

Wyoming Prevention Needs Assessment 2004

Hot Spots Report

Prepared
by

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HOT SPOTS

WHAT IS A HOT SPOT?

A hot spot is an event or phenomenon that is concentrated and stands out in a particular area. For the Prevention Needs Assessment, this would involve high concentrations of risk and past 30-day substance use. Similarly, low levels of protection may be considered “cold spots” for being protected against substance use.

HOW DID WE LOOK AT IT?

The first step involved creating a total “risk” variable, a total “protection” variable, and a total “30-day use” variable. The variables were created by summing the ranks of all risk factors, all protection factors, and all 30-day use variables for each grade by county. Summary measures were also created across grades by county. When the three variables are combined into a composite score, they provide an indicator of overall prevention need for a specific county.

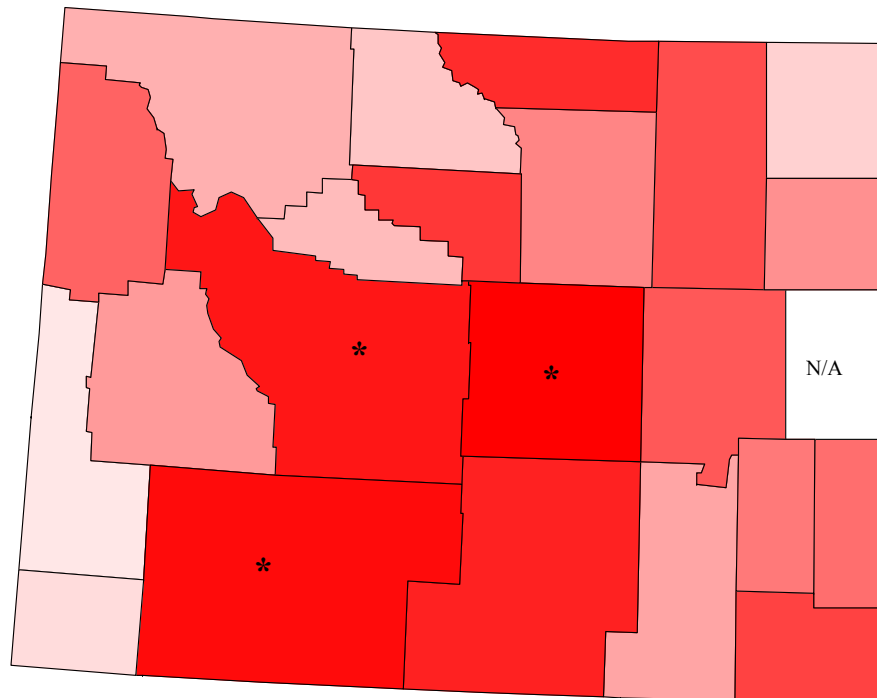
WHAT DID WE FIND?

One of the most striking findings is that 15 out of 22 counties had at least one grade score in the top three for risk, protection, or 30-day use of any substance. This suggests that the prevention needs are not isolated to one specific area, but rather, they are spread across the State and, importantly, *they vary by grade*. For example, reviewing the maps below will show that Goshen County is a hot spot for 6th grade risk factors but it is not a hot spot for any other grade. Likewise, Converse County is a hot spot for 8th grade risk factors but it is not a hot spot for any other grade in this area. Moreover, a review of all of the maps shows that the middle of the state tends to have greater risk and substance use overall. In the case of protection, these counties are often the least protected. These findings suggest that each county has a unique opportunity to consider their data by grade level to help pick the most appropriate programs to target their greatest areas of need.

OVERALL PREVENTION NEED HOT SPOTS ACROSS GRADES

Risk

Figure 1. Risk Summary Score Rankings by County



The darker the color, the higher the risk.

