Nebraska High School
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. 65 schools were sampled. Two additional non-overlapping schools from the Lincoln-Lancaster sample were also included.

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 -   51%   34 of the 67 sampled schools participated.

Students -   68%   1,205 of the 1,756 sampled students submitted questionnaires.
                            1,201 questionnaires were usable after data editing.

Overall response rate -   51% * 68% $= 35\%$[1]

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.

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[1] Overall response rate is computed as (number of participating schools/number of eligible sampled schools) * (number of usable questionnaires/number of eligible students sampled in participating schools), rounded to the nearest integer.