



## Wyoming Department of Education

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### MEMORANDUM 2008 - 155

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
Principals

**FROM:** Nathaniel Castellanos, Project Analyst *NC*

**DATE:** October 3, 2008

**SUBJECT:** 2008 Wyoming School Health Profiles Survey Results

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#### PLEASE CIRCULATE

The School Health Profiles (Profiles) assist states and local education and health agencies in monitoring and assessing characteristics of school health education; physical education; school health policies related to HIV infection/AIDS, tobacco-use prevention, and nutrition; asthma management activities; and family and community involvement in school health programs. Data from Profiles can be used to improve school health programs.

Two questionnaires are used to collect data — one for school principals and one for lead health education teachers. The two questionnaires were mailed to 158 regular secondary public schools containing any of grades 6 through 12 in Wyoming during the spring of 2008. Usable questionnaires were received from 78% of principals and from 72% of teachers. Because the response rates for these surveys were  $\geq 70\%$ , the results are weighted and are representative of all regular public secondary schools in Wyoming having at least one of grades 6 through 12. Results from the principal and lead health education surveys are presented for the following types of schools in Wyoming:

- High schools with a low grade of 9 or higher and a high grade of 10 or higher;
- Middle schools with a high grade of 9 or lower;
- Junior/senior high schools with a low grade of 8 or less and a high grade of 10 or higher; and
- All schools.

The Profiles questionnaires were developed by the Division of Adolescent and School Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in collaboration with representatives of state, local, and territorial departments of health and education.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the school principals and lead health education teachers who took part in this survey. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [ncaste@educ.state.wy.us](mailto:ncaste@educ.state.wy.us), (307) 777-6391.

NC

Attachment

**Wyoming**  
**2008 School Health Profiles Report**  
**Summary of Principal and Lead Health Education Teacher Survey Results**

	<b>Percent</b>
<b>HEALTH EDUCATION</b>	
Percent of schools that require students to take 2 or more health education courses	63
Among schools that require a health education course, percent that require students who fail the course to repeat it	63
Percent of schools in which the lead health education teacher had professional preparation in health education or in health and physical education combined	57
Percent of schools in which the lead health education teacher is certified, licensed, or endorsed by the state to teach health education in middle school or high school	85
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY</b>	
Among schools that require physical education, percent of schools in which students cannot be exempted from taking required physical education for one grading period or longer*	72
Percent of schools that taught 12 physical activity topics in a required course	64
Percent of schools that taught about developing an individualized physical activity plan in a required course	83
Percent of schools in which the lead health education teacher received staff development during the past 2 years on physical activity and fitness	70
Percent of schools in which any physical education teachers or specialists at the school received professional development on physical education during the past 2 years	90
Percent of schools in which all staff who teach physical education are certified, licensed, or endorsed by the state in physical education	100
Percent of schools that offer opportunities for all students to participate in intramural activities or physical activity clubs	67

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	<b>Percent</b>
<b>NUTRITION</b>	
Percent of schools that almost always or always offer fruits or non-fried vegetables when foods or beverages are offered at school celebrations	35
Percent of schools in which students can purchase fruits or vegetables from vending machines or at a school store, canteen, or snack bar	22
Percent of schools that prohibit advertisements for candy, fast food restaurants, or soft drinks in all locations**	33
Percent of schools that taught 14 nutrition and dietary behavior topics in a required course	73
Percent of schools in which the lead health education teacher received professional development during the past 2 years on nutrition and dietary behavior	63
<b>HEALTH SERVICES</b>	
Percent of schools with a full-time registered nurse who provides health services to students at school	36
Percent of schools that have an asthma action plan on file for all students with known asthma	34
Percent of schools with a designated and secure storage location for medications that is accessible at all times by the school nurse or her designee	91
Percent of schools with a policy permitting students to carry and self-administer asthma medications	77
<b>HIV, STD, AND PREGNANCY PREVENTION</b>	
Percent of schools that taught the benefits of being sexually abstinent in a required course	86
Percent of schools that taught 11 topics related to HIV, STD, or pregnancy prevention in a required course	46
Percent of schools in which the lead health education teacher received professional development during the past 2 years on HIV prevention	46
Percent of schools with a gay/straight alliance or similar club	20

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	<b>Percent</b>
<b>TOBACCO-USE PREVENTION</b>	
Percent of schools that prohibit all tobacco use at all times in all locations***	44
Percent of schools that post signs marking a tobacco-free school zone	87
Percent of schools that provide tobacco cessation services for students, faculty, and staff	16
Percent of schools that taught 15 tobacco-use prevention topics in a required course	51
Percent of schools in which the lead health education teacher received professional development during the past 2 years on tobacco-use prevention	54
<b>SCHOOL HEALTH COORDINATION</b>	
Percent of schools that have a school health council, committee, or team that offers guidance on development of policies or coordinates activities on health topics	62
Percent of schools with an individual who oversees or coordinates school health and safety programs and activities	87

\*Students cannot be exempted for enrollment in other courses (e.g., math or science); participation in school sports, other school activities (e.g., ROTC, band, or chorus), community sports activities, vocational training, or community service activities; or a high physical fitness competency test score.

\*\*Prohibits advertisements in school buildings; on school grounds including on the outside of the school building, on playing fields, or other areas of the campus; on school buses or other vehicles used to transport students; and in school publications.

\*\*\*Prohibits all tobacco use (including cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, and pipes) by students, faculty and staff, and visitors; during school hours and during non-school hours; in school buildings; outside on school grounds, including parking lots and playing fields; on school buses or other vehicles used to transport students; and at off-campus, school-sponsored events.