

# 2021 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey



## Meth Report

Health Risk Behaviors of  
Students Who Ever Used  
Methamphetamines



Youth Risk Behavior Survey Program  
Coordinated School Health Unit  
December 2021

# 2021 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Meth Report

## Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey

The Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is administered by the Montana Office of Public Instruction every two years to students in grades 7 through 12. The purpose of the survey is to help monitor the prevalence of behaviors that not only influence youth health, but also put youth at risk for the most significant health and social problems that can occur during adolescence. While all schools in Montana can participate in the survey on a volunteer basis, approximately 50 high schools are randomly selected to be included to provide the Montana statewide data to be used in other national YRBS reports.

The 2021 YRBS was conducted in February-March 2021. Schools administering the survey were provided with detailed written instructions on conducting a random survey in their schools. To encourage accurate responses to sensitive questions, a strict protocol was implemented to protect the privacy and confidentiality of all participating students. The questionnaire was designed without skip patterns to ensure survey completion by students in a similar period of time.

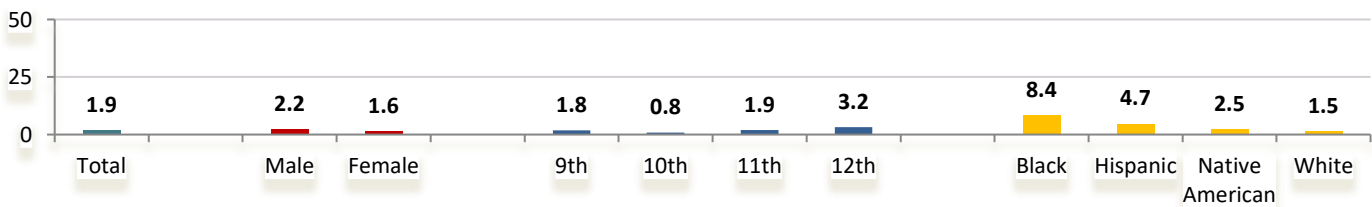
## Survey Validity and Report Analysis

Data used in this report from the 2021 YRBS are based on a random sample survey of Montana high school students. The weighted data results contained in this report can be used to make inferences about the priority health-risk behaviors of all high school students in grades 9 through 12 in all schools in Montana.

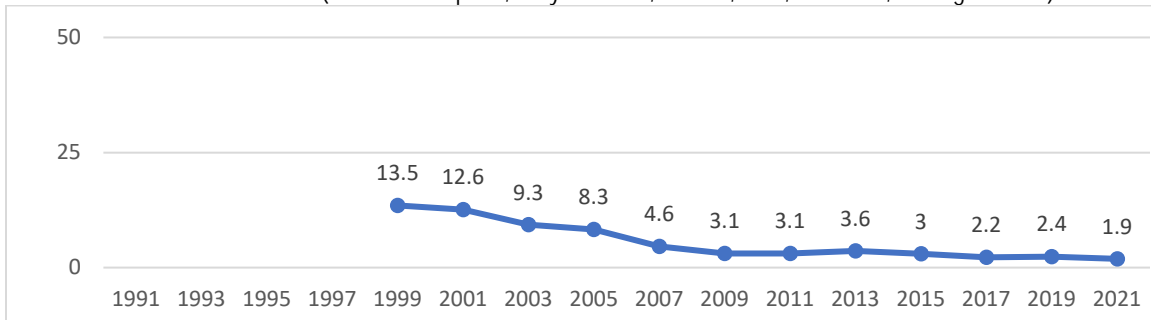
For this report, methamphetamine users are identified as the 1.9 percent of Montana high school students who reported using methamphetamines (also called “speed,” “crystal meth,” “crank,” “ice,” or “meth,” during their life. Fifty-three separate risk behaviors were queried for association with methamphetamine use. These findings are presented in narrative, table, and graph forms in the following report.

## LIFETIME METHAMPHETAMINE USE

Statewide, 1.9 percent of Montana high school students had used methamphetamines one or more times during their life.



## EVER USED METHAMPHETAMINES (also called “speed,” “crystal meth,” “crank,” “ice,” or “meth,” during their life)



For more on the Montana YRBS go to [www.opi.mt.gov/yrbs](http://www.opi.mt.gov/yrbs).