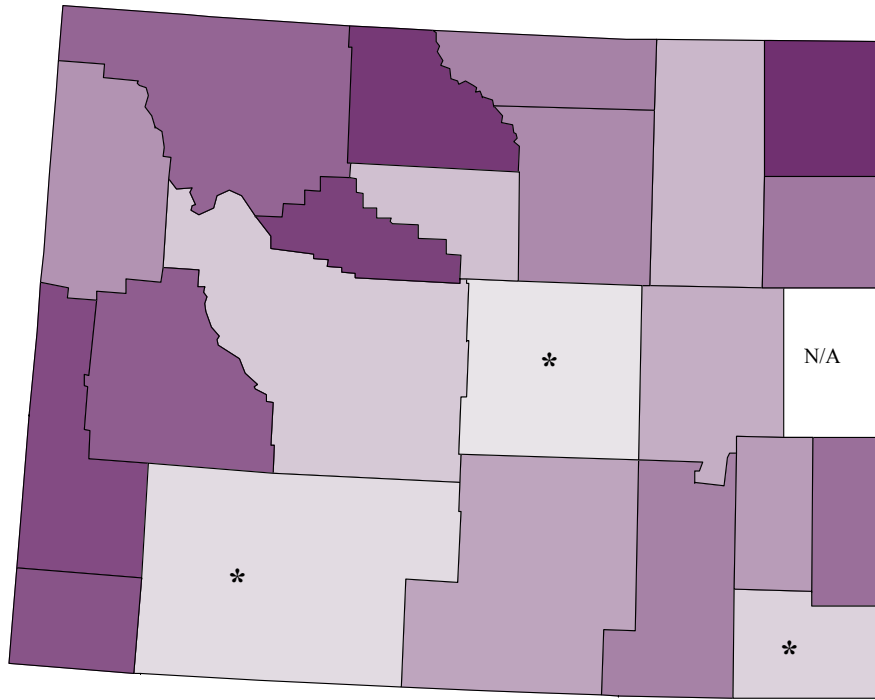
N/A - To protect confidentiality, data are not reported for Niobrara County.

Stars indicate hot spots.

Natrona County data suggest that students who participated in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest overall risk in the State followed by Sweetwater County, and Fremont County.

Protection

Figure 2. Protection Summary Score Rankings by County



The darker the color, the higher the protection.

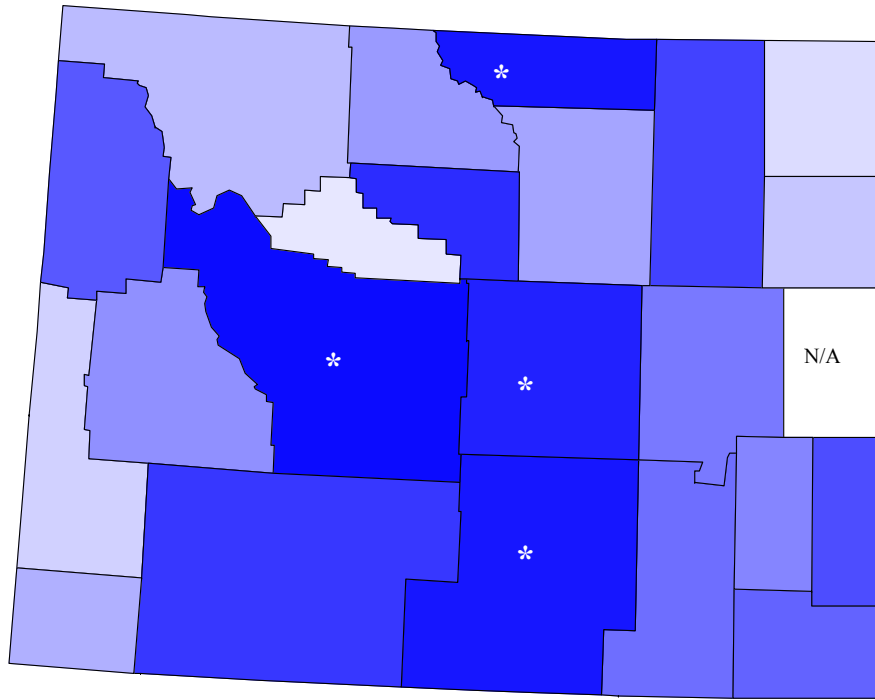
N/A - To protect confidentiality, data are not reported for Niobrara County.

Stars indicate cold spots.

Natrona County data suggest that students who participated in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the lowest overall level of protection in the State followed by Sweetwater County, and Laramie County.

30-Day Use of Any Substance

Figure 3. Past 30-Day Substance Use Summary Scores Rankings by County



The darker the color, the higher the substance use rate.

