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The Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) youth survey has been administered annually free of charge throughout the state since 1994. The survey was first administered in USD 253 in 1998 and has been given every other year; however, beginning in 2010 the decision was made to administer it annually.

The survey tracks teen use of harmful substances such as alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. In addition, the survey provides a baseline for teen participation in, perception of, and attitudes toward both pro-social and antisocial behavior and provides a measurable level of risk and protective factors at the peer, school, family and community levels.

Design

As in the past, the 2011 Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey was offered to students in 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades, and contained questions about alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, related risk and protective factors, and demographic questions.

Student Background Information (Demographics)

Some basic background information (e.g., age, grade level, ethnic group, zip code, etc.) is needed to ensure that the students participating in the survey are generally representative of the statewide student population at these grades. In addition, this information allows for examination of trends and differences in behaviors among students of varying background characteristics. Finally, it allows for results to be produced at the local level for use in local prevention and intervention program planning. **These analyses are conducted without specific identification of individual students, however, so that anonymity is maintained throughout the survey effort.**

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

One of the target behaviors of interest in this survey is the extent to which students have used and are using alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. The responses given to these questions allow for both local and statewide assessments of the changes in patterns of use over time for Kansas' students, and provide important data-based direction for prevention efforts both locally and across the state.

Risk and Protective Factors

Research has provided a great deal of guidance on attitudinal and behavioral factors that place students at great risk for violence and substance use, and those that, on the positive side, provide protection against these unhealthy behaviors. This survey contains several items that assess the degree to which these factors, both risk and protective, occur in the students who respond to the survey, relating to the four domains: the students themselves and their peers (peer/individual), their school, their community, and their family.

2011 Participation Rate for Emporia (USD 253)

Total Participation Rate – 75%

- 6th grade – 71%
- 8th grade – 85%
- 10th grade – 75%
- 12th grade – 68%

The participation rate above reflects the number of surveys that were deemed valid following the extensive screening process that Greenbush employs to assure the reliability of the results reported; thus, the percentages may not be equivalent to the total number of students who actually took the survey.

Results reflected in this report represent answers provided by the percentage of students who electively participated in the survey, answering each question in a particular way.

Generally 60% participation rate is acceptable for planning purposes; 80% is needed for reliable and effective evaluation.

2011 USD 253 DISTRICT SUMMARY

COMMUNITIES THAT CARE SURVEY DATA

2011 Lifetime Prevalence Trends

(reflects the degree of experimentation)

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
Cigarettes	31.8	29.9	27	25.71	22.19	23.06
Smokeless Tobacco	12.3	12.9	13.6	11.64	10.85	13.54
Alcohol	52.6	48.5	44.2	46.85	42.86	44.17
Marijuana	21.9	19.1	18.1	19.18	19.38	18.17
Inhalants	13.2	13.2	16.2	15.71	11.21	10.69
Methamphetamine	4.8	3.9	3.5	3.12	1.20	2.01
Ecstasy	6.2	5.3	3.4	4.79	3.43	3.36
Rx pain relievers w/o a prescription					10.58	10.16
Rx tranquilizers w/o a prescription					3.33	4.49
Rx stimulants w/o a prescription					2.38	4.76

Questions related to Rx abuse were not included on survey in previous years

The drug(s) of choice among youth in order of use for experimentation are:

1. Alcohol
2. Cigarettes
3. Marijuana
4. Rx pain relievers w/o a prescription
5. Inhalants
6. Smokeless Tobacco
7. Ecstasy
8. Rx tranquilizers w/o a prescription
9. Rx stimulants w/o a prescription
10. Methamphetamine

Reported Age of initiation

More than a sip of alcohol – 12.93

Cigarettes – 12.69

Marijuana - 13.73

(The age of initiation has increased slightly for each of the substances based on 2010 data)

2011 Past 30 day usage trends
(indicative of more regular use) – those responding “at least once”

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
Cigarettes	12	10.3	10.9	8.88	7.49	9.08
Smokeless Tobacco	4.3	5.7	6.5	4.05	4.52	5.95
Alcohol	28.9	23.2	23.4	27.99	26.31	24.19
Marijuana	10.5	9.2	10.5	10.27	9.75	9.22
Inhalants	5.4	6.1	7.1	6.82	2.77	3.80
Methamphetamine	2.7	1.4	1.8	1.18	0.36	0.99
Ecstasy	1.9	2.6	3.2	1.82	0.83	1.31
Rx pain relievers w/o a prescription					5.26	4.88
Rx tranquilizers w/o a prescription					1.80	2.09
Rx stimulants w/o a prescription					1.10	2.21

Questions related to Rx abuse were not included on survey in previous years

In order, the drugs of choice among youth for more regular use are:

1. Alcohol
2. Marijuana
3. Cigarettes
4. Rx pain relievers w/o a prescription
5. Smokeless Tobacco
6. Inhalants
7. Rx tranquilizers w/o a prescription
8. Rx stimulants w/o a prescription
9. Ecstasy
10. Meth

The following charts reflect the percentage of students who responded “at least once” regarding use of each of the drugs below in the past 30 days prior to the survey:

CIGARETTES

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
6th grade	2.5	3.5	3.7	5	0.00	1.57
8th grade	7.6	8.3	8.1	10.71	3.99	5.69
10th grade	17.4	11.6	13.7	8.52	11.39	12.32
12th grade	22.9	21.1	20.1	11.46	13.71	18.91

SMOKELESS TOBACCO

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
6th grade	2.2	1.8	1.4	2.49	0.00	1.05
8th grade	2.1	4.3	6.2	3.55	2.78	3.44
10th grade	8.3	4.5	8.9	3.59	4.12	8.00
12th grade	5.1	14.6	10.4	6.74	11.29	12.80