## 2021 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Meth Report

### Findings – *More Likely*

Montana high school students who used methamphetamines are *more likely* than students who had not used methamphetamines to have:

- Not always worn a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else (71% of meth users compared to 46% of non-meth using students).
- Never or rarely wore a seat belt when driving a vehicle (33% of meth users compared to 6% of non-meth using students).
- Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days (52% of meth users compared to 20% of non-meth using students).
- Driven a car or other vehicle when they had been drinking alcohol during the past 30 days (38% of meth users compared to 7% of non-meth using students).
- Used the Internet or apps on their cell phone while driving during the past 30 days (77% of meth users compared to 51% of non-meth using students).
- Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property during the past 30 days (38% of meth users compared to 9% of non-meth using students).
- Not gone to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days (34% of meth users compared to 6% of non-meth using students).
- Been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months (37% of meth users compared to 5% of non-meth using students).
- Ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to (48% of meth users compared to 10% of non-meth using students).
- Experienced sexual dating violence (unwanted kissing, touching, or sexual intercourse by someone they were dating) during the past 12 months (33% of meth users compared to 8% of non-meth using students).
- Been bullied on school property during the past 12 months (33% of meth users compared to 15% of non-meth using students).
- Been electronically bullied (texting, Instagram, Facebook, or other social media) during the past 12 months (46% of meth users compared to 16% of non-meth using students).
- Been the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual during the past 12 months (38% of meth users compared to 13% of non-meth using students).
- Felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row that they stopped doing usual activities, during the past 12 months (71% of meth users compared to 41% of non-meth using students).
- Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months (50% of meth users compared to 17% of non-meth using students).
- Attempted suicide during the past 12 months (47% of meth users compared to 10% of non-meth using students).
- Ever tried cigarette smoking (83% of meth users compared to 27% of non-meth using students).
- Smoked a cigarette during the past 30 days (45% of meth users compared to 7% of non-meth using students).
- Ever used electronic vapor products (78% of meth users compared to 48% of non-meth using students).
- Used electronic vapor products during the past 30 days (63% of meth users compared to 25% of non-meth using students).
- Currently used smokeless tobacco during the past 30 days (38% of meth users compared to 5% of non-meth using students).
- Currently smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars during the past 30 days (48% of meth users compared to 4% of non-meth using students).
- Had a drink of alcohol during the past 30 days (74% of meth users compared to 31% of non-meth using students).

## 2021 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Meth Report

### Findings – *More Likely*

Montana high school students who used methamphetamines are *more likely* than students who had not used methamphetamines to have:

- Had 4 or more drinks of alcohol, if female, 5 or more drinks, if male, within a couple hours during the past 30 days (52% of meth users compared to 16% of non-meth using students).
- Ever used marijuana in their lifetime (85% of meth users compared to 36% of non-meth using students).
- Used marijuana during the past 30 days (63% of meth users compared to 19% of non-meth using students).
- Ever took prescription pain medication without a doctor’s prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it (such as codeine, Vicodin, OxyContin, Hydrocodone, and Percocet) (67% of meth users compared to 11% of non-meth using students).
- Ever used ecstasy in their lifetime (65% of meth users compared to 3% of non-meth using students).
- Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime (85% of meth users compared to 41% of non-meth using students).
- Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life (40% of meth users compared to 10% of non-meth using students).
- Have had sexual intercourse during the past 3 months (69% of meth users compared to 29% of non-meth using students).
- Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse (56% of meth users compared to 17% of non-meth using students).
- Obesity, at or above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile for body mass index (26% of meth users compared to 12% of non-meth using students).
- Not been physically active for at least 60 minutes per day on any of the past 7 days (29% of meth users compared to 11% of non-meth using students).
- Experienced homelessness during the past 30 days (33% of meth users compared to 3% of non-meth using students).
- Slept away from their parents or guardians because they were kicked out, ran away, or abandoned, during the past 30 days (29% of meth users compared to 4% of non-meth using students).
- Received help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher during the past 12 months (31% of meth users compared to 14% of non-meth using students).




















