

# Factors Related To Multiple Risk Behaviors among Vocational Students in Bangkok<sup>\*</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

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Health risk behaviors was a major public health problem that affected health and quality of life of populations around the world especially adolescence. This cross-sectional study aimed to examine the factors related to multiple risk behaviors among vocational students by using Theory of planned behaviors theory. The sample group was both male and female second year and third year class level students and first year and second year vocational class students studying in vocational school. A sample group of 419 students was attained by stratified sampling. The data were collected using a self-administered questionnaires. Data were analyzed by descriptive statistics chi-square and logistic regression analysis. The results of the study revealed that 27.7% of the sample had 1 kind of risk behaviors which is alcohol drinking (87.9%) , 31.0% of the sample had 2 kinds of risk behaviors which is cigarette smoking together with alcohol drinking (73.7%) and 19.1% of the sample had 3 kinds of risk behaviors.

Factors related to multiple risk behaviors among vocational students were male (OR = 2.80, 95% CI = 1.874 - 4.184), not living with both parents (OR = 1.51, 95% CI = 1.030 - 2.238), age 19-22 (OR = 1.55, 95% CI = 1.054 - 2.298), lower academic performance (OR = 2.12, 95% CI = 1.408 - 3.216), positive attitudes towards multiple risk behaviors (OR = 2.85, 95% CI = 1.903 - 4.289), low subjective norms (OR. = 1.77, 95% CI = 1.112 - 2.828), low perceived behaviors control (OR = 2.37, 95% CI = 1.602 - 3.511), and high intention of acting multiple risk behaviors (OR = 2.78, 95% CI = 1.347 - 5.755). The result of the study addressed a comprehensive program to prevent multiple risk behavior by providing an attitudes adjusted and supportive program to increase perceived behaviors control. Moreover, health care personnel and the school should work collaboratively and pay attention to screening and evaluating multiple risk behavior in the student to promote effective prevention to prevent multiple risk behavior among adolescents.

**Keywords:** Vocational Student, Multiple Risk Behavior, Theory of Planned Behavior

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Table1. Number and percent of general characteristics of vocational students in Bangkok  
(n = 419)

General characteristics	Number	Percentage
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	242	57.8
Female	177	42.2
<b>Age (Years )</b>		
16 - 18	240	57.3
19 - 22	179	42.7
Mean = 18.28 S.D. = 1.213 Max = 22 Min = 16		
<b>Class</b>		
Second year class level	92	22.0
Third year class level	119	28.4
First year vocational class	105	25.0
Second year vocational class	103	24.6
<b>Received money each month (Baht)</b>		
< 1,000	6	1.4
1,001–3,000	156	37.2
3,001–6,000	201	48.0
> 6,001	31	7.4
No data	25	6.0
<b>The adequacy of income</b>		
Enough and saving money	238	56.8
Enough but no saving money	158	37.7
Not enough	23	5.5
<b>Academic performance</b>		
< 2.50	107	25.5
2.50-3.50	186	44.4
> 3.50	87	20.8
No data	39	9.3

Table1. Number and percent of general characteristics of vocational students in Bangkok  
(n = 419) (Cont.)

General characteristics	Number	Percentage
<b>Family's status</b>		
Parents live together	261	62.3
Parental separation	86	20.5
Divorced parents	43	10.3
Father died	23	5.5
Mother died	4	1.0
Both parent died	2	0.4
<b>Housing</b>		
Living with both parents	183	43.7
Living with either their father or mother	127	30.3
Living with sibling	39	9.3
Living with relative	37	8.8
Living with boyfriend/girlfriend	13	3.1
Living with alone	9	2.2
Living with friend	5	1.2
Other	6	1.4

Table2. The relationship between personal factors and multiple risk behaviors among vocational students in Bangkok analyze by Chi-Square.

Personal factors	Multiple Risk Behaviors		Crude OR	95%CI	$\chi^2$	p-value
	Yes	No				
<b>Gender</b>						
Male	147 (60.7)	95 (39.3)	2.800	1.874 – 4.184	25.866	<0.001
Female	63 (35.6)	114 (64.4)				
<b>Class</b>						
Vocational level	110 (52.9)	98 (47.1)	1.246	0.849 – 1.828	1.263	0.283
Class level	100 (47.4)	111 (52.6)				
<b>Family's status</b>						
Parental separation	83 (52.5)	75 (47.5)	1.168	0.786 – 1.734	0.590	0.481
Parents live together	127 (48.7)	134 (51.3)				
<b>Housing</b>						
Not Living with both parents	129 (54.7)	107 (45.3)	1.518	1.030 – 2.238	4.458	<b>0.039</b>
Living with both parents	81 (44.3)	102 (55.7)				
<b>Age (Years )</b>						
19 – 22	101 (56.4)	78 (43.6)	1.556	1.054 – 2.298	4.970	<b>0.016</b>
16 – 18	109 (45.4)	131 (54.6)				
<b>Received money each month (Baht)</b>						
≥ 3,001	123 (53.0)	109 (47.0)	1.376	0.920 -2.058	2.415	0.073
1 – 3,000	73 (45.1)	89 (54.9)				
<b>Academic performance</b>						
≤ 3.00	125 (58.4)	89 (41.6)	2.128	1.408 – 3.216	13.010	<0.001
> 3.01	66 (39.8)	100 (60.2)				

Table3. Factors associated with multiple risk behaviors among vocational students in Bangkok analyze by Chi-Square..

Factors	Multiple Risk Behaviors		Crude OR	95%CI	$\chi^2$	p-value
	Yes	No				
<b>Attitude towards multiple risk behaviors</b>						
Positive attitude	152(60.3)	100(39.7)	2.857	1.903 – 4.289	26.303	<0.001
Negative attitude	58 (34.7)	109(65.3)				
<b>Subjective norms</b>						
Low	58 (61.1)	37 (38.9)	1.774	1.112 – 2.828	5.874	0.010
High	152(46.9)	172(53.1)				
<b>Perceived behaviors control</b>						
Low behaviors control	131(60.4)	86 (39.6)	2.372	1.602–3.511	18.914	<0.001
High Perceived	79 (39.1)	123(60.9)				
<b>Intention of acting multiple risk behaviors</b>						
High intention	28 (71.8)	11 (28.2)	2.785	1.347-5.755	8.173	0.003
Low intention	181(47.8)	198(52.2)				

Table 4. The predictive factors that affect multiple risk behaviors among vocational students in Bangkok analyze by stepwise multiple logistic regression.

predictive factors	Beta	p-value	Adj. OR	95% CI	
				Lower	Upper
Positive attitude towards multiple risk behaviors	0.69	0.003	1.99	1.26	3.16
Male	0.64	0.005	1.09	1.22	2.98
Low Perceived behaviors control	0.64	0.004	1.09	1.22	2.97
Academic performance $\leq$ 3.00	0.51	0.023	1.67	1.07	2.60
Constant	-3.58				

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