

School Counselors

The Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) is a great way to gain insight on what is happening across domains or areas in the lives of students. It takes the full responsibility of addressing risks and assets at a COMMUNITY LEVEL. Also, PAYS data is anonymous, confidential and aggregated to show group level responses. Data helps school districts and communities to see a clear, data-driven picture of the supports and strengths in a locale as well as to identify the needs of youth for further support.

It PAYS to Ask

- What is the prevalence of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use (ATOD) by youth in your school?
- What are the strengths of your students and school?
- What are the risk and protective factors youth in your school experience?
- How often are students experiencing some form of bullying?
- How often are students exposed either to violence or threat of violence?
- What percentage of students in your school are struggling with depression?
- Do youth feel connections between their schools, families, and communities?

It PAYS to Know

- Results show if in-school programs are targeted to the right populations and issues.
- Provides assistance in formulating guidance plans through identifying and prioritizing problem behaviors and trends.
- Helps to identify grade level/age needs and interventions through data driven programming and evaluation of results.
- Assess student needs for services for use by School-Wide Positive Behavior and Instructional Support (SWPBS) planning teams.
- Results inform how to fill gaps in prevention services with community support.