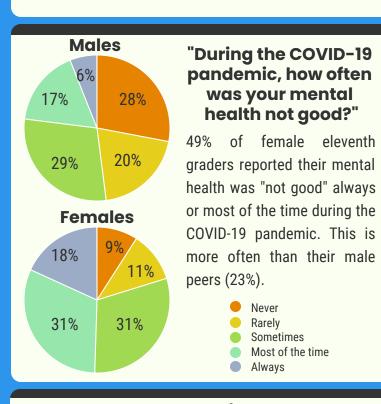
# 2021 Delaware School Survey Eleventh Grade School Environment

#### How did COVID-19 Impact the Delaware School Surveys (DSS)?

**Change in administration**: In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and remote learning policies, the DSS was converted to an online format. Schools could choose to participate using either the online format or paper and pencil format. The majority of the 2021 DSS data were collected via Qualtrics, an online survey platform.

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#### **Depression**

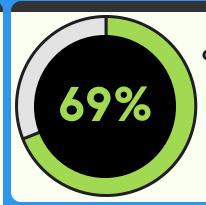
Three in four eleventh graders reported being bothered by feeling down, depressed, or hopeless in the past two weeks at least some of the time.











of eleventh graders agree or strongly agree that school work was more difficult during COVID-19

#### Translating Data into Prevention: Delaware's School Based Surveys

Each year, state agencies, community organizations, and nonprofits throughout Delaware rely on data to design and strengthen prevention efforts. Much of this information comes from surveys conducted among Delaware students and educators, and is used to:

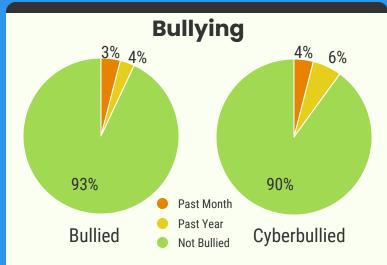
- Identify needs for health and wellness policies and programs
- Support grant applications
- Develop strategic plans
- Measure the impact of prevention efforts and programs that promote healthy living

Nonprofits and organizations depend on the data. For example:

- KIDS COUNT in Delaware
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## 2021 Delaware School Survey Eleventh Grade School Environment



Most eleventh graders reported that they had not been bullied in school or cyberbullied in the past year.

#### **School Safety**

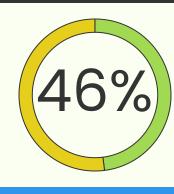
About one in four eleventh graders say that they do not feel safe in school or that they only feel safe some of the time.





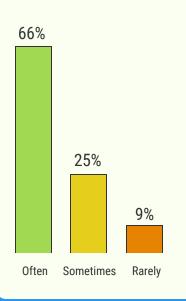






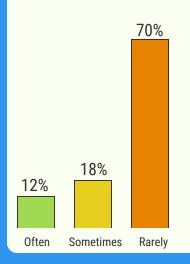
of eleventh graders feel supported by their teachers or other adults in their school

#### **Enforcement of Rules**

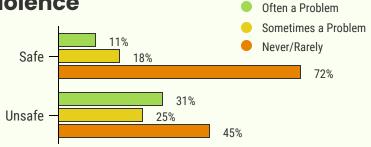


While most eleventh graders felt that school rules were strictly enforced most of the time or often, 25% thought they were only enforced sometimes and 9% thought they were rarely or never enforced.

#### **Student Violence**



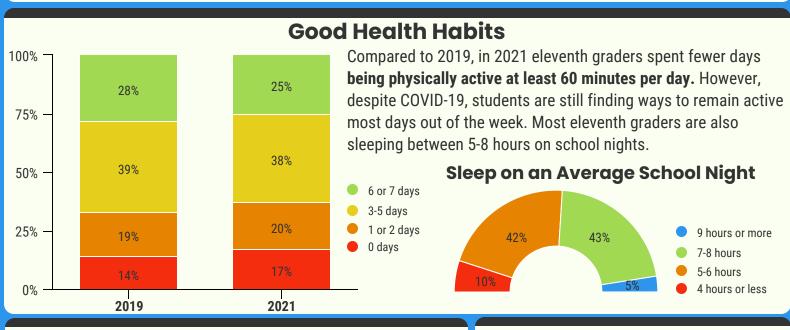
About a third of eleventh graders report student violence is a problem often or sometimes, though most say that it is rarely a problem in their school.



Eleventh graders who report feeling unsafe in their school also report student violence being a problem more often than those who feel safe in their school.



## 2021 Delaware Delaware Survey Eleventh Grade Home Environment

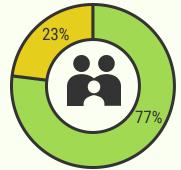




73% of eleventh graders report no yelling between adults in their home in the past year. However, about a quarter heard namecalling, threats, or yelling that made them feel bad at least a few times in the past year and as much as almost every day.

Never Rarely

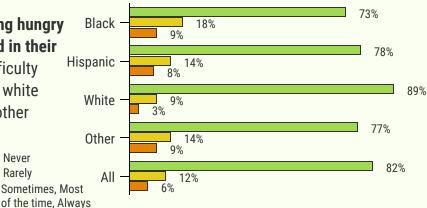
Before, but not in past Never



77% of eleventh graders say they can count on their parents or guardians to be there when they need them most of the time or often.

