

2018 Virginia School Climate Survey

Full Report – May 21, 2018

Grades 9 through 12

TC WILLIAMS HIGH

The Virginia Secondary School Climate Survey provides schools with an assessment of school climate and safety conditions from the perspective of students and teachers/staff. The purpose of this report is to help schools identify strengths and weaknesses that can guide efforts to improve school safety and student learning.

This report is based on responses from 111 students and 122 teachers/staff in your school. State results are based on 85,980 students and 17,049 teachers/staff in 324 high schools. For more information, see the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services [website](#).

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Ways to use this report

1. Share this report with staff, students, and parents. Encourage a common commitment to a positive school climate.
2. Identify school improvement goals, such as increasing student engagement and positive behavior.
3. Document needs for school safety and support programs.
4. Evaluate school improvement efforts since the previous survey.

Scale Results

Here are the results for some key scales from the surveys completed by students and teachers and other school staff. Each scale is composed of a series of items that are averaged into an overall score for your school. Scores were standardized so that the mean score for the state is 10 and the standard deviation is 1. Thus, scores between 9 and 11 are within 1 standard deviation of the state mean. Scores above 11 are more than 1 standard deviation above the state mean in a favorable direction and scores below 9 are more than 1 standard deviation below the state mean (see page 23 for more information). Higher scores indicate a more favorable school climate. Scores must be interpreted with care, since they are influenced by many factors, such as school demographic characteristics. Some of these demographics are included below.

Key Scales	Description	Students	Staff
1. Student Support	Staff perceived as supportive, helpful, and respectful of students. (see pages 5, 15 for items)	10.36	8.82
2. Disciplinary Structure	School rules are fair and not discriminatory. (pages 6, 17)	10.37	8.47
3. Academic Expectations	Teachers have high expectations for student learning. (page 4)	9.89	*
4. Student Engagement	Students like school, feel like they belong, and want to learn. (pages 4, 14)	10.19	9.13
5. Prevalence of Teasing and Bullying	Perception that bullying and teasing occurs frequently at school. Higher scores mean less teasing and bullying. (pages 8, 19)	9.44	9.60
6. Aggression toward Staff	Staff reports of student aggression ranging from insults and threats to physical attack. Higher scores mean less aggression. (page 20)	*	8.43
School Characteristics ¹		Your School	State Average
1. School Size	Number of students enrolled	3,963	1,229
2. Family Income	Percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price meals	56%	37%
3. Special Education	Percentage of students receiving special education services	10%	13%
4. English as Second Language	Percentage of students with English as a second language	34%	8%

*For scale 3, there is no staff version. For scale 6, there is no student version.

¹ Percentages are based on VDOE Fall Membership Records from 2017-18 unless otherwise indicated. Numbers fewer than 10 were not available in the records.

Resources for School Improvement

School Climate and Discipline

- The [Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports](#) (VTSS) is a data-driven decision making framework for establishing the academic, behavioral and social-emotional supports needed for a school to be an effective learning environment for all students.
- The [Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support](#) (PBIS) technical assistance center is a federal resource for multi-tiered social, emotional, and behavioral support of students.
- The [School Discipline Consensus Report](#) is a comprehensive resource on school discipline improvement, behavioral interventions, and school-police partnerships.
- The [U.S. Department of Education](#) has many resources on school climate and discipline.
- [Implementing Restorative Justice: A Guide for Schools](#) is a comprehensive tool for school personnel to implement restorative justice. It was developed by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority under a U.S. Department of Justice grant.

Bullying and Harassment

- The federal website, [Stopbullying.gov](#), has extensive information on bullying and cyberbullying.
- The [Oklahoma State Department of Education](#) has information on a variety of evidence-based bullying programs.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Programs

- The [National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices](#) (NREPP) has an extensive list of evidence-based programs.

Gang Prevention

- [Gang Resistance Education And Training](#) (G.R.E.A.T.) is a gang and violence prevention program using classroom instruction delivered by law enforcement officers.
- The [National Gang Center](#) has a wealth of information about gang violence prevention.

Threat Assessment

- Virginia schools are required to have threat assessment teams to prevent violence. Two resources are the [Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services](#) and the [Youth Violence Project](#) at the University of Virginia.

