



## **OHYES! FAQ for the Ohio YRBS (CDC)**

**My school recently participated in the Ohio Youth Risk Behavior Survey, sponsored by the Ohio Department of Health. Should I also participate in the OHYES survey? Are they the same survey?**

The OHYES! and the Ohio Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) are two different surveys. While they both examine the behaviors of teens, they provide different types of data and both are very important.

The Ohio Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a survey developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) administered through the Ohio Department of Health every two years and has been in existence in the state since 1993. The Ohio YRBS is part of a larger national survey effort that enables Ohio to compare the health behaviors of Ohio's high school aged teens to the rest of the nation.

The OHYES! and the Ohio YRBS both ask questions about youth behaviors; however the YRBS surveys a limited number of high schools statewide (approximately 52) and only 2-3 classrooms within the selected high schools in order to obtain state level data while the OHYES has been designed to collect data on a larger population of youth that will provide data results at the school building and school district level.

**Both types of surveys are needed.** Local data is needed to understand the unique needs of students in each school district and state-level data is used to compare differences and/or similarities of district data with the rest of the state as well as the nation.

If your school has been selected to participate in the state YRBS we encourage schools to participate in both surveys, as the data can complement each other.