An aerial photograph of a concrete dam with several spillways. The dam is situated in a lush, forested area with trees displaying vibrant autumn colors in shades of red, orange, and yellow. The water behind the dam is calm, reflecting the surrounding landscape. In the background, rolling hills and fields are visible under a clear sky.

# Report Example

## Utilizing PAYS Prevention Priorities to Examine Community Health

Anytown School District  
2019 PA Youth Survey

**“IT PAYS TO ASK...IT PAYS TO KNOW”**



# EPIS

Evidence-based Prevention  
and Intervention Support



EDNA BENNETT PIERCE  
PREVENTION RESEARCH CENTER

## Presented By: Anytown School District

All the data in this report was selected from the 2019 PAYS report for the Anytown School District.

A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the School District Administrative Office.

*Photos in this report sourced from Bing Images.*

## Contents:

- Protective Factors (Page 3)
- Risk Factors (Page 4)
- Taking a Closer Look (Page 5)

This report is designed to showcase highlights from the PAYS Risk/Protective Factor (RPF) data.

The purpose of this report is to serve as an overview of the status of risk and protective factors as reported by Anytown School District's students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 and compared to the state average.

This template has been provided to you by EPIS. Last Updated: August 2020

Anytown School District  
 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS)  
 School and Community Health Check-up

# Protective Factors

## PROTECTIVE FACTOR PERCENTAGES

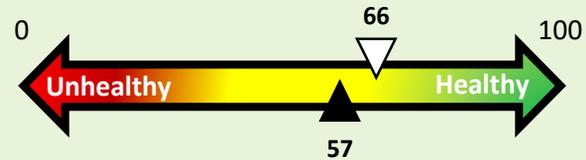
*Higher scores are better*

▽ Anytown Average

▲ Pennsylvania Average

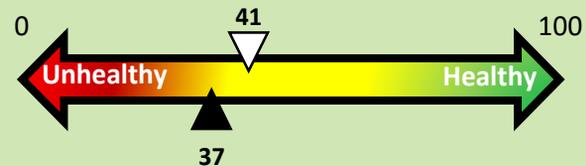
### Community Protection

**Community Rewards for Prosocial Involvement:** Young people experience bonding as feeling valued and being seen as an asset. Students who feel recognized and rewarded by their community are less likely to engage in negative behaviors.

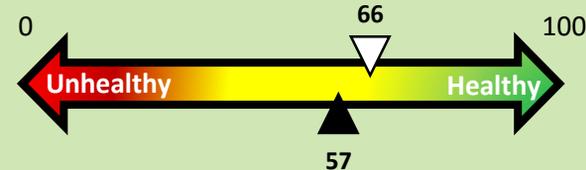


### School Protection

**School Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement:** Giving students opportunities to participate in important activities at school helps create a feeling of personal investment in their school. This results in greater bonding, adoption of the school's standards of behavior, and less problem behaviors.

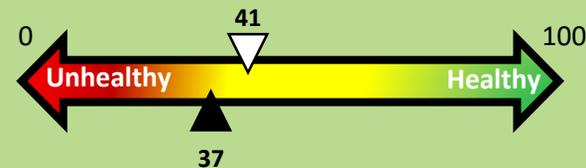


**School Rewards for Prosocial Involvement:** Making students feel appreciated and rewarded for their involvement at school further strengthens school bonding, and helps reduce the likelihood of their involvement in drug use and other problem behaviors.

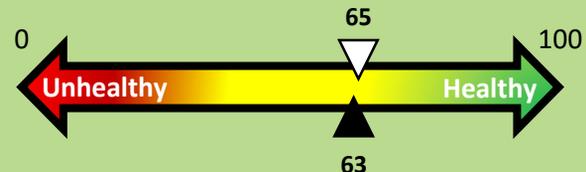


### Family Protection

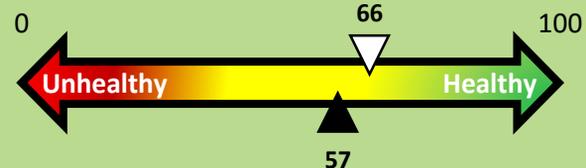
**Family Attachment:** If children are attached to their parents and want to please them, they will be less likely to threaten that connection by doing things that their parents strongly disapprove of.



