

# **2009 Mississippi Youth Risk Behaviors**

High School

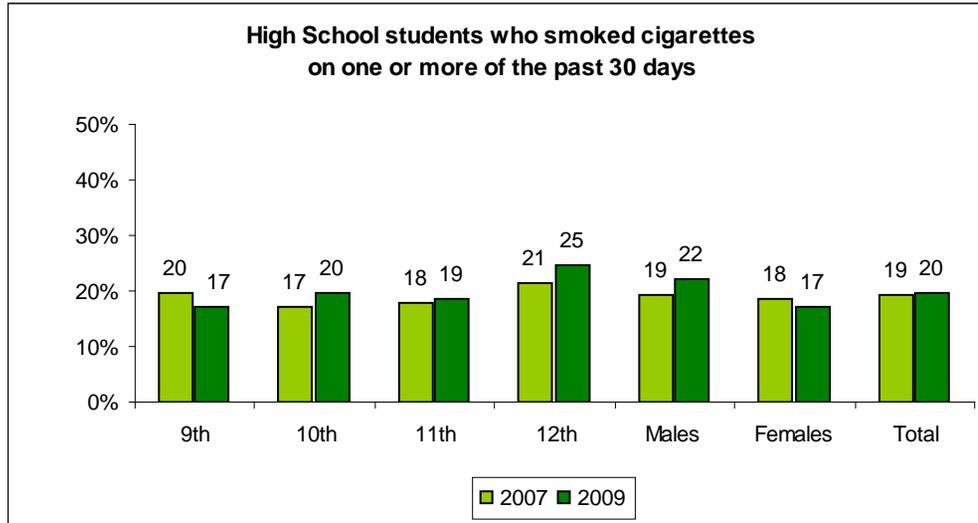
The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in collaboration with representatives from states, local departments of education, and other federal agencies to monitor priority health-risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death, disease and social problems among youth and adults. These behaviors fall into six categories:

1. Behaviors that result in unintentional injuries and violence
2. Tobacco use
3. Alcohol and other drug use
4. Sexual behaviors that result in HIV infection, other sexually transmitted disease and unintended pregnancies
5. Dietary behaviors
6. Physical activity

During the spring of 2009, the Mississippi State Department of Health conducted the ninth biennial YRBS among public high school students. Weighted data were obtained from 1,795 ninth- through twelfth grade students. These results are representative of all Mississippi public school students in grades 9-12.

The 2009 Mississippi YRBS data is compared to the 2007 state weighted data for progress.

## Tobacco Use



## Chewing tobacco

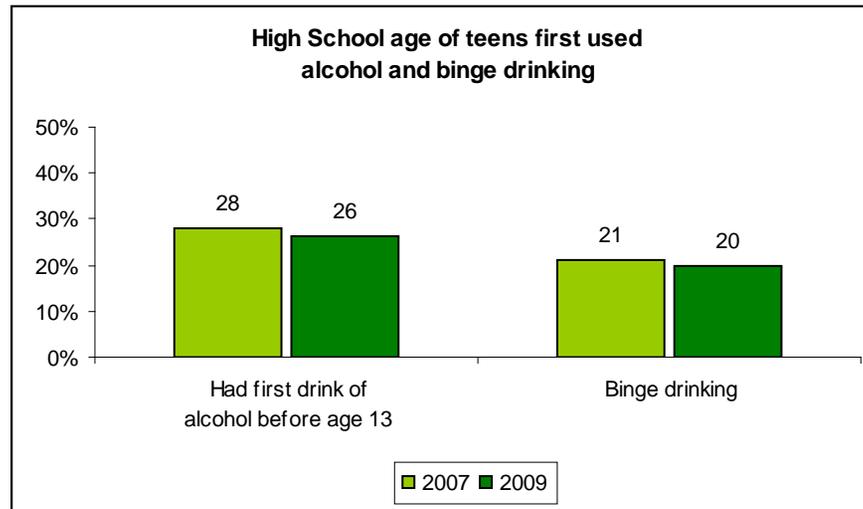
Used chewing tobacco and/or snuff on one or more of the past 30 days:

MS High School	2007	2009
Males	15%	16%
Females	1%	1%
Overall	8%	9%

*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on one or more of the past 30 days increased from 19% in 2007 to 20% in 2009. Overall, males had higher percentages compared to females. Also, males had a 3% increase from 2007 to 2009; whereas females had a 1% decrease.*

