

2023



Kansas Communities
That Care
STUDENT SURVEY



GREENBUSH
THE EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER



Kansas Communities That Care 2023 Survey Administration Documents



2023 Survey Administration Documents

Administration Window: November 1, 2022 – January 31, 2023

1. [Survey Coordinator Letter and Instructions](#)
2. [Survey Introduction Letter to Teachers](#)
3. [Survey Administration Guidelines](#)
4. [Overview and Frequently Asked Questions](#)

For questions, please contact:

The KCTC Team

Greenbush – Southeast Kansas Education Service Center

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Provided By:

**Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services
Behavioral Health Services Commission**

Administered By:

**Research, Grants, and Evaluation Department
Greenbush – The Southeast Kansas Education Service Center**





2022-2023 Survey Coordinator Letter

July 25, 2022

To: District Survey Coordinators

From: Rachel Phillips, KCTC Project Manager

**Survey Administration
may occur between:**

**November 1, 2022
&
January 31, 2023**

Thank you for serving as a District Survey Coordinator and participating in the ***Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey***. The survey should be administered to students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12 between **November 1st, 2022**, and **January 31st, 2023**. All surveys will be administered using an online survey tool.

Based on input from stakeholders and student focus groups, the survey has been modified to shorten and improve the overall survey experience for students in the following ways:

- **Readability**
 - The language has been adapted to improve readability for all students, promote inclusivity, and address relevancy.
- **Length**
 - Several questions were removed, and survey technology has reduced the time it takes to complete the survey depending on each student's responses. The average time it takes students to complete the survey is 27 minutes. Keep in mind, some students are able to finish more quickly while others may need additional time.

Instructions for District Survey Coordinators are provided on the following page. Additional instructions and resources are provided for teachers/proctors in the [Student Survey Administration Guidelines](#).

You will need the following documents for preparation and administration.

- KCTC Guidance for Changes to Parent Consent Requirements NEW [LINK HERE](#)
- Parent Consent Letter [LINK HERE](#)
- Parent Consent Form Tracking Sheet [LINK HERE](#)
- 2022-2023 KCTC Student Survey online [LINK HERE](#)
- Student Survey Administration Guidelines [LINK HERE](#)
- Letter to Teachers [LINK HERE](#)

If you have any questions, please contact The KCTC Team at Greenbush at 620-724-6281 Ext. 366 or kctc@greenbush.org and our team will be ready to assist you.



District Survey Coordinator Instructions

Three essential tasks to coordinate in your district for administration of the KCTC Student Survey:

1

Document Parent Consent

If your district has not already distributed parent consent forms, please distribute the [Parent Consent Letter provided by KCTC](#) and [KCTC Guardian Informed Consent](#) as soon as possible to allow time to collect signed forms before administering the survey. Parent consent must be collected separately from other surveys, using the Parent Consent Letter provided by KCTC, and obtained within four months prior to survey administration. Post this weblink to your school website for parents to view a copy of KCTC Student Survey questions and share which optional modules your district will elect to participate in: <https://kctcdata.org/studentsurvey>

Document signed parent consent and provide a list of students included/excluded to each teacher or proctor administering the survey using the [Parent Consent Form Tracking Sheet](#).

New legislation was passed during the 2022 session that impacts survey administration. Please review the [KCTC Guidance for Changes to Parent Consent Requirements linked here](#).

[Click for Parent
Consent Letter](#)

[Click for Parent
Consent Form
Tracking Sheet](#)

[Click for
Changes to
Parent Consent
Requirements](#)

2

Test survey to confirm teachers/proctors and students can access the URL

The survey is administered using an online survey tool. The URL for this year's survey is:

<https://surveys.kctcdata.org/s3/studentsurvey2023>

Please whitelist this wildcard: ***kctcdata.org***

Please share the URL and wildcard with your IT department to ensure it is not blocked by the district firewall or content filtering system. It is important to [test the survey link ahead of time](#) on a student device in the environment where the survey will be taken to be sure the URL is accessible. If you run a separate network for students and teachers, please ensure access to the URL is approved on both networks. Some school internet security systems may require [additional whitelisting; to learn more, click here](#).

[Click for
IT Tips \(Video\)](#)

[Click for
IT Tips \(PDF\)](#)

This survey may be taken on any device with internet access. A smartphone is not recommended. Any web browser may be used; however, Google Chrome is best when using the [Google Extension Read Aloud](#).

3

Disseminate Administration Guidelines to Teachers/Proctors

The documents below should be provided to each participating teacher/proctor approximately two weeks before the survey date.

- [Letter to Teachers](#): Introduces teachers to the survey.
- [Survey Administration Guidelines](#): This includes instructions on preparation, room set-up, remote administration, and student survey video instructions.

