2007
Illinois	unavailable	unavailable	20.3	unavailable	unavailable	4.2
Indiana	22.1	18.9	18.9	3.8	3.4	4.1
Kentucky	21.1	15.8	16.4	4.3	3.2	3.9
Michigan	24.0	18.8	18.0	7.0	3.7	4.0
Ohio	21.4	20.9	17.7	4.2	4.3	3.7
Wisconsin	21.8	15.9	20.3	unavailable	unavailable	unavailable
United States	22.4	20.2	19.7	5.8	4.5	4.5

NOTE: "On school property" was not defined for survey respondents. The term "anywhere" is not used in the YRBS questionnaire; students are simply asked how many times in the last 12 months they had been in a physical fight. The estimate for the United States is drawn from a nationally representative sample of schools and is not the aggregate of participating states. Each state estimate is based on a sample that is representative of that state. Estimates were revised and may differ from previously published data.

SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), previously unpublished tabulation, 2003, 2005, and 2007.

FIGURES 11 and 12. Percentage of students in grades 9-12 who reported using marijuana during the previous 30 days, by location and state: 2003, 2005, and 2007



— Compiled by Michael Holstead, graduate research assistant.

Focus on Indiana is published by the
Center for Evaluation & Education Policy

Indiana University
 509 East Third Street
 Bloomington, IN 47401-3654
 812-855-4438

More about the Center for Evaluation & Education Policy
 and our publications can be found at our Web site:
<http://ceep.indiana.edu>