Student Perceptions

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Affective engagement subscale	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1. I like this school.	School	5%	14%	64%	17%
	State	6%	15%	61%	17%
2. I am proud to be a student at this school.	School	3%	19%	57%	22%
	State	5%	18%	58%	19%
3. I feel like I belong at this school.	School	2%	23%	58%	18%
	State	7%	20%	56%	16%
Academic engagement subscale					
4. I usually finish my homework.	School	4%	18%	58%	21%
	State	5%	15%	50%	30%
5. I want to learn as much as I can at school.	School	0%	6%	45%	49%
	State	2%	7%	52%	39%
6. Getting good grades is very important to me.	School	2%	2%	34%	62%
	State	1%	4%	36%	59%
Average score across 6 items, each item scored 1-4					
Average for 6 items above	School	3.13			
	State	3.11			

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
7. My teachers expect me to work hard.	School	3%	0%	56%	41%
	State	<1%	3%	53%	44%
8. My teachers really want me to learn a lot.	School	2%	9%	55%	34%
	State	1%	6%	55%	37%
9. My teachers expect a lot from students.	School	4%	10%	50%	36%
	State	1%	7%	51%	41%
10. My teachers do not really care how much I learn (reverse scored).	School	28%	52%	16%	4%
	State	23%	55%	16%	5%
11. My teachers expect me to continue my education after high school.	School	2%	5%	49%	44%
	State	1%	7%	55%	36%
Average score across 5 items, each item scored 1-4					
Average for 5 items above	School	3.23			
	State	3.24			

RELATIONSHIPS AMONG STUDENTS

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
12. Students at this school care about other students.	School	15%	39%	41%	5%
	State	12%	34%	50%	5%
13. Students at this school get along well with other students.	School	7%	34%	56%	3%
	State	8%	29%	58%	5%
14. Students at this school try to understand how other students think and feel.	School	14%	51%	32%	2%
	State	16%	47%	34%	3%
15. Students at this school respect other students.	School	15%	39%	41%	5%
	State	14%	36%	46%	4%
Average score across 4 items, each item scored 1-4					
Average score across 4 items above	School	2.36			
	State	2.43			

STUDENT SUPPORT

Teachers and other adults at this school...	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
16. ...care about students.	School	3%	13%	59%	26%
	State	2%	10%	64%	24%
17. ...want students to do well.	School	<1%	10%	59%	30%
	State	2%	6%	63%	30%
18. ...listen to what students have to say.	School	4%	25%	50%	21%
	State	7%	27%	52%	14%
19. ...treat students with respect.	School	2%	16%	50%	32%
	State	4%	16%	61%	19%
Student Willingness to Seek Help					
20. There are adults at this school I could talk with if I had a problem.	School	4%	14%	48%	35%
	State	5%	14%	52%	29%
21. If I tell a teacher about a problem I am having, the teacher will do something to help.	School	3%	11%	61%	25%
	State	3%	14%	62%	21%
22. I am comfortable asking my teachers for help with my schoolwork.	School	<1%	18%	57%	24%
	State	4%	14%	56%	27%
23. There is at least one teacher or other adult at this school who really wants me to do well.	School	<1%	5%	45%	50%
	State	2%	4%	46%	49%
Average score across 8 items, each item scored 1-4					
Average for 8 items above	School	3.12			
	State	3.06			

CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
24. All students are treated fairly, whether they are rich or poor.	School	7%	21%	50%	22%
	State	8%	20%	50%	21%
25. All students are treated fairly, whether they are boys or girls.	School	7%	11%	58%	24%
	State	7%	19%	52%	22%
26. People of different cultural backgrounds, races, or ethnicities get along well at this school.	School	8%	20%	50%	22%
	State	7%	17%	55%	21%
	Average score across 3 items, each item scored 1-4				
Average score across 3 items above	School	2.90			
	State	2.87			

DISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
27. The school rules are fair.	School	6%	28%	52%	14%
	State	10%	29%	51%	10%
28. The punishment for breaking school rules is the same for all students.	School	13%	26%	48%	14%
	State	13%	26%	46%	15%
29. Students at this school are only punished when they deserve it.	School	5%	27%	52%	15%
	State	9%	30%	48%	12%
30. Students are suspended without a good reason (reverse scored).	School	13%	57%	22%	9%
	State	17%	49%	25%	9%
31. When students are accused of doing something wrong, they get a chance to explain.	School	9%	26%	51%	14%
	State	11%	26%	53%	10%
32. Students are treated fairly regardless of their race or ethnicity.	School	9%	19%	44%	28%
	State	7%	16%	55%	23%
33. The adults at this school are too strict (reverse scored).	School	10%	53%	27%	10%
	State	8%	54%	27%	12%
	Average score across 7 items, each item scored 1-4				
Average for 7 items above	School	2.73			
	State	2.68			

PERSONAL SAFETY

Additional items not included in overall scale, but relevant to safety.	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
34. I feel safe in this school.	School	3%	28%	57%	13%
	State	7%	19%	59%	15%
35. If another student talked about killing someone, I would tell one of the teachers or staff at school.	School	4%	9%	41%	47%
	State	3%	11%	36%	50%
36. If another student brought a gun to school, I would tell one of the teachers or staff at school.	School	<1%	6%	33%	59%
	State	3%	5%	26%	66%

