

**2013 AND 2015 NATIONAL YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY**

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT A**

**May 2012**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This statement supports a request to obtain approval for a reinstatement of a previously approved information collection to conduct the National Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) (OMB No. 0920-0493, expiration, 11/2011) in 2013 and 2015. The YRBS is a biennial school-based survey of high school students that assesses priority health-risk behaviors related to the major preventable causes of mortality, morbidity, and social problems among both youth and adults in the United States. Minor changes incorporated into this reinstatement request include: an updated title for the information collection to accurately reflect the years in which the survey will be conducted, a slightly modified questionnaire (**Appendix E**), and an increase in sample size based on minor refinements to the sample design to reflect the current demographic distribution of students nationally. The proposed information collection will use the previously OMB-approved sampling strategy, recruitment methods, and data collection procedures to conduct the YRBS among nationally representative samples of 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in public and private schools in the U.S. during January through March of 2013 and 2015.

### **A. JUSTIFICATION**

#### **A.1. CIRCUMSTANCES MAKING THE COLLECTION OF INFORMATION NECESSARY**

##### **Background**

The YRBS, together with several other related OMB-approved information collections, are part of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). The YRBS questionnaire was cleared by OMB first in 1990 and has been ongoing since then (OMB No. 0920-0258, expiration 3/93; OMB No. 0920-0258, expiration 10/97; OMB No. 0920-0258, expiration 1/00; OMB No. 0920-0493, expiration 11/03; OMB No. 0920-0493, expiration 11/07; OMB No. 0920-0493, expiration 11/11). The YRBS was originally cleared by OMB as an annual survey; however, after two surveys in 1990 and 1991, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) concluded that collection of data every other year was sufficient to meet the needs of CDC and other Federal agencies. Since 1991, the YRBS has been conducted biennially during odd-number years (1991-2011).

Several additional one-time surveys have been conducted as part of the YRBSS. A National Household Youth Risk Behavior Survey (OMB No. 0920-0214, expiration 3/93) was conducted in 1992 among 12 to 21 year-olds reached through households rather than through schools. In 1995, a National College Health Risk Behavior Survey was conducted among a nationally representative sample of college students (OMB No. 0920-0354, expiration 8/95). In 1998, a National Alternative School Youth Risk Behavior Survey was conducted among a nationally representative sample of students attending alternative high schools (OMB No. 0920-0416, expiration 12/98). In 2000, a methodological study to assess reliability and validity of the YRBS questionnaire was conducted (OMB No. 0920-0464, expiration 12/00). In 2002, a second methodological study was conducted to assess the effects of YRBS question wording on prevalence estimates (OMB No. 0920-0534, expiration 12/02). In 2004, a third methodological study of the YRBS was conducted to assess the effects of setting (school vs. home) and mode of

administration (paper-and pencil questionnaire vs. computer-assisted self interview or CASI) on prevalence estimates (OMB No. 0920-0611, expiration 12/04). In 2008, a fourth methodological study was conducted to assess the feasibility of a web-based mode of administration for the YRBS (OMB No. 0920-0763, expiration 1/31/2009). The results of the 2008 study indicated that although online and paper-and-pencil surveys generally yield similar risk behavior prevalence estimates (Eaton et al, 2010a), online surveys afforded students substantially less actual and perceived privacy and anonymity compared with the paper-and-pencil survey (Denniston et al 2010). Therefore, an online mode of administration is not recommended for anonymous, in-class surveys of health-risk behaviors unless provisions can be made to better protect student privacy. In addition, this study documented that about half of schools in the United States have insufficient computer capacity to host an in-class online survey to intact classes of students during a single class period (Eaton et al, 2011). Therefore, administering the YRBS as an online survey could impose significant perceived and actual burden on many schools and lead to low school participation rates.

The legal justification for the YRBS may be found in Section 301 of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 241) (Authorizing Legislation, **Appendix A**). Further justification for a national survey of health-risk behaviors among students in grades 9-12 is based on three factors: (1) public health implications of health-risk behaviors among adolescents; (2) costs of health-risk behaviors among adolescents; and (3) specific mandates to monitor and/or reduce health-risk behaviors and/or associated health outcomes.

#### A.1.a.1 Public Health Implications of Health-Risk Behavior Among Adolescents

A limited number of health-risk behaviors, which are often established during adolescence, account for the overwhelming majority of immediate and long-term causes of mortality, morbidity, and social problems among adolescents and adults. In the United States, 71% of all deaths among youth and young adults aged 10–24 years result from four causes: motor-vehicle crashes (26%), other unintentional injuries (17%), homicide (15%), and suicide (13%) (CDC, NCHS, 2009). Substantial morbidity and social problems also result from the estimated 410,000 births (CDC, 2011a), 517,174 cases of chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis (CDC, 2011b), and 8,273 cases of HIV reported each year among youth aged 15–19 years (CDC, 2011c). Among adults aged ≥25 years, 54.6% of all deaths in the United States result from cardiovascular disease (31.2%) and cancer (23.4%) (CDC, NCHS, 2009).

These leading causes of morbidity and mortality among youth and adults in the United States are related to six categories of priority health-risk behaviors: 1) behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence; 2) tobacco use; 3) alcohol and other drug use; 4) sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and STDs, including human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection; 5) unhealthy dietary behaviors; and 6) physical inactivity. These behaviors frequently are interrelated and are established during childhood and adolescence and extend into adulthood. To monitor priority health-risk behaviors in each of these six categories and obesity and asthma among high school students nationally, CDC developed the national YRBS, which has been conducted biennially since 1991.

According to data from the 2009 YRBS, during the 30 days before the survey many high school students engaged in health-risk behaviors: 28.3% had ridden with a driver who had been drinking alcohol; 17.5% had carried a weapon; 41.8% had consumed alcohol; and 20.8% had used marijuana. In addition, during the 12 months before the survey, 31.5% of high school students had been in a physical fight and 6.3% had attempted suicide. Substantial morbidity and social problems among young persons also result from unintended pregnancies and STDs, including HIV infection. In 2009, 46.0% of high school students had ever had sexual intercourse; 38.9% of sexually active students had not used a condom at last sexual intercourse; and 2.1% of students had ever injected an illegal drug. In terms of behaviors that increase mortality and morbidity later in life, 19.5% of high school students had smoked cigarettes during the 30 days before the survey; 66.1% had not eaten fruits  $\geq 2$  times per day and 86.2% had not eaten vegetables  $\geq 3$  times per day during the 7 days before the survey, 66.6% did not attend physical education classes daily; and 12.0% were obese (Eaton et al, 2010b).

#### A.1.a.2.Costs of Health-Risk Behaviors Among Adolescents

Priority health-risk behaviors result in tremendous economic cost in terms of increased medical costs, lowered educational achievement, lost productivity, and other factors.

Unintentional Injuries and Violence. Using data from the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey and the National Health Accounts, CDC estimated that injury-related medical expenditures in 2000 were as high as \$117.2 billion, accounting for 10.3% of total medical expenditures that year (CDC, 2004).

Tobacco Use. During 2000–2004, cigarette smoking and exposure to tobacco smoke resulted in approximately 443,000 premature deaths in the United States, 5.1 million years of potential life lost, and \$96.8 billion in productivity losses annually (CDC, 2008). This figure does not include costs associated with smoking-attributable health-care expenditures, smoking-related disability, employee absenteeism, and secondhand smoke-attributable disease morbidity and mortality. From 2000–2004, average annual smoking-attributable health-care expenditures were estimated at \$96 billion (CDC, 2008). Taken together, smoking-attributable expenditures related to productivity losses and health-care expenditures exceed \$192 billion annually.