*Students in grades 10, 11, and 12 had percentage increases from 2007 to 2009 among students who smoked. Only 9<sup>th</sup> graders had a decrease (3%) from 2007 to 2009.*

## Alcohol Use



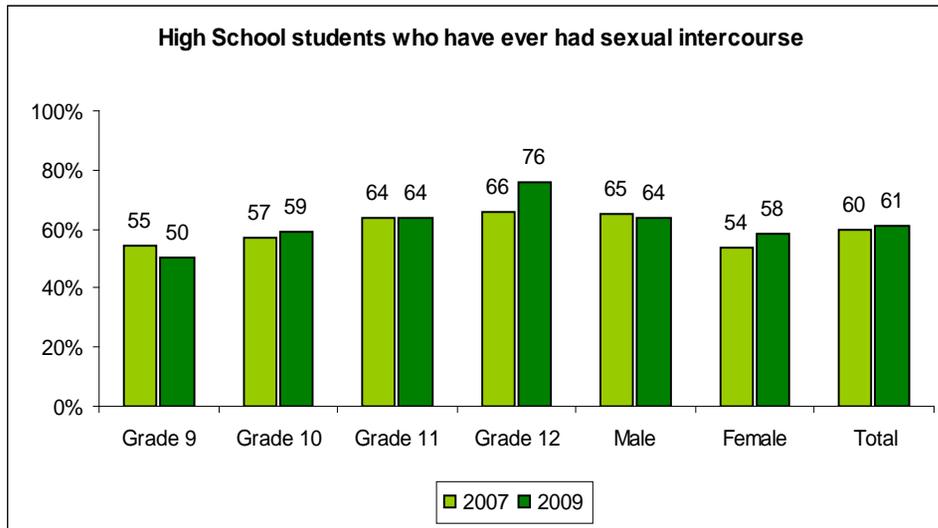
## Other substances use

Students reported using the following substances during their lifetime:

MS High School	2007	2009
Cocaine	5%	4%
Marijuana	36%	35%
Steroids	4%	3%
Inhalants	13%	10%
Methamphetamines	4%	3%

*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who first used alcohol before age 13 decreased from 28% in 2007 to 26% in 2009. The percentage of students who were binge drinkers also decreased from 21% to 20%.*

## Sexual Behavior



### Other sexual behavior in 2009

Thirteen percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported having sexual intercourse for the first time before age 13 years.

Of the students who had sexual intercourse during the past three months, 66% had used a condom.

Nineteen percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported drinking alcohol or using drugs before last sexual intercourse.

*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who had ever had sexual intercourse increased from 60% in 2007 to 61% in 2009. Overall, males had higher percentages compared to females. Also, males had a 1% increase from 2007 to 2009; females had a 4% increase.*

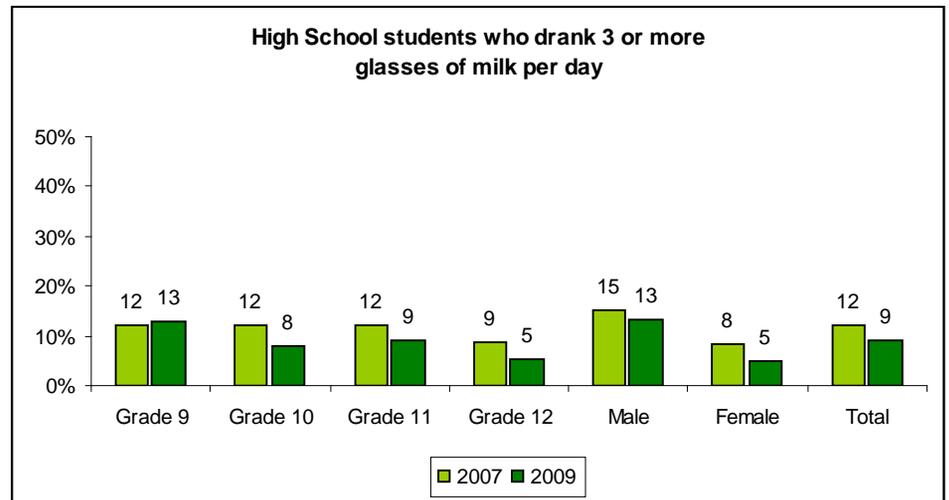
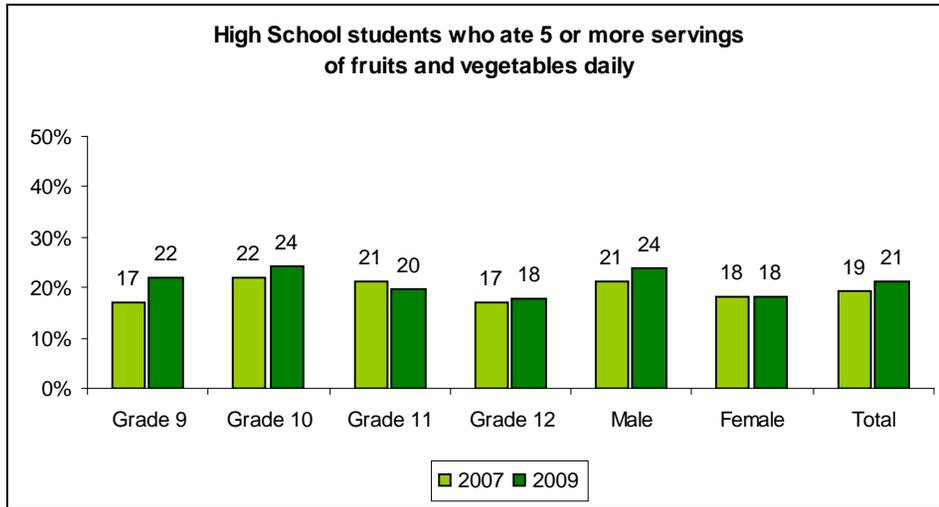
*Students in grades 10 and 12 had percentage increases from 2007 to 2009, with students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade showing a 10% increase. Eleventh grade students showed no change and ninth graders showed a decrease (5%) from 2007 to 2009.*