VICTIM EXPERIENCES

	Reference Group	Never	One Time	More Than One Time	Many Times
37. A student stole my personal property.	School	55%	25%	17%	3%
	State	64%	23%	10%	3%
38. A student physically attacked, pushed, or hit me.	School	68%	19%	7%	6%
	State	79%	12%	6%	3%
39. A student threatened to hurt me.	School	64%	15%	14%	6%
	State	74%	11%	9%	6%
40. A student said mean or insulting things to me.	School	40%	19%	18%	23%
	State	45%	15%	19%	21%
Average score across 4 items, each item scored 1-4					
Average score across 4 items above	School	1.77			
	State	1.62			

BULLYING VICTIMIZATION

Use this definition of bullying to answer the questions below:

- Bullying is the repeated use of one's strength or popularity to injure, threaten, or embarrass another person on purpose.
- Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social.
- It is not bullying when two students who are about the same in strength or popularity have a fight or argument.

	Reference Group	Never	Once or Twice	About Once Per Week	More Than Once Per Week
41. I have been bullied at school this year (<i>since school started last fall</i>).	School	72%	23%	3%	2%
	State	78%	17%	2%	3%
42. I have bullied others at school this year.	School	84%	14%	2%	<1%
	State	90%	8%	<1%	1%
43. <i>Physical bullying involves repeatedly hitting, kicking, or shoving someone weaker on purpose.</i> I have been physically bullied or threatened with physical bullying at school this year.	School	88%	7%	2%	3%
	State	92%	6%	<1%	<1%
44. <i>Verbal bullying involves repeatedly teasing, putting down, or insulting someone on purpose.</i> I have been verbally bullied at school this year.	School	62%	30%	3%	5%
	State	69%	22%	4%	4%
45. <i>Social bullying involves getting others repeatedly to ignore or leave someone out on purpose.</i> I have been socially bullied at school this year.	School	78%	14%	5%	3%
	State	79%	15%	3%	3%
46. <i>Cyber bullying involves using technology (cell phone, email, Internet, etc.) to tease or put down someone.</i> I have been cyberbullied at school this year.	School	86%	10%	<1%	4%
	State	88%	8%	2%	2%

BULLYING BY ADULTS

Use this definition of bullying to answer the questions below:

- A teacher or other adult at school bullies a student by repeatedly punishing or criticizing a student unfairly. This goes beyond what is normal discipline in the school.

	Reference Group	Never	Once or Twice	About Once Per Week	More Than Once Per Week
47. I have been bullied by a teacher at school this year.	School	86%	10%	2%	2%
	State	87%	8%	2%	2%
48. I have been bullied by another adult (not a teacher) at school this year.	School	92%	4%	2%	3%
	State	95%	3%	<1%	1%

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
49. There are teachers or other adults at this school who make fun of students.	School	29%	49%	19%	4%
	State	30%	43%	22%	5%
50. Some teachers or other adults at this school say things that make students feel badly.	School	23%	41%	27%	9%
	State	26%	38%	28%	8%
51. Some teachers or other adults at this school pick on certain students.	School	15%	48%	26%	11%
	State	27%	37%	27%	9%

PREVALENCE OF TEASING AND BULLYING

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
52. Students in this school are teased about their clothing or physical appearance.	School	6%	30%	45%	19%
	State	10%	30%	44%	17%
53. Students in this school are teased or put down because of their race or ethnicity.	School	16%	46%	24%	14%
	State	23%	46%	23%	8%
54. There is a lot of teasing about sexual topics at this school.	School	6%	32%	46%	16%
	State	12%	34%	36%	18%
55. Bullying is a problem at this school.	School	7%	44%	34%	14%
	State	17%	49%	24%	10%
56. Students in this school are teased or put down about their sexual orientation.	School	19%	39%	29%	14%
	State	20%	42%	26%	12%
Average score across 5 items, each item scored 1-4					
Average for 5 items above	School	2.55			
	State	2.4			
You have just answered some questions about being teased or bullied in some way.	Reference Group	Yes		No	
57. Did you tell a teacher or another adult at school what happened?	School	31%		69%	
	State	28%		72%	

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

	Reference Group	No SRO	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
58. The school resource officer (SRO) makes me feel safer at school.	School	9%	14%	21%	44%	12%
	State	5%	9%	19%	49%	18%
[Skip question 59 if student answered “No SRO” to question 58.]	Reference Group	Never	Once or Twice a Semester	About Weekly	Every Day	
59. Over the past school year, about how often have you interacted with the SRO who works in your school?	School	72%	22%	3%	3%	
	State	70%	22%	5%	3%	

GANG ACTIVITY

	Reference Group	Yes	No	Don't Know
60. Are there gangs at your school this year?	School	48%	5%	47%
	State	16%	23%	61%
61. Have gangs caused problems at your school this year (e.g., fights, sale of drugs)?	School	53%	10%	37%
	State	12%	39%	49%
62. Have you considered joining a gang?	School	<1%	94%	5%
	State	3%	90%	7%

