

CALIFORNIA HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY



Ventura County Secondary 2017-2019 Main Report

This report was prepared by WestEd, a research, development, and service agency, in collaboration with Duerr Evaluation Resources, under contract from the California Department of Education Coordinated School Health and Safety Office. For contract information, contact:

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PREFACE

HYPERLINK FEATURE

The digital version of this report has been hyperlinked. Click on the title of a section or a table in the List of Tables and you will be automatically directed to the actual content section or table in the report.

ALERT

Categories “High,” “Moderate,” and “Low” are included for some scales on the report for counties to compare results to those from prior years. This is the last year these “High,” “Moderate,” and “Low” categories are provided in reports.

This report provides the detailed results for each question from the 2017-18 and 2018-19 administrations of *California Healthy Kids Survey* (CHKS) for schools within the county. The CHKS, along with its two companion surveys—the *California School Staff Survey* (CSSS) and the *California School Parent Survey* (CSPS)—form the California Department of Education’s *California School Climate, Health, and Learning Survey* (CalSCHLS) System. CalSCHLS, is the largest, most comprehensive effort in the nation to regularly assess students, staff, and parents at the local level to provide key data on school climate and safety, learning supports and barriers, stakeholder engagement, and youth development, health, and well-being. Exhibit 1, at the end of the Preface, presents the major school-related domains and constructs assessed by CalSCHLS. Appendices list the districts that administered the survey in the county, their response rates, and more information about CHKS questions.

These surveys grew out of CDE’s commitment to helping schools promote the successful cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development of all students; create more positive, engaging school environments; and ensure college and career readiness. They provide a wealth of information to guide school improvement and **Local Control and Accountability Plan** (LCAP) efforts, particularly in regard to the state priorities of enhancing school climate, pupil engagement, parent involvement, and addressing the needs of vulnerable groups.

Factsheets, guidebooks, and other resources to help in understanding and using CHKS results are available for downloading from the CalSCHLS website (calschls.org), including *Helpful Resources for Local Control and Accountability Plans* (calschls.org/docs/lcap_cal_schls.pdf). The California Safe and Supportive Schools website (californiaS3.wested.org) provides information and tools helpful in implementing effective strategies to address the needs identified by the survey.

The CalSCHLS Regional Centers offer a Data Workshop to help identify local needs and develop action plans to meet those needs, including a *Listening to Students Workshop* for involving student voice in the process (see below).

THE SURVEY

The California Department of Education (CDE) has funded the CHKS since 1997 to provide data to assist schools in: (1) fostering safe and supportive school climates, social-emotional competencies, and engagement in learning; (2) preventing youth health-risk behaviors and other barriers to academic achievement; and (3) promoting positive youth development, resilience, and well-being. A thorough understanding of the scope and nature of student behaviors, attitudes, experiences, and supports is essential for guiding school improvement and academic, prevention, and health programs. Appendix II is a brief

guide to key CHKS Core Module indicators designed to help survey users more easily understand and interpret their findings.

The CHKS is not just a standalone instrument but a data collection system that districts can customize to meet local needs and interests. The secondary-school CHKS consists of a required general Core Module and a series of optional, supplementary topic-focused modules that districts can elect to administer. Districts may also add their own questions of local interest in a custom module. Table 1 indicates the modules administered by districts in the county.

Core Module

As summarized in Appendix II, the Core Module consists of key questions, identified by an expert advisory committee, that are considered most important for schools to guide improvement of academic, health, and prevention programs and promote student achievement, college and career readiness, positive development, and well-being. The majority of the questions are school-specific, including the following indicators:

- student grades, truancy, attendance, academic motivation, and school connectedness, as indicators of engagement;
- developmental supports (protective factors) that promote positive academic, social, and emotional outcomes: experiences of caring adult relationships, high expectations, and opportunities for meaningful participation at school;
- perceived school safety, bullying, and victimization; and
- violence perpetration, substance use, and crime-related behavior (e.g., weapons possession).

The Core Module also assesses the scope and nature of substance use and includes two key indicators of mental health: chronic sadness and contemplation of suicide. These questions provide insights into important barriers to learning and development.

A wide range of demographic questions help districts identify and address the needs of significant and vulnerable student subgroups, including those required to be included in LCAP efforts. These subgroups include race/ethnicity, gender, and socioeconomic status; homeless, migrant, and foster status; and English language proficiency.

What's New? For 2018-19, the following improvements were made to the Core Module:

- Added a sleep duration question to help assess nighttime sleep quality
- Added the high school suicide ideation to the middle school survey
- Modified wording of two e-cigarette questions about perceived harm from use
- Added “Juul” as an example on the e-cigarette use items

School Climate Module (Supplementary)

To further support school improvement efforts and the LCAP process, a supplementary School Climate Module is available. It provides additional data on student academic mindset, school academic supports, discipline/order, supports for social-emotional learning, bullying prevention, peer relationships, respect for diversity, and the quality of the physical environment (calschls.org/survey-administration/downloads/#ssm_sc). These questions are also included in the staff survey to provide a more comprehensive picture of stakeholder perceptions and how the perceptions of students and staff differ from each other.

Social Emotional Health Module (Supplementary)

The SEHM greatly enhances the value of the CHKS as a strength-based assessment of positive emotions,

engagement, ability to build and maintain relationships, and other social-emotional capacities linked to student mental health and well-being, academic success, and college and career readiness. It includes 56 items that capture the totality of core adolescent psychological assets. The combination of the SEHM and Core Module yields a comprehensive set of data to inform decisions about mental health and social-emotional learning programs.

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION AND SAMPLE

School staff administered the survey, following detailed instructions provided by CDE that were designed to assure the protection of all student and parental rights to privacy and to maintain confidentiality. Students were surveyed only with the consent of parents or guardians. Each student's participation was voluntary, anonymous, and confidential.

- Table A1.1 reports numbers of districts, schools, and total responses for students who completed the survey.
- Appendices include:
 - 1) all the districts serving secondary grades in the county that were eligible to participate in the survey and the percentage of their enrolled students that completed the survey (included in the district report); and
 - 2) a Survey Content Overview.

THE REPORT

The report tables, organized by topic, provide the percentages responding to each question response option by grade level. Because it is just as important to identify the positive behaviors of youth as it is to identify the risks they face, the tables reporting risk-behavior data include the percentages of youth who responded negatively (did not engage in the behavior).

Racial/Ethnic and Gender Results

In this report, summary tables provide key findings (e.g., safety, harassment, developmental supports, school connectedness) disaggregated by race/ethnic categories and gender. Schools can request supplementary reports disaggregating all their CHKS results by the race/ethnicity or gender of students or by other demographic categories.

UNDERSTANDING THE DATA

Care must be taken to understand the factors that can impact the quality, validity, and generalizability of the results. These include changes that occur in survey content, administration, and/or sample characteristics between administrations. The following are a few of the key issues that should be kept in mind. A more detailed discussion of these topics can be found in the *CHKS Guidebook to Data Use and Dissemination* (data.calschls.org/resources/chks_guidebook_3_datause.pdf).

Representativeness

Among the most important factors affecting the quality of survey results is the level and type of student participation. The validity and representativeness of the results will be adversely affected if the student response rate is lower than 70 percent. One indication of the survey's representativeness is how accurately the sample reflects the gender and ethnic composition of the student enrollment. Even if the response rate is low, the results provide an indication of what those students who did respond felt about the school and

their experiences and behavior.

Changes Between Survey Administrations

Many factors besides real changes in behavior, attitudes, or experiences among students may account for changes in results from administration to administration. Changes may be due to differences over time in the characteristics or size of the sample of students who completed the survey, changes in the questions themselves, or differences between time periods in which the survey was administered (e.g., some risk behaviors tend to increase as students age, or may increase during holidays or social events).

RESOURCES

CalSCHLS.org contains numerous guidebooks and other resources for using and understanding survey results.

- ***CHKS Guidebook to Data Use and Dissemination*** provides step-by-step instructions on how to interpret survey results and effectively disseminate them (data.calschls.org/resources/chks_guidebook_3_datause.pdf).
- **CHKS factsheets** analyze key topics at the state level, show how data variables are related, and offer suggestions for how data can be analyzed at the local level (calschls.org/resources/factsheets/).
- ***Assessing School Climate*** describes the value of the CalSCHLS student, staff, and parent surveys for assessing school climate, listing constructs and individual indicators (data.calschls.org/resources/Cal-SCHLS_AssessingClimate2013-14.pdf).
- ***Making Sense of School Climate*** provides a discussion of CalSCHLS survey items that relate to school climate (data.calschls.org/resources/S3_schoolclimateguidebook_final.pdf).
- ***Using CalSCHLS to Assess Social-Emotional Learning and Health*** describes how the CHKS Core and Social Emotional Health Module (SEHM) provide a comprehensive profile of student social-emotional competency (learning) and health, and the related supports schools provide, including questions aligned with the framework developed by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) (data.calschls.org/resources/CalSCHLS_AssessSELH.pdf). The staff survey provides data on the perception of adults in the school on social-emotional service needs and provision.
- ***Helpful Resources for Local Control and Accountability Plans*** describes how survey items align with LCAP priorities and indicators (calschls.org/docs/lcap_cal_schls.pdf). Also available is an LCAP-related PowerPoint presentation (calschls.org/site/assets/files/1036/cal-schls-lcap_schoolclimatev6-1.pptx).
- The ***School Climate Connection Newsletter*** provides monthly announcements of resources, tools, webinars and workshops, and research. Sign up on calschls.org/about.
- CDE's **California Safe and Supportive Schools** website (CaliforniaS3.wested.org) contains a wealth of information and tools related to school climate improvement and social-emotional learning. It includes factsheets analyzing CalSCHLS data and *What Works Briefs* that provide guidance on strategies to implement.
- The **CalSCHLS Item Crosswalk** (calschls.org/resources/#survey_resources_and_tools) is a handy table listing all the constructs and questions that are on two or more of the CalSCHLS

surveys, along with the report table number where results can be found, to assist in the comparison of findings among students, staff, and parents.

NEXT STEPS

Receiving this report is just a beginning step in a data-driven decision-making process of continuous improvement. The following describes some additional steps you should take and some custom services (additional fees apply) available from the CalSCHLS Regional Centers. These will help in fostering effective use of the results and provide additional information to support school and program improvement efforts and the LCAP process.

Engage Students, Staff, and Parents in Reviewing the Results and Action Planning

Engage students, parents, and school/community stakeholders in reviewing and exploring the meaning of the results. Obtain their input into how the school might better meet the identified needs. Engage them in developing a detailed action plan to guide school/community collaborative efforts. This communicates to stakeholders that you value their input into how to improve the school/community and gives them an opportunity for meaningful participation.

As part of this process, it is highly recommended that you conduct a structured *Listening to Students Workshop* designed to explore with students—as staff observe—the meaning of survey results and obtain student input on how to address the needs identified by the survey. WestEd staff also can conduct a *Data Use Action Planning Workshop* designed to identify local needs based on the survey results and engage adult stakeholders in developing a detailed plan and timetable for meeting those needs using evidence-based strategies. For more information, contact your CalSCHLS Regional Center 888.841.7536 or email CalSCHLS@wested.org.

Compare Results with Other Data

The value of your CHKS results will be greatly enhanced if examined in the context of the following sources of related data.

- **Elementary CHKS Results.** Examine how the results from 9th and 11th graders compare with those from 5th and 7th graders if your districts also administered the CHKS at these school levels. The elementary, middle, and high school surveys contain common indicators that will enable you to gain a sense of the developmental trajectory in these indicators and explore what programs at the elementary and middle-school levels might help mitigate problems that are evident among older students.
- **Other Data.** Examine how the results compare with other youth data collected within the county that relate to the variables assessed. Other relevant school-related data include discipline referrals, school demographic information, school vandalism costs, and behavioral observations in classrooms.
- **Similar County and Statewide Results.** The results from the biennial state administration of the CHKS, which provide representative state norms, can be downloaded from the CalSCHLS website (data.calschls.org/resources/Biennial_State_1517.pdf) or examined on the CalSCHLS Data Dashboard (calschls.org/reports-data/dashboard/). County comparisons can be made by downloading county reports from the CalSCHLS website (calschls.org/reports-data/search-lea-reports/) if a report is available.

Data Workshop

To assist in your review of the survey results, you can request your CalSCHLS Regional Center to conduct a structured, customized Data Workshop. In this workshop, a survey specialist works with stakeholders to promote better understanding of the results and to identify local needs that need to be addressed. The workshops can also include engaging stakeholders in developing a detailed Action Plan and timetable for meeting those needs using evidence-based strategies. For more information, contact your CalSCHLS TA Center (888.841.7536) or email calschls@wested.org.

