

Fact Sheet

Health Education

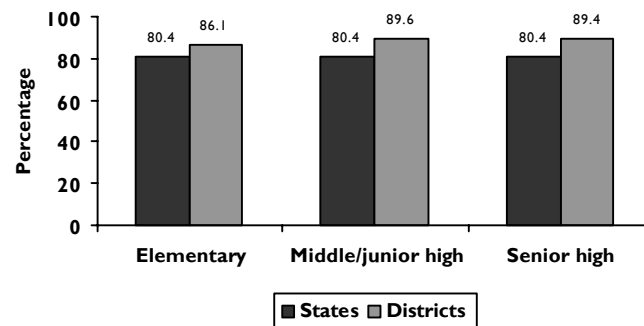
From CDC's School Health Policies and Programs Study (SHPPS) 2000

About SHPPS

SHPPS is a national survey periodically conducted to assess school health policies and programs at the state, district, school, and classroom levels. Results from SHPPS 2000 are published in the *Journal of School Health*, Volume 71, Number 7, September 2001.

- 88.0% of states, 63.8% of districts, and 62.7% of schools have someone who oversees or coordinates health education.
- 94.0% of states offer certification, licensure, or endorsement to teach health education.

Percentage of States and Districts Requiring Schools to Teach Health Education, by School Level

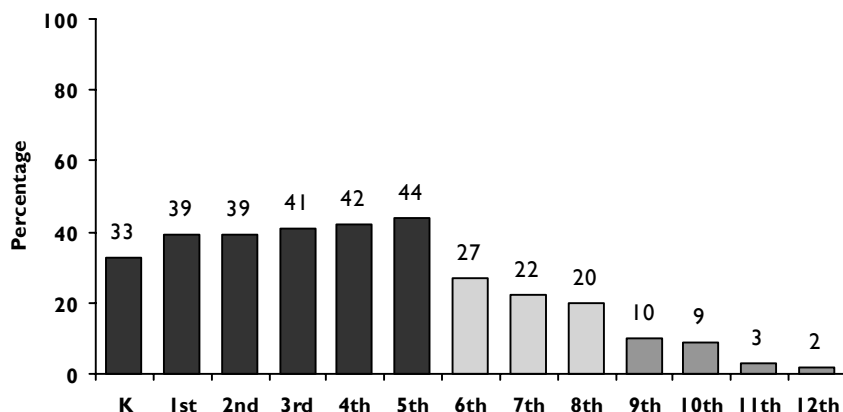


Percentage of States, Districts, and Schools Requiring Health Education Topics to be Taught in at Least One School Level and Percentage of Schools at Each Level Requiring Each Topic to be Taught

Topic	States	Districts	Elementary	Middle/ junior high	Senior high
Accident ¹ or injury prevention	68.6	85.3	80.3	66.3	71.7
Alcohol or other drug use prevention	78.4	92.2	88.5	87.7	91.2
HIV prevention	72.6	91.7	50.1	75.9	85.6
Nutrition and dietary behavior	70.6	89.9	85.4	81.4	87.1
Physical activity and fitness	64.7	87.8	77.0	74.7	79.0
Pregnancy prevention	49.0	83.3	18.6	54.8	79.6
STD prevention	62.8	89.0	24.7	69.1	84.8
Suicide prevention	32.0	80.2	22.3	49.5	75.1
Tobacco use prevention	78.4	92.1	85.9	86.4	90.1
Violence prevention	60.8	88.7	85.5	72.5	74.1

¹ Although the SHPPS 2000 questionnaires used the word "accident" because it is familiar to many people, public health officials prefer the word "injury" because it connotes the medical consequences of events that are both predictable and preventable.

Percentage of Schools that Require Health Education, by Grade



Percentage of Middle/Junior and Senior High School Health Education Courses and Infused Courses in Which a Teacher Covered Selected Health Education Topics, by Topic

Topic	Health education courses ¹	Infused courses ²
Accident ³ or injury prevention	56.6	27.8
Alcohol or other drug use prevention	82.5	48.2
HIV prevention	63.4	44.5
Nutrition and dietary behavior	75.2	50.8
Physical activity and fitness	68.5	29.1
Pregnancy prevention	46.4	28.4
STD prevention	56.0	33.4
Suicide prevention	47.9	35.8
Tobacco use prevention	79.4	46.2
Violence prevention	58.7	40.7

¹ Courses devoted primarily to health topics and combined health education and physical education courses.

² Courses devoted primarily to other subjects, such as science or social studies.

³ Although the SHPPS 2000 questionnaires used the word "accident" because it is familiar to many people, public health officials prefer the word "injury" because it connotes the medical consequences of events that are both predictable and preventable.

Percentage of Schools with Specific Health Education Time Requirements in Each Grade, by School Level

	Elementary	Middle/junior high	Senior high
At least 450 minutes	58.1	80.4	84.2
At least 900 minutes	42.8	66.8	75.0
At least 1800 minutes	19.5	38.0	37.4
At least 3600 minutes	5.2	13.5	13.5

For additional information on SHPPS, contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Adolescent and School Health, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Mailstop K-33, Atlanta, GA 30341-3717, telephone 888-231-6405, <http://www.cdc.gov/shpps>.