



# HEALTHY KIDS COLORADO SURVEY

The purpose of the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey is to better understand youth health and what factors support youth to make healthy choices.

## Research shows...

Research shows that *young people respond just as credibly as adults* on anonymous and confidential health surveys. Data analysis includes thorough checks to omit the very small percentage of young people who falsify their answers.

Information on this research can be found at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6201.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6201.pdf)

## Completely anonymous...

The Healthy Kids Colorado Survey has a *rigorous policy to protect the confidentiality and anonymity of young people* taking the survey. Additionally, the results are completely anonymous - the survey does not ask for names or identifying information and we instruct teachers on how to best protect their students while administering the survey in the classroom.

## Surveying youth...

*Asking a young person questions on a survey does not influence their health behavior.* In fact, we have seen risky health behaviors steadily decline nationwide since youth survey activities amplified over 25 years ago.

Information on this research can be found at [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6201.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/rr/rr6201.pdf)

## Parent permission...

*Colorado law requires that parents are notified about surveying youth in schools.* Every district has their own policy regarding parental notification and consent.

Examples of consent forms are available at [www.HealthyKidsColo.or](http://www.HealthyKidsColo.or)

## Voluntary...

*The Healthy Kids Colorado Survey is completely voluntary.* Schools notify students and their parents in advance of the survey that their participation is completely voluntary. Parents can choose to have or not have their child participate and a young person can choose whether to participate or not. In fact, the survey goes through various layers of permission before a student even sees it.

## Timeline...

The fall survey is administered from September through early January. Results are typically available within the same school year. The time between surveying and reporting is used for data preparation, analysis, quality assurance procedures, and creation of report, charts and graphs.



For more information visit [www.healthykidscolorado.org](http://www.healthykidscolorado.org) or e-mail [cdphe\\_healthykidscolorado@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe_healthykidscolorado@state.co.us).

The Healthy Kids Colorado Survey is a collaboration of three state departments: Public Health and Environment, Education, and Human Services; the University of Colorado Anschutz; and a community advisory committee.