## Dietary Behaviors

### Other dietary behavior in 2009

Fifty-two percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported eating green salad one or more times during the past 7 days.

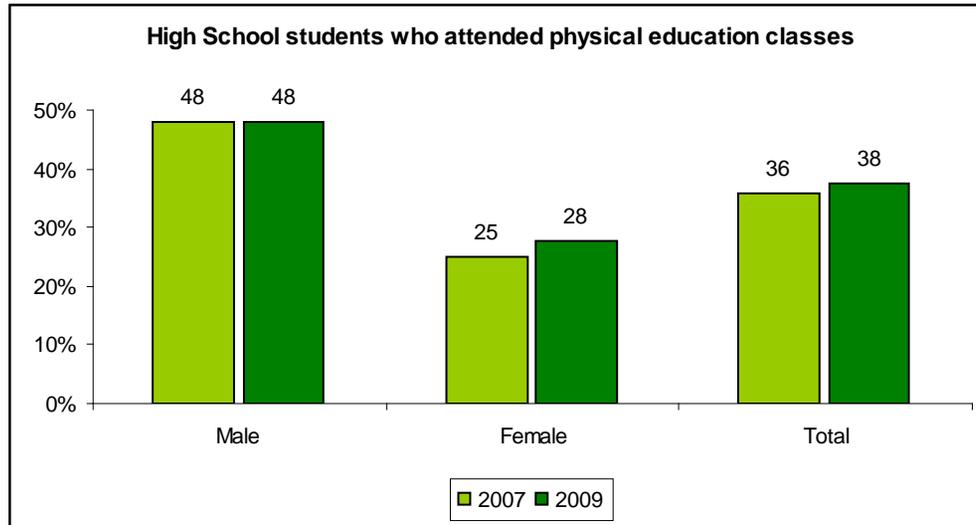
Seventy-seven percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reported drinking 100% fruit juices one or more times during the past 7 days.



*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who ate 5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables daily increased from 19% in 2007 to 21% in 2009. Overall, males had higher percentages compared to females whom showed no change from 2007 to 2009.*

*Students in grades 9, 10, and 12 had percentage increases from 2007 to 2009 among students who ate 5 or more servings of fruits and vegetables daily. Only 11<sup>th</sup> graders had a decrease (1%) from 2007 to 2009.*

