

2009 FAIRFAX COUNTY YOUTH SURVEY OF 6th GRADE STUDENTS

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this study. These questions ask your opinion about a number of things concerning you, your friends, your family, your neighborhood, and your community.

All of your answers will be kept strictly confidential. This means your answers are secret. This survey is completely voluntary. You can skip any questions that you do not want to answer.

Be sure to read the instructions below before you begin.

Thank you very much.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This is not a test, so there are no right or wrong answers.
2. All of the questions should be answered by marking one of the answer spaces. If you do not find an answer that fits exactly, use the one that comes closest. If any question does not apply to you, or you are not sure what it means, just leave it blank.
3. Your answers will be read automatically by a scanner and computer. Please follow these instructions carefully.
4. For questions that have the following answers: NO!! no yes YES!!

Mark the big **YES!!** if you think the statement is DEFINITELY TRUE for you.

Mark the little **yes** if you think the statement is MOSTLY TRUE for you.

Mark the little **no** if you think the statement is MOSTLY NOT TRUE for you.

Mark the big **NO!!** if you think the statement is DEFINITELY NOT TRUE for you.

Example: Chocolate is the best ice cream flavor.

NO!! no yes YES!!

MARKING INSTRUCTIONS

- a. Use a No. 2 pencil or a blue or black pen only.
- b. Do not use pens with ink that soaks through the paper.
- c. Make solid marks that fill the response completely.
- d. Make no stray marks on this form.

This kind of mark will work:

Correct Mark



These kinds of marks will NOT work:

Incorrect Mark



PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA



SERIAL #

These questions ask for some general information about the people completing the survey.

Please mark the response that best describes you.

1. How old are you?

- 10 or younger
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14 or older

2. What grade are you in?

- 5th
- 6th
- 7th

3. Are you:

- Female
- Male

4. What do you consider yourself to be?

- Select ONE only.**
- Hispanic or Latino
 - Not Hispanic nor Latino

5. What do you consider yourself to be?

- Select ONE OR MORE.**
- American Indian or Alaskan native
 - Asian
 - Black or African-American
 - Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
 - White

6. Think of where you live most of the time. Which of the following people live there with you? **Choose ALL that apply.**

- Mother
- Father
- Stepmother
- Stepfather
- Grandmother(s)
- Grandfather(s)
- Foster parent
- Other adults
- Sister(s)
- Brother(s)
- Stepsister(s)
- Stepbrother(s)
- Other children

7. What language do you use most often at home?

- English
- Spanish
- Another Language

The next section asks about your experiences at school.

8. Putting them all together, what were your grades like last year?

- Mostly Fs
- Mostly Ds
- Mostly Cs
- Mostly Bs
- Mostly As

9. I think sometimes it is okay to cheat at school.

- NO!!
- no
- yes
- YES!!

10. How often do you come to classes without your homework finished?

- Usually
- Sometimes
- Never

How much do you agree or disagree with the following?

11. I know how to use a computer to do things like schoolwork, finding information, or typing papers.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Not Sure
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

12. I can do well in school if I want to.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Not Sure
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

13. I feel safe at my school.

- NO!!
- no
- yes
- YES!!

The next section asks about your feelings and experiences in other parts of your life.

Remember, your answers are confidential.

14. During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?

- Yes
- No

How many times have you:

27. ...participated in school or non-school extracurricular activities (e.g., sports, student government, student newspaper, scouting, etc.)?
- Never
 - I've done it, but not in the past year
 - Less than once a month
 - About once a month
 - Two or three times a month
 - Once a week or more

28. ...volunteered to do community service?

- Never
- I've done it, but not in the past year
- Less than once a month
- About once a month
- Two or three times a month
- Once a week or more

On an average school day, how many hours do you:

29. ...watch TV?

- Not at all
- Less than 1 hour per day
- 1 hour per day
- 2 hours per day
- 3 hours per day
- 4 hours per day
- 5 or more hours per day

30. ...play video or computer games or use a computer for something that is not school work? (Include activities such as Nintendo, Game Boy, PlayStation, Xbox, computer games, and the Internet.)

- Not at all
- Less than 1 hour per day
- 1 hour per day
- 2 hours per day
- 3 hours per day
- 4 hours per day
- 5 or more hours per day

31. During the past 7 days, on how many days were you physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day? *Add up all the time you spend in any kind of physical activity that increases your heart rate and makes you breathe hard some of the time.*

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 0 days | <input type="radio"/> 4 days |
| <input type="radio"/> 1 day | <input type="radio"/> 5 days |
| <input type="radio"/> 2 days | <input type="radio"/> 6 days |
| <input type="radio"/> 3 days | <input type="radio"/> 7 days |

The next section asks about things you might have done, or that might have happened to you. Some of the questions are about bullying. **Bullying is when 1 or more students tease, threaten, spread rumors about, hit, shove, or hurt another student over and over again. It is not bullying when 2 students of about the same strength or power argue or fight or tease each other in a friendly way.**

Remember, your answers are confidential.