Alcohol and Other Drug Use. In the United States in 2006, the estimated economic cost of excessive drinking was \$223.5 billion, most of which was attributable to binge drinking and underage drinking (12% of total) (Bouchery et al, 2011). In addition, the cost of alcohol-attributable crime was \$73.3 billion and the cost to government was \$94.2 billion (Bouchery et al, 2011). In 2007, the cost of illicit drug use totaled more than \$193 billion in the United States (National Drug Intelligence Center, 2011).

Sexually Transmitted Diseases. The lifetime direct medical costs for youth aged 15-24 who acquired an STD in 2000 is estimated at \$6.5 billion, with HIV and HPV representing 90% of the total direct medical expenditures for STDs (Chesson et al, 2004). These figures represent conservative estimates because they do not account for non-medical indirect costs, such as lost wages and productivity due to STD-related illnesses, out-of-pocket costs, costs associated with mother-to-infant transmission, or costs related to prevention and screening.

Teen Pregnancy. Teen pregnancy costs taxpayers \$9.1 billion annually in lost tax

revenues, increased public assistance expenditures, health care costs for the children of teen mothers, foster care costs, and criminal justice costs (Hoffman, 2006).

Nutrition, Physical Activity, and Obesity. A 1999 report concluded that medical costs for certain chronic health conditions (e.g., cardiovascular disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes) totaled \$132.7 billion. From this total, an estimated \$33.6 billion may be attributable to diet-related medical costs (Frazão, 1999). Further, Colditz (1999) concluded that physical inactivity costs \$24 billion in direct health care expenditures. Finkelstein et al. (2003) estimated that 9.1% of medical expenditures in 1998 were attributable to overweight and obesity, representing total annual expenditures as high as \$78.5 billion (\$92.6 billion in 2002 dollars). Moreover, the authors examined costs by insurance category and found that Medicare and Medicaid financed approximately half of all medical expenditures attributable to overweight and obesity.

#### A.1.a.3 Mandates to Monitor and/or Reduce Health Risk Behaviors and/or Associated Health Outcomes

The justification for surveillance of health-risk behaviors among high school students has strong Federal support. Sources of support include the Healthy People 2020 objectives (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2011), CDC's performance on selected GPRA measures (CDC, 2011d), and Under Title IV of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

The broadest justification for the YRBS may be found in the Healthy People 2020 objectives for the Nation, which chart the direction for public health activities for the current decade (Rationale for Survey Questions, **Appendix D**). The YRBS is the primary data source for 20 objectives in seven focus areas: cancer, injury and violence prevention, mental health and mental disorders, physical activity, sleep health, substance abuse, and tobacco use. The behaviors addressed by these objectives include: sun protection to reduce the risk of skin cancer, physical fighting, weapon carrying on school property, bullying, suicide attempts, disordered eating behaviors, daily school physical education, meeting federal recommendations for aerobic and muscle-strengthening physical activity, television watching, computer use, sleep duration, riding with a driver who has been drinking alcohol, tobacco use, cigarette use, cigar use, smokeless tobacco use, and tobacco cessation by smokers. In addition, YRBS data are being used to monitor one of the 26 Leading Health Indicators: Tobacco Use.

In compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), CDC's Performance Plan focuses the agency's priorities and directions for the future and assesses constituents' requirements. The YRBS has been selected as the source of data for measuring two performance goals within the Performance Plan. Those goals address tobacco use and self-reported victimization. The specific performance measures are:

- Current cigarette use (Long Term Objective 4.6, Performance Measure 5).
- Self-reported victimization: dating violence, unwanted sexual intercourse, and physical fighting (Long-term Objective 7.1, Performance Measure 2)

Under Title IV of ESEA as reauthorized by the No Child Left Behind Act, states are required to establish a uniform management and reporting system to collect information on school safety and drug use among young people. States are required to include incident reports gathered from school officials and anonymous student and teacher surveys among their data sources. Such information is to be publicly reported so that parents, school officials, and other



interested parties have access to information about school-related violence and drug use. Such data are viewed as enabling stakeholders to assess the problems at their schools and work toward finding solutions. Periodic monitoring and reporting is intended to track progress over time. The YRBS provides national level data as a point of comparison for state-level data by including a series of questions on risk behaviors occurring on school property, including drug use and violence, that meets the requirement for anonymous student surveys.

#### **A.1.b Privacy Impact Assessment Information**

The primary purpose of the YRBS is to provide nationally representative data on priority health risk behaviors among U.S. students in grades 9 – 12. It represents the only national data on high school students on a wide range of priority health risk behaviors, including unintentional injuries and violence, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancies and STDs including HIV, physical inactivity, unhealthy dietary behaviors. The YRBS also assess asthma and obesity. Data are collected via an anonymous paper-and-pencil self-administered questionnaire. A CDC website ([www.cdc.gov/yrbs](http://www.cdc.gov/yrbs)) provides public use data files, data documentation, and citations of articles published using YRBS data. No identifiers are included in any data file. Consumers of the CDC YRBS website are researchers, states and local health departments and education agencies, NGO's, and academics, and federal agencies with a focus on adolescent health and behaviors. The website does not have any information directed at children under the age of thirteen years.

#### **A.1.c Overview of the Data Collection System**

The YRBS is administered to a national probability sample of high school students (grades 9 – 12). The YRBS instrument is a self-administered, paper-and-pencil questionnaire consisting of 92 questions on a variety of priority health-risk behaviors, including questions on behaviors related to unintentional injuries and violence, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancies and STDs including HIV, physical inactivity, and unhealthy dietary behaviors. The YRBS also assess asthma and obesity. Questionnaires are administered by trained data collectors to students at school during a regular class period.

#### **A.1.d Items of Information to be Collected**

Students who have obtained parental permission to participate and are in classrooms selected to participate will be asked to self-report their participation in a variety of health-risk behaviors on a paper-and-pencil questionnaire. No individually identifiable information is being collected.

#### **A.1.e Identification of Website(s) and Website Content Directed at Children Under 13 Years of Age**

This information collection does not involve web-based data collection methods or refer respondents to websites.

### **A.2. PURPOSES AND USE OF INFORMATION COLLECTED**

The information generated by the YRBS will be used by several Federal agencies, including CDC. The information will have a broader use by state and local governments, nongovernmental organizations, and others in the private sector.

### **A.2.a Survey Purposes**

The purposes of the YRBS, to be conducted biennially among nationally representative samples of students enrolled in grades 9 – 12, are to:

1. Estimate the extent to which high school students engage in behaviors placing them at risk for the major short- and long-term causes of mortality and morbidity.
2. Assess whether engaging in health risk behaviors varies as a function of sex, age, grade in school, and race/ethnicity.
3. Determine the interrelationships among health risk behaviors and whether these interrelationships vary as a function of sex, age, grade in school, and race/ethnicity.
4. Estimate the extent to which high school students engage *at school* in health risk behaviors involving tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use or contributing to violence, and determine whether this pattern changes over time.
5. Describe the trends in health risk behaviors and assess the degree to which these trends vary as a function of sex, age, grade in school, and race/ethnicity.

### **A.2.b Anticipated Uses of Results**

YRBS data are used multiple centers within CDC, including the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP); the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP); the National Center for Environmental Health; the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS); and the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC). Anticipated uses of YRBS data by CDC include the following:

#### Evaluation

- Establish baseline and progress data for 20 Healthy People 2020 objectives and 1 Leading Health Indicator.
- Evaluate CDC's Performance Plan in compliance with the GPRA.
- Assess trends in priority health risk behaviors among high school students to determine the impact of CDC-funded interventions.
- Evaluate and monitor progress of national efforts in tobacco control (CDC, 2007a).