**Family Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement:** Young people who are exposed to more opportunities to participate meaningfully in the responsibilities and activities of the family are less likely to engage in drug use and other problem behaviors.



**Family Rewards for Prosocial Involvement:** When family members reward their children for positive participation in activities, it further strengthens the bonds the children feel to their families, and helps promote clear standards for behavior.



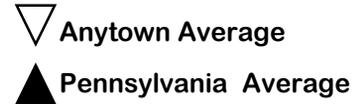
This check-up represents a snap-shot of protective factor data as reported by Anytown School District students in grades 6, 8, 10, & 12.

**Anytown School District  
Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS)  
School and Community Health Check-up**

# Risk Factors

## RISK FACTOR PERCENTAGES

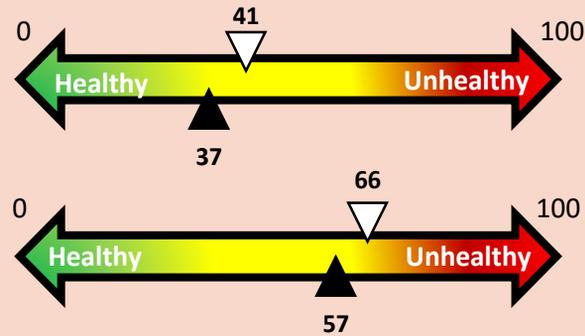
*Lower scores are better*



### Community & School Risk

**Laws & Norms Favorable to Drug Use:** Research has shown that legal restrictions on alcohol and tobacco use, such as raising the legal drinking age, restricting smoking in public places, and increased taxation have been followed by decreases in consumption. Moreover, national surveys of high school seniors have shown that shifts in normative attitudes toward drug use have preceded changes in prevalence of use.

**Low Commitment to School:** Surveys of high school seniors have shown that the use of drugs is significantly lower among students who expect to attend college than among those who do not. Factors such as liking school, spending time on homework, and perceiving the coursework as relevant are also negatively related to drug use.

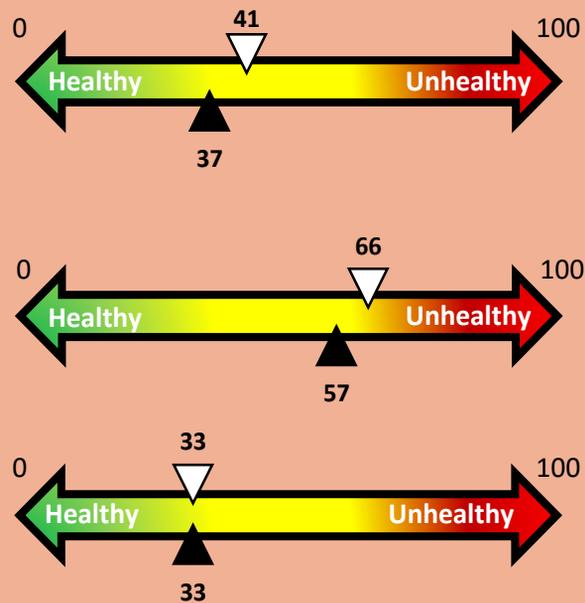


### Family Risk

**Family Conflict:** Children raised in families high in conflict, whether or not the child is directly involved in the conflict, appear at risk for both delinquency and drug use.

