

The Pennsylvania Youth Survey **Timeline and Fact Sheet**

Date	Action
April 2019	Survey questions available by request (please visit http://episcenter.psu.edu/node/599) Superintendents receive notice of Fall 2019 PAYS administration Agreement forms available at www.pays.pa.gov then click “2019”
May/June 2019	Bach-Harrison outreach to schools included in state sample
Summer 2019	Recruitment outreach to schools from community, prevention, & education supporters of PAYS
September 9 to November 20, 2019	PAYS administered in participating schools
December 20, 2019	Survey Return Deadline
April 30, 2020	PAYS Reports released to schools and counties

Facts about the PAYS

- A biennial survey of youth in the 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades administered in the fall of odd-numbered years since 1989.
- No cost for any Pennsylvania school district or private/charter/parochial/cyber school who wishes to participate!
- Collects information on mental health and youth attitudes and behaviors towards Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug (ATOD) use and other problem behaviors.
 - What our youth think and believe about anti-social behaviors.
 - What our youth think about their school environment.
- Data from the survey is an essential component of successful grant-writing and can be used to leverage resources to help meet identified needs.
 - Provides prevention partnership opportunities to produce healthy youth development.
- Questions are asked in four domains—Community, School, Family, and Peer/Individual
 - Allows schools and communities to see what is happening in all aspects of their youths’ lives.
 - Provides a holistic view of the students’ environment including their communities, schools, families, and peers.
 - Helps to identify factors that can prevent a child from being ready to learn when they arrive to school each day.
- Surveys are anonymous and confidential—no individual student information can be obtained from the data set.
- In 2017, over 265,000 students across 417 school districts and non-traditional schools took part in the PAYS. County reports are available for 57 counties (every one that had a minimum of two participating districts). District reports are provided directly to school district superintendents or points of contact.

For more information, visit www.pays.pa.gov, or contact Geoffrey Kolchin, PAYS Project Leader, PCCD at (717) 265-8483, gkolchin@pa.gov.