#### Research Synthesis

- Provide data for development of new guidelines and tools for school health programs. Results from previous YRBS have been used in the development of the following CDC or

CDC-sponsored tools and publications: *School Health Guidelines to Promote Healthy Eating and Physical Activity* (CDC, 2011e); *Health Education Curriculum Analysis Tool* (CDC, 2007b); *Physical Education Curriculum Analysis Tool* (CDC, 2006); *Making It Happen! School Nutrition Success Stories* (U.S. Department of Agriculture et al, 2005); *School Health Index: A Self-Assessment and Planning Guide* (CDC, 2005); *Food-Safe Schools Action Guide* (National Coalition for Food-Safe Schools, 2004); *Improving the Health of Adolescents & Young Adults: A Guide for States and Communities* (CDC et al, 2004); *School Health Guidelines to Prevent Unintentional Injuries and Violence* (CDC, 2001); *Guidelines for School and Community Programs to Promote Lifelong Physical Activity Among Young People* (CDC, 1997); *Guidelines for School Health Programs to Promote Lifelong Healthy Eating* (CDC, 1996); and *Guidelines for School Health Programs to Prevent Tobacco Use and Addiction* (CDC, 1994).

- Provide data on the prevalence of priority health risk behaviors of high school students for inclusion in the NCHS report, *Health, United States 2010* (NCHS, 2010).
- Provide data for *Indicators of Chronic Disease Surveillance* (CDC, 2012).
- Present data in peer-reviewed publications and at scientific meetings.
- Identify the need for additional research on behavioral risk factors among students.
- Provide public health and education officials, youth, parents, and the general public with accurate information about health risk behaviors among high school students.
- Provide states and cities that may conduct similar surveys with a national index against which to compare their survey results.
- Provide other countries that may conduct similar surveys with a national index against which to compare their survey results.

#### Policy and Program Development

- Provide policy makers with information about the health risk behaviors among high school students so they can identify areas on which to focus resources.
- Provide state legislatures with information about the health risk behaviors of high school students to support new funding initiatives to increase resources.
- Determine how public information campaigns should be targeted to specifically address the most critical health risk behaviors.
- Set priorities for and support school health programs for students nationwide.

#### Technical Assistance

- Focus school health programs, curricula, and teacher training programs nationwide on priority health risk behaviors among students.

- Assist states and cities in interpreting health outcome data, especially related to STDs, HIV infection, unintended teenage pregnancy, and the leading causes of mortality and morbidity.
- Focus technical assistance provided to state and local departments of health and education on priority health risk behaviors among students.
- Assess the need for new interventions or to modify existing interventions that focus on reducing health risk behaviors among students.
- Assess the cumulative effects of multiple interventions and sources of information (school, family, community, and the media) on priority health risk behaviors of students.

### **A.2.c Anticipated Uses of Results by Other Federal Agencies and Departments**

The YRBS results are of interest not only to CDC, but also to other Federal agencies and departments that participated in the delineation of the survey content and selection/construction of questionnaire items. Widely shared potential applications include monitoring progress toward Healthy People 2020 objectives and providing a generalized measure of the overall degree to which schools and society are having an effect on specific health risk behaviors within the mission of a given Federal agency.

Department of Agriculture uses YRBS data on dietary behaviors in conjunction with its school nutrition programs.

Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools uses YRBS data as a data sources for annual performance measures for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools. These measures relate to program quality and help the Department monitor progress towards achieving the program's long-term goal for five of the annual performance measures. The YRBS data allows the Department to provide discrete, quantifiable, and measurable data for performance measures.

YRBS data are also used to provide justification and background for discretionary grant programs, including the Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems and the Carol M. White Physical Education Program (PEP) Grants. The Grants for the Integration of Schools and Mental Health Systems application uses data regarding student mental health, including student reports of depression, feeling sad and hopeless, as well as measures related to suicidal ideation and attempts. The application package for this grant program can be found at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/mentalhealth/2010-215m.pdf>. The PEP grant applications have historically used YRBS data to examine students' reported rates of physical activity and other reported activities. The application package for FY2011 relied on these data: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/whitephysed/2011-215f.pdf>.

YRBS data also are used as one of the recurring indicators in the annual *Indicators of School Crime and Safety* (Robers, Zhang, and Truman, 2010) report issued by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). For example, the measures on physical fighting in schools uses YRBS data. That link to the full report is: <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011002.pdf>.

DHHS, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) uses YRBS data to report on adolescent tobacco behaviors in the Health System Tracking Project. The system is Intranet only at the moment but will be release to the public soon.

DHHS, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion is responsible for tracking the Healthy People 2020 objectives through cooperation with other agencies that serve as a lead in particular areas. YRBS data are used to track 20 Healthy People 2010 objectives and 1 of the Leading Health Indicators. The Department also has used YRBS data in their report on *Trends in the Well-being of America's Children and Youth* (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, 2004).

DHHS, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has used YRBS data in a report to Congress on the prevention and reduction of underage drinking. SAMHSA also uses YRBS data to target public information efforts, plan research/demonstration programs for minority and other high-risk youth, and train professional groups in risk factors for substance use. In addition, SAMHSA has used YRBS data in on-line fact sheets on topics such as drinking and driving and drinking trends among high school students.

DHHS, Health Resources and Services Administration uses YRBS data in various reports and publications including their annual *Child Health USA* report available at <http://mchb.hrsa.gov/mchirc/chusa/>.

Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics uses YRBS data in their *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2011* report available at <http://www.childstats.gov/americaschildren/index.asp>.

National Center for Health Statistics used YRBS data in *Health, United States, 2010* available at <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/hus.htm> (National Center for Health Statistics, 2011).

Office of the Surgeon General uses YRBS data to assess the need for and support expansion of health education and health services in schools and to provide data on the prevalence of priority health risk behaviors of high school students. Results were used in the Surgeon General's Conference on Children's Mental Health and in several U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Surgeon General reports including: Updated Surgeon General's Report on Tobacco (to be released in 2012), *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Young People: A Report of the Surgeon General* (1994), *Physical Activity and Health: A Report of the Surgeon General* (1996), *Tobacco Use Among U.S. Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups: A Report of the Surgeon General* (1998), *Mental Health: A Report of the Surgeon General* (1999), *The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent Suicide* (1999), *Youth Violence: A Report of the Surgeon General* (2001), *Women and Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General* (2001), and *The Health Consequences of Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General* (2004).

Federal Trade Commission used YRBS data to investigate possible links between advertising and overweight.

#### **A.2.d Use of Results by Those Outside Federal Agencies**

The results of the YRBS also will be used in a variety of ways by state and local governments, voluntary health organizations, physicians, teacher training institutions, educational administrators, health educators, teachers, and parents:

- Policy makers in the legislative and executive branches at all government levels use YRBS data to provide evidence of health risk behaviors placing adolescents at risk. The policy makers can compare the situation in their states to the national profile.
- Many state and local education and health agencies conduct similar surveys. The YRBS provides a national index against which they can compare their survey results.
- The American Cancer Society uses YRBS data to measure progress in obtaining four primary goals for its comprehensive school health initiative.
- Child Trends (a nonprofit, non-partisan children's research organization supported by foundations and multiple Federal agencies) uses YRBS data in Fact Sheets on specific behaviors of interest (<http://www.childtrendsdatabank.org/>).
- The National Association of State Boards of Education uses YRBS data to develop documents created for members, develop policy guides, provide updates to state boards of education, train state boards of education on technical issues, and develop action guides in marketing and communication.
- The Society of State Directors of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation uses YRBS data to inform state directors and in resolutions and policy statements.
- Family physicians, pediatricians, psychologists, and counselors will use YRBS data to provide up-to-date information on behavioral risks among the adolescents they treat.
- Institutes of higher education will use YRBS data in their teacher training programs to provide information on the health risk behaviors that should be the target of educational programs.
- High school administrators will use YRBS data to provide information to assist them in justifying and planning educational programs to prevent health risk behaviors.
- Health educators and other teachers in high schools will use YRBS data to provide information that will bolster and provide a focus for their lesson plans and educational materials.
- Parents will use YRBS data to better understand the behavioral risks facing their children.