Request Additional Reports and Data

As you review your data with stakeholders, you may find that additional data needs emerge. The following custom services are available through the CalSCHLS Regional Centers to help delve more deeply into your survey results and foster more effective use of the results in support of school and program improvement efforts and the LCAP process.

Disaggregated Reports

The staff of the CalSCHLS Regional Centers can produce full reports that look at how results vary by demographic subgroups (e.g., race/ethnicity), or by other characteristics of youth, such as those who are low in academic motivation compared those who are high. This can be valuable for identifying what subgroups need to be targeted with what resources and programs. Given the LCAP requirement that districts identify and address the needs of underserved subgroups, doing this would be a natural next step for addressing subgroup disparities.

Additional Analysis of Data

The complete dataset is available electronically for additional analysis ([CalSCHLS.org/reports-data](https://calschls.org/reports-data)). The dataset enables analyses of patterns in the results, how they are interrelated, and how they vary by different subgroups of students and across districts within a county. You can also request an analysis by WestEd staff of any topic of interest.

For more information about survey planning or technical assistance in understanding survey results and developing effective action plans to address identified needs, call the CalSCHLS helpline (888.841.7536) or email CalSCHLS@wested.org.

Exhibit 1***Major School-Related Domains and Constructs Assessed by CalSCHLS in Secondary Schools***

	Student Core	Student School Climate	Student Social Emotional Health	Staff Survey	Parent Survey
Student Well-Being					
Academic mindset			✓		
Academic motivation	✓	✓		✓	✓
Academic performance (grades)	✓				
Alcohol, tobacco, and drug use	✓			✓	✓
Attendance (absences, truancy, reasons absent)	✓			✓	
Behavioral self-control			✓		
Collaboration			✓		
Emotional self-regulation			✓		
Empathy			✓		
Gratitude			✓		
Optimism			✓		
Perceived safety	✓			✓	✓
Persistence			✓		
Problem solving			✓		
School connectedness	✓				
Self-awareness			✓		
Self-efficacy			✓		
Sleep duration (hours of sleep)	✓				
Social-emotional competencies and health			✓	✓	
Social emotional distress			✓		
Violence and victimization (bullying)	✓			✓	✓
Zest			✓		
School Climate					
Academic rigor and norms				✓	✓
College and career supports		✓		✓	✓
Family support			✓		
High expectations	✓			✓	✓
Meaningful participation and decision-making	✓			✓	✓
Parent involvement	✓			✓	✓
Quality of physical environment	✓	✓		✓	✓
Relationships among staff				✓	
Relationships among students		✓	✓	✓	✓
Relationships between students and staff	✓			✓	✓
Respect for diversity and cultural sensitivity		✓		✓	✓
Teacher and other supports for learning		✓		✓	✓
School Climate Improvement Practices					
Bullying prevention		✓		✓	✓
Discipline and order (policies, enforcement)		✓		✓	✓
Services and policies to address student needs				✓	
Social-emotional/behavioral supports		✓		✓	✓
Staff supports				✓	

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Survey Module Administration

Table 1

CHKS Survey Modules Administered

Survey Module	Administered
A. Core (Required)	X
B. Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Module	
C. Building Healthy Communities (BHC) Module	
D. Cal-Well Module	
E. Closing the Achievement Gap (CTAG) Module	
F. District Afterschool Module (DASM)	
G. Drug Free Communities (DFC) Module	
H. Gang Risk Awareness Module (GRAM)	
I. Gender Identity & Sexual Orientation-Based Harassment Module	
J. Military-Connected School Module	
K. Physical Health & Nutrition Module	
L. Resilience & Youth Development Module	
M. Safety & Violence Module	
N. School Climate Module	
O. Sexual Behavior Module	
P. Social Emotional Health Module (SEHM)	
Q. Tobacco Module	
Z. Custom Questions	

Core Module Results

1. Survey Sample

Table A1.1

Student Sample for Core Module

	Grade 7	Grade 9	Grade 11	NT ^A
Number of districts	17	9	9	9
Number of schools	41	23	26	13
Number of students	11,260	7,582	6,212	1,180

Note: ^ANT includes continuation, community day, and other alternative school types.

2. Summary of Key Indicators

Table A2.1

Key Indicators of School Climate and Student Well-Being

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %	Table
School Engagement and Supports					
School connectedness [†]	63	59	56	60	A4.6
Academic motivation [†]	75	73	70	69	A4.6
Chronic truancy (twice a month or more often) [§]	2	4	6	10	A4.2
Caring adult relationships [‡]	61	57	61	63	A4.5
High expectations [‡]	75	69	69	78	A4.5
Meaningful participation [‡]	30	26	27	33	A4.5
Facilities upkeep [†]	46	44	43	57	A4.13
Parent involvement in school [†]	60	45	40	56	A4.6
School Safety					
School perceived as very safe or safe	61	59	58	65	A5.1
Experienced any harassment or bullying [§]	35	28	26	38	A5.2
Had mean rumors or lies spread about you [§]	39	29	30	29	A5.3
Been afraid of being beaten up [§]	21	13	8	12	A5.4
Been in a physical fight [§]	17	9	6	24	A5.4
Seen a weapon on campus [§]	14	13	9	13	A5.6
Substance Use and Mental Health					
Current alcohol or drug use [¶]	8	15	23	33	A6.5
Current marijuana use [¶]	4	10	15	28	A6.5
Current binge drinking [¶]	1	4	8	15	A6.5
Very drunk or “high” 7 or more times, ever	2	6	12	22	A6.7
Been drunk or “high” on drugs at school, ever	3	8	11	26	A6.9
Current cigarette smoking [¶]	1	1	2	11	A7.3
Current electronic cigarette use [¶]	6	12	15	22	A7.3
Experienced chronic sadness/hopelessness [§]	29	30	36	41	A8.4
Considered suicide [§]	16	16	17	29	A8.5

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

[†]Average percent of respondents reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree.”

[‡]Average percent of respondents reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true.”

[§]Past 12 months.

[¶]Past 30 days.

3. Demographics

Table A3.1

Gender of Sample

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Male	52	51	51	55
Female	48	49	49	45

Question HS/MS A.3: What is your sex?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.2

Hispanic or Latino

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	38	43	44	28
Yes	62	57	56	72

Question HS/MS A.5: Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.3

Race

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
American Indian or Alaska Native	4	5	6	3
Asian	5	6	6	0
Black or African American	3	3	2	1
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	1	1	1
White	39	45	49	52
Mixed (two or more) races	48	40	35	42

Question HS/MS A.6: What is your race?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.4
Living Situation

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
A home with one or more parent or guardian	84	90	91	72
Other relative's home	2	2	2	3
A home with more than one family	8	5	4	10
Friend's home	0	0	0	0
Foster home, group care, or waiting placement	0	0	0	2
Hotel or motel	0	0	0	0
Shelter, car, campground, or other transitional or temporary housing	0	0	0	0
Other living arrangement	5	2	1	12

Question HS/MS A.8: What best describes where you live? A home includes a house, apartment, trailer, or mobile home.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.5
Highest Education of Parents

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Did not finish high school	11	15	18	25
Graduated from high school	12	15	16	21
Attended college but did not complete four-year degree	10	12	14	8
Graduated from college	34	42	42	17
Don't know	34	15	10	29

Question HS/MS A.9: What is the highest level of education your parents or guardians completed? (Mark the educational level of the parent or guardian who went the furthest in school.)

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.6***Free or Reduced Price Meals Eligibility***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	27	46	51	17
Yes	55	43	42	71
Don't know	17	12	7	13

Question HS/MS A.10: Do you receive free or reduced-price lunches at school? (Receiving free or reduced-price lunches means that lunch at school is provided to you for free or you pay less for it.)

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.7***Participation in Migrant Education Program, Past 3 Years***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	62	79	88	81
Yes	2	2	3	4
Don't know	36	19	9	16

Question HS/MS A.11: In the past three years, were you part of the Migrant Education Program or did your family move to find seasonal or temporary work in agriculture or fishing?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.8***Language Spoken at Home***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
English	57	64	66	60
Spanish	38	31	29	39
Mandarin	0	0	0	0
Cantonese	0	0	0	0
Taiwanese	0	0	0	0
Tagalog	1	1	1	0
Vietnamese	1	0	0	0
Korean	0	0	0	0
Other	3	3	2	1

Question HS/MS A.12: What language is spoken most of the time in your home?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.9
English Language Proficiency – All Students

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
How well do you... understand English?				
Very well	87	90	91	87
Well	12	9	8	13
Not well	1	1	1	0
Not at all	0	0	0	0
speak English?				
Very well	80	84	87	76
Well	18	14	12	22
Not well	2	1	1	1
Not at all	0	0	0	1
read English?				
Very well	77	82	85	75
Well	21	16	13	20
Not well	2	2	1	5
Not at all	0	0	0	0
write English?				
Very well	72	78	81	67
Well	24	19	16	27
Not well	3	2	2	6
Not at all	0	0	0	1
English Language Proficiency Status				
Proficient	74	81	84	73
Not proficient	26	19	16	27

Question HS/MS A.13-16: How well do you understand, speak, read, and write English?... Understand English... Speak English... Read English... Write English.

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

English Language Proficiency was determined by creating a scale score using four survey questions - how well do you understand... speak... read... and write English. Response options are reverse coded so higher values indicate higher English proficiency level (“Not at all” (1); “Not well” (2); “Well” (3); and “Very well” (4)). The scale score was computed by averaging the survey responses. Respondents are categorized as “Proficient” or “Not Proficient” based on the English language proficiency scale.

Proficient: students with average item response > 3.5; and

Not Proficient: students with average item response ≤ 3.5.

Table A3.10***English Language Proficiency – Students Speaking a Language Other Than English at Home***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
<i>How well do you...</i>				
understand English?				
Very well	77	79	81	71
Well	21	19	17	27
Not well	2	1	2	1
Not at all	0	0	0	1
speak English?				
Very well	67	69	72	62
Well	29	27	24	35
Not well	3	3	3	2
Not at all	0	0	0	1
read English?				
Very well	64	68	71	63
Well	32	28	26	27
Not well	4	4	3	10
Not at all	0	0	0	0
write English?				
Very well	58	63	66	47
Well	36	32	29	41
Not well	6	4	5	11
Not at all	1	1	0	1
<i>English Language Proficiency Status</i>				
Proficient	60	65	69	61
Not proficient	40	35	31	39

Question HS/MS A.12-16: What language is spoken most of the time in your home?... How well do you understand, speak, read, and write English?... Understand English... Speak English... Read English... Write English.

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

English Language Proficiency was determined by creating a scale score using four survey questions - how well do you understand... speak... read... and write English. Response options are reverse coded so higher values indicate higher English proficiency level ("Not at all" (1); "Not well" (2); "Well" (3); and "Very well" (4)). The scale score was computed by averaging the survey responses. Respondents are categorized as "Proficient" or "Not Proficient" based on the English language proficiency scale.

Proficient: students with average item response > 3.5; and

Not Proficient: students with average item response ≤ 3.5.

Table A3.11***Number of Days Attending Afterschool Program***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
0 days	80	78	79	81
1 day	4	3	4	2
2 days	3	3	4	4
3 days	2	3	3	1
4 days	2	3	2	2
5 days	9	10	9	9

Question HS/MS A.17: How many days a week do you usually go to your school's afterschool program?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.12***Military Connections***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	88	93	95	88
Yes	7	4	4	5
Don't know	5	3	1	8

Question HS A.129/MS A.119: Is your father, mother, or guardian currently in the military (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, National Guard, or Reserves)?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A3.13***Sexual Orientation***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Straight (not gay)	81	85	82	64
Gay or Lesbian	1	1	2	3
Bisexual	4	5	6	24
I am not sure yet	6	4	4	1
Something else	2	2	2	3
Decline to respond	6	3	3	6

Question HS A.130/MS A.120: Which of the following best describes you?

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents;

Table A3.14***Gender Identity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No, I am not transgender	93	95	95	79
Yes, I am transgender	1	1	1	1
I am not sure if I am transgender	2	1	2	10
Decline to respond	4	3	3	10

Question HS A.131/MS A.121: Some people describe themselves as transgender when their sex at birth does not match the way they think or feel about their gender. Are you transgender?

