

Student Privacy Facts for KCTC

The Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) survey, taken by Kansas students annually since 1994-95, tracks youth use of harmful substances such as alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. The KCTC provides communities and agencies structure in making informed decisions concerning prevention services through annual surveys. This survey is funded through the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) and is used by state agencies, counties, schools, and communities in Kansas to monitor the incidence and prevalence of adolescent problem behaviors and the environmental factors that put adolescents at risk or protect them from developing those behaviors. This comprehensive data collection method has made Kansas a national leader for prevention assessment, evaluation, and community planning.

1. The survey is completely *anonymous*.

- Students are not asked for their names or other personally identifiable information on the survey.
- No one can connect any student with responses. School staff do not see any one student's responses.

2. Participation is entirely voluntary.

- Guardians are informed in advance of the administration date and must give written consent for their student to participate.
- Students may decline to participate in the survey on the day administered.
- Students participating may simply skip any question they do not wish to answer.

3. Data is confidential.

- A password protected system ensures building and district level data are accessible only by individuals approved by each district's superintendent.
- County and state level data are publicly available for state and county needs, including reporting outcomes, tracking trends, and obtaining grant funding.
- Data is always reported as an aggregate or group, never at an individual level.
- A minimum of 20% participation and at least 20 participants per aggregation level is required in order to report data at that level (grade, school, district, county). If participation does not meet these levels, data are not reported on the website.
- Greenbush is committed to ensuring the security of information and compliance with all state and federal requirements. Reasonable physical, technical, and administrative safeguards in place are designed to prevent unauthorized access to or use of the information collected online. All data collected or processed will comply with the security controls, systems, process requirements, and standards as set forth by Greenbush. If you have any questions regarding Greenbush's Data Privacy and Security Policies, please contact the Greenbush Technology Support Services Department at help.desk@greenbush.org.
- The data are secure and have never been sold or given to any commercial group.

Without consistent, high levels of participation by districts, county level data are also impacted. There are many community organizations counting on annual survey data to apply for or evaluate grant funding, monies that directly and indirectly benefit students (e.g., Boys & Girls Clubs).

To learn more, review the <u>KCTC Student Survey Overview and FAQ</u>. If you have questions about the survey, visit <u>kctcdata.org</u> or contact the KCTC Team at Greenbush at <u>kctc@greenbush.org</u> or call 620-724-6281 ext. 366.