[Click for Letter
to Teachers](#)

[Click for
Administration
Guidelines](#)

Curious to learn more about KCTC 2022-2023?

Check out the [KCTC Technical Assistance presentation recording linked here](#). Visit us at kctcdata.org to learn more.



2022-2023 KCTC Student Survey Introduction Letter to Teachers

<<Date>>

Dear <<Teacher Name>>:

Our district has agreed to participate in an important survey conducted by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services Behavioral Health Services Commission called the *Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey*.

The purpose of this survey is:

- To gather information needed to plan prevention strategies addressing such problems as: bullying, alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.
- To measure the district's social-emotional strengths and weaknesses.
- To help judge the effectiveness of our current prevention efforts.

Between the dates of **November 1st, 2022 and January 31st, 2023**, our district's **6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grade** students will be participating in the student survey. We are asking for your help in doing this.

The survey will be administered during your <<insert class period>> on <<insert day and date>>. Students will need an entire class period to complete the survey. Please see the enclosed instructions for administering the survey to your class.

Data from the Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey is posted online at www.kctcdata.org for each participating district and school in the spring. To view survey results, visit kctcdata.org and click [Login](#), create an account, and use the "My Account" feature to request access to your district or building data. Access to local survey results is granted by the superintendent of schools. You are encouraged to access relevant information about your school. County level results are publicly available.

I will be coordinating the survey effort in our district. If you have any questions about the survey or these instructions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your assistance!

Sincerely,

<<Name>>

<<Organization>>

cc: <<Principal name>>



Carta de introducción a los maestros para le Encuesta de Estudiantes de KCTC

<<Fecha>>

Estimado << Nombre del maestro >>:

Nuestro distrito ha aceptado ayudar con una importante encuesta que está llevando a cabo la Comisión de Servicios de Salud del Comportamiento del Departamento de Servicios para Personas Mayores y Discapacitados de Kansas llamada la **Encuesta de Estudiantes de las Comunidades de Kansas que Cuidan**.

El propósito de esta encuesta es:

- Recopilar la información necesaria para planificar estrategias de prevención para abordar problemas como el acoso en nuestras escuelas, el consumo de alcohol, tabaco y otras drogas.
- Medir las fortalezas y debilidades socioemocionales del distrito.
- También nos ayudará a juzgar la eficacia de nuestros esfuerzos de prevención actuales.

Entre las fechas del **1 de noviembre** y el **31 de enero**, los estudiantes de **sexto, octavo, décimo y duodécimo grado** de nuestro distrito participarán en la encuesta estudiantil y estamos pidiendo su ayuda para hacerlo. La encuesta se administrará durante su << inserte el período de clases >> el << inserte el día y la fecha >>. Los estudiantes necesitarán un período de clase completo para completar la encuesta. [Consulte la información adjunta para obtener instrucciones sobre cómo administrar la encuesta a su clase.](#)

Los datos de la Encuesta de Estudiantes de las Comunidades de Kansas que Cuidan se publican en línea en www.kctcdata.org para cada distrito y escuela participantes. Para ver los resultados de la encuesta, visite kctcdata.org y haga clic en "Login", cree una cuenta y use la función "**My Account**" para solicitar acceso a los datos de su distrito o edificio. El superintendente de escuelas otorga acceso a los resultados de la encuesta local. Se le anima a acceder a información relevante sobre su escuela. Los resultados a nivel de condado están disponibles públicamente.

Estaré coordinando el esfuerzo de la encuesta en nuestro distrito. Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre la encuesta o estas instrucciones, no dude en ponerse en contacto conmigo. ¡Gracias por su asistencia!

Sinceramente,

<<Nombre>>

<<Organización>>

cc: << Nombre principal >>



2022-2023 Survey Administration Guidelines

Survey Administration Window: **November 1st, 2022 – January 31st, 2023**

PRIOR TO SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

GATHER RESOURCES

[Click for Parent Consent Letter](#)

[Click for Parent Consent Form Tracking Sheet](#)

- **STUDENT LIST:** Get the list of the students who have a signed Parent Consent Letter from your survey coordinator. For tracking consent, please see the resources below:
 - Click to view the [Parent Consent Letter](#).
 - Click to view the [Parent Consent Form Tracking Sheet](#).
- **USD#:** Have your 3-digit Unified School District (USD) number and name available for students.
 - TIP: Students will need to type the USD number in the first demographic survey question to locate their district number and name in the dropdown menu. Next, the survey will prompt them to select their grade level, school name, and the county where they live.
- **COUNTY:** Some students may need help naming the county in which they live.
 - TIP: If a student lives outside the area, they can select the county in which the school building is located.

TECH TIPS

- The survey may be taken on any device with internet access. However, a smartphone is not recommended due to the small screen dimensions.
- Any web browser may be used. **Google Chrome** works best when using the [Google Extension Read Aloud](#) as a TTS accessibility resource.