## Physical Activities



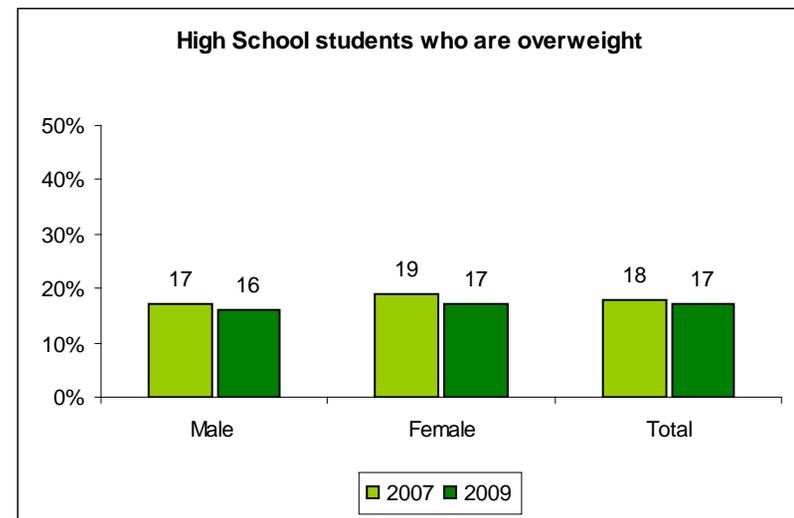
### Other physical activities in 2009

Twenty-six percent of students in grades 9 through 12 attended daily physical education classes in an average week when they were in school.

Forty-five percent of students in grades 9 through 12 watched three or more hours of TV on an average school day.

