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Center on the Family • University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

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1. Data Highlights from the 2011 Hawai‘i Youth Tobacco Survey

The Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) is part of the Hawai‘i School Health Survey, administered jointly by the Hawai‘i Departments of Education and Health to public school students in grades 6-12. According to the Hawai‘i Department of Health, tobacco use results in the death of over 1,000 Hawai‘i residents annually and costs \$656 million a year in medical care and lost productivity*. The YTS assesses the impact tobacco has on the lives of Hawai‘i’s youth. The survey collects data on tobacco use and access, exposure to tobacco messages and secondhand smoke, and knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes regarding tobacco. *Data Highlights from the 2011 Hawai‘i Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) and Comparisons with Prior Years*, shows dramatic improvements in reducing tobacco use among Hawai‘i’s youth. The report points to a decrease in the percent of high school students reporting smoking in the past 30 days by 64%, from 24.5% in 2000 to 8.7% in 2011. Among middle school students, smoking in the past 30 days declined from 5.3% in 2003 to 3.6% in 2011. Additional findings from the report include the following:

- Only 3.4% of high school students and 1.7% of middle school students reported smoking on campus in the past month in 2011 (down from 12.2% (in 2000) and 2.5% (in 2003), respectively).
- The proportion of students who believe that smoking makes young people look cool or fit in has declined from 14.1% of middle school students in 2003 and 14.6% of high school students in 2000, to 9.5% and 8.6%, respectively, in 2011.
- While 3 out of 5 students have talked to their parents or guardians about tobacco use in the past year, the share that does so has decreased. In 2011, 60.7% of high school students talked to their parents or guardians about tobacco use, down from 63.3% in 2000; 66.9% of middle school students did so in 2011, down from 74.2% in 2003.

*Pobutsky A., and T. Lowery St. John (2010). Smoking and Tobacco Use in Hawai‘i: Facts, Figures and Trends. Hawai‘i State Department of Health (DOH), Honolulu, HI.

The report can be downloaded from the Hawai‘i Department of Health website at: http://hawaii.gov/health/healthy-lifestyles/tobacco/tobacco/resources/youth/2011_HYTS.pdf
Detailed data tables with indicators by school type (middle or high school), gender, grade, and race/ethnicity are also available on the Hawai‘i Health Data Warehouse website, located under YTS: www.hhdw.org

2. Analysis of the Fiscal Resources Supporting At-Risk Youth

The Hawai‘i Community Foundation commissioned a fiscal mapping study, conducted by The Finance Project, to identify the public and private funding available to support at-risk youth, ages 13 to 24. *Analysis of the Fiscal Resources Supporting At-Risk Youth, Ages 13-24, in Hawai‘i* addresses the extent to which the state is using funding effectively to sustain the services for at-risk youth. The report is used to inform state leaders which programs are currently used, what resources are available to fund initiatives, and how resources can be used to deliver services. Researchers provide recommendations for Hawai‘i’s leaders to consider in order to effectively and efficiently finance and support at-risk youth programs. The overview of funding for at-risk youth includes the following:

- In 2011, \$435 million was provided to 72 programs across six state agencies in Hawai‘i that serve this population.
- Nearly 70 percent of the programs serving at-risk youth received federal funds, totaling \$290 million in 2011. Medicaid and Special Education account for nearly half of the federal funding.
- State funding sources contributed a third (\$145 million) to programs for at-risk youth. More than half (52%) of the investment goes towards matching key federal entitlement programs (such as Medicaid, SNAP, and foster care).

The report is now available on the Hawai‘i Community Foundation website: http://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/sites/default/files/content/docs/HI_Youth_022212.pdf

3. The Nation’s Report Card: Science 2011

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) released *The Nation’s Report Card: Science 2011* to continue its dissemination of findings from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), a nationally representative measure of achievement in various subjects. A sample of 122,000 eighth graders in public, private, and other types of schools (i.e., Bureau of Indian Education schools and Department of Defense schools), were given the assessment. The assessment measured their knowledge of and abilities in physical science, life science, and Earth and space sciences. The national results showed a slight improvement in the overall average science score, from 150 in 2009 to 152 in 2011. The average score for public school students was higher in 2011 than in 2009. While there was no significant change for private school students, private school students scored an average of

12 points higher than public school students. Hawai'i's results for eighth graders include the following:

- Hawai'i was among 16 other states whose eighth graders had higher average scores in 2011 than in 2009, 142 and 139**, respectively. Hawai'i's average score in 2011, however, was lower than the U.S. average, 151.
- In 2011, over half (55%) of eighth-grade students were at the *Basic*, *Proficient*, or *Advanced* levels.
- A greater share of Hawai'i eighth graders, however, scored below the *Basic* level compared with the U.S., 45% vs. 36%.

**NAEP science results are reported as average scores on a 0-300 scale.

For more information and to download the entire report, go to:
<http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/pdf/main2011/2012465.pdf>

4. Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin's New Look...Coming Soon!

You asked for it! Respondents to the last E-Bulletin survey suggested a redesign to our monthly newsletter. The new design will be unveiled next month. You will find a crisp new look and layout with the incorporation of images and improved navigation to enhance your experience. We hope you like it!

SUBSCRIBING:

You may subscribe to this newsletter by sending an email to kcadmin@hawaii.edu with the phrase "Subscribe to Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin" in the subject field.

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If we have reached you in error or if you would prefer not to hear from us in the future, send an email to kcadmin@hawaii.edu with the phrase "Unsubscribe Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin" in the subject field.

ARCHIVE OF E-BULLETINS:

PDF versions of our monthly e-bulletins are available at
http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/hawaii_kids_count/archive.asp

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