

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

## Timeline

Date	Action
April 2015	Survey preview made available at <a href="http://www.pays.state.pa.us">www.pays.state.pa.us</a>  Superintendents receive notice of fall 2015 PAYS administration
May/June 2015	Bach Harrison outreach to schools included in state sample
Summer 2015	Recruitment outreach to schools from community, prevention, & education supporters of PAYS
September to November 2015	PAYS administered in participating schools
December 20, 2015	Survey Return Deadline
April 2016	PAYS Reports released to schools and counties

## Facts about the PAYS

- A biennial survey of youth in the 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grades administered in the fall of odd-numbered years.
- 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.
- 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.
  - 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 2013, over 216,000 students across 342 School Districts and 81 “other” schools took part in the PAYS. County reports are available for 54 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.state.pa.us](http://www.pays.state.pa.us), or contact Geoffrey Kolchin, PAYS Project Leader, PCCD at (717) 265-8483, [gkolchin@pa.gov](mailto:gkolchin@pa.gov).