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents;

4. School Performance, Supports, and Engagement

Table A4.1

Grades, Past 12 Months

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Mostly A's	21	22	18	15
A's and B's	36	35	34	26
Mostly B's	7	8	10	5
B's and C's	19	19	22	31
Mostly C's	4	5	6	8
C's and D's	8	8	7	10
Mostly D's	1	2	2	1
Mostly F's	3	2	1	3

Question HS/MS A.18: During the past 12 months, how would you describe the grades you mostly received in school?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.2

Truancy, Past 12 Months

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
0 times	77	77	66	64
1-2 times	12	12	15	12
A few times	8	7	12	14
Once a month	1	1	2	1
Twice a month	1	1	2	2
Once a week	0	1	1	2
More than once a week	1	2	2	6

Question HS/MS A.21: During the past 12 months, about how many times did you skip school or cut classes?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.3***Absences, Past 30 Days***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
I did not miss any days of school in the past 30 days	46	47	41	41
1 day	23	23	25	19
2 days	15	16	18	17
3 or more days	15	14	15	23

Question HS/MS A.19: In the past 30 days, how often did you miss an entire day of school for any reason?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.4***Reasons for Absence, Past 30 Days***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Does not apply; I didn't miss any school	44	45	39	41
Illness (feeling physically sick), including problems with breathing or your teeth	39	42	44	31
Were being bullied or mistreated at school	2	1	1	1
Felt very sad, hopeless, anxious, stressed, or angry	6	7	12	8
Didn't get enough sleep	7	9	15	11
Didn't feel safe at school or going to and from school	2	1	2	1
Had to take care of or help a family member or friend	5	4	5	5
Wanted to spend time with friends	1	1	2	2
Used alcohol or drugs	1	1	1	2
Were behind in schoolwork or weren't prepared for a test or class assignment	2	4	10	2
Were bored or uninterested in school	2	3	5	7
Had no transportation to school	1	2	3	6
Other reason	18	13	14	22

Question HS/MS A.20: In the past 30 days, did you miss a day of school for any of the following reasons? (Mark All That Apply.)

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents. Total percentages may exceed 100% for "mark all that apply" items.

Table A4.5***School Environment Scales (Developmental Supports)***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %	Table
Total school supports					
<i>Average reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true”</i>	55	51	52	58	
High	31	24	27	31	
Moderate	51	53	51	56	
Low	18	23	22	13	
Caring adults in school					
<i>Average reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true”</i>	61	57	61	63	A4.7
High	34	27	31	36	
Moderate	53	57	55	56	
Low	13	16	14	8	
High expectations-adults in school					
<i>Average reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true”</i>	75	69	69	78	A4.8
High	53	40	39	46	
Moderate	40	49	51	48	
Low	7	11	10	6	
Meaningful participation at school					
<i>Average reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true”</i>	30	26	27	33	A4.9
High	10	8	8	12	
Moderate	37	37	37	35	
Low	53	56	55	53	

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table numbers refer to tables with item-level results for the survey questions that comprise each scale.

Respondents were categorized as being “High,” “Moderate,” and “Low” based on the averages of the questions that comprise each scale. The response options for the survey questions that make up each scale range from “Not at all true” (1), “A little true” (2), “Pretty much true” (3), and “Very much true” (4). Students were classified as “High” if their average question response was greater than 3; “Moderate” if their average question response was greater than or equal to 2 and less than or equal to 3; and “Low” if their average question response was less than 2.

Table A4.6***School Connectedness, Academic Motivation, and Parent Involvement Scales***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %	Table
School connectedness					
<i>Average reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree”</i>	63	59	56	60	A4.10
High	52	47	43	50	
Moderate	38	43	46	42	
Low	10	10	11	8	
Academic motivation					
<i>Average reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree”</i>	75	73	70	69	A4.11
High	39	32	27	24	
Moderate	42	45	47	46	
Low	19	22	26	30	
Parent involvement in school					
<i>Average reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree”</i>	60	45	40	56	A4.12
High	44	29	24	50	
Moderate	41	49	47	39	
Low	15	22	29	12	

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table numbers refer to tables with item-level results for the survey questions that comprise each scale.

Respondents were categorized as being “High,” “Moderate,” and “Low” based on the averages of the questions that comprise each scale. The response options for the survey questions that make up each scale range from “Strongly disagree” (1), “Disagree” (2), “Neither disagree nor agree” (3), “Agree” (4), and “Strongly agree” (5). The following thresholds were used to classify question averages into “High,” “Moderate,” and “Low” categories:

	School Connectedness	Academic Motivation	Parent Involvement in School
High	> 3.75	> 4.25	≥ 4
Moderate	≥ 2.5 and ≤ 3.75	> 3.25 and ≤ 4.25	≥ 3 and < 4
Low	< 2.5	≤ 3.25	< 3

Table A4.7***Caring Relationships Scale Questions***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Caring adults in school				
<i>Average reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true”</i>	61	57	61	63
<i>At my school, there is a teacher or some other adult... who really cares about me.</i>				
Not at all true	12	13	10	7
A little true	30	33	30	29
Pretty much true	33	34	34	31
Very much true	25	20	26	34
<i>who notices when I’m not there.</i>				
Not at all true	14	16	15	10
A little true	27	30	30	31
Pretty much true	31	32	31	26
Very much true	27	22	25	34
<i>who listens to me when I have something to say.</i>				
Not at all true	10	11	9	8
A little true	23	25	24	28
Pretty much true	33	36	36	39
Very much true	35	27	31	26

*Question HS/MS A.35, 37, 39: At my school, there is a teacher or some other adult... who really cares about me...
who notices when I am not there... who listens to me when I have something to say.*

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.8***High Expectations Scale Questions***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
High expectations-adults in school				
<i>Average reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true”</i>	75	69	69	78
<i>At my school, there is a teacher or some other adult... who tells me when I do a good job.</i>				
Not at all true	8	11	10	5
A little true	23	25	26	20
Pretty much true	35	38	37	33
Very much true	34	26	27	42
<i>who always wants me to do my best.</i>				
Not at all true	5	6	6	4
A little true	14	19	20	15
Pretty much true	29	35	37	36
Very much true	53	39	37	45
<i>who believes that I will be a success.</i>				
Not at all true	8	10	9	7
A little true	18	22	23	15
Pretty much true	29	35	34	35
Very much true	45	33	34	44

Question HS/MS A.36, 38, 40: At my school, there is a teacher or some other adult... who tells me when I do a good job... who always wants me to do my best... who believes that I will be a success.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.9***Meaningful Participation Scale Questions***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Meaningful participation at school				
<i>Average reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true”</i>	30	26	27	33
<i>At school...</i>				
I do interesting activities.				
Not at all true	16	20	20	17
A little true	32	31	31	41
Pretty much true	29	27	29	25
Very much true	23	22	20	17
I help decide things like class activities or rules.				
Not at all true	52	54	51	47
A little true	26	27	28	21
Pretty much true	13	13	14	26
Very much true	9	6	7	7
I do things that make a difference.				
Not at all true	31	33	36	33
A little true	35	38	34	31
Pretty much true	21	20	20	21
Very much true	13	9	10	14
I have a say in how things work.				
Not at all true	46	48	48	47
A little true	29	30	30	25
Pretty much true	16	15	16	19
Very much true	9	7	7	8
I help decide school activities or rules.				
Not at all true	68	69	66	57
A little true	18	19	21	18
Pretty much true	8	8	9	16
Very much true	6	4	5	9

Question HS/MS A.41-45: At school... I do interesting activities... I help decide things like class activities or rules... I do things that make a difference... I have a say in how things work... I help decide school activities or rules.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.10
School Connectedness Scale Questions

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
School connectedness				
<i>Average reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree”</i>	63	59	56	60
I feel close to people at this school.				
Strongly disagree	5	5	6	7
Disagree	6	8	10	8
Neither disagree nor agree	22	25	24	41
Agree	45	42	41	31
Strongly agree	22	20	19	12
I am happy to be at this school.				
Strongly disagree	7	6	7	7
Disagree	7	8	9	5
Neither disagree nor agree	22	25	28	27
Agree	39	42	40	40
Strongly agree	24	20	16	21
I feel like I am part of this school.				
Strongly disagree	7	6	7	6
Disagree	10	10	11	5
Neither disagree nor agree	24	31	32	33
Agree	40	37	36	40
Strongly agree	20	15	13	16
The teachers at this school treat students fairly.				
Strongly disagree	6	5	5	6
Disagree	10	10	11	4
Neither disagree nor agree	22	27	29	17
Agree	38	43	43	47
Strongly agree	24	16	12	26
I feel safe in my school.				
Strongly disagree	5	5	5	6
Disagree	8	8	8	4
Neither disagree nor agree	24	28	27	25
Agree	39	43	44	41
Strongly agree	24	16	16	24

Question HS/MS A.22-26: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?... I feel close to people at this school... I am happy to be at this school... I feel like I am part of this school... The teachers at this school treat students fairly... I feel safe in my school.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.11***Academic Motivation Scale Questions***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Academic motivation				
<i>Average reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree”</i>	75	73	70	69
I try hard to make sure that I am good at my schoolwork.				
Strongly disagree	3	2	2	3
Disagree	4	4	4	1
Neither disagree nor agree	11	13	16	17
Agree	37	42	45	50
Strongly agree	46	38	33	29
I try hard at school because I am interested in my work.				
Strongly disagree	6	5	5	8
Disagree	10	11	12	6
Neither disagree nor agree	23	25	27	29
Agree	36	36	36	41
Strongly agree	25	23	19	16
I work hard to try to understand new things at school.				
Strongly disagree	4	3	3	3
Disagree	5	5	6	4
Neither disagree nor agree	16	20	21	25
Agree	40	43	45	44
Strongly agree	35	29	25	24
I am always trying to do better in my schoolwork.				
Strongly disagree	3	2	2	3
Disagree	3	3	4	2
Neither disagree nor agree	11	15	18	25
Agree	36	41	44	40
Strongly agree	47	39	32	31

Question HS/MS A.31-34: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?... I try hard to make sure that I am good at my schoolwork... I try hard at school because I am interested in my work... I work hard to try to understand new things at school... I am always trying to do better in my schoolwork.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.12***Parent Involvement Scale Questions***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Parent involvement in school				
<i>Average reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree”</i>	60	45	40	56
Teachers at this school communicate with parents about what students are expected to learn in class.				
Strongly disagree	5	6	8	6
Disagree	9	14	18	5
Neither disagree nor agree	22	33	34	32
Agree	40	35	31	37
Strongly agree	23	12	9	20
Parents feel welcome to participate at this school.				
Strongly disagree	4	4	5	5
Disagree	7	8	10	4
Neither disagree nor agree	31	42	43	39
Agree	38	33	33	35
Strongly agree	20	12	9	17
School staff takes parent concerns seriously.				
Strongly disagree	5	6	8	5
Disagree	9	10	15	3
Neither disagree nor agree	29	39	38	31
Agree	36	33	30	34
Strongly agree	21	11	9	26

Question HS/MS A.28-30: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?... Teachers at this school communicate with parents about what students are expected to learn in class... Parents feel welcome to participate at this school... School staff takes parent concerns seriously.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A4.13***Quality of School Physical Environment***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
My school is usually clean and tidy.				
Strongly disagree	9	9	9	5
Disagree	17	16	18	6
Neither disagree nor agree	28	31	31	32
Agree	34	34	33	37
Strongly agree	12	10	10	20

Question HS/MS A.27: How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?... My school is usually clean and tidy.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

5. School Violence, Victimization, and Safety

Table A5.1

Perceived Safety at School

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Very safe	19	15	16	27
Safe	42	45	42	38
Neither safe nor unsafe	30	33	33	31
Unsafe	6	5	5	2
Very unsafe	3	3	3	2

Question HS A.99/MS A.88: How safe do you feel when you are at school?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A5.2***Reasons for Harassment on School Property, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Race, ethnicity, or national origin				
0 times	85	87	89	77
1 time	6	6	4	11
2 or more times	9	7	7	12
Religion				
0 times	95	94	94	96
1 time	3	3	3	2
2 or more times	2	3	3	2
Gender				
0 times	93	94	94	92
1 time	3	3	3	7
2 or more times	3	4	3	1
Because you are gay or lesbian or someone thought you were				
0 times	89	92	94	83
1 time	5	3	3	2
2 or more times	6	4	4	15
A physical or mental disability				
0 times	96	96	96	76
1 time	2	2	2	20
2 or more times	2	2	3	4
You are an immigrant or someone thought you were				
0 times	96	96	96	97
1 time	2	2	2	1
2 or more times	2	2	2	2
<i>Any of the above six reasons</i>	26	22	21	36

