

Health Education

About SHPPS: SHPPS is a national survey periodically conducted to assess school health policies and practices at the state, district, school, and classroom levels. SHPPS was conducted in 1994, 2000, and 2006. The 2012 study collected data at the state and district levels only. School- and classroom-level data collection will take place in 2014.

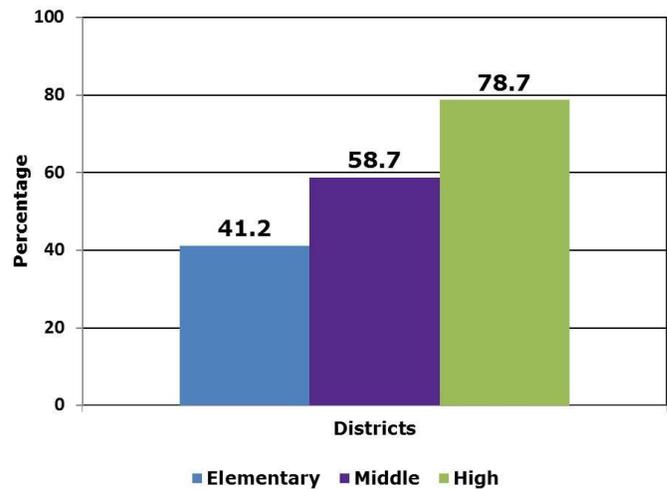
Percentage of States That Provided Resources for Districts and Schools and Percentage of Districts That Provided Resources for Schools for Health Education During the 2 Years Before the Study at Each School Level						
Resource	States			Districts		
	Elementary school	Middle school	High school	Elementary school	Middle school	High school
Lesson plans or learning activities for health education	60.8	64.7	68.0	57.9	65.8	63.0
List of one or more recommended health education curricula	41.2	43.1	41.2	51.9	61.3	57.6
List of one or more recommended health education textbooks	32.0	33.3	33.3	30.2	46.7	50.0
Plans or strategies for assessing or evaluating students in health education	58.8	66.7	68.6	47.9	58.3	63.9

Percentage of States Providing Assistance to Districts or Schools on Health Education			
Topic	States		
	Developed, revised, or assisted in developing model policies, policy guidance, or other materials*	Distributed or provided model policies, policy guidance, or other materials*	Provided technical assistance [†]
Certification or licensure requirements for health education teachers	43.1	46.0	64.7
Graduation requirements for high school health education	41.2	47.1	70.0
Professional development or continuing education requirements to maintain licensure or certification	45.1	49.0	66.7
Time requirements for elementary school health education	23.5	29.4	58.8
Time requirements for middle school health education	30.0	35.3	60.8
Time requirements for high school health education	27.5	38.0	60.0

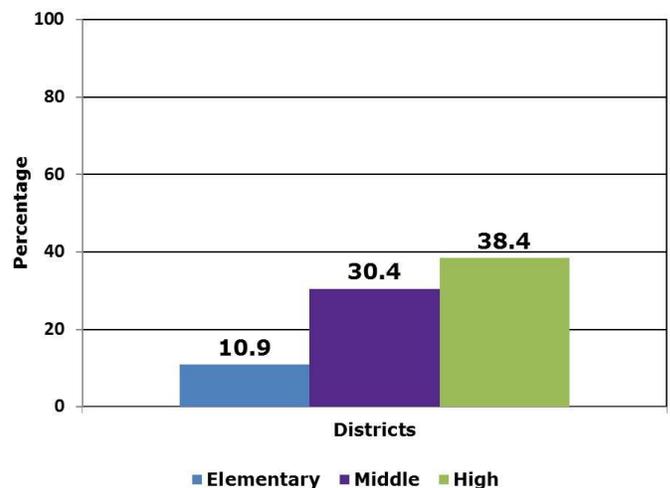
*During the 2 years before the study.
[†]During the 12 months before the study.

- 90.2% of states had adopted national or state health education standards and 82.4% of districts had adopted a policy stating that schools will follow national, state, or district health education standards or guidelines.
- Between 2000 and 2012, the percentage of districts that had adopted a policy stating that schools will follow the *National Health Education Standards* increased from 53.8% to 64.8%.¹
- 88.2% of states and 62.1% of districts had someone to oversee or coordinate health education.
- During the 2 years before the study, 96.1% of states and 90.7% of districts provided funding for professional development or offered professional development on at least one of the 15 health topics* included in the questionnaire, and 27.4% of states and 20.2% of districts provided funding for professional development or offered professional development on all 15 topics.
- 35.1% of districts had adopted a policy stating that newly hired staff who teach health education at the elementary school level will be certified, licensed, or endorsed by the state to teach health education, 61.6% had this policy at the middle school level, and 79.8% had this policy at the high school level.

Percentage of Districts With Specified Time Requirements for Health Education at Each School Level



Percentage of Districts That Had Adopted a Policy Requiring Instruction on All 15 Health Topics* at Each School Level



*Topics were chosen to reflect the leading causes of mortality and morbidity among youth and adults and other important public health issues.

¹Regression analyses were performed that took all available years of data into account. To account for multiple comparisons, selected changes are included only if the p-value from the trend analysis was less than .01, and either the difference between the two endpoints (2000 and 2012) was greater than 10 percentage points or the 2012 estimate increased by at least a factor of two or decreased by at least half as compared to the 2000 estimate.

Where can I get more information? Visit www.cdc.gov/shpps or call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636).