*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who attended physical education classes increased from 36% in 2007 to 38% in 2009. Overall, males had higher percentages compared to females, but showed no change between the two years. However, females showed a 3% increase from 2007 to 2009.*

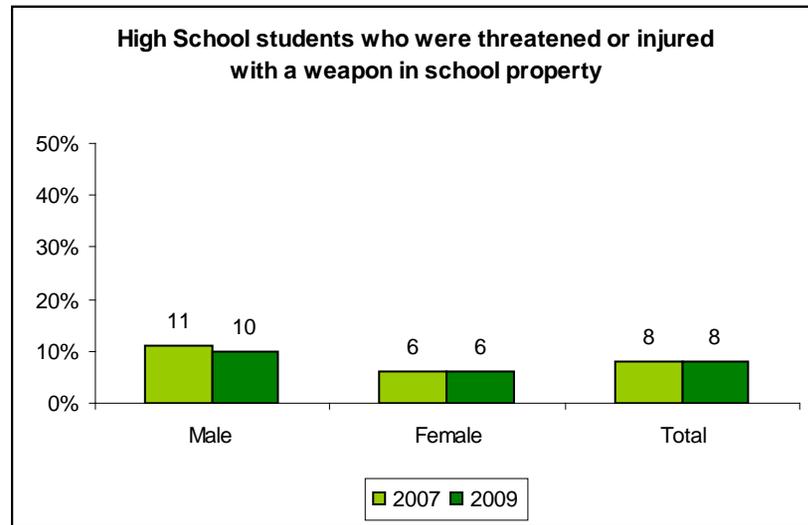
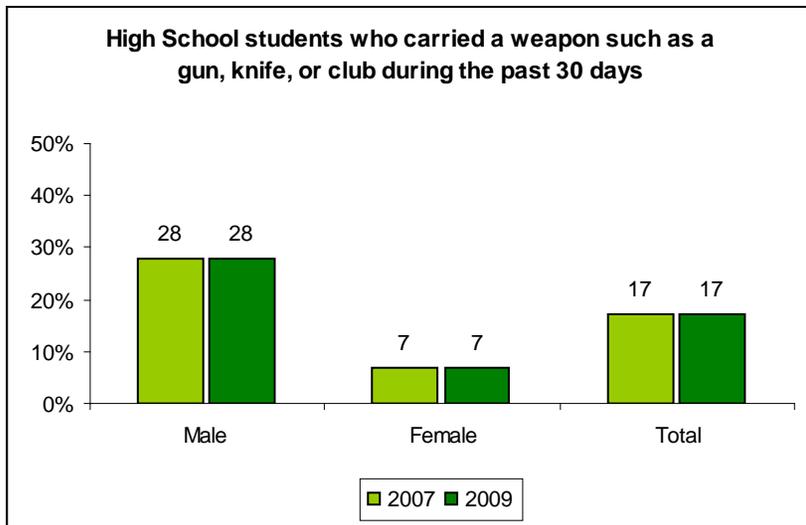
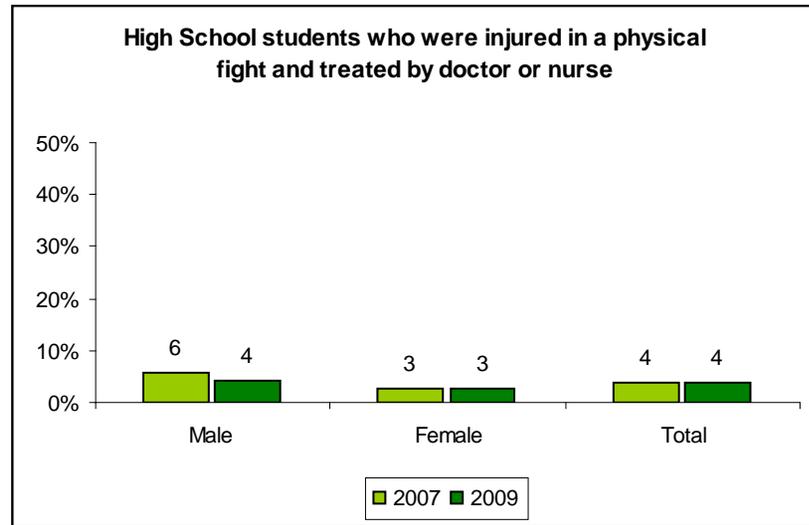
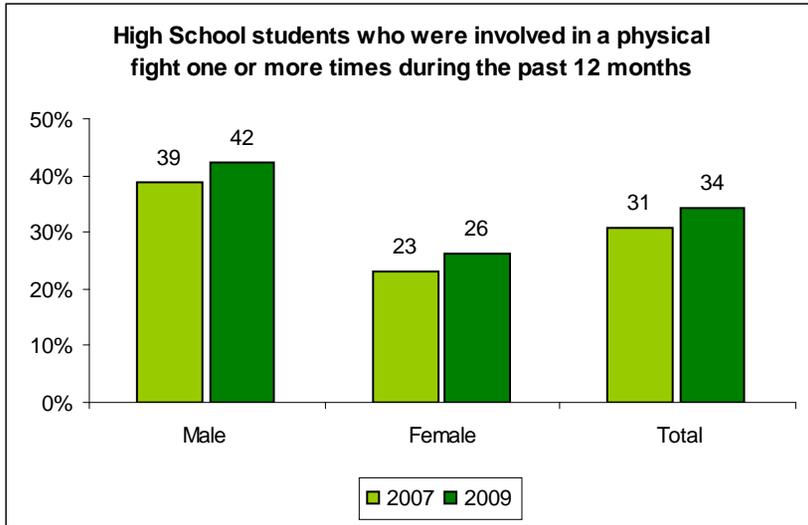
## Weight Status