Question HS A.115-120/MS A.105-110: During the past 12 months, how many times on school property were you harassed or bullied for any of the following reasons?... Your race, ethnicity, or national origin... Your religion... Your gender... Because you are gay or lesbian or someone thought you were... A physical or mental disability... You are an immigrant or someone thought you were.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A5.2***Reasons for Harassment on School Property, Past 12 Months – Continued***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Any other reason				
0 times	78	84	86	75
1 time	8	5	5	8
2 or more times	14	11	8	17
Any harassment	35	28	26	38

Question HS A.115-121/MS A.105-111: During the past 12 months, how many times on school property were you harassed or bullied for any of the following reasons?... Your race, ethnicity, or national origin... Your religion... Your gender... Because you are gay or lesbian or someone thought you were... A physical or mental disability... You are an immigrant or someone thought you were... Any other reason.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A5.3***Verbal Harassment at School, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
<i>During the past 12 months, how many times on school property have you...</i>				
had mean rumors or lies spread about you?				
0 times	61	71	70	71
1 time	18	14	13	8
2 to 3 times	10	8	10	11
4 or more times	11	7	7	11
had sexual jokes, comments, or gestures made to you?				
0 times	74	72	73	75
1 time	10	10	9	11
2 to 3 times	6	7	8	3
4 or more times	10	11	10	12
been made fun of because of your looks or the way you talk?				
0 times	65	73	76	76
1 time	14	11	9	10
2 to 3 times	7	6	7	5
4 or more times	13	10	8	10
been made fun of, insulted, or called names?				
0 times	59	73	78	74
1 time	15	10	7	13
2 to 3 times	9	6	7	5
4 or more times	16	11	8	8

Question HS A.103-105, 114/MS A.93-95, 104: During the past 12 months, how many times on school property have you... had mean rumors or lies spread about you... had sexual jokes, comments, or gestures made to you... been made fun of because of your looks or the way you talk... been made fun of, insulted, or called names?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A5.4***Violence and Victimization on School Property, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
<i>During the past 12 months, how many times on school property have you...</i>				
been pushed, shoved, slapped, hit, or kicked by someone who wasn't just kidding around?				
0 times	68	83	88	72
1 time	15	9	6	16
2 to 3 times	8	4	3	2
4 or more times	9	5	3	9
been afraid of being beaten up?				
0 times	79	87	92	88
1 time	12	8	4	3
2 to 3 times	4	3	1	2
4 or more times	5	3	2	6
been threatened with harm or injury?				
0 times	90	94	96	88
1 time	6	3	2	4
2 to 3 times	2	2	1	3
4 or more times	2	2	1	4
been in a physical fight?				
0 times	83	91	94	76
1 time	10	5	3	14
2 to 3 times	4	2	1	2
4 or more times	3	2	1	7
been threatened or injured with a weapon (gun, knife, club, etc.)?				
0 times	95	97	98	88
1 time	3	2	1	7
2 to 3 times	1	1	1	1
4 or more times	1	1	0	3
been offered, sold, or given an illegal drug?				
0 times	90	79	79	74
1 time	5	10	8	13
2 to 3 times	3	6	6	8
4 or more times	3	6	7	6

Question HS A.100-102, 107, 111, 113/MS A.90-92, 97, 101, 103: During the past 12 months, how many times on school property have you... been pushed, shoved, slapped, hit, or kicked by someone who wasn't just kidding around... been afraid of being beaten up... been in a physical fight... been offered, sold, or given an illegal drug... been threatened or injured with a weapon (gun, knife, club, etc.) ... been threatened with harm or injury?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A5.5***Property Damage on School Property, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Had your property stolen or deliberately damaged				
0 times	81	86	87	86
1 time	11	9	8	8
2 to 3 times	4	3	3	2
4 or more times	3	2	2	3
Damaged school property on purpose				
0 times	94	96	97	85
1 time	4	2	2	11
2 to 3 times	1	1	1	1
4 or more times	1	1	1	3

Question HS A.106, 108/MS A.96, 98: During the past 12 months, how many times on school property have you... had your property stolen or deliberately damaged, such as your car, clothing, or books... damaged school property on purpose?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A5.6***Weapons Possession on School Property, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Carried a gun				
0 times	98	99	99	95
1 time	1	0	0	4
2 to 3 times	0	0	0	1
4 or more times	1	0	0	1
Carried any other weapon (such as a knife or club)				
0 times	96	97	97	95
1 time	3	2	2	2
2 to 3 times	1	1	0	1
4 or more times	1	1	1	2
Seen someone carrying a gun, knife, or other weapon				
0 times	86	87	91	87
1 time	9	7	5	10
2 to 3 times	3	3	3	1
4 or more times	2	2	2	2

Question HS A.109, 110, 112/MS A.99, 100, 102: During the past 12 months, how many times on school property have you... carried a gun... carried any other weapon (such as a knife or club)... seen someone carrying a gun, knife, or other weapon?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A5.7***Cyber Bullying, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
0 times (never)	73	77	77	78
1 time	13	11	11	9
2 to 3 times	7	7	7	9
4 or more times	6	6	5	4

Question HS A.122/MS A.112: During the past 12 months, how many times did other students spread mean rumors or lies, or hurtful pictures, about you online, on social media, or on a cell phone?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

6. Alcohol and Other Drug Use

Table A6.1

Summary Measures of Level of AOD Use and Perceptions

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %	Table
Lifetime illicit AOD use to get “high” [†]	15	29	43	45	A6.2
Lifetime alcohol or drug use	15	31	44	48	A6.2
Lifetime marijuana use	7	17	29	35	A6.2
Lifetime very drunk or high (7 or more times)	2	6	12	22	A6.7
Lifetime drinking and driving involvement	28	8	14	20	A6.11
Current alcohol or drug use	8	15	23	33	A6.5
Current marijuana use	4	10	15	28	A6.5
Current heavy drug use	2	6	9	24	A6.5
Current heavy alcohol use (binge drinking)	1	4	8	15	A6.5
Current alcohol or drug use on school property	3	6	6	18	A6.8
Harmfulness of occasional marijuana use [‡]	39	37	30	36	A6.12
Difficulty of obtaining marijuana [§]	22	8	6	18	A6.13

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

[†]*Excludes prescription pain medication, diet pills, and prescription stimulant.*

[‡]*Great harm.*

[§]*Very difficult.*

Table A6.2
Summary of AOD Lifetime Use

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol	10	23	37	39
Marijuana	7	17	29	35
Inhalants	4	4	3	14
Cocaine, methamphetamine, or any amphetamines	na	2	2	16
Heroin	na	1	1	10
Ecstasy, LSD, or other psychedelics	na	3	4	12
Prescription pain medication, opioids, tranquilizers, sedatives, diet pills, or other prescription stimulant	na	10	12	29
Cold/cough medicines or other over-the-counter medicines to get “high”	na	6	7	21
Any other drug, pill, or medicine to get “high”	3	4	4	16
Any of the above AOD use	15	31	44	48
Any illicit AOD use to get “high”[†]	15	29	43	45

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

[†]Excludes prescription pain medication, diet pills, and prescription stimulant.

na—Not asked of middle school students.

Table A6.3
Lifetime AOD Use

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol (one full drink)				
0 times	90	77	63	61
1 time	5	7	7	12
2 to 3 times	3	6	9	6
4 or more times	2	10	21	20
Marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)				
0 times	93	83	71	65
1 time	2	4	5	3
2 to 3 times	2	4	5	7
4 or more times	3	9	18	25
Inhalants				
0 times	96	96	97	86
1 time	2	1	1	4
2 to 3 times	1	1	1	4
4 or more times	1	1	1	6
Cocaine, methamphetamine, or any amphetamines				
0 times	na	98	98	84
1 time	na	1	1	2
2 to 3 times	na	0	1	10
4 or more times	na	1	1	5
Heroin				
0 times	na	99	99	90
1 time	na	0	0	0
2 to 3 times	na	0	0	9
4 or more times	na	0	1	1
Ecstasy, LSD, or other psychedelics				
0 times	na	97	96	88
1 time	na	1	2	3
2 to 3 times	na	1	1	6
4 or more times	na	1	1	3

Question HS A.49-52, 54, 55/MS A.50-52: During your life, how many times have you used the following? One full drink of alcohol (such as a can of beer, glass of wine, wine cooler, or shot of liquor)... Marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)... Inhalants (things you sniff, huff, or breathe to get “high” such as glue, paint, aerosol sprays, gasoline, poppers, gases)... Cocaine, methamphetamine, or any amphetamines (meth, speed, crystal, crank, ice)... Heroin... Ecstasy, LSD, or other psychedelics (acid, mescaline, peyote, mushrooms).

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

na—Not asked of middle school students.

Table A6.3

Lifetime AOD Use – Continued

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Prescription pain medication or opioids, tranquilizers, or sedatives				
0 times	na	93	92	76
1 time	na	2	2	8
2 to 3 times	na	2	3	7
4 or more times	na	2	3	9
Diet pills				
0 times	na	96	97	86
1 time	na	1	1	8
2 to 3 times	na	1	1	4
4 or more times	na	3	2	2
Ritalin™ or Adderall™ or other prescription stimulant				
0 times	na	97	95	90
1 time	na	1	1	2
2 to 3 times	na	1	1	5
4 or more times	na	1	3	3
Cold/cough medicines or other over-the-counter medicines to get “high”				
0 times	na	94	93	79
1 time	na	2	2	6
2 to 3 times	na	2	3	8
4 or more times	na	3	2	6
Any other drug, pill, or medicine to get “high” or for reasons other than medical				
0 times	97	96	96	84
1 time	1	1	1	6
2 to 3 times	1	1	1	6
4 or more times	1	2	2	4

Question HS A.56-60/MS A.54: During your life, how many times have you used the following?... Prescription pain medication or opioids (Vicodin™, OxyContin™, Percodan™, Lortab™), tranquilizers, or sedatives (Xanax™, Ativan™)... Diet pills (Didrex®, Dexedrine®, Xenadrine®, Skittles, M&M’s)... Ritalin™ or Adderall™ or other prescription stimulant... Cold/cough medicines or other over-the-counter medicines to get “high”... Any other drug, pill, or medicine to get “high” or for reasons other than medical.

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

na—Not asked of middle school students.

Table A6.4***Lifetime Marijuana Consumption***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
<i>During your life, how many times have you used marijuana in any of the following ways...</i>				
Smoke it?				
0 times	95	86	74	63
1 time	1	3	4	3
2 to 3 times	1	4	5	6
4 or more times	2	8	17	28
In an electronic or e-cigarette or other vaping device?				
0 times	93	86	78	67
1 time	2	4	4	3
2 to 3 times	2	3	5	6
4 or more times	3	8	13	24
Eat or drink it in products made with marijuana?				
0 times	97	90	82	69
1 time	2	4	6	4
2 to 3 times	1	3	5	8
4 or more times	1	4	7	19

Question HS A.64-66/MS A.58-60: During your life, how many times have you used marijuana in any of the following ways... Smoke it?... In an electronic or e-cigarette or other vaping device?... Eat or drink it in products made with marijuana?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A6.5***Current AOD Use, Past 30 Days***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol (one or more drinks of alcohol)	5	10	17	22
Binge drinking (5 or more drinks in a row)	1	4	8	15
Marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)	4	10	15	28
Inhalants	2	2	1	5
Prescription drugs to get “high” or for reasons other than prescribed	na	2	2	14
Other drug, pill, or medicine to get “high” or for reasons other than medical	2	2	2	9
<i>Any drug use</i>	6	11	15	29
<i>Heavy drug use</i>	2	6	9	24
<i>Any AOD Use</i>	8	15	23	33
Two or more substances at the same time	na	3	4	12

Question HS A.70-76/MS A.64-68: During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use... one or more drinks of alcohol... five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours... marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)... inhalants (things you sniff, huff, or breathe to get “high”)... prescription drugs to get “high” or for reasons other than prescribed ... any other drug, pill, or medicine to get “high” or for reasons other than medical... two or more substances at the same time (for example, alcohol with marijuana, ecstasy with mushrooms)?

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Heavy drug use was calculated based on pattern of combined current drug use on three or more days (marijuana, inhalants, prescription pain medicine to get “high” (high school only), or any other illegal drug/pill to get “high”). na—Not asked of middle school students.

