

**Stats 2003:
Selected School Violence Research Findings From 2003 Sources**

School Violence

1. Substance use, perpetration of physical violence, and witnessing violence were significantly correlated to weapon carrying at school. (Demographic, Intrinsic, and Extrinsic Factors Associated with Weapon Carrying at School, American Medical Association, 2003)
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?cmd=Retrieve&db=PubMed&list_uids=12517202&dopt=Abstract
2. Findings from a study of the 323 school-associated violent death events between July 1, 1992, and June 30, 1999, indicate that the majority of the firearms used in these events were obtained from the perpetrators' homes or from friends or relatives. ("Source of Firearms Used by Students in School-Associated Violent Deaths – United States, 1992-1999," Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2003)
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5209a1.htm>
3. In the United States between July 1, 1999, and June 30, 2000, there were 32 school associated violent deaths. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>
4. From July 1, 1999, through June 30, 2000, twenty-four school-associated violent deaths were homicides and eight school-associated were suicides. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>
5. In 1999-2000, 20 percent of all public schools experienced one or more serious violent crimes such as rape, sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated assault. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>
6. Between 1995-1999, the percentage of students ages twelve to eighteen who felt unsafe while they were at school or on the way to school decreased. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>

Victimization

7. Male students were more likely than female students to report violent victimization at school. (The Condition of Education, 2003, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003067.pdf>
8. Black students were more likely to report having experienced any form of victimization than were White and Hispanic students. (The Condition of Education, 2003, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003067.pdf>
9. Seventeen percent of high school girls have been abused physically; twelve percent of high school girls have been abused sexually. (The Formative Years: Pathways to Substance Abuse Among Girls and Young Women Ages 8-22, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, 2003) <http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/151006.pdf>
10. Seventy-one percent of thirteen- to fourteen-year-olds say sexual violence or other physical violence is a “very” or “somewhat” big concern for their peers and themselves. (National Survey of Adolescents and Young Adults: Sexual Health, Knowledge, Attitudes, and Experiences, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, 2003) <http://www.kff.org/youthhivstds/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&PageID=14269>
11. Between 1992 and 2001, the violent crime victimization rate at school declined from forty-eight violent victimizations per 1,000 students in 1992 to twenty-eight such victimizations in 2001. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>
12. Students ages twelve to eighteen were victims of about 2 million nonfatal crimes of violence or theft at school in 2001, with the majority (62 percent) of all victimizations at school being thefts. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>
13. In each school year from 1992 to 2000, youth ages five to nineteen were at least seventy times more likely to be murdered away from school than at school. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>
14. Between 1995 and 2001, the percentage of students who reported being victims of crime at school decreased from 10 percent to 6 percent. This included a decrease in theft (from 7 percent to 4 percent) and a decrease in violent victimization (from

3 percent to 2 percent) over the same time period. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>

15. From 1997-2001 teachers were victims of approximately 1.3 million nonfatal crimes at school, including 817,000 thefts and 473,000 violent crimes (rape or sexual assault, robbery, and aggravated and simple assault). (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>

Bullying

16. In 2001, 8 percent of students reported that they had been bullied at school in the last 6 months, up from 5 percent in 1999. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>
17. Of children in sixth through tenth grade, more than 3.2 million-nearly one in six-are victims of bullying each year, while 3.7 million bully other children. (“Bullying Prevention is Crime Prevention,” Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2003) <http://www.fightcrime.org/>
18. Nearly 60 percent of boys who researchers classified as bullies in grades six through nine were convicted of at least one crime by the age of 24. Even more dramatic, 40 percent of them had three or more convictions by age 24. (“Bullying Prevention is Crime Prevention,” Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2003) <http://www.fightcrime.org/>
19. Compared to their peers, kids who are bullied are five times more likely to be depressed. Bullied boys are four times more likely to be suicidal: bullied girls are eight times more likely to be suicidal. (“Bullying Prevention is Crime Prevention,” Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, 2003) <http://www.fightcrime.org/>

Alcohol and Drug Use

20. Fifty-two percent of high school students and 21 percent of middle school students surveyed attend a school where drugs are used, kept, or sold. For high school students this is a significant deterioration from 2002, when most high school students attended drug free schools. (National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and Parents, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2003) http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf
21. From 2002 to 2003 there was an 18 percent increase in the number of high school students reporting they attend schools where drugs are used, kept or sold. (National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and

