

# The Pennsylvania Youth Survey: 2023 Timeline and Fact Sheet

Date	Action
March/April 2023	Survey questions available by request (please visit <a href="https://epis.psu.edu/paysquestion">https://epis.psu.edu/paysquestion</a> ) Superintendents receive notice of Fall 2023 PAYS administration Please see the email from Bach Harrison for your unique online registration/agreement form link!
May/July 2023	Bach Harrison outreach to district-named Survey Coordinators to connect and outline next steps.
Summer 2023	Recruitment outreach to districts from community, prevention, & education supporters of PAYS
September 4 to December 22, 2023	PAYS administered in participating districts and schools
December 23, 2023	Survey Return Deadline
April 30, 2024	PAYS Reports released to schools and counties
July 31, 2024	District-level PAYS Web Tool access released for authorized individuals

## Facts about the PAYS

- A biennial survey of youth in the 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grades administered in the fall of odd-numbered years since 1989.
- No cost for any Pennsylvania school district or private/charter/parochial/cyber school that wishes to participate!
- Collects information on school environment, mental health, and youth behaviors and attitudes related to alcohol/tobacco/other drugs, violence, and other problem behaviors mental health and youth attitudes and behaviors towards Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug (ATOD) use and other problem behaviors.
  - What our youth think and believe about anti-social behaviors.
  - What our youth think about their school environment.
- Data from the survey is an essential component of successful grant writing and can be used to leverage resources to help meet identified needs.
  - Provides prevention partnership opportunities to produce healthy youth development.
- Questions are asked in four domains—Community, School, Family, and Peer/Individual
  - Allows schools and communities to see what is happening in all aspects of their youths' lives.
  - Provides a holistic view of the students' environment including their communities, schools, families, and peers.
  - Helps to identify factors that can prevent a child from being ready to learn when they arrive to school each day.
- Surveys are anonymous and confidential—no individual student information can be obtained from the data set.
- In 2021, over 240,000 students across 1,072 schools in school districts and non-traditional schools took part in the PAYS. County reports are available for 57 counties (includes only counties that had a minimum of two participating districts). District reports (a profile report and an all-questions-by-grade report) are provided directly to school district superintendents or points of contact. District Superintendents are also provided with password-protected access to their data in the PAYS Web Tool.

For more information, visit [www.pays.pa.gov](http://www.pays.pa.gov), or contact Alise Barr, PAYS Support & Development Specialist

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