

Table 247. Public Schools Reporting Incidents of Crime by Incident Type and Selected School Characteristics: 2007 to 2008

[For school year ending in 2008. Includes incidents that happen in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, and at places that hold school-sponsored events or activities. Based on sample; see source for details]

School characteristic	Total number of schools	Percent of schools with—				Rate per 1,000 students			
		Violent incidents ¹	Serious violent incidents ²	Theft ³	Other incidents ⁴	Violent incidents ¹	Serious violent incidents ²	Theft ³	Other incidents ⁴
All public schools⁵	83,000	75.5	17.2	47.3	67.4	27.9	1.2	5.6	9.2
Level: ⁶									
Primary	49,200	65.1	13.0	30.6	55.1	25.6	1.0	2.1	4.9
Middle	15,300	94.3	22.0	69.5	84.0	41.3	1.9	8.3	12.3
High school	11,900	94.0	28.9	83.7	93.5	22.3	1.1	9.9	14.8
Enrollment size:									
Less than 300	19,200	60.6	12.3	33.3	47.6	34.4	1.8	5.4	9.1
300 to 499	24,300	69.1	11.4	35.6	62.1	24.3	0.8	3.2	6.5
500 to 999	30,200	83.4	19.8	54.0	75.5	30.0	1.2	5.1	7.7
1,000 or more	9,300	97.0	34.0	84.9	95.5	25.5	1.4	8.3	13.4
Percent minority enrollment: ⁸									
Less than 5 percent	13,700	66.7	15.0	46.1	60.6	21.7	0.8	5.9	7.4
5 to 20 percent	21,400	72.7	13.7	43.0	62.0	18.8	0.6	5.5	7.3
20 to 50 percent	20,300	77.3	15.2	45.8	70.0	27.1	0.8	5.2	8.4
50 percent or more	27,600	80.5	22.5	52.4	72.9	36.6	2.0	5.9	11.7

¹ Violent incidents include rape, sexual battery other than rape, physical attack or fight with or without a weapon, threat of physical attack with or without a weapon, and robbery with or without a weapon. ² Serious violent incidents include rape, sexual battery other than rape, physical attack or fight with a weapon, threat of physical attack with a weapon, and robbery with or without a weapon. ³ Theft or larceny (taking things worth over \$10 without personal confrontation). Includes pocket picking, stealing purse or backpack (if left unattended or no force was used to take from owner), theft from motor vehicles, etc. ⁴ Other incidents include possession of a firearm or explosive device, possession of knife or sharp object, distribution of illegal drugs, possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs, and vandalism. ⁵ Includes combined schools, not shown separately, which include all other combination of grades, including K–12 schools. ⁶ Primary schools are defined as schools in which the lowest grade is not higher than grade 3 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 8. Middle schools are defined as schools in which the lowest grade is not lower than grade 4 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 9. High schools are defined as schools in which the lowest grade is not lower than grade 9 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 12. ⁷ Interpret data with caution. ⁸ These estimates exclude data from Tennessee because schools in this state did not report estimates of student race.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, "2007–08 School Survey on Crime and Safety," 2008.

Table 248. Percentage of Public Schools Reporting Selected Types of Disciplinary Problems Occurring at School by Selected School Characteristics: 2007 to 2008

[In percent. For school year. "At school" includes activities that happen in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, and at places that hold school-sponsored events or activities. Based on sample; see source for details]

School characteristic	Happens daily or at least once a day						Happens at all	
	Student racial tensions	Student bullying	Student sexual harassment of other students ¹	Student verbal abuse of teachers	Wide-spread acts of disorder in classrooms	Student acts of disrespect for teachers	Undesirable gang activities ²	Undesirable cult or extremist group activities ³
All public schools	3.7	25.3	3.0	6.0	10.5	4.0	19.8	2.6
Level: ⁴								
Primary	2.6	20.5	1.3	3.7	7.7	3.1	10.0	0.6
Middle	5.6	43.5	6.5	9.8	17.7	6.6	35.4	3.1
High school	5.3	21.7	5.7	12.1	16.9	4.8	43.1	8.0
Combined	4.3	24.9	(S)	2.9	3.8	(S)	14.3	6.4
Enrollment size:								
Less than 300	3.2	18.7	2.7	4.5	5.6	3.2	9.8	1.3
300 to 499	1.4	20.8	1.8	3.1	8.4	2.6	12.8	1.0
500 to 999	5.3	30.6	3.4	6.4	11.9	5.1	21.8	2.6
1,000 or more	5.5	33.2	5.7	15.3	22.0	6.1	52.4	9.4
Percent minority enrollment: ⁶								
Less than 5 percent	1.2	25.6	2.7	2.8	5.6	2.0	3.9	(S)
5 to 20 percent	2.7	24.9	2.5	2.6	5.6	2.1	9.9	1.7
20 to 50 percent	3.0	22.1	2.2	5.5	11.5	2.3	21.3	2.7
50 percent or more	6.2	27.6	4.2	10.5	16.1	7.8	34.2	3.6

¹ Figure does not meet publication standards. ¹ Sexual harassment includes "unsolicited, offensive behavior that inappropriately asserts sexuality over another person. This behavior may be verbal or nonverbal." ² Gang includes an "ongoing loosely organized association of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, that has a common name, signs, symbols, or colors, whose members engage, either individually or collectively, in violent or other forms of illegal behavior." ³ Cult or extremist group includes "a group that espouses radical beliefs and practices, which may include a religious component, that are widely seen as threatening the basic values and cultural norms of society at large." ⁴ Primary schools are defined as schools in which the lowest grade is not higher than grade 3 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 8. Middle schools are defined as schools in which the lowest grade level is not lower than grade 4 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 9. High schools are defined as schools in which the lowest grade is not lower than grade 9 and the highest grade is not higher than grade 12. Combined schools include all other combinations of grades, including K–12 schools. ⁵ Interpret data with caution. ⁶ These estimates exclude data from Tennessee because schools in this state did not report estimates of student race.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, "2007–08 School Survey on Crime and Safety," 2008.