#### **Food Insecurity**

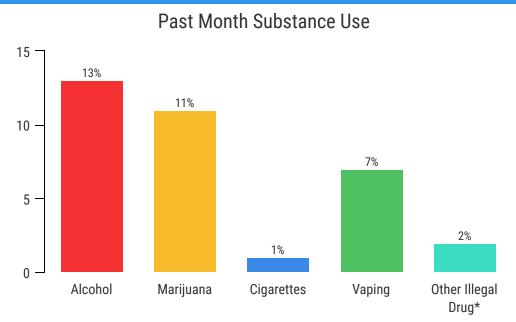
The majority of eleventh graders report never **going hungry** in the last 30 days due to not having enough food in their home. However, 18% rarely or sometimes had difficulty finding enough to eat. Students who identified as white faced food insecurity less often compared to all other groups.





## **Substance Use**

#### Findings from the 2021 Delaware School Survey of Eleventh Grade Students

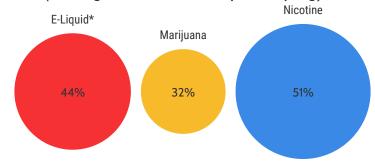


<sup>\*</sup> Vaping includes Juul and electronic cigarettes. \*\*"Other drugs" includes ecstasy, hallucinogens, street uppers, inhalants, cocaine, crack, heroin and synthetic marijuana used to get high.

# Perception of Great Harm Smoke a Pack of Cigs. a Day Use Vaping Device — 34% Binge Drink — 43% Smoke marijuana regularly Use Rx Drugs without prescription — 57%

Note: Students were asked how much people risk harming themselves when engaging in any of these activities

# What are students consuming in vaping devices? (among students who report vaping)



This is a mark-all-that-apply question, so students may report using more than one of these substances \*E-liquids, also known as e-juice or vape juice, is a fluid used in vaporizers or electronic cigarettes that contain artificial flavoring and sometimes nicotine

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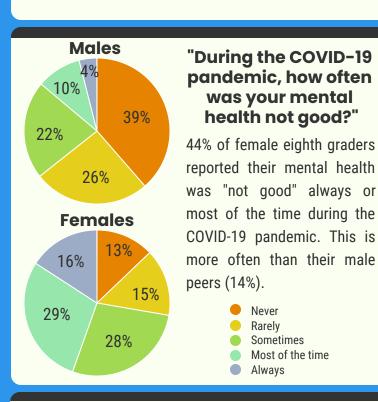
# 2021 Delaware School Survey Eighth Grade School Environment

#### How did COVID-19 Impact the Delaware School Surveys (DSS)?

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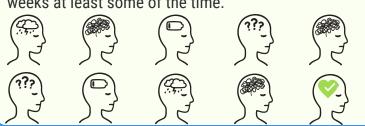
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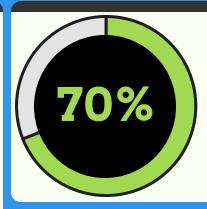
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#### **Depression**

Nine in ten eighth graders reported being bothered by feeling down, depressed, or hopeless in the past two weeks at least some of the time.





of eighth graders agree or strongly agree that school work was more difficult during COVID-19

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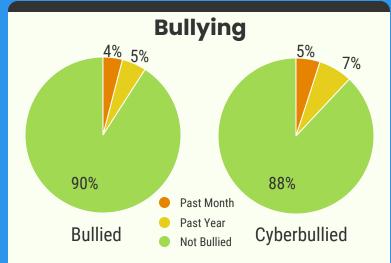
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# 2021 Delaware School Survey Eighth Grade School Environment



Most eighth graders reported that they had not been bullied in school or cyberbullied in the past year.

#### **School Safety**

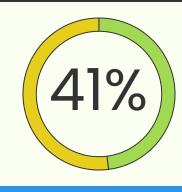
About one in four eighth graders say that they do not feel safe in school or that they only feel safe some of the time.





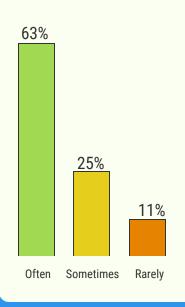






of eighth graders feel supported by their teachers or other adults in their school

#### **Enforcement of Rules**



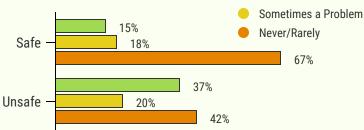
While most eighth graders felt that school rules were strictly enforced most of the time or often, 25% thought they were only enforced sometimes and 11% thought they were rarely or never enforced.

Often a Problem

#### **Student Violence**

17% 18%
Often Sometimes Rarely

About a third of eighth graders report student violence is a problem often or sometimes, though most say that it is rarely a problem in their school.

