

2021 Virginia School Survey of Climate and Working Conditions
Student Version – Grades 6 through 8

*This is a review copy, not for circulation or use. The actual survey is online with formatting for easier reading. Questions are grouped around school climate topics (in **BOLD CAPS** below). These topics do not appear in the online survey.*

Do you want to take the survey in English or Spanish? *Mark one.*

99% English

1% Spanish

Instructions for students:

This survey is being given to students in grades 6 through 8. The questions will ask how you feel about your school and how students get along with one another and with teachers. We want to know your opinion in order to learn ways to improve your school. When you answer the questions about your school, please think about the way things have been since the school year started in August or September.

Your individual answers to these survey questions are anonymous which means that no one will know how you answered. Student answers will be summarized in a report to the school that does not include anyone's name.

There are several screens of questions and it should take about 20-30 minutes to complete the survey. Use the Next and Previous buttons at the bottom of the screen to go to the next or previous page.

Be careful! Do not use the back button of your browser to go back to the previous page. If you use the browser button, your results will be lost, and you will need to start the survey again.

Below, please enter your Access Code for taking this survey. Your teacher should have this number for you. Many students will have the same code, so you will not be identified by this code.

What is your Access Code for taking this survey? _____

SECTION I: GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Are you taking this survey as a student or are you a staff member previewing the survey? *Mark one.*
 100% I'm a student.
 Excluded I'm a staff member.
2. You logged in to the survey as a student from: {display school name and division name}
 Is this information correct? *Mark one.*
3. (Ask if respondent chose "No" to question 2.) Please select your school division and school name from the lists below.
 [Dropdown menu of divisions that then populates a list of schools within the division chosen]
4. What grade are you in this year? *Mark one.*
 30% 6th Grade
 35% 7th Grade
 34% 8th Grade
5. How many years (including this year) have you been a student at this school? *Mark one.*
 39% This is my first year at this school.
 34% This is my second year at this school.
 28% This is my third (or more) year at this school.
6. How have you attended classes this school year? *Mark one.*
 58% I have only attended classes remotely (e.g., at home). (Students selecting this response will not be asked the questions below that are marked with *.)
 37% I have attended classes in-person and remotely (e.g., at home).
 5% I have only attended classes in-person. (Students selecting this response will not be asked the questions below that are marked with **.)

SECTION II: ENGAGEMENT, RELATIONSHIPS, AND SCHOOL SUPPORTS

A. STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
7. I like this school.	3%	8%	61%	28%
8. I am proud to be a student at this school.	2%	10%	61%	28%
9. I feel like I belong at this school.	4%	15%	59%	23%
10. I want to learn as much as I can at school.	2%	6%	48%	44%

B. SCHOOL CONNECTEDNESS

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
11. If I am absent, there is a teacher or some other adult at school that will notice my absence.	2%	6%	56%	37%
12. I regularly attend school-sponsored events, such as school dances, sporting events, student performance, or other school activities.	15%	39%	36%	10%
13. I regularly participate in extracurricular activities, such as school clubs or organizations, musical groups, sports teams, student government, or any other extracurricular activities.	14%	35%	36%	15%
14. Please indicate if and why you have a difficult time participating in academic or extracurricular activities. <i>Mark all that apply.</i>				
40%	I do not have a difficult time participating.			
28%	No activities were offered this year because of COVID-19.			
28%	I chose not to participate because of COVID-19.			
2%	My race or ethnicity			
6%	My academic abilities			
6%	My clothing or physical appearance			
2%	My gender or gender identity			
2%	My sexual orientation			
2%	My disability			
14%	Another reason: _____			

C. RELATIONSHIPS AMONG STUDENTS

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
15. I get along well with other students at this school.	2%	9%	64%	25%
16. I care about other students at this school.	3%	10%	60%	27%
17. Other students at this school care about me.	6%	21%	61%	12%

D. SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
18. I stop and think before doing anything when I get angry.	6%	20%	54%	20%
19. I work out disagreements with other students by talking with them.	4%	18%	59%	19%
20. I can disagree with others without starting an argument or a fight.	3%	11%	57%	28%
21. I know how to decide right from wrong.	1%	5%	57%	37%
22. I can control myself when I am upset.	4%	13%	55%	28%

E. RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN STUDENTS AND ADULTS

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about this school? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
23. Adults at this school care about me.	2%	6%	59%	33%
24. Adults at this school treat me with respect.	2%	6%	58%	35%
25. Adults at this school want me to succeed.	1%	3%	51%	45%
26. Adults at this school listen to what I have to say.	3%	10%	56%	31%
27. I respect the adults at this school.	1%	3%	49%	48%

28. Do you have positive relationships with any of these adults in your schools? *Mark all that apply.*

- 24% The principal or assistant principal
- 78% A teacher
- 28% My counselor
- 11% The school resource officer (SRO)
- 15% An adult that shares my racial, ethnic, or cultural background
- 17% An adult that does not shares my racial, ethnic, or cultural background
- 16% I do not have a positive relationship with any adult at this school.

F. RIGOROUS INSTRUCTION

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about this school? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
29. Teachers at this school expect me to use facts and evidence to support my ideas.	1%	2%	59%	38%
30. Teachers at this school want me to think about different ways to solve problems.	1%	5%	58%	36%
31. Teachers at this school encourage me to provide constructive feedback to other students.	2%	14%	59%	25%
32. Teachers at this school encourage me to value and search for a diversity of opinions, perspectives, and abilities.	2%	8%	61%	29%
33. Teachers at this school often connect what I am learning to life outside the classroom.	5%	21%	53%	21%
34. The things I learn at this school reflect multiple cultural backgrounds, ethnicities, and identities.	5%	17%	57%	21%

G. MANAGING STUDENT BEHAVIOR

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about this school? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
35. The school rules are fair.	5%	16%	56%	23%
36. I know the consequences if I break a school rule.	1%	5%	55%	39%
37. When students are accused of doing something wrong, they get a chance to explain.	5%	17%	56%	21%
38. Adults at this school are good at acknowledging positive behavior.	2%	11%	59%	28%
39. Adults at this school are good at addressing bullying.	7%	18%	52%	23%
40. Adults at this school are good at addressing racially motivated behaviors.	5%	13%	58%	24%
41. The consequences for breaking school rules are the same for all students.	5%	12%	48%	34%

42. (Asked only of those that respond “Strongly Disagree” or “Disagree” to question 41.) What do you believe causes differences in the consequences for breaking school rules? Mark all that apply.

- 32% The student’s race or ethnicity
- 35% The student’s academic abilities
- 29% The student’s clothing or physical appearance
- 31% The student’s gender or gender identity
- 15% The student’s sexual orientation
- 23% The student’s disability
- 21% Another reason: _____
- 9% I do not know
- 16% None of the above

SECTION III: SAFETY

A. GENERAL SAFETY

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
43. * I feel safe traveling between my home and the school.	2%	4%	52%	42%
44. * I feel safe outside on the grounds of the school.	1%	5%	53%	41%
45. * I feel safe in the hallways and bathrooms of the school.	2%	7%	53%	38%
46. * I feel safe in my classes.	1%	3%	50%	45%

	Never	1-2 days	3-5 days	6-10 days	More than 10 days
47. * During the past 30 days, on how many days did you not go to school because you felt you would be unsafe at school or on your way to or from school?	86%	7%	3%	1%	3%

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Mark one response per line.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
48. * Students know what to do if there is an emergency, natural disaster (such as a tornado or a flood), or a dangerous situation (such as a violent person on campus) during the school day.	2%	7%	54%	37%
49. If I heard about a threat to school or students’ safety, I would report it to someone in authority.	2%	5%	44%	49%
50. If other students hear about a threat to the school or students’ safety, they would report it to someone in authority.	2%	11%	58%	29%

51. * Has anyone offered, sold, or given you alcohol or drugs on school property this year? *Mark one.*

3% Yes

97% No

52. Are you aware if your school uses a team approach to respond to threats of violence from students or other individuals? *Mark one.*

57% Yes

43% No

B. BULLYING

Use this definition of bullying when answering the questions below.

