

'PAWS' for Thought...

Health Unit Spotlight: Sudbury

The Sudbury & District Health Unit serves a large area including 1 medium sized city (i.e., Greater Sudbury, comprising 82% of the health unit's population but just 7% of its land area) and many rural communities. Beginning in 2016, the health unit dramatically changed its RRFSS survey design. It now runs 2 completely separate 12-minute RRFSS surveys. It has a geographically-stratified sample of 800 interviews from its 4 rural areas (and including a small sample from the city to be used as a comparator). As before, the purpose of this survey is reporting on core public health indicators every 3 years. And it also runs another survey of 1,100 interviews from across its health unit area. The focus of this survey is on emerging issues and "niche" RRFSS modules not available on the CCHS.

RRFSS – the survey so nice, they do it twice!

[2013 Health Profile Manitoulin](#)

New Modules

Recent modules have been developed on the following topics:

- Alcohol - Injury Risk Factors
- Alcohol Policy
- Car Seat Transitions
- Falls – Locations and Reasons
- Marijuana
- Personal Services Settings Disclosure Program
- Prescription Pain Medication – Risk Perception & Awareness
- Public Health Inspection Disclosure
- Screen Time Use in Children
- Tobacco Products and E-cigarettes

See [Inventory](#) for a full list of all RRFSS modules

Survey Cost Flexibility

RRFSS has worked to make the survey possible for any size Health Unit budget. Payment schedules are flexible and survey costs can be lower or increased by adjusting:

- 1) Survey length e.g. 10, 12, 15 minute surveys
- 2) Sample size e.g. 720, 960, 1200 completed interviews
- 3) Survey mode e.g. landline, cell phone, web survey
- 4) Survey method e.g. refusal conversions, number of call backs

2018 costs have just been released, and for example, RRFSS ten minutes survey could be as low as \$23,000!

The RRFSS 'Member advantage'

Members can ask any content or questions from over 300 ready to use health related modules (sets of questions)

Members can develop new survey questions at any time during the year

Members can change their survey content 3 times per year and adapt it to emerging issues

Members can do shorter or 'themed' surveys that can be topic specific (now that a large set of core questions has been eliminated)

Membership provides 'no cost' options such as including youth ages 16 to 17 years old in the survey or oversampling those under 30 years old and advanced notification to households

Members have three opportunities each year to join RRFSS based on the 3 data collection cycles: January, May and September

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