RISKY BEHAVIORS (These are items from the CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey)

63. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you have at least one drink of alcohol?	Percent Reported	
	School	State
0 days	82%	84%
1 or 2 days	10%	9%
3 to 5 days	5%	3%
6 to 9 days	2%	2%
10 to 19 days	<1%	<1%
20 to 29 days	0%	<1%
All 30 days	<1%	<1%
64. During the past 30 days, how many times did you use marijuana?	Percent Reported	
	School	State
0 times	91%	90%
1 or 2 times	4%	4%
3 to 9 times	3%	2%
10 to 19 times	2%	1%
20 to 39 times	<1%	<1%
40 or more times	0%	2%
65. During the past 30 days, on how many days did you carry a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property?	Percent Reported	
	School	State
0 days	97%	98%
1 day	<1%	<1%
2 or 3 days	2%	<1%
4 or 5 days	0%	<1%
6 or more days	0%	<1%

66. During the past 12 months, how many times were you in a physical fight on school property?	Percent Reported	
	School	State
0 times	89%	94%
1 time	5%	4%
2 or 3 times	5%	1%
4 or 5 times	<1%	<1%
6 or 7 times	0%	<1%
8 or 9 times	0%	<1%
10 or 11 times	0%	<1%
12 or more times	<1%	<1%

MENTAL HEALTH

During the past 12 months...	Reference Group	Yes	No
67. ...did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?	School	12%	88%
	State	17%	83%

During the past 12 months...	Reference Group	0 times	1 time	2 or 3 times	4 or 5 times	6+ times
68. ...how many times did you actually attempt suicide	School	93%	3%	2%	2%	<1%
	State	93%	4%	2%	<1%	<1%
In the last 30 days, how often ...	Reference Group	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always
69. ...were you sad?	School	18%	18%	43%	14%	7%
	State	19%	21%	32%	20%	8%
70. ...were you grouchy, irritable, or in a bad mood?	School	14%	17%	41%	20%	8%
	State	12%	18%	36%	24%	10%
71. ...did you feel hopeless about the future?	School	37%	22%	18%	9%	14%
	State	43%	18%	18%	12%	9%
72. ...did you have difficulty concentrating on your schoolwork?	School	20%	11%	32%	20%	17%
	State	20%	17%	28%	20%	16%
	Average score across 4 items, each item scored 1-5					
Average for 4 items above	School	2.78				
	State	2.75				

TEEN DATING AGGRESSION

	Reference Group	Never	Once	Twice	3 Times	4+ Times
73. How often have you dated or gone out with someone in the past 12 months? (By "date" we mean spending time with someone you like romantically or are going out with. Count the number of times you have gone out with someone, whether it is the same person or different persons.)	School	44%	21%	10%	5%	21%
	State	38%	20%	12%	6%	25%

[Skip if answered “Never dated”.] During the past 12 months, how many times has someone you dated or went out with...	Reference Group	Never	Once	Twice	3 Times	4+ Times
74. ...physically hurt you on purpose (e.g., hit, pushed, or shook you)?	School	92%	2%	0%	0%	6%
	State	92%	4%	1%	<1%	2%
75. ...threatened to hurt you?	School	90%	5%	0%	0%	5%
	State	93%	3%	1%	<1%	2%
76. ...called you names or put you down?	School	82%	3%	6%	2%	6%
	State	82%	7%	3%	2%	6%
77. ...tried to kiss you or touch you against your will?	School	94%	2%	0%	2%	3%
	State	90%	4%	2%	<1%	3%
78. ...tried to make you drink alcohol or use drugs?	School	97%	0%	0%	2%	2%
	State	93%	3%	1%	<1%	2%
79. ...continued to bother you or harass you after you stopped going out?	School	89%	0%	2%	3%	6%
	State	84%	6%	3%	1%	5%
	Average score across 6 items, each item scored 1-5					
Average for 6 items above	School	1.28				
	State	1.25				

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

During the past 12 months, how often did another student do the following to you at school...	Reference Group	Never	Once	Twice	3 Times	4+ Times
80. ...make unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, or gestures <i>that made you feel uncomfortable</i> ?	School	64%	13%	10%	4%	10%
	State	72%	11%	6%	3%	8%
81. ...spread sexual rumors about you?	School	81%	7%	<1%	4%	7%
	State	83%	9%	3%	1%	4%
82. ...touch, brush up against you, grab, or pull your clothing, or corner you in a sexual and unwelcome way?	School	81%	6%	5%	4%	4%
	State	86%	6%	3%	1%	3%
83. ...bother you by repeatedly asking you to go out or do something with him/her that you did not want to do?	School	84%	5%	3%	3%	6%
	State	83%	7%	3%	2%	5%
	Average score across 4 items, each scored 1-5					
Average for 4 items above	School	1.54				
	State	1.42				

