

Youth Safety

Key Findings

In 2009, over one-third (36%) of Allen County youth self-reported that they always wore a seatbelt when riding in a car driven by someone else. 50% of Allen County youth had been to the doctor for a routine check-up in the past year.

**Allen County Youth
Leading Causes of Death 2004-2006**

Total Deaths: 90

- ❖ Accidents (Unintentional injuries)
- ❖ Malignant Neoplasms
- ❖ Influenza/Pneumonia

(Source: ODH Information Warehouse, updated 12-5-07)

Personal Safety

- ◆ Just over one-third (36%) of youth always wore a seatbelt when riding in a car driven by someone else, increasing to 45% of those 17-18 years old.
- ◆ In the past 30 days, 22% of youth had ridden in a car driven by someone who had been drinking alcohol and 8% had driven a car themselves after drinking alcohol, increasing to 12% of 17-18 year olds.
- ◆ 15% of youth played the choking game, increasing to 18% of those ages 14-16.
- ◆ Allen County youth never wore a helmet when they rode the following in the past year: a bicycle (87%), skateboard, (88%), ATV (50%), or moped (47%).
- ◆ Over three-fourths (76%) of youth had a MySpace or facebook account. Of those who had an account, they reported the following: their parents had their password (12%), their friends had their password (10%), they knew all of “my friends” (70%), their account was currently checked private (78%), and they had problems as a result of their account (11%).
- ◆ 9% of youth had been asked to participate in sexual activity with someone they had met in a chat room. 2% of youth had participated in sexual activity with someone they had met in a chat room.

General Health

- ◆ Half (50%) of youth had been to a doctor for a routine check-up in the past year.
- ◆ In the past year, 68% of Allen County youth had visited the dentist for a check-up, exam, teeth cleaning, or other dental work. 13% reported more than one year but less than 2 years, and 5% responded more than 2 years ago.
- ◆ Three-fourths (75%) of youth were involved in extracurricular activities. Allen County youth were involved in the following extracurricular activities: a sports or intramural program (49%), a school club or social organization (21%), a church youth group (17%), a church or religious organization (14%), and some other organized activity such as 4H, Scouts, etc. (11%).

Allen County Youth Seatbelt Use in the Past Month