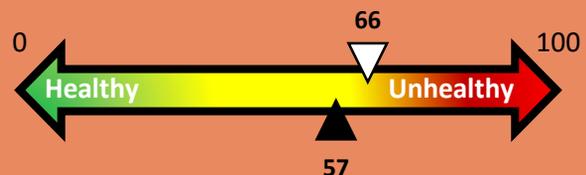
**Poor Family Management:** Inconsistent and/or unusually harsh or severe punishments inflicted by parents increases the likelihood that their children will be at higher risk for substance use and other problem behaviors. Also, a failure to provide clear expectations and to monitor children's behavior makes it more likely that they will engage in drug abuse, regardless if the family has a history of drug problems.

**Attitudes Favorable Toward Drugs and Antisocial Behavior:** In families where parents use illegal drugs, are heavy users of alcohol, or are tolerant of children's use, children are more likely to become drug abusers during adolescence. The risk is further increased if parents involve children in their own drug (or alcohol) using behavior.



### Individual & Peer Risk

**Peer Rewards for Antisocial Behavior:** Young people who receive rewards for their antisocial behavior are at higher risk for engaging further in antisocial behavior and substance use.

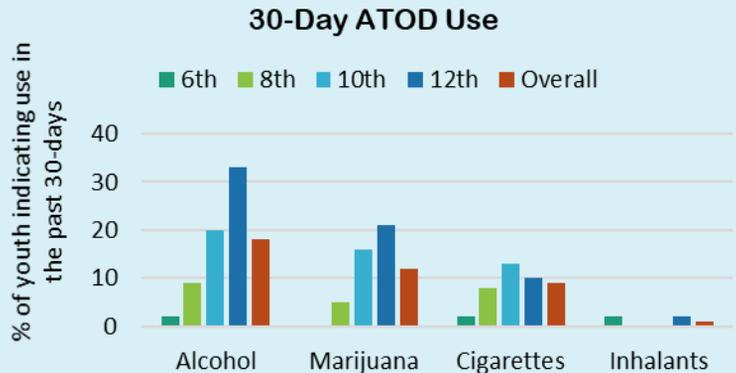


# Taking a Closer Look

▽ Anytown Average  
 ▲ Pennsylvania Average

## Behavior

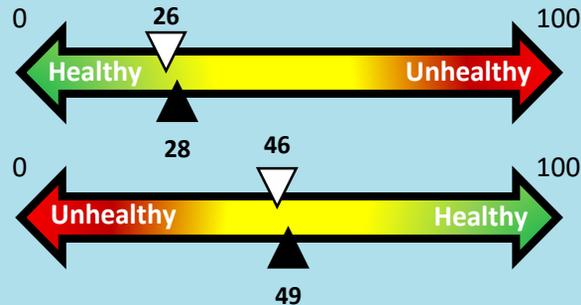
This section covers alcohol, tobacco (cigarettes, smokeless, and vaporized), marijuana, and inhalants, the drugs first and most commonly abused by youth. The higher prevalence and earlier initiation of use makes monitoring these drugs useful when monitoring at-risk students for progression from experimentation to social use to addiction to these and other substances.



## Perception

**Perceived Availability of Drugs:** The availability of cigarettes, alcohol, marijuana, and other illegal drugs has been related to the use of these substances by adolescents. (Lower score is better.)

**Perceived Risk of Drug Use:** Young people who do not perceive drug use to be risky are far more likely to engage in drug use. (Higher score is better.)



## Attitude

**Parental Attitudes Favorable Toward Drug Use:** In families where parents use illegal drugs, are heavy users of alcohol, or are tolerant of children's use, children are more likely to become drug abusers during adolescence. The risk is further increased if parents involve children in their own drug (or alcohol) using behavior. (Lower score is better.)

**Peer and Individual Attitudes Favorable Toward Drug Use:** During the elementary school years, most children express anti-drug, anti-crime, and pro-social attitudes and have difficulty imagining why people use drugs or engage in antisocial behaviors. However, in middle school, as more youth are exposed to others who use drugs and engage in antisocial behavior, their attitudes often shift toward greater acceptance of these behaviors. Youth who express positive attitudes toward drug use and antisocial behavior are more likely to engage in a variety of problem behaviors, including drug use. (Lower score is better.)

