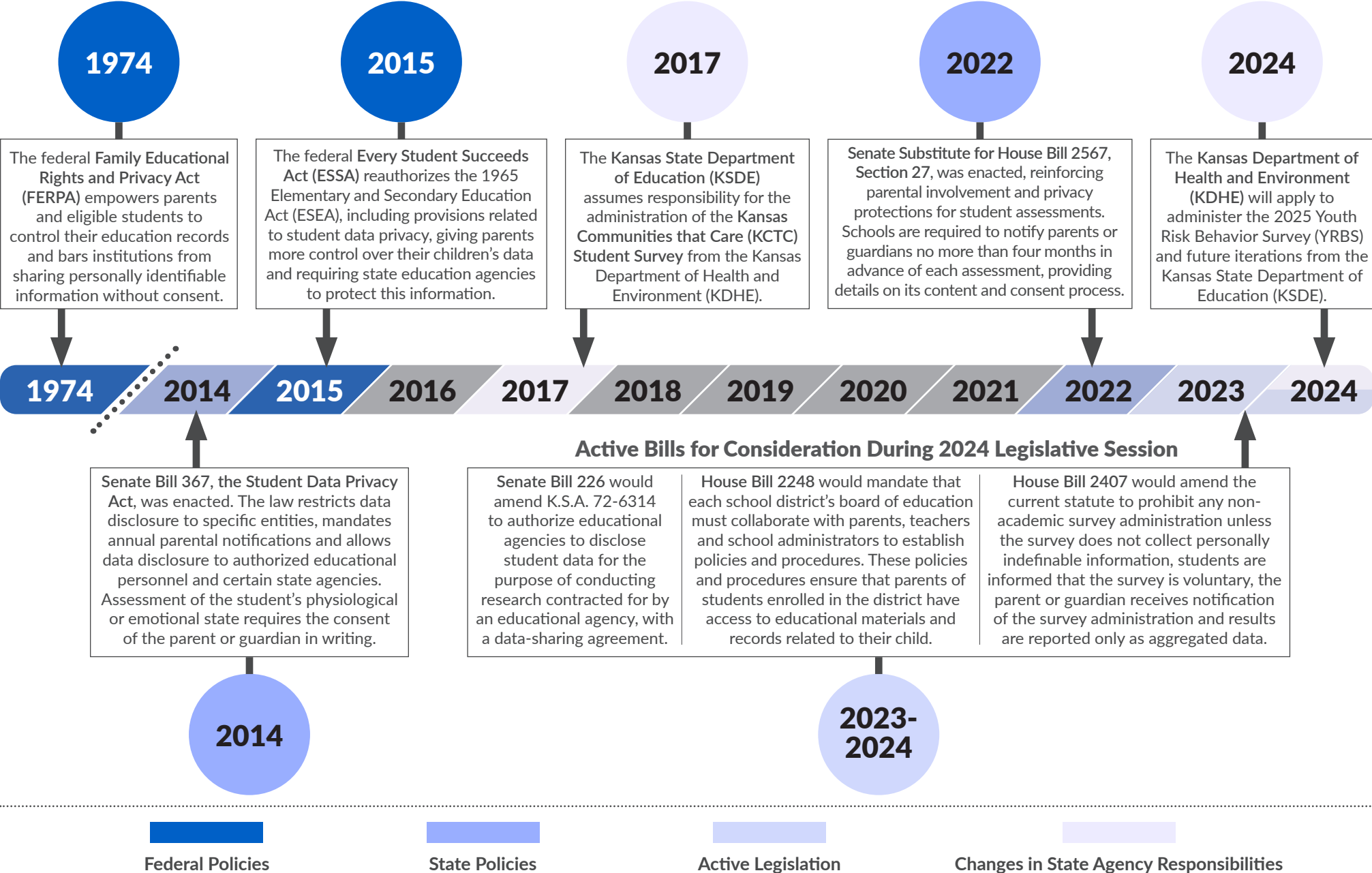


Key Events Shaping Youth Data Collection in Kansas

A National and State Perspective

This timeline aims to provide an overview of the policies surrounding youth data collection, shedding light on the historical context, pivotal regulations and contemporary debates shaping the present and future of data privacy for youth in school settings.



Kansas Youth Data Overview

The need for youth-related data to effectively plan, monitor and evaluate youth-focused programs is rising. This information is collected through two primary methods within school systems: 1) conducting non-academic surveys directly with students within school settings, and 2) gathering administratively reported data. This document offers examples illustrating the kinds of information acquired through these means. It's important to note that while this list provides insights, it may only encompass some data collected, as each school district might gather additional information according to their specific needs.

Primary Data Collection

Below are the two surveys that are administered directly to youth in school settings.



Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey is a national biennial (odd numbered years) survey with a probability sample of middle and high school students administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through state agencies and local school districts. In Kansas, it had been administered through the Kansas State Department of Education, but it will move to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) starting in 2024. Survey results are collected anonymously so individual students aren't identified.