- Parents, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2003)
http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf
22. Religious and secular private schools are more likely to be drug-free than public schools. (National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and Parents, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2003)
http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf
 23. Fifty-eight percent of public school attendees are at drug-free schools. (National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and Parents, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2003)
http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf
 24. The risk of teens for substance abuse correlates significantly with the size of the school they attend, measured by the number of students. Only 12 percent of the teens who attend schools with fewer than 800 students are at high risk of substance abuse, while 25 percent of teens who attend schools with more than 1200 students are at high risk. (National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and Parents, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2003)
http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf
 25. In 2002, 87.2 percent of high school seniors reported they could obtain marijuana fairly easily or very easily. (“Drug and Crime Facts,” U.S. Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics)
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dcf/du.htm>
 26. Of high school seniors in 2002, 47.8 percent reported having ever used marijuana/hashish, 7.8 percent reported having ever used cocaine, and 1.7 percent having ever used heroin. (“Drug and Crime Facts,” U.S. Department of Justice – Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics)
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/dcf/du.htm>
 27. In 2002, locker searches are conducted in about one in three schools. (National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and Parents, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2003)
http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf
 28. Parents have a reluctance to accept the fact that a high-risk environment puts their teen at risk and a sense that there is little that they as parents can do about that risk. (National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VIII: Teens and Parents, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, 2003)
http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf

School Resource Officers

29. Over 70 percent of School Resource Officers surveyed felt that aggressive behavior in elementary school children has increased in their districts in the past five years. (2003 NASRO School Resource Officer Survey, National Association of School Resource Officers, 2003)
<http://www.nasro.com/2003NASROsurvey.pdf>
31. School Resource Officers reported that significant gaps continue to exist in their schools' emergency preparedness planning and, in training for terrorism and other crisis situations. (2003 NASRO School Resource Officer Survey, National Association of School Resource Officers, 2003)
<http://www.nasro.com/2003NASROsurvey.pdf>
32. Over 87 percent of School Resource Officers reported that the numbers of crimes that occur on school campuses nationwide are underreported to police. (2003 NASRO School Resource Officer Survey, National Association of School Resource Officers, 2003) <http://www.nasro.com/2003NASROsurvey.pdf>
33. Over 88 percent of School Resource Officers believe that school administrators faced with their schools possibly being labeled as “persistently dangerous” will result in decreased school crime reporting. (2003 NASRO School Resource Officer Survey, National Association of School Resource Officers, 2003)
<http://www.nasro.com/2003NASROsurvey.pdf>
34. A significant number of School Resource Officers (SROs) reported budget cuts for school safety funding in their local school districts, inadequacies in federal school safety funding, and the need for an “Education Homeland Security Act” to fund school terrorism training, improve security and crisis planning, and support SRO programs. (2003 NASRO School Resource Officer Survey, National Association of School Resource Officers, 2003)
<http://www.nasro.com/2003NASROsurvey.pdf>

Alternative Education Placement and Suspensions

35. In 2001, thirty-nine percent of public school districts had alternative schools and programs, serving about 613,000 at-risk students. (The Condition of Education, 2003, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003067.pdf>
36. Districts with larger percentages of children in poverty were more likely than districts with smaller percentages of such children to enroll three percent or more of their students in alternative schools or programs. (The Condition of Education, 2003, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003067.pdf>

37. Ninety-one percent of districts with alternative schools or programs offered coursework for a regular high school diploma while forty-eight percent offered vocational or skills training. (The Condition of Education, 2003, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003067.pdf>
38. States with higher rates of out-of-school suspensions also have higher overall rates of juvenile incarceration. (“Consistent Removal: Contributions of School Discipline to the School-Prison Pipeline,” School to Prison Pipeline Conference: Harvard Civil Rights Project, 2003)
<http://www.civilrightsproject.harvard.edu/research/pipeline03/Skibbav3.pdf>
39. Racial disproportionality in out-of-school suspension is associated with similar disproportionality in juvenile incarceration. (“Consistent Removal: Contributions of School Discipline to the School-Prison Pipeline,” School to Prison Pipeline Conference: Harvard Civil Rights Project, 2003)
<http://www.civilrightsproject.harvard.edu/research/pipeline03/Skibbav3.pdf>
40. Higher rates of out-of-school suspension are associated with lower rates of achievement in reading, mathematics, and writing. (“Consistent Removal: Contributions of School Discipline to the School-Prison Pipeline,” School to Prison Pipeline Conference: Harvard Civil Rights Project, 2003)
<http://www.civilrightsproject.harvard.edu/research/pipeline03/Skibbav3.pdf>
41. Hispanic students have higher retention and suspension/expulsion rates than those of whites, but lower than those of blacks. (Status and Trends in the Education of Hispanics, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003008.pdf>
42. Hispanic students have higher school dropout rates and lower high school completion rates than white or black students. (Status and Trends in the Education of Hispanics, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003)
<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003008.pdf>

Television and Violence

43. The average child spends 25 hours a week watching television. By the time the average child is 18 years-of-age, he or she will witness 200,000 acts of violence, including 40,000 murders. (“TV Bloodbath: Violence on Prime Time Broadcast TV: A PTC State of the Television Industry Report,” Parents Television Council, 2003)
<http://www.parentstv.org/ptc/publications/reports/stateindustryviolence/ReportOnViolence.pdf>
44. In 2002, depictions of violence were 41 percent more frequent during the 8:00 p.m. (ET/PT) Family Hour, and 134.4 percent more frequent during the 9:00 p.m.

