



WHAT IS THE CARING COMMUNITIES YOUTH SURVEY?

The Caring Communities Youth Survey (CCYS) is designed to assess students' involvement in a specific set of risk behaviors, as well as their exposure to a set of scientifically validated risk and protective factors. These factors have been shown to predict the likelihood of:



The Survey is administered in schools every two years to 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. The next surveying period will be Fall 2014.

WHAT DOES TAKING PART IN THE SURVEY MEAN FOR NEW ORLEANS?

CCYS data provides the ideal information for assessing the levels of risk and protective factors in our community. After identifying these risk and protective factors, we can build a prevention framework using evidence-based programs to address these priority areas. This prevention plan will respond to New Orleans' unique set of issues and strengths. By targeting efforts to reduce areas of high risk and bolster areas of low protection, risk behaviors in youth can be reduced.

This process has already begun with programs aimed at increasing youth safety to 95% by 2020 through initiatives set forth in the **NOLA FOR LIFE PLAYbook: Promoting Life for All Youth**, a strategic plan to prevent youth violence in New Orleans. Evidence from other cities shows that a coordinated public health approach can produce considerable improvements in youth outcomes.

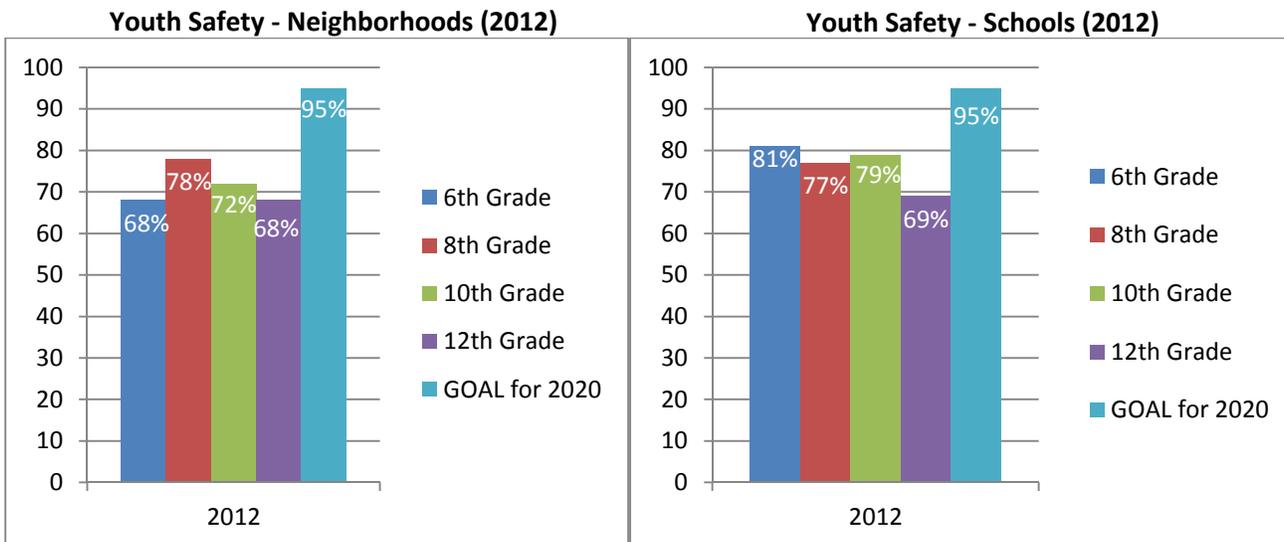


WHERE DO I FIT IN?

In recent years, New Orleans schools have had an exceptionally low response rate to the survey; in 2012, only 17% of students participated in the survey. Without a 70% participation rate, it is difficult to view the available data as either dependable or representative. We aim to increase the response rate in 2014 to 70% to produce reliable data to better understand the needs of the community that we serve. We encourage you to join as a partner in this agenda as improving the lives of our city's youth is central to all of our organizations' mission and vision for a brighter future.



CCYS data is a key component of prevention planning frameworks for improving youth safety. It enables us to understand the current climate (as displayed below), identify protective and risk factors, and measure the effectiveness of interventions. This is also true of other prevention plans focusing on other factors affecting our community, such as substance use.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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www.nola.gov/health



<http://picardcenter.org/ResearchAreas/QualityOfLife/CCYS/>

Greater New Orleans Drug Demand Reduction Coalition

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