During the past year, how many times have you:

32. ...bullied, taunted, ridiculed, or teased someone?

- Never
- It's happened, but not in the past year
- A few times in the past year
- About once a month
- Two or three times a month
- Once a week or more
- Every day

33. ...said something bad about someone's race or culture?

- Never
- It's happened, but not in the past year
- A few times in the past year
- About once a month
- Two or three times a month
- Once a week or more
- Every day

How many times in the past year has anyone done any of the following TO YOU:

34. ...bullied, taunted, ridiculed, or teased you?

- Never
- It's happened, but not in the past year
- A few times in the past year
- About once a month
- Two or three times a month
- Once a week or more
- Every day

35. ...said something bad about your race or culture?

- Never
- It's happened, but not in the past year
- A few times in the past year
- About once a month
- Two or three times a month
- Once a week or more
- Every day

36. How many times in the past year has a parent or adult in your household bullied, taunted, ridiculed, or teased you?

- Never
- It's happened, but not in the past year
- A few times in the past year
- About once a month
- Two or three times a month
- Once a week or more
- Every day

Cyberbullying is electronic bullying, such as through e-mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, Web sites, or text messaging.

37. How many times in the past year have you been cyberbullied by a student who attends your school?

- Never
- 1 to 2 times
- 3 to 5 times
- 6 to 9 times
- 10 to 19 times
- 20 to 29 times
- 30 to 39 times
- 40 or more times

38. How many times in the past year have you cyberbullied a student attending your school?

- Never
- 1 to 2 times
- 3 to 5 times
- 6 to 9 times
- 10 to 19 times
- 20 to 29 times
- 30 to 39 times
- 40 or more times

The next section asks about your experiences with tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs.

How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they:

39. ...smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day?

- No risk
- Slight risk
- Moderate risk
- Great risk

40. ...try marijuana once or twice?

- No risk
- Slight risk
- Moderate risk
- Great risk

41. ...smoke marijuana regularly?

- No risk
- Slight risk
- Moderate risk
- Great risk

42. ...take one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor) nearly every day?

- No risk
- Slight risk
- Moderate risk
- Great risk

43. Have you ever smoked cigarettes?

- Never
- Once or twice
- Once in a while but not regularly
- Regularly in the past
- Regularly now

44. How often have you smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days?

- Not at all
- Less than one cigarette per day
- One to five cigarettes per day
- About one-half pack per day
- About one pack per day
- More than one pack per day

45. Have you ever, even once in your lifetime, had more than a sip or two of beer, wine, or hard liquor?

- Yes
- No

46. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you drink beer, wine, or hard liquor?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-5 days
- 6-9 days
- 10 or more days

47. Have you ever, even once in your lifetime, smoked marijuana?

- Yes
- No

48. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use marijuana?

- None
- 1-2 days
- 3-5 days
- 6-9 days
- 10 or more days

49. Have you ever, even once in your lifetime, sniffed glue, breathed (huffed) the contents of an aerosol spray can, or inhaled other gases or sprays in order to get high?

- Yes
- No

62. We argue about the same things in my family over and over.

- NO!!
- no
- yes
- YES!!

63. People in my family have serious arguments.

- NO!!
- no
- yes
- YES!!

64. During the past 30 days, how often did you go hungry because there was not enough food in your home?

- Never
- Rarely
- Sometimes
- Most of the time
- Always

The next section asks about the environment.

How often do you perform the following activity:

65. ...recycle things such as newspapers, cans, and glass?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Never

66. ...turn off lights and electrical appliances (such as TVs and computers) when not in use?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Never

67. ...try to cut down on the amount of trash and garbage you create?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Never

68. ...conserve water in your home or yard (such as shutting off the faucet when brushing your teeth)?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Never

69. I believe that my actions can improve the quality of the environment.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

The next section asks about your experiences related to civic engagement.

70. During an average week, how many hours do you spend helping friends or neighbors, or helping other people without getting paid (such as helping out at a hospital, daycare center, food shelf, youth program, community service agency, or doing other things) to make your city a better place for people to live?

- 0 hours
- 1 hour
- 2 hours
- 3-5 hours
- 6-10 hours
- 11 or more hours

During the last 12 months, how many times have you:

71. ...been a leader in a group or organization?

- Never
- Once
- Twice
- 3-4 times
- 5 or more times

72. ...helped make sure that all people are treated fairly?

- Never
- Once
- Twice
- 3-4 times
- 5 or more times

73. In the past 30 days, how often have you read about issues affecting the public, politics, and/or political campaigns from newspapers, magazines, or the Internet in your free time?

- Frequently
- Sometimes
- Never

74. During the last 12 months, have you used your political voice (signed a petition, contacted a government official for a reason other than a school assignment, wrote to a publication to express your opinion, refused to use or buy a product made by a company that has a policy you disagree with, etc.) as a result of reading about politics, political campaigns, and/or issues affecting the public from newspapers, magazines, or the Internet in your free time?

- Yes
- No