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AND ASPIRATIONS

84. How far do you expect to go in school?	School	State
I do not expect to graduate from high school.	<1%	<1%
I might or might not graduate from high school.	4%	2%
I expect to graduate from high school.	20%	13%
I expect to obtain a Career and Technical Education certificate.	<1%	2%
I expect to graduate from a two-year college or technical school.	8%	7%
I expect to graduate from a four-year college.	22%	39%
I expect to complete post-graduate studies (such as a master's or doctoral degree) after graduating from a four-year college.	45%	36%
85. What grades did you make on your last report card?	School	State
Mostly A's	18%	23%
Mostly A's and B's	27%	41%
Mostly B's	6%	7%
Mostly B's and C's	26%	18%
Mostly C's	3%	4%
Mostly C's and D's	9%	5%
Mostly D's and F's	11%	2%
86. How many days have you been suspended from school this year?	School	State
I have not been suspended from school this year.	95%	95%
1 day	0%	1%
2 days	<1%	<1%
3 days	2%	<1%
4 days	<1%	<1%
5 or more days	<1%	2%

SURVEY USE QUESTIONS

	Reference Group	Yes	No	Don't Know
1. Are you interested in seeing the results of this school climate survey?	School	70%	18%	12%
	State	66%	22%	13%
2. Have you seen the results of any previous school climate surveys for this school?	School	5%	86%	9%
	State	3%	88%	9%

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

Student Characteristics	School	State
Number of schools	1	324
9 th grade	30	23,613
10 th grade	21	22,563
11 th grade	34	20,972
12 th grade	26	18,832
Total number of student participants	111	85,980
Percentage male	49%	48%
Percentage who receive a free or reduced-price meal at school	55%	31%
Percentage with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)	8%	8%
Percentage with a Section 504 Plan	8%	4%
How long have you been at this school?		
This is my first year in this school.	34%	28%
This is my second year in this school.	22%	25%
This is my third year in this school.	28%	22%
This is my fourth year or more in this school.	16%	25%
Race and Ethnicity (Students could select more than one category)		
American Indian or Alaska Native	0%	<1%
Asian	5%	7%
Black or African-American	33%	17%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0%	<1%
White	21%	47%
Other race	<1%	2%
Two or more races	32%	13%
Hispanic or Latino(a)	8%	14%
Parent Education (highest level parent)		
Not graduated from high school	14%	7%
Graduated from high school	21%	23%
Graduated from two-year college or technical school	5%	11%
Graduated from four-year college	13%	26%
Completed post-graduate studies (such as a master's or doctoral degree)	27%	25%
Home Characteristics		
Two parents	65%	74%
One parent	31%	24%
No parents	5%	2%
Percentage speaking a language other than English at home	61%	28%

Teacher/Staff Perceptions

Here are the results for each item in the staff survey, grouped into scales where appropriate.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
3. Students generally like this school.	School	<1%	4%	9%	35%	43%	7%
	State	<1%	3%	5%	23%	55%	14%
4. Students are proud to be at this school.	School	<1%	3%	16%	38%	34%	9%
	State	<1%	3%	8%	29%	45%	14%
5. Students hate going to this school (reverse scored).	School	9%	39%	39%	11%	2%	0%
	State	15%	47%	22%	11%	3%	<1%
6. Students finish their homework at this school.	School	7%	34%	27%	28%	4%	0%
	State	7%	16%	20%	37%	19%	2%
7. Getting good grades is very important to most students here.	School	<1%	11%	30%	35%	21%	2%
	State	2%	7%	12%	35%	34%	11%
8. Most students want to learn as much as they can at this school.	School	5%	16%	25%	39%	15%	0%
	State	3%	9%	16%	39%	29%	5%
Average score across 6 items, each item scored 1-6							
Average score across 6 items above	School	3.85					
	State	4.26					

RELATIONSHIPS AMONG STUDENTS

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
9. Students care about other students.	School	<1%	10%	18%	39%	28%	4%
	State	<1%	3%	6%	34%	47%	9%
10. Students get along well with other students.	School	<1%	6%	16%	47%	28%	2%
	State	<1%	2%	5%	34%	51%	8%
11. Students try to understand how other students think and feel.	School	2%	11%	31%	37%	17%	2%
	State	2%	6%	16%	42%	30%	4%
12. Students respect other students.	School	2%	11%	25%	37%	21%	3%
	State	2%	5%	11%	39%	38%	5%
Average score across 4 items, each item scored 1-6							
Average score across 4 items above	School	3.83					
	State	4.34					

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND ADULTS: SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