- Bullying is when someone is repeatedly being hurt either by words or actions on purpose.
- Bullying is the repeated use of one’s strength or popularity to injure, threaten, or embarrass another person on purpose.
- Bullying makes the person being bullied feel intimidated or humiliated.
- Bullying happens repeatedly over time.
- Bullying can be physical, verbal, or social and includes cyber bullying.
- Bullying does not include teasing or horseplay. It is not bullying when two students who have the same strength or popularity have a fight or an argument.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about this school? *Mark one response per line.*

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
53. Bullying is a problem at this school.	16%	49%	23%	12%
54. Students at this school are bullied about their race or ethnicity.	27%	51%	17%	6%
55. Students at this school are bullied about their sexual orientation.	25%	48%	19%	7%
56. Students at this school are bullied about their clothing or physical appearance.	19%	40%	29%	12%
57. Students at this school are bullied about their disability.	29%	46%	18%	7%
58. ** Students at this school are bullied during online instruction.	37%	51%	8%	3%

59. Have you been bullied this school year? *Mark one.*

7% Yes

93% No

60. (Asked of respondents selecting “Yes” to question 59.) What do you believe motivated the bullying? *Mark all that apply.*

- 20% My race or ethnicity
- 18% My academic abilities
- 48% My clothing or physical appearance
- 18% My gender or gender identity
- 21% My sexual orientation
- 10% My disability
- 7% Another reason: _____
- 22% I do not know
- 21% None of the above

61. Have you participated in bullying another student this school year? *Mark one.*

- 2% Yes
- 98% No

	Yes	No
62. Has another student spread rumors or lies about you online or on social media this school year?	13%	87%
63. Have you spread rumors or lies about another student online or on social media this school year?	3%	97%
64. Has another student at your school made unwelcome sexual comments, jokes, or gestures that made you feel uncomfortable this school year?	12%	88%
65. Do adults at this school take action to solve the problem when students report bullying?	75%	25%
66. Do any adults at this school bully students?	7%	93%
67. Have you been bullied by an adult at this school this year?	3%	97%

C. STUDENT AGGRESSION

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
68. * How often do you worry about violence at your school?	35%	37%	19%	5%	3%
69. * How often do students get into physical fights at your school?	36%	38%	19%	5%	2%

Have any of the following happened to you personally at school this year? *Mark one response per line.*

	Never	One Time	More than Once	Many Times
70. A student threatened to harm me.	84%	10%	4%	2%
71. * A student physically attacked, pushed, or hit me.	84%	10%	4%	1%
72. * I was in a physical fight on school property.	92%	5%	2%	1%
73. * A student stole or damaged my personal property.	86%	9%	3%	2%

74. * (Asked of respondents selecting a response other than “Never” to any question 70-73.) What do you believe motivated these actions? Check all that apply.

- 8% My race or ethnicity
- 7% My academic abilities
- 16% My clothing or physical appearance
- 8% My gender or gender identity
- 7% My sexual orientation
- 4% My disability
- 27% None of the above
- 50% I do not know

75. * Are there gangs at your school? Mark one.

- 4% Yes
- 35% No
- 61% Do not know

(Asked only of those that respond “Yes” to question 75.)

	Yes	No
76. * Have gangs caused problems at your school this year (e.g., fights, sale of drugs)?	37%	63%
77. * Have you considered joining a gang this year?	20%	80%

D. SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

78. * Does your school have a School Resource Officer (SRO)? Mark one.

- 60% Yes
- 2% No
- 38% I do not know

How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements about this school? Mark one response per line.

(Only asked if respondent answered “Yes” to question 78.)	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
79. * The school resource officer (SRO) makes me feel safe at this school.	2%	7%	54%	37%
80. * The school resource officer (SRO) has a positive impact at this school.	2%	5%	54%	40%

E. MENTAL HEALTH

	Yes	No
81. During the past 12 months, did you ever feel so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that you stopped doing some usual activities?	34%	66%