State education agencies (SEA) and local education agencies (LEA) have used YRBS results in creating awareness of risk behaviors, setting program goals, planning or modifying programs, developing staff development programs for teachers, and seeking funding (Foti, Balaji, Shanklin, 2011). For example, YRBS data were used in Massachusetts to develop a fact sheet on student obesity, physical activity, and eating behaviors. This fact sheet was used to

build support for legislation limiting competitive foods in schools and for best practice guidelines on school physical education and physical activity programs. In New York City, YRBS data were cited by the New York City Commissioner of Health in testimony before the City Council to support a smoking ban in all New York City public parks and beaches. The law took effect in May, 2011 and prohibits smoking in 1,700 city parks and along 14 miles of the city's public beaches. In Wisconsin, the Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Health Services developed a joint report on sexual behaviors based on YRBS data. This report is used to identify high risk populations in the state. In South Dakota, YRBS data were used to identify underage alcohol use and binge drinking among youth as priority health risk behaviors in a grant application. As a result, the South Dakota Department of Human Services/Social Services received the SPF SIG Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant to address this issue.

Publications and presentations have been targeted to reach the audiences listed above. Further details are provided in Section A.16.b, below.

#### **A.2.e Privacy Impact Assessment Information**

The primary purpose of the YRBS is to provide nationally representative data on priority health risk behaviors among nationally representative samples of U.S. students in grades 9 – 12. It represents the only national data on a wide range of priority health risk behaviors, including unintentional injuries and violence, tobacco use, alcohol and other drug use, sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancies and STDs including HIV, physical inactivity, and unhealthy dietary behaviors. The YRBS also assess asthma and obesity. Data are collected via an anonymous paper-and-pencil self-administered questionnaire. Therefore, the data collection will have little or no effect on the respondent's privacy. Nevertheless, safeguards will be put in place to ensure that all collected data remain private.

Data collected from school administrators during recruitment is information available in the public domain and school administrators will not provide personal information. The data collected on the YRBS are not identifiable. Teachers are asked to enter student names on a Data Collection Checklist (**Appendix I**) to monitor parental permission forms and make sure questionnaires are completed only by students for whom permission has been obtained. [Note, teachers can substitute any other information in place of the student name (such as a student ID number) on the Data Collection Checklist as long as it will allow them to individually determine which students received parental permission to participate.] However, the Data Collection Checklist is destroyed after the questionnaire has been administered. At no point in time is there any way to connect students' names to their response data.

No IIF is collected on the student questionnaire.

#### **A.3. USE OF IMPROVED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND BURDEN REDUCTION**

To reduce burden, data are collected on optically scannable questionnaire booklets. The data to be obtained from the data collection cannot be accessed from currently existing automated databases. During questionnaire design, every effort has been made to limit

respondent burden. This proposed data collection is not compliant with the Government Paperwork Elimination Act. However, scannable questionnaire booklets are generally regarded currently as the least burdensome for a school-based data collection. In 2008, CDC conducted a methodological study to assess the feasibility of conducting the YRBS using a web-based mode of administration (OMB No. 0920-0763, expiration 1/31/2009). The results of the 2008 study indicated that although online and paper-and-pencil surveys generally yield similar risk behavior prevalence estimates (Eaton et al, 2010a), online surveys afforded students substantially less actual and perceived privacy and anonymity compared with the paper-and-pencil survey (Denniston et al, 2010). Therefore, an online mode of administration is not recommended for anonymous, in-class surveys of health-risk behaviors unless provisions can be made to better protect student privacy. In addition, this study documented that about half of schools in the United States have insufficient computer capacity to host an in-class online survey (Eaton et al, 2011). Therefore, many schools do not have sufficient computer capacity to participate in a voluntary in-class online survey. Administering an online survey could impose significant perceived and actual burden on many schools and lead to low school participation rates.

#### **A.4. EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY DUPLICATION AND USE OF SIMILAR INFORMATION**

CDC conducts ongoing searches of all major educational and health-related electronic databases, reviews related literature, consults with experts in behavioral epidemiology and survey research, and maintains continuing communications with Federal agencies with related missions. These efforts have identified no previous, current, or planned comprehensive efforts to conduct a survey of the health risk behaviors of a nationally representative sample of students in grades 9-12.

CDC monitors the implementation of Youth Risk Behavior Surveys by states and cities. The number of SEAs implementing their own Youth Risk Behavior Survey representative of students in their state has increased over time. However, substantial variation across jurisdictions in sampling techniques, questions, and survey administration procedures prohibit the calculation of national estimates from state-level results.

#### **A.5. IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES OR OTHER SMALL ENTITIES**

The planned data collection does not involve small businesses or other small entities.

#### **A.6. CONSEQUENCES OF COLLECTING THE INFORMATION LESS FREQUENTLY**

Data are gathered *biennially* from a nationally representative sample of high school students, using a cross-sectional design. Data must be collected biennially to detect any changes in priority health risk behaviors in this population that need to be addressed in school health programs, public education campaigns, demonstration efforts, technical assistance, or professional education/training, especially those sponsored by CDC. Due to the speed with which many of these problems, including the AIDS epidemic and overweight, will take an increasing toll in human suffering and financial burden, which will be heavily borne by the Federal government, it is imperative to conduct the survey biennially. School systems have the



capacity to change their school health programs to help prevent health risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of mortality and morbidity on an annual basis, if circumstances require. Originally, the YRBS was proposed and approved as an *annual* survey. Based on experience, it was determined that biennial administration of YRBS is sufficient to meet the programmatic needs of CDC and other Federal agencies.

**A.7. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES RELATING TO THE GUIDELINE OF 5 CFR 1320.5**

The request fully complies with the regulation 5 CFR 1320.5. No special circumstances are applicable to this proposed survey.

**A.8. COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO THE FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE AND EFFORTS TO CONSULT OUTSIDE THE AGENCY**

**A.8.a Federal Register Announcement**

CDC published a *Federal Register* notice of the proposed data collection on February 27, 2012 (Vol. 77, Number 38, Page 11543) (60-Day Federal Register Notice, **Appendix B**). X comments were received and acknowledged (**Appendix C**).

**A.8.b Consultations**

Consultations on the design, instrumentation, products, and statistical aspects of the YRBS have occurred at critical junctures during its original design and have continued since it originally received OMB clearance. The purposes of such consultations were to ensure the technical soundness and user relevance of survey results; to verify the importance, relevance, and accessibility of the information sought in the survey; to assess the clarity of instructions; and to minimize respondent burden.

Five major phases of consultation have occurred. Phase one involved several noted sampling experts and others who discussed sampling strategies for the YRBS. Phase two helped delineate the questionnaire content and develop/identify survey questions through a series of panel meetings involving Federal agencies, representatives of SEAs and LEAs, and members of the scientific community. Phase three involved consultations with users of the YRBS data, including representatives from all CDC-funded SEAs and LEAs. Phase four involved a systematic solicitation by CDC of all identified Federal and non-Federal users of the YRBS. Phase five involved a review of the YRBS by an External Review Panel composed of survey and programmatic experts in the field of adolescent and school health from academia and state agencies.