Table A6.6***Frequency of Current AOD Use, Past 30 Days***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol (one or more drinks)				
0 days	95	90	83	78
1 or 2 days	4	7	12	13
3 to 9 days	0	2	4	5
10 to 19 days	0	0	1	1
20 or more days	0	1	1	3
Binge drinking (5 or more drinks in a row)				
0 days	99	96	92	85
1 or 2 days	1	3	5	8
3 to 9 days	0	1	2	3
10 to 19 days	0	0	1	1
20 or more days	0	1	0	2
Marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)				
0 days	96	90	85	72
1 or 2 days	3	5	6	14
3 to 9 days	1	2	4	3
10 to 19 days	0	1	1	2
20 or more days	0	2	3	10

Question HS A.70-72/MS A.64-66: During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use... one or more drinks of alcohol... five or more drinks of alcohol in a row, that is, within a couple of hours... marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A6.7***Lifetime Drunk or “High”***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Very drunk or sick after drinking alcohol				
0 times	97	90	80	75
1 to 2 times	2	6	12	11
3 to 6 times	0	2	4	7
7 or more times	0	2	3	7
“High” (loaded, stoned, or wasted) from using drugs				
0 times	95	86	76	65
1 to 2 times	3	5	7	6
3 to 6 times	1	3	5	7
7 or more times	2	6	12	21
Very drunk or “high” 7 or more times	2	6	12	22

Question HS A.61, 62/MS A.55, 56: During your life, how many times have you been... very drunk or sick after drinking alcohol... “high” (loaded, stoned, or wasted) from using drugs?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A6.8***Current AOD Use on School Property, Past 30 Days***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol				
0 days	98	97	98	91
1 to 2 days	1	2	2	5
3 or more days	0	1	1	4
Marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)				
0 days	98	95	95	84
1 to 2 days	1	3	2	10
3 or more days	1	2	3	7
Any other drug, pill, or medicine to get “high” or for reasons other than medical?				
0 days	99	98	99	92
1 to 2 days	1	1	1	4
3 or more days	0	1	1	4
<i>Any of the above</i>	3	6	6	18

Question HS A.80-82/MS A.72-74: During the past 30 days, on how many days on school property did you use... at least one drink of alcohol... marijuana (smoke, vape, eat, or drink)... any other drug, pill, or medicine to get “high” or for reasons other than medical?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A6.9***Lifetime Drunk or “High” on School Property***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
0 times	97	92	89	74
1 to 2 times	2	4	5	5
3 to 6 times	1	2	3	8
7 or more times	1	2	3	14

Question HS A.63/MS A.57: During your life, how many times have you been... drunk on alcohol or “high” on drugs on school property?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A6.10
Cessation Attempts

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol				
Does not apply, don't use	na	88	81	76
0 times	na	8	14	15
1 time	na	2	3	4
2 to 3 times	na	1	1	2
4 or more times	na	1	1	2
Marijuana				
Does not apply, don't use	na	87	81	67
0 times	na	8	13	16
1 time	na	3	4	4
2 to 3 times	na	1	2	9
4 or more times	na	1	1	4

Question HS A.96, 97: How many times have you tried to quit or stop using... alcohol... marijuana?

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

na—Not asked of middle school students.

Table A6.11***Drinking While Driving, Lifetime***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Driven a car when you had been using alcohol or drugs, or been in a car driven by a friend who had been using				
Never	na	92	86	80
1 time	na	3	5	6
2 times	na	2	3	3
3 to 6 times	na	2	3	4
7 or more times	na	2	3	8
Have ridden in a car driven by someone who had been using alcohol or drugs				
Never	72	na	na	na
1 time	9	na	na	na
2 times	6	na	na	na
3 to 6 times	5	na	na	na
7 or more times	8	na	na	na

Question HS A.98/MS A.87: During your life, how many times have you ever driven a car when you had been using alcohol or drugs, or been in a car driven by a friend when he or she had been using?... In your life, how many times have you ridden in a car driven by someone who had been using alcohol or drugs?

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

na—Not asked of middle/high school students.

Table A6.12***Perceived Harm of AOD Use***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol - drink occasionally				
Great	28	31	31	38
Moderate	21	28	27	20
Slight	21	22	25	11
None	30	19	17	31
Alcohol - 5 or more drinks once or twice a week				
Great	45	55	58	55
Moderate	18	20	22	13
Slight	8	8	7	5
None	28	16	13	27
Marijuana - use occasionally				
Great	39	37	30	36
Moderate	22	26	23	18
Slight	9	15	21	12
None	29	22	26	34
Marijuana - use daily				
Great	57	58	49	40
Moderate	9	14	19	19
Slight	5	9	12	7
None	30	19	20	34

Question HS A.87-90/MS A.79-82: How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they do the following?... Drink alcohol (beer, wine, liquor) occasionally... Have five or more drinks of alcohol once or twice a week... Use marijuana occasionally (smoke, vape, eat, or drink) ... Use marijuana daily.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A6.13***Perceived Difficulty of Obtaining Alcohol and Marijuana***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Alcohol				
Very difficult	16	8	6	15
Fairly difficult	11	9	7	8
Fairly easy	16	24	25	13
Very easy	14	31	40	23
Don't know	42	29	22	41
Marijuana				
Very difficult	22	8	6	18
Fairly difficult	10	8	5	3
Fairly easy	11	21	22	15
Very easy	11	32	43	38
Don't know	46	30	23	26

Question HS A.93, 94/MS A.85, 86: How difficult is it for students in your grade to get any of the following if they really want them?... Alcohol... Marijuana.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

7. Tobacco Use

Table A7.1

Summary of Key CHKS Tobacco Indicators

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %	Table
Use Prevalence and Patterns					
Ever smoked a whole cigarette	2	5	8	22	A7.2
Current cigarette smoking [†]	1	1	2	11	A7.3
Current cigarette smoking at school [†]	1	1	0	5	A7.4
Ever tried smokeless tobacco	2	2	4	12	A7.2
Current smokeless tobacco use [†]	1	1	1	6	A7.3
Current smokeless tobacco use at school [†]	1	1	0	5	A7.4
Ever used electronic cigarettes	10	22	30	36	A7.2
Current use of electronic cigarettes [†]	6	12	15	22	A7.3
Current use of electronic cigarettes at school [†]	3	6	7	14	A7.4
Cessation Attempts					
Tried to quit or stop using cigarettes	na	2	2	8	A7.5
Attitudes and Correlates					
Harmfulness of occasional cigarette smoking [‡]	33	39	44	37	A7.6
Harmfulness of smoking 1 or more packs/day [‡]	55	68	73	55	A7.6
Difficulty of obtaining cigarettes [§]	17	8	8	17	A7.8

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

[†]Past 30 days.

[‡]Great harm.

[§]Very difficult.

na—Not asked of middle school students.

Table A7.2
Lifetime Tobacco Use

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
A cigarette, even one or two puffs				
0 times	96	na	na	na
1 time	2	na	na	na
2 to 3 times	1	na	na	na
4 or more times	1	na	na	na
A whole cigarette				
0 times	98	95	92	78
1 time	1	2	3	6
2 to 3 times	0	1	2	8
4 or more times	1	1	3	8
Smokeless tobacco				
0 times	98	98	96	88
1 time	1	1	2	8
2 to 3 times	0	1	1	2
4 or more times	1	1	1	2
Electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or other vaping device				
0 times	90	78	70	64
1 time	4	5	6	9
2 to 3 times	3	5	6	6
4 or more times	4	11	18	22

Question HS A.46-48/MS A.46-49: During your life, how many times have you used the following? A cigarette, even one or two puffs... A whole cigarette... Smokeless tobacco (dip, chew, or snuff)... Electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or other vaping device such as Juul, e-hookah, hookah pens, or vape pens.

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

na—Not asked of high school students.

Table A7.3***Any Current Use and Daily Use***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Cigarettes				
Any	1	1	2	11
Daily (20 or more days)	0	0	0	1
Smokeless tobacco				
Any	1	1	1	6
Daily (20 or more days)	0	0	0	0
Electronic cigarettes/e-cigarettes/other vaping device				
Any	6	12	15	22
Daily (20 or more days)	0	2	4	4

Question HS A.67-69/MS A.61-63: During the past 30 days, on how many days did you use... cigarettes... smokeless tobacco (dip, chew, or snuff)... electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or other vaping device such as Juul, e-hookah, hookah pens, or vape pens?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A7.4***Current Smoking on School Property, Past 30 Days***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Cigarettes				
0 days	99	99	100	95
1 or 2 days	0	0	0	4
3 to 9 days	0	0	0	0
10 to 19 days	0	0	0	0
20 or more days	0	0	0	0
Smokeless tobacco				
0 days	99	99	100	95
1 or 2 days	0	1	0	3
3 to 9 days	0	0	0	1
10 to 19 days	0	0	0	0
20 or more days	0	0	0	0
Electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or other vaping device				
0 days	97	94	93	86
1 or 2 days	2	3	3	5
3 to 9 days	1	2	2	2
10 to 19 days	0	1	1	5
20 or more days	0	1	1	2

Question HS A.77-79/MS A.69-71: During the past 30 days, on how many days on school property did you use... cigarettes... smokeless tobacco (dip, chew, or snuff)... electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or other vaping device such as Juul, e-hookah, hookah pens, or vape pens?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A7.5***Cigarette Smoking Cessation Attempts***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Does not apply, don't use	na	94	94	83
0 times	na	4	4	8
1 time	na	1	1	5
2 to 3 times	na	0	1	1
4 or more times	na	1	0	2

Question HS A.95: How many times have you tried to quit or stop using cigarettes?

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

na—Not asked of middle school students.

Table A7.6***Perceived Harm of Cigarette Smoking***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Smoke cigarettes occasionally				
Great	33	39	44	37
Moderate	25	30	29	19
Slight	14	13	13	11
None	28	18	14	34
Smoke 1 or more packs of cigarettes each day				
Great	55	68	73	55
Moderate	11	11	9	8
Slight	5	4	4	5
None	29	18	14	32

Question HS A.83, 84/MS A.75, 76: How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they do the following?... Smoke cigarettes occasionally... Smoke 1 or more packs of cigarettes each day.

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A7.7***Perceived Harm of E-Cigarette Use***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Use e-cigarettes or vaping device occasionally				
Great	25			36
Moderate	25			21
Slight	14			12
None	36			31
Use e-cigarettes or vaping devices several times a day				
Great	42			52
Moderate	15			15
Slight	7			2
None	37			31

Question HS A.85, 86/MS A.77, 78: How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they do the following?... Use e-cigarettes (electronic) or vaping device occasionally... Use e-cigarettes or vaping devices several times a day (100 puffs or more).

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A7.8***Perceived Difficulty of Obtaining Cigarettes and E-Cigarettes***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Cigarettes				
Very difficult	17	8	8	17
Fairly difficult	13	12	11	8
Fairly easy	15	24	26	19
Very easy	9	19	24	23
Don't know	46	36	32	33
E-cigarettes or vaping device				
Very difficult	15	6	6	20
Fairly difficult	10	6	5	3
Fairly easy	17	22	23	13
Very easy	17	38	43	34
Don't know	41	27	23	30

Question HS A.91, 92/MS A.83, 84: How difficult is it for students in your grade to get any of the following if they really want them?... Cigarettes.... E-cigarettes (electronic) or vaping device

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

8. Other Physical and Mental Health Risks

Table A8.1

Alone After School

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Never	46	na	na	na
1 day	15	na	na	na
2 days	9	na	na	na
3 days	6	na	na	na
4 days	3	na	na	na
5 days	21	na	na	na

Question MS A.89: In a normal week, how many days are you home after school for at least one hour without an adult there?

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

na—Not asked of high school students.

Table A8.2

Hours of Sleep

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
4 or less hours	4			16
5 hours	5			5
6 hours	11			28
7 hours	21			8
8 hours	28			19
9 hours	19			22
10 or more hours	12			3

Question HS A.127/MS A.117: On an average school night, how many hours of sleep do you get?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A8.3***Eating of Breakfast***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	33	37	39	42
Yes	67	63	61	58

Question HS A.126/MS A.116: Did you eat breakfast today?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A8.4***Chronic Sad or Hopeless Feelings, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	71	70	64	59
Yes	29	30	36	41

Question HS A.124/MS A.114: During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more that you stopped doing some usual activities?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A8.5***Seriously Considered Attempting Suicide, Past 12 Months***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	84	84	83	71
Yes	16	16	17	29

Question HS A.125/MS A.115: During the past 12 months, did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A8.6***Gang Involvement***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
No	96	96	96	96
Yes	4	4	4	4

Question HS A.123/MS A.113: Do you consider yourself a member of a gang?

