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SAN MATEO COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION
NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY 2006
Youth Commission Report Table of Contents

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#50_1: Which of the following should be included in sex education: Contraception

#50_2: Which of the following should be included in sex education: Safe Sex

#50_4: Which of the following should be included in sex education: Information about LGBT issues

#50_6: Which of the following should be included in sex education: Rape

#52_1: Which of the following is closest to your beliefs: It is okay to have sex if you are in a committed relationship

#62: Have you ever had sex while drinking or high?

#69: I am making informed personal decisions about sex and sexuality

#71: Parents should be able to excuse their son/daughter from sex/sexuality education

#72: Sexually active youth should get tested for STDs, HIV, and/or AIDS

Hypothesis 3: Youth who receive sex ed are more likely to make informed decisions (about sex) than those without sex ed.

#69: I am making informed decisions about sex and sexuality

Hypothesis 7: Drug abusers are more likely to have sex than youth who do not use drugs

#55: How many partners have you had?

Hypothesis 8: Youth who have experienced and/or inflicted violence are more likely to be sexually active than those who have not

#55: How many partners have you had?
  by % feeling safe in various places
  by % with types of violence in their everyday life

Discrimination

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Mental Health

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Alcohol, tobacco or other drugs

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#1_7: Which of the following ways do you relieve stress:
Artistic outlet such as music, drama, poetry, etc.
#3_4: Where do you get emotional support:
Another adult

% Receiving Emotional Support From Another Adult

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<th>&lt;=15</th>
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<td>23%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#3_8: Where do you get emotional support: Teacher

% Receiving Emotional Support From a Teacher

- Total: 12.4%
- Female: 13.4%
- Male: 11.6%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#5: Have you had suicidal thoughts?

- Total: 34%
- Female: 40%
- Male: 26%
- Hispanic: 34%
- Asian: 35%
- Black: 24%
- White: 32%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#7: Have you engaged in self-harm (cutting, burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

- Total: 22%
- Female: 30%
- Male: 14%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#9: Do you have a friend who has had engaged in self-harm (cutting burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

![Bar chart showing percentage of friends engaged in self-harm]

- Total: 59%
- Female: 70%
- Male: 49%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#11: I live in a caring environment.

![Bar chart showing the percentage of respondents by gender and race/ethnicity for the statement "I live in a caring environment." (83% total, 88% female, 80% male, 86% Hispanic, 72% Asian-Pacific Islander, 71% Black, 93% White).]
#12: My school provides a caring environment.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#15: My school provides suicide prevention services.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#16: My school should provide more mental health services for teens.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#17: My school should provide more suicide prevention services for teens.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#5: Have you had suicidal thoughts?

Hypothesis 1: Youth who have been abused or raped are more likely to harm (or think about harming) themselves than those not abused.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#7: Have you engaged in self-harm (cutting, burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

Hypothesis 1: Youth who have been abused/raped are more likely to harm (or think about harming) themselves than those not abused.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#5: Have you had suicidal thoughts?

Hypothesis 2: Youth who have been a target of discrimination are more likely to harm themselves or think about harming themselves than those experiencing discrimination.

*% with Suicidal Thoughts*

- Total: 34%
- Never: 23%
- 2-3 times a year: 34%
- 2-3 times a month: 41%
- 2-3 times a week: 46%
- 2-3 times a day: 45%
- 4-10 times a day: 46%
- 10 or more times a day: 43%
- Unk. Frequency (> 0): 37%

*p < 0.05

#77_E: How often do you feel or have you felt discriminated against?

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
**#7: Have you engaged in self-harm (cutting, burning, anorexia, bulimia)?**

Hypothesis 2: Youth who have been a target of discrimination are more likely to harm themselves or think about harming themselves than those experiencing discrimination.

![Bar chart showing the percentage of youth engaged in self-harm]

*San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006*
#5: Have you had suicidal thoughts?

Hypothesis 3: Youth who harm themselves are less likely to have emotional support & non-violent ways to deal with conflict, & are more likely to have seen & experienced violence than those who do not harm themselves.
#6: Have you had suicidal thoughts?

Hypothesis 3: Youth who harm themselves are less likely to have emotional support & non-violent ways to deal with conflict, & are more likely to have seen & experienced violence than those who do not harm themselves.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#7: Have you engaged in self-harm?

Hypothesis 3: Youth who harm themselves are less likely to have emotional support & non-violent ways to deal with conflict, & are more likely to have seen/experienced violence than those who do not harm themselves.
#7: Have you engaged in self-harm?

Hypothesis 3: Youth who harm themselves are less likely to have emotional support & non-violent ways to deal with conflict, & are more likely to have seen/experienced violence than those who do not harm themselves.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#6: Have you had suicidal thoughts?

Hypothesis 6: Youth who know of suicide prevention programs are less likely to harm themselves than those who do not know about these programs.

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San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006

*p < .05*
Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs

Questions 18 through 43
#18: Do you drink alcohol? If yes, how often?

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</tbody>
</table>
#19: Do you binge drink? If yes, how often?