**A.8.b.1 Consultations with Sampling Experts**

On August 9, 1989, CDC and contractor staff met in Washington, D.C. with OMB and several sampling experts and Federal agency representatives to discuss the sampling plan for the YRBS. The results of these consultations are reflected in the sampling plan in Part B of the clearance package. Specifically, school districts and schools deciding *not* to participate in the survey would not be replaced on the assumption that refusing schools would be systematically

different from cooperative schools so that replacement of refusing schools would introduce bias into the results. In addition, Common Core Data (CCD) provided by the National Center for Educational Statistics would be used to ensure adequate oversampling of African-American and Hispanic students.

The following people were among the key participants at this meeting:

Robert Burton, Ph.D. (retired)  
National Center for Education Statistics

Leslie Kish, Ph.D. (deceased)  
Institute for Social Research  
University of Michigan

Jerry Coffey, Ph.D. (retired)  
Office of Management and Budget

Jim Scanlon  
ASPE  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
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Phone: (202) 690-7100  
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Joe Fred Gonzales, Jr.  
Mathematical Statistician  
National Center for Health Statistics  
Office of Research and Methodology  
3311 Toledo Road, Room 3121  
Hyattsville, MD 20782  
301-458-4239  
[jfg2@cdc.gov](mailto:jfg2@cdc.gov)

Seymour Sudman, Ph.D. (deceased)  
Department of Statistics  
University of Illinois at Champaign-  
Urbana

Morris Hansen, Ph.D. (deceased)  
Westat, Inc.

Ron Wilson, M.S. (retired)  
National Center for Health Statistics

Continuing consultations with sampling experts have been held to ensure the continuing appropriateness of the YRBS sampling plan. The original YRBS sampling plan was reviewed by NCHS.

#### A.8.b.2 Consultations in Survey Delineation and Instrument Design

Extensive consultations were held over approximately 8 months to delineate the original YRBS questionnaire content. This process began in March 1989 with the formation of a steering committee which included representatives of the U.S. Department of Education; the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion/CDC; the National Center for Health Statistics/CDC; the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion; the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation; the Maternal and Child Health Bureau/Health Research Services Administration; and the Society of State Directors of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation. In addition, a representative from each of the six PHS agencies with significant responsibility for one of the categories of health risk behaviors to be measured by the YRBS served on the steering committee. The six agencies were: the Division of Epidemiology and Prevention Research/National Institute on Drug Abuse; the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control/CDC; the Office on Smoking and Health/NCCDPHP/CDC; the Division of Reproductive Health/NCCDPHP/CDC; the Division of Nutrition/NCCDPHP/CDC; and the Division of Chronic Disease Control and Community Intervention/NCCDPHP/CDC. See **Appendix K** for a list of Expert Reviewers for the 1989 Consultations.

The representative from each of these six PHS agencies was asked to chair a panel to delineate the most important behaviors to be addressed and items to measure each behavior. Each panel chair identified a group of Federal agency experts to provide consultation and advice. On August 10-11, 1989 the six chairs, the expert Federal consultants, and one or two representatives from state departments of education convened to identify specific priority behaviors within each major category of risk behavior, and to recommend the best items to measure each behavior for a draft questionnaire. Each panel was asked to address the following questions:

- What are the most important health outcomes that result from risk behaviors in your categorical area?
- What national health objectives for the year 2000, presented in *Healthy People 2000*, are relevant to your categorical area?
- What are the highest priority health behaviors established during youth that should be addressed to help reduce the most important health outcomes?
- What questions should be used to measure each priority behavior most effectively?

After the questionnaire design meeting, the chairs summarized the recommendations and survey items proposed by each panel. These summaries were sent for review to persons responsible for health education and/or HIV education in every SEA and LEA funded by CDC and to topic area experts in the scientific community. Based on their comments, a draft questionnaire was developed and, on October 11, 1989, presented to representatives of the SEAs and LEAs holding cooperative agreements in HIV education with CDC. Based on their feedback, the draft questionnaire was refined.

#### A.8.b.3 Continuing Consultations with Users of YRBS Data

Continuing consultations have been held with other Federal agencies, members of the scientific community, and other various non-Federal users of YRBS data. In addition, consultations have been held with state and local agencies that conduct similar surveys. The vehicles for these continuing consultations have included annual meetings of all of the cooperative agreement holders funded by the Division of Adolescent and School Health; a series of training programs for state and local agencies on the YRBS; site visits to funded state and local agencies; and presentations at a variety of national conferences. On the basis of these consultations over time, the clarity of several questions has been improved and a limited number of questions have been deleted entirely. In addition, the need for adding questions related to National Education Goal 7 (Safe and Drug Free Schools) emerged from continuing discussions with the National Education Goals Panel. While the overall structure and content of the YRBS questionnaire has remained the same since it originally was designed, these improvements have eliminated some flaws in the questionnaire and increased the usefulness of the data to Federal agencies other than CDC and non-Federal users.

#### A.8.b.4 Systematic Solicitation of Comments From Federal and non-Federal YRBS Users

In 1998, CDC undertook an in-depth, systematic review of the YRBS questionnaire. The

review was motivated by multiple factors, including a goal for the YRBS to measure national health objectives for 2010 that were being developed at the time. The purpose of the review and subsequent revision process was to ensure that the questionnaire would provide the most effective assessment of the most critical priority health risk behaviors among young persons. To guide the decision-making process, CDC solicited input from content experts from CDC and academia as well as from representatives from other federal agencies; state and local education agencies; state health departments; and national organizations, foundations, and institutes. The Federal agencies consulted included: the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA); the Department of Agriculture; the Department of Education; the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); the Indian Health Service (IHS); the National Cancer Institute (NCI); the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS); the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD); the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI); and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

On the basis of input received from approximately 800 persons, CDC developed a proposed set of questionnaire revisions, which were sent to all state and local education agencies for further input. In addition to considering the amount of support from state and local education agencies for the proposed revisions, CDC considered multiple factors in making final decisions regarding the questionnaire, including 1) input from the original reviewers, 2) whether the question measured a health risk behavior practiced by youth, 3) whether data on the topic were available from other sources, 4) the relationship of the behavior to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among youth and adults, and 5) whether effective interventions existed that could be used to modify the behavior. As a result of this process, CDC created the 1999 YRBS questionnaire. This questionnaire included several new questions, including height and weight (so that body mass index can be calculated), dating violence, use of heroin and methamphetamines, milk consumption, time spent watching television, being injured while exercising, use of sunscreen, and medical and dental examinations.

In 2000, CDC, in consultation with 75 representatives from state and local education agencies, representatives from CDC divisions that use health behavior data, and representatives from other federal agencies, made minor modifications to the 1999 version of the questionnaire to create the 2001 questionnaire. In 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, and 2012 a similar consultation process was conducted to create the 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013 questionnaires, respectively. Because the YRBS is a school-based survey and student respondents have a single class period of approximately 45 minutes to complete the questionnaire, the length of the questionnaire is limited. Therefore, when revising the questionnaire, adding new questions typically requires the deletion of an equal number of existing questions. Input from users of YRBS data is critical in ensuring these additions and deletions result in a questionnaire that assesses the current priority risk behaviors, while keeping in mind the need to monitor trends in behaviors over time. As an example, a recent review of the questionnaire resulted in the deletion of five questions and the addition of five questions for the 2011 questionnaire. The five deleted questions addressed: motorcycle helmet use, vigorous physical activity, moderate physical activity, being physically active in physical education class, and usual grades earned in school. The three questions added addressed: muscle-strengthening physical activity, breakfast consumption, having property stolen or damaged while at school, and having a supportive teacher or adult at the school.

