

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20208-5651

**PRINCIPAL/SCHOOL DISCIPLINARIAN SURVEY ON SCHOOL VIOLENCE**  
FAST RESPONSE SURVEY SYSTEM

FORM APPROVED  
O.M.B. NO.: 1850-0733  
EXPIRATION DATE: 4/30/98

This survey is authorized by law (20 U.S.C. 1221e-1). While you are not required to respond, your cooperation is needed to make the results of this survey comprehensive, accurate, and timely.

LABEL

IF ABOVE INFORMATION IS INCORRECT, PLEASE MAKE CORRECTIONS DIRECTLY ON LABEL.

Name of person completing form: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Title/position: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of years at this school: \_\_\_\_\_

Best days and times to reach you (in case of questions): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

WESTAT  
1650 Research Boulevard  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
Attention: 900262-Heaviside

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT:

Sheila Heaviside  
800-937-8281, ext. 8391  
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According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1850-0733. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collected. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: National Center for Education Statistics, 555 New Jersey Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20208.

FRSS Form No. 63, 4/97

## Definitions

**Firearm** - any weapon that is designed to (or may readily be converted to) expel a projectile by the action of an explosive. This includes guns, bombs, grenades, mines, rockets, missiles, pipebombs, or similar devices designed to explode and capable of causing bodily harm or property damage.

**Incident** - a specific criminal act or offense involving one or more victims and one or more offenders.

**Physical attack or fight with a weapon** - an actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against his or her will, or the intentional causing of bodily harm to an individual with a weapon. This category should be used only when the attack is serious enough to warrant calling the police or other law enforcement representative.

**Physical attack or fight without a weapon** - an actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against his or her will, or the intentional causing of bodily harm to an individual without using a weapon. This category should be used only when the attack is serious enough to warrant calling the police or other law enforcement representative.

**Police or other law enforcement representatives** - any regular state or local law enforcement officers, school resource officers, campus police, security personnel employed by school or district, or other security personnel with power to arrest or hold for arrest.

**Robbery** - the taking or attempting to take anything of value that is owned by another person or organization, under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. A key difference between robbery and theft/larceny is that a threat or battery is involved in robbery.

**Sexual battery** - an incident that includes rape, fondling, indecent liberties, child molestation, or sodomy. These incidents should take into consideration the age and developmentally appropriate behavior of the offenders and are severe enough to warrant calling the police or other law enforcement representative.

**Theft/larceny** - the unlawful taking of another person's property without personal confrontation, threat, violence, or bodily harm. Included are pocket picking, stealing purse or backpack (if left unattended or no force was used to take it from owner), theft from a building, theft from a motor vehicle or motor vehicle parts or accessories, theft of bicycles, theft from vending machines, and all other types of thefts.

**Typical week** - a typical full week of school. Avoid weeks with holidays, vacation periods, or weeks when unusual events took place at the school.

**Vandalism** - the damage or destruction of school property including bombing, arson, graffiti, and other acts that cause property damage.

**Weapon** - any instrument or object used with the intent to threaten, injure, or kill. Examples include guns, knives, razor blades or other sharp-edged objects, ice picks, other pointed objects (including pens, pencils), baseball bats, frying pans, sticks, rocks, and bottles.

**Zero tolerance policy** - a school or district policy that mandates predetermined consequences or punishment for specific offenses.

1. Circle the number indicating to what extent, if any, each of the following has been a problem in your school during the 1996-97 school year.

