

# 2011 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey

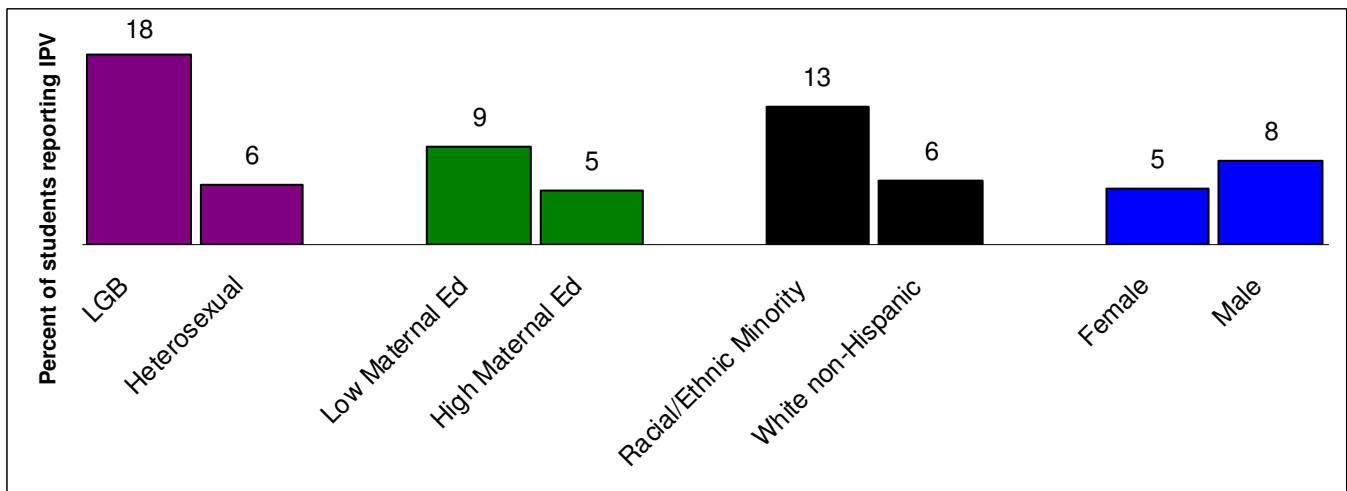
## Data Brief, October 2012: Social Determinants of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence

### Intimate partner and sexual violence

**Summary:** Students who identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual, students of lower socioeconomic status, and racial and ethnic minorities are more likely to experience sexual violence and/or intimate partner violence than their peers. Female students are more likely to experience sexual violence compared to male students, and male students are more likely to report intimate partner violence compared to female students.

Domestic violence, also called *intimate partner violence*, is a serious, preventable public health problem that affects millions of Americans and many Vermonters. On the 2011 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)<sup>1</sup> 7% of students reported being hit or slapped by a girlfriend or boyfriend.

**Figure 1. Percent of students reporting intimate partner violence by student category.**

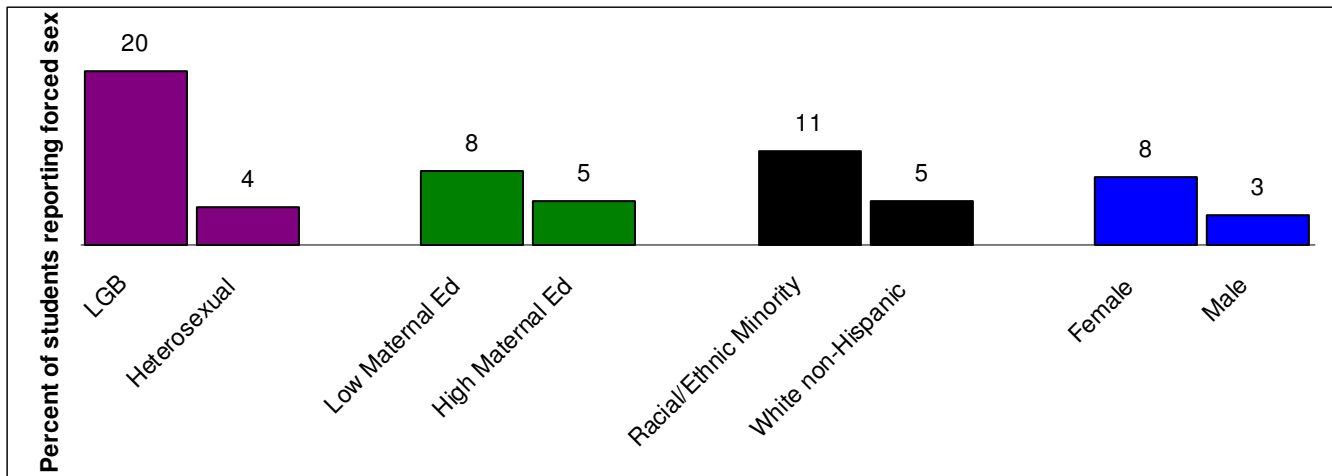


- The percent of students who reported IPV was:
  - three times greater among students who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or not sure (LGB) compared to students who identify as heterosexual;
  - almost twice as great among students who reported their mother graduated from high school compared to students who reported their mother went to some college or more;
  - twice as great among students of an ethnic or racial minority compared to white non-Hispanic students; and
  - greater among male students compared to female students.

<sup>1</sup>Students in grades 9-12 were asked: “During the past 12 months, did your boyfriend or girlfriend ever hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose?”

Sexual violence is also a significant problem in the United States. Anyone can experience SV, but most victims are female. The person responsible for the violence is typically male and is usually someone known to the victim. The person can be, but is not limited to, a friend, coworker, neighbor, or family member. On the 2011 YRBS<sup>2</sup> 6% of students reported having been forced to have sex when they did not want to.

**Figure 2. Percent of students reporting forced sex by student category.**



- The percent of students who reported forced sex was:
  - five times greater among students who identify as LGB compared to students who identify as heterosexual;
  - greater among students who reported their mother graduated from high school compared to students who reported their mother went to some college or more;
  - twice as great among racial and ethnic minority students compared to white non-Hispanic students; and
  - almost three times greater among female students compared to male students.

## RESOURCES:

- Vermont Department of Health, Domestic and Sexual Violence <http://healthvermont.gov/dvsv/>
- Outright Vermont (LGBTQQ Youth Center) **802-865-9677** also find them at <http://outrightvt.org/wordpress/>
- Vermont’s Sexual Violence Hotline **800-489 7273** or find the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence at [www.vtnetwork.org/](http://www.vtnetwork.org/)
- National Teen Dating Violence Hotline **866-331-9474** or find them at <http://www.loveisrespect.org/>

<sup>2</sup>Students in grades 9-12 were asked: “Have you ever been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when you did not want to?”

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