

2008 School Health Profiles Report

Washington

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BACKGROUND

The School Health Profiles (Profiles) assist states and local education and health agencies in monitoring and assessing characteristics of school health education; physical education; school health policies related to HIV infection/AIDS, tobacco-use prevention, and nutrition; asthma management activities; and family and community involvement in school health programs. Data from Profiles can be used to improve school health programs.

Two questionnaires are used to collect data - one for school principals and one for lead health education teachers. The two questionnaires were mailed to 429 regular secondary public schools containing any of grades 6 through 12 in Washington during the spring of 2008.

Usable questionnaires were received from 74% of principals and from 70% of teachers. Because the response rates for these surveys were > 70%, the results are weighted and are representative of all regular public secondary schools in Washington having at least one of grades 6 through 12.

Results from the principal and lead health education surveys are presented for the following types of schools in Washington:

- High schools with a low grade of 9 or higher and a high grade of 10 or higher;
- Middle schools with a high grade of 9 or lower;
- Junior/senior high schools with a low grade of 8 or less and a high grade of 10 or higher; and
- All schools.

The Profiles questionnaires were developed by the Division of Adolescent and School Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in collaboration with representatives of state, local, and territorial departments of health and education.

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PRINCIPAL SURVEY
SAMPLE DESCRIPTION, RESPONSE RATES AND WEIGHTING PROCEDURES

Sample Description

All regular secondary public schools having at least one of grades 6 through 12 were included in the sampling frame. Schools were sorted by estimated enrollment in the target grades within school level (senior high schools, middle schools, and junior/senior high schools combined) before sampling. Systematic equal probability sampling with a random start was used to select schools for the survey.

Ten out of 429 sampled schools were ineligible.

The principal or his/her designee was surveyed in each participating school.

Response Rate

74% - 310 out of 419 sampled eligible principals returned questionnaires. All questionnaires were usable after data editing.

65% - 273 out of 419 sampled eligible principals returned the Washington's supplemental survey

Weighting

A weight has been associated with each questionnaire to reflect the likelihood of a principal being selected, to reduce bias by compensating for differing patterns of nonresponse, and to improve precision by making school sample distributions conform to known population distributions. The weight used for estimation is given by:

$$W = W_1 * f_1 * f_2$$

W_1 = inverse of the probability of school selection.

f_1 = a nonresponse adjustment factor calculated by school size (large, medium, or small) and school level (senior high school, middle school, or junior/senior high school combined).

f_2 = a poststratification adjustment factor calculated by school level (senior high school, middle school, or junior/senior high school combined).

Results from Washington's supplemental principal survey are un-weighted, due to a response rate lower than 70%.

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LEAD HEALTH TEACHER SURVEY
SAMPLE DESCRIPTION, RESPONSE RATES AND WEIGHTING PROCEDURES**

Sample Description

All regular secondary public schools having at least one of grades 6 through 12 were included in the sampling frame. Schools were sorted by estimated enrollment in the target grades within school level (senior high schools, middle schools, and junior/senior high schools combined) before sampling. Systematic equal probability sampling with a random start was used to select schools for the survey.

Ten out of 429 sampled schools were ineligible.

The lead health education teacher was surveyed in each participating school.

Response Rate

70% - 295 out of 419 sampled eligible lead health education teachers returned questionnaires. All questionnaires were usable after data editing.

55% - 230 out of 419 sampled eligible lead health education teachers returned the Washington's supplemental survey

Weighting

A weight has been associated with each questionnaire to reflect the likelihood of a lead health education teacher, being selected, to reduce bias by compensating for differing patterns of nonresponse, and to improve precision by making school sample distributions conform to known population distributions. The weight used for estimation is given by:

$$W = W_1 * f_1 * f_2$$

W_1 = inverse of the probability of school selection.

f_1 = a nonresponse adjustment factor calculated by school size (large, medium, or small) and school level (senior high school, middle school, or junior/senior high school combined).

f_2 = a poststratification adjustment factor calculated by school level (senior high school, middle school, or junior/senior high school combined).

Results from Washington's supplemental lead health education teacher survey are un-weighted, due to a response rate lower than 70%.