



Annual Report

Modernizing Attendance & Safety on K-12 Campuses

Understanding challenges schools face managing manual attendance, and the impact on campus safety and student outcomes.



Modernizing Attendance & Safety on K-12 Campuses

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Executive Summary



About the Report

First, thank you to everyone who participated in our 2021 Modernizing Attendance & Safety on K-12 Campuses survey! The survey focused on attendance - a very relevant topic as we start thinking about maximizing instruction time to recover learning losses suffered during the pandemic.

What a year for us in K-12! As we close out the 2020-21 school year, a year where we partnered with schools to operate within the extraordinary constraints of the pandemic. We look forward to potentially bringing campuses back to “normal” operations when we open the doors in the fall for the 2021-22 school year.

Scope of the Report

The survey’s goal is to further understand from your peers the impact of manual attendance on instructional time and student outcomes. Over 400 survey respondents across the country in private, public, and charter schools participated. Attendance has for many decades been a critical process for schools, a process that is considered very manual, costly, inaccurate, and impacts the safety of an estimated 11 million students every day. The survey revealed over 48% of schools surveyed lose instructional time daily, and a school of about 500 students spend over 3,000 hours on attendance capture and tracking. The McKinsey & Company’s 2020 study, the UC Berkeley 2017 article, and the Georgetown University’s Future Ed 2020 article all raise the same concern of the attendance/administrative burden on K-12 teachers and the ultimate impact on student outcomes.

Schools strive to create learning environments/opportunities for their students that are safe, joyful, and efficient. Applying an analytical lens on how schools spend time and energy today, will hopefully help schools make a better place of learning tomorrow.

Thank you again for collaborating and sharing valuable data and insights into this critical education topic.

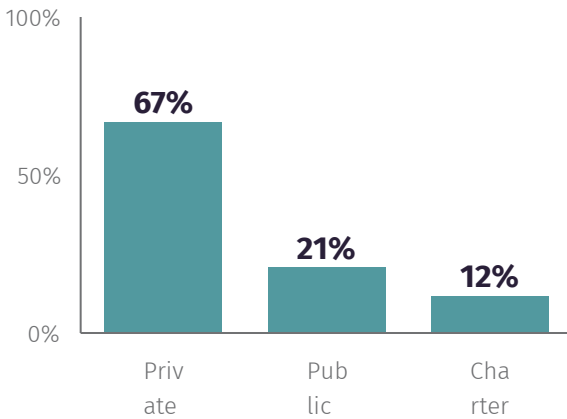
As the pandemic highlighted inefficiencies in school operations, attendance continues to be a major process that effects safety, time, and cost for schools across the country.

Introduction

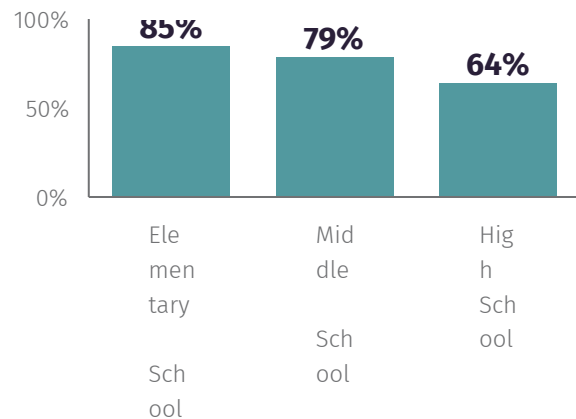
About the Survey

The SchoolPass **Modernizing Attendance & Safety on K-12 Campuses** survey was created to understand the ways schools are taking attendance and manage emergency management on campus. In addition to the demographics below, the survey respondents represent 44 states and the District of Columbia, as well as schools in urban, suburban and rural communities, from both school staff and teachers.

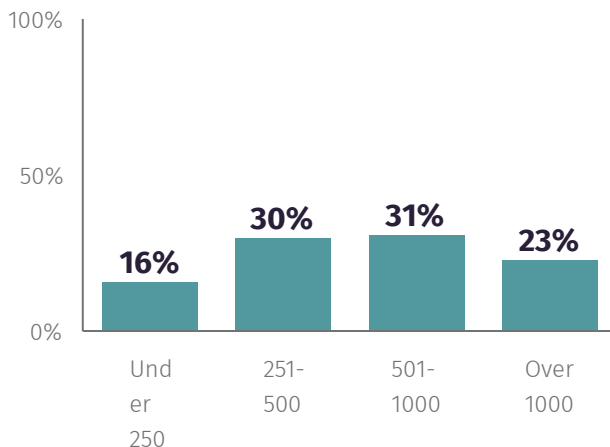
Please indicate your school type.