	Not at All	Several Days	More than Half the Days	Nearly Every Day	
82. How often over the last 2 weeks, were you bothered by feeling nervous, anxious, or on edge?	50%	28%	10%	13%	
83. How often over the last 2 weeks, were you bothered by not being able to stop or control worrying?	61%	20%	9%	10%	
		I never feel sad or hopeless	Yes	No	Not Sure
84. When you feel sad or hopeless, are there adults that you can turn to for help?		21%	49%	10%	20%
			Yes	No	
85. During the past 12 months, did you ever seriously consider attempting suicide?			10%	90%	
			Yes	No	
<i>(Asked only if answered "Yes" to question 85.)</i>					
86. Did you ask for help from someone such as a doctor, counselor, or hotline?			30%	70%	
87. During the past 12 months, did you make a plan about how you would attempt suicide?			57%	43%	
			Yes	No	
<i>(Asked only if answered "Yes" to question 87.)</i>					
	0 Times	1 Time	2 or 3 Times	4 or 5 Times	6 or More Times
88. During the past 12 months, how many times did you actually attempt suicide?	40%	24%	24%	6%	7%
			Yes	No	
89. If another student talked about causing harm to themselves, I would tell an adult at school.			85%	15%	
90. Have you participated in any suicide prevention or mental health training?			12%	88%	

SECTION V: SUMMARY AND DEMOGRAPHICS

91. How positive or negative is the atmosphere of the school? *Mark one.*
- 3% Very negative
 - 14% Negative
 - 68% Positive
 - 15% Very positive
92. How does your school's atmosphere impact your learning? *Mark one.*
- 2% It has a very negative impact.
 - 6% It has a negative impact.
 - 41% It has no impact.
 - 38% It has a positive impact.
 - 12% It has a very positive impact.

93. (Asked of respondents who did not select "This is my first year at this school" to question 5.) Since you have been at this school, the overall school atmosphere has ... (Mark one.)
- 3% become much worse.
 - 11% become somewhat worse.
 - 57% stayed about the same.
 - 20% become somewhat better.
 - 8% become much better.
94. (Asked of respondents who did not select "stayed about the same" to question 93 and did not select "This is my first year at this school" to question 5.) To what extent do you think COVID-19 contributed to this change in the school's atmosphere? Mark one.
- 8% Not at all
 - 11% Very little
 - 25% Some
 - 41% Very much
 - 15% It is the only reason.
95. * How comfortable were you about returning to school building this year when it first reopened after the COVID-19 closures? Mark one.
- 9% Very uncomfortable
 - 22% Uncomfortable
 - 51% Comfortable
 - 18% Very comfortable
96. ** How comfortable were you at the start of remote learning this year due to the COVID-19 closures? Mark one.
- 15% Very uncomfortable
 - 30% Uncomfortable
 - 42% Comfortable
 - 13% Very comfortable
97. What is your gender? Mark one.
- 46% Male
 - 49% Female
 - 4% Prefer to self-describe: _____
98. What is the best description of your race? If you are more than one race, mark all that apply.
- 4% American Indian or Alaska Native
 - 10% Asian
 - 26% Black or African American
 - 1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - 54% White
 - 20% Other Race: _____
99. Is your ethnic background Hispanic or Latino? Mark one.

19% Yes

81% No

100. Do you have any of the following educational plans? *Mark one response per line.*

	Yes	No	Don't know
Individual Education Plan (IEP)	8%	24%	68%
Section 504 Plan	3%	25%	72%
Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Plan	2%	28%	70%

101. How old are you? *Select your age from the dropdown menu.*

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<1%	15%	32%	35%	17%	1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%

102. How many days have you been absent from school this year? *Mark one.*

- 40% 0 days
- 44% 1-5 days
- 8% 6-10 days
- 8% More than 10 days

103. How many days have you been suspended out of school this year? *Mark one.*

- 98% I have not been suspended from school this year.
- 1% I have been suspended for one day.
- 1% I have been suspended for two days.
- <1% I have been suspended for three days.
- <1% I have been suspended for four days.
- 1% I have been suspended five or more days.

104. How would you describe your grades in school this year? *Mark one.*

- 26% Mostly A's
- 36% Mostly A's and B's
- 5% Mostly B's
- 17% Mostly B's and C's
- 3% Mostly C's
- 7% Mostly C's and D's
- 6% Mostly D's and E/F's