TAKE A SNEAK PEEK

[Click for Student Survey Preview](#)

- To **preview** what the students will see, [click here to view a test survey link](#).
**** IMPORTANT: This link is for preview ONLY. DO NOT share this link with students. ****

ACCESSIBILITY - [Click here to learn more about accessibility information for the Student Survey.](#)

- Audio/visual video instructions are embedded within the survey in both English and Spanish.
- To have the survey questions read aloud, [download the Google Extension Read Aloud](#) on a Google Chrome web browser ahead of time.
- For low vision mode, students may select the Low Vision Mode setting at the top of the survey screen.
- This survey and survey platform have been tested and approved for use with screen reader apps such as JAWS, NVDA, VoiceOver, and Focus 40 refreshable braille display.

LANGUAGE OPTIONS

- Students may choose to take the survey in either **English** or **Spanish**.
- The embedded survey instructions will prompt students to select their preferred language on the first survey question. If choosing Spanish, students will be guided to toggle to the Spanish option located in the top corner of the survey screen.



2022-2023 Survey Administration Guidelines

Survey Administration Window: **November 1st, 2022 – January 31st, 2023**

DAY OF SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

STUDENT SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS

- Survey instructions can be [viewed in an embedded video](#) or read as [transcribed text](#).
- Both formats are also embedded into the survey.
- Proctors may play the video or read the instructions to the entire group prior to beginning the survey. Students may also independently view or read the instructions embedded in the survey.

Click for
Student Survey
Instructions
Video

Click for
Student Survey
Instructions
Transcribed
Text

VIDEO SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS:

Proctors may play the survey [video instructions](#) for the entire class. Once the instructions have been viewed, instruct students to scroll past the video instructions and click “NEXT.”

- For remote learners, or students with headphones, instructions may be viewed independently as they are embedded in the survey.
- **English:** <https://vimeo.com/738748572> Length 3 minutes
- **Spanish:** <https://vimeo.com/745907821> Length 3 minutes

Click for Video
Instructions
(English)

Click for Video
Instructions
(Spanish)

KCTC STUDENT SURVEY LINK

VIEW THE STUDENT SURVEY LINK IN THIS WEB FRIENDLY DOWNLOADABLE PDF:

- <https://kctcdata.org/kctc-survey-link-sharing>
- PROCTOR options for sharing the survey link with students**
 - Project Student Survey Link Sharing PDF on smartboard
 - Share Student Survey Link Sharing PDF on Zoom screen (or other video conferencing platform)
 - Assign Student Survey Link Sharing PDF to students in your school’s learning management system (LMS) (i.e. Google Classroom, Blackboard, Seesaw, Canvas, etc.)
 - Write the Student Survey link on the board: <https://surveys.kctcdata.org/s3/studentsurvey2023>
- STUDENTS can access the link by:**
 - Clicking the link within the Student Survey Link Sharing PDF
 - Scanning the QR code within the Student Survey Link Sharing PDF using an iPad or similar smart device
 - Typing the survey link from the Student Survey Link Sharing PDF in their web browser:
<https://surveys.kctcdata.org/s3/studentsurvey2023>





2022-2023 Survey Administration Guidelines

Survey Administration Window: **November 1st, 2022 – January 31st, 2023**

TIMING & CLASSROOM TIPS

- **ACTIVE CONSENT:** An alternate assignment should be provided for students whose guardian(s) have declined participation or for students who decline participation at the beginning of class. Participating students will have access to the Student Informed Consent embedded within the survey and will be reminded in the embedded survey instructions that all questions are optional, and that they may choose to stop the survey at any time by closing their web browser.
- **Allow one full class period to complete the survey.**
 - Because the online survey is anonymous, it **cannot** be started and then finished later.
 - Advisory periods or other shortened periods may **not** allow enough time.
- **Classroom setup:** Chairs and device screens should be placed as if students are taking a test.
 - Students should be separated and not facing each other.
 - Ensure that the room contains sufficient lighting, a comfortable climate, and adequate space.
 - Keep student group size small.
- **Play** the survey [video instructions](#).
- **Share** the [survey link](#) with students.
- **Announce** when there are 3-5 minutes remaining in the class period and ask students to skip to the final page of the survey, answering the last question before clicking submit. (Final Survey Question: How honest were you in filling out this survey?)
- **AFTER THE SURVEY:** Make sure that each student has submitted the survey before the next student accesses the same device.