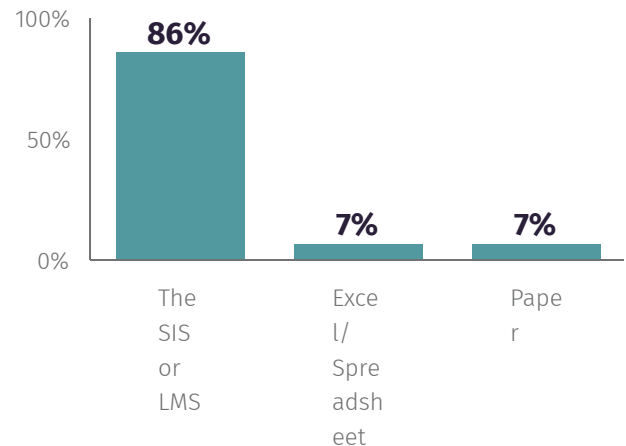
What grades are served at your school?



How many students are enrolled at your school?



Where is attendance recorded?

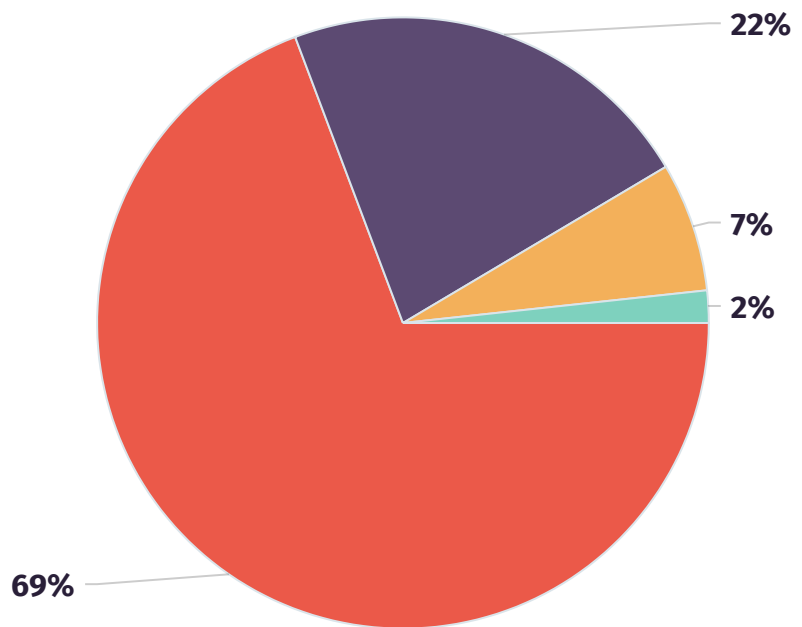


Daily Attendance Procedures

91%

Of schools require faculty and staff to manually record attendance.

How is attendance recorded?

