

Nebraska High School Survey Sample Description And Weighting Procedures

SAMPLE DESCRIPTION:

School Level - All regular public schools containing grades 9, 10, 11, or 12 were included in the sampling frame. Schools were selected systematically with probability proportional to enrollment in grades 9 through 12 using a random start. 48 schools were sampled.

Class Level - All classes in a required subject or all classes meeting during a particular period of the day, depending on the school, were included in the sampling frame. Systematic equal probability sampling with a random start was used to select classes from each school that participated in the survey.

RESPONSE RATES:

Schools - 52% 25 of the 48 sampled schools participated.

Students - 95% 1,856 of the 1,950 sampled students completed usable questionnaires.

Overall response rate - $52\% * 95\% = 50\%$

WEIGHTING:

In probability sampling, associating a weight with each questionnaire is intended to reflect the likelihood of sampling each student and to reduce bias by compensating for differing patterns of nonresponse. The low overall response rate precludes weighting of the data.

USE OF THE UNWEIGHTED RESULTS:

The unweighted results provide a description of the priority health-risk behaviors of the survey participants. These results cannot be generalized to other students.