



## Know your community's risk factors!

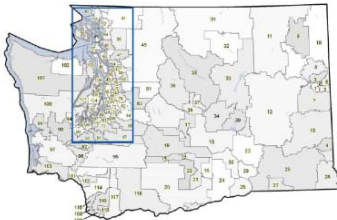
School districts • Communities • Counties • State

Irina Sharkova, PhD, Vera Barga, Linda Becker, PhD

Supported by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Planning, Performance and Accountability, Research and Data Analysis Division Community Risks and Outcomes Evaluation Geographic Information System (CORE-GIS), in collaboration with the Health and Recovery Services Administration, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery

drug use • alcohol use • availability of drugs • violent crime among adults, teens • weapons in schools • academic performance • low test scores • freshmen attrition • teen arrests • early criminal justice involvement • adult arrests • teen births • infant and child mortality • child injuries, accident hospitalization • low weight births • sexually transmitted diseases • suicides and attempts • injuries to women • food stamp assistance • unemployment • welfare rates • prison rates • home sales • people moving to and from your community • voting registration rate • divorce rate • rates of referral for victims of child abuse and neglect • alcohol-related traffic fatalities • domestic violence • use of state-funded drug and alcohol services • property crimes • degree of economic and social deprivation • issues of child and family health • *more...*

### Find your community



Available from the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services and published two times a year, you'll find annual risk and protection indicators at the school district, locale, county and state levels.

For the indicators identified above, find county level reports, comparisons with state and national indicators, and counties similar to yours. State reports compare all counties and offer maps showing the values for each indicator. Most of the indicators are also available for school districts and locales (locales are large school districts or groups of smaller districts).

See tips on using the data on page two of this handout. The data are here: <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/rda/research/risk.shtm>

### Compare your community to others!



#### FOR PLANNERS, DECISION MAKERS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS

#### *Community Drug and Alcohol Data for Prevention Planning: Five-year Rates of Risk Factors and Problem Outcomes*

DECEMBER 2009 • By Irina V. Sharkova, PhD, Vera Barga, and Liz Kohlenberg, PhD

This report by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services provides data for drug and alcohol prevention planning at the locale level. Working with locales (large school districts or groups of smaller districts) and 5-year average rates overcomes small number problems. Online at: <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/ms/rda/research/4/53/40.pdf>



## Helpful tips on using the risk profile data

1 From the RDA Website  
<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/rda/>

- Click on **RISK PROFILE** on the left hand column



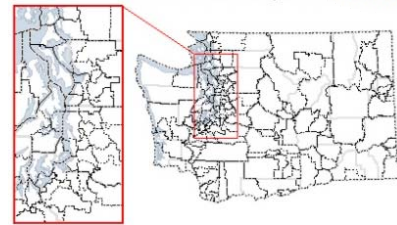
2 From here, you'll have access to the data:

- County and State
- Locale
- School District

"Locale" is a term to describe single school districts, or—where the population is too small to assure meaningful statistical comparisons—a consolidation of smaller school districts within a single Educational Service District.



3 Once you've selected your geographic level, click on the map(s) or geographic name(s) to proceed.



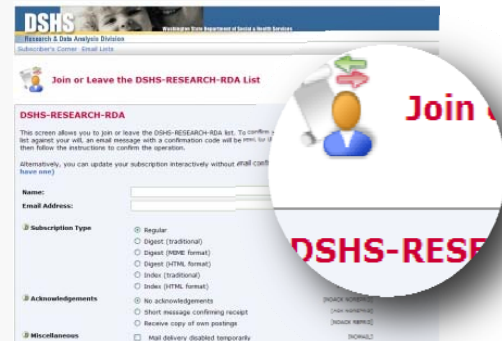
4 Depending on your selection, you can download a PDF file or Excel spreadsheet containing detail. If you have opened an Excel spreadsheet, the data will be in tabs, which will be visible at the bottom of your screen. Technical notes will be in the very last tab. If you have any difficulties at all, or need assistance interpreting the data, feel free to give us a call (see below for contact names/numbers). *We'll be happy to help.*

## Subscribe to Risk Data updates

**Sign up for e-mail alerts when new data and reports are available**

You can request free notification about updates to our data and publications, or cancel notification at:  
<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/rda/enevletter.shtm>

If for any reason you have trouble signing up, please contact Nora Ellsworth, Research and Data Analysis, at 360.902.0701, [nora.ellsworth@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:nora.ellsworth@dshs.wa.gov). *We're here to help!*



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