



## Youth Risk Behavior Survey Fact Sheet

**Q. Why is the survey being done?**

**A.** San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) will use the survey results to help measure the percentage of youth who practice health risk 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. 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, nicotine use, alcohol and other drug use, weapon-carrying, and situations regarding one's home or family life 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, student ID, or class or school information on the survey.

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

**A.** No. Each year that the survey is administered (in odd calendar years), a new random sample of classrooms and students are picked. 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.** A class your child is in was selected randomly to participate, and all students in that class are being asked to participate. A total of 1700 students in grades 9–12 in 24 SDUSD high schools were randomly selected to participate.

**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 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 is located at your child's high school's front office and available on SDUSD's YRBS website: [www.sandiegounified.org/YRBS](http://www.sandiegounified.org/YRBS).

**Q. Who supports this survey?**

**A.** This survey is supported by many organizations interested in the health of youth, such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the California Department of Education (CDE), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency (HHS). People from more than 100 state and district health and education agencies and 19 federal agencies helped develop the survey.