

## QUALITATIVE DATA

- Adults responding on the Community Survey overwhelmingly perceived a lot of the behavioral health and substance use, as well as a lack of emotional wellbeing and support that challenges our teens. Specific challenges in ranked order:
  1. Substance Use
  2. Unhealthy/Unstable home environment
  3. Misuse or abuse of technology
  4. Maintaining emotional health
  5. Lack of involved or supportive positive role models
  6. Lack of after school or extracurricular activities
  7. Bullying
  8. Access to physical and mental health providers
  9. Suicidal thoughts or attempts
  10. Lack of quality education

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- **STUDENT HOMELESSNESS:** Since 2007-08, the rate of public-school students experiencing homelessness has increased 9% per year on average in Jefferson County. Chimacum School District had the highest number and rate of students experiencing homelessness during the 2017-18 school year.
- **YOUTH MEDICAID ENROLLMENT:** From 2015 to 2018, the proportion of Jefferson children age 17 or younger who were enrolled in Apple Health (Medicaid) remained unchanged, with about 3 out of every 5 enrolled. Jefferson's percentage was statistically significantly higher than the state overall.
- **YOUTH BULLYING:** More than 1 in 3 Jefferson 8th graders and more than 1 in 4 Jefferson 10th graders reports being bullied in the past month, both statistically higher than Washington State. The percentage peaks in 8th grade and drops slightly by 12th grade to about 1 in 5 12th graders, about the same as the state. Quilcene School District has a slightly higher percentage of students in grades 6-12 reporting being bullied than Chimacum or Port Townsend.
- **YOUTH FOOD INSECURITY:** In 2018, almost 1 in 5 Jefferson 8th and 12th graders reported having had to cut meal size or meals because there was no money at least once in the past year. About 1 in 10 Jefferson 10th graders reported having to cut meals.
- **SIXTH-GRADERS WITH COMPLETE IMMUNIZATIONS:** In the 2017-18 school year, just over 6 out of 10 Jefferson 6th graders (62%) had complete vaccination records, which is worse than the state, but has been increasing statistically significantly at about 7% per year since 2013- 14.
- **AGE OF INITIATION INTO REGULAR ALCOHOL USE:** In 2018, the average age at which Jefferson 12th graders reported first regularly using alcohol, at least once or twice a month, was almost 16 years. The age has not changed statistically significantly since 2012 and is not statistically significantly different from Washington.
- **YOUTH CURRENT MARIJUANA USE:** In 2018, about 2 in 5 Jefferson 10th and 12th graders reported using marijuana in the past month. A higher percentage of students in Jefferson report using marijuana than in the state overall. A higher percentage of Chimacum students in grades 6-12 report currently using marijuana than in Port Townsend or Quilcene.

**QUANTITATIVE DATA – CONT'D**

- **YOUTH REPORT DEPRESSIVE FEELINGS:** From 2012 to 2018, the percentage of students reporting depressive feelings has increased dramatically in all grades in Jefferson County and in Washington State, but in 2018 Jefferson has higher percentages of 8th and 10th graders reporting depressive feelings than Washington. In 2018, about half of all Jefferson students reported having had depressive feelings in the past year. A lower percentage of students in grades 8-12 in Quilcene School District reported having depressive feelings than in Port Townsend or Chimacum.
- **YOUTH REPORT SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING SUICIDE IN THE PAST YEAR:** From 2012 to 2018, there has been a statistically significant increase in Jefferson and Washington students reporting seriously considering suicide in every grade except 10th for Jefferson, however Jefferson's 10th graders had the highest percentage of any grade and a statistically significantly higher percentage than Washington 10th graders. In 2018, more than 1 in 4 Jefferson students reported seriously considering suicide in all grades, with almost 1 in 3 reporting considering suicide in 10th grade. There is a slightly lower percentage of students in grades 8-12 in Quilcene who reported seriously considering suicide than there is in Chimacum or Port Townsend.
- **YOUTH REPORT MAKING A SUICIDE PLAN IN THE PAST YEAR:** From 2012 to 2018, there has been a statistically significant increase in Washington students reporting making a suicide plan for every grade. Jefferson County had very low numbers of students reporting making a suicide plan in 2012, however in 2018, the percentage of Jefferson students reporting making a suicide plan ranged from almost 1 in 5 in 8th grade to more than 1 in 3 in 10th grade.
- **YOUTH CO-OCCURRING DEPRESSION/SUICIDE AND DRUG USE:** In 2018, more than 1 in 3 Jefferson 10th and 12th graders reported having used drugs or alcohol AND having depressive or suicidal thoughts. For 8th graders, the ratio was 1 in 5. All grades were higher than Washington State, although 12th grade was not statistically significantly higher. In Washington State, there was a statistically significant increase in percentages of 10th and 12th graders reporting both from 2012 to 2018. Chimacum and Port Townsend both had one third of students in grades 8-12 in this category.