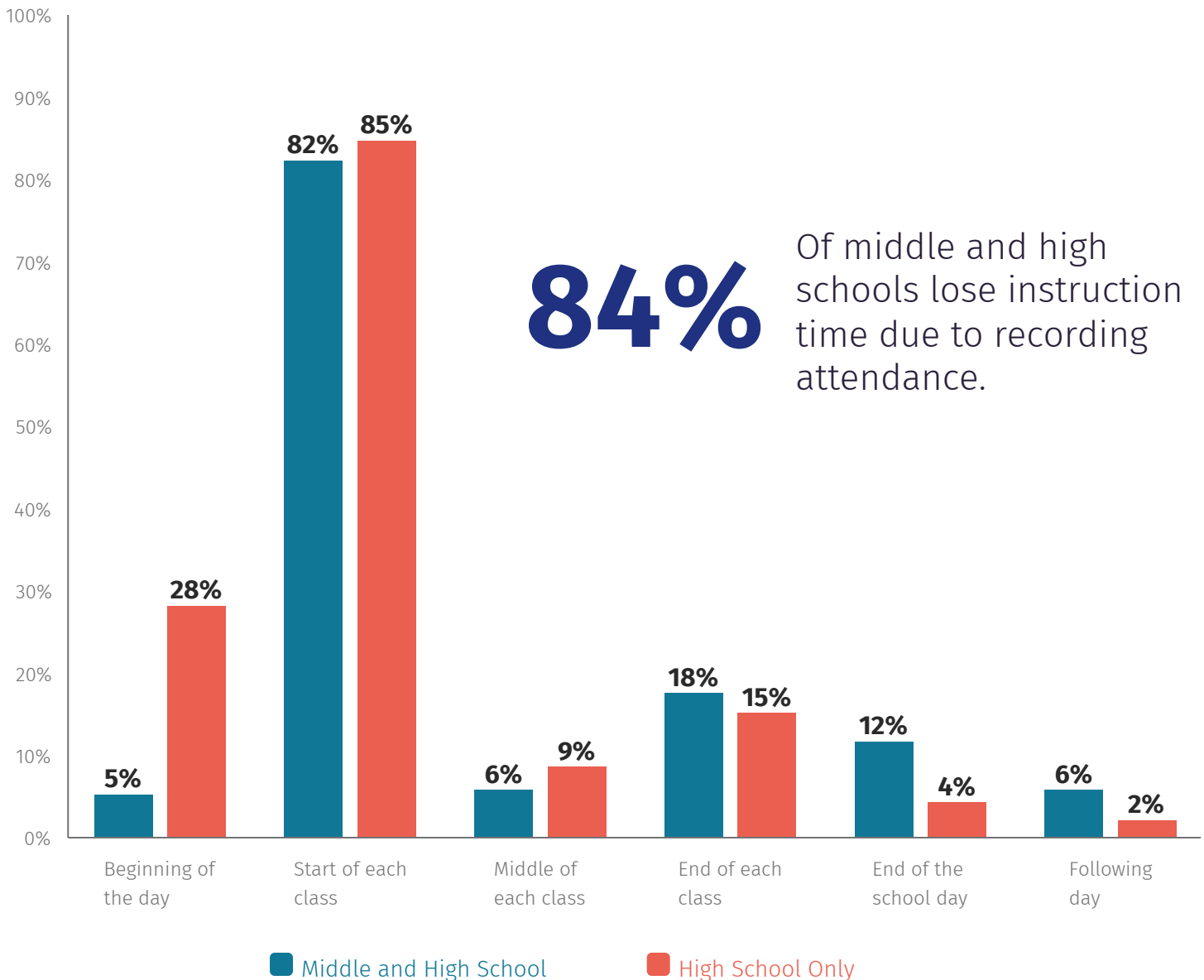


- Teachers record themselves 69%
- Teachers put into a spreadsheet, front office enters attendance 22%
- Students record their attendance via scan or electronic method 7%
- We do not regularly record attendance 2%

Findings

Daily Attendance Procedures

When do middle school and high school teachers record attendance?

