

# About the Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Survey

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and was first implemented in Alaska in 1995. The Alaska YRBS is an **anonymous** and **voluntary** survey of students in grades 9–12 in public schools, including schools that teach students facing higher risks. It is administered throughout the state in odd-numbered years.

## Why is the Alaska YRBS important?

The YRBS collects information about Alaska teens, including their behaviors that affect health. The results help communities understand the strengths and needs of their youth and design programs that improve teen health and reduce unhealthy behaviors.

## Who completes the YRBS?

Students in almost every state in the United States complete the YRBS. In Alaska, about 7,000 high school students from about 30 school districts participate every other year.

## Are students' names linked to their surveys?

No, the YRBS is **completely anonymous**. Students do not put their names or the names of their classes or schools on the survey, and their completed answer sheets are sealed in a privacy envelope so others cannot see how they answered.

## How can I support the YRBS?

If you're a student, take the YRBS when it is offered at your school. If you're a parent, complete the YRBS parent permission form and encourage your teen to take the YRBS. For other ways to help, contact the Alaska YRBS program at [YRBS@alaska.gov](mailto:YRBS@alaska.gov).

## Where can I find the results of the YRBS?

Visit the Alaska YRBS website at

<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Chronic/Pages/yrbs/yrbs.aspx>

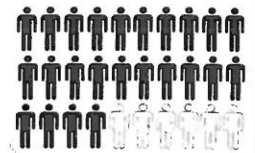


The 2015 Alaska YRBS shows the health risks and resiliency of Alaska high school students.

In an average classroom of 30 traditional high school students:

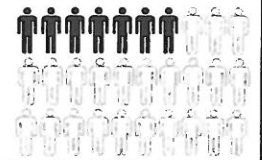
### Risks

**24** do not get 60 minutes of daily physical activity



**11** text or email while driving

**7** are bullied on school property



**6** have seriously considered suicide

### Protective Factors

**20** have never tried cigarette smoking



**20** get mostly A's and B's in school

**19** have never had sexual intercourse



**19** agree that their teachers care about and encourage them