*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who are obese had no change from 2007 to 2009. The percentage remained steady at 18%. Overall, males had higher percentages, but showed a 1% decrease from 2007 to 2009; whereas females had a 2% increase.*

*There was a 1% decrease among high school students who were overweight from 2007 to 2009. Both males and females showed a decrease in this category.*

## Violence



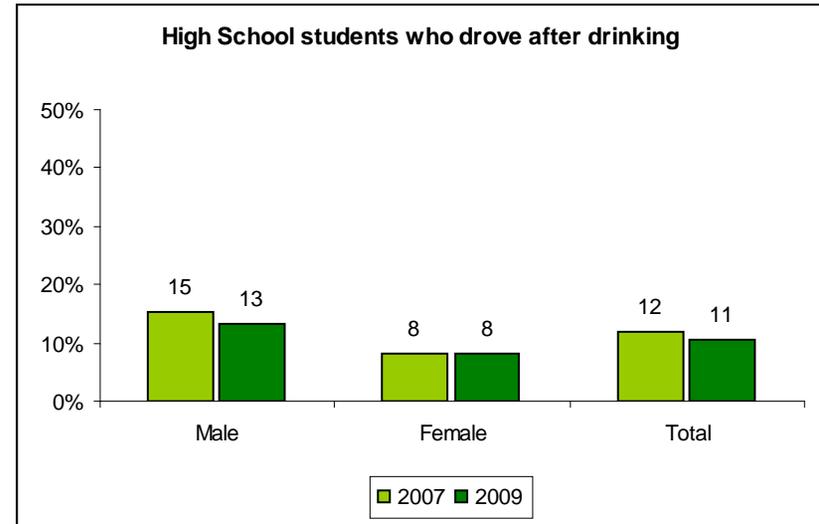
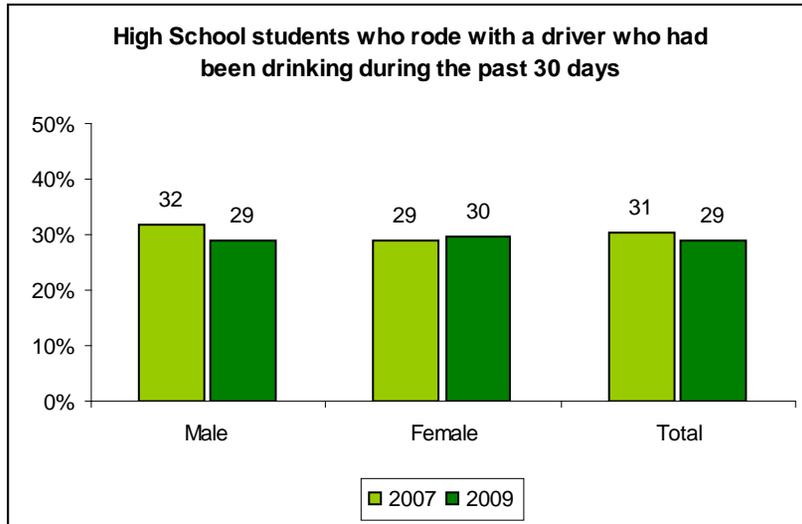
*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who were involved in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months increased from 31% in 2007 to 34% in 2009. Even though both males and females showed increases, males had higher percentages compared to females.*