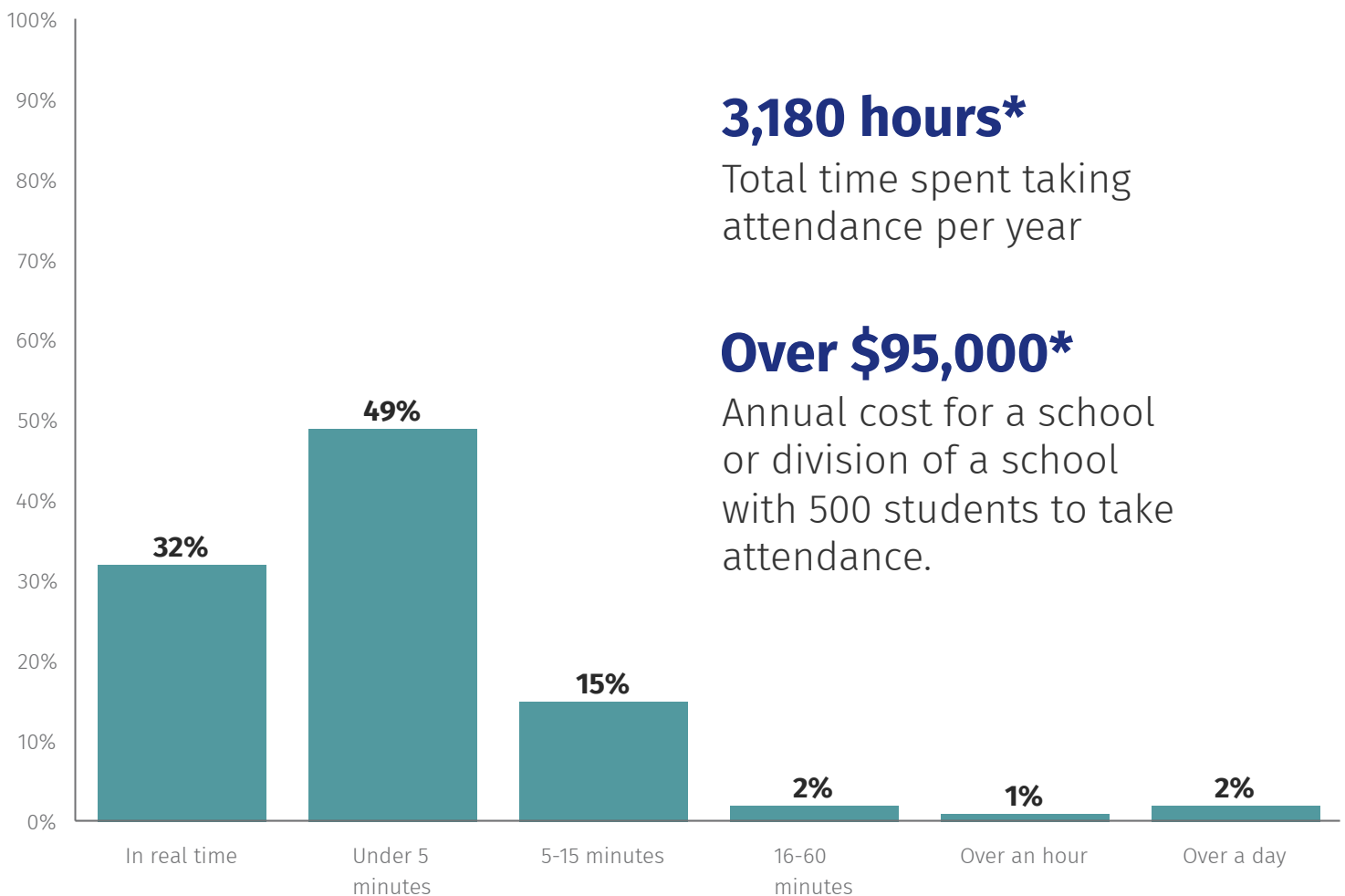


Findings

Daily Attendance Procedures

*Based on 18 student class size, 28 teachers per school, 2 staff, and national average of teacher salary of \$30/hour.

On average, how much time does it take a teacher to record, verify and send attendance back to the front office for one class?



3,180 hours*

Total time spent taking attendance per year

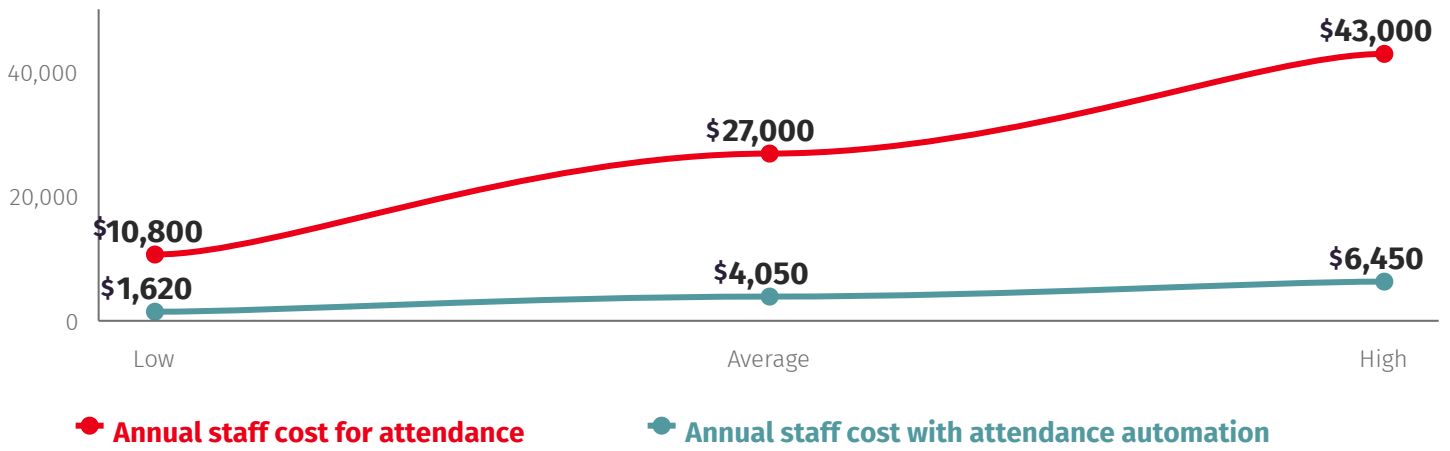
Over \$95,000*

Annual cost for a school or division of a school with 500 students to take attendance.

Findings

Daily Attendance Procedures

Attendance Management Staff Costs

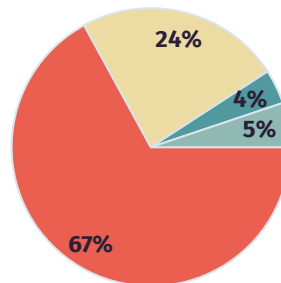


85%

Of staff admin hours are used to capture and manage daily attendance.