## 2021 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Meth Report

### Findings – *Less Likely*

Montana high school students who used methamphetamines are *less likely* than students who had not used methamphetamines to have:
















- Used a condom during last sexual intercourse (30% of meth users compared to 52% of non-meth using students).
- Been physically active for at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days (30% of meth users compared to 52% of non-meth using students).
- Been physically active for at least 60 minutes per day on all of the past 7 days (17% of meth users compared to 26% of non-meth using students).
- Made mostly A's or B's in school during the past 12 months (44% of meth users compared to 74% of non-meth using students).

## 2021 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey – Meth Report

Health Risk Behavior by percentage of students	Students Who Had Used Meth	Students Who Had Not Used Meth	Statistical Difference
Did not always wear a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else	<b>70.9%</b> (61.2-80.5)	<b>45.6%</b> (43.0-48.2)	
Never or rarely wore a seat belt when driving	<b>33.1%</b> (21.1-45.1)	<b>6.3%</b> (5.5-7.1)	
Rode with a driver who had been drinking during the past 30 days	<b>51.8%</b> (42.1-61.6)	<b>20.0%</b> (18.4-21.6)	
Drove when drinking alcohol during the past 30 days	<b>38.4%</b> (24.6-52.3)	<b>7.0%</b> (6.1-7.8)	
Texted or e-mailed while driving a car or other vehicle during the past 30 days	<b>69.7%</b> (55.2-84.2)	<b>56.9%</b> (54.0-59.7)	
Used the Internet or apps on their cell phone while driving during the past 30 days	<b>76.9%</b> (63.4-90.4)	<b>51.0%</b> (48.5-53.5)	
Carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property, past 30 days	<b>38.4%</b> (29.0-47.8)	<b>8.5%</b> (7.4-9.6)	
Did not go to school because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to or from school during the past 30 days	<b>33.8%</b> (24.9-42.7)	<b>5.9%</b> (5.1-6.7)	
Were threatened or injured with a weapon on school property during the past 12 months	<b>37.3%</b> (26.6-47.9)	<b>5.3%</b> (4.4-6.3)	
Ever physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to	<b>48.1%</b> (36.8-59.3)	<b>10.3%</b> (9.0-11.6)	
Experienced sexual dating violence (unwanted kissing, touching, or sexual intercourse by someone they were dating), past 12 months	<b>33.1%</b> (21.7-44.6)	<b>7.5%</b> (6.5-8.5)	
Were bullied on school property during the past 12 months	<b>33.0%</b> (16.7-49.2)	<b>15.3%</b> (13.8-16.9)	
Were electronically bullied (texting, Instagram, Facebook, or other social media) during the past 12 months	<b>45.5%</b> (32.8-58.3)	<b>15.9%</b> (14.7-17.1)	
Were the victim of teasing or name calling because someone thought they were gay, lesbian, or bisexual, past 12 months	<b>38.4%</b> (25.9-50.9)	<b>13.1%</b> (11.9-14.3)	
Felt sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in a row during the past 12 months	<b>71.1%</b> (61.9-80.3)	<b>40.9%</b> (38.6-43.1)	
Made a plan about how they would attempt suicide during the past 12 months	<b>50.3%</b> (39.5-61.0)	<b>17.4%</b> (15.8-19.0)	
Attempted suicide during the past 12 months	<b>47.3%</b> (37.4-57.1)	<b>9.6%</b> (8.2-11.0)	
Ever tried cigarette smoking	<b>83.0%</b> (75.4-90.6)	<b>26.9%</b> (24.4-29.4)	
Currently smoked cigarettes, past 30 days	<b>45.0%</b> (31.5-58.5)	<b>6.5%</b> (5.1-7.8)	
Ever used an electronic vapor product	<b>78.1%</b> (70.6-85.5)	<b>47.9%</b> (45.5-50.2)	








Based on t-test analysis, p<0.05.

