



2008 Boston Youth Survey: Results for Health of Boston 2009

Table 1: Selected Findings by Gender

| | TOTAL | Sex/Gender | |
|--|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | | Female | Male |
| <i>Aggressive Behavior, past month</i> | | | |
| Verbal conflict | 1121 (62%) | 620 (65%) | 498 (59%)* |
| Physical fight | 392 (22%) | 174 (18%) | 217 (26%***) |
| Pushed, shoved, slapped someone | 662 (37%) | 336 (35%) | 324 (38%) |
| Hit, punched, kicked, choked someone | 491 (27%) | 233 (24%) | 256 (30%)** |
| Attacked or threatened someone with a weapon, non-gun | 188 (10%) | 78 (8%) | 109 (13%)** |
| Attacked or threatened someone with a gun | 88 (5%) | 28 (3%) | 60 (7%***) |
| TOTAL | 1273 (70%) | 663 (69%) | 567 (68%) |
| <i>Bullying Perpetration, past month</i> | | | |
| Picked on someone | 217 (12%) | 110 (11%) | 107 (13%) |
| Told lies or spread rumors about someone | 261 (15%) | 144 (15%) | 117 (14%) |
| <i>Peer Victimization, past year</i> | | | |
| Punched, kicked, choked, beaten up | 262 (15%) | 111 (11%) | 148 (18%***) |
| Attacked or threatened with a weapon, non-gun | 186 (10%) | 55 (6%) | 130 (16%***) |
| Intimidated with a gun | 124 (7%) | 37 (4%) | 86 (10%***) |
| Shot or shot at | 114 (6%) | 37 (4%) | 76 (9%***) |
| TOTAL | 418 (23%) | 159 (16%) | 256 (30%***) |
| <i>Bullying Victimization, past month</i> | | | |
| Teased, picked on, made fun of | 316 (18%) | 191 (20%) | 124 (15%)** |
| Spread rumors or lies | 398 (22%) | 271 (28%) | 126 (15%***) |
| Stealing your things | 247 (14%) | 145 (15%) | 101 (12%)~ |



| | TOTAL | Sex/Gender | |
|---|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | | Female | Male |
| <i>Witnessing violence, past year</i> | | | |
| Punched, kicked, choked, beaten up | 1127 (63%) | 570 (60%) | 554 (67%)** |
| Attacked or threatened with a weapon, non-gun | 649 (36%) | 314 (33%) | 334 (41%)** |
| Intimidated with a gun | 416 (23%) | 184 (19%) | 231 (28%)*** |
| Shot or shot at | 425 (24%) | 198 (21%) | 225 (28%)* |
| TOTAL | 1225 (69%) | 632 (66%) | 590 (72%)* |
| <i>Violence and Weapons</i> | | | |
| Carried a knife, past year | 556 (31%) | 208 (22%) | 346 (42%)*** |
| Carried a knife at school, past year | 234 (13%) | 89 (9%) | 144 (18%)*** |
| Carried a gun, past year | 101 (6%) | 25 (3%) | 75 (9%)*** |
| Carried gun at school, past year | 30 (2%) | 10 (1%) | 20 (2%)* |
| TOTAL | 579 (33%) | 214 (23%) | 363 (45%)*** |
| Fairly/very easy for you to get a gun | 696 (40%) | 322 (34%) | 372 (46%)*** |
| Fairly/very easy for other kids in neighborhood to get gun | 1188 (68%) | 671 (72%) | 514 (64%)** |
| Ever in a gang, past year | 118 (6%) | 37 (4%) | 81 (9%)*** |
| <i>Safety</i> | | | |
| Neighborhood gangs inhibit my everyday activities some or a lot | 494 (27%) | 262 (28%) | 231 (27%) |
| Feel unsafe at school | 153 (8%) | 70 (7%) | 82 (9%) |
| Feel unsafe on way to/from school | 253 (14%) | 130 (13%) | 123 (14%) |
| Feel unsafe on your street | 229 (12%) | 115 (12%) | 114 (13%) |
| Feel unsafe in own neighborhood | 240 (13%) | 126 (13%) | 113 (13%) |
| Feel unsafe in other neighborhoods | 623 (34%) | 300 (31%) | 322 (37%)* |
| Feel unsafe on MBTA bus, train, station or stop | 544 (28%) | 290 (29%) | 254 (27%) |