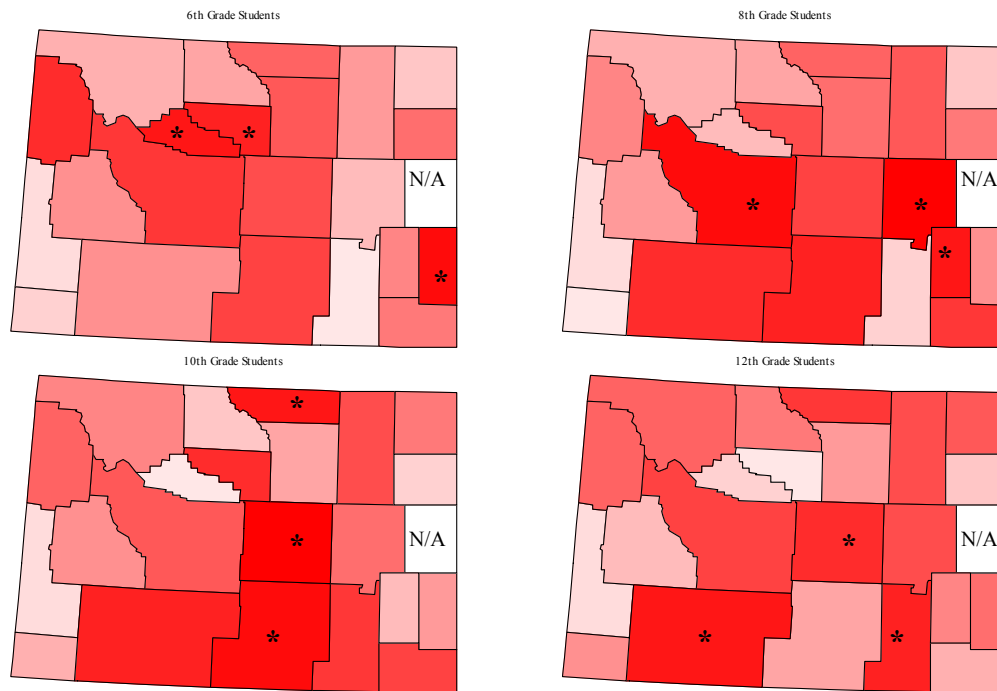
N/A - To protect confidentiality, data are not reported for Niobrara County.

Stars indicate hot spots.

Fremont County data suggest that students who participated in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest level of past 30-day use for any substance, followed by Carbon and Sheridan Counties in second place, and Natrona County in third.

SUBSTANCE USE RISK HOT SPOTS BY GRADE

Figure 4. Risk Summary Score Rankings by Grade and County



The darker the color, the higher the risk.
 N/A - To protect confidentiality, data are not reported for Niobrara County.
 Stars indicate hot spots.

6th Grade

Goshen County data suggest that sixth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest overall risk in the State followed by Hot Springs County, and Washakie County.

8th Grade

Converse County data suggest that eighth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest overall risk in the State followed by Fremont County, and Platte County.

10th Grade

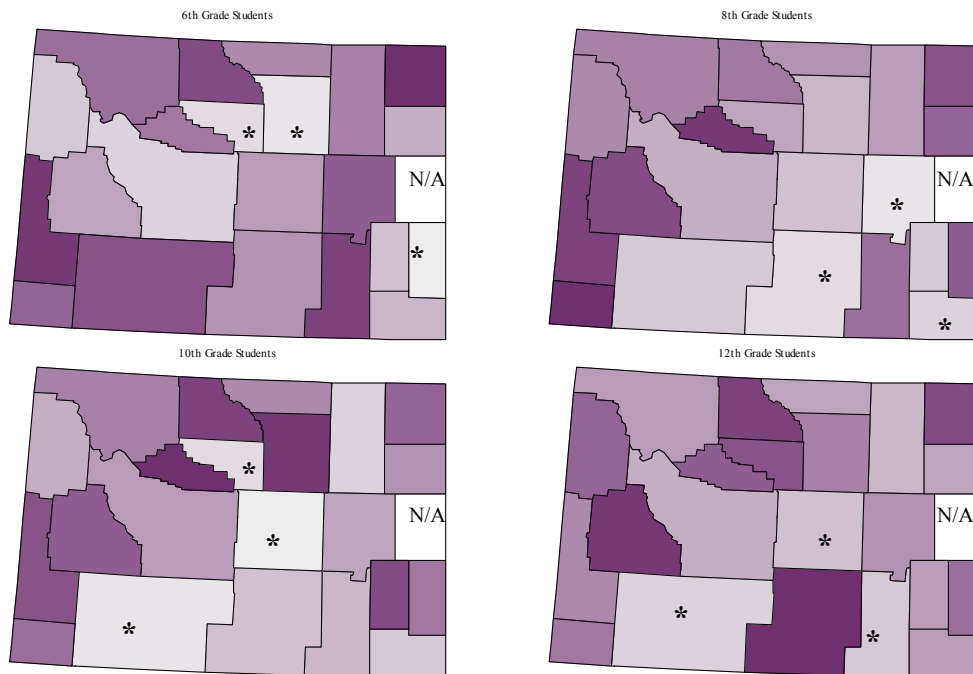
Natrona County data suggest that tenth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest overall risk in the State followed by Carbon County, and Sheridan County.

