

2017 NH Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

Survey Fact Sheet

Q. Why is the survey being done?

A. The Departments of Education and Health and Human Services will use the survey results to help measure the percentage of youth who practice risky health behaviors. The information will be used to create school health programs to help reduce these behaviors.

Q. Are sensitive questions asked?

A. Yes. Some questions are sensitive. AIDS, HIV infection, and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are major health problems. Sexual intercourse and injected drug use are behaviors that increase the risk of HIV infection. The only way to learn if youth are at risk of becoming infected with HIV or other STIs is to ask questions about these behaviors. Attempted suicide, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, and weapon-carrying also may be considered sensitive topics. Questions are written in a direct but sensitive way.

Q. Will students' names be used or linked to the surveys?

A. No. The survey has been designed to protect your child's privacy. Students do not put their name on the survey.

Q. Do students take the survey more than once to see how their behaviors change?

A. No. Students who take part one year cannot be tracked because their names are not on the survey.

Q. How was my child picked to be in the survey?

A. All NH public high schools were invited to participate in the 2017 survey and all but one NH school decided to survey all of its grades 9 – 12 students.

Q. How long does it take to fill out the survey? Does the survey include a physical test?

A. One class period is needed to fill out the written survey, which has 99 questions. The survey does not include a physical test or exam.

Q. Can I see the questions my student will be asked?

A. Yes, a copy of the survey may be viewed at your child's school and your school district's website.

Q. Who supports this survey?

A. These surveys were created by the *US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* and professionals from 19 federal agencies and over 100 state and local health and education agencies.

Some of the national organizations that enthusiastically support the survey include:

American Academy of Pediatrics
The School Superintendents Association
Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
Council of Chief State School Officers
National Association of State Boards of Education
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Catholic Educational Association
National PTA