Adults at this school...	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
13. ...care about students.	School	0%	0%	<1%	19%	50%	30%
	State	<1%	<1%	1%	10%	41%	47%
14. ...want students to do well.	School	0%	0%	0%	12%	48%	39%
	State	<1%	<1%	<1%	8%	40%	51%
15. ...listen to what students have to say.	School	0%	0%	10%	27%	51%	12%
	State	<1%	1%	4%	21%	49%	25%
16. ...treat students with respect.	School	0%	2%	5%	20%	51%	23%
	State	<1%	<1%	2%	15%	50%	31%
Willingness to Seek Help							
17. Students know whom to go to for help if they have been treated badly by another student.	School	<1%	2%	13%	29%	43%	11%
	State	<1%	2%	5%	24%	50%	20%
18. Students feel comfortable asking for help from adults if there is a problem with a student.	School	<1%	4%	16%	36%	37%	6%
	State	<1%	3%	10%	34%	41%	11%
19. Students report it when one student hits another.	School	4%	11%	28%	34%	22%	2%
	State	2%	7%	16%	31%	32%	11%
20. Students are encouraged to report bullying and aggression.	School	<1%	3%	7%	32%	43%	13%
	State	<1%	2%	5%	18%	43%	31%
21. Teachers/staff take action to solve the problem when students report bullying.	School	0%	<1%	15%	29%	41%	15%
	State	<1%	2%	6%	19%	44%	28%
22. Teachers/staff know when students are being picked on or being bullied.	School	3%	6%	19%	41%	26%	5%
	State	1%	5%	14%	38%	32%	9%
Average score across 10 items, each item scored 1-6							
Average score across 10 items above	School	4.53					
	State	4.82					

RELATIONSHIPS AMONG ADULTS: COLLEGIALITY

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
23. Staff work well with one another at this school.	School	2%	2%	11%	36%	40%	7%
	State	1%	2%	5%	20%	48%	23%
24. There is a strong sense of mutual support among the staff at this school.	School	5%	7%	20%	34%	27%	7%
	State	2%	4%	8%	23%	39%	24%
25. School staff members trust one another at this school.	School	3%	11%	18%	36%	22%	10%
	State	2%	4%	9%	25%	40%	19%
26. This school is a collegial environment for the staff members.	School	3%	7%	16%	36%	29%	9%
	State	2%	4%	8%	23%	41%	21%
27. The school administration responds and supports staff when they have problems with student aggression.	School	9%	11%	19%	33%	20%	8%
	State	5%	6%	9%	20%	35%	24%
	Average score across 5 items, each item scored 1-6						
Average score across 5 items above	School	3.99					
	State	4.61					

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
28. Adults at this school teach students strategies to manage emotions.	School	5%	18%	18%	34%	22%	2%
	State	1%	7%	13%	38%	33%	8%
29. Adults at this school let students know how they should behave when dealing with one another.	School	2%	7%	7%	39%	42%	3%
	State	<1%	3%	7%	30%	46%	13%
30. Adults at this school teach positive conflict resolution strategies to students.	School	2%	10%	12%	41%	31%	3%
	State	1%	5%	13%	34%	37%	10%
	Average score across 3 items, each item scored 1-6						
Average score across 3 items above	School	3.93					
	State	4.35					

CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
31. All students are treated fairly, whether they are rich or poor.	School	8%	20%	12%	16%	31%	12%
	State	2%	5%	7%	16%	39%	31%
32. This school shows respect for all students' cultural beliefs and practices.	School	2%	9%	6%	24%	38%	21%
	State	1%	2%	5%	16%	42%	34%
33. All students are treated fairly, whether they are boys or girls.	School	<1%	7%	10%	22%	41%	19%
	State	2%	3%	6%	14%	41%	35%
Average score across 3 items, each item scored 1-6							
Average score across 3 items above	School	4.26					
	State	4.9					

DISCIPLINARY STRUCTURE

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
34. The punishment for breaking school rules is the same for all students.	School	25%	33%	15%	12%	16%	0%
	State	13%	18%	17%	20%	24%	8%
35. Students at this school only get punished when they deserve it.	School	10%	13%	14%	32%	25%	7%
	State	5%	9%	12%	24%	39%	13%
36. Students know the school rules for student conduct.	School	5%	11%	15%	30%	36%	3%
	State	3%	5%	7%	20%	45%	20%
37. If a student does something wrong, he or she will definitely be punished.	School	35%	25%	18%	12%	9%	0%
	State	14%	18%	21%	25%	17%	5%
38. Students can get away with breaking the rules at this school pretty easily (reverse scored).	School	5%	7%	11%	23%	24%	30%
	State	8%	20%	19%	27%	16%	11%
39. Students are suspended without good reason (reverse scored).	School	43%	37%	11%	7%	<1%	<1%
	State	42%	41%	11%	3%	2%	<1%
40. The adults at this school are too strict (reverse scored).	School	44%	37%	13%	5%	<1%	0%
	State	36%	45%	15%	3%	<1%	<1%
41. When students are accused of doing something wrong, they get a chance to explain.	School	<1%	0%	4%	22%	47%	26%
	State	<1%	1%	3%	17%	51%	28%
42. Students get suspended for minor things (reverse scored).	School	43%	30%	16%	7%	2%	<1%
	State	39%	41%	13%	5%	1%	<1%
Average score across 9 items, each item scored 1-6							
Average score across 9 items above	School	3.93					
	State	4.37					

