

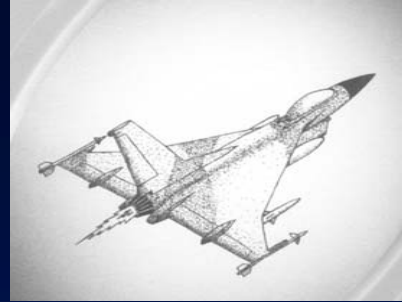
The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

2009

Clark County, Ohio

**The Clark County Combined Health District
wishes to acknowledge the public school districts in
Clark County for their essential role in this project**

- Clark-Shawnee Local School District
- Greenon Local School District
- Northeastern School District
- Northwestern School District
- Southeastern Local Schools
- Springfield City School District
- Springfield-Clark Career Technology Center
- Tecumseh Local School District



*Clark County
Combined
Health District*



Purposes of the YRBS

- Focus the community on behaviors among youth causing the most important health problems
- Provide comparable data

Behaviors That Contribute to the Leading Causes of Morbidity and Mortality

- Unintentional injuries and violence
- Tobacco use
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Sexual behaviors
- Unhealthy dietary behaviors
- Inadequate physical activity

Characteristics of the YRBS

- 9th – 12th grade students
- Anonymous
- Passive permission slips
- Self-administered, computer-scannable answer sheet
- Completed in one class period (~ 45 minutes)
- Students have an equal chance of being surveyed because classrooms are randomly selected and surveyed entirely
- Data is weighted to match the student population's demographics

Policy and Program Applications of YRBS Results

- Describe risk behaviors
- Develop programs and policies
- Create awareness
- Set program goals
- Support health-related legislation
- Seek funding

More YRBS Information

→ www.cdc.gov/yrbs

- Questionnaire and item rationale
- Methodology
- Publications, journal articles, and fact sheets

2009 Clark YRBS Results

2009 Clark YRBS Responses

- Number of public high schools in Clark County = 9
- School-level response rate = 100%
- Student-level response rate = 84.6%
- Overall response rate = 84.6%
- Total size of Clark County high school student population = 6,003
- Sample size = 1,491
- Proportion of Clark County's high school students surveyed = 24.8%

2009 Clark YRBS Results Highlights

Injury and Violence (including suicide)

Injury and Violence – Clark County Students

- 65% never wear a helmet while riding a bicycle
- Clark's proportion of students who answered that they "Rarely" or "Never" wear a seatbelt while riding in a car driven by someone else was significantly higher than both Ohio and the USA.
- Seatbelt usage is higher when driving vs. riding in cars
- 22% admitted to riding in a car with a driver who had been drinking alcohol at least once during the past 30 days

Injury and Violence – Clark County Students

- The proportion who admitted to carrying a weapon onto school property and the proportion who admitted they had been in a fight on school property was significantly lower than the USA
- 12% said that during the past 12 months they were hit, slap, or physically hurt you on purpose by their boyfriend or girlfriend, which is significantly higher than Ohio
- 9% admitted that during the past 12 months they were physically forced to have sexual intercourse against their will, which is significantly higher than the USA

Injury and Violence – Clark County Students

- 16% admitted that they have seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months, significantly higher than Ohio
- 13% said that they had made a plan about how they would actually attempt suicide within the past 12 months, significantly higher than Ohio and the USA
- 9% said that they had actually attempted suicide during the past 12 months, which translates into an estimated 1,080 attempted suicides amongst Clark County high school students during the past year

2009 Clark YRBS Results Highlights

Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs

Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs – Clark County Students

- 45% of students said that they have tried cigarettes at least once in their life, a significantly lower proportion than Ohio and the USA
- 23% of students said that they smoked a whole cigarette for the first time before the age of 15
- The proportion of students who said they have tried to quit smoking at least once was significantly higher than Ohio and the USA
- The proportion of students who admitted that they bought cigarettes themselves from a store during the past 30 days was significantly higher than Ohio and the USA

Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs – Clark County Students

- The proportion of students who admitted that they drank alcohol at least once during the past 30 days was significantly lower than Ohio and the USA
- 35% of students admit to having tried marijuana at least once in their life, and 30% said that they had smoked marijuana within the past 30 days
- 3% said that they had used a needle to inject drugs into their body at least once in their life, significantly higher than the USA

Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs – Clark County Students

- 11.3% said that they had used inhalants to get high at least once in their life, significantly higher and over double Ohio's rate
- 23% said that they had been offered or sold drugs on school property within the last 12 months, significantly lower than Ohio

2009 Clark YRBS Results Highlights

Sexual Risk Behaviors

Sexual Risk Behaviors – Clark County Students

- 51% said that they had ever had sexual intercourse, significantly higher than Ohio and the USA
- 52% said that they had ever had oral sex, which means that the not many more are having oral sex compared to intercourse
- 27% have had multiple sex partners
- Only 9% used drugs or alcohol before having sexual intercourse, significantly lower than Ohio and the USA

Sexual Risk Behaviors – Clark County Students

- 3% answered they had been told by a doctor that they had a sexually transmitted disease
- 28% said that they had used a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse, significantly lower than Ohio
- Over 60% of students who had sexual intercourse within the last 3 months did not always use a condom
- The proportion of students who said that they used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse was significantly lower than Ohio and the USA

2009 Clark YRBS Results Highlights

Dietary Behaviors

Dietary Behaviors – Clark County Students

- 33% of Clark students are overweight or at risk of being overweight
- The proportion of Clark students who have a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than 29 was significantly higher than Ohio and the USA
- Over 80% drank pop at least once during the past 7 days, significantly higher than Ohio

2009 Clark YRBS Results

Other Health Topics

Other Health Topics – Clark County Students

- The proportion of students who said that they had been taught in school about HIV or AIDS was significantly lower than Ohio and the USA
- 24% answered that they had ever been told that they have asthma by a doctor or nurse, significantly higher than Ohio or the USA

Future Directions

- Further investigate unfavorable findings
- Address the findings via programming
- Continue to analyze this dataset
- Repeat the YRBS
 - Compare Clark County Results over time
 - Survey additional entire school cohorts
 - Include private schools

A Very Special Thank You To Everyone Who Helped Make this Project Successful:

- School superintendants**
- School staff**
- Volunteer survey administrators**
- College student data tabulators**
- Clark County Combined Health District staff**

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**The Youth Risk Behavior
Survey (YRBS):**

**Clark County, Ohio
2009**

THANK YOU!!!