Safe and Supportive Schools: Health Risks

Student risk behaviors and attitudes

The indicators below, drawn from the SALT Survey, provide a sense of the extent to which students in this school have begun to experiment with behavior that risks or compromises their physical or mental health. If persistent or habitual, such behaviors can interfere with or even damage a student’s education, health, or both.

Student risk behaviors and attitudes

Percent of students who say that within the last 30 days:

- They smoked at least one day:
  - This school: 0%
  - R.I. high schools: 2%
- They used chewing tobacco or snuff:
  - This school: 0%
  - R.I. high schools: 8%
- They used illegal drugs (such as marijuana, uppers, downers, inhalants):
  - This school: 40%
  - R.I. high schools: 44%
- They drank alcohol at least once:
  - This school: 80%
  - R.I. high schools: 88%

Percent who say their close friends would approve or not care if:

- They smoked marijuana regularly:
  - This school: 10%
  - R.I. high schools: 15%
- They had 5 or more alcoholic drinks once or twice each weekend:
  - This school: 20%
  - R.I. high schools: 25%

Student health practices

Percent of students who say that:

- They felt they had problems with one of the following: acne, overweight, underweight, too tall, too short:
  - This school: 68%
  - R.I. high schools: 70%
- They did not eat any vegetables or fruits in the past day:
  - This school: 10%
  - R.I. high schools: 12%
- On a typical night they get 7 hours of sleep or less:
  - This school: 20%
  - R.I. high schools: 22%
- During the past week they ate breakfast 2 days or fewer:
  - This school: 12%
  - R.I. high schools: 10%
- On an average school day, they watch TV at least 2 hours or more:
  - This school: 65%
  - R.I. high schools: 66%
- On an average school day, they Instant Message (IM), check their e-mail, or visit chat rooms at least 2 hours or more:
  - This school: 36%
  - R.I. high schools: 41%

Teacher and principal attitudes

Percent who agree or strongly agree that the following practices are essential to effective education:

- Providing access/linkages for students and parents to health and social services or counseling:
  - Teachers at this school: 65%
  - High-school teachers statewide: 58%
  - High-school principals statewide: 49%
- Providing health-promoting environment and wellness programs for students (e.g., fitness days, health messages):
  - Teachers at this school: 59%
  - High-school teachers statewide: 50%
  - High-school principals statewide: 39%
- Policies that support positive health practices and wellness for teachers and students (e.g., smoke-free environment, eliminate vending machines with junk food, reduce fat in lunch-room meals):
  - Teachers at this school: 41%
  - High-school teachers statewide: 33%
  - High-school principals statewide: 27%
- Providing on-site health or social services:
  - Teachers at this school: 75%
  - High-school teachers statewide: 63%
  - High-school principals statewide: 37%

Students' primary care

Where students say they usually see their regular doctor or nurse when they are sick:

- Community health clinic: 6%
- Doctor's office: 12%
- Emergency room/Hospital: 6%
- Other health-care facility: 6%
- I have no regular doctor or nurse: 65%

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