



*To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County*

August 2009

Dear Teachers & Staff,

Many of you work with youth every day. The energy and caring that you devote to the children of our county is what helps produce compassionate, competent and productive adults for the future.

Certainly it is an impossible task to be all things for all young people. Many youth face difficult challenges in many areas of their lives. It is a sad fact of life that much of what is measured are the negative aspects of behavior and performance. We measure how many students have used alcohol or drugs, and how many students consider suicide. But in between the lines of this “negative data” are the successes of your hard work.

The following “In Your Classroom” fact sheets highlight students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 10<sup>th</sup> grade, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The information used in these fact sheets represents Kittitas County Youth, and was derived from the most recent Healthy Youth Survey given in October 2008.

**The categories selected for the fact sheets are areas that may create a direct, indirect, or potential barrier to learning.**

While what is highlighted in these fact sheets represents the challenges your students may face, your dedication to youth in our county does not go unrecognized.

If you have questions or comments regarding information presented in these fact sheets please contact Amy Diaz, Assessment Coordinator, at (509) 962-7635.

Best wishes for a healthy and productive school year!













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[www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/](http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/)

# Kittitas County 6th Graders In Your Classroom

In a class of 25		
Trying to lose weight	8.8	
Bullied last 30 days	7.8	
Suicide seriously considered	3.2	
Doesn't feel safe at school	2.7	
Drinks alcohol last 30 days	0.5	
Carries a weapon at school last 30 days	0.5	
Smokes marijuana last 30 days	0.4	
Smokes cigarettes last 30 days	0.3	
Chews tobacco last 30 days	0.3	
Works >10 hours per week	n/a	
Depressed last 12 months	n/a	
Overweight	n/a	
Domestic violence injured by partner in past year	n/a	
In a fight at school last 12 months	n/a	
Gang member last 12 months	n/a	
No after-school activities	n/a	
Has low quality of life	n/a	

n/a = data not available



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Three in ten (31.2%) 6th graders report being bullied in the past month, while 10.8% don't feel safe at school.

# Kittitas County 8th Graders In Your Classroom

<b>In a class of 25</b>		
<b>Has low quality of life</b>	11.0	
<b>Trying to lose weight</b>	9.8	
<b>Bullied</b>	7.3	
<b>Overweight</b>	5.8	
<b>No after-school activities</b>	5.4	
<b>In a fight at school</b> last 12 months	5.3	
<b>Depressed</b> last 12 months	5.2	
<b>Doesn't feel safe at school</b>	4.5	
<b>Drinks alcohol</b> last 30 days	4.1	
<b>Suicide</b> seriously considered	2.9	
<b>Smokes marijuana</b> (last 30 days)	2.3	
<b>Domestic violence</b> injured by partner in past year	1.9	
<b>Gang member</b> last 12 months	1.6	
<b>Carried a weapon at school</b> last 30 days	1.5	
<b>Works &gt;10 hours per week</b>	1.3	
<b>Smokes cigarettes</b> last 30 days	1.0	
<b>Chews tobacco</b> last 30 days	0.4	



















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Two in five (39.2%) 8th graders are trying to lose weight, although only one in five (23.2%) is actually overweight.

# Kittitas County 10th Graders In Your Classroom

<b>In a class of 25</b>		
<b>Has low quality of life</b>	13.8	
<b>Trying to lose weight</b>	9.4	
<b>Drinks alcohol</b> last 30 days	8.0	
<b>No after-school activities</b>	6.8	
<b>Depressed</b> last 12 months	6.4	
<b>Overweight</b>	5.2	
<b>Bullied</b> last 30 days	4.7	
<b>Smokes marijuana</b> last 30 days	4.2	
<b>Smokes cigarettes</b> last 30 days	4.0	
<b>Suicide</b> seriously considered	3.6	
<b>Carries a weapon at school</b> last 30 days	3.2	
<b>Works &gt;10 hours per week</b>	2.9	
<b>In a fight at school</b> last 12 months	2.5	
<b>Doesn't feel safe at school</b>	2.4	
<b>Domestic Violence</b> injured by partner in past year	2.0	
<b>Chews tobacco</b> last 30 days	1.9	
<b>Gang member</b> last 12 months	1.2	

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In the last month, three in ten (32.0%) high school sophomores drank alcohol and nearly one in five (16.8%) smoked marijuana.

# Kittitas County 12th Graders In Your Classroom

<b>In a class of 25</b>	
<b>Drinks alcohol</b> last 30 days 12.0	
<b>Has low quality of life</b> 11.6	
<b>Trying to lose weight</b> 10.3	
<b>No after-school activities</b> 10.3	
<b>Works &gt;10 hours per week</b> 8.3	
<b>Smokes marijuana</b> last 30 days 7.7	
<b>Depressed</b> last 12 months 6.8	
<b>Smokes cigarettes</b> last 30 days 6.8	
<b>Overweight</b> 5.0	
<b>Bullied</b> last 30 days 4.1	
<b>Carries a weapon at school</b> last 30 days 3.9	
<b>Chews tobacco</b> last 30 days 3.6	
<b>Suicide</b> seriously considered 3.2	
<b>Doesn't feel safe at school</b> 2.6	
<b>In a fight at school</b> last 12 months 2.5	
<b>Domestic Violence</b> injured by partner in past year 2.3	
<b>Gang member</b> last 12 months 1.6	

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In the last month, nearly one of two (48.0%) high school seniors drank alcohol and three in ten (30.8%) smoked marijuana.