ED School Climate Surveys (EDSCLS)

Isaiah O’Rear
National Center for Education Statistics
Background

- In early 2013, ED announced that a high priority would be placed on efforts to help the nation’s schools “create safer and more nurturing school climates.”
- ED’s Office of Safe and Healthy Students provided funds to NCES to develop a school climate measurement platform available to schools, school districts and states which will provide valid and reliable measures of school climate.
OSHS School Climate Model

**Domain: Engagement**
- Topics: Cultural and linguistic competence
- Relationships
- School participation

**Domain: Safety**
- Topics: Emotional safety
- Physical safety
- Bullying/cyberbullying
- Substance abuse
- Emergency readiness/management

**Domain: Environment**
- Topics: Physical environment
- Instructional environment
- Physical health
- Mental health
- Discipline
EDSCLS Respondents

• Middle grade (5-8) students
• High school students
• Parents / Guardians
• Teachers
• Non-instructional staff (including principals)
Administering EDSCLS

• Can be administered at school, district, or state level.

• Allows for the local storage of data, accessible only to authorized users.

• Multiple surveys (i.e., students, instructional staff, non-instructional staff, and parents/guardians) can be open at the same time.

• During data collection, administrators can see how many respondents have finished the survey using the “survey status reports” feature.
**SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY**

**EDUCATION AGENCY**
Edit information about your education agency and survey administrator.

**DATA COLLECTION**
Create, edit, and delete data collections.

**RESPONDENT USERNAMES**
Generate, export, and disseminate respondent usernames for data collections that have not closed yet. Exporting usernames, importing respondent e-mail addresses, and disseminating usernames via e-mail are optional features.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATA COLLECTION</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>GENERATED</th>
<th>EXPORTED</th>
<th>DISSEMINATED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>02/17/2015-02/27/2015: Students</td>
<td>Started</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02/17/2015-02/27/2015: Teachers/Instructional Staff</td>
<td>Started</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**REPORTS**
Produce real-time survey status reports and survey results reports immediately after each data collection.

**SURVEY RESULTS**
Export and import survey results immediately after each data collection.

Export
Import
User-generated questions

### SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

#### NEW SURVEY ITEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Item</th>
<th>Answer Options</th>
<th>Respondent Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults working at this school treat all students respectfully.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td>Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly Disagree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff at this school give students opportunities to get involved in service projects or activities.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly Agree</td>
<td>Non-instructional Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disagree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strongly Disagree</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Web-based survey administration

WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY (SCLS)

English | Español

The School Climate Survey (SCLS) is being administered by SCLS - AIR. Your responses are important to help in understanding the environment of this school and the conditions for teaching and learning.

To start the survey, please enter your username below.

Username:  

LOG IN
EDSCLS Reporting

• Includes reporting tool for providing
  – item-level frequencies
  – domain-level scores and topic-level sub-scores.

• Reporting tool can compare scores by school, grade level, race, and gender.
### Item Frequency Reporting

#### Engagement

**Cultural and Linguistic Competence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Item</th>
<th>Strongly Agree (4)</th>
<th>Agree (3)</th>
<th>Disagree (2)</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree (1)</th>
<th>Mean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All students are treated the same, regardless of whether their parents are rich or poor.</td>
<td>33.33</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21.67</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Bar Chart](chart.png)
Domain Scale Score Reporting

Figure 2. Percentage distribution and mean of discipline scale score distribution: Spring 2015

Mean: 507
Subgroup Scale Score Reporting

- Overall: 507
- Male: 507
- Female: 508
- 6th grade: 506
- 8th grade: 502
- 11th grade: 517
- 12th grade: 372
- Not graded: 513
- White: 511
- Black/African-American: 475
- Hispanic: 496
- Asian American: 498
- Indian or Alaska Native: 538
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: ✫
- Two or more races: 521
Platform Development: Cog Labs

• In Summer 2014, NCES administered 78 cognitive interviews to test 309 survey items for inclusion in the EDSCLS surveys.
• NCES also administered 32 usability tests on the interface of the EDSCLS platform.
• Students, parents, instructional staff, non-instructional staff, and principals participated in the interviews.
Platform Development: Pilot Survey

- Between February and June 2015, 16 sites participated in the pilot test of the EDSCLS instruments and platform.
- At 3 sites, the EDSCLS was administered at the state level for selected districts.
- At 12 sites, EDSCLS was administered at the district level.
- At 1 site, EDSCLS was administered at the school level.
- Within the 16 sites, 50 schools participated in the pilot.
Platform Development: Pilot Survey

• The pilot data was used to create EDSCLS scale scores for Engagement, Safety, and Environment domains for the student, instructional staff, and non-instructional staff surveys.

• Low school participation and low response rates in the parent survey prevented scale development for the parent survey.
Platform Release

• On March 31, 2016, the Office of Safe and Healthy Students released the EDSCLS platform on the website: https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/scls

• OSHS also plans to release the School Improvement Resource Guide (SCIRP), “a web-based suite of action-oriented, research and evidence-based resources to help create and support positive school climates”
National Benchmark Development

• In Fall of 2017, a new version of the EDSCLS platform will be released that allows schools and districts to compare their school climate scores to the scores from a nationally representative sample of 500 schools serving 5th through 12th grade students.

• NCES is currently recruiting schools to participate in the national benchmark data collection in Spring 2017.
For More Information

Isaiah O’Rear
National Center for Education Statistics
Isaiah.orear@ed.gov

American Institutes of Research
schoolclimate@air.org

Website: https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/scls