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

9. Race/Ethnic Breakdowns

Table A9.1

School Supports and Engagement by Race/Ethnicity - 7th Grade

Percent of Students (%)	Grade 7						
	H/L	AI/AN	Asian	AA	NH/PI	White	Mixed
<i>School Environment</i>							
Total school supports [‡]	53	53	57	55	49	59	53
Caring adults in school [‡]	59	60	62	60	55	66	58
High expectations-adults in school [‡]	73	74	77	71	72	79	73
Meaningful participation at school [‡]	27	27	33	33	21	34	26
<i>School Connectedness</i> [†]	60	60	67	54	41	68	60
<i>Academic Motivation</i> [†]	74	74	78	65	71	78	74
<i>Parent Involvement in School</i> [†]	58	61	64	51	54	62	58

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents. H/L: Hispanic or Latino; AI/AN: American Indian or Alaska Native; AA: Black or African American; NH/PI: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; Mixed: Mixed (two or more) races. [†]Average percent of respondents reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree.” [‡]Average percent of respondents reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true.”

Table A9.2

School Supports and Engagement by Race/Ethnicity - 9th Grade

Percent of Students (%)	Grade 9						
	H/L	AI/AN	Asian	AA	NH/PI	White	Mixed
<i>School Environment</i>							
Total school supports [‡]	47	48	57	50	44	55	47
Caring adults in school [‡]	52	55	62	58	47	63	52
High expectations-adults in school [‡]	65	65	75	63	60	73	65
Meaningful participation at school [‡]	23	25	35	30	24	29	24
<i>School Connectedness</i> [†]	53	51	65	48	47	66	53
<i>Academic Motivation</i> [†]	70	69	82	70	72	76	69
<i>Parent Involvement in School</i> [†]	44	43	53	38	38	47	43

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents. H/L: Hispanic or Latino; AI/AN: American Indian or Alaska Native; AA: Black or African American; NH/PI: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; Mixed: Mixed (two or more) races. [†]Average percent of respondents reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree.” [‡]Average percent of respondents reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true.”

Table A9.3***School Supports and Engagement by Race/Ethnicity - 11th Grade***

Percent of Students (%)	Grade 11						
	H/L	AI/AN	Asian	AA	NH/PI	White	Mixed
<i>School Environment</i>							
Total school supports [‡]	49	49	59	53	50	55	48
Caring adults in school [‡]	55	56	66	60	59	66	55
High expectations-adults in school [‡]	65	65	75	70	61	72	65
Meaningful participation at school [‡]	25	27	34	28	31	29	25
<i>School Connectedness</i> [†]	51	50	64	52	62	61	51
<i>Academic Motivation</i> [†]	70	71	78	62	63	70	69
<i>Parent Involvement in School</i> [†]	39	42	43	40	43	41	39

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents. H/L: Hispanic or Latino; AI/AN: American Indian or Alaska Native; AA: Black or African American; NH/PI: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; Mixed: Mixed (two or more) races. [†]Average percent of respondents reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree.” [‡]Average percent of respondents reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true.”

Table A9.4***School Supports and Engagement by Race/Ethnicity - Non-Traditional***

Percent of Students (%)	NT						
	H/L	AI/AN	Asian	AA	NH/PI	White	Mixed
<i>School Environment</i>							
Total school supports [‡]	60	60	46	54	27	58	56
Caring adults in school [‡]	68	70	56	58	27	62	62
High expectations-adults in school [‡]	75	80	62	66	39	81	73
Meaningful participation at school [‡]	35	30	20	37	14	31	33
<i>School Connectedness</i> [†]	64	59	42	35	28	62	57
<i>Academic Motivation</i> [†]	74	73	24	69	67	67	69
<i>Parent Involvement in School</i> [†]	63	58	34	42	39	55	57

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents. H/L: Hispanic or Latino; AI/AN: American Indian or Alaska Native; AA: Black or African American; NH/PI: Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander; Mixed: Mixed (two or more) races. [†]Average percent of respondents reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree.” [‡]Average percent of respondents reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true.”

Table A9.5***Feeling Safe or Very Safe at School by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	57	53	52	71
American Indian or Alaska Native	60	51	54	60
Asian	69	68	67	88
Black or African American	60	48	57	46
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	43	43	58	33
White	67	66	64	63
Mixed (two or more) races	55	53	50	65

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A9.6***Harassment Due to Six Reasons at School in the Past 12 Months by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	23	20	19	28
American Indian or Alaska Native	19	16	15	7
Asian	41	32	26	15
Black or African American	31	33	32	27
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	44	32	25	21
White	25	23	21	37
Mixed (two or more) races	25	22	21	43

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

The six reasons include race, ethnicity or national origin; religion; gender (being male or female); sexual orientation; a physical or mental disability; and immigrant status.

Table A9.7***Any Harassment or Bullying at School in the Past 12 Months by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	32	25	24	31
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	20	18	14
Asian	47	34	28	19
Black or African American	38	34	34	28
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	57	43	26	21
White	35	30	27	38
Mixed (two or more) races	35	27	26	45

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A9.8***Any Alcohol Use at School in the Past 30 Days by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	2	4	3	12
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	5	4	15
Asian	3	1	1	15
Black or African American	5	5	3	20
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	6	8	6	13
White	0	2	1	11
Mixed (two or more) races	2	4	3	7

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A9.9***Cigarette Smoking in the Past 30 Days by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	1	2	2	12
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	2	2	10
Asian	1	1	1	22
Black or African American	1	1	3	12
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	1	9	2	17
White	1	1	2	12
Mixed (two or more) races	1	2	2	10

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A9.10***Any Alcohol Use in the Past 30 Days by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	5	11	15	25
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	14	11	48
Asian	3	4	7	24
Black or African American	11	12	9	14
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	3	16	15	38
White	4	9	20	18
Mixed (two or more) races	6	11	16	24

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A9.11***Any Marijuana Use in the Past 30 Days by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	5	13	14	33
American Indian or Alaska Native	3	16	12	42
Asian	3	3	8	20
Black or African American	11	19	14	28
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	12	9	43
White	3	7	15	20
Mixed (two or more) races	5	14	16	38

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Table A9.12***Chronic Sad or Hopeless Feelings in the Past 12 Months by Race/Ethnicity***

	Grade 7 %	Grade 9 %	Grade 11 %	NT %
Hispanic or Latino	31	33	37	35
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	31	34	32
Asian	30	27	30	25
Black or African American	32	33	33	32
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	52	37	38	15
White	25	27	36	50
Mixed (two or more) races	33	33	38	33

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

10. Gender Breakdowns

Table A10.1
School Supports and Engagement by Gender

	Grade 7		Grade 9		Grade 11		NT	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<i>School Environment</i>								
Total school supports [‡]	55	56	51	51	52	53	58	56
Caring adults in school [‡]	60	62	57	58	60	62	60	64
High expectations-adults in school [‡]	75	75	70	68	68	69	86	70
Meaningful participation at school [‡]	29	30	26	27	27	28	28	35
<i>School Connectedness</i> [†]	62	64	58	60	53	59	58	60
<i>Academic Motivation</i> [†]	77	74	76	70	74	66	66	70
<i>Parent Involvement in School</i> [†]	59	60	44	47	38	42	51	59

Notes: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

[†]Average percent of respondents reporting “Agree” or “Strongly agree.”

[‡]Average percent of respondents reporting “Pretty much true” or “Very much true.”

Table A10.2

Select Perceived Safety, Harassment, Alcohol and Other Drug Use, and Mental Health Measures by Gender

	Grade 7		Grade 9		Grade 11		NT	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Perceived Safety at School								
Feel safe or very safe at school	58	63	58	61	56	61	62	66
Harassment/Bullying at School								
<i>During the past 12 months at school, have you been...</i>								
harassed/bullied for any of the six reasons	26	25	25	20	23	18	42	33
harassed/bullied for any reasons	37	33	31	25	29	23	44	34
Current ATOD Use								
<i>During the past 30 days, did you...</i>								
have at least one drink of alcohol at school	2	2	4	2	3	2	6	12
use cigarettes	1	1	1	1	2	2	8	13
use electronic cigarettes	6	5	13	10	15	15	26	19
have at least one drink of alcohol	6	4	12	8	19	15	22	22
use marijuana	4	4	11	9	15	14	31	27
Mental Health								
Chronic sad or hopeless feelings, past 12 months	36	22	38	22	44	28	59	27

Note: Cells are empty if there are less than 10 respondents.

Appendix I

2017-18 CHKS Secondary Survey Response Rates

Eligible Districts	7th %	9th %	11th %	NT %
Briggs Elementary	89			
Conejo Valley Unified	97	80	66	39
Fillmore Unified	91	78	78	100
Hueneme Elementary	93			
Mesa Union Elementary	100			
Moorpark Unified	95	63	83	21
Mupu Elementary	100			
Oak Park Unified	92	92	66	69
Ocean View	56			
Ojai Unified	69	80	80	
Oxnard	85			
Oxnard Union High		67	64	75
Pleasant Valley	90			
Rio Elementary	75			
Santa Paula Unified	82	90	64	93
Simi Valley Unified	92	88	67	74
Somis Union	80			
Ventura County Office of Education				48
Ventura Unified	87	69	58	18

Notes: Response rates are presented by grade level. Eligible districts listed are based on CBEDS 2018-19 public school and enrollment data files.

Appendix II

2018-19 CHKS Secondary Survey Response Rates

Eligible Districts	7th %	9th %	11th %	NT %
Briggs Elementary				
Conejo Valley Unified				
Fillmore Unified				
Hueneme Elementary	95			
Mesa Union Elementary				
Moorpark Unified				
Mupu Elementary				
Oak Park Unified				
Ocean View	75			
Ojai Unified				
Oxnard	91			
Oxnard Union High				78
Pleasant Valley				
Rio Elementary				
Santa Paula Unified				
Simi Valley Unified				
Somis Union				
Ventura County Office of Education				63
Ventura Unified				

Notes: Response rates are presented by grade level. Eligible districts listed are based on CBEDS 2018-19 public school and enrollment data files.

Appendix III

CHKS Content Overview, 2018-19

This brief guide to key CHKS Core Module indicators is designed to help survey users more easily understand and interpret their findings.¹ References are provided to the tables in CHKS reports where results for the indicators discussed can be found. References are also made to other relevant CHKS reports, factsheets, and resources that can be downloaded from the CalSCHLS website (calschls.org) for further information. What Works Briefs that provide guidance on best practices related to areas assessed by the survey are available from the California Safe and Supportive Schools website (californias3.wested.org/tools/wwb).

Special attention is directed toward indicators related to the requirements of California's Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP).² For a summary of state-level LCAP-related baseline CHKS data, see Factsheet #15.³

MAIN CONTENT FOCUS: SCHOOL CLIMATE AND THE NEEDS OF THE WHOLE CHILD

The main purpose of the CHKS Core Module is to assess indicators of school climate, pupil engagement, and student supports, all three key priorities required of Local Control and Accountability Plans. It seeks to provide schools with essential data to determine the degree to which they provide the conditions and supports that all youth need to succeed in school and developmentally thrive. Twenty-nine items assessing seven domains are used to calculate a School Climate Index (SCI) score that is included in a *School Climate Report Card* that districts can request at the district and school level.⁴ The items used in the SCI assess school connectedness, developmental supports (e.g., caring adult relationships), and safety, including bullying and victimization.

School climate, as measured by the CHKS, is strongly related to student performance on standardized academic tests. Data for high school students show that as CHKS SCI scores increased—as the schools became safer, more supportive, and more engaging—test performance increased as well.⁵

In a ground-breaking analysis, a positive school climate was a distinguishing characteristic of California secondary schools that “beat the odds” academically and consistently performed better on the state's standardized tests than *would be predicted* based on the characteristics of their students (i.e., comparing schools with similar student demographics). The higher (more positive) the CHKS SCI, the greater the probability there was for beating the odds. School climate was more strongly associated with beating the odds than a school's level of personnel resources.⁶

In addition, the CHKS Core Module provides data to help understand the degree to which schools address the needs of the Whole Child. CHKS data show that California secondary schools made greater progress

¹ To see how local results compare with state averages in California, download a copy of the latest Biennial State CHKS report (calschls.org/reports-data/#biennial_statewide_student_reports). The Biennial State data are derived from a randomly-selected, representative state sample. County level reports are also available on the CHKS website. Biennial State CHKS data can also be examined interactively on the CalSCHLS Data Dashboard (calschls.org/reports-data/dashboard/).

