



## Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Fast Facts:

- The survey has been administered annually in Kansas since 1994-95.
- Sponsored by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services Behavioral Health Services Commission, it is available free of charge to all districts.
- Survey participation requires registration by the school Superintendent and written consent of parents. The easiest way for schools to obtain written consent is by including the consent form in enrollment packets.
- Survey responses are confidential and anonymous. Individual students cannot be identified or tracked. Data are reported by grade.
- By administering the survey every year, administrators can track trends occurring over a period of time. The survey includes both risk factors and protective factors.
- Data from the survey provides important indicator measures to support community planning.
- Without consistent, high levels of participation by districts, county level data are also impacted. There are many community organizations (e.g., Kansas Prevention Coalitions, United Way, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Clubs, Kansas Children's Service League, Communities In Schools, Juvenile Justice Authority) counting on annual survey data to apply for or evaluate grant funding, monies that directly and indirectly benefit students.
- KCTC student survey provides schools with data for developing a school profile and strategic plan. Many KCTC districts use their reports as needs assessments to gauge what is working and what needs work in their schools. Districts can then look into programming to address weaknesses and enhance strengths, and evaluate the effectiveness of current programming.
- Districts can use the data when seeking funding for programming. It can also be used to show positive trends or attributes within a building, grade, or district.
- With the movement towards accountability at all levels, having high quality youth data is critical for school districts, community, county and regional organizations as well as state agencies. *KCTC data is used across multiple state agencies including Behavioral Health Services Commission, Kansas State Department of Education, and Juvenile Justice Authority.* Frequent and consistent participation is critical to establishing reliable trend data over time.

