

COLORADO HEALTHY SCHOOLS

SMARTSOURCE

Smart Source is Colorado's inventory of best practices in school health. Schools and districts use Smart Source to help inform programs and policies aimed to improve student health. Smart Source also meets the federal requirement for assessing local wellness policy.

Methodology

As of August 2018, Smart Source is administered every-other-year, in the fall of odd-numbered school years.

Smart Source is completed once per school by a team of staff members by submitting responses into an online survey. All K-12 schools are eligible to participate, and statewide sampling will be used to ensure representative results.

Items in Smart Source are comprehensive and aligned with the CDC's Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model, shown in this diagram.



Data in Action

School responses are compared to best practice in addition to regional and state aggregates. Data are returned to schools and districts as actionable reports with opportunities for free technical assistance on data interpretation.

Schools and districts can use Smart Source results to:

- ✓ Identify areas of need related to school health
- ✓ Make the case for resources such as funding and community partnerships
- ✓ Inform policy change at the state, district, and school levels
- ✓ Implementation of new programs
- ✓ Garner support for school health efforts across various members of the school community
- ✓ Evaluate the effectiveness of school health policies and practices over time

Results can also be used by multiple stakeholders, such as funders, researchers, state agencies, and non-governmental organizations to inform resource allocation and policy decisions.

School + Student Health

Smart Source is housed at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment together with the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS). HKCS is a voluntary, student-level survey of youth health behaviors. Smart Source and HKCS are complementary data sources and can be used together to provide a more complete picture of school and student health.

Over 50% of K12 schools in Colorado have already participated in Smart Source!

For more information, visit bit.ly/smartsourceco or email smartsource@ucdenver.edu