#### A.8.b.5 Consultations with Division-wide External Review Panel

In 2007, all surveillance activities conducted by the Division of Adolescent and School Health at CDC, including the YRBS, were closely examined by an External Review Panel. The Panel was composed of the following individuals:

Joyce L. Epstein, Ph.D.  
Director, Center on School, Family, and  
Community Partnerships and the  
National Network of Partnership  
Schools  
Johns Hopkins University  
3003 North Charles Street, Suite 200  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
e-mail: [jepstein@CSOS.jhu.edu](mailto:jepstein@CSOS.jhu.edu)

Glenn Flores, MD, FAAP  
Professor and Chief  
Division of General Pediatrics  
UT Southwestern Medical Center  
5323 Harry Hines Blvd  
Dallas, TX 75390  
Glenn Flores, MD  
e-mail:  
[Glenn.Flores@UTSouthwestern.edu](mailto:Glenn.Flores@UTSouthwestern.edu)

Deanna M. Hoelscher, PhD, RD, LD,  
CNS  
Director, Michael & Susan Dell Center  
for Advancement of Healthy Living  
Associate Professor  
UTSPH Austin Regional Campus  
313 E. 12th Street, Suite 220  
Austin, TX 78701  
512-482-6168  
512-482-6185 (fax)  
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Philip Huang, MD, MPH  
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Chronic Disease Prevention  
Texas Department of State Health  
Services  
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Donna Mazyck, RN, MS, NCSN  
Maryland State Department of Education  
Division of Student, Family and School Support  
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Baltimore, MD 21201  
e-mail: [dmazyck@msde.state.md.us](mailto:dmazyck@msde.state.md.us)

Beth Pateman, Professor  
Elementary Co-Director  
Institute for Teacher Education  
1776 University Ave.  
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University of Hawaii at Manoa  
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Phyllis E. Simpson, Ph.D.  
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Bonita F. Stanton, MD  
Professor and Chair, Dept. of Pediatrics  
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Address: Children's Hospital of Michigan  
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Carlos A. Vega-Matos  
Provider Support Services  
Office of AIDS Policy and Programs  
600 South Commonwealth Avenue, 6th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-351-8108 (v)  
213-738-6571 (f)  
e-mail: [cvega-matos@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:cvega-matos@ph.lacounty.gov)

The YRBS-specific purposes of the External Review Panel were to: 1) evaluate the scientific quality of the YRBS; 2) evaluate the public health impact of YRBS data; and 3) judge the relevance of the YRBS to public health, stakeholder, Administration, and Congressional priorities. The questions posed to the research panel included: 1) is the YRBS relevant to programmatic activities of the division and an appropriate fit for CDC; 2) is the YRBS methodology consistent with current scientific knowledge; 3) how can CDC help its partners to do a better job of interpreting and using YRBS data to improve school health policies and programs; and 4) what are the panel's recommendations on changes that should be made in the focus or quality of the YRBS? In the final report, the panel concluded the YRBS is an outstanding example of CDC's surveillance efforts and an excellent fit for the agency. The collection of quality data across youth health-risk behaviors sets the YRBS apart from other categorical surveys. These data sets and the reports generated from them are widely regarded as among the richest sources of data available on adolescents, nationally and worldwide.

#### **A.9. EXPLANATION OF ANY PAYMENT OR GIFT TO RESPONDENTS**

Schools will be given educational materials and \$500 in appreciation for their participation. No payments will be offered or made to student respondents. OMB first suggested that CDC offer school incentives on the YRBS in 1999 as a means of improving school response rates and, thereby, improving the generalizability of results. CDC adopted a financial incentive in the 2001 YRBS to allow the YRBS to continue to compete effectively with other school-based data collections. Increasingly in recent years, school-based data collections, most of which do not fall under OMB review, have offered financial incentives to increase or at least maintain school participation rates. On the 2009 and 2011 YRBS, (OMB Number 0920-0493, expiration date 11/07), these school incentives helped maintain high school participation rates despite the growing number of competing, non-instructional demands placed on schools, including the increased testing associated with NCLB.

#### **A.10. ASSURANCE OF CONFIDENTIALITY PROVIDED TO RESPONDENTS**

This data collection has received IRB approval from the CDC Human Research Protection Office (protocol #1969, expiration: 5/2013). The current YRBS IRB Approval Letter is in **Appendix L**.

Data collected from school administrators during recruitment is information available in the public domain and school administrators will not be providing personal information. The data collected on the YRBS are not identifiable. Even though teachers will be required to enter student names on a Data Collection Checklist (**Appendix I**) to monitor parent permission form returns and make sure that questionnaires are completed only by students for whom permission has been obtained, the Data Collection Checklist is destroyed after the questionnaire has been administered. The Data Collection Checklist is not forwarded to the data collection contractor, Macro International Inc., or to CDC. At no point in time is there any way to connect student's names to their data.

All selected schools, students, and their parents will be informed that anonymity will be maintained throughout data collection, that all data will be safeguarded closely, and that no institutional or individual identifiers will be used in study reports. Anonymity will be promised to students and their parents on parental permission forms. Students will be reminded that their

responses are anonymous at the start of the survey administration session by the survey administrator, who will be a professional data collector trained to conduct this survey.

Several actions will be taken to help ensure anonymity. The survey will be administered in a classroom setting, with adequate space between respondents. No personal identifiers will appear on survey questionnaires. Each student will submit the completed questionnaire in a sealed envelope, which will be deposited directly into a "ballot box." After administration of the survey to a class section, all questionnaires for that class will be removed from the box, deposited in an envelope, and labeled with a school identification number (for weighting purposes only). The connection between the school identification number and the school name will be retained only long enough to complete data collection in each class. Once data collection is complete, this connection will be destroyed and this connection will never be transmitted to CDC.

#### Privacy Impact Assessment Information

- a. Privacy Act Determination. In review of this application, it has been determined that the Privacy Act does not apply to information collected through the YRBS. No identifying information will be retained in the data record that would enable an individual survey to be tracked back to a particular student.
- b. Information Security. The data collection contractor has several security procedures in place to safeguard data. Data that are collected at school remain under the exclusive control of the contractor's field staff until they are shipped to the contractor's headquarters. School personnel are not responsible for collecting and storing any data. The paper data will be stored in locked files, accessible only to staff directly involved in the project, retained for three years after completion of the data collection, and then destroyed. In addition, all electronic data will be stored on secure servers and will be accessible only to staff directly involved in the project. All contractor staff involved with the project are required to sign a confidentiality, intellectual property, non-competition, and non-solicitation agreement (**Appendix F7**), which is a statement of personal commitment to guard the confidentiality of data.
- c. Consent. Every student selected to participate in the YRBS will receive a parental consent form (**Appendix F2 and F3**). All students and their parents will be informed that information will be maintained in an anonymous manner throughout the student data collection, that all data will be safeguarded closely, and that no institutional or individual identifiers will be used in study reports. The notification is included in the YRBS parental permission form and fact sheet – English and Spanish (**Appendix F2 and F3**), and in the instructions on the front page of the YRBS questionnaire (**Appendix E**). All data collectors will be professionally trained to administer the YRBS. When introducing the survey, data collectors will remind students that their responses will be treated in an anonymous manner (**Appendix F6**).
- d. Voluntary Nature of Participation. For the YRBs, participation is voluntary and respondents will be assured that there is no penalty if they decide not to respond, either to the information collection as a whole or to any particular question.

## **A.11. JUSTIFICATION FOR SENSITIVE QUESTIONS**

Sexual intercourse, alcohol and other drug use, weapon carrying, suicidal ideation and attempts, and weight loss practices all may be considered sensitive topics. In fact, depending on the student and the setting in which questions are asked, nearly any health-risk behavior, including tobacco use and physical activity, could be considered sensitive. However, the sensitive questions are necessary to the purpose of risk behavior surveillance. The behaviors covered in the questionnaire are the major behaviors known to cause mortality and morbidity. During the past 20 years, one of the primary responsibilities of CDC has been to monitor for the nation priority health risk behaviors among youth. To monitor such behaviors, CDC must ask youth about their participation in them. Students are told prior to the start of the survey that “This survey is about health behavior. It has been developed so you can tell us what you do that may affect your health. It will also ask you questions about your experience taking this survey. The information you give will be used to develop better health education for young people like yourself.”