*The percentage of public high school students who were injured in a physical fight and treated by a doctor or nurse remained steady at 4% for years 2007 and 2009. Males had a 2% decrease; whereas, females showed no change for the two years.*

*The percentage of public high school students who carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club during the past 30 days remained steady at 17% from 2007 to 2009. There were no changes in percentages for neither male nor female students.*

*The percentage of public high school students who were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property also remained steady at 8% from 2007 to 2009. There was a 1% decrease among males and no change in the percentage for female students for the two years.*

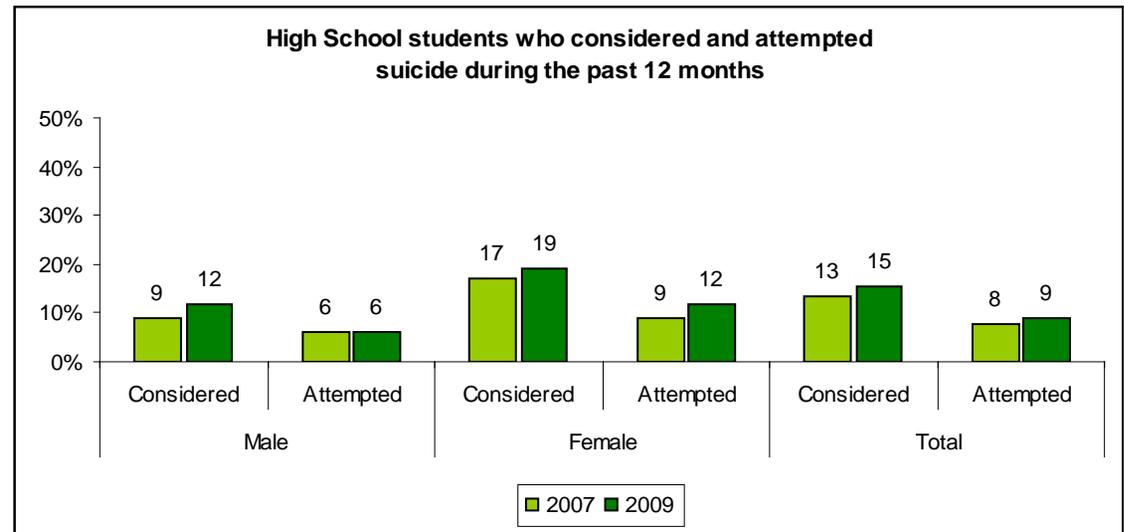
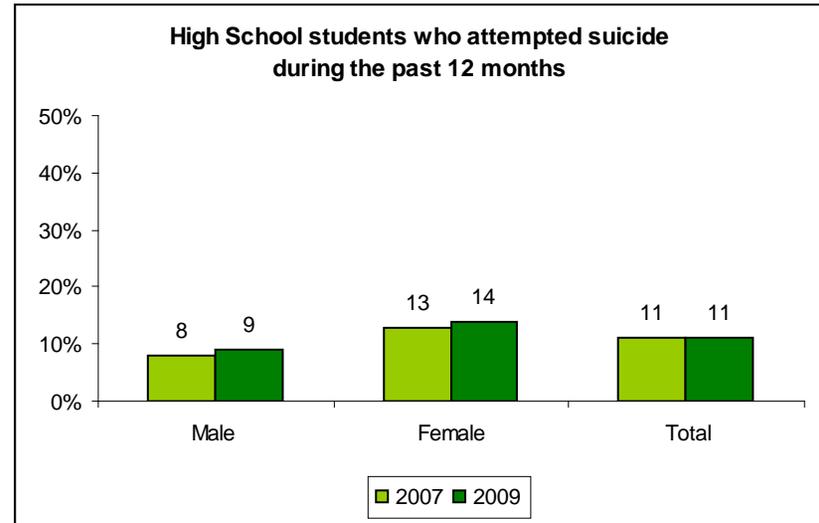
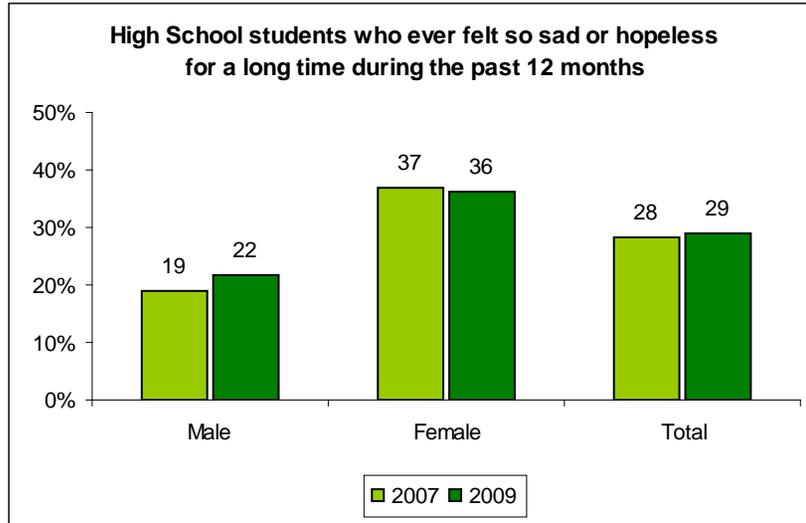
## Drinking and Driving