² For a guide to how CalSCHLS survey items align with LCAP indicator requirements, download Helpful Resources for Local Control and Accountability Plans at calschls.org/resources/#survey_content_guides.

³ Austin. (2016). Download calschls.org/docs/factsheet-15.pdf

⁴ See calschls.org/reports-data/#slcr

⁵ O'Malley & Hanson. (2012). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3factsheet3_API_20120716.pdf

⁶ Voight, Austin, & Hanson. (2013). Download www.wested.org/online_pubs/hd-13-10.pdf

in raising standardized test scores over a one-year period when they had higher percentages of students who: (1) were less engaged in risky behaviors such as substance use and violence; (2) were more likely to eat nutritiously and exercise; and (3) reported experiencing caring adult relationships and high expectations at school.⁷ These results suggest that addressing the health and developmental needs of youth is a critical component of a comprehensive strategy for meeting accountability demands for improved academic performance.

GRADE-LEVEL PATTERNS

More than twenty years of survey administration has demonstrated that as youth progress through secondary school, they become: (1) less likely to feel connected to school and be academically motivated; and (2) more likely to report truancy, involvement in substance use, and chronic sadness and hopelessness. Here are some additional grade-level patterns in CHKS data:

- **Seventh graders** report the highest rates of harassment and victimization, as well as participation in a physical fight and seeing a weapon on campus.
- **Ninth graders** report the lowest rates of developmental support and perceived safety.
- **Nontraditional (continuation school) students** report risk behavior (e.g., binge drinking, fighting at school) prevalence rates at least twice those of 11th graders in traditional comprehensive high schools.⁸ They also exhibit lower perceived school safety, school connectedness, and developmental supports. Continuation school students are a highly vulnerable population in need of a wide range of academic, social, emotional, and behavioral supports and intervention services.⁹

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS AND POPULATION SUBGROUP DIFFERENCES (Section 3)

A wide range of indicators of the demographic and background characteristics of the survey respondents help users gain a better sense of how representative the survey sample is compared to the student population overall. They also enable users to analyze how survey results vary by important subgroups in the school and help them to identify, and target programs for, youth most in need. School districts can use these data to meet the LCAP requirement to demonstrate actions across state priorities in regard to socioeconomically disadvantaged students, English learners, and foster youth, as well as other indicators such as race/ethnicity, homeless youth, and LGBT youth.

In the standard CHKS report, breakdowns for selected key indicators are provided by race/ethnicity and gender. For selected key indicators, the CalSCHLS Data Dashboard (calschls.org/reports-data/dashboard/) can be used to display subgroup differences by gender, race/ethnicity, parental education, parent military status, homeless and migrant status, afterschool participation, gender identity, and sexual orientation. Results can also be displayed for English learners, free and reduced-priced meal eligible students, and foster youth—three important LCAP priority subgroups. Districts/schools can also request reports disaggregating all their results by demographic characteristics from their CalSCHLS Regional Center (call 888.841.7536 or email CalSCHLS@wested.org).

⁷ Hanson & Austin. (2003). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-3.pdf

⁸ In interpreting the results for 11th graders, note that many youth who are most disengaged and involved in high risk behaviors may have already dropped out of school or did not participate in the survey because of truancy or absenteeism.

⁹ Austin, Dixon, & Bailey. (2007). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-7.pdf

Racial-Ethnic Identification

Respondents self-report their identification with six racial/ethnic groups plus mixed (two or more) race. In one study of CHKS data, both academic performance and school well-being—the degree to which students feel safe at, supported by, and connected to the school—varied consistently and persistently across schools by racial/ethnic groupings.¹⁰ They were lowest in schools with large proportions of African American and Hispanic students, as well as in low-income schools. Controlling for socioeconomic status and other school demographic characteristics reduced these racial/ethnic group differences, but they still remained. This suggests that school climate factors related to student well-being may also play a role in the racial-ethnic achievement gap. One strategy to close the gap may be to enhance learning supports that foster caring adult relationships, high expectations, meaningful participation, safety, and connectedness in schools serving large proportions of low-income African American and Hispanic students.

In the majority of cases, with notable exceptions for Asians, *the racial/ethnic gaps in performance, engagement, perceived support, and safety are greater within-schools than between-schools*.¹¹ African American, Latino, and Asian students feel less safe, engaged, and supported than their White peers *within the same school*. Inequities in these factors, for the various racial/ethnic groups, can possibly contribute to the achievement gap. Further, these findings suggest that practices designed to ensure equal access to academic resources, opportunities, learning supports, and promotion of common experiences may be effective in ameliorating the gap.

Foster Care Youth

Compared to youth who live with their parents, foster care youth report much higher rates of substance abuse, poor school attendance and grades, more violence-related behaviors, more harassment, and higher depression risk.¹² They were also more likely to be low in caring adult relationships and total developmental support.

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth are at elevated risk for bullying and violence victimization, mental health problems, drug and alcohol use, and exhibiting poor performance in school.¹³ For example, analysis of the latest Biennial CHKS data indicate that LGBT youth¹⁴ are:

- about 30 percentage points more likely than non-LGBT youth to experience harassment and bullying at school;
- 30-to-40 percentage points more likely to exhibit chronic sadness;
- 2-to-3 times more likely to smoke cigarettes, binge drink, and to have been drunk or high at school; and
- receive substantially fewer social supports from teachers and peers at school than their counterparts who do not identify as LGBT.

Because of such disparities, it is important to examine disparities across LGBT and non-LGBT youth to identify needs and support the development of practices that promote the healthy development and safety of all youth.

¹⁰ Austin, Hanson, Bono, & Zheng. (2008). Download data.calschls.org/resources/factsheet_8.pdf

¹¹ Hanson, Austin, & Li. (2012). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-13_20120405.pdf

¹² Austin, Jones, & Annon. (2007). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-6.pdf

¹³ Russell, S. T., & Fish, J. N. (2016). Mental health in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth. *Annual Review of Clinical Psychology*, 12, 465-487.

¹⁴ See calschls.org/reports-data/dashboard/

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE, SUPPORTS, AND ENGAGEMENT (Section 4)

A major focus of the CHKS is providing data to gauge the level of pupil engagement, an LCAP state priority on which districts are required to show improvement. Enhancing student engagement has been identified as the key to addressing problems of low achievement, high levels of student misbehavior, alienation, and high dropout rates.¹⁵ A 2009 Gallup study found that a one-percentage-point uptick in a school's average student engagement was connected to a six-point increase in reading achievement and eight points in math.¹⁶ CHKS and other surveys consistently show that as youth progress through the school system, indicators of engagement decline.

It is important to look at engagement from three perspectives: behavioral, emotional, and cognitive. The CHKS provides data on all three types. As discussed below, the Academic Motivation scale and self-reported grades provide insight into cognitive engagement; the School Connectedness scale, into emotional engagement; attendance and truancy data, on behavioral engagement. Other behavioral engagement indicators on the survey include substance use at school and violence perpetration. Research shows that student engagement is malleable and that all three types are influenced by the level to which students perceive the school as having a positive environment.

The CHKS Developmental Supports scales provide insight into whether students experience in their school the three protective factors that characterize a positive school climate and are linked to school connectedness and positive academic, behavioral, and health outcomes. Other school climate factors assessed are the level of parent involvement and the quality of the school physical environment, both also LCAP priorities. The likelihood that students will be motivated and engaged is increased to the extent that their teachers, family, and friends effectively support their purposeful involvement in learning and in school.

Self-Reported Grades

The CHKS asks students to indicate what grades they mostly received in school in the past 12 months. Although self-reports are not as accurate as actual report card data, they provide a general sense of the school performance of the survey respondents from their self-perception. To learn more about the factors that might be causing poor performance, request a CHKS report showing how all the survey results vary by level of performance (call 888.841.7536 or email CalSCHLS@wested.org).

Academic Motivation

A four-item scale gauges student academic motivation by asking how strongly they agree that they try hard to do well on schoolwork, try hard because they are interested in the work, work hard to understand new things at school, and always try to do better. On the 2015-17 State CHKS, the percentage of students strongly agreeing with the questions on this scale declined from 45 percent in 7th grade to 28 percent in 11th.¹⁷

In order to achieve rigorous academic goals, students need not only a challenging and engaging curriculum, but they need to be emotionally connected to their learning. Student perceptions of the school environment and their degree of school connectedness influence their achievement motivation. But students may be behaviorally and/or emotionally invested in a given activity without actually exerting the

¹⁵ Wang, M-T, & Eccles, J. (2013). School context, achievement motivation, and academic engagement: A longitudinal study of school engagement using a multidimensional perspective. *Learning and Instruction*, 28, 12-23.

¹⁶ Gallop. (2014). Download www.gallup.com/services/178769/state-america-schools-report.aspx

¹⁷ Austin, Hanson, Polik, & Zheng. (2018). Download data.calschls.org/resources/Biennial_State_1517.pdf

necessary mental effort to understand and master the knowledge, craft, or skill that the activity promotes. This scale provides insight into the overall level of that mental effort.

In addition, the supplementary School Climate Module includes an Academic Mindset and Learning Engagement scale and a series of questions about supports for learning and academic rigor.

Absenteeism and Truancy

Before good teachers with quality curriculums and engaging activities can improve academic performance, the students have to show up. The CHKS provides data to identify what proportion of respondents are at risk of chronic absenteeism (missed 2 or more days during the past 30 days), what were the reasons for absences, and the level of truancy. Users can request reports looking at the characteristics of youth based on absenteeism and truancy indicators to guide efforts to improve the LCAP pupil engagement priority (call 888.841.7536 or email CalSCHLS@wested.org).

Poor attendance is a marker of a wider variety of other problems, including low school connectedness and learning engagement. Both the US Department of Education and the California Office of the Attorney General have launched initiatives designed to raise awareness about and combat chronic absenteeism, generally defined as missing 10 percent of school days. According to a report by Attendance Works, the nation's large and persistent achievement gaps are rooted in a largely hidden crisis of chronic absenteeism, especially among low-income and minority children.¹⁸

Biennial State CHKS data indicate that the most important reasons for being absent in secondary school, after illness, are generally not getting enough sleep and anxiety or stress, followed by being behind in school work, and being bored or uninterested in school, another good indicator of disengagement.¹⁹

Truancy has been identified as one of the most powerful predictors of both poor achievement and delinquency.²⁰ Truants are also more likely to use drugs and have deviant friends. Among high school staff statewide, truancy is the top-rated of fourteen potential school problems assessed by the California School Staff Survey.

Developmental Supports

Research shows that when schools (or families or communities) provide three developmental supports—**caring adult relationships, high expectations, and opportunities for meaningful participation**—students are more likely to report more positive academic, social-emotional, and health outcomes, including higher grades, school connectedness, attendance, and perceived safety. CHKS measures these supports using multi-item scales. Results overall suggest that the great majority of students do not receive sufficient levels of support and that the supports received are lower in high school than in middle school, even though student need for them is arguably higher.^{21 22 23 24 25 26}

¹⁸ Attendance Works & Everyone Graduates Center. (2017, September). *Portraits of Change: Aligning School and Community Resources to Reduce Chronic Absence*. Download www.attendanceworks.org/portraits-of-change/

¹⁹ Austin, Hanson, Polik, & Zheng. (2018). Download data.calschls.org/resources/Biennial_State_1517.pdf

²⁰ Robins & Ratcliff. (1978). *Long Range Outcomes Associated With School Truancy*. Rockville, MD: Public Health Service (DHEW). Garry, E. M., & Department of Justice, Washington, DC. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (1996). *Truancy: First Step to a Lifetime of Problems*. Cairns, R. B., Cairns, B. D., & Neckerman, H. J. (1989). Early school dropout: Configurations and determinants. *Child Dev*, 60(6), 1437-52.

²¹ Hanson & Austin. (2002). Download data.calschls.org/resources/factsheet.pdf

²² Hanson & Austin. (2002). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-3.pdf

²³ Hanson. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3factsheet1_caring_20120223.pdf

²⁴ Hanson. (2012). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3factsheet2_participation_20120224.pdf

²⁵ O'Malley & Amarillas. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief1_CaringRelationships_final.pdf

²⁶ O'Malley & Amarillas. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief2_MeaningfulPart_final.pdf

School Connectedness

School connectedness is one of the indicators of school climate that a California school district must address in its LCAP. Research shows that school connectedness is associated with multiple positive academic, social-emotional, and health outcomes.²⁷ It also shows that youth who feel safe at school, experience caring adults, and have opportunities for engagement and other developmental supports are more likely to feel connected to the school. The CHKS five-item School Connectedness scale is an important differentiator between low-performing and high-performing high schools and has value as an indicator of school quality. The online Query CalSCHLS system (calschls.org/reports-data/query-calschls/) enables examination of how key survey indicators vary by school connectedness.

