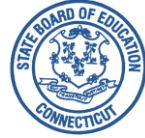




STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



# Connecticut State Department of Education

## School Health Services Survey

### Concussion Report

## 2024

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## Executive Summary

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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:***

Of the 199 questionnaires distributed, **152** responses were sufficiently completed in time to be analyzed, yielding a response rate of **76.4%**.

## Concussion Evaluation

Across all districts, survey participants reported that there were **4,016** diagnosed concussions during the 2023-24 school year (compared to 2,874 during the 2022-23 school year). 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	5	11	16
Kindergarten	17	26	43
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	30	39	69
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	36	54	90
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	48	88	136
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	51	98	149
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	86	146	232
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	102	149	251
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	160	198	358
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	195	236	431
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	257	355	612
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	308	363	671
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	324	322	646
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	261	255	516

Of the diagnosed concussions that occurred during the 2023-24 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	1,245
Outside of School - Other	953
Non-School Sports Related (i.e., Local Town Recreational Sports)	666
Physical Education Class	225
Don't Know	185
Other	156
School Recess	229
Any Other School Sponsored Activities	108
School Athletics - Intramural	48

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**

Sport	Concussions
Football	496
Other	159
Girls Soccer	169
Boys Soccer	125
Cheerleading	94
Boys Basketball	101
Girls Basketball	80
Boys Lacrosse	54
Boys Ice Hockey	95
Wrestling	89
Girls Lacrosse	67
Girls Volleyball	43
Field Hockey	47
Softball	39
Baseball	47
Rugby	28
Track and Field	17
Girls Ice Hockey	30
Swimming and Diving	14
Boys Volleyball	13
Gymnastics	10
Dance Team	16
Girls Tennis	4
Boys Cross Country	4
Girls Cross Country	4
Boys Tennis	1
Boys Golf	1
Girls Golf	0

Of students diagnosed with concussions during the 2023-24 school year, the accommodations below were provided for the following number of students.

**Table 4: Students Requiring Accommodations**

Accommodation	Students
Physical Activity Accommodations	2,935
Academic Accommodations	2,652
Individual Health Care Plan	850
No accommodations required	362
Section 504 Plan	61
Homebound Instruction	260

Of diagnosed concussions during the 2023-24 school year, the AVERAGE length of time (in days) that accommodations were needed.

**Table 5:** Average Length of Time for Accommodations

Accommodation	Average Days
Physical Activity Accommodations	25.3
Academic Accommodations	21.6
Section 504 Plan	12.0
Individual Health Care Plan	9.0
Homebound Instruction	2.9
Not Known	1.7

The number of students (if known) who missed school days due to diagnosed concussions during the 2023-24 school year.

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

# Days Missed	# Students
Less than five school days	2,703
5 to 10 school days	335
11 to 15 school days	66
16 to 20 school days	10
21 to 60 school days	11
61 to 120 school days	3
Greater than 120 school days	5