

## **2014 Ontario Child Health Study**



# **School Mental Health Surveys**

## **STUDENT SURVEY**

Researchers at McMaster University are conducting the School Mental Health Surveys, which are part of the 2014 Ontario Child Health Study. Your answers to this survey will help us understand what students in Ontario think and how they feel about their lives in school and outside of school. This information will be used to help improve the lives of children and youth in Ontario.

This is NOT a test. There are NO wrong answers.

**Your answers will be kept strictly confidential (private)**. No one at your school or home will know what you answered. Your survey will go directly to researchers at McMaster University and will be combined with those of other students to describe what students think and how they feel, as a group.

The survey is **voluntary**. You do NOT have to answer any question that you do not want to, but we hope you will answer as many questions as you can.

This is your chance to make a difference in the lives of children and youth in Ontario.

Thank you for participating!

### Instructions:



• Use a black or blue pen, or pencil.

• Put an 'X' in the box next to your response. You do not need to fill in the box.

This is the correct v	way to fill in the boxes:	
Answer A	Answer B	Answer C



• If you are not sure how to answer a question, please try your best.

• Leave the question blank if it makes you uncomfortable.



• Please do NOT put your name anywhere on the survey.

If you are feeling sad, angry or worried, the people at Kids Help Phone may be able to help: Call them for free at 1-800-668-6868



A. /	ABOUT YOU
A1.	Are you Female? Male?
A2.	How old are you?         9       16         10       17         11       18         12       19         13       20         14       21         15       22
A3.	What grade level is the class you are in right now?         If this is a split grade class, please specify the grade level you are in.         5       8       11         6       9       12         7       10       Other
A4.	Were you born in Canada? ☐ No
A5.	How old were you when you first came to Canada to live? 4 years of age or younger 5 - 9 years of age 10 - 14 years of age 15 years of age or older
A6.	<ul> <li>Which category <u>best</u> describes your race or cultural group? Mark all that apply.</li> <li>White</li> <li>East Asian (e.g., Chinese, Japanese, Korean)</li> <li>Southeast Asian (e.g., Vietnamese, Filipino, Cambodian, Malaysian, Laotian)</li> <li>South Asian (e.g., East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Afghan, Bangladeshi)</li> <li>West Asian or Arab (e.g., Iraqi, Syrian, Lebanese, Egyptian)</li> <li>Black African (e.g., Ghanaian, Kenyan), Black Caribbean (e.g., Jamaican, Haitian) or Black Canadian or American</li> <li>Latin American, Central American, South American (e.g., Mexican, Colombian, Brazilian, Chilean)</li> <li>Aboriginal/Native (e.g., First Nations, Métis, or Inuit)</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>

## **B. ABOUT YOUR SCHOOL**

B1. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each statement describing your school. In this school...

	Disagree a LOT	Disagree	Agree	Agree a LOT
1. Teachers treat students with respect.				
2. Students are taught to feel responsible for how they act.				
3. The school rules are fair.				
4. Students are taught to understand how others think and feel.				
5. Teachers care about their students.				
6. The consequences of breaking school rules are fair.				
7. Teachers expect all students to work hard.				
8. Students know how they are expected to act.				
9. Teachers require students to work hard to get good grades.				
10. Students are friendly with each other.				
11. Students are taught that they can control their own behaviour.				
12. Teachers expect students to do their best all the time.				
13. Students know what the rules are.				
14. Students care about each other.				
15. Teachers listen to students when they have problems.				
16. Students are taught how to solve conflicts with others.				
17. Adults in this school treat students fairly.				
18. Students are taught they should care about how others feel.				
19. Students treat each other with respect.				
20. Students get along with each other.				

### B2. Please think about how you feel at school. How much do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither disagree nor agree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. I feel close to people at this school.					
2. I feel like I belong at this school.					
3. I am happy to be at this school.					

### B3. How safe do you feel...

	Not safe	Somewhat safe	Mostly safe	Very safe
1in the hallways or stairwells of this school?				
2in the bathrooms or change rooms of this school?				
3outside or around this school?				
4on your way to and from school?				
5in your classes at this school?				

B4. Based on your school work and your most recent report card, how are you doing in the following subjects:

	A (80-90)	B (70-79)	C (60-69)	D or lower (<60)	Do not take this subject	
<ol> <li>English/Language (reading, writing and oral communication)?</li> </ol>						
2. Mathematics?						-
3. How are you doing overall?						

## B5. **During the <u>past six months</u>**, how often have you participated in the following activities **at your** school <u>but not during class</u>?

	Almost never	About once a month	About once a week	A few times a week	Most days	
<ol> <li>Played sports on a team, and/or taken part in physical activities (e.g., dance, karate, gymnastics), with a coach or instructor, other than in gym class?</li> </ol>						
2. Taken part in art, drama or music groups, outside of class?						
3. Taken part in a school club or group such as yearbook club, photography club or student council?						

