During the summer of 2020, stakeholders were engaged in a process to prioritize improvements to the Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey. In addition to parents, students, counselors, and administrators, Greenbush considered recommendations documented by the Attorney General’s Suicide Prevention Task Force, the Kansas Mental Health Advisory Council, and the Kansas Blue Ribbon Task Force on Bullying.

From this process, two primary goals were established for the 2021 survey administration.
1. reduce the length and time required for administration
2. expedite reporting survey results for use by school, community, and state stakeholders

Online administration of the statewide survey began in 2009. By 2020, 93% of districts utilized the online option. As plans formed to end the use of paper surveys, the pandemic accelerated transition to fully online administration in 2021. This important milestone unleashed multiple opportunities to improve administration protocols.

To reduce the amount of time required to complete the 2021 survey, 35 questions were removed and language was modified to improve readability. An updated survey platform allowed the use of logic to skip past questions based on previous responses.

Improvements will continue based on annual review of processes, stakeholder input, and feedback from student focus groups.

The Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey is built on a prevention framework to inform local and state programs, policies, and practices and support healthy youth development. Greenbush administers KCTC on behalf of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).

2022 KCTC Student Survey results were published online March 11th.
Kansas Kids surveyed reported they drank alcohol in the past 30 days

Over the past 27 years, a steadily increasing number of kids report that they have NEVER drank alcohol.

DATA ILLUSTRATES RESPONSES FROM STUDENTS SURVEYED IN 2022 WHO ANSWERED EACH QUESTION

K C T C E V O L U T I O N

Kansas was a pioneer in substance abuse prevention needs assessment & local data access

1995

Communities That Care Survey Initiated
Federaely funded Six-State project to develop a prevention needs assessment

2007

+ Gambling
When Kansas expanded state-owned casinos, questions were added to monitor youth gambling

2008

+ Bullying
Used to inform building-level crisis plans in accordance with the Jason Flatt Act

2009

Online Administration Offered

2016

+ Depression & Suicide
As concerns about youth mental health arose, questions about depression and suicidal ideation were added

2021

Fully Online Administration
Reduced # of items Streamlined with skip logic Embedded instructions Accessibility features Reports available sooner
Percentage of students surveyed who reported feelings of depression based on how frequently they were bullied:

- **Bullied Daily**: Kids who reported being bullied daily reported feelings of depression nearly twice as much as kids who reported they had never been bullied.

- **Never Bullied**: Being bullied once or twice a month also showed higher reported levels of depression.

**Suicidal Thoughts, Plans & Attempts in the Past Year Reported by Students in 2022**

- 19% seriously thought about killing themselves
- 13% made a plan to kill themselves
- 5% tried to kill themselves

*NEARLY 60,000 KANSAS STUDENTS RESPONDED TO OPTIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT DEPRESSION & SUICIDE QUESTIONS IN 2022*