



May 2014



What's New with **RRFSS**



www.rrfss.ca 

Welcome!

This is the first RRFSS partner's newsletter. We hope this new initiative will be a valuable tool for sharing information about current RRFSS activities.


In this first edition we share some of the changes that were implemented starting in January 2014. Please join discussions on our new list serve, supported by [APHEO](#). There you can discuss how your health unit uses/benefits from RRFSS data as well as other issues. To collect RRFSS data, please contact [Lynne Russell](#) or visit our [website](#) for more information.

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RRFSS Updates

LESS CORE CONTENT

The number of core questions (questions that health units must ask) has been greatly reduced, and will include only 17 socio-demographic questions in 2014 compared to 58 in 2010. Reducing core content gives health units more flexibility to ask the questions of most interest to them.

MORE OPTIONAL CONTENT

With less core content, health units can take advantage of choosing more optional content from over 300 modules on Chronic Disease Prevention, Family Health, Infectious Disease, Injuries and Substance Misuse, Oral Health, Environmental Health and Health Services Information.

MANY COST OPTIONS

There are many cost options available for joining RRFSS depending on a health unit's needs and budget. For example, you may opt for 1,200 surveys at 20 minutes each for \$50,910 per year. Or, you may choose a 12 minute survey for \$33,558. There are options with an advanced letter as well.

FLEXIBLE PAYMENT OPTIONS

RRFSS payment schedules are flexible. Health units can pay in installments throughout the year, or pay before the contract year starts. Also, health units can join RRFSS at any of 3 time-points: January, May or September.

NEW ANALYSIS OPTION

You can now choose an option to have your data analyzed. This option will provide you with timely information to share internally and externally and is particularly beneficial for Health Units with less staff.

ADD YOUR OWN QUESTIONS

Health units can also create their own modules to quickly meet emerging data needs. These modules can be relevant to multiple partners or to your health unit on its own, such as evaluating a specific campaign or program.

Newly Developed Modules

Menu Labelling

Outdoor Air Quality in Children's Environment

Parenting Style

Personal Service Setting: Knowledge & Behaviour

Radon Awareness and Testing

Social Determinants of Health: Attitudes and Beliefs

Social Media Use

Strategic Planning: Community Involvement

Statements on RRFSS Benefits

FROM THE 2011 ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

"The statistics gathered on fruit and vegetable consumption helped influence the decision to encourage schools to offer more than 5 different types of fruit & vegetable servings in their school cafeterias."

"RRFSS also informed our physical activity strategy, in that CCHS provided information only on leisure time physical activity and RRFSS provided data ... across all domains. Without RRFSS, we would not have a way to measure this."

"RRFSS collected public opinion in support of tobacco bylaws. This data was critical at the municipal level as an indicator of public support for local policy ... positive support from RRFSS data for smoke free outdoor public places..."

"Without RRFSS, we would not have had a way to measure this."

Health Unit Highlights

SIMCOE MUSKOKA

Reported on sexual health topics discussed by parents or caregivers with children.

[View Report](#)

HALTON

Compared the smoking status (current, former, or never) of Halton adults aged 20 and over with that of Ontario adults.

[View Report](#)

BRANT

Cell Phone Use While Driving report compares results pre and post implementation of Bill 118.

[View Report](#)



Coming Up

CELL PHONE SAMPLE PILOT STUDY

Later in 2014 results from the first RRFSS cell phone sample will be released. The Institute for Social Research (ISR), who is contracted to run RRFSS, continues to be a leader in survey sample design and methodology. This pilot study will contribute to the future of telephone surveying.

RRFSS participating Health Units

As of January, 2014:

Brant County

Chatham Kent

City of Ottawa

Durham Region

Grey Bruce

Haliburton, Kawartha,
Pine Ridge District

Halton Region

County of Lambton

Leeds, Grenville and
Lanark District

Middlesex-London

Region of Waterloo

Regional Niagara

Simcoe Muskoka
District

Sudbury and District

York Region