# Maryland High School Survey – Baltimore City Sample Description

#### **Sample Description**

**School Level –** All schools of the following type(s) containing grades 9, 10, 11, or 12 were included in the sampling frame:

Regular public	Included
Charter	Included
Private	Excluded
Alternative	Excluded
Vocational	Included
Special education	Excluded

Note: Your 2014 YRBS sampling frame had the same types of schools included and excluded.

A total of 26 schools were selected systematically with probability proportional to enrollment in grades 9 through 12 using a random start. 1 school was ineligible.

**Class Level -** All classes in a required subject or all classes meeting during a particular period of the day, depending on the school, were included in the sampling frame. Systematic equal probability sampling with a random start was used to select classes from each school that participated in the survey.

#### **Response Rates**

**Schools -** 100% 25 of the 25 sampled eligible schools participated.

**Students -** 56% 2,447 of the 4,001 sampled students submitted questionnaires.

2,246 questionnaires were usable after data editing.

**Overall response rate -**  $100\% * 56\% = 56\%^{1}$ 

### Weighting

In probability sampling, associating a weight with each questionnaire is intended to reflect the likelihood of sampling each student and to reduce bias by compensating for differing patterns of nonresponse. The low overall response rate precludes weighting of the data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Overall response rate is computed as (number of participating schools/number of eligible sampled schools) \* (number of usable questionnaires/number of eligible students sampled in participating schools), rounded to the nearest integer.

## **Use of the Weighted Results**

The unweighted results provide a description of the priority health-risk behaviors of the survey participants. These results cannot be generalized to other students.