



State Attendance Overview

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- **Statewide Attendance Overview**
- **Absenteeism Trends**
- **Truancy Patterns**
- **Impact of Attendance on Academic Performance**
- **Case Studies: ImpactTulsa**
- **Potential Strategies and Interventions**
- **Conclusion/ Questions**

Presentation Overview



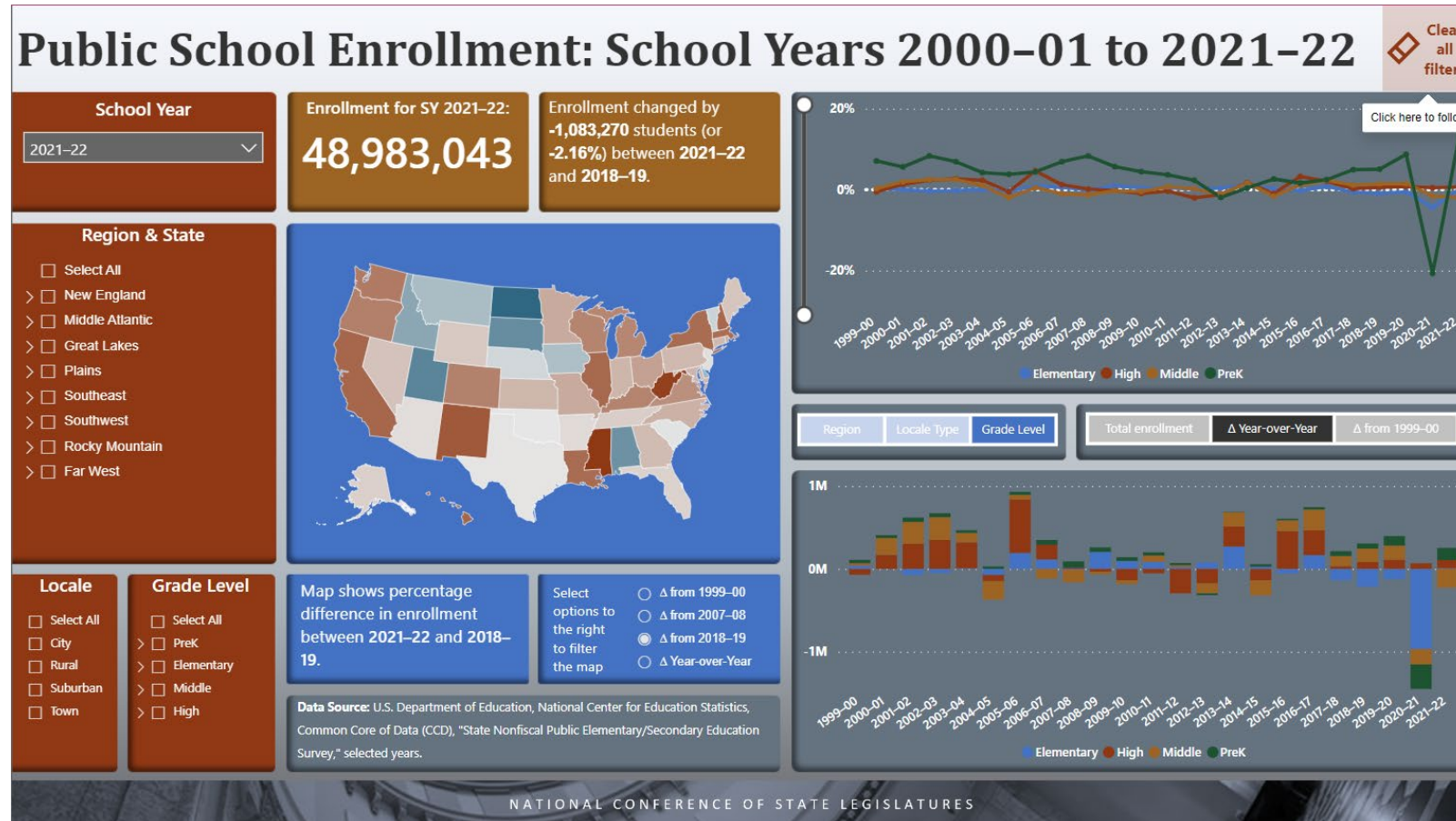
According to [Attendance Works](#):

- Students should not miss >9 days to stay engaged, successful, and on track for graduation
- By 6th grade, absenteeism is one of the signs that a student may drop out of high school
- By 9th grade, it is a strong predictor for graduation
- Missing 10%, or about 18 days, can drastically affect a student's academic success
- Students can be chronically absent by missing a day or two every few weeks



Enrollment At a Glance

- How has enrollment changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?