~ p<0.1 *p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001



Table 2: Selected Findings by Nativity and Grade Level

| | Nativity | | Grade ^a | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| | US Born | Immigrant | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Aggressive Behavior, past month | | | | | | |
| Verbal conflict | 798 (64%) | 315 (59%)* | 292 (66%) | 317 (65%) | 286 (58%) | 220 (59%)* |
| Physical fight | 265 (21%) | 123 (23%) | 106 (24%) | 105 (21%) | 103 (21%) | 72 (19%) |
| Pushed, shoved, slapped someone | 479 (38%) | 175 (32%)* | 186 (42%) | 187 (38%) | 164 (33%) | 121 (32%)* |
| Hit, punched, kicked, choked someone | 352 (28%) | 134 (25%) | 133 (30%) | 150 (31%) | 126 (26%) | 78 (21%)** |
| Attacked or threatened someone with a weapon, non-gun | 135 (11%) | 50 (9%) | 52 (12%) | 55 (11%) | 46 (9%) | 33 (9%) |
| Attacked or threatened someone with a gun | 60 (5%) | 26 (5%) | 24 (5%) | 21 (4%) | 29 (6%) | 13 (4%) |
| TOTAL | 878 (70%) | 345 (64%)* | 326 (74%) | 344 (70%) | 321 (66%) | 234 (63%)** |
| Bullying Perpetration, past month | | | | | | |
| Picked on someone | 157 (13%) | 56 (10%) | 75 (17%) | 61 (13%) | 50 (10%) | 30 (8%)** |
| Told lies or spread rumors about someone | 187 (15%) | 71 (13%) | 75 (17%) | 79 (16%) | 64 (13%) | 42 (11%)~ |
| Peer Victimization, past year | | | | | | |
| Punched, kicked, choked, beaten up | 183 (15%) | 79 (15%) | 66 (15%) | 85 (17%) | 80 (16%) | 28 (8%) |
| Attacked or threatened with a weapon, non-gun | 117 (9%) | 69 (13%)* | 55 (12%) | 56 (12%) | 49 (10%) | 25 (7%)~ |
| Intimidated with a gun | 82 (7%) | 42 (8%) | 33 (7%) | 31 (6%) | 35 (7%) | 24 (6%) |
| Shot or shot at | 78 (6%) | 35 (6%) | 31 (7%) | 24 (5%) | 33 (7%) | 24 (7%) |
| TOTAL | 283 (23%) | 134 (25%) | 118 (26%) | 121 (25%) | 119 (24%) | 57 (15%)** |
| Bullying Victimization, past month | | | | | | |
| Teased, picked on, made fun of | 189 (15%) | 124 (23%)*** | 104 (23%) | 86 (18%) | 79 (16%) | 43 (12%)*** |
| Spread rumors or lies | 255 (21%) | 138 (26%)* | 114 (26%) | 98 (20%) | 109 (22%) | 75 (20%) |
| Stealing your things | 142 (12%) | 103 (19%)*** | 71 (16%) | 61 (13%) | 65 (13%) | 48 (13%) |
| Witnessing violence, past year | | | | | | |
| Punched, kicked, choked, beaten up | 798 (65%) | 317 (60%)~ | 291 (66%) | 326 (67%) | 296 (61%) | 207 (56%)** |
| Attacked or threatened with a weapon, non-gun | 473 (38%) | 168 (32%)** | 171 (39%) | 169 (35%) | 176 (37%) | 131 (36%) |

^a Asterisks present in the Grade 12 column indicate a significant difference between older (11th and 12th grade) and younger (9th and 10th grade) youth

~ p<0.1 *p<0.05 **p<0.01 ***p<0.001



| | Nativity | | Grade | | | |
|---|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | US Born | Immigrant | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Witnessing violence, past year (continued) | | | | | | |
| Intimidated with a gun | 303 (25%) | 108 (21%)~ | 106 (24%) | 103 (21%) | 121 (25%) | 83 (23%) |
| Shot or shot at | 310 (25%) | 111 (21%)~ | 112 (26%) | 105 (22%) | 127 (26%) | 79 (22%) |
| TOTAL | 873 (71%) | 340 (64%)** | 317 (72%) | 347 (72%) | 324 (67%) | 230 (63%)** |
| Violence and Weapons | | | | | | |
| Carried a knife, past year | 422 (34%) | 130 (25%)*** | 134 (31%) | 161 (33%) | 150 (31%) | 107 (29%) |
| Carried a knife at school, past year | 174 (14%) | 56 (11%)~ | 53 (12%) | 69 (14%) | 67 (14%) | 43 (12%) |
| Carried a gun, past year | 71 (6%) | 29 (6%) | 21 (5%) | 22 (5%) | 28 (6%) | 27 (7%) |
| Carried gun at school, past year | 18 (1%) | 11 (2%) | 9 (2%) | 4 (1%) | 9 (2%) | 8 (2%) |
| TOTAL | 434 (36%) | 140 (27%)*** | 140 (33%) | 164 (34%) | 156 (33%) | 115 (32%) |
| Fairly/very easy for you to get a gun | 540 (45%) | 150 (29%)*** | 138 (32%) | 200 (42%) | 183 (39%) | 169 (47%)*** |
| Fairly/very easy for other kids in neighborhood to get gun | 865 (71%) | 314 (62%)*** | 267 (63%) | 326 (69%) | 317 (67%) | 271 (75%) |
| Ever in a gang, past year | 93 (7%) | 24 (4%)* | 35 (8%) | 31 (6%) | 30 (6%) | 20 (5%) |
| Safety | | | | | | |
| Neighborhood gangs inhibit my everyday activities some or a lot | 326 (26%) | 163 (31%)* | 138 (32%) | 129 (27%) | 136 (28%) | 87 (23%) |
| Feel unsafe at school | 86 (7%) | 64 (11%)** | 31 (7%) | 41 (8%) | 50 (10%) | 29 (7%) |
| Feel unsafe on way to/from school | 135 (10%) | 112 (20%)*** | 59 (13%) | 69 (14%) | 84 (17%) | 37 (10%) |
| Feel unsafe on your street | 124 (10%) | 104 (19%)*** | 59 (13%) | 63 (13%) | 68 (14%) | 37 (10%) |
| Feel unsafe in own neighborhood | 146 (11%) | 93 (17%)** | 59 (13%) | 73 (15%) | 65 (13%) | 40 (10%) |
| Feel unsafe in other neighborhoods | 409 (32%) | 206 (37%)~ | 154 (34%) | 159 (32%) | 173 (35%) | 132 (34%) |
| Feel unsafe on MBTA bus, train, station or stop | 343 (26%) | 193 (33%)** | 141 (29%) | 141 (28%) | 151 (30%) | 102 (26%) |