

# Fact Sheet

## Family and Community Involvement

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.

- 49.4% of elementary schools, 42.3% of middle/junior high schools, and 43.5% of senior high schools participate in programs in which family or community members serve as role models to students (e.g., Big Brothers/Big Sisters program).
- 60.0% of schools participate in a community-based illegal drug use prevention program.
- 49.6% of schools participate in a community-based alcohol prevention program.
- 31.2% of schools participate in a youth empowerment program on tobacco use prevention.
- 14.1% of schools participate in a safe-passages-to-school program.
- 45.1% of districts and 65.5% of schools have one or more school health councils or other groups that address family and community involvement in school health programs.

### During the two years preceding the study:

- 24.5% of states and 28.0% of districts provided funding or offered staff development to physical education teachers on encouraging family or community involvement; 28.6% of required physical education classes or courses had a teacher who received staff development on this topic.
- 74.5% of states and 51.0% of districts offered staff development to health education teachers on encouraging family or community involvement; 45.4% of required health education classes or courses had a teacher who received staff development on this topic.

### Percentage of Schools Involving Parents and Community Members in the Development, Communication, or Implementation of School Health Program Plans, Policies, and Activities, by Type of Plan, Policy, or Activity

Type of plan, policy, or activity	Schools involving parents	Schools involving community members
Plan for responding to violence	55.8	61.2
Plan for responding to students' mental health and social service needs after a crisis or accident <sup>1</sup> at the school	41.0	54.9
Policies or activities on alcohol use prevention <sup>2</sup>	45.4	53.1
Policies or activities on accident or injury prevention <sup>2</sup>	39.3	42.6
Policies or activities on tobacco use prevention <sup>2</sup>	40.2	48.7
Policies or activities on violence prevention <sup>2</sup>	56.9	56.4
Policies or activities on illegal drug use prevention <sup>2</sup>	46.1	55.6

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>During the two years preceding the study.

**Percentage of Districts and Schools Implementing School Health Program Activities Involving Families<sup>1</sup>, by Type of Activity**

Type of activity	Districts	Schools
<b><i>Food service</i></b>		
Gave menus to families of students	95.9	83.7
Invited family members to a school meal	80.5	73.6
Met with a parents' organization to discuss the school food service program	25.6	24.6
Provided families with information on the nutrition and caloric content of foods available to students	35.3	37.4
Provided families with information on the school food service program	75.0	63.8
<b><i>Health education</i></b>		
Invited family members to attend health education classes	35.5	42.9
Met with a parents' organization to discuss the health education program	30.2	30.0
Offered any health education programs to families	27.8	29.1
Provided families with information on the school health education program	61.2	68.7
<b><i>Health services</i></b>		
Invited family members to tour the school health services facilities	34.9	36.2
Met with a parents' organization to discuss the health services program	37.7	30.9
Provided families with information on the school health services program	76.3	72.2
<b><i>Mental health and social services</i></b>		
Invited family members to tour the school mental health and social services facilities	24.3	32.8
Met with a parents' organization to discuss the mental health and social services program	38.5	41.6
Provided families with information on the school mental health and social services program	73.8	78.4
<b><i>Physical education and activity</i></b>		
Invited family members to tour the physical education facilities	41.5	61.0
Invited family members to attend physical education classes	N/A <sup>2</sup>	58.1
Met with a parents' organization to discuss the physical education program	17.2	36.4
Offered any physical education or physical activity programs to families	21.3	21.3
Provided families with information on the school physical education program	52.2	75.6

<sup>1</sup>During the 12 months preceding the study.

<sup>2</sup>Data not available—question not asked at that level.

**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>.