**BULLYING:** There are lots of ways to bully, but students who bully other students want to hurt or upset them. It's not accidental. Usually they hurt or upset other students over and over again and are seen to have an advantage over them, such as being bigger, stronger or more popular. Sometimes a group of students will bully another student.

### B6. During the <u>past six months</u>, how often have <u>you been bullied</u> by other students...

	Never	Once or a few times	Once or twice a month	 Almost every day
<b>1physically</b> (e.g., hit, pushed, shoved, kicked, beaten up, had your things damaged or stolen)?				
<b>2verbally</b> (e.g., called names, teased hurtfully, insulted, threatened)?				
3socially (e.g., excluded from a group, gossiped or spread rumours)?				
<b>4electronically</b> (e.g., used the internet, social media, or text messages to exclude, threaten, embarrass or hurt your feelings)?				
<b>5racially/ethnically</b> (e.g., treated differently or badly because of your race, skin colour or ethnic background)?				
<b>6because of your appearance</b> (e.g., treated differently or badly because of your weight or the way you look)?				
<b>7. because of your gender identity or sexual orientation</b> (e.g., treated differently or badly because you are a boy or girl; or called 'gay' or 'lesbian' in a way meant to upset you)?				

B7. During the past six months, about how many times have you...

	Never	1 or 2 times	3 or 4 times	5 or more times
1skipped school or cut classes without permission?				
2been suspended from school?				
3been sent to the office because you were misbehaving or acting out in class?				

## C. ABOUT YOUR CLASS

## C1. The next questions ask about your experiences with the teacher who teaches <u>the class you are in</u> <u>right now</u>. During the <u>past three months</u>, how often has <u>this teacher</u>...

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
<ol> <li>noticed that you were upset and asked you about what was going on?</li> </ol>					
<ol><li>talked with you about how to deal with stressful experiences?</li></ol>					
<ol><li>gave you the opportunity to discuss something that was bothering you?</li></ol>					
4asked you to work with other students to complete an assignment or learn something new?					
<ol><li>asked you to discuss class material with other students in your class?</li></ol>					
6provided time for you and other students in your class to work together on class-related material?					
7reviewed the classroom rules for student behaviour?					
8acknowledged good behaviour in the classroom?					

C2. Please think about your experiences working in groups with other students <u>in the class you are in</u> <u>right now</u>. During the <u>past three months</u>, how often did the group members...

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
<ol> <li>pay attention to what every member had to say?</li> </ol>					
<ol><li>make sure that every member had a chance to participate?</li></ol>					
3work together to solve the group's problems?					

#### C3. In this class, how often do **you**...

	Never	Once in a while	About half the time	Usually	Always
1come to class prepared to participate?					
2come to class with all of your materials?					
3pay attention in class?					
4follow instructions well?					

## D. ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES, FEELINGS & BEHAVIOUR

### D1. How much do you agree with the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. I can cheer someone up who is feeling sad.				
2. I listen carefully to what other people say to me.				
3. I am good at working with other students.				
4. I know how to disagree without starting a fight or argument.				
5. I'm good at helping other people.				
6. I try to understand how other people feel and think.				
7. If I get angry with a friend, I can talk about it and make things better.				

#### D2. During the <u>past 6 months</u>, how often did you feel...

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
1happy?					
2interested in life?					
3satisfied with life?					
4that you belonged to a community (like a social group, your school, or your neighbourhood)?					
5that you had warm and trusting relationships with others?					

D3. The following statements describe friendships. Please indicate how true each statement is for you and your friend(s). I have at least one friend I can...

Never or not true	Sometimes or somewhat true	Often or very true

#### D4. Over the <u>past seven days</u>, on how many days did you...

	No days	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	Every day
1eat breakfast?					
2get a good night's sleep?					
3engage in physical activity for at least 60 minutes, that increased your heart rate and made you get out of breath?					

D5. Below is a list of statements that describe some of the feelings and behaviours of young people. For each statement, please select the response that best describes you <u>now or within the</u> <u>past six months.</u> 

	Never or not true	Sometimes or somewhat true	Often or very true
1. I have trouble concentrating or paying attention.			
2. I am easily distracted, have difficulty sticking to any activity.			
3. I have trouble sitting still.			
4. I fail to finish things I start.			
5. I lose my temper.			
6. I argue a lot with adults.			
7. I am defiant and talk back to people.			
8. I am angry and resentful.			
9. I get back at people.			
10. I am unhappy, sad or depressed.			
11. I am moody or irritable.			
12. I get no pleasure from usual activities.			
13. I feel overtired or lack energy.			
14. I feel worthless or inferior.			
15. I am too fearful or anxious.			
16. I find it hard to stop worrying.			
17. I am anxious or on edge.			
18. I am nervous or tense.			
19. I threaten to hurt people.			
20. I physically attack people.			
21. I get in many fights.			
22. I damage schools or other property.			
23. I disobey at school.			
24. I use weapons when fighting.			
25. I steal things from places other than home.			
26. I have broken into someone else's house, building or car.			

