

Folic Acid Surveillance Surveys

Virginia (Updated 10/2012)

| Criteria | Comments |
|---|---|
| Title of the state or local Folic Acid Survey | Virginia Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) |
| Geographic area covered | Commonwealth of Virginia (State Level Survey) |
| Contact information at BDR | |
| Name of person: | Kathleen Moline |
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| Survey sample size: | Since 2003, the goal of the Virginia BRFSS has been to complete at least 5,000 interviews with Virginia adults ages 18 years annually. |
| General description of survey or dataset (target population, frequency of administration, years covered, data collection methods, reason for data collection) | <p>Virginia BRFSS is an on-going monthly state-based health surveys, established in 1989, targeting adult Virginians. The system uses Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) System for respondent interviewing.</p> <p>Information regarding health risk behaviors, clinical preventive health practices, health-care access, and chronic diseases and injury is obtained from the representative sample. The folic acid module has been included in the Virginia survey in 1997-2000, 2003-2006 and 2010.</p> <p>The data is being collected for research on lifestyle risk factors contributing to the leading causes of death and chronic diseases.</p> |
| Cost of survey | Not available |
| Questions included in the survey (most current, changes over time, state specific changes) | <p>Questions include BRFSS core (asked by all states) and module (asked by some states) on demographics, health status, health care and access, exercises, fruits and vegetable consumption, asthma, diabetes, oral health, immunization, tobacco use, alcohol use, seatbelts, family planning, women health, cancer screening, HIV/AIDS, firearms, healthy days, weight control and folic acid.</p> <p>In addition Virginia included questions on state tobacco, quality of life, children health insurance and adult childhood experiences. Furthermore, Virginia asks the following additional questions for multivitamins use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Do you currently take any vitamin pills or supplements?" • "Are any of these a multivitamin?" • "Do any of the vitamin pills or supplements you take contain folic acid?" • "How often do you take this vitamin pill or supplement?" • "Some health experts recommend that women take 400 micrograms of the B vitamin folic acid, for which one of the following reasons...?" |
| Uses of data | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of current folic acid initiatives and public knowledge. • Design and assessment of future folic acid initiatives. • Assessment of risk factors causing deaths and chronic diseases. |
| Results/Summary (may including links to reports or published articles) | |
| Web site address (if available) | http://www.vahealth.org/brfss/ |
| Comments (limitations, lessons learned) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limitations inherent in phone surveys • Still analyzing |