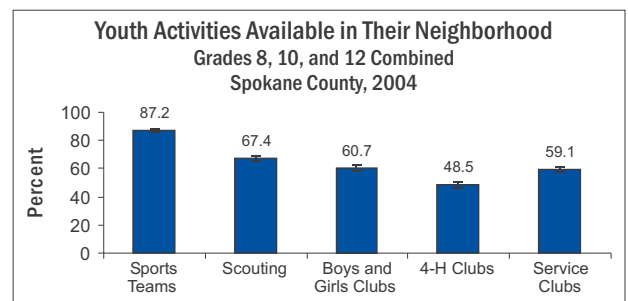
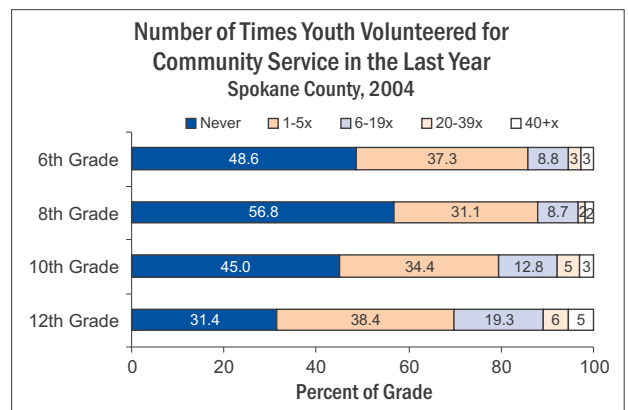
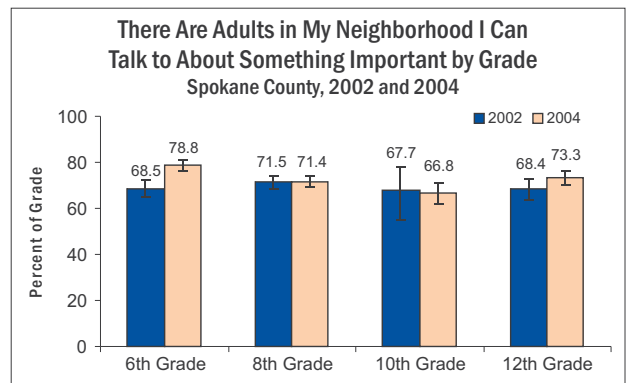


Information on school age youth was collected in 2004 using the Healthy Youth Survey*. Youth in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 in participating schools were eligible to complete the survey, but it was not mandatory for youth to participate. 11,325 students in Spokane County provided input. The response rates among 6th, 8th, and 10th graders were high enough that information for these grades is representative of Spokane County. Unfortunately, there was a low response rate for 12th graders. The data for grade 12 is representative of the students who took the survey, and may be representative for sections of Spokane County. Comparisons to 2002 were made where appropriate.