D6. **During the <u>past six months</u>**, do you think that you have had any emotional or behavioural problems?  $\square$  No  $\rightarrow$  Go to D8  $\square$  Yes

D7. Do you think that you need or needed any professional help (e.g., from a doctor, counsellor or other mental health worker) with these problems?

No No

Yes

If you feel you need help you can call Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868

The next 3 questions ask about your experiences with smoking, drugs and drinking. Please remember that this survey is **anonymous.** No one will know who answered these questions.

D8.	Which of the following best describes your experience with smoking cigarettes?
	I have tried smoking, but only once or twice.
	I used to smoke every day, but have not smoked a cigarette in the last month.
	I smoke sometimes, but not every day.
	I usually smoke at least one cigarette a day.
D9.	Which of the following best describes your experience with using marijuana and cannabis products (also known as weed, blunt, cheeba, ganja, chronic or pot)?
	I have never tried marijuana.
	I have tried marijuana, but only once or twice.
	I used to smoke marijuana about once a week, but have not done so in the last month.
	I smoke sometimes, but not every week.
	I usually smoke marijuana at least once a week or more.
D10.	How many times in the <b>past 4 weeks</b> have you had <b>5 or more</b> drinks of alcohol on the same occasion? A drink of alcohol is, for example: one bottle or beer, one glass of wine, or one shot of liquor.
	Never

- 2 times
- \_\_\_\_ 3 times
- \_\_\_\_ 4 times
- 5 or more times

### E. SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH & SERVICES

Mental health concerns refer to problems you might have with emotions, attention or behaviour.

E1. **During the <u>past six months</u>**, did you receive any individual or group counselling or any other help <u>at</u> <u>school</u> for concerns regarding your mental health? For example, did you see or speak to a social worker, child and youth worker/counsellor, psychologist, nurse, teacher or other staff person at school because of concerns with your mental health?

☐ No → Go to E3

Yes

E2. Overall, how would you rate the help you received?

Extremely helpful

Very helpful

Somewhat helpful

- A little bit helpful
- Not helpful

E3. If you felt that you needed help for concerns regarding your mental health, would you see or speak to a school social worker, child and youth worker/counsellor, psychologist, nurse, teacher or other staff person at the school about these concerns?

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 $\Box$  Yes  $\rightarrow$  Go to E5

No Voc

E4. Why would you not see or speak to someone from school if you needed help for concerns with your mental health?

	NO TES	
1. Worried about what others would think of me.		
2. Lack of trust in these people - word would get out.		
3. Prefer to handle the problem myself.		
4. Don't think these people would be able to help.		_
5. Wouldn't know who to approach.		_

E5. **During the <u>past six months</u>**, did you see or talk to anyone <u>outside of school</u> for concerns regarding your mental health? Remember, mental health concerns refer to problems you might have with emotions, attention or behaviour. This might include speaking with a doctor, counsellor or other professional working at...

	No	Yes
1. A doctor's office		
2. A counsellor's office, such as a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker or other type of count	sellor	
3. A walk-in clinic		
4. An urgent care clinic or emergency room		
5. A hospital		
6. An agency that provides mental health or addiction services for youth		

E6. This question asks about sources of help and information you may turn to, other than receiving help from a doctor's or counsellor's office, clinic, hospital, school or an agency. **During the <u>past six months</u>**, did you receive help or advice from the following people or places because of mental health concerns?

	No Yes
1. Parent or other family member	
2. Friend	
3. Phone helpline or crisis hotline	
4. Internet	
5. A minister, priest, rabbi, imam, or other spiritual leader	

### F. ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

F1. Who lives with you in the home that you spend most of your time in? **Please check all that apply.** 

Biological mother	Grandparent(s)
Biological father	Other adult relative(s)
Non-biological mother	Brother(s) or sister(s)
Non-biological father	Other(s)
Other adult parent	I live alone

The next questions are about your parents. By 'parents', 'mother', or 'father', we mean whoever you consider your parents to be. They could be your birth parents, adoptive parents, stepparents or foster parents.

#### F2. How often do your parent(s) do the following:

		Never	Some of the time	Most of the time	All of the time
	1. Encourage you to work hard at school?				
	2. Listen to you when you need to talk?				
	3. Show they are proud of you?				
	4. Take time to help you make decisions?				
F3.	Was your mother born in Canada?				
	No Yes	Don't know	🗌 l h	ave no mother	
F4.	Was your father born in Canada?				
	No Yes	Don't know		nave no father	
F5.	Think about <b>ONE</b> of your parents. What is the <u>highe</u> Graduated university Graduated college Graduated high school		raduate from h	-	
F6.	Do you have your own bedroom?				
F7.	How many of the following things does your family o	wn?			
		None	1	2	3 or More
	1. A car, van or truck.				
	2. A desktop computer or laptop.				
	3. A cell phone.				
	4. A tablet, e-reader or iPad.				
F8.	How much difficultly did you have reading and under	standing the que		survey?	ficultly

### Thank you for completing this survey!