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Currently used an electronic vapor product, past 30 days	<b>63.3%</b> (51.7-74.8)	<b>24.9%</b> (23.0-26.8)	
Currently used smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, or dip), past 30 days	<b>37.5%</b> (26.5-48.5)	<b>4.6%</b> (3.7-5.5)	
Currently smoked cigars, cigarillos, or little cigars, past 30 days	<b>48.0%</b> (39.0-56.9)	<b>3.7%</b> (2.8-4.6)	
Currently drank alcohol, past 30 days	<b>73.6%</b> (64.9-82.4)	<b>30.9%</b> (28.7-33.1)	
Had 4 or more drinks, if female, 5 or more drinks, if male, of alcohol within a couple hours during the past 30 days	<b>52.0%</b> (40.3-63.6)	<b>15.9%</b> (14.3-15.6)	
Ever used marijuana in their lifetime	<b>84.5%</b> (77.5-91.6)	<b>36.2%</b> (33.6-38.7)	
Currently used marijuana, past 30 days	<b>63.3%</b> (53.3-73.2)	<b>19.0%</b> (17.3-20.7)	
Ever took prescription pain medicine without a doctor's prescription or differently than how a doctor told them to use it (codeine, Vicodin, OxyContin, Hydrocodone and Percocet)	<b>67.3%</b> (57.8-76.7)	<b>10.9%</b> (9.7-12.0)	
Ever used ecstasy in their lifetime	<b>65.0%</b> (55.0-75.1)	<b>3.0%</b> (2.5-3.6)	
Ever had sexual intercourse in their lifetime	<b>84.5%</b> (76.4-92.6)	<b>40.8%</b> (38.2-43.5)	
Had sexual intercourse with four or more persons during their life	<b>39.8%</b> (25.0-54.5)	<b>10.2%</b> (9.1-11.3)	
Currently sexually active (sexual intercourse during the past 3 months)	<b>69.3%</b> (56.9-81.7)	<b>29.4%</b> (27.2-31.6)	
Drank alcohol or used drugs before last sexual intercourse	<b>55.5%</b> (39.7-71.3)	<b>16.6%</b> (14.3-18.8)	
Used a condom during last sexual intercourse	<b>29.6%</b> (14.8-44.4)	<b>52.3%</b> (49.2-55.5)	
Have obesity (at or above the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile for body mass index)	<b>25.8%</b> (14.3-37.3)	<b>11.6%</b> (10.2-12.9)	
Were overweight (at or above the 85 <sup>th</sup> percentile but below the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile for body mass index)	<b>13.8%</b> (6.4-21.3)	<b>14.1%</b> (12.9-15.3)	
Were trying to lose weight	<b>50.5%</b> (39.2-61.8)	<b>41.2%</b> (39.2-43.1)	
Did not drink 100% fruit juice during the past 7 days	<b>29.7%</b> (20.1-39.2)	<b>34.3%</b> (32.6-36.1)	
Did not eat fruit during the past 7 days	<b>15.5%</b> (7.2-23.7)	<b>10.2%</b> (9.2-11.1)	
Did not eat vegetables during the past 7 days	<b>12.2%</b> (5.5-18.8)	<b>5.1%</b> (4.4-5.8)	
Drank a can, bottle, or glass of soda or pop daily during the past 7 days	<b>19.8%</b> (11.2-28.3)	<b>12.0%</b> (10.9-13.1)	

Based on t-test analysis, p<0.05.

