

Chapter 1. Demographics

To give the reader a sense of the environment in which southwest Wisconsin teens live and learn, this chapter provides an overview of demographic and family characteristics of the 3,727 teens surveyed by school districts in southwest Wisconsin. The questions examined include:

- How does the sample break down by gender?
- How does the sample break down by grade level?
- How does the sample break down by race?
- Who do the students live with?

The data presented in this chapter and throughout the survey may not always add up to 100% due to rounding which has been done to the nearest whole number.

GRADE AND GENDER COMPOSITION OF THE SAMPLE

Grade and gender makeup of sample:

	# of Males	# of Females	# of Students	% of Sample	% Male	% Female
7 th Grade	236	240	476	13%	50%	50%
8 th Grade	295	302	597	16%	49%	51%
9 th Grade	331	358	689	18%	48%	52%
10 th Grade	276	347	623	17%	44%	56%
11 th Grade	289	337	626	17%	46%	54%
12 th Grade	297	327	624	17%	48%	52%
Missing Cases*	-	-	92	2%	-	-
Total Cases	1,724	1,911	3,727	100%	46%	51%

* Missing cases are students who did not properly mark their grade and/or gender on the scantron sheets.

Key Findings:

Ninth graders make up the largest individual grade in the sample with 689 students surveyed. More than 98% of the sample was usable.

Other Notable Findings:

The following school districts participated in the survey: Argyle, Belmont, Benton, Black Hawk, Cassville, Cuba City, Darlington, Fennimore, Iowa-Grant, Ithaca, Lancaster, Platteville, Potosi, River Ridge, and Seneca.

Of the respondents who indicated their gender 53% female and 47% male.

According to data provided by the schools, 85% of the enrolled students provided usable surveys. Those missing included absent students, students who refused to take the survey, students whose parents refused their participation in survey, and students whose response sheets were removed for obvious signs of malicious intent.

RACIAL COMPOSITION OF SAMPLE

Racial makeup of sample:

Race	% of Sample
Native American Indian	1.4%
Black/African-American	0.9%
Hispanic	1.3%
Asian	1.1%
White	93.5%
Other	1.8%
Total	100%

Key Finding:

The sample is primarily composed of White students (93.5%). The remainder of the sample is 1.4% Native American Indian, 1.3% Hispanic, 1.1% Asian and 0.9% Black/African-American. Nearly two percent (1.8%) of the students marked “*other*” when asked, “*To what racial or ethnic group do you belong?*”

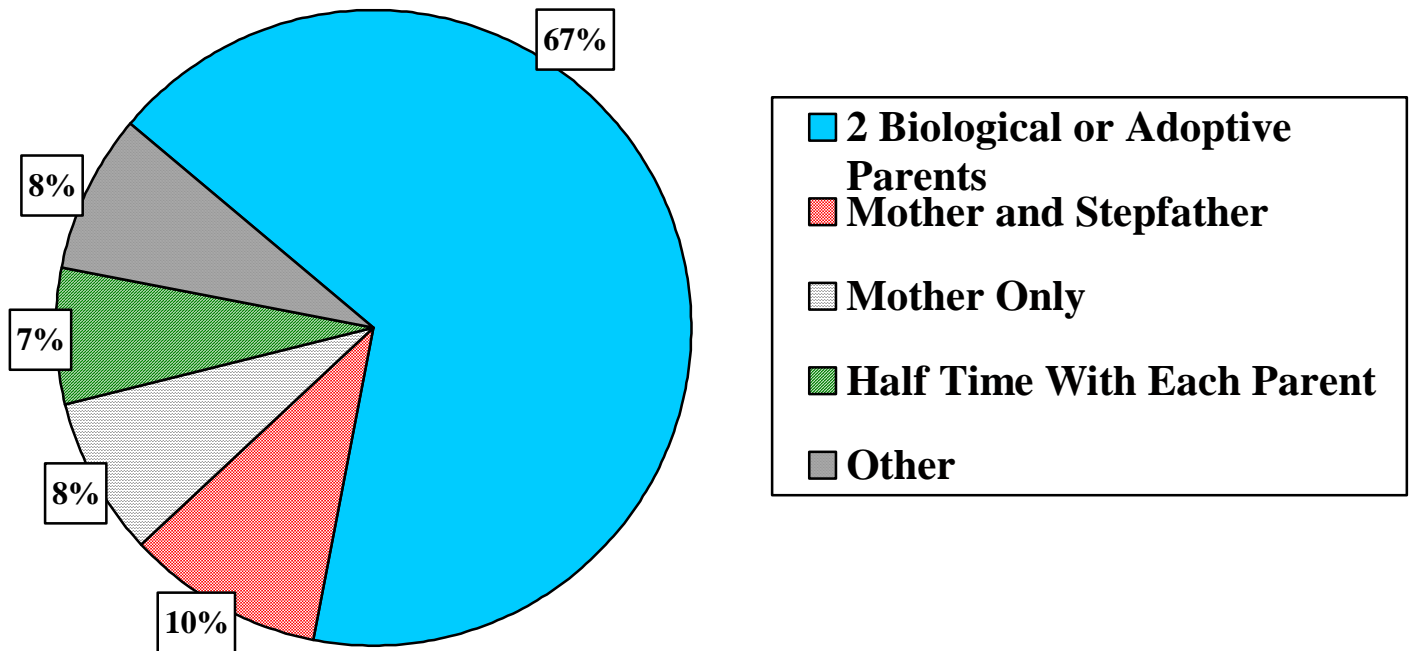
Other Notable Findings:

When breaking the sample by grade and gender, the most diverse group is 7th grade males, where only 88% report being White, 3% report being Native American Indian, and 1.7% report being Hispanic. More than four percent (4.3%) of the students in this group marked “*other*” when asked, “*To what racial or ethnic group do you belong?*”

According to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, 78.4% of all Wisconsin students are White, 10.4% are Black, 6.3% are Hispanic, 3.5% are Asian and 1.5% are Indian.

ADULTS TEENS LIVE WITH

Teen responses to the question, "With whom do you live most of the time?"



Key Finding:

Sixty-seven percent (67%) of students report that they live with both parents, either biological or adoptive.

Other Notable Findings:

One in five (20%) of females and 16% of males live with their mother only or their mother and stepfather.

In addition to the four main categories represented in the graph (Two Biological or Adoptive parents, Mother and Stepfather, Mother Only, and Half Time with Each Parent), the following living situations (Other) were found:

- 2.6% live with their father and stepmother
- 2.6% live with their father and no other adult
- 0.9% live with a parent and an unrelated adult
- 1.3% live with a relative, and
- 1.3% live in a group home or live alone