	Serious	Moderate	Minor	Not a problem
a. Student tardiness.....	1	2	3	4
b. Student absenteeism/class cutting.....	1	2	3	4
c. Physical conflicts among students.....	1	2	3	4
d. Robbery or theft of items over \$10 .....	1	2	3	4
e. Vandalism of school property .....	1	2	3	4
f. Student alcohol use .....	1	2	3	4
g. Student drug use .....	1	2	3	4
h. Sale of drugs on school grounds .....	1	2	3	4
i. Student tobacco use.....	1	2	3	4
j. Student possession of weapons.....	1	2	3	4
k. Trespassing .....	1	2	3	4
l. Verbal abuse of teachers.....	1	2	3	4
m. Physical abuse of teachers.....	1	2	3	4
n. Teacher absenteeism.....	1	2	3	4
o. Teacher alcohol or drug use.....	1	2	3	4
p. Racial tensions .....	1	2	3	4
q. Gangs.....	1	2	3	4

2. During the 1996-97 school year, how many incidents involving each type of the following crimes or offenses have occurred at your school? *Only include incidents in which **police or other law enforcement representatives** (see definition) were contacted.*

**In column I**, record the number of incidents for each type of crime in which one or more incidents occurred at your school.

- *If one incident included multiple crimes, include the incident only once in the first appropriate crime listed. For example, if an incident included murder and rape, include the incident only under murder.*
- *Include all incidents that occurred “**at your school**” including in school buildings, on school buses, on school grounds, and at places that are holding school-sponsored events or activities, but are not officially on school grounds. Include events or activities that took place both during and after normal school hours, including days when school was not in session.*
- *If a particular incident has not occurred at your school during the 1996-97 school year, enter “0” in column I and leave columns II and III blank.*

**In column II**, indicate how many of the incidents reported in column I involved one or more of your students as either a victim or perpetrator.

**In column III**, indicate how many of the incidents reported in column I occurred either during school hours or at school-sponsored events or activities after school hours.

	I. Number of incidents in which police or other law enforcement were contacted?	II. How many incidents involved students as either victims or perpetrators?	III. How many incidents occurred during school hours or at school-sponsored events or activities?
a. <b>Murder</b> .....	_____	_____	_____
b. <b>Rape or other type of sexual battery</b> .....	_____	_____	_____
c. <b>Suicide</b> .....	_____	_____	_____
d. <b>Physical attack or fight with a weapon</b> .....	_____	_____	_____
e. <b>Physical attack or fight without a weapon</b> .....	_____	_____	_____
f. <b>Robbery - the taking of things directly from a person by force</b> .....	_____	_____	_____
g. <b>Theft/larceny - the taking of things without personal confrontation</b> .....	_____	_____	_____
h. <b>Vandalism - damage or destruction of school property or personal items on school property</b> .	_____	_____	_____

3. Does your school have a policy to report information about the types of incidents listed in question 2 to the public (e.g., to parents in a school newsletter)?

Yes..... 1                      No..... 2

4. During the 1996-97 school year, how many of the following disciplinary actions have been taken for each of the listed offenses? *Include all incidents listed below (a-d) for which the following disciplinary actions have been taken. **Police or other law enforcement representatives need not** have been called. Report the number of times a given disciplinary action was taken—one student suspended 5 times would be 5 suspensions.*

	Numbers of:		
	Expulsions	Transfers to alternative schools or programs	Out-of-school suspensions lasting 5 or more days
a. Possession or use of a firearm.....	_____	_____	_____
b. Possession or use of a weapon other than a firearm.....	_____	_____	_____
c. Possession, distribution, or use of alcohol or drugs, including tobacco.....	_____	_____	_____
d. Physical attacks or fights.....	_____	_____	_____

5. During the 1996-97 school year, did your school have:

	Yes	No
a. A requirement that visitors sign or check in?.....	1	2
b. Controlled access to school grounds (e.g., locked or monitored gates)? .....	1	2
c. Controlled access to school buildings (e.g., locked or monitored doors)? .....	1	2
d. Metal detectors through which all students must pass each day? .....	1	2
e. Random metal detector checks on students? .....	1	2
f. Closed campus for most students during lunch (i.e., most students are not allowed to leave school grounds for lunch)? .....	1	2
g. One or more drug sweeps (e.g., locker searches, dog searches)? .....	1	2