Kansas Communities that Care (KCTC) Student Survey

The Kansas Communities that Care Student Survey was created and is managed by Greenbush – The Southeast Kansas Education Service Center. This survey is funded by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS). It is offered at no cost to Kansas school districts that may choose to opt in and administer the survey. It is a non-probability (convenience) sample administered to grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. Survey results are collected anonymously so individual students aren't identified.

Administrative and Secondary Data

Below are three websites that each of them includes a collection of measures that can provide additional information on youth. These measures are collected and reported through other methods such as the aggregation of administratively reported data (e.g., school enrollment, graduation rates and birth rates by age of the mother).

Kansas Information for Communities (KIC)

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment hosts this website to facilitate access to population statistics, vital statistics (e.g., pregnancy, birth and death), hospital emergency department and discharge data and cancer statistics. These are large administrative data sets based on reported data (essentially the entire population).



Kids Count

The Kansas KIDS COUNT project is a joint effort of the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Kansas Action for Children. They publish annual snapshots of how Kansas children age 0 to 17 are doing compared to their peers based on a compilation of secondary data on a wide-range of topics. Topics covered include economic security, education, and health. Fact sheets are available at the statewide and county level with local, state and national comparisons.



KSDE Data Central

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) maintains a Data Central website with numerous sets of K-12 education-related administrative data including: attendance, graduation rates, dropout rates, headcount enrollment, IDEA and gifted students, personnel data, free or reduced-price lunch data, suspension and expulsion data, and school related crime data. The site also includes links to Federal data sources such as National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).



Characteristics of Two Primary Youth Surveys

	Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)	Kansas Communities that Care (KCTC) Student Survey
	Since 1991, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has administered a biennial survey to track behaviors that can lead to poor health in middle and high school age students (grades 6-12).	Since the 1994-1995 school year, the KCTC has been administered annually at no cost in school districts across Kansas to students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12.
Who Publishes	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	Greenbush - The Southeast Kansas Education Service Center
What is Published	Data on: 1) Demographics; 2) Unintentional Injuries and Violence; 3) Tobacco use; 4) Alcohol and Other Drug Use; 5) Sexual Behaviors; 6) Dietary Behaviors; 7) Physical Activity; 8) Obesity, Overweight, and Weight Control; and 9) Other Health Topic	Data on: 1) Core Survey with: demographics, school climate, peer influences, drug, alcohol and tobacco usage as well as community-based perceptions; 2) Family Domain Optional Module; 3) Depression/Suicide Optional Module; 4) Demographics for Gender Identity Optional Module; and 5) Demographics for Sexual Orientation Optional Module
Baseline Year	1991 for high school data; 1995 for middle school data	1995
Most Recent Edition	2021	2023
Usual Release/ Data Lag	From 1 year to 1 year and 3 months later	1-4 months after the survey closes
Survey Administration Timeframe[^]	The YRBS is typically administered in spring (January-June) of odd-numbered years	The KCTC is administered annually between October 2 and January 31.
Data Release Timeframe	Results released during the summer of even-numbered years for the previous year.	Survey closes January 31 of each year and the results are available in spring of that year.
Population of Focus	Students enrolled in U.S. public and private middle and high schools (grades 6-12). Kansas only administers the high school survey.	Students enrolled in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 in public and private schools in Kansas.
Geographic Unit of Analysis	United States overall; State-level (including Kansas); U.S. Territories; select School Districts (not Kansas); Tribal Governments	State-level; County-level; Community Mental Health Center (CMHC)/Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHC) Region; Judicial District; Gambling Region (Hollywood, Kansas Star, Kansas Crossing, and Boothill)
Identifiable Student Information	Survey results are collected anonymously.	Survey results are collected anonymously.
Data Weighting*	Weighted.	Not Weighted.
Strengths and Limitations	<p>Minimum participation is required to report data at the state level.</p> <p>Representative sample based on two-stage cluster sampling design (by school and then by required classes) with weighting for state-level data.</p> <p>No data are available for 2015 and 2023 due to insufficient participation.</p>	<p>Not based on random representative samples, the goal is 80% participation rate in participating school districts.</p> <p>KCTC reports county-level response rates that vary from <20% to more than 80%.</p> <p>A minimum 25% participation and at least 20 participants per aggregation level, to report data at that level (grade, school, district, county).</p>

Note: *Weighting is a mathematical procedure that makes data representative of the population from which it was drawn. By weighting survey data, researchers are able to correct imbalances in the survey sample to make the results better reflect the demographics (e.g., age, race, ethnicity, sex, educational attainment, geographic region) of the population being studied.

[^]The 2021 national YRBS administration was postponed until the fall (September-December) of 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting shift to virtual and hybrid school instruction and ongoing school closures during spring 2021.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System](#) & Greenbush [Kansas Communities that Care Student Survey](#).

Youth Risk Behavior Survey

Since 1991, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has utilized the biennial Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to track behaviors that can lead to poor health in middle and high school age students.

The YRBS includes:

- The national survey called the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), which is conducted by the CDC every other year, includes middle and high school students (grades 6-12) from both private and public schools in the U.S.
- Surveys of public high school students conducted by their department of health or department of education at the state, tribal, territorial or local level.

