

## ***High-risk Behaviours among Grammar School Students in the Czech Republic (representative research using the VRCHA Questionnaire)***



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**GOALS:** *The main objective was to identify the specific features of high-risk behaviour among adolescents. The focus is on differences in high-risk behaviour with respect to the age and gender of adolescents.* **METHODS:** *The forms of high-risk behaviour were surveyed using the VRCHA questionnaire, which consists of 18 items aimed at detecting bullying, delinquency, and psychoactive substance abuse in the preceding 30 days.* **PARTICIPANTS:** *The representative participants were students of four-, six-, and eight-year grammar schools in the Czech Republic, or, more specifically, 4,120 students aged from 11 to 19 years.*

**RESULTS:** *Differences were established in high-risk behaviour in relation to the age of the adolescents, both at the level of the research instrument and its variables. High-risk behaviour increases with age, and the research also identified gender differences in selected age groups.* **CONCLUSION:** *The risk behaviour rates soar with the increasing age of the subject. High-risk behaviour does not concern only boys, as the distribution was found to be similar for both boys and girls. The age range marked by a dramatic increase in this behaviour was from 14 to 16 years.*

**KEY WORDS:** HIGH-RISK BEHAVIOURS – PUBERTY – ADOLESCENCE – BULLYING – DELINQUENCY – ADDICTIVE SUBSTANCES

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