ALCOHOL

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
6th grade	11.8	5.3	10.4	10.71	7.15	6.07
8th grade	22.5	22.9	22.5	26.04	23.80	17.75
10th grade	38.3	27	27.1	34.98	30.09	32.12
12th grade	47	44.8	35.8	39.38	41.12	45.33

MARIJUANA

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
6th grade	2.2	1.7	2.3	4.04	0.00	0.98
8th grade	3	7.9	10	9.74	6.03	5.66
10th grade	15.5	12.5	12.6	13.45	15.45	13.77
12th grade	23.7	16.9	18.5	13.54	15.34	18.42

INHALANTS

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
6th grade	6.7	4.6	9.1	8.79	2.62	4.05
8th grade	7.1	9.9	7.5	12.02	4.59	5.25
10th grade	4.2	5.7	7.3	4.11	2.91	3.26
12th grade	3.4	3.3	3.5	3.11	0.51	2.34

METHAMPHETAMINES

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
6th grade	.3	.4	1	1.74	0.00	0.26
8th grade	.5	1.9	2	.56	0.00	0.61
10th grade	4.2	1.2	2.8	.46	0.83	1.47
12th grade	6.4	2.7	1.2	2.07	0.51	1.76

ECSTASY

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
6th grade	.6	.40	1.5	0.0	0.00	0.24
8th grade	.9	1.1	.4	2.73	0.41	0.98
10th grade	3.4	4	2.9	1.37	0.81	1.91
12th grade	3	6	3.5	3.11	2.03	2.28

Perceived Risk

Those responding they believe there to be a “great risk” of harm of use of the following drugs:

SUBSTANCE	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011
Marijuana (regular use)	66.2%	71.3%	66.6%	62.32%	58.05%
Marijuana (use 1-2 x's)	31.2%	39.4%	38.5%	32.68%	24.88%
Cigarettes (1-2 packs)	67.1%	70.8%	67%	65.63%	66.4%
Alcohol	39.1%	46%	45.5%	37.66%	38.54%

It is important to be aware of youth's perception of the harm in using drugs as they are more likely to experiment and/or use regularly if they believe there is a low risk.

The perception of harm among youth for the use of marijuana, both regularly and one to two times has been trending downward for several years which is concerning as it reflects the attitude that marijuana is harmless, possibly even more so than cigarettes and alcohol.

School Rewards (protective factor)

My teachers praise me when I work hard in school. Those responding “yes”:

2004	2006	2008	2010	2011
57.3%	56.3%	52.6%	51.8%	57.47%

My school lets my parents know when I have done something well. Those responding “yes”:

2004	2006	2008	2010	2011
43.2%	42%	40.2%	39.58%	45.04%

Gang Involvement (risk factor)

Think of your best friends (the friends you feel closest to), in the past year (12 months) how many of your best friends have been members of a gang? Response: “at least one”

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
TOTAL	18.9%	16.8%	16%	15.98%	12.59%	9.38%
6th grade	16.1	15.6	15.6	17.88	5.24	7.21
8th grade	29.7	22.1	15.7	20.43	13.39	10.92
10th grade	17.8	16.9	20.4	14.48	19.6	10.72
12th grade	12.4	10.8	10.5	11.58	10.5	8.56

Violence (problem behavior)

How many times in the past year (12 months) have you attacked someone with the idea of seriously hurting them? Response: “never”

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
TOTAL	85.9%	87.4%	83.8%	85.4%	91.72%	89.81%
6th grade	88.2	87.7	86.2	84.82	91.66	91.35
8th grade	85.7	84.2	79.5	80.73	90.58	88.15
10th grade	82	88.3	83	86.1	89.06	88.89
12th grade	88.2	90.7	89.5	88.6	96.5	91.1

(protective factor)

What are the chances that you would be seen as cool if you: defended someone who was being verbally abused at school? Response: “very good chance”.

	2004	2006	2008	2010	2011	STATE
TOTAL	18.5%	16.9%	16.5%	13.56%	14.26%	14.92%
6th grade	29.8	22.7	23.2	14.94	23.19	22.69
8th grade	21.1	14.7	18.7	16.94	12.99	13.94
10th grade	10.8	13.8	11.4	10.58	13.25	10.65
12th grade	9.3	15.8	12.4	12.3	8.5	11.55

Prevention Programming Recommendations

- Continue to encourage the active involvement and participation of parents in prevention programming. Research shows that educational approaches targeting the entire family, school-based approaches involving parents, and parent-focused curricula that complements student-focused curricula can be effective in preventing adolescent substance use.
- Continue to support and provide evidence-based programming and prevention strategies at appropriate developmental stages to address prioritized risk factors such as *favorable attitudes to antisocial behavior, interaction with antisocial peers, peer drug use, gang involvement, and academic failure*.
- Continue to support and provide evidence-based programming and prevention strategies to increase protective factors such as *bonding and healthy beliefs and clear standards*, and develop and strengthen assets to help build resilience among youth.
- Continue collaboration with Emporians for Drug Awareness and The Regional Prevention Center of the Flint Hills as a means of targeting priority risk and protective factors, especially in the community and family domains, by supporting and facilitating prevention programming for parents and families such as “Guiding Good Choices” or “Strengthening Families”.
- Continue support of quality mentoring and after-school programs to increase social skills and engagement in learning by providing students with opportunities such as personal attention from adults, a positive peer group, and activities that hold their interests and build self-esteem.
- Continue to review and update policies for staff and students that communicate a commitment to substance abuse prevention.
- Utilize resources The Regional Prevention Center of the Flint Hills for materials and training related to substance abuse prevention topics, and to evaluate prevention efforts.