- Daily
- 4-10 times a week
- 2-3 times a week
- Once a week
- 4-10 times a month
- 2-3 times a month
- 2-3 times a year
- Binged once
- Never binged

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#22_01: What other drugs have you used or do you currently use: Marijuana

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#22_06: What other drugs have you used or do you currently use: Methamphetamine

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#23_1: Do your close friends drink?

- Total: 71%
- Female: 72%
- Male: 70%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2008
#23_2: Do your close friends smoke?

61%
#24: Why do you use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs?

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#26_2: Where do you use alcohol, tobacco or other drugs:
A friend’s house

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San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#33: When was the first time you bought drugs?

- **Elementary School**
- **Middle School**
- **High School**

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<td>6%</td>
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San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#40: My school provides effective drug and alcohol prevention services.
#41: There are enough activities and events in my community for youth that are drug and alcohol free.
#42: Youth need a place to go for entertainment or recreation that is drug and alcohol free.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
Hypothesis 2: Youth who are uninformed about substance abuse issues are more likely to abuse drugs than those who have received such information.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#18_1: Do you drink?

Hypothesis 3: Gang members are more likely to abuse drugs and alcohol than non-gang members.

- Total
- #93 YES: Have you been part of a gang?
- #04 YES: Have you felt pressured to join a gang?

% with Gang Involvement

Frequency of Drinking

* p<.05

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#18_t: Do you drink?

Hypothesis 4: Youth in a bad mental state (i.e., those who have thought about and/or attempted suicide or self harm) are more likely to abuse drugs than those not in a bad mental state.

- Total
- #5: YES, Have you had suicidal thoughts?
- #7: YES, Have you engaged in self-harm (cutting, burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

Bar chart showing the percentage of youth in different mental states across different frequencies of drinking.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
Hypothesis 4: Youth in a bad mental state (i.e., those who have thought about and/or attempted suicide or self harm) are more likely to abuse drugs than those not in a bad mental state.

- Total
- #5: YES: Have you had suicidal thoughts?
- #7: YES: Have you engaged in self-harm (cutting, burning, anorexia, bulimia, etc.)?

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
Hypothesis 5: Youth who use ATOD will have different thoughts about what is effective substance abuse prevention than those who do not use ATOD.
Sex and Sexuality

Questions 44 through 73
#44: Schools should provide education about sex and sexuality.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#45: Schools should only teach about abstinence.
#48_06: Where do you receive information about sex and sexuality: Friends

- Total: 67%
- Female: 74%
- Male: 64%
- <15: 64%
- 16: 70%
- 17+: 74%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#48_06: Where do you receive information about sex and sexuality:
Parents

- **Total**: 52%
- **Gender**: Female - 58%
- **Age**: <= 15 - 47%, 16 - 54%, 17+ - 59%
- **Race/Ethnicity**: Hispanic - 56%, Asian/Pacific Islander - 38%, Black - 55%, White - 59%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#50_1: Which of the following topics should be included in sex education:
Contraception

- **Total**: 71%
- **Female**: 77%
- **Male**: 68%
- **<15**: 65%
- **16**: 73%
- **17+**: 79%
- **Hispanic**: 76%
- **Asian/Pacific Islander**: 59%
- **Black**: 52%
- **White**: 81%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#50_2: Which of the following topics should be included in sex education:

Safe sex

89%
#50_4: Which of the following topics should be included in sex education:
Information about LGBT issues

- Total: 62%
- Female: 72%
- Male: 50%
- Hispanic: 54%
- Asian/PI: 70%
- Black: 53%
- White: 67%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#50_6: Which of the following topics should be included in sex education:

Rape

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<td>62%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>73%</td>
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San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
### #52_1: Which of the following is closest to your beliefs:
It is okay to have sex if you are in a committed relationship

#### % Believe it is Okay to Have Sex in a Committed Relationship

- **Total**: 67%
- **Female**: 67%, **Male**: 67%
- **<15**: 62%, **16**: 67%, **17+**: 73%

_San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006_
#62: Have you ever had sex while drinking or high?

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#68: I am making informed personal decisions about sex and sexuality.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#71: Parents should be able to excuse their son/daughter from sex/sexuality education.
#72: Sexually active youth should get tested for STDs, HIV, and/or AIDS.
Hypothesis 3: Youth who receive sex ed are more likely to make informed decisions (about sex) than those without sex ed.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#55: How many partners have you had?

Hypothesis 7: Drug abusers are more likely to have sex than youth who do not use drugs.

- Total
- Never
- Once
- 2-3/year
- 2-3/month
- 2-3/week
- Once/Week
- Daily

% How often do you use other drugs?

*p<.05

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
# 55: How many partners have you had?

Hypothesis 8: Youth who have experienced and/or inflicted violence are more likely to be sexually active than those who have not.

- Total
- #84_1: Safe at Home
- #84_2: Safe at School
- #84_3: Safe in community
- #84_4: Do not feel safe

% feel safe in/at:

- None: 48% (52%)
- One: 18% (19%)
- 2 to 3: 15% (13%)
- 5 to 10: 6% (6%)
- 10 to 15: 2% (2%)
- 15+: 5% (5%)
- Unknown # of Partners (>0): 2% (2%)

*p < .05

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#55: How many partners have you had?