(ET/PT) hour than in 1998. (“TV Bloodbath: Violence on Prime Time Broadcast TV: A PTC State of the Television Industry Report,” Parents Television Council, 2003)

<http://www.parentstv.org/ptc/publications/reports/stateindustryviolence/ReportOnViolence.pdf>

Miscellaneous

45. High school dropouts are more likely to receive public assistance than high school graduates who do not go to college. (The Condition of Education, 2003, National Center for Education Statistics, 2003) <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003067.pdf>
46. High school girls are more likely than boys to consider (23.6 percent versus 14.2 percent) and attempt (11.2 percent versus 6.2 percent) suicide. (The Formative Years: Pathways to Substance Abuse Among Girls and Young Women Ages 8-22, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, 2003) <http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/151006.pdf>
47. Fifty-two percent of thirteen- to fourteen-year-olds say discrimination because of race or ethnicity is a “very” or “somewhat” big concern for their peers and themselves. (National Survey of Adolescents and Young Adults: Sexual Health, Knowledge, Attitudes, and Experiences, The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, 2003) http://www.casacolumbia.org/pdshopprov/files/2003_Teen_Survey_8_19_03.pdf
48. The majority of students who are incarcerated have very weak academic skills and attendance habits in eighth grade but do not become incarcerated until the ninth grade. (“High Poverty Secondary Schools and the Juvenile Justice System: How Neither Helps the Other and How that Could Change,” School to Prison Pipeline Conference: Harvard Civil Rights Project, 2003) <http://www.civilrightsproject.harvard.edu/research/pipeline03/BalfanzRobert.pdf>
49. Studies of more than 1,400 youth between the ages of eleven and twenty-four years old reveal that one-third of those eleven to thirteen years old and one-fifth of those fourteen or fifteen years old could not understand the proceedings or help lawyers defend them. (Method, Measures, and Procedures for the Juvenile Adjudicative Competence Study, The MacArthur Research Network, 2003) <http://www.mac-adoldev-juvjustice.org/METHOD%20ARCHIVAL%20and%20TABLES.pdf>
50. A study conducted in 1999-2000 found that school size is positively correlated with the concentration of student violence and school crime in a given district. There is also a significant correlation with the concentration of violence and crime in one district versus others. Using a tipping point for school size of 1000 pupils, small schools on average experience between 29 to 40 percent fewer incidents of violence than do all of the schools in the sample. Schools with more than 1000

pupils experience between 58 and 108 percent more incidents of violence. (“School Size, Violence, Achievement and Cost,” Commission on Business Efficiency of the Public Schools, 2003)

http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/legislativepub/reports/buseff_report.pdf

51. The frequency of the following behaviors has shown no detectable pattern of increase or decrease: percentage of suicides of school-age youth between 1992 and 1999; the percentage of students being threatened or injured with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property between 1993 and 2001; and the percentage of teachers being physically attacked by a student between 1993-94 and 1999-2000. Hate related graffiti between 1999 and 2001; and measures of marijuana use, alcohol use, and drug distribution at school between 1993 and 2001 have also no detectable pattern of change over their respective periods. (Indicators of School Crime and Safety: 2003, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Justice, 2003)

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2004004>

52. A survey on High School Guidance Counseling in 2001 revealed that 33 percent of counselors spent more than 20 percent of their time on students’ attendance, discipline, and other school and personal problems. (High School Guidance Counseling, U.S. Department of Education, 2003)

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003015.pdf>

53. Survey responses to questions related to strategies associated with No Child Left Behind suggest that greater familiarity with the law is unlikely to lead to greater public support. (“The 35th Annual PHI DELTA KAPPA/GALLUP POLL: Of the Public’s Attitudes Toward the Public Schools”)

<http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/k0309pol.pdf>

54. The public continues to believe that closing the achievement gap between white students and black and Hispanic students is important but blames the gap on factors unrelated to quality of schooling. (“The 35th Annual PHI DELTA KAPPA/GALLUP POLL: Of the Public’s Attitudes Toward the Public Schools”)

<http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/k0309pol.pdf>