

Comparing the Wyoming Prevention Needs Assessment Survey and the Youth Risk Behavior Survey*

There have been many questions regarding two Wyoming adolescent health surveys. These surveys are the Wyoming Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) survey conducted by the Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division and the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) conducted by the Wyoming Department of Education. Each department's goal is to combine the information from these surveys to increase the knowledge and data available for comprehensive planning on issues that affect Wyoming's youth. In order to clarify the differences and the similarities between these surveys, this informational sheet has been provided.

Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey	Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
What is the Focus of the Surveys?	
<p>The PNA focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. • Behaviors such as violence and delinquency. • Bullying and other areas of concern. • Student attitudes, beliefs and perceptions that are related to substance use and problem behaviors. 	<p>The YRBS focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. • Safety behaviors, including seatbelt use and bicycle helmet use. • Violent behaviors. • Suicidal behaviors. • Sexual risk-taking behaviors. • Nutrition and physical activity related behaviors.
Who are the Participants in the Surveys?	
<p>All 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students in each Wyoming school district will be asked to participate in the PNA survey. The PNA attempts to have 100% student participation of the grades identified.</p>	<p>A sample of approximately 60 high schools and 60 middle schools are selected to participate in the statewide survey. Within these schools, a sample of classes is selected for participation, and students within those classes are asked to participate.</p> <p>High school and middle school principals can also elect to survey all students in their school if they want to receive high school level data. The Wyoming Department of Education attempts to have 100% participation of all students in grades 6-12 in all Wyoming high schools and middle schools for the local level YRBS option.</p>

* Information for this Fact Sheet was taken with permission from the Wyoming Department of Education

Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey	Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
Are the Participants Anonymous?	
Yes. Individual survey responses are completely anonymous. Students will not be asked to write their name or any identifying information on their survey booklet. Before survey administration, teachers are asked to arrange students in the classroom so that their responses cannot be seen by the teacher administering the survey or by any peer of the student. At the end of the class period, the survey booklets will be immediately gathered and placed in a sealed envelope or box.	Yes. Individual survey responses are completely anonymous. Students will not be asked to write their name or any identifying information on their survey booklet. Before survey administration, teachers are asked to arrange students in the classroom so that their responses cannot be seen by the teacher administering the survey or by any peer of the student. At the end of the class period, the survey booklets will be immediately gathered and placed in a sealed envelope or box.
What type of District level participation is desired for the surveys?	
The 2008 PNA survey received 100% participation from all school districts and the Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division's plan is to continue to meet this goal for each administration of the survey.	The Wyoming Department of Education encourages all school districts to support the survey, and also encourages 100% participation from all schools chosen for the statewide high school and middle school samples.
What is the Cost of the Surveys?	
There is no cost to the community or the school districts for the PNA survey. The Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division funds this survey and its reports. School districts where feasible will be given a data report that describes the survey responses for the school district. Schools may also request a similar report for no additional cost.	There is no cost to the community or the school districts for the YRBS. The Wyoming Department of Education funds this survey through cooperative agreement #U87/CCU822628-01 with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Adolescent and School Health.
What is the Reliability of the Surveys?	
The PNA survey is based upon a standardized questionnaire developed by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). Based on several studies, the PNA questions have been determined to produce valid and reliable measures of problem behaviors, risk, and protective factors.	The YRBS was created by people from over 100 state and local health and education agencies and 19 federal agencies. The CDC has conducted several research studies assessing the reliability and validity of the YRBS. These studies demonstrate that the majority of YRBS items have substantial reliability and validity. YRBS results also tend to closely match reported behaviors from other school-based surveys of students.
How Long are the Surveys?	
The PNA survey takes approximately 45 minutes to administer.	The YRBS takes approximately 45 minutes to administer.
What is the Yearly Timeframe of the Surveys?	
The PNA survey is administered every even-numbered year. The next survey will be conducted in the spring semester of 2012.	The YRBS is administered every odd-numbered year. The next survey will be conducted in March/April 2011.

<p align="center">Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey</p>	<p align="center">Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)</p>
<p align="center">When will the Survey Results be Available?</p>	
<p>The PNA survey results will be available on November 1, 2012 and county-level fact sheets will be sent to each participating school district at that time.</p>	<p>The results for the 2009 YRBS are scheduled for release in early November 2009.</p>
<p align="center">How can the Survey Information be Used?</p>	
<p>The survey provides information that can be used to identify the prevalence of drug and alcohol use by students, along with information about risk and protective factors. The data will be helpful to schools and communities when submitting proposals for state and federal funds for prevention services. Schools and communities can use the results of this survey as they assess needs, compose comprehensive prevention plans, and evaluate already existing prevention activities.</p>	<p>The Wyoming Department of Education uses the YRBS results to help measure how many youth practice health-risk behaviors and to create school health programs to help reduce these behaviors. The state data from the high school YRBS can be compared to the national data from the high school YRBS. High schools that choose to survey all of their students can compare their high school data to the state and national YRBS high school data. The state data from the high school YRBS can also be compared to the state data from the middle school YRBS. Additionally, the high school YRBS data has been conducted every other year in Wyoming since 1991, and the middle school YRBS has been conducted every other year since 1999, so it may be possible to make comparisons over time.</p>
<p align="center">Specific Uses of the Data</p>	
<p>Examples on how to use the data from the PNA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of school and community comprehensive prevention plans. • Selection of health and education curricula and effective prevention programs. • Developing grant proposals. • Tracking outcomes. • Evaluating and modifying Federal Prevention Block Grant Funded Projects. • Provide some of the data for required reporting in the Safe and Drug Free Communities Grants. • Planning and evaluation of the State Prevention Framework, State Incentive Grant. 	<p>Examples on how to use the data from the YRBS are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of targeted at-risk plans. • Selection of health education curricula. • Development of nutrition and physical education programs. • Safe and Drug Free Schools programs. • Developing grant proposals. • Tracking outcomes of projects such as the CSHP pilots.

Prevention Needs Assessment (PNA) Survey	Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)
Can You Participate in Only One Survey?	
<p>The Wyoming Department of Education and Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division strives for 100% school district participation in the PNA and appreciate each districts' support of this goal. The departments also highly encourage school districts to participate in the YRBS, as it complements the data received in the PNA survey. Both surveys increase the knowledge of the prevention and health needs in Wyoming communities and schools by providing comprehensive data. This increase in knowledge will ultimately benefit Wyoming's youth by allowing schools and communities to prioritize and plan for their needs.</p>	<p>The Wyoming Department of Education and Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division strive for 100% participation of schools selected for the YRBS and appreciate the school districts' support of this goal. The departments also highly encourage school districts to participate in the PNA, as it complements the data received in the YRBS survey. Both surveys increase the knowledge of the prevention and health needs in Wyoming communities and schools by providing comprehensive data. This increase in knowledge will ultimately benefit Wyoming's youth by allowing schools and communities to prioritize and plan for their needs.</p>
Who are the State Agency Contacts?	
<p>Felicia Gutierrez Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division Prevention Block Grant Coordinator 6101 Yellowstone Rd., Suite 220 Cheyenne, WY 82002 (307) 777-3357 felicia.gutierrez@wyo.gov</p>	<p>Wyoming Department of Education Hathaway Building, 2nd Floor 2300 Capitol Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82002-0050 (307) 777-7690</p>
Who is the 2012 PNA principal investigator?	
<p>Eric L. Canen, MS Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center University of Wyoming Dept. 3925, 1000 E University Ave. Laramie, WY 82071-2000 (307) 760-0307 ecanen@uwoyo.edu</p>	