12th Grade

Sweetwater County data suggest that twelfth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest overall risk in the State followed by Albany County, and Natrona County.

SUBSTANCE USE PROTECTION COLD SPOTS BY GRADE

Figure 5. Protection Summary Score Rankings by Grade and County



The darker the color, the higher the protection.
 N/A - To protect confidentiality, data are not reported for Niobrara County.
 Stars indicate cold spots.

6th Grade

Goshen County data suggest that sixth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the lowest overall level of protection in the State followed by Johnson County, and Washakie County.

8th Grade

Converse County data suggest that eighth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the lowest overall level of protection in the State followed by Carbon County, and Laramie County.

10th Grade

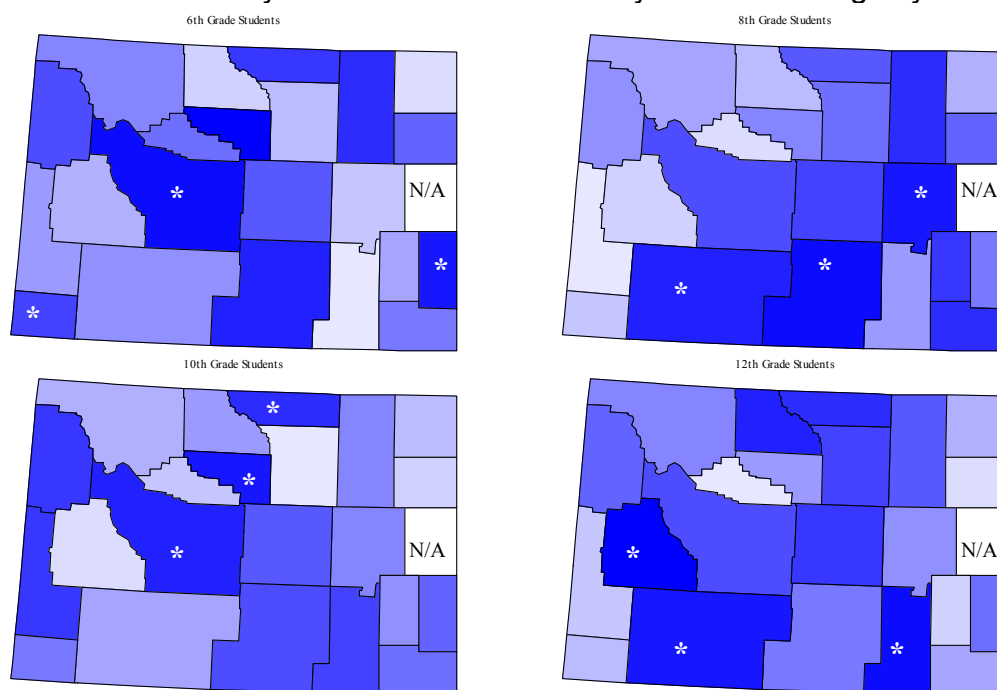
Natrona County data suggest that tenth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the lowest overall level of protection in the State followed by Sweetwater County, and Washakie County.

12th Grade

Sweetwater County data suggest that twelfth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the lowest overall level of protection in the State followed by Albany County, and Natrona County.

PAST 30-DAY USE OF ANY SUBSTANCE

Figure 6. Past 30-Day Substance Use Summary Score Rankings by Grade and County



The darker the color, the higher the substance use rate.

N/A - To protect confidentiality, data are not reported for Niobrara County.

Stars indicate hot spots.

6th Grade

Fremont County data suggest that sixth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest level of 30-day use for any substance, followed by Goshute County, and Uinta County.

8th Grade

Carbon County data suggest that eighth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest level of 30-day use for any substance, followed by Converse County, and Sweetwater County.

10th Grade

Washakie County data suggest that tenth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest level of 30-day use for any substance, followed by Fremont County, and Sheridan County.

12th Grade

Sublette County data suggest that twelfth grade students participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment study reported the highest level of 30-day use for any substance, followed by Albany County, and Sweetwater County.