[Click for Student
Survey
Instructions
Video](#)

[Click for the
KCTC Student
Survey Link](#)

CONSIDERATIONS FOR REMOTE LEARNING

Survey Administration Protocols for Remote Learners

- Schedule a class period to take the survey as a group proctored using an online video conferencing platform (Zoom, Skype, Google Hangouts, etc.).
 - Disable the chat other than with the host/teacher/proctor.
 - Follow the same administration process outlined above.
 - Share the screen with the [Student Survey Link Sharing PDF](#) & post the [survey link](#) in the chat.
- As an option of last resort, send the survey link as an un-proctored assignment with a definitive due date.
 - Share the survey link by sending the [Student Survey Link Sharing PDF](#) to students through your school's LMS or sending home a printed copy of the link sharing PDF.
 - Give students their 3-digit USD number needed to answer the first demographic survey question.



2022-2023 Survey Administration Guidelines

Survey Administration Window: November 1st, 2022 – January 31st, 2023

STUDENT SUPPORT RESOURCES

These suicide prevention and behavioral health resources are embedded in the survey:

- Once students submit the survey, the following [support resource information](#) will appear.
 - [SAMHSA National Helpline & behavioral health locator](#) to help find resources in your community.
 - [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#) to learn about available help or chat now.

Click for Support
Resources



CURIOUS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT KCTC

- View the [KCTC video at kctcdata.org/video/kctc-promotional-video](https://kctcdata.org/video/kctc-promotional-video) to learn about:
 - The history of the survey
 - Why it is important
 - How the data is used
- KCTC Data is posted annually to the website kctcdata.org.

KCTC Survey Description

- The KCTC survey is taken by 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th grade students statewide.
- It is a valuable tool to help us understand how students behave, think and feel about alcohol, marijuana and other drug use, bullying and school safety.
- The KCTC survey measures teen substance use, delinquency, and related problem behaviors in schools and communities.
- The survey gives us insight into the problems students face and shows what we can do to help them succeed.
- The information is important for planning effective prevention programs in our school and provides data to assist in applying for grant funding.



2023



Kansas Communities
That Care
STUDENT SURVEY



GREENBUSH
THE EDUCATION SERVICE CENTER



Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey Overview and Frequently Asked Questions



Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey Overview and Frequently Asked Questions

Fiscal Year 2023

For more information, contact:

The KCTC Team

Greenbush – The Education Service Center

947 West 47 Highway PO Box 189 Girard, KS 66743

620-724-6281 kctc@greenbush.org

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Overview

The Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey has been administered annually at no cost to districts throughout the state since 1994-1995. The KCTC Survey is making Kansas a national leader for prevention assessment and evaluation. This survey tracks adolescent use of harmful substances such as alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. In addition, the survey provides a baseline for adolescent participation in, perception of, and attitudes toward both pro-social and anti-social behavior at the peer, school, family, and community levels. It provides a measurable level of risk and protective factors that influence behavior, attitudes, and opinions of Kansas adolescents.

Purposes of the KCTC Student Survey

- ⇒ ***To develop a focus for planning*** – Reports show Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey data provide an objective profile of problem behaviors, risk factors and protective factors that exist in your communities. This information highlights strengths and challenges, which will help in the development of a focused prevention plan. Data from the KCTC Survey is used to help school and community planners assess current conditions and prioritize areas of greatest need. Each risk and protective factor can be linked to specific types of interventions that have been shown to be effective in either reducing risks or enhancing protections. Survey results help schools and communities identify specific areas of concern so they can target strategies which have proven to be most effective in achieving desired results.
- ⇒ ***To establish a baseline to track progress*** – Survey data provides a standardized measure of risk and protective factors and prevalence rates. This data can be used as a baseline for developing measurable outcomes that states and communities choose to target. Future surveys can then be used to track progress toward those outcomes. Data is also used to measure adolescent behaviors, attitudes, and opinions, compared to adolescents in other state and national averages.
- ⇒ ***To conduct public relations and outreach*** – Information from the survey can be used to build public awareness about the extent of problem behaviors and levels of risk and protection. It can help counteract misconceptions and denial about drug and alcohol use and other problem behaviors and provides all stakeholders with a mutual understanding and foundation upon which to make prevention-planning decisions.

For the past 28 years, the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Behavioral Health Services Commission has been dedicated to finding proven strategies and implementing outcomes-based planning in communities. Their hard work and dedication have earned Kansas national recognition and opportunities for continued funding.

Frequently Asked Questions

Greenbush –The Education Service Center, on behalf of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services Behavioral Health Services Commission, will conduct the 2022-2023 survey to gather the information needed to plan important prevention and intervention programs to combat such problems as alcohol and other drug use, bullying, gambling and violence in our schools and communities.

What is the focus of the KCTC Student Survey?

