



**Connecticut State Department of Education**

# **Health Services Concussion Report**

June 29, 2023  
Developed for:

**The Connecticut State Department of Education**  
By  
Kevin P. Glass, Ph.D., Director  
Center for Program Research & Evaluation

Contact:

EdAdvance  
P.O. Box 909  
355 Goshen Road  
Litchfield, CT 06759-0909  
Phone: 860-567-0863

Connecticut State Department of Education  
Chlo-Anne Bobrowski  
Education Manager

450 Columbus Boulevard,  
Suite 504,  
Hartford, CT  
06103

## Executive Summary

### Executive Summary

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), as part of its ongoing efforts to support and expand school health services provided to Connecticut students, is continuing the data collection process for school health services begun in 2004. This process is designed to assist the CSDE in understanding the status of school health services in Connecticut school districts, the needs of school districts and students in school health services, and the progress being made in these areas over time. As one component of these ongoing efforts, the CSDE commissioned the Center for Program Research & Evaluation (CPRE) at EdAdvance to develop an online survey to collect information regarding the status of school health services from school districts throughout the state.

The survey development process was designed to encourage state and district staff participation through each stage in the process. The process included the initial consultation of the CSDE with the CPRE. After reviewing the professional literature related to school health services, the survey was developed for data collection. The CSDE and the Connecticut State Health Records Committee (CSHRC) assisted EdAdvance in adapting the survey development process as necessary to meet the needs of school districts and the CSDE.

The CSDE and the CSHRC provided suggestions to EdAdvance for areas and categories for which they sought information. Additionally, as appropriate, questions were used from similar surveys administered by other states. These questions were intended to maximize survey reliability and allow Connecticut to compare results as necessary with results from other states.

EdAdvance staff developed specific questionnaire items based on these suggestions and questions asked on other state health questionnaires. The CSDE and CSHRC approved all aspects of survey development before survey administration. The survey was pilot tested in the spring of 2003. Based on the pilot test results and consequent survey administrations, the survey has been revised as necessary over time.

The survey was incorporated into the EdAdvance website to facilitate completion by respondents. The Coordinator of Health Services (or equivalent) in each Connecticut school district was asked to complete the online survey.

Questionnaire results were analyzed statistically using IBM SPSS Statistical software. Frequencies and means were obtained on all data as appropriate.

#### *Profile of Districts Who Participated in the Data Collection Process:*

For 2022-23 a total of 197 questionnaires were distributed, with **132** completed in time to be analyzed, yielding a response rate of **67.0%**.

## Concussion Evaluation

Across all districts, survey participants reported that there were **2,874** diagnosed concussions during the 2022-23 school year (compared to 3,701 during 2021-22). The number of FEMALE vs. MALE students diagnosed with a concussion by grade level during the school year is detailed in the table below:

Table 1: Students Diagnosed with Concussion

Grade	Female	Male	Total
Pre-Kindergarten	1	7	8
Kindergarten	18	15	33
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	17	23	40
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	33	29	62
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	27	52	79
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	46	77	123
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	51	125	176
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	77	124	201
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	118	173	291
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	113	156	269
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	251	214	465
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	254	229	483
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	215	224	439
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	226	162	388

Of the diagnosed concussions that occurred during the 2022-23 school year, the number of occurrences in reporting districts during the categories listed below:

Table 2: Diagnosed Concussions by Activity

Category	Concussions
School Athletics - Interscholastic	971
Outside of School - Other	700
Non-School Sports Related (i.e. Local Town Recreational Sports)	494
Physical Education Class	190
Don't Know	165
School Recess	161
Other	161
Any Other School Sponsored Activities	127
School Athletics - Intramural	53

Of all diagnosed concussions that occurred during school-related sports events, occurrences are broken out by each school sport below.

Table 3: Diagnosed Concussions by Sport

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Concussions</b>
Football	373
Other	150
Boys Soccer	114
Girls Soccer	113
Cheerleading	100
Girls Basketball	80
Boys Basketball	77
Boys Ice Hockey	57
Girls Lacrosse	54
Wrestling	53
Boys Lacrosse	51
Girls Volleyball	50
Field Hockey	43
Softball	34
Baseball	34
Rugby	20
Track and Field	16
Swimming and Diving	11
Girls Ice Hockey	9
Boys Volleyball	8
Dance Team	8
Gymnastics	7
Girls Tennis	5
Boys Cross Country	3
Girls Cross Country	2
Boys Golf	1
Boys Tennis	1
Girls Golf	0

Of students diagnosed with concussions during the 2022-23 school year, the accommodations below were provided for the following number of students.

Table 4: Students Requiring Accommodations

<b>Accommodation</b>	<b>Students</b>
Physical Activity Accommodations	2148
Academic Accommodations	2024
Individual Health Care Plan	479
No accommodations required	325
Section 504 Plan	46
Homebound Instruction	18

Of diagnosed concussions during the 2022-23 school year, the AVERAGE length of time (in days) that accommodations were needed.

Table 5: Average Length of Time for Accommodations

<b>Accommodation</b>	<b>Average Days</b>
Physical Activity Accommodations	18.4
Academic Accommodations	17.7
Section 504 Plan	9.4
Individual Health Care Plan	7.4
Homebound Instruction	2.0
Not Known	1.5

The number of students (if known) who missed school days due to diagnosed concussions during the 2022-23 school year.

Table 6: Students Missing School Days Due to a Diagnosed Concussion

<b>Category</b>	<b>Students Missing Days</b>
Less than 5 school days	2369
5 to 10 school days	341
11 to 15 school days	48
16 to 20 school days	22
21 to 60 school days	6
61 to 120 school days	7
Greater than 120 school days	3

---