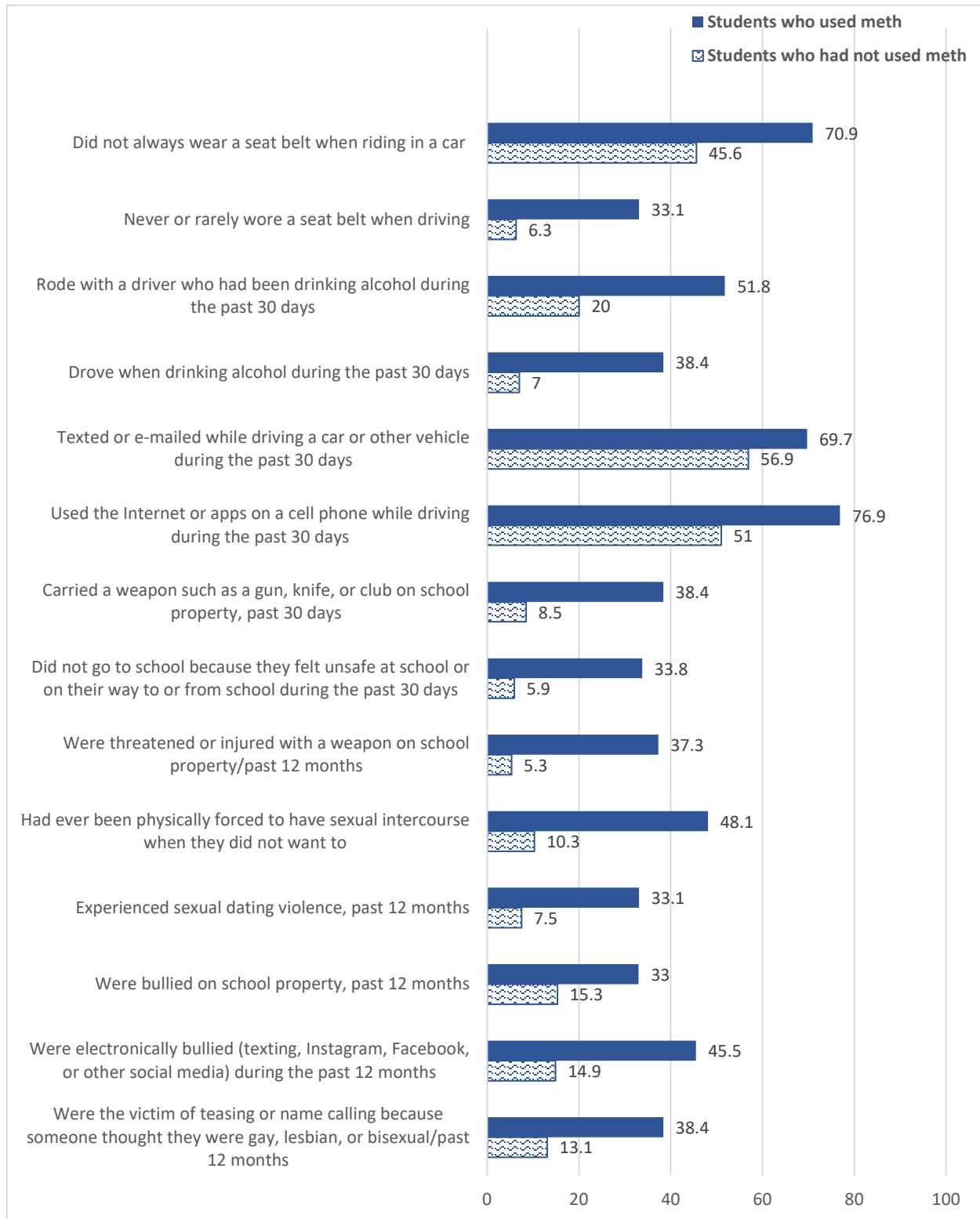
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Did not drink milk during the past 7 days	<b>27.7%</b> (20.9-34.6)	<b>26.5%</b> (24.8-28.3)	
Did not eat breakfast on any of the past 7 days	<b>24.3%</b> (14.4-34.1)	<b>16.8%</b> (15.4-18.2)	
Were not physically active for at least 60 minutes per day on any of the past 7 days	<b>28.6%</b> (17.3-39.9)	<b>10.9%</b> (9.8-12.0)	
Were physically active for at least 60 minutes per day on 5 or more of the past 7 days	<b>30.0%</b> (20.3-39.8)	<b>52.1%</b> (49.9-54.4)	
Were physically active for at least 60 minutes per day on all of the past 7 days	<b>16.5%</b> (9.1-24.0)	<b>26.1%</b> (24.6-27.6)	
Spent 3 or more hours per day on screen time (TV, computer, smart phone, or other electronic device watching shows or videos, playing games, accessing the Internet, or using social media, <i>not counting time doing schoolwork</i> ) on an average school day	<b>66.7%</b> (56.4-77.0)	<b>72.0%</b> (70.4-73.6)	
Played on at least one sports team during the past 12 months	<b>55.3%</b> (44.1-66.5)	<b>59.0%</b> (57.1-60.9)	
Got 8 or more hours of sleep on an average school night	<b>24.1%</b> (14.6-33.5)	<b>28.7%</b> (26.9-30.6)	
Experienced homelessness during the past 30 days	<b>33.2%</b> (24.5-41.9)	<b>2.6%</b> (2.1-3.2)	
Slept away from their parents or guardians because they were kicked out, ran away, or were abandoned, during the past 30 days	<b>29.4%</b> (19.4-39.5)	<b>3.8%</b> (3.2-4.4)	
Made mostly A's or B's in school during the past 12 months	<b>44.1%</b> (31.9-56.4)	<b>74.3%</b> (71.5-77.1)	
Received help from a resource teacher, speech therapist, or other special education teacher during the past 12 months	<b>30.6%</b> (21.6-39.5)	<b>14.4%</b> (13.1-15.8)	