The focus of the KCTC Student Survey is on:

- ⇒ Health risk behaviors—such as violence, alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use—that can result in injury and/or impede positive development among adolescents
- ⇒ District-level measures of the KSDE adopted Social, Emotional and Character Development Model Standards
- ⇒ Local baseline data on adolescent self-reported depression and suicide data to assist with planning for prevention
(However, it is not a suicide risk assessment or suicide screening tool.)
- ⇒ Identifying risk factors (predictors of problem behaviors) and protective factors (predictors of positive adolescent outcomes) which are attitudes and opinions that research has shown to be highly correlated with health risk behaviors

Risk-focused prevention is based on a simple premise: To prevent a problem from happening, we need to identify the factors that increase the risk of that problem developing and then find ways to reduce the risks. Just as medical researchers have found risk factors for heart attacks such as diets high in fats, lack of exercise, and smoking, research (Glaser, et al., 2005; Hawkins, et al., 1992) has defined a set of risk factors for drug abuse.

Why should my school participate?

HELP YOUR SCHOOL DISTRICT: By participating in this survey, your school can:

- Learn more about the specific needs of its students.
- Receive a summary of results broken down by district and school, along with county and statewide results for comparison.
- Use KCTC data to identify areas of need and choose programs and activities to impact these areas.
- Measure and track bullying and school climate/safety issues.

Subsequent surveys are used to determine if the programs and activities that were implemented are having a positive impact. Advantages of the KCTC Student Survey are:

- It helps communities focus their efforts on identified areas of need.
- Because it is a federally approved needs assessment, funders are more likely to look positively on it as an objective tool.
- It helps support grant applications.

There are grant applications that rely on the district's KCTC participation to collect various data used in the selection process of grant recipients and to track progress toward program goals.

HELP YOUR COMMUNITY: It is not just your district that relies on KCTC data, but many other community programs, community services, and state agencies. To name a few, these include:

- community coalitions
- The Kansas Prevention Collaborative
- United Way
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Boys & Girls Clubs
- Kansas Children's Service League
- Communities In Schools
- Juvenile Justice Authority
- Community Mental Health Center Regions

These groups count on annual survey data to apply for and evaluate grant funding that directly or indirectly benefit students, families, and communities. These organizations often assist in providing services based upon needs identified through survey results. The value of these services to schools is incalculable in terms of increasing school attendance, improving the physical and mental health of students, increasing academic achievement and graduation rates, and reducing drop-out rates.

Does my school have to participate?

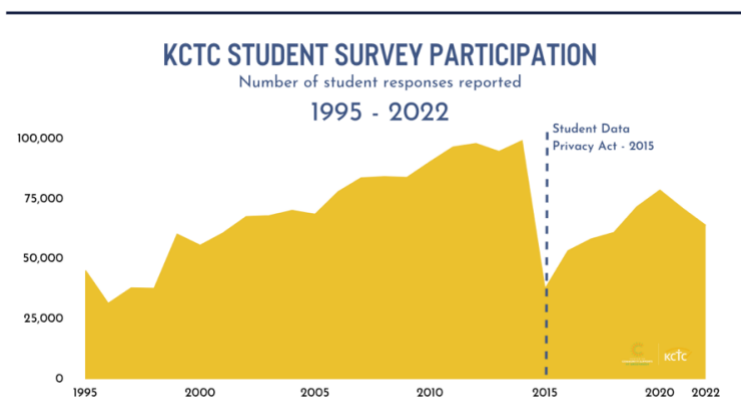
Participation in this survey is voluntary. Each school has a right to decline participation, just as each student has a right to decline. However, broad participation is needed to obtain accurate estimates and comparisons of these behaviors at state, county, and local levels.

How often should my school participate?

Because we survey 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades, it is important to administer the survey every year to ultimately reach all students. It is also important that all students be given the opportunity to participate. As students move through school and have less structured schedules, it becomes more difficult to make sure that all students receive the opportunity to participate. To determine if prevention activities are successful, annual comparison data is needed. In addition, many community organizations may need annual data for grant evaluation requirements.

How many schools and students participate?

Between 60,000-99,000 surveys are submitted annually from 240-254 Kansas districts and private schools.



Does the 2015 Student Data Privacy Act and 2022 legislative changes to parent consent requirements apply to this survey?

Yes, this act requires written parental consent for surveys administered in schools. An information letter and consent form should be provided to parents of students in the 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades at enrollment (occurring no more than four months prior to survey administration) or at least a month prior to the date of administration. A copy of the survey is available for preview online at www.kctcdata.org and should be made available to parents. KCTC consent must be collected separately from other surveys. Click to learn more about the [KCTC Guidance for Changes to Parent Consent Requirements](#).

Does the Protection of Pupil Rights (PPRA) amendment apply to this survey?

No, PPRA applies only to programs that receive funding from the U.S. Department of Education. Funding for the Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey is provided by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, Behavioral Health Services Commission.

How do we ensure collection of accurate data?