CONCERNS ABOUT DISCIPLINE AND SAFETY

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
43. I am treated with respect by students at this school.	School	7%	12%	13%	25%	32%	11%
	State	2%	5%	8%	22%	44%	19%
44. I feel physically safe at this school.	School	7%	11%	18%	22%	33%	9%
	State	3%	4%	7%	17%	42%	27%
45. I feel there is adequate safety and security in this school.	School	19%	20%	20%	15%	22%	5%
	State	8%	10%	13%	22%	31%	16%
46. The disciplinary practices at this school are effective.	School	30%	19%	24%	17%	10%	0%
	State	11%	14%	17%	27%	23%	8%
47. Disciplinary policies are clear to school staff members.	School	24%	22%	16%	19%	16%	3%
	State	9%	11%	16%	23%	29%	12%

VIEWS ON SUSPENSION

Zero tolerance is defined as the practice of imposing an automatic and severe punishment for any violation of a certain rule.	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
48. Zero tolerance makes a significant contribution to maintaining order at this school.	School	30%	22%	14%	14%	11%	9%
	State	12%	17%	15%	25%	21%	10%
49. Zero tolerance sends a clear message to disruptive students about inappropriate behaviors in school.	School	26%	16%	10%	20%	16%	12%
	State	12%	15%	14%	23%	24%	13%
50. Suspension makes students less likely to misbehave in the future.	School	30%	24%	18%	16%	11%	2%
	State	15%	21%	21%	25%	13%	5%
51. Out-of-school suspension is unnecessary if we provide a positive school climate and challenging instruction.	School	32%	25%	15%	14%	11%	4%
	State	22%	26%	20%	17%	10%	5%

PREVALENCE OF TEASING AND BULLYING

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
52. Students in this school are teased about their clothing or physical appearance.	School	4%	30%	37%	26%	3%	0%
	State	7%	31%	24%	27%	9%	2%
53. Students in this school are teased or put down because of their race or ethnicity.	School	9%	34%	31%	16%	7%	2%
	State	14%	38%	23%	17%	6%	2%
54. There is a lot of teasing about sexual topics at this school.	School	4%	26%	29%	29%	10%	2%
	State	10%	33%	24%	21%	9%	3%
55. Bullying is a problem at this school.	School	5%	20%	33%	32%	9%	<1%
	State	7%	30%	30%	24%	7%	2%
56. Students here get teased or put down about their sexual orientation.	School	9%	30%	28%	25%	7%	<1%
	State	13%	36%	25%	19%	6%	2%
	Average score across 5 items, each item scored 1-6						
Average score across 5 items above	School	3.03					
	State	2.88					

BULLYING BY ADULTS

Use this definition of bullying to answer the questions below:

A teacher or other adult at school bullies a student by repeatedly punishing or criticizing a student unfairly. This goes beyond what is normal discipline in the school.

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
57. There are teachers or other adults at this school who make fun of students.	School	16%	39%	20%	17%	7%	<1%
	State	26%	35%	14%	16%	7%	2%
58. Some adults at this school say things that make students feel badly.	School	11%	28%	20%	29%	11%	2%
	State	18%	30%	17%	24%	9%	2%
59. Some adults at this school pick on certain students.	School	18%	39%	20%	16%	5%	2%
	State	26%	34%	16%	15%	6%	2%

STUDENT AGGRESSION TOWARD ADULTS

	Reference Group	No	One Time	More than Once	Many Times
60. A student stole or damaged my personal property.	School	66%	18%	11%	4%
	State	79%	12%	8%	1%
61. A student said rude or insulting things to me.	School	19%	11%	32%	39%
	State	41%	17%	27%	15%
62. A student threatened to harm me.	School	76%	16%	7%	<1%
	State	87%	8%	4%	<1%
63. A student threatened me with a weapon.	School	100%	0%	0%	0%
	State	99%	<1%	<1%	<1%
64. A student physically attacked, pushed, or hit me.	School	86%	13%	<1%	0%
	State	94%	4%	1%	<1%
	Average score across 5 items, each item scored 1-4				
Average score across 5 items above	School	1.58			
	State	1.35			

ADULT REACTIONS TO STUDENT AGGRESSION

	Reference Group	Not true	A Little True	Somewhat True	Definitely True
65. They bothered me a lot.	School	17%	30%	21%	32%
	State	29%	29%	20%	21%
66. I felt burned out about my job.	School	25%	19%	24%	31%
	State	36%	23%	20%	21%
67. It made me think about whether to continue teaching/my work in schools.	School	37%	16%	16%	32%
	State	46%	18%	15%	21%