Chronic Absenteeism

- Habitual or chronic absence of students from school
- Measurement is typically based on the percentage of days missed out of the total school days in a specified period
- Attendance rates have improved from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023
- Still not back to pre-pandemic levels
- Lack of real-time data may be hindering post-pandemic progress
- [Rhode Island Department of Education Student Attendance Leaderboard](#)

Potential Factors Influencing Absenteeism

Health-Related
Issues

School
Environment

Academic
Challenges

Transportation
Issues

Parental
Involvement

School
Policies



Truancy



Truancy specifically refers to unexcused and intentional absences



Truancy can have detrimental effects on academic performance, social development, and long-term education outcomes



Truant students are more likely to experience academic struggles, lower grades, and are at a higher risk of dropping out



Potential Factors Influencing Truancy

Disengagement
with School

Academic
Challenges

Social and Peer
Pressure

Bullying and
Safety
Concerns

Family Issues

Mental Health
Issues

Substance
Abuse

School Climate

Lack of
Parental
Involvement

Financial
Barriers



Impact of Attendance on Student Achievement

Missed Instructional Consistency

Impact on Early Grades

Vulnerability of Learning Differences

Long-term Impact on Dropout Rates

Economic and Employment Consequences

Negative Effect on Social and Emotional Development

Association with Lower Test Scores

Burden on Teachers

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- ESSA gives states the responsibility of choosing at least one indicator to measure school quality or student success
- [36 states and the District of Columbia](#) submitted ESSA plans to the U.S. Education Department that included chronic absence or similar attendance measure as an accountability metric
- Wisconsin submitted its to include chronic absenteeism as absent 10% or more of the school year



Potential Strategies and Interventions

- Engaging High School Students
- Understanding Absenteeism in K-1
- Gathering Actionable Data
- Providing Enriching Opportunities for Students
- Adopting a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)
- Forging Community Partnerships
- Encouraging Fair Attendance Practices
- Using Alternatives to Legal Action



ImpactTulsa

- ImpactTulsa is a collective impact organization using data to highlight disparities
- [Attendance Data Dashboard](#)
- Uses key indicators to measure and assess the events that impact children's likelihood to thrive
- Launched [Attendance CAN: 74106](#) at the end of 2022 to collaboratively work to understand and begin to address the barriers that impact student attendance among Pre-K through 3rd grade students

Examples of Legislative Strategies: Absenteeism

Establishing Attendance Policies

- [Illinois SB 605](#) (enacted 2021): Requires school districts to establish an absenteeism and truancy policy that includes a definition, description of diagnostic procedures, and supportive services.
- [Nevada AB 54](#) (enacted 2023): Revises provisions governing the compulsory school attendance of certain children.

Early Intervention Programs

- [Utah HB 400](#) (enacted 2023): The state board must adopt rules requiring a local school board or charter school to establish chronic absenteeism prevention and intervention policies.
- [New Mexico HB 236](#) (enacted 2019): A public school is required to provide “progressive interventions” for “absent, chronically absent, and excessively absent students.”

Collaboration with Community Partners/ Families

- [Washington HB 1113](#) (enacted 2021): The office of the superintendent of public instruction is required to “develop and publish best practice guidance to eliminate or reduce student absences.”
- [Vermont HB 106](#) (enacted 2021): An act relating to equitable access to a high-quality education through community schools.

Data Collection and Reporting

- [Maine HB 1191](#) (enacted 2023): Requires school administrative units that exceed a specified chronic absenteeism rate to establish an attendance review team.



Examples of Legislative Strategies: Absenteeism Cont.

Teacher Training and Awareness

- [Illinois SB 3466](#) (enacted 2018): Amends professional development requirements provided under school districts to include content on “appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement.”

Financial Support for Schools

- [Colorado SB 268](#) (enacted 2021): School districts are required to provide a plan including support services for PreK-12 students who are at risk of dropping out of school and districts can apply for grants to provide support services.

Research and Evaluation

- [Minnesota HB 3148](#) (pending 2023): Proposes the establishment of a legislative study group on student attendance and truancy.



Examples of Legislative Strategies: Truancy



Legal and Policy Framework

- [Texas HB 2398](#) (enacted 2015): Directs a school district to take one of actions in terms of truancy prevention measures.
- [Ohio HB 410](#) (enacted 2016): Encourages and supports a preventative approach to excessive absences and truancy.
- [Washington SB 5290](#) (enacted 2019): Eliminating the use of the valid court order exception to place youth in detention for noncriminal behavior.

Research and Evaluation

- [Iowa HB 241](#) (pending 2023): Proposes the establishment of the truancy evaluation and reduction pilot program.

Data Collection and Reporting

- [Rhode Island SB 2281](#) (enacted 2022): Designates a public school as the entity responsible for “regular attendance data monitoring of all students and early identification of emergent truant behavior.” This includes consulting with a parent or guardian and coordinating with the student’s identified support team before issuing a family court referral.

Early Intervention Programs

- [Tennessee HB 206](#) (enacted 2021): Amends the definition of a “progressive truancy intervention plan” adopted by a board of education to include three tiers of intervention.



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Questions?

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