The questions were developed in close cooperation with representatives from school systems across the nation and are presented in a straightforward and sensitive manner.

Parental permission to participate in the YRBS will be obtained. **Appendix F** contains the parental permission form in English (**Appendix F2**) and Spanish (**Appendix F3**), the parental permission form reminder notice in English (**Appendix F4**) and Spanish (**Appendix F5**), and the distribution script (**Appendix F1**) to be read by the teacher when passing out the permission form. At each school, local procedures for sending home parental permission forms will be followed. Schools will be asked to ensure permission forms are distributed at least 7 days before the survey administration. Teachers track the return of parental permission forms on the Data Collection Checklist to ensure that only students with parental permission participate. A waiver of written student assent was obtained for the participation of children because this research presents no more than minimal risk to subjects, parental permission is required for participation, the waiver will not adversely affect the rights and welfare of the students because they are free to decline to take part, and it is thought that some students may perceive they are not anonymous if they are required to provide stated assent and sign a consent/assent document. Students are told “Participating in this survey is voluntary and your grade in this class will not be affected, whether or not you answer the questions.” Completion of the survey implies student assent.

## **A.12. ESTIMATES OF ANNUALIZED BURDEN HOURS AND COSTS**

### **A.12.a Estimated Burden Hours**

The estimated burden for this information collection is based on more than 20 years of experience conducting the YRBS. The planned information collection involves administration of the YRBS questionnaire (**Appendix E**) to independent samples of students in 2013 and 2015. Respondents include state-level, district-level, and school-level administrators who provide information in the Recruitment Script for the YRBS (**Appendices G1-G3**), teachers who complete the Data Collection Checklist for the YRBS (**Appendix I**), and students who receive instructions for and complete the YRBS questionnaire (**Appendix E**). More information about



the Data Collection Checklist is detailed in section B.2.f.

The YRBS will be conducted in 2013 and 2015 among nationally representative samples of students attending public and private schools in grades 9-12. At state, school district, and school levels, the cooperation of educational administrators will be sought in recruitment of sampled schools. For each cycle of data collection, the number of state, school districts, and schools whose administrators will be contacted is estimated at 25, 120, and 200, respectively. The combined total number of respondents for the 2013 YRBS and the 2015 YRBS, by type, will include: state-level administrators (n=50), district-level administrators (n=240), and school-level administrators (n=400) who provide information in the Recruitment Script for the YRBS, teachers (n=1,304) who complete the Data Collection Checklist for the YRBS, and students (n=30,388) who receive instructions for and complete the YRBS questionnaire. These totals annualized over the 3-year study period are provided in Table A-12.a.

There are no costs to respondents except their time. The combined total burden hours estimated for the 2013 and 2015 YRBS and associated support activities are 23,466. The total estimated burden hours annualized over three year study period is 7,822 (Table A-12.a).

**Table A-12.a. Estimated Annualized Burden Hours**

Type of Respondent	Form Name	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Average Burden Per Response (In Hours)	Total Burden (In Hours)
State Administrators	State-level Recruitment Script for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	17	1	30/60	9
District Administrators	District-level Recruitment Script for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	80	1	30/60	40
School Administrators	School-level Recruitment Script for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	133	1	30/60	67
Teachers	Data Collection Checklist for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	435	1	15/60	109
Students	Youth Risk Behavior Survey	10,129	1	45/60	7,597
<b>Total Burden</b>					<b>7,822</b>

**A.12.b Estimated Annualized Cost to Respondents**

For this information collection, there are no direct costs to the respondents themselves or to participating schools. However, the cost for administrators, teachers, and students can be

calculated in terms of their time in responding to the 2013 and 2015 YRBS as seen in Table A-12.a. Table A-12.b illustrates the total calculation of burden costs for the 2013 and 2015 YRBS. In each category, the estimated respondent burden hours have been multiplied by an estimated average hourly salary for persons in that category. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is the source for hourly wages (<http://www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm>). The estimated burden cost in terms of the value of time students spend in responding are based on a minimum wage for students aged less than 20 years of \$4.25/hour (<http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/wages/minimumwage.htm>). The combined total estimated respondent burden cost for conducting the YRBS in 2013 and 2015 annualized over the three year study period is \$40,201.

**Table A-12.b. Annualized Estimated Burden Costs**

Type of Respondent	Form Name	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Average Burden Per Response (In Hours)	Hourly Wage Rate	Total Respondent Costs
State Administrators	State-level Recruitment Script for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	17	1	30/60	\$39.26	\$353
District Administrators	District-level Recruitment Script for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	80	1	30/60	\$45.22	\$1,809
School Administrators	School-level Recruitment Script for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	133	1	30/60	\$43.34	\$2,904
Teachers	Data Collection Checklist for the Youth Risk Behavior Survey	435	1	15/60	\$26.13	\$2,848
Students	Youth Risk Behavior Survey	10,129	1	45/60	\$4.25	\$32,287
<b>Total</b>						<b>\$40,201</b>

**A.13. ESTIMATES OF OTHER TOTAL ANNUAL COST BURDEN TO RESPONDENTS OR RECORD KEEPERS**

There will be no respondent capital and maintenance costs.

**A.14. ANNUALIZED COST TO THE GOVERNMENT**

The study is funded under Contract No. 200-2012-F-42654. The total contract cost for conducting the 2013 and 2015 YRBS is \$1,690,931 over a 44-month period. Thus the annualized contract cost is approximately \$461,163. These costs cover the activities in Table A-14 below.

Additional costs will be incurred indirectly by the government in personnel costs of staff involved in oversight of the study and in conducting data analysis. It is estimated that two CDC employees will be involved for approximately 20% and 5% of their time (for federal personnel 100% time=2080 hours annually) at salaries of \$36.46 and \$47.00 per hour, respectively. The direct annual costs in CDC staff time will be approximately \$15,167 + \$4,888 = \$20,055 annually.

The total cost for the study over a 44-month period, including the contract cost and federal government personnel cost is \$1,764,466. The annualized cost to the government for the study will be \$461,163 + \$20,055 = \$481,218.

**Table A-14. Estimated Annualized Study Hours and Cost**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Total Respondent Costs</b>
<i>Contract Costs</i>	
Design and plan	\$47,300
Programming and developing	\$41,445
Recruitment and preparation	\$53,081
Printing and distribution	\$12,659
Recruiting and training	\$35,454
Collection of data	\$206,292
Processing, cleaning, weighing and developing data files	\$44,530
Dissemination and reporting of results	\$20,402
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$461,163</b>
<i>Federal Employee Time Cost</i>	
20% time for contract officer technical representative	\$15,167
5% time for senior scientist	\$4,888
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$20,055</b>
<b>Average Annualized Cost</b>	<b>\$481,218</b>

**A.15. EXPLANATION OF PROGRAM CHANGES OR ADJUSTMENTS**

YRBS is a school-based survey that has been conducted biennially since 1991 (OMB no. 0920-0493, expiration 11/30/2007). CDC seeks to reinstate the information collection for a period of three years in order to conduct the YRBS in 2013 and 2015. Minor changes incorporated into this reinstatement request include: an updated title for the information collection to accurately reflect the years in which the survey will be conducted, a slightly modified questionnaire (**Appendix E**), and an increase in sample size based on minor refinements to the sample design to reflect the current demographic distribution of students

nationally (see **Supporting Statement Part B** and **Appendix N** for details on the sample design). The 2013 YRBS questionnaire (**Appendix E**) was created by modifying the 2011 YRBS questionnaire. Specifically 7 questions were deleted (smokeless tobacco use on school property, alcohol use on school property, marijuana use on school property, current cocaine use, current asthma, property stolen or damaged on school property, and having a supportive teacher or adult at school) and adding 2 questions were added (largest number of alcoholic drinks consumed, sexual dating violence) based on national data priorities.