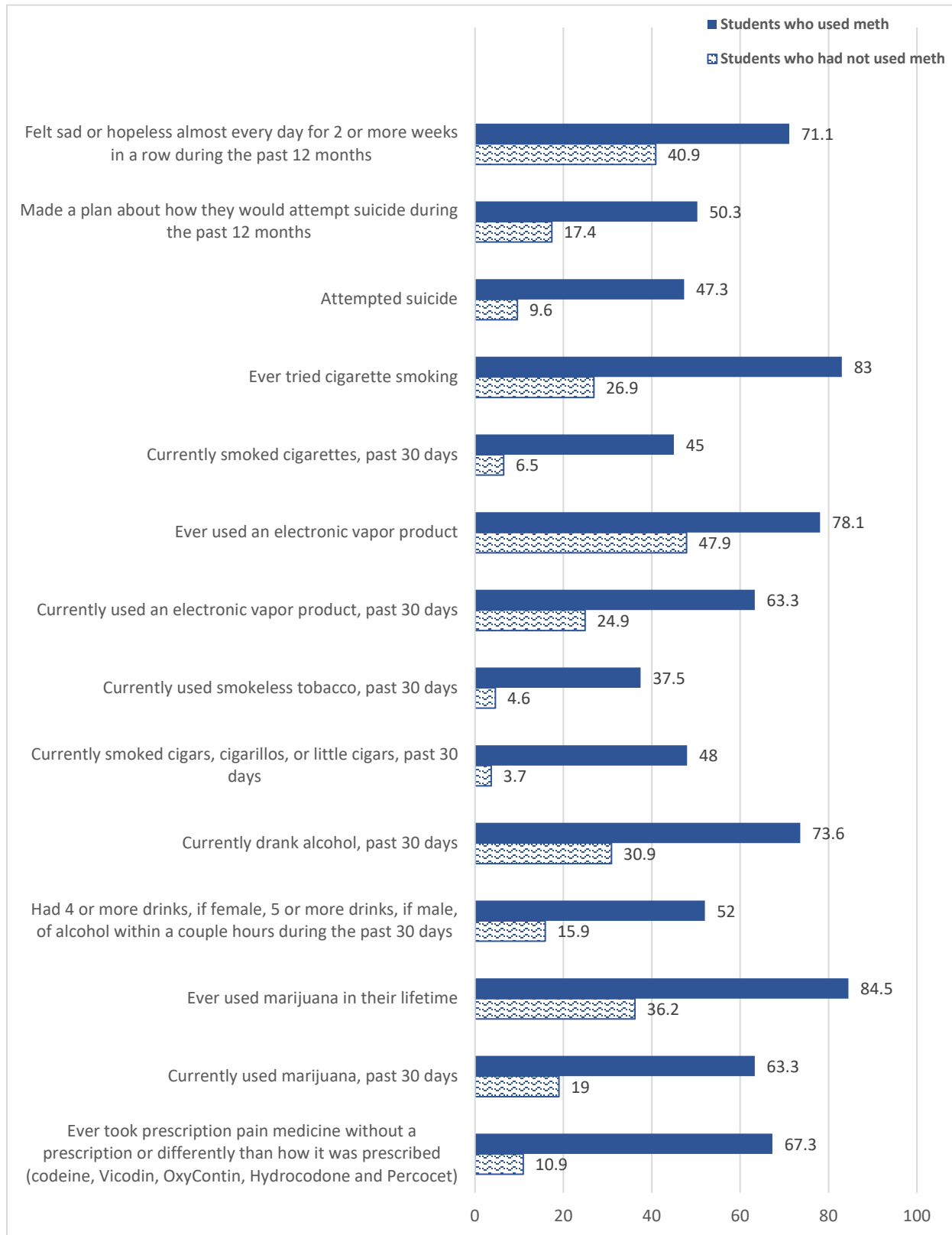
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