

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention Curricula Survey, 1999-2000

Project Highlights for Kentucky

Project Description: The purpose of the project was to determine the number of Kentucky middle and high schools that offer research-based alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) prevention curricula. Principals from schools enrolling 6-12 graders were asked to participate in a 5-10 minute telephone interview. Interviews were conducted by health department personnel and staff from Eastern Kentucky University. All interviewers were trained using a consistent phone interview protocol. Data were returned to the University of Kentucky for data entry, verification, and analysis.

Sample: Of 838 schools contacted, 809 public and private, middle and high schools participated in the telephone interview (97% participation rate). All schools enrolling 6-12 graders were invited to participate. Over three-fourths were public schools (76%). Over two-thirds of those interviewed were school principals or vice principals (67%), and 13% were guidance counselors.

Interview Questions: Schools were asked whether they offered 10 specific research-based curricula (Life Skills Training Program, Project ALERT, Project Northland, Know Your Body, Kentucky Adolescent Tobacco Prevention Program, Growing Healthy, ALL STARS, Teenage Health Teaching Modules, Talking with Your Students about Alcohol, and Here's Looking at You 2000). This list of research-based ATOD curricula offered in grades 6-12 was obtained from the Kentucky Division of Substance Abuse. The following questions were asked:

- (1) Does your school teach (the specific research-based curricula)?
- (2) If yes, in what grade levels is it taught?
- (3) If yes, do all children in the grade level receive the curriculum?
- (4) What other research-based ATOD curricula do your school offer?
- (5) Are you interested in receiving information about research-based ATOD curricula?

Summary of Findings: (see attached Table)

- ❑ About one-third of Kentucky middle and high schools offer at least one research-based ATOD curriculum, and the majority of those report that all children in the grade receive the curriculum.
- ❑ Talking with Your Students about Alcohol (grades 5-12) and Project ALERT (grades 6-8) are the most prevalent ATOD curricula used in Kentucky, and they are most likely to reach children in grades 7 and 8.
- ❑ It is estimated that only 5% of middle and high schools offer the Life Skills Training Program (grades 6-9).
- ❑ The majority of schools (84%) are interested in receiving information about research-based ATOD curricula.

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