

We know educators are asked to do **a lot** everyday!
So why are we asking one more thing from you?

We need **your** support of the Suburban Cook County Youth Risk Behavior Survey (SCC YRBS)

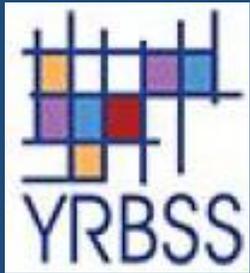


What is the YRBS?

The YRBS is the primary source of information on **youth suicidality, bullying, alcohol and drug use, vaping, violence, depression, and other behaviors that put teens at risk for STIs, unintended pregnancy and injury.**

Why does participation **matter**?

Results are used by educators, public health officials, the media, and others to advocate for and improve school health policies and programs in your local area.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- ✓ Call 877-808-5881 to schedule a SCC YRBS Data Collector to administer the survey in about 4 classes on a convenient date this spring.
- ✓ Review survey materials including parental opt-out forms.
- ✓ Receive a \$500 award of appreciation for SCC YRBS support.



The SCC YRBS, conducted by the Cook County Department of Public Health, can be completed in about 30 minutes.

THANK YOU for your help with this important student health initiative!



Cook County DEPT. of
Public Health

**COOK COUNTY
HEALTH**

WHAT WE KNOW from national data

Students are making **better decisions** about sexual behaviors and drug use. **But it's not enough** to protect them from HIV and STDs.

National Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017

CDC

HEALTH OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY RESULTS

Although progress has been made, there are still too many students reporting risky **sexual behaviors**, **high-risk substance use**, **violence victimization**, and poor **mental health**, including **suicide risk**.

MENTAL HEALTH

PROGRESS **CHALLENGES**

Most students experience **positive mental health**. Adults can support students' mental health by **watching for warning signs** and **linking students to help**.

During the past year, almost **1 in 3 students** persistently felt sad or hopeless.

32% — 2017 —
29% — 2007 —

Students who made a suicide plan.

14% — 2017 —
11% — 2007 —

WHY IS THIS INFORMATION IMPORTANT?

These health risk behaviors and experiences can lead to **HIV**, other **sexually transmitted diseases**, and **pregnancy**.

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

SCHOOLS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

CAN WORK TOGETHER TO POSITIVELY AFFECT STUDENTS' HEALTH.

RESOURCES

- Learn more about student health behaviors on CDC's Healthy Youth website.
- YRBS Data Summary & Trends Report: 2007-2017
- 2017 YRBS Results
- Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System
- Protective Factors

Source: CDC, YRBS Data Summary & Trends Report: 2007-2017

National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention
Division of Adolescent and School Health

What we can find out from local data

The Suburban Cook County Youth Risk Behavior Survey (SCC YRBS) monitors priority health behaviors and experiences among high school students across your local area.

The results show what is happening in your own backyard and help inform policies and programs to support your students directly.

The results help in understanding the factors that contribute to the leading causes of illness, death and disability among youth and young adults.



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**SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY
YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY (YRBS)
FACT SHEET**

Q. Why is the YRBS being done?

A. The purpose of the YRBS is to measure health risk behaviors of high school students in grades 9 through 12 only. Many counties conduct their own YRBS and use the results to track changes over time and compare their results to those from the state and national YRBS. Public health professionals and educators will use YRBS results to design better approaches to help students avoid or stop health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of death and disability among Cook County youth.

Q. What are the survey questions about?

A. The survey will ask about the health behaviors including nutrition, physical activity, injuries, tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use. It also will ask about sexual behaviors that cause AIDS, other sexually transmitted diseases, and pregnancy.

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

A. Countywide, approximately 2,500 students from about 25 high schools were selected to participate in the YRBS. Four classes (approximately 100 students) will be selected at random to take part in each school.

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

A. No. The survey has been designed to protect your child's privacy. The survey is given by trained field staff and is an anonymous survey. When students finish the survey, they place the survey in an envelope and seal it shut.

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

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

Q. How long does the survey take to fill out?

A. One 45-minute class period is needed to fill out the written survey.