## **A.16. PLANS FOR TABULATION AND PUBLICATION AND PROJECT TIME SCHEDULE**

### **A.16.a Tabulation Plans**

Data will be tabulated in ways that will address the principle research purposes outlined in A.2. The planned analyses to be conducted by CDC are described briefly below:

1. *Estimate the extent to which high school students engage in behaviors placing them at risk for the major short- and long-term causes of mortality and morbidity--*Descriptive statistics (percentages and confidence intervals) will be calculated to address this objective.
2. *Assess the degree to which engaging in health risk behaviors varies by student as a function of gender, age, grade in school, and race/ethnicity--*Cross tabulations, Chi-square analyses, and regression analysis initially will be conducted to address this objective. Subsequently, student demographic characteristics will be regressed against behaviors.
3. *Determine the interrelationships among health risk behaviors and whether these interrelationships vary as a function of gender, age, grade in school, and race/ethnicity--*Correlation matrices and a variety of multiple regression techniques will be used to determine the relationships among health risk behaviors. Discriminant analyses will be used to predict risk of certain events (e.g., suicide attempts; adolescent pregnancy). Correlation matrices and a variety of multiple regression techniques also will be used to assess the contributions of demographic factors to interrelationships among health risk behaviors.
4. *Estimate the extent to which high school students engage at school in health risk behaviors involving tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use or contributing to violence, and determine whether this pattern changes over time--*Descriptive statistics (percentages and confidence intervals) will be calculated to quantify the extent of such behaviors. Trend analyses will be conducted to assess changes over time.
5. *Describe the trends in health risk behaviors and assess the degree to which these trends vary as a function of gender, age, grade in school, and race/ethnicity--*Multiple regression analyses that control for sex, grade, and race/ethnicity and that simultaneously assess linear and higher order time effects will be used.

Examples of the table shells that will be completed through analysis of the data are in **Appendix M**.

### **A.16.b Publication Plans**

The YRBS results are regularly made available to the public through a variety of publications and through the annual conferences of several national organizations. The publications include analyses of the results and assessment of the implications of results for school health education and related efforts to reduce health risk behaviors and associated health problems among youth.

The following journals have carried articles on the YRBS design and results and are expected to serve as continuing vehicles for distribution of YRBS results: *Accident Analysis and Prevention*; *Adolescence*; *Adolescent Medicine*; *AIDS Education and Prevention*; *Alaska Medicine*; *Alcohol Health and Research World*; the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*; the *American Journal of College Health*; the *American Journal of Epidemiology*; the *American Journal of Health Behavior*; the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*; the *American Journal of Public Health*; *Annals of Emergency Medicine*; *Annals of Internal Medicine*; the *Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine*; *Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine*; *Contraception Report*; *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*; *Ethnicity and Disease*; *Evaluation Review*; *Family and Community Health*; *Family Planning Perspectives*; *Health Education and Behavior*; *Health Education Research*; *Health Services Research*; *Health Values*; *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*; *International Journal of Eating Disorders*; *Journal of Addictions and Offender Counseling*; the *Journal of Adolescent Health*; the *Journal of the American Medical Association*; the *Journal of Child and Family Studies*; the *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*; the *Journal of Drug Education*; the *Journal of Drug Issues*; the *Journal of Health Education*; the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*; the *Journal of Pediatrics*; the *Journal of School Health*; the *Journal of Sex Education and Therapy*; the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*; the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*; the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*; *Maternal and Child Health Journal*; *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise*; the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*; *Obesity Research*; *Pediatric Nursing*; *Pediatrics*; *Preventive Medicine*; *Psychological Reports*; *Psychology in Schools*; *Public Health Reports*; *School Psychology International*; *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*; *Social Indicators Research*; *Sociology of Sport Journal*; *Substance Use and Misuse*, *Suicide and Life-threatening Behavior*; *Tobacco Control*; and *Vital and Health Statistics*. An entire special issue of *Public Health Reports* documented the development and rationale of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. The YRBS results have been cited in literally thousands of articles and stories by print and broadcast media.

CDC has distributed the YRBS results primarily through reprints of the MMWRs and the Internet. Awareness of the most common risk behaviors among high school students, including unintentional injury and violence; tobacco use; alcohol and other drug use; sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV infections; unhealthy dietary behaviors; and physical inactivity was promoted among the thousands of individuals who read articles based on the 2009 YRBS data press release in June 2010. The press release yielded impressive coverage including approximately 1,095 news clips, for a total of 575,304,608 media impressions and \$298,512 in earned media coverage. Notable placements included the following publications, which each have an audience of six million readers or more: Yahoo News, MSNBC, FoxNews.com, The New York Times, AOL News, The Los Angeles

Times, The Washington Post, USA Today, The New York Post, and Forbes. The 2011 YRBS data release is scheduled for June, 2012 and is expected to generate similar coverage.

YRBS results also are available through Youth Online, an interactive web database. During the 12 months following the release of the 2009 YRBS data, there were over 460,000 views of Youth Online at <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/yrbss>. In addition, the following materials are available via the Internet at [www.cdc.gov/yrbss](http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss): an overview of the YRBS, the most recent YRBS questionnaire and item rationale, data files and documentation, and selected YRBS publications. The YRBS data and documentation web page received 1,575 views during the 30 days following the release of the 2009 YRBS data, and it received over 21,412 views during the year following the data release.

In addition, YRBS results have been and will be distributed through the publications and annual conferences of many national health and education organizations including the following: the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance; the American Association of School Administrators; the American College Health Association; the American Medical Association; the American Public Health Association; the American School Health Association; the Council of Chief State School Officers; the National Association of Secondary School Principals; the National Association of School Nurses; the National Association of State Boards of Education; the National Education Association; the National Parent Teacher Association; and the National School Boards Association.

**A.16.c Time Schedule for the Project**

The following represents our proposed schedule of activities for the YRBS, in terms of months after receipt of OMB clearance. The end date for data collection is constrained by the dates on which schools close for the summer. In addition, given that some twelfth grade students may be absent during the final weeks of the school year, it is highly desirable to complete data collection two months before schools close for the summer; i.e., by the end of March.

Key project dates will occur during the following time periods for the 2013 data collection:

<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Time Period</u></b>
Recruit and schedule schools	1 to 3 months after OMB clearance
Print scannable questionnaires	1 to 2 months after OMB clearance
Train field data collectors	2 months after OMB clearance
Collect data	2 to 5 months after OMB clearance
Process data	3 to 6 months after OMB clearance
Weight/clean data	7 to 8 months after OMB clearance
Produce data file with documentation	9 months after OMB clearance
Analyze data	10 to 11 months after OMB clearance

Publish results	15 to 17 months after OMB clearance
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Data collection is currently scheduled to occur during January through March, 2013 and 2015. The time schedule for the 2013 data collection will be analogous to that of the 2015 data collection. Results will be published in summer 2014 and 2016, initially in the *MMWR*, and subsequently in other publications.

**A.17. REASON(S) DISPLAY OF OMB EXPIRATION DATE IS INAPPROPRIATE**

The expiration date of OMB approval of the data collection will be displayed.

**A.18. EXCEPTIONS TO CERTIFICATION FOR PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT SUBMISSIONS**

No exemptions from the certification statement are being sought.

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