

2018 Dane County Youth Assessment

Since 1980, the Dane County Youth Commission has coordinated a survey of middle and high school youth throughout Dane county to collect data on health, mental health, social and behavioral trends. Project partners include the United Way of Dane County, Public Health of Madison & Dane County, the Dane County Department of Human Services, the City of Madison & Dane County school districts.

The survey is conducted every 3 years to keep pace with the rate of community change. The survey is administered electronically to increase reliability and to provide results and useable data in a timely manner. State and national youth survey questions are included to allow Dane County youth trends to be compared to state and national youth trends.

In 2015, over 20,000 youth completed the survey providing valuable information about their experiences at home, in school and in their communities. Survey topics include alcohol/drug use, level of school engagement, use of free time, health and nutrition, mental health, family relationships, and risk behaviors.

DCYA data offers a comprehensive profile of the needs and interests of Dane County youth that subsequently informs program development, policy making and grant applications by schools, funding partners, local stakeholders and researchers. The Youth Commission will continue to promote the wide use of the data for the betterment of the community. The 2015 DCYA Executive Summary, middle and high school summary reports are available at: <https://danecountyhumanservices.org/yth/>

The next survey will be administered in January – March 2018. Planning is underway.

The following communities have committed to participating in the 2018 survey:

- Belleville
- Cambridge
- Deerfield
- DeForest
- Edgewood HS
- Madison
- McFarland
- Marshall
- Middleton/Cross Plains
- Monona Grove
- Mount Horeb
- Oregon
- Sauk Prairie
- Sun Prairie
- Waunakee
- Wisconsin Heights

Funding for this project is made possible by:

- Dane County School districts
- Dane County Youth Commission
- City of Madison
- Public Health of Madison and Dane County
- United Way of Dane County