Hypothesis 6: Youth who have experienced and/or inflicted violence are more likely to be sexually active than those who have not.

- **Total**
- #87_1: Physical
- #87_2: Verbal
- #87_3: Emotional
- #87_4: Violence not part of every day life

*% Types of violence part of your everyday life*

- None: 63%
- One: 41%
- 2 to 3: 16%
- 5 to 10: 13%
- 10 to 15: 9%
- 15+: 7%
- Unknown # of Partners (>0): 4%

*p < .05

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
Discrimination

Questions 74 through 82
#78_1: Feel discriminated against because of my: Race or culture

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<th>% Feeling Discriminated</th>
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<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/PI</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#78_7: Feel discriminated against because of my: Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>% feeling discriminated against because of their age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;= 15</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17+</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#80_4: Who do you feel discriminates against you: Police

- Total: 21%
- Gender: Female 16%, Male 26%
- County Region of School: North 28%, Mid Coast 13%, South 17%
- Age (years): <15 19%, 16 23%, 17+ 24%
- Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic 36%, Asian 13%, Black 36%, White 12%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#87: Types of violence part of your everyday life:

Hypothesis 4: Youth who feel pressure to hide their sexual orientation are less likely to effectively deal with conflicts than those who do not feel pressure to hide their sexual orientation.

- #87_1: Physical
  - Total: 29%
  - #78_62: Discriminated because of sexual orientation: 38%
  - #78_63: Discriminated because perceived orientation (others think I am): 48%

- #87_2: Verbal
  - Total: 57%
  - #78_62: Discriminated because of sexual orientation: 73%

- #87_3: Emotional
  - Total: 25%
  - #78_62: Discriminated because of sexual orientation: 40%

- #87_4: Violence not part of life
  - Total: 37%
  - #78_62: Discriminated because of sexual orientation: 8%
  - #78_63: Discriminated because perceived orientation (others think I am): 25%

*p < .05
#89: Have you been in physical fight?

Hypothesis 4: Youth who feel pressure to hide their sexual orientation are less likely to effectively deal with conflicts than those who do not feel pressure to hide their sexual orientation.

![Bar chart showing percentage of youth who have been in physical fight.

- Total: 55%
- #53_1: Do not feel pressure to hide sexual orientation: 59%*
- #53_2: Fear of discrimination: 46%*
- #53_3: Fear of violence: 50%
- #53_4: Uncertainty about my orientation: 43%*
- #53_5: My family would not accept it: 47%*
- #53_6: My friends would not accept it: 48%*
- #53_7: My work place would not accept it: 51%
- #78_02: Discriminated because of sexual orientation: 70%
- #78_03: Discriminated because perceived orientation (others think I am): 59%*  

* p<.05  

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
Violence
Questions 83 through 108
#83: There is violence in/at:
My school

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>% Responding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid/Coast</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 years old</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 years old</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 years old</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/PI</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#83_2: There is violence in/at:
My community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>% Responding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Region of School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid./Coast</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;15</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17+</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/Ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
#84_1: I feel safe in/at:
Home

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>% Responding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Region of School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mtn./Coast</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;=15</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17+</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race/Ethnicity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#89: Have you ever been in a physical fight?

- **Total:** 53%
  - Female: 36%
  - Male: 67%

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>North</th>
<th>Mid / Coast</th>
<th>South</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Hispanic</th>
<th>Asian/PI</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#91: Have you ever carried a gun?

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#93: Have you ever been part of a gang?

- Total: 13%
- Female: 7%
- Male: 17%
- North: 7%
- Mid: 10%
- South: 14%
- No: 9%
- Yes: 22%
- Hispanic: 24%
- Asian/PI: 9%
- Black: 22%
- White: 4%
#96: Do gangs in your community make you feel threatened?

- Total: 33%
- North: 34%
- Mid/Coast: 26%
- South: 42%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#97: Youth need education about violence prevention.
#98: Youth need more gang prevention programs.

- Total: 74%
- Female: 84%
- Male: 63%
- Hispanic: 73%
- Asian/PI: 83%
- Black: 67%
- White: 76%

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#100: I know non-violent ways to deal with conflict.
#102: My peers accept violent behavior.
#93: Have you been part of a gang?

Hypothesis 2: Youth who do not get emotional support are more likely to join gangs than those with emotional support.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#93: Have you been part of a gang?

Hypothesis 4: Boys and nonwhites are more likely to be gang members than whites and girls.

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006

* p < .05
#87: Types of violence part of every day life

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink less).

- Total
- No
- Drank Once
- 2-3/year
- 2-3/month
- Once/Week
- 2-3/week
- Daily

* p<.05

#87: Types of violence part of your every day life

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006
#89: Have you ever been in a physical fight?

Hypothesis 7: Youth who drink (especially binge) or abuse drugs are more prone to violence than those who do not drink (or drink less).

San Mateo County Youth Commission, Needs Assessment Survey 2006