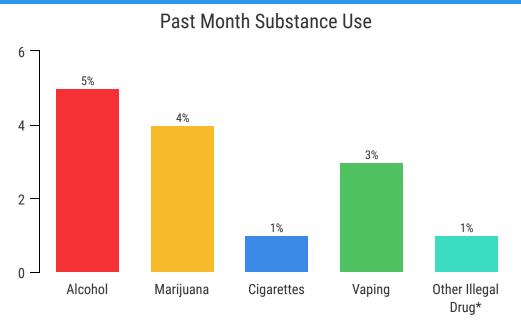


Eighth graders who report feeling unsafe in their school also report student violence being a problem more often than those who feel safe in their school.



## **Substance Use**

#### Findings from the 2021 Delaware School Survey of Eighth Grade Students

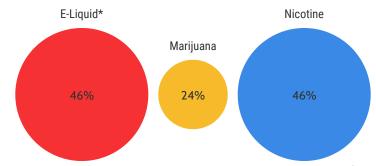


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# Smoke a Pack of Cigs. a Day Use Vaping Device — 30% Binge Drink — 37% Smoke marijuana regularly Use Rx Drugs without prescription 50%

Note: Students were asked how much people risk harming themselves when engaging in any of these activities

# What are students consuming in vaping devices? (among students who report vaping)



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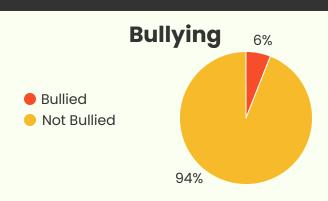
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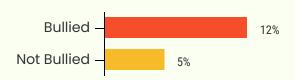
Note:

# 2021 Delaware School Survey Fifth Grade School Environment



Most fifth graders report that they had not been bullied in school. Students who experienced bullying reported higher levels of feeling unsafe at school compared to their peers who were not bullied.

#### Feeling Unsafe



#### **Disruption**



About two in three fifth graders say that the disruptive behavior of other students, such as talking or fighting, keeps teachers from teaching students who want to learn.

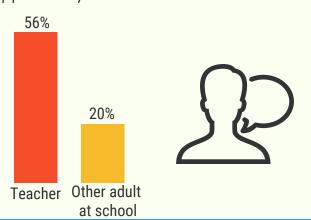




In addition, 17% of students feel that most kids do not obey the teachers most of the time.

#### **Teacher Relationships**

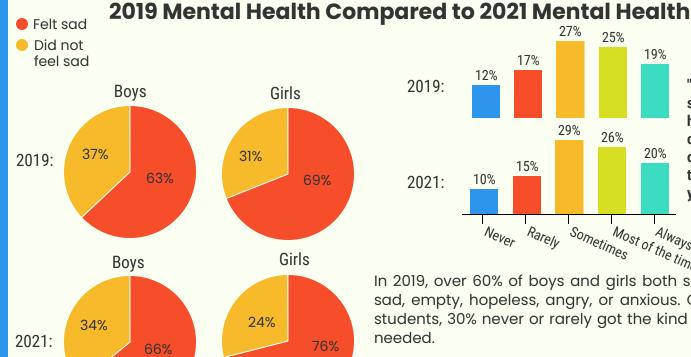
Over half of fifth graders report they feel supported by their teachers, and 20% feel supported by another adult in their school.

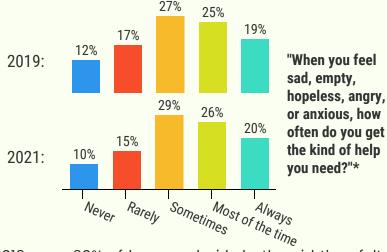






## 2021 Delaware School Survey Fifth Grade School Environment





In 2019, over 60% of boys and girls both said they felt sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious. Out of those students, 30% never or rarely got the kind of help they needed.

Although mental health worsened for girls in 2021, it remained stable for boys. In addition, there was no change to help seeking.

\*This is out of students who reported "Yes" to feeling sad, empty, hopeless, angry, or anxious.

#### **Food Insecurity**

12% of fifth graders went hungry on at least one day in the past month because they had no food at home.



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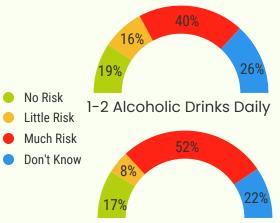
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## 2021 Delaware School Survey Fifth Grade Perception of Substance Use Risk

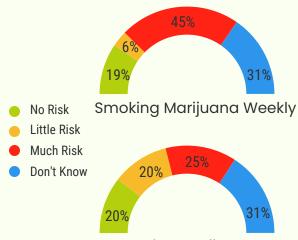
# Perceptions of Risk: Cigarettes and Alcohol



1+ Packs of Cigarettes Daily

Fifth grade students perceive smoking cigarettes daily to be more harmful than drinking alcohol daily.

#### Perceptions of Risk: Marijuana



Trying Marijuana

Most fifth graders think weekly marijuana use is very risky, but they perceive there to be less risk with only trying marijuana once or twice.

#### Risk of Substance Use and Parental Involvement

Students who report being told by their parents not to use marijuana or alcohol perceive regular use of these substances to be riskier than students whose parents did not tell them not to use them. In general, students find marijuana to be a riskier substance to use than alcohol.



