

District of Columbia Combined Middle School Survey Sample Description

Sample Description

School Level – All schools of the following type(s) containing grades 6, 7, or 8 were included in the sampling frame:

School Type	
Regular public	Included
Charter	Included
Private	Excluded
Alternative	Excluded
Vocational	Excluded
Special education	Excluded

Note: Your 2017 YRBS sampling frame had the same types of schools included and excluded.

All 77 schools in the sampling frame were selected. One school was ineligible.

Class Level - All students were included in the sample.

Response Rates

Schools - 93% 71 of the 76 sampled eligible schools participated.

Students - 83% 11,835 of the 13,719 sampled students submitted questionnaires.
11,352 questionnaires were usable after data editing.

Overall response rate - $93\% * 83\% = 77\%$ ¹

Weighting

A weight has been associated with each questionnaire to reflect the likelihood of sampling each student and to reduce bias by compensating for differing patterns of nonresponse. The weight used for estimation is given by:

$$W = f1 * f2 * f3$$

f1 = a school-level nonresponse adjustment factor calculated by school type (regular public, charter) and school size category (small, medium, large). The factor was calculated in terms of school enrollment instead of number of schools;

f2 = a student-level nonresponse adjustment factor calculated by school;

f3 = a poststratification adjustment factor calculated by gender within grade and by race/ethnicity.

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.

Use of the Weighted Results

The weighted results can be used to make important inferences concerning the priority health-risk behaviors of all regular public and charter school students in grades 6 through 8.