6. In a **typical week** during the 1996-97 school year, how many school hours have one or more **police or other law enforcement representatives** (see definition) been stationed at your school (other than for instructional purposes)? *(Circle one)*

- 30 hours or more per week ..... 1
- 10-29 hours per week..... 2
- 1-9 hours per week..... 3
- None during the typical week, but stationed as needed ..... 4
- None stationed at school during 1996-97 ..... 5

7. During the 1996-97 school year, does your school have a **zero tolerance policy** (see definition) for:

	Yes	No
a. Violence?.....	1	2
b. Firearms? .....	1	2
c. Weapons, other than firearms? .....	1	2
d. Alcohol?.....	1	2
e. Drugs?.....	1	2
f. Tobacco?.....	1	2

8. During the 1996-97 school year, are students at your school required to wear school uniforms?

Yes ..... 1    In what school year were uniforms first required? 19\_\_\_\_ — 19\_\_\_\_ school year  
 No ..... 2

9. During the 1996-97 school year, what percentage of your students are eligible for the federally funded free or reduced-price lunch program? \_\_\_\_\_%

10. During the 1996-97 school year, how many formal (planned and organized) **programs or efforts** did your school have that were **intended to prevent or reduce school violence**? (These programs or efforts can include instruction, other services to students, or changes to classroom and school management, and can take place either during school hours or after school hours.)

Number of one-day, one-time programs ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Number of ongoing programs (more than one day) ... \_\_\_\_\_

(If your school has no programs, enter "0's" and go to question 15.)

11. Were the incidents of crimes and offenses reported in question 2 used to modify these programs or to introduce new programs? Yes..... 1 No..... 2 No incidents reported in question 2..... 3

12. During the 1996-97 school year, did any of your formal programs or efforts **intended to prevent or reduce school violence** include the following?

	Yes	No
a. Prevention curriculum, instruction, or training for students (e.g., social skills training) .....	1	2
b. Behavioral programming or behavior modification for students .....	1	2
c. Counseling, social work, psychological, or therapeutic activity for students .....	1	2
d. Other activities involving individual attention for students (e.g., tutoring, mentoring) .....	1	2
e. Recreational, enrichment, or leisure activities for students .....	1	2
f. Student involvement in resolving student conduct problems (e.g., dispute or conflict resolution or mediation, student court) .....	1	2
g. Training, supervision, or technical assistance in classroom management for teachers .....	1	2
h. Review, revision, or monitoring of school wide discipline practices and procedures .....	1	2
i. Community or parent involvement in school violence prevention programs or efforts .....	1	2
j. Reorganization of school, grades, or schedules (e.g., school within a school, "houses" or "teams" of students) .....	1	2

13. During the 1996-97 school year, about how many students in your school participated in (or will participate in) programs or efforts that **directly serve students** and were intended to prevent or reduce school violence? (Circle one)

- All or almost all (91-100%) ..... 1
- Most (61-90%) ..... 2
- About half (41-60%)..... 3
- Some (11-40%) ..... 4
- Few (1-10%) ..... 5
- None ..... 6

14. During the 1996-97 school year, about how many teachers and staff in your school were **substantially** involved in any of the programs or efforts that were intended to prevent or reduce school violence? (Circle one)

- All or almost all (91-100%) ..... 1
- Most (61-90%) ..... 2
- About half (41-60%)..... 3
- Some (11-40%) ..... 4
- Few (1-10%) ..... 5
- None ..... 6

15. During the 1996-97 school year (including or in addition to those programs reported in question 10), did your school provide or sponsor any afterschool programs? Yes..... 1 No..... 2

16. The U.S. Department of Education may want to ask some of the schools responding to this survey to participate in a followup study on school safety at a later time. Like this survey, the followup study will be voluntary, and no data will be released with identifying information. Does the U.S. Department of Education have your permission to consider your school for a followup study? (Approximately 1 in 6 schools will be selected.)

Yes..... 1 No..... 2