School connectedness appears to have increased in California in the second half of the last decade, but it still declines markedly after elementary school. A substantial majority of high school students are not highly connected to their schools. On the 2015-17 State CHKS, the average percentage of students strongly agreeing to these scale questions declined from 28 percent in 7th grade to 15 percent in 11th, a decline similar to that found for the Academic Motivation scale.²⁸ This may be related at least in part to their lower levels of developmental support. Prior analyses have indicated that the lowest rates of both connectedness and test scores are in low-income schools.^{29 30}

Parent Involvement

Parent involvement, including promoting parental participation in pupil programs, is one of the LCAP state priorities. A three-item scale assesses student perceptions (level of agreement) of three components of parental involvement: teachers communicating with parents about what students are expected to learn in class, parents feeling welcome to participate at this school, and school staff taking parent concerns seriously. The same questions also are asked on the staff and parent surveys so that perceptions can be compared across all three stakeholder groups. A large and growing body of evidence has linked school success to the manner and degree to which a school communicates with parents, engages them both in school activities and education, and fosters a school climate that parents perceive as warm, inviting, and helpful.³¹

Facilities and Physical Environment

As an indicator of student perceptions of the school's physical environment, the CHKS includes a question asking students how much they agree the school "is usually clean and tidy." Additional questions are included in the supplementary School Climate Module. An analysis of data from the questions on both modules found that a plurality of students report that their school facilities are in good condition, but a non-trivial minority of students were dissatisfied with the condition of their school facilities.³² Between 20 percent and 25 percent of students disagree or strongly disagree on the quality of the physical environment items. Almost one-third of schools serving 11th graders were categorized as having low quality physical environments based on student reports on the clean and tidy item. Student perceptions of the quality of their school's physical environment were strongly related to student achievement.

²⁷ National Research Council and the Institute of Medicine. (2004). *Engaging schools: Fostering high school students' motivation to learn*. Washington, D.C.: The National Academies Press.

²⁸ Austin, Hanson, Polik, & Zheng. (2018). Download data.calschls.org/resources/Biennial_State_1517.pdf

²⁹ Austin, Hanson, & Voight. (2013). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3factsheet5_connectedness_20130827.pdf

³⁰ O'Malley & Amarillas. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief4_Connectedness_final.pdf

³¹ Wilder, S. (2014). Effects of parental involvement on academic achievement. A meta-synthesis. *Educational Review*, 66:3, 377-397.

³² Hanson & Austin. (2017). Download calschls.org/docs/facilities122216.pdf

SCHOOL VIOLENCE, VICTIMIZATION, AND SAFETY (Section 5)

The CHKS asks students a wide range of questions to ascertain the scope and nature of physical and verbal violence and victimization that occurs on campus, as well as vandalism, and the overall level of school safety.³³ Physical violence and weapons on campus have long been a major public concern. Equally disruptive are the uncounted acts of bullying, teasing, and other nonviolent misbehavior among youth, such as substance use and sales on campus.³⁴ These behaviors adversely affect not only students' ability to learn and willingness to attend school, but also the overall school environment, the ability of teachers to teach, and the willingness of adults to enter the teaching profession.^{35 36 37}

Perceived Safety

Perceived safety is another indicator that districts/schools are required to monitor as part of their LCAP school climate priority. School safety is more than the antithesis of violence. Perceived school safety is psychological as well as physical. Feelings of insecurity can have multiple sources, not all of which correctly reflect the level of danger and violence on a school campus, such as verbal bullying. Both physical and psychological safety are essential for high quality teaching and learning. It is a key factor in students feeling connected to school. Another indicator important for attendance is the percentage of students who report missing school because they didn't feel safe (Table A4.4).

State CHKS data show that the percentage of students who perceive their school as safe or very safe has consistently dropped markedly between 7th and 9th grades.³⁸ If students report low levels of perceived school safety, pay close attention to all the indicators related to bullying and victimization, as well as mental health. Schools may want to request comparisons of students' perceptions of their own safety with the actual level of violence and other safety-related indicators self-reported by students. Consider conducting follow-up student voice and feedback sessions such as focus groups or Student Listening Circles and integrating questions on why students do not feel safe.³⁹

Harassment and Victimization

Most of the safety-related questions on the survey assess victimization. Because a relatively small number of students can victimize a large number of their peers, victimization questions provide more insight into the overall school climate. Nonviolent harassment in any form—threats, intimidation, rumors, and ostracism—can instill a sense of vulnerability, isolation, frustration, and fear among its victims, leading to engagement in health risk behaviors or avoidance behaviors such as missing school and social isolation. This type of misbehavior, vastly more common than any other, ruins the school day for many students. In *Bruised Inside* (2000), the National Association of Attorneys General describes harassment by peers as one of the two causes for kids to express anger using guns, knives, and fists.⁴⁰

The CHKS asks about the frequency with which students experienced any bullying/harassment related to six bias-related categories (gender, race/ethnicity, disability, sexual identity, religion, immigrant status),

³³ The CHKS also includes two violence-related questions that are not school based: the frequency students experienced cyberbullying and whether they are gang members.

³⁴ Juvonen, J., & Graham, S. (2001). *Peer harassment in school: The plight of the vulnerable and victimized*. New York: Guilford Press.

³⁵ Barton, P. E. (2001). *Facing the hard facts in education reform*. Princeton, NJ: Educational Testing Service.

³⁶ O'Malley & Amarillas. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief5_ViolencePerpetration_final.pdf

³⁷ O'Malley & Amarillas. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief6_ViolenceVictimization_final.pdf

³⁸ Austin, Hanson, Polik, & Zheng. (2018). Download data.calschls.org/resources/Biennial_State_1517.pdf

³⁹ O'Malley & Amarillas. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief3_Safety_final.pdf

⁴⁰ Horn, D. M., National Association of Attorneys General., & Washington (State). (2000). *Bruised inside: What our children say about youth violence, what causes it, and what we need to do about it: A report of the National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG)*. Washington, DC: National Association of Attorneys General.

as well as for any other reason (Table A5.2). About three-in-ten secondary students report experiencing some harassment in the past year on the State CHKS, with the percentages declining between 7th and 11th grades.⁴¹ Analyses show that victims of harassment are more likely to not feel safe at, and connected to, school; to have higher truancy; and to experience lower developmental (resilience) supports at school.⁴² ⁴³ They report higher rates of fighting and weapons possession at school, as well as risk of depression. Students who report bias-related harassment, particularly for disability and sexual orientation, have poorer well-being than students who were only harassed for other reasons.

Different forms of verbal harassment at school are assessed: mean rumors or lies; sexual-related jokes, comments, or gestures; being made fun of because of looks or speech; and, more generally, being made fun of, insulted or called names. Physical victimization is assessed by having been pushed/shoved, threatened with harm or injury (without or without weapon), and being afraid of being beaten up. Students are also asked whether they have ever been in a physical fight as a measure of general violence.

The supplementary School Climate Module includes Bullying Prevention and Respect for Diversity scales to provide insight into what the school is doing to reduce the problem.

Vandalism and Weapons

Two other safety-related areas assessed by the survey are school vandalism and weapons possession. Students are asked whether they damaged school property or had their property damaged at school and whether they carried a knife or other weapon to school or observed someone doing it. Overall, weapons possession is not common. Statewide, only about two percent of secondary students report carrying a gun and 4-5 percent report carrying another weapon.⁴⁴ About 16 percent of 7th and 9th graders reporting seeing someone carrying a weapon, dropping to 13 percent of 11th graders.

SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH (Sections 6-8)

Two important barriers to learning, positive youth development, and health are assessed: substance use and mental health.

Alcohol and Other Drug Use (Section 6)

The misuse of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) continues to be among the most important issues confronting the nation. For schools, the problem is particularly relevant. Years of research have shown that adolescent substance use is closely connected to academic performance and contributes to raising the level of truancy and absenteeism, special education, disciplinary problems, disengagement and dropout rates, teacher turnover, and property damage.

Reflecting this, on the California School Staff Survey, high school staff statewide are more likely to perceive alcohol and drug use as moderate to severe problems at their schools than all of seven violence-related indicators (49% for both alcohol and drugs in 2004-06), ranking them among the top 3 of 14 problem indicators.⁴⁵

Alcohol and Other Drug Use at School (Section 6)

AOD use at school is especially troubling. It reflects a level of drug involvement so pervasive that the

⁴¹ Austin, Hanson, Polik, & Zheng. (2018). Download data.calschls.org/resources/Biennial_State_1517.pdf

⁴² Heck, Russell, O'Shaughnessy, Laub, Calhoun, & Austin. (2005). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-4.pdf

⁴³ Austin, Nakamoto, & Bailey. (2010). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-10.pdf

⁴⁴ Austin, Hanson, Polik, & Zheng. (2018). Download data.calschls.org/resources/Biennial_State_1517.pdf

⁴⁵ Statewide CSSS. (2018). Download data.calschls.org/resources/Statewide_1517_CSSS.pdf

potential repercussions for violation of school rules are disregarded by these youths. This is behavior that threatens not only the user's learning ability but also school efforts to educate all youth. It also is an indirect indicator of school disengagement. An analysis of CHKS data found that substance use and intoxication at school, being offered drugs at school, and lifetime intoxication, were significantly related to changes in California achievement test scores one year later.⁴⁶ Schools with proportionately large numbers of students who reported these behaviors exhibited smaller gains in test scores than other schools.^{47 48}

Cigarette Smoking (Section 7)

Current smokers are significantly more likely than nonsmokers to engage in alcohol and other drug use, be involved in violence and gang membership, and experience school-related problems and disengagement. To a lesser extent, current smokers are also more likely than nonsmokers to be victims of violence and harassment, feel unsafe at school, and experience incapacitating sadness and loneliness. These results suggest that efforts to reduce student smoking may be more successful if embedded in approaches that address a broad range of risk behaviors and problems.^{49 50}

Mental Health (Section 8)

The CHKS Core provides two measures for assessing mental health among students: (1) whether they experience chronic, incapacitating sadness or hopelessness; and (2) whether they ever contemplated suicide. Students who experience chronic sadness, compared to their peers who do not, are at elevated risk of a wide range of educational, health, social, and emotional problems, including lower school attendance, performance, and connectedness.⁵¹ They also report lower levels of the developmental supports in their schools and communities that have been shown to mitigate these problems. Similar findings are found among youth who have contemplated suicide.⁵²

CHKS data also show that students who report bias-related harassment, particularly for disability and sexual orientation, have poorer overall well-being than students who are harassed for other reasons or not harassed. Students who report any harassment are about twice as likely to experience chronic sadness/hopelessness than their non-harassed peers.^{53 54}

See also the percentage of students who report missing school because they “felt very sad, hopeless, anxious, stressed, or angry” (Table A4.4). In addition, the supplementary School Climate Module includes a Social and Emotional Supports scale that provides insight from students on what the school does to help promote mental health and the fostering of social-emotional competencies.

⁴⁶ Hanson, T. L., Austin, G. A., & Lee-Bayha, J. (2004). *Ensuring that No Child is Left Behind: How are Student Health Risks & Resilience Related to the Academic Progress of Schools*. San Francisco: WestEd.

⁴⁷ Hanson & Austin. (2003). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-3.pdf

⁴⁸ O'Malley & Amarillas. (2011). Download data.calschls.org/resources/S3_WhatWorksBrief8_AOD_final.pdf

⁴⁹ Hanson & Zheng. (2006). Download data.calschls.org/resources/factsheet2update.pdf

⁵⁰ Austin, McCarthy, Slade, & Bailey. (2007). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-5.pdf

⁵¹ Austin, Nakamoto, & Bailey. (2010). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-11.pdf

⁵² Austin, Cragle, Delong-Cotty. (2012). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-12.pdf

⁵³ Heck, Russell, O'Shaughnessy, Laub, Calhoun, & Austin. (2005). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-4.pdf

⁵⁴ Austin, Nakamoto, & Bailey. (2010). Download data.calschls.org/resources/FACTSHEET-10.pdf