

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### Q: What is the YRBS?

A: A survey of students from a random selection of Nebraska public schools in grades 9-12 that provides state-level data on key health behaviors that emerge during adolescence and can significantly impact students' academic success, wellbeing, and long-term health outcomes - including mental health, substance use, personal safety, physical activity, and general wellness factors that schools and communities can help address through targeted programs and services.

### Q: How much time is needed to administer the YRBS?

A: The survey is expected to take about 30 minutes for students to complete. Flexible scheduling options are available to accommodate school needs.

### Q: Why should schools participate in the YRBS?

A: The participation of schools selected for the YRBS helps ensure we receive accurate, representative state-level and/or region-level data on key health behaviors that can significantly impact students' academic success, wellbeing, and long-term health outcomes - including mental health, substance use, personal safety, physical activity, and general wellness factors.

#### YRBS data is used to:

- ✓ Secure grant funding to improve the health and wellness of Nebraska youth
- ✓ Identify emerging health concerns
- ✓ Guide health priorities and policies
- ✓ Direct prevention efforts
- ✓ Inform statewide committees and advisory boards on statewide health trends
- ✓ Educate communities on statewide health trends
- ✓ Assess impacts of policies and efforts implemented
- ✓ Provide comparisons with local-level data

### Q: How is YRBS data reported?

A: Results are provided in many formats:

- ✓ Nebraska YRBS data is reported online in many formats including PowerPoint with figures, PDF with tables, user-friendly Infographics, and integrated with the School Health Profiles data that provides information about school policies and practices in the Adolescent Health Report
- ✓ Results are only reported at the state level representing Nebraska youth as a whole - never by individual school, district, or student
- ✓ Individual student responses cannot be traced back to specific schools or students
- ✓ When data is available, reports show trends over time, differences between groups, and comparisons to the national average

### Q: When will the survey be administered and when will reports be available?

A: Data collection will occur between August and December 2025. YRBS reports are expected to be completed by Summer 2026.

### Q: Who uses YRBS data?

A: Several state and local organizations use Nebraska YRBS data; however, individual school districts, schools, or students are never identifiable. Organizations that use the data include:

- ✓ Nebraska Department of Education (NDE)
- ✓ Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS)
- ✓ Legislatures
- ✓ Statewide Groups and Coalitions
- ✓ Local Health Departments, Organizations and Coalitions

### Q: Who can I contact for more information?

A: Email [sharp@unl.edu](mailto:sharp@unl.edu) for more information or call UNL's Bureau of Sociological Research at 402-472-3672.