

School Smoking Policy Survey, 1999-2000*
Mercer and Anderson Health Department District

The purpose of the survey was to assess the type of smoking policies and tobacco prevention education in schools located in the Mercer and Anderson Health Department District. The counties included in the health department district are Mercer and Anderson. Results will be used to determine opportunities for school health promotion in the district.

In this district, 9 middle and high, public and private schools (100% participation rate) participated in a telephone survey conducted by the Tobacco Prevention Coordinators in collaboration with the research staff at the University of Kentucky. Most participants were principals, vice principals, or assistant principals (67%). The average number of students for all schools was 423.

The TOTAL column represents results from 156 schools in six CDC-funded health department service areas covering 25 counties. Of the total 156 middle and high, public and private schools, the average number of students was 495.

Written policy banning indoor smoking?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	100%	100%

To whom does the written smoking policy apply?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Students	89%	99%
Employees	89%	99%
Visitors	56%	96%

Smoking banned on school grounds for students?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	100%	97%
If permitted, smoking restricted to specified areas	na	75%

Smoking banned on school grounds for employees?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	67%	65%
If permitted, smoking restricted to specified areas	50%	69%

*Information compiled by Drs. Ellen Hahn and Mary Kay Rayens, University of Kentucky College of Nursing, 1999-2000

Smoking banned at indoor events after school hours?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	100%	84%
If allowed, restricted at adult functions	na	8%
If allowed, restricted at teachers meetings	na	4%
If allowed, restricted at community events	na	8%
If allowed, restricted at indoor sports events	na	74%

Smoking banned at outdoor events after school hours?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	56%	62%
If allowed, restricted at outdoor sports events	100%	91%
If allowed, restricted at outdoor community events	100%	59%

Do students and employees comply with the smoking policy?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Students comply:		
• All the time	22%	46%
• Most of the time	56%	49%
• Some of the time	22%	5%
• Never	0%	1%
Employees comply:		
• All the time	67%	79%
• Most of the time	33%	21%
• Some of the time	0%	0%
• Never	0%	1%

Who enforces the smoking policy?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Principals	100%	97%
Teachers	78%	58%
Security	22%	15%
Peers	22%	13%

“TOBACCO USE PROHIBITED” signs posted?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	11%	59%

How is the smoking policy communicated?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Student Handbook	100%	94%
Faculty Handbook	89%	72%

What happens when students fail to comply with the smoking policy?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
1 st offense	89% Notification of parents	42% Notification of parents
2 nd offense	78% Notification of parents	57% Suspension
3 rd offense	78% Suspension	62% Suspension

What happens when employees fail to comply with the smoking policy?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
1 st offense	56% Verbal reprimand	68% Verbal reprimand
2 nd offense	33% Written reprimand	51% Written reprimand
3 rd offense	33% Suspension from work	17% Suspension from work

Policy banning smokeless tobacco use?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	100%	94%
To whom the policy applies:		
• Students	100%	98%
• Teachers	67%	93%
• Visitors	33%	86%
Where is smokeless tobacco use prohibited ?		
• Indoors	100%	88%
• Outdoors on school grounds	56%	73%

Is tobacco prevention education included in the curricula?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	89%	86%

Is help provided to students and employees who want to quit using tobacco products?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes, to students	50%	48%
Yes, to employees	22%	25%

Are smoking cessation services provided to students and employees?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	22%	11%

In what tobacco prevention/advocacy programs students involved?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
TATU	0%	7%
START	0%	7%
None	67%	67%

Is tobacco advertising prohibited at school or in school publications?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	89%	91%

Is wearing something that has a tobacco company name or picture on it prohibited?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	100%	89%

Are there tobacco advertisements within 1,000 feet of the school?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	44%	30%

Are tobacco products sold near the school?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	56%	60%

How satisfied are you with the school smoking policy?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Very satisfied	44%	67%
Satisfied	56%	31%
Not satisfied	0%	2%

Contemplating changes in the smoking policy?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	11%	12%

Interested in receiving assistance on changing smoking policies?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	44%	26%

Interested in receiving information on tobacco education, statistics, and trends?

	Mercer and Anderson	Total
Yes	78%	87%

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