



## Ohio Youth Surveys (OYS)

OYS connects three school-based health surveys, the Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey (OHYES!), the Youth Risk Behavior Survey/Youth Tobacco Survey (YRBS/YTS), and the School Health Profiles Survey to gain valuable insight into the needs of Ohio students.

## Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey (OHYES!)

OHYES! is completed by middle- and high-school students throughout Ohio. It offers insights at the local level by gathering school, district, county, and statewide data. This survey offers schools a deeper look into the experiences of youth in different communities and environments across Ohio. Using these insights, we can learn where Ohio students are thriving and build on what works.

## Benefits for Families

Like you, we believe your student deserves every opportunity to reach their full potential. OHYES! identifies the risks and roadblocks that hold them back and empower strategic planning to clear their path to success. OHYES! measures the frequency of behaviors and experiences that pose a risk to youth wellness, and those that help protect it. Results from the survey can help families and communities advocate for safer, more welcoming schools.

## Empowering Student Voices

Participation gives students the opportunity to self-report their needs, the risks they perceive to their well-being, and their resiliency to live healthy lives. Student participation is essential as it helps us learn about school climate and the health and academic issues that impact quality of education and daily life.

## Student Privacy

Promoting the health, wellness, and safety of Ohio students is our top priority. We recognize that we have a responsibility to protect their privacy — and it is a responsibility we do not take lightly. We work in close partnership with Ohio schools and take extensive care to ensure the safe, confidential, and successful administration of OHYES!.

## Voluntary Participation

Students and parents can opt out of survey participation entirely, or students may choose to skip any questions that they prefer not to answer. They may also choose to exit the survey at any time. Though we hope students will be excited about the opportunity to share their voice, there is no pressure to participate.

## Parental Consent

Participating schools are required by Ohio law to notify parents of upcoming surveys. Parents will receive a letter about the survey and instructions for how to opt their student out if they so choose. This notification and opt-out process keeps parents informed and empowers them to make choices about their students' involvement in surveys.

## Protecting Anonymity & Confidentiality

We draw insights by looking at trends in student populations, not individuals. We have extensive safeguards in place to ensure survey answers remain completely anonymous and confidential. OHYES! does not collect any personal identifying information, like student name or ID. It is not possible for anyone, including school and survey administrators, to find out an individual student's survey answers.

**We share a common goal:**  
a roadblock-free path to success for our students