GANG ACTIVITY

	Reference Group	Yes	No	Don't Know
68. Are there gangs at your school this year?	School	84%	<1%	15%
	State	25%	24%	50%
69. Have gangs caused problems at your school this year (e.g., fights, sale of drugs)?	School	75%	2%	24%
	State	14%	37%	50%

THREAT ASSESSMENT

	Reference Group	Yes	No	Don't Know
70. Does your school use a formal threat assessment process to respond to student threats of violence?	School	26%	7%	66%
	State	53%	2%	45%

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

	Reference Group	Yes	No	Don't Know
71. Many schools have a police officer called a school resource officer (SRO) who works in the school. Do you have a school resource officer in your school?	School	100%	0%	0%
	State	98%	2%	0%

[Asked only if respondent answered "Yes" to the previous question]	Reference Group	Never	Once or Twice A Semester	About Weekly	Every day
72. Over the past school year, about how often have you interacted with the school resource officer who works in your school? <i>(If there is more than one officer at your school, add them together.)</i>	School	7%	19%	39%	34%
	State	17%	29%	32%	22%

	Reference Group	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Somewhat Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
73. The school resource officer (SRO) makes a positive contribution to our school.	School	2%	2%	9%	23%	33%	31%
	State	2%	3%	4%	19%	35%	37%
74. The school resource officer (SRO) makes me feel safer at school.	School	2%	7%	6%	27%	32%	26%
	State	3%	5%	5%	22%	31%	34%

SURVEY USE QUESTIONS

	Reference Group	Yes	No	Don't Know
75. Are you interested in seeing the results of this school climate survey?	School	93%	7%	0%
	State	84%	16%	0%
76. Have you seen the results of any previous school climate surveys for this school?	School	32%	68%	0%
	State	35%	65%	0%
77. Have previous school climate results been used for school planning or improvement in any way?	School	74%	26%	0%
	State	80%	20%	0%

Demographic Information for Teacher/Staff Participants

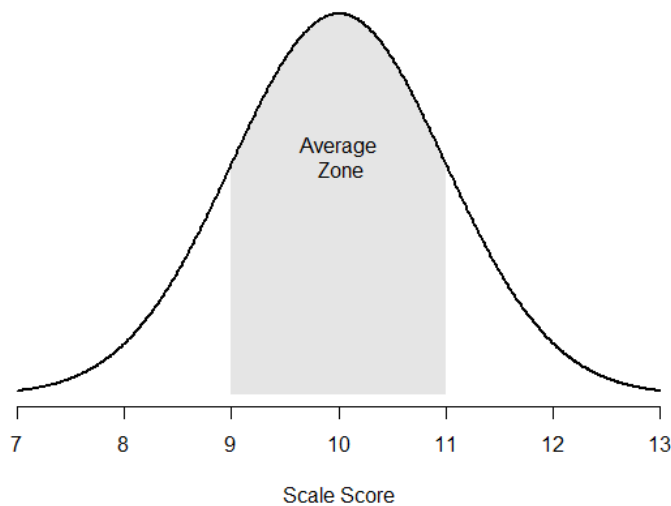
	School	State
Number of schools	1	324
Number of teacher participants	100	13,254
Number of staff participants	21	3,529
Percentage female	72%	70%
How many years have you worked at this school?	School	State
1-5 years	39%	46%
6-10 years	30%	19%
More than 10 years	32%	35%

Technical Notes

Most questions for students were answered on a 4-point scale (strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree), whereas most questions for teachers were answered on a 6-point scale (strongly disagree, disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, agree, strongly agree). The 4-point scales permit students of different ages and reading levels to answer questions more quickly and easily. The 6-point scales are intended to give teachers the opportunity to make more differentiated judgments. There are some measures (such as disciplinary structure and student support) that are found on both student and teacher surveys, but students and teachers have different conceptions of school climate, so exact comparisons are not feasible.

Student surveys were screened for validity with two questions: (1) “I am telling the truth on this survey” (strongly disagree, disagree, agree, strongly agree) and (2) “How many of the questions on this survey did you answer truthfully” (all of them, all but 1 or 2 of them, most of them, some of them, only a few or none of them). As of April 13, 2018, a total of 85,980 valid responses were recorded across all surveys administered in the state. There were 7,104 students (7.6%) omitted from the sample because they answered “strongly disagree” or “disagree” to question (1) or “some of them” or “only a few or none of them” to question (2). Another 339 students (0.4%) were omitted due to completing the survey too quickly to have read the questions.

The key scales reported on page 2 are scaled scores designed to make them easier to interpret. For each scale, raw scores for student and staff participants within a school were averaged to create school means for students and for staff. The school means across the state were transformed so that the state average is 10 and the standard deviation is 1. As a result, schools with scores between 9 and 11 are in the average range. Schools with scores of 11 or higher are statistically above average and schools below 9 are statistically below average and show a need for improvement.



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