

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/

Administration

Community Health Services

Health Promotion Services

507 N. Nanum Street, Ste 102

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September 2005

Dear Teachers & Staff,

Many of you work with youth every day. The energy and caring that you devote to the children of our county is what helps produce compassionate, competent and productive adults for the future.

Certainly it is an impossible task to be all things for all young people. Many youth face difficult challenges in many areas of their lives. But what you do in your every day interactions with youth in our community has an enormous and largely immeasurable impact on young lives.

It is a sad fact of life that much of what is measured is the negative aspects of behavior and performance. We measure how many students have used alcohol or drugs, and how many students drop out of high school. But in between the lines of this "negative data" are the successes of your hard work.

The following "In Your Classroom" fact sheets highlight "students in 6th grade, 8th grade, and High School. The information used in these fact sheets represents Kittitas County Youth, and was derived from several different sources including the Healthy Youth Survey, U.S. Census Bureau, and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction. **The categories selected for the fact sheets are areas that may create a direct, indirect, or potential barrier to learning.**

While what is highlighted in these fact sheets represents the challenges your students may face, your dedication to youth in our county does not go unrecognized.

If you have questions or comments regarding information presented in these fact sheets please contact Jane Wright, Community Assessment Coordinator, at 962-7005 or Ann Riley, Health Promotion Manager, at 962-7003.

Best wishes for a healthy and productive school year!

To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County

PUBLIC HEALTH
ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER KITTITAS COUNTY

Kittitas County 6th Graders In Your Classroom

In a class of 25		
Trying to lose weight	8.9	
Single parent family (6-17yo)	5.5	
Suicide seriously considered	4.3	
Poverty (0-17yo)	4.0	
Does not feel safe at school	3.0	
4+ hours of TV on a school day	2.4	
Drinks alcohol	0.9	
Carried a weapon on school property	0.9	
Smokes cigarettes	0.5	
Chews tobacco	0.3	
Marijuana use	0.3	
Domestic violence county population	0.2	
*Member of a gang	NA	
*Work 10+ hours a week	NA	
*Overweight	NA	
*In a fight on school property	NA	
*Depressed	NA	
*Pregnancy (10-14yo)	NA	
*STD (10-14yo)	NA	
*High school drop out (9-12th grade)	NA	

Data Sources

- Healthy Youth Survey, 2004
- U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000
- VISTA PHw
- Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics
- Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

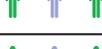
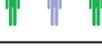
*Data not available or not applicable



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Kittitas County 8th Graders In Your Classroom

In a class of 25	
Trying to lose weight 9.5	
Depressed 7.6	
Single parent family (6-17yo) 5.5	
In a fight on school property 5.5	
Does not feel safe at school 5.4	
Drinks alcohol 5.1	
Suicide seriously considered 4.0	
Poverty (0-17yo) 4.0	
Work 10+ hours a week 3.6	
Member of a gang 3.4	
Smokes cigarettes 2.8	
Overweight 2.2	
4+ hours of TV on a school day 1.9	
Marijuana use 1.9	
Carried a weapon on school property 1.9	
Chews tobacco 1.3	
Domestic violence county population 0.2	
Pregnancy (10-14yo) 0	
STD (10-14yo) 0	
*High school drop out (9-12th grade) NA	

Data Sources

- Healthy Youth Survey, 2004
- U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000
- VISTA PHw
- Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics
- Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction

*Data not available or not applicable

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Kittitas County High School Students In Your Classroom

In a class of 25	
Drinks alcohol 10.5	
Trying to lose weight 9.5	
Depressed 7.5	
Single parent family 5.5 (6-17yo)	
Marijuana use 5.1	
Smokes cigarettes 4.9	
Work 10+ hours 4.1 a week	
Poverty 4.0 (0-17yo)	
Chews tobacco 4.0	
Does not feel safe 3.8 at school	
Member of a gang 3.4	
Suicide 3.4 seriously considered	
Carried a weapon 3.4 on school property	
Overweight 2.8	
In a fight 2.6 on school property	
4+ hours of TV 1.9 on a school day	
High school drop out 1.2 (9-12th grade)	
Pregnancy 0.6 (10-14yo)	
STD 0.5 (10-14yo)	
Domestic violence 0.2 county population	

Data Sources

- Healthy Youth Survey, 2004
- U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000
- VISTA PHw
- Washington State Department of Health, Center for Health Statistics
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