

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

Date	Action
April 2017	Survey preview available by request (please visit <a href="http://episcenter.psu.edu/node/599">http://episcenter.psu.edu/node/599</a> ) Superintendents receive notice of fall 2017 PAYS administration Agreement Forms available at <a href="http://www.pays.pa.gov">www.pays.pa.gov</a> then “2017”
May/June 2017	Bach-Harrison outreach to schools included in state sample
Summer 2017	Recruitment outreach to schools from community, prevention, & education supporters of PAYS
September 11 to November 22, 2017	PAYS administered in participating schools
December 22, 2017	Survey Return Deadline
April 2018	PAYS Reports released to schools and counties

- 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 youth knowledge, attitudes and behaviors towards Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug (ATOD) use and other problem behaviors.
  - What our youth know, 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 funding and other **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 at school each day.
- Surveys are **anonymous and confidential**—no individual student information can be obtained from the data set.
- In 2015, over 229,000 students across 393 School Districts and “other” schools took part in the PAYS. County reports are available for 56 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](http://www.pays.pa.gov), or contact Geoffrey Kolchin, PAYS Project Leader, PCCD at (717) 265-8483, [gkolchin@pa.gov](mailto:gkolchin@pa.gov).

If you have worked with a local coordinator during prior PAYS administrations, please reach out to them to prepare for the 2017 administration.