Goals:

- Determine how often unhealthy behaviors occur.
- Identify emerging issues. Assess whether unhealthy behaviors increase, decrease or stay the same over time.
- Provide data at the national, state, territorial and freely associated state, tribal and local levels.
- Provide data comparing different groups of adolescents based on demographics, such as age, gender, race and ethnicity.
- Monitor progress toward achieving the Healthy People Objectives and other program goals.

Domains and Topic Areas:

Health-related behaviors and experiences surveyed include:

- Demographics, such as sex, sexual identity, race, ethnicity and grade.
- Behaviors and conditions such as: sexual injury and violence, bullying, diet and physical activity, obesity, and mental health (including suicide).
- Substance use, such as electronic vaping and tobacco product use, alcohol use and other drug use.
- Student experiences, such as parental monitoring, connectedness to school, housing stability and exposure to community violence.

Sampling:

YRBS data sets are available for the United States overall, 45 states (including Kansas), three territories, 28 local school districts and two tribal governments. The CDC provides the survey questionnaire and methodology.

- The most recent data available in Kansas is from the 2021 Kansas Youth Risk Behavior Survey.
- CDC also funds a small number of local school districts. In 2021, a total of 28 school districts – none in Kansas – received additional funding for data collection and had results reported.

In Kansas, public schools with students in any of the grades 9-12 may be selected for participation. The state agency sends school district demographic data to the CDC, which randomly selects school districts. Note that the sampling is proportional to school enrollment size; therefore, schools with larger enrollment have a higher probability of being included in the sample. The state agency notifies schools districts of their selection.

How It's Used:

State, territorial and tribal governments, as well as local agencies and nongovernmental organizations use YRBS data to set and track progress toward meeting school health and health promotion program goals, support modification of school health curricula or other programs, support new legislation and policies that promote health, and seek funding and other support for new initiatives.

The CDC and other federal agencies routinely use YRBS data to assess trends in priority health behaviors among high school students, monitor progress toward achieving national health objectives, and evaluate the contribution of broad prevention efforts in schools and other settings toward helping the nation reduce health risk behaviors among youth. This includes reporting and analysis of YRBS data in the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWR).

In Kansas, the YRBS data are used to:

- Create awareness among schools, parents, health educators, students and media;
- Set program goals for school health initiatives, Healthy People 2020 objectives, and CDC programs;
- Develop programs and policies for schools, at-risk initiatives, and communities; and
- Support health-related legislation such as drug-free or weapon-free school zones, minor's access laws, drinking and driving regulations, competitive food policies, and restrictions on billboards/advertising.

Some examples in Kansas include:

- Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant Program (CDRR) in 29 communities,
- Healthy Kansas School Grants Program in 12 school districts,
- Healthy Kansans 2030 – State Health Improvement Plan,
- Sexual Violence Prevention and Education State Burden Document,
- Kansas Governor's Council on Fitness, and
- Safe and Active School Transportation Grant from the Kansas Health Foundation.

Helpful Links:

- CDC, YRBSS Overview: bit.ly/cdc_overview
- CDC, A Guide to Conducting Your Own Youth Risk Behavior Survey: bit.ly/conduct_survey
- KSDE: Kansas Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Data: https://bit.ly/KSDE_survey

Kansas Communities that Care (KCTC) Student Survey

Since the 1994–1995 school year, the Kansas Communities that Care (KCTC) Student Survey has been administered annually at no cost in school districts across Kansas to students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. The survey is administered by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center, also known as Greenbush. It is funded by the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) to provide a measurable level of risk and protective factors that influence the behavior, attitudes and opinions of Kansas students.

Goals:

- Identify factors that put students at increased risk, and find solutions to reduce risk;
- Provide information to school districts and communities so they can accurately assess students' needs;
- Provide data for program planning;
- Establish a baseline to track progress; and
- Conduct public relations and outreach.

Domains and Topic Areas:

- Support at school, such as opportunities to be involved in school activities and other activities outside of class;
- Peer influences, such as how peers' actions impact behaviors and conditions;
- Substance use, including alcohol use, tobacco use, drug use, and vaping; and
- Community-based perceptions, such as how the student thinks the community views and responds to teen behaviors.

Optional modules include 1) Family Domain Module, 2) Depression/Suicide Module, 3) Demographics for Gender Identity Module, and 4) Demographics for Sexual Orientation Module.

Sampling:

Greenbush makes the survey available to all school districts across Kansas. School districts can register to administer the survey to their students. Districts must obtain parental consent for each student surveyed and responses are collected anonymously. Participating districts are encouraged to obtain responses from a high percentage of their students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. The resulting data only applies to students who completed a survey.

How It's Used:

In Kansas, data from the KCTC are used to:

- Monitor youth attitudes and behavior;
- Apply for or evaluate grant funding and community planning;
- Social Emotional Learning data report to monitor SEL and help meet new accreditation requirements;
- Develop school profiles and strategic plans to address areas of need;
- Track trends over time;
- Measure both risk factors and protective factors (i.e. positive trends and attributes).

Helpful Links:

- KCTC: kctcdata.org
- KSDE: bit.ly/KSDE_Social_Emotional_Growth