While the survey instrument is sound, attention and effort at the local level must be given to get accurate data. To ensure that the data collected is truly reflective of the school and community, there must be a high level of participation at all grade levels (80% is recommended). It is important that staff follow the instructions in the protocol and emphasize the importance of the survey. Some suspect that students do not take the survey seriously and therefore do not provide reliable data. We have found that while that may be true in limited instances or when staff do not follow protocol, trend data in Kansas is consistent from year to year, as well as with national data, indicating that kids do answer more honestly than what they might say. All data reported is based upon valid surveys, which are those determined valid after CTC data cleaning protocol and validity checks have been applied.

Are sensitive questions asked?

The survey is designed to measure key behaviors without asking sensitive questions, although it is possible that some schools may consider some questions sensitive. The survey includes questions related to alcohol, tobacco, other drug use, violent behaviors, and related risk and protective factors. There are also optional modules available for family domain questions, depression and suicide questions, demographics for gender identity, and demographics for sexual orientation. Unless questions in these topic areas are asked honestly and directly, we cannot know the degree to which Kansas adolescents engage in these health risk behaviors.

Can I see the survey?

Yes, the survey text can be viewed at this [LINK](#). The online survey format can be previewed at this [LINK](#).

Is there more than one version of the survey?

No, there is one KCTC Student Survey containing the core questions. There are also several optional modules available that districts may elect to include.

The KCTC Student Survey core questions – The core survey contains all questions pertaining to CTC Risk and Protective Factors including sections on demographics and school climate, peer influences, drug, alcohol, tobacco usage, and community-based perceptions. It does not contain questions pertaining to family domain, depression and suicide, demographics for gender identity, or demographics for sexual orientation.

⇒ KCTC Student Survey core questions can be previewed at this [LINK](#)

What are the optional modules?

Four optional modules are available. School districts may elect to include any of the four sets of questions that are not included in the core survey.

1. **Family Domain Module** – This module contains approximately thirty-five questions pertaining to family domain. Family domain questions determine things like a student's view of parents' attitudes toward drugs and alcohol. This module will be used to inform the analysis of the contribution of family relationships to other areas of student life and to highlight the important role families play in healthy student development.

⇒ The Family Domain Module can be previewed at this [LINK](#)

⇒ [Why take the Family Domain Module? Click this LINK to learn more.](#)

2. **Depression/Suicide Module** – This short module contains four questions related to depression and suicide ideation and attempt. It is not a suicide risk assessment or suicide screening tool. This module will be used to inform the analysis of the prevalence and trends of self-reported suicide ideation, plans, and attempts.

⇒ Questions:

- During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing usual activities?
- Have you ever seriously thought about killing yourself?
- Have you ever made a plan about how you would kill yourself?
- Have you ever tried to kill yourself?

⇒ Depression/Suicide Module Questions can be previewed at this [LINK](#)

3. **Demographics for Gender Identity Module** – This module contains two demographic questions about birth sex and gender identity. This optional module was updated in 2022-2023 and will be used to inform analysis of substance use, bullying, depression, and suicide among this demographic group. All survey questions are optional for students to respond to at their comfort level.

⇒ Questions:

- What sex were you assigned at birth?
- What is your current gender identity?

⇒ Gender Identity Module Questions can be previewed at this [LINK](#)

4. **Demographics for Sexual Orientation Module** – This module contains one question about sexual orientation. This optional module was updated in 2022-2023 and will be

used to inform analysis of substance use, bullying, depression, and suicide among this demographic group. All survey questions are optional for students to respond to at their comfort level.

⇒ Questions:

- Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

⇒ Sexual Orientation Module Questions can be previewed at this [LINK](#)

What format is available?

The survey is available online. To administer the survey, all you need is a device with internet connection. Although the survey may be taken from a smart phone, it is not recommended. The survey has been tested on PC, Mac, Chromebook, iPad, Android tablet, iPhones & Android phones. While the survey has been tested on the following web browsers: Chrome, Edge, and Safari. We recommend Google Chrome for compatibility with accessibility apps. We provide a link to the survey. Multiple classes can take the survey on the same devices.

What languages are available?

The survey is available online in both English and Spanish. Students may toggle between languages within the survey.

What if a student does not wish to participate?

Student participation in this survey is completely voluntary. At the beginning of the class period before the survey is administered, the teacher is asked to read a prepared statement that informs the students that their participation is voluntary. These instructions along with the student Informed Consent are embedded in the online survey. Students will be allowed to decline to participate or to skip any question they prefer not to answer. Any student who declines the survey will be provided with an alternative activity while the survey is being administered. Parents also have the option of excusing their child from participation.

Who is eligible to take the survey?

Students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 in public and private schools in Kansas are eligible to take the survey.

Are there students who should not participate?