Community and Neighborhood

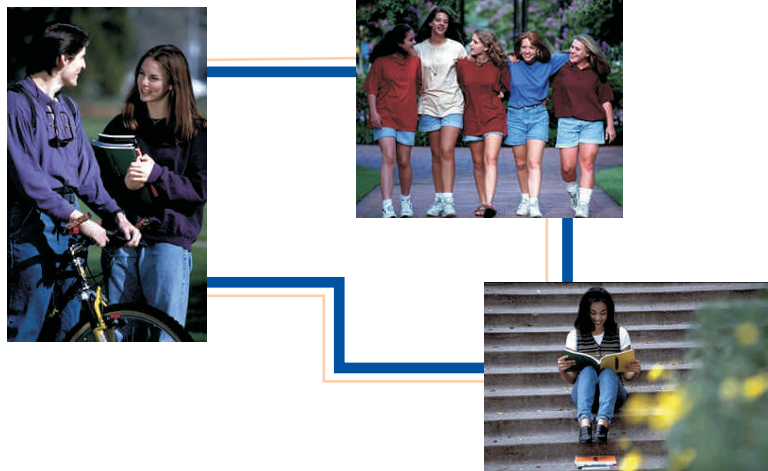
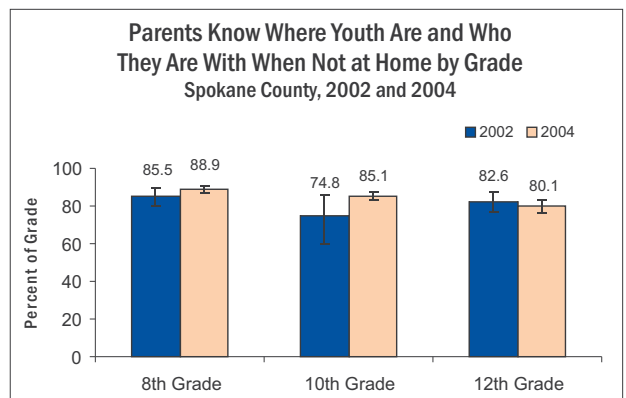
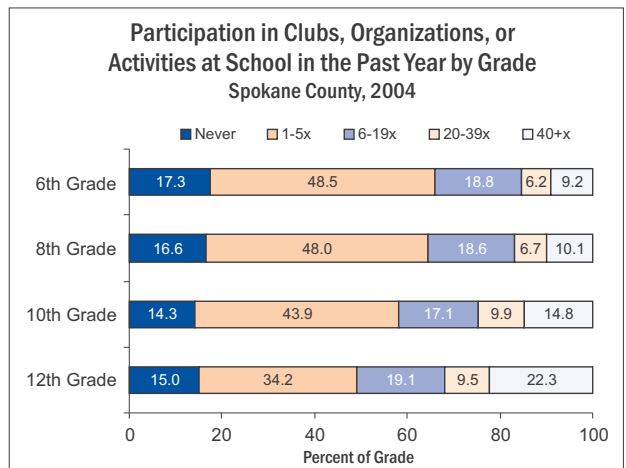
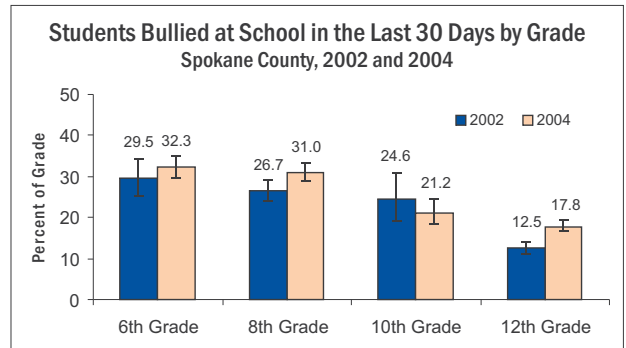
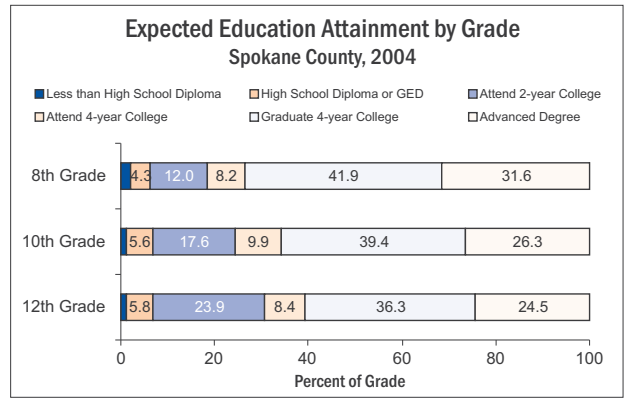
- The majority of students felt there were adults in their neighborhood they could talk to about something important, but the proportion decreased with grade.
 - Overall, a significantly higher proportion responded positively in 2004 than 2002.
- Approximately 29% of students were bothered or made uneasy by dogs, people, or both in their neighborhood when walking or bicycling.
 - There was no significant change from 2002.
- More than half of adolescents volunteered for community service in the last year.
 - High school students were significantly more likely to volunteer than younger youth.
- Youth reported a variety of activities for people their age were available in their neighborhood.



*The Healthy Youth Survey is a joint project between the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Washington State Department of Health, the Washington State Department of Social and Health Service's Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, and Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development. The survey is administered every two years. Students answer questions about safety and violence, physical activity and diet, alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, and related risk and protective factors. The information can be used to identify trends in behavior over time. Community agencies and organizations can use the information to guide policy and programs that serve youth.

Education

- Most students expect to attain some education beyond high school.
- The proportion of students who enjoy being in school most or all of the time decreased significantly with grade level from 56% in 6th grade to 38% in 12th grade.
- The proportion of students that carried a weapon at school in the previous 30 days increased with grade level from 4% in 6th grade to 7% in 12th grade.
- Most students feel safe at school (82%-88%).
- The proportion of students bullied in school in the last month decreased significantly with grade level.
 - Results from 2004 were similar to 2002 for the above education information.
- Most students (91%) reported there are lots of chances for students in their school to get involved in sports, clubs, and other school activities outside of class.
 - Participating in school activities more than 5 times in the last year significantly increased with grade level.



Family

- Parents knowing where and who youth were with when they were not at home decreased significantly with grade level.
- Family rules were clear for the majority of students, but the proportion decreased with grade level, 89% in 8th grade to 82% in 12th grade.
 - Results from 2004 were similar to 2002 for the above family information.
- Most students felt they are getting along with their parents or guardians (75%-81%)