Nevada Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)
2019 Data Dissemination Evaluation
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INTRODUCTION

Priority health risk behaviors (i.e. preventable behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of morbidity and mortality) are often established during childhood and adolescence and extend into adulthood. Ongoing surveillance of youth risk behaviors is critical for the design, implementation, and evaluation of public health interventions to improve adolescent health. The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) is a national surveillance system that was established in 1991 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor the prevalence of health risk behaviors among youth. The Nevada High School and Middle School YRBSS is a biennial, anonymous, and voluntary survey of students in 6th through 12th grade in regular public, charter, and alternative schools.

In 2019, 36 high schools were randomly chosen by the CDC to represent Nevada. To ensure greater representation from schools in all districts, the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health contracted with the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Community Health Sciences to conduct the YRBSS in all high schools and middle schools throughout the state. The 2019 Nevada High and Middle School YRBSS provides statewide data to assess priority health-risk behaviors among high school students; measure progress toward achieving national health objectives for Healthy People 2020 and other program and policy indicators; and evaluate the impact of school and community interventions at the national, state, and local level. It is our intention that these data will be used by education and health professionals, policy makers, community members, and researchers to improve the health of Nevada’s high and middle school students.

This special report summarizes feedback on the dissemination and presentation of 2019 Nevada YRBSS results.

METHODS

The feedback, on the dissemination and presentation of 2019 Nevada YRBSS results, for this special report was collected through online surveys. Participants were emailed a link to the survey, which was administered through SurveyMonkey. The results from the survey are not meant to be representative of the views of all those who access Nevada’s YRBSS results, but rather survey participants were members of the YRBSS committee, superintendents, non-profit workers, and state and local health department workers (N=25).

The descriptive quantitative and qualitative feedback received through the survey will be presented in this report.
RESULTS

Figure 1: Organizational affiliation of survey participants

Figure 2: Ease of accessing YRBSS reports
# Table 1: Proportion of participants who accessed or planned to access 2019 Nevada YRBS reports*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2019 Report Title</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada High School YRBS Statewide Report</td>
<td>96.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS Statewide Report</td>
<td>88.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada High School YRBS Comparison Report</td>
<td>84.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS Comparison Report</td>
<td>84.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada High School YRBS: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) Special Report</td>
<td>60.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) Special Report</td>
<td>56.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada High School YRBS: Clark County Special Report</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark County Comparison Special Report</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada High School YRBS: Sexual and Gender Minority Special Report</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada High School YRBS: American Indian/ Alaska Native Special Report</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS: American Indian/ Alaska Native Special Report</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada High School YRBS: Washoe County Special Report</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washoe County Comparison Special Report</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS: Clark County Special Report</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS: Clark County Comparison Report</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS: Washoe County Special Report</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Nevada Middle School YRBS: Washoe County Comparison Report</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have not accessed nor planned to access any of the 2019 YRBS reports</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The 2019 Nevada YRBS Statewide and Comparison Reports were released before, sometimes months before, the Special Reports.
Open-ended feedback on how respondents use the information from YRBSS reports

Main Uses of YRBSS Data:
- 25% mentioned evaluation
- 24% mentioned program planning
- 24% mentioned using this information to create reports
- 20% of respondents mentioned grant writing

Direct Comments on How Respondents Use YRBSS Data:
“I review the data to look at what is happening at the local level. This helps to inform on what substances to address, target populations and other factors. I use this data on state and federal grants and reports to diverse stakeholders. The YRBS data is very valuable information.”

“We greatly rely on these reports for our community youth assessments. This information is utilized in program planning, grant writing, outcome measures. These reports are incredibly important.”

“Assessments, grants, comparative analytics - I find the YRBS reports to be very useful!”

“For our community prevention planning efforts, gauging impact on prevention interventions and monitoring overall trends.”

“Mostly to track drug trends across the years to see what areas we need to focus on and how we are progressing with goals”

“Data analysis, grant writing, funding recommendations, creating a comprehensive prevention plan.”

“Statewide substance use planning, legislative presentations, writing grants, developing scopes of work.”

“To inform priority areas for our coalition and to add to our Comprehensive Community Prevention Plan.”
Recommendations for Future Special Report Topics and Other Projects

Recommended Special Report Topics:

- Nutrition and physical activity
- Perception and perceived perception of harm of substance use by students, their families, and their friends
- Over a quarter (26%) of respondents to the question asked for further breakdowns of the data by:
  - Race/ethnicity; in particular a Latino specific report
  - Location; in particular a report on rural counties and a breakdown by coalitions
  - **Note:** The Nevada YRBSS team accepts data requests for further breakdowns of data by categories such as race/ethnicity, county, collation, etc. However, not all of these requests are made public nor is every breakdown possible, as some breakdowns create sample sizes that are too small that student privacy and anonymity cannot be ensured.

Recommendations for increased access to and interpretation of results:

- “Dashboard where you can do crosstabs of different indicators (i.e. prescription drug misuse and race/ethnicity)”
- “…Would LOVE to see youth having access to the data in a way that is meaningful to them. Also to their parents”
- “Send out what reports you have and why districts would want to reference”
- Collaboration between Nevada’s YRBSS team and other organizations and data sources, such as:
  - Federal Government and Performance Results Act (GPRA)
  - Local and statewide hospital data
  - The Rescue Agency’s I-Base Survey
- Directly send relevant reports to more partners and stakeholders, such as:
  - Tribal Chairmen and communities
  - School districts
Other Suggestions and/or Comments from Survey Participants

“Appreciate the continuation of the YRBS over the years, and the incredible benefits it provides our community!”

“Thank you for providing us with such a valuable resource for the state!”

“…This is valuable for grants and community agencies Thank you”

“Thank you to Kristen and her team in facilitating the YRBS data collection, analytics, and reports!”

“The trend data is very useful. I love to hear the YRBS data presented as I gain insight on how to interpret the data in a meaningful way.”

“Thank you!”

“Great work, though!”
Recommended Citation
Anderson, M., Diedrick, M., Lensch, T., Zhang, F., Peek, J., Clements-Nolle, K., Yang, W.

Additional Resources
UNR YRBS Statewide and Special Reports
https://www.unr.edu/public-health/research/yrbs
YRBS Adolescent and School Health
http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm

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https://www.unr.edu/public-health/research/yrbs

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