It is not recommended for students who cannot read and comprehend survey questions without assistance to participate in the survey. It is also not recommended for staff to read survey questions aloud to students.

Is student participation anonymous?

Yes, completely. Students will not be asked for their names on the survey, nor will anyone be able to connect any individual student with responses. School staff will not see any one student's responses, but only summaries of results. To further guarantee anonymity, results will not be reported on any question without sufficient response from enough students. Privacy is also ensured through a sound technology infrastructure along with clear protocols and

practices restricting access to key personnel. A password protected system ensures building and district level data are accessible only by individuals approved by each district's superintendent.

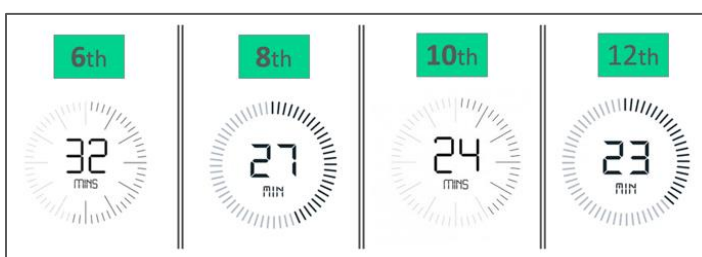
Is there a minimum number required to participate in the survey?

No, there is no minimum to participate. Because we guarantee anonymity for participating students, we do need to have a minimum 25% participation and at least 20 participants per aggregation level, to report data at that level (grade, school, district, county). If participation does not meet these levels, data are not reported on the website but may in some cases be obtained by contacting us directly.

However, districts with low participation rates **are included** in county and state level reporting.

How long does it take to complete the survey?

The online survey requires approximately 27 minutes for students to complete. Allowing a single class period should accommodate students who need additional time to complete the survey. Survey administration cannot



be broken up into separate sessions. The average time to complete the survey by grade level is shown above to assist in planning for administration.

When should the survey be administered?

The survey is available for administration between November 1 and January 31. The survey must be administered within four months of collecting parent consent. For best results, the survey should be administered to all schools in the district on the same day. Within a given school, the survey should be administered to all participating grades during the same class period. This will help avoid students from discussing the questions with classmates who have not yet completed the survey and therefore biasing results. Avoid scheduling on Mondays or Fridays because the proximity of these days to the weekend has been shown to affect how students respond to the questions and possibly bias results.

How is the survey coordinated at each school?

Ideally, districts should identify one individual (e.g., a counselor, curriculum director or principal) who will be responsible for coordinating all surveys in the district. This person should then oversee scheduling the survey in applicable classes and communicating this information to teachers. This individual is also responsible for distributing survey links and instructions to schools.

Staff at Greenbush will provide technical assistance and resources upon request. Let us know how we can help you. Contact us at kctc@greenbush.org

When will results be made available to schools?

Results will be available on the KCTC website (www.kctcdata.org) within the spring semester. (If you need specific district data prior to that time, please contact us.) Anyone may view KCTC data aggregated by state, county, Judicial District, and Community Mental Health Center Region. Access specific to the district-or building-level data requires a log-in password. Our password-protected system ensures building and district-level data are accessible only by individuals approved by each district's superintendent. Districts can also easily create customized reports from the data on the website, comparing their district to county or state averages. District and building summary reports will be posted on the website within the spring semester with some of the more commonly requested data and annual state comparisons.

How will this information be used?

Information from the student survey can be used to meet a variety of needs at community and state levels:

- ⇒ The survey provides information that can be used to identify the prevalence and trends of various problem behaviors. This information can be used as input for resource and policy planning decisions, such as targeting prevention interventions. Those who receive the information may choose to share it with other community organizations.
- ⇒ At state and federal levels, there are a variety of competing interests for limited resources. Results of this survey can and have been used to provide evidence for the high priority of those issues that are revealed to be important.
- ⇒ Community coalitions in your area may be using local KCTC data for grant reporting. Some grants, such as the Drug Free Communities, Kansas Prevention Collaborative-Community Initiative (KPCCI), Partnerships for Success, 21st Century Community Learning Centers, and School Climate Transformation, require KCTC participation to collect various data used to track progress toward program goals.

Survey Rationale and Description of Content

The Kansas Communities That Care Student Survey contains questions pertaining to Communities That Care (CTC) Risk and Protective Factors, including sections on demographics & school climate, peer influences, drug, alcohol, tobacco usage, community-based perceptions, and family domain. This document specifies the importance and rationale for including each of these on the survey.

Research (Glaser, et al., 2005; Hawkins, et al., 1992) has provided a great deal of guidance on attitudinal and behavioral factors that place students at great risk for violence and substance use, and those that, on the positive side, provide protection against these unhealthy behaviors. For a complete description of the survey's [Risk](#) and [Protective](#) Factors, visit kctcdata.org, click *Learn More* and *About the Survey* to view the content linked below *An In Depth Look Behind the Scenes*.

