

2011-2012 HEALTHY KIDS COLORADO SURVEY RESULTS

SEXUAL HEALTH

Middle & High School Students

In the fall of 2011, a total of **1,523 students in 33 public high schools** throughout Colorado completed the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS), which includes components of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). The high school version of the HKCS consists of questions related to health and risk behaviors in the following domains: physical activity and nutrition; unintentional injury and violence; mental health; alcohol, tobacco and other drug use; school and family; and sexual health. Results from this survey provide a snapshot of these issues among Colorado's youth. **Colorado achieved sufficient participation in 2011 from selected schools and students that data was able to be weighted and can be considered representative of students in Colorado in grades 9-12.** Weighted data was also achieved in Colorado in 2009 and 2005. This document provides an overview of the prevalence and trends related to Sexual Health.

Colorado also conducted the HKCS with 1,614 middle school students across 33 public middle schools. **This is the first year for which weighted data on middle school students is available.** Middle school students are not asked about behaviors related to sexual health.

Lifetime Sexual Health

- A total of **41%** of Colorado high school students reported that they have had sexual intercourse at least once in their life. Approximately **23%** of 9th grade students and **61%** of 12th grade students reported ever having sex.
- A total of **26%** of students reporting having sexual intercourse with two or more people in their lifetime, while **13%** reported having sexual intercourse with four or more people.

Current (past three months) Sexual Health

- **32%** of students reported having sexual intercourse at least once within the past three months.
 - Among students who had sexual intercourse in the past three months, **26%** reported using alcohol or other drugs before their last sexual encounter.
 - Among students who had sexual intercourse in the past three months, **71%** used a condom during their most recent sexual encounter. Condom use increased for males in 2011 (**75%**) compared to 2009 (**67%**).
 - Among students who had sexual intercourse in the past three months, **29%** used either Depo-Provera or birth control pills to



prevent pregnancy. Use of these birth control methods has increased from 2005 (**19%**). Non-Hispanic White students (**35%**) were more likely to report use of Depo-Provera or birth control pills compared to Hispanic/Latino students (**19%**).

HIV/AIDS Education

- Overall, **80%** of Colorado high school students report having HIV or AIDS education at school. This did not differ compared to 2005 or 2009.
- Middle school students were also asked about participation in HIV/AIDS education at school. A total of **39%** of Colorado middle school students reported that they had ever been taught about HIV or AIDS in school.

APPLICATIONS OF HKCS DATA

A full report will be available in August 2012.

These data are intended to create awareness about priority health-risk behaviors of youth in Colorado, as well as to provide a tool to assess how risk behaviors change over time. Data can be used by key stakeholders including legislators, boards of education, school administrators, students, parents, community members and school staff to better understand risk behaviors, to set program goals, to develop programs and policies, to support health-related policies and to seek funding.

In 2011, numerous schools and communities choose to participate in a local administration of the survey, to be able to compare their results to state data as well as national data to better understand what priorities may exist in their community and to monitor health behavior trends. In 2011, over 220 schools chose to participate in local HKCS administration, representing close to 70,000 additional students.

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