



2021 MIYHS INFORMATION

MIYHS Contact Information

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What are the benefits of participating in the MIYHS?

- Access to a wide range of data on youth behaviors, risk factors and protective factors
- This data allows for evaluation of the impact national, state, and local efforts have in preventing certain risk behaviors and to improving school health education policies and programs
- Access to local, public health district, and state data that show how student health-risk behaviors change over time, and how they affect the success of Maine youth in attaining the Maine Learning Results

What is required of participating schools?

In order to assure a successful survey, schools must be prepared to:

- Complete an online training review.
- Pick up survey materials at a designated location within your local area in August/September 2021.
- E-Mail or mail (via Electronic Delivery Methodology and/or US Postal Service) consent letters to parents **at least 2 weeks but no more than 6 weeks** before the survey administration. (The consent letter may be included with other school mailings during this timeframe but must be sent via the outlined mailing methods; there are no exceptions to this rule.)
- Administer the survey during September/October 2021. (**NOTE:** If this timeframe conflicts with other initiatives, an alternative date can be selected.)
- Survey **all** eligible students and hold make-up sessions to ensure maximum student participation.
- Drop completed surveys off at a regional drop-off site or mail/return the surveys to Pan Atlantic Research.

Changes for 2021

There are a few changes to the administration of the 2021 MIYHS that you should be aware of:

- There will not be a Kindergarten/Grade 3 (K/3) survey this year, and we will not require school nurses to collect height, weight, or complete student oral health screenings for K/3 students.
- We will not require school nurses to collect height or weight information for Grade 5 students.
- Some schools may be eligible to administer the survey to students using an online, web-based survey system. Pan Atlantic Research will provide more information about this option to those schools that are eligible.

How does the 5th and 6th grade (5/6) survey work?

A sample of schools has been drawn for the 5/6 survey. Pan Atlantic Research will let you know if your school was selected as part of the 5/6 survey sample. However, if you have a 5th and/or 6th grade in your school, and were not selected as part of the sample, your school can volunteer to participate to get access to your school-level results for grades 5 and 6. Again, schools will not be required to provide height/weight measurements of the 5th graders this year.

How does the 7-12 grade survey work?

All schools with any grades 7 through 12 are invited and strongly encouraged to participate in the MIYHS. In 2019, nearly 80% of all middle and high schools participated and we hope to improve this percentage again this year. Please ensure that **all** students at your school, including vocational and alternative education students, participate in the survey.