

SUBURBAN COOK COUNTY
2012 School Health Profiles Report
Sample Description and Weighting Procedures
Principal Survey and Lead Health Education Teacher Survey Combined

SAMPLE DESCRIPTION:

All regular secondary public schools having at least one of grades 6 through 12 were included in the sampling frame. Schools were sorted by estimated enrollment in the target grades within school level (high schools, middle schools, and junior/senior high schools combined) before sampling. Systematic equal probability sampling with a random start was used to select schools for the survey. The principal and the lead health education teacher were surveyed in each participating school.

RESPONSE RATE:

82% - 172 out of 209 sampled schools returned one or both questionnaires. All questionnaires were usable after data editing.

WEIGHTING:

A weight has been associated with each questionnaire to reflect the likelihood of a principal and a lead health education teacher being selected, to reduce bias by compensating for differing patterns of nonresponse, and to improve precision by making school sample distributions conform to known population distributions. The weight used for estimation is given by:

$$W = W_1 * f_1 * f_2$$

W_1 = inverse of the probability of school selection.

f_1 = a nonresponse adjustment factor calculated by school size (large, medium, or small) and school level (high school, middle school, or junior/senior high school combined).

f_2 = a poststratification adjustment factor calculated by school level (high school, middle school, or junior/senior high school combined).

USE OF THE RESULTS:

The weighted results can be used to describe school health policies and practices of all regular secondary public schools in Suburban Cook County having at least one of grades 6 through 12.