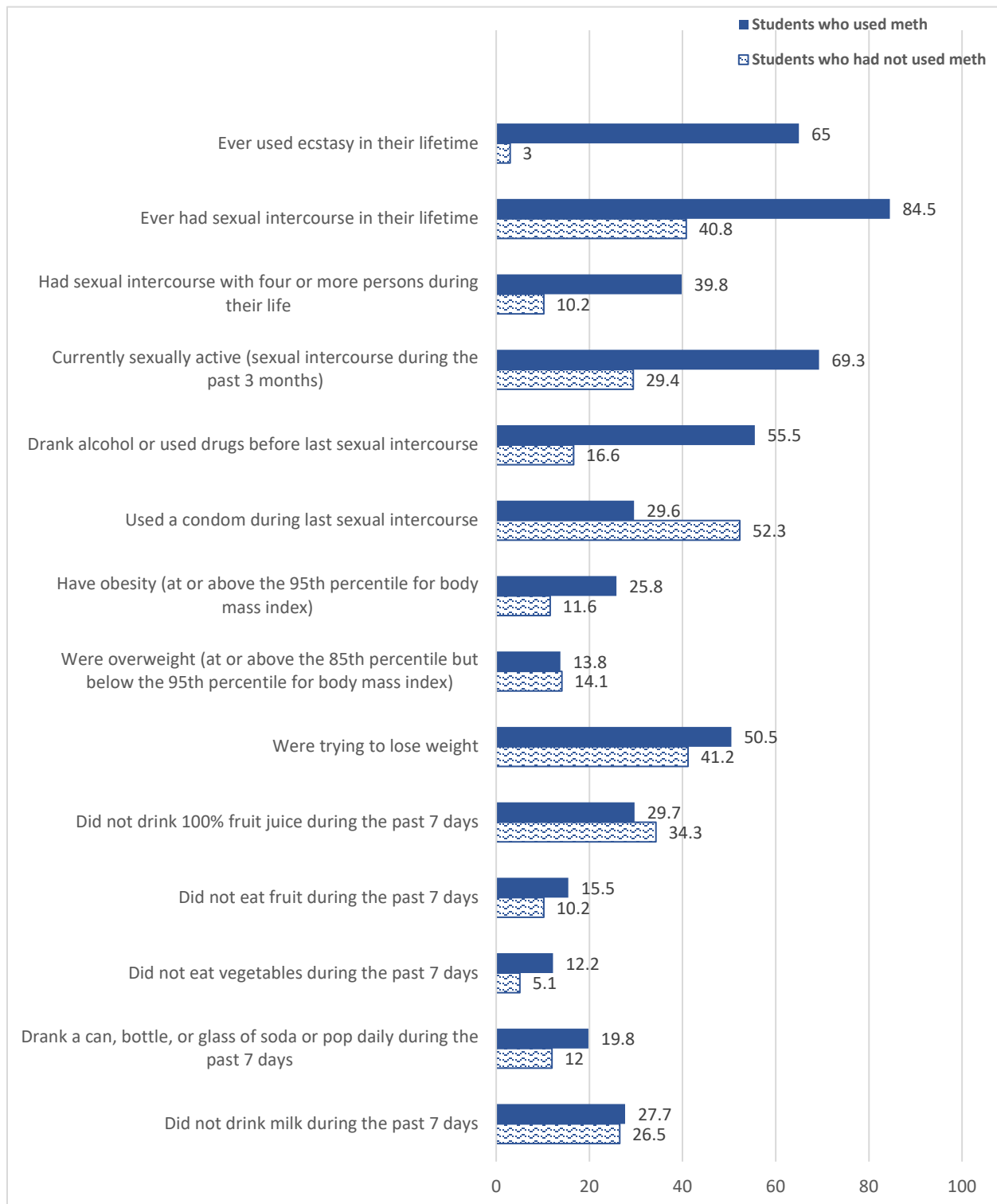
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