*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who rode with a driver who had been drinking during the past 30 days decreased from 31% in 2007 to 29% in 2009. Males had the higher percentages, but showed a decrease; whereas, females showed a 1% increase for the two year period.*

*The percentage of students who drove after drinking decreased from 12% in 2007 to 11% in 2009. Males had the higher percentages, but showed a decrease; whereas, females showed no change in percentages for the two year period.*

## Mental Health

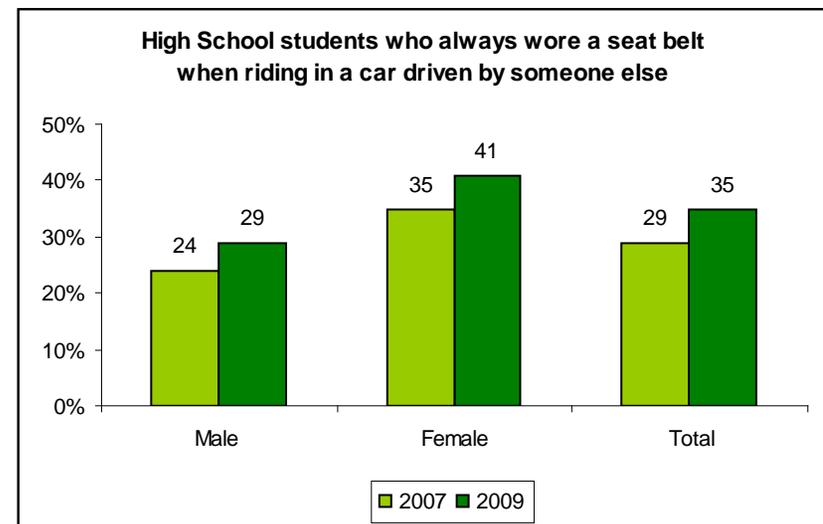
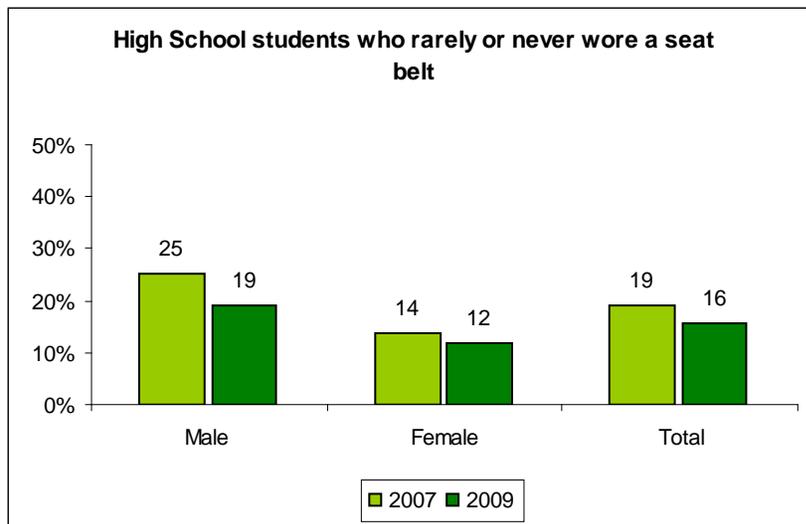
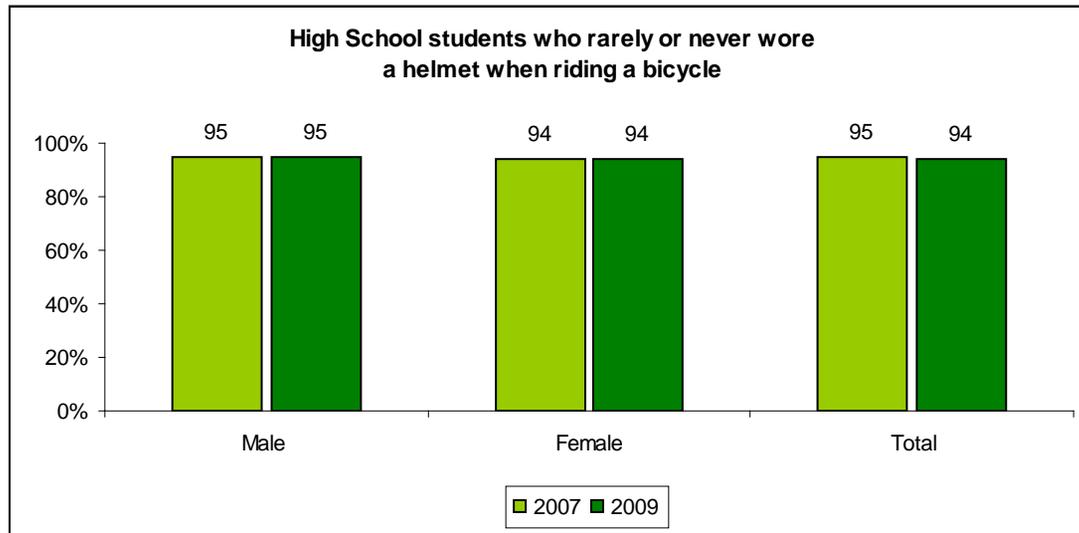


*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who ever felt so sad or hopeless for a long time during the past 12 months increased from 28% in 2007 to 29% in 2009. For this category, the percentage for males increased by 3%; whereas, females showed a 1% decrease.*

*The percentage of public high school students who attempted suicide during the past 12 months remained steady at 11% for years 2007 and 2009. Both male and female students showed a 1% increase for the two year period.*

*The percentage of public high school students who considered suicide during the past 12 months increased from 13% in 2007 to 15% in 2009. The percentage of students who attempted suicide also increased from 8% in 2007 to 9% in 2009. Overall, females had the higher percentages for both categories compared to males; however, there were no change in percentages from 2007 to 2009 among males who attempted suicide during the past 12 months.*

## UNINTENTIONAL INJURY BEHAVIORS



*In Mississippi public high schools, the percentage of students who rarely or never wore a helmet when riding a bicycle decreased from 95% in 2007 to 94% in 2009. However, both percentages for males and females remained steady for the two year period.*

*The percentage of public high school students who rarely or never wore a seat belt decreased from 19% in 2007 to 16% in 2009. Even though males had the higher percentages, both groups (males and females) showed percentage decreases for the two year period.*

*The percentage of public high school students who always wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else increased from 29% in 2007 to 35% in 2009. Even though females had higher percentages compared to males, both groups showed increases from 2007 to 2009.*