Section 1: Demographics & School Climate

Some basic background information (for example, age, grade level, ethnic group) is needed to ensure that students participating in the survey are generally representative of the statewide student population. Beginning in the late elementary grades, academic failure increases the risk of both drug abuse and delinquency. However, these analyses are conducted without specific identification of individual students so that anonymity is maintained throughout the survey.

Sample Items:

- ⇒ How old are you?
- ⇒ What is the highest level of schooling your father/mother completed?
- ⇒ During this school year, how often have you been bullied at school?
- ⇒ At my school, there are opportunities for students to get involved in school activities and other activities outside of class.

Section 2: Peer Influences

Research (Glaser, et al., 2005; Hawkins, et al., 1992) has shown that young people who are socially competent and engage in positive interpersonal relations with their peers are less likely to use drugs and engage in other problem behaviors. This section looks at the things associated with a student's peers, such as use of drugs/alcohol by a student's best friends, gang involvement, and interaction with antisocial peers.

Sample Items:

- ⇒ In the past year, how many of your best friends have sold illegal drugs?
- ⇒ In the past year, how many of your best friends have been arrested?

Section 3: Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use

One of the target behaviors of interest in this survey is the extent to which students have used and are using alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, inhalants, methamphetamines, steroids, and prescription drugs. Asking these questions from year to year allows for local and statewide comparisons of changes in these patterns over time and provides important data-based direction for prevention efforts both locally and across the state.

Sample Items:

- ⇒ In your lifetime, on how many occasions (if any) have you used marijuana?
- ⇒ Think back over the last two weeks. How many times have you had five or more alcoholic drinks in a row?

Section 4: Community-Based Perceptions

Research (Glaser, et al., 2005; Hawkins, et al., 1992) has shown that such things as legal restrictions on alcohol and tobacco use have been followed by decreases in consumption, and that low levels of bonding to the neighborhood are related to higher levels of juvenile crime and drug selling.

Sample Items:

- ⇒ Would a kid be caught by the police in the neighborhood or area around where you live if they carried a gun without permission or supervision?
- ⇒ How wrong would most adults in your neighborhood or area around where you live, think it was for kids your age to smoke cigarettes?

Section 5: Family Domain (Optional)

When adolescents are raised in a family with a history of problem behaviors (e.g., violence or substance use), the children are more likely to engage in these behaviors. Adolescents raised in families high in conflict appear at risk for both delinquency and drug use. On the other hand, young people who feel they are a valued part of their family are less likely to engage in substance use and other problem behaviors.

Sample Items:

- ⇒ How often do the adults you live with tell you they're proud of you for something you've done?
- ⇒ Would the adults you live with know if you did not come home on time?
- ⇒ My family has clear rules about alcohol and drug use.

Risk and Protective Factor Summary

Each of the above domains has its own set of risk and protective factors, which are different combinations of questions as they relate to students, their peers, school, community, and family. Researchers (Glaser, et al., 2005; Hawkins, et al., 1992) have found that an interrelationship exists between adolescent drug abuse, delinquency, school dropout, and violence, and thus were able to identify risk factors for these problems. Then, to prevent problem behaviors from happening, we need to identify and increase the factors that protect against problem behaviors and reduce the factors that increase the risks.

For a complete description of the survey's [Risk](http://www.kctcdata.org) and [Protective](http://www.kctcdata.org) Factors, visit www.kctcdata.org, click "Learn More" and "About the Survey" to view the content linked below "An In Depth Look Behind the Scenes".

Sample Protective Factor Profiles:

- ⇒ School Opportunities for Involvement
- ⇒ Community Rewards for Conventional Involvement
- ⇒ Family Attachment

Sample Risk Factor Profiles:

- ⇒ Peer Antisocial Behavior
- ⇒ Academic Failure
- ⇒ Availability of Drugs
- ⇒ Family Conflict
- ⇒ Parental Attitudes Favorable to Drugs

References

Glaser, R. R., Van Horn, M. L., Arthur, M. W., Hawkins, J. D. & Catalano, R. F. (2005). Measurement Properties of the Communities That Care Youth Survey across Demographic Groups *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, Vol. 21(1), 73-102. DOI: 10.1007/s10940-004-1788-1

Hawkins, J. D., Catalano, R. F., and Miller, J. Y. (1992). Risk and protective factors for alcohol and other drug problems in adolescence and early adulthood: implications for substance-abuse prevention. *Psychol. Bulletin*, 112: 64–105.

Contact Us

If you have questions about the survey, visit www.kctcdata.org or contact the KCTC Team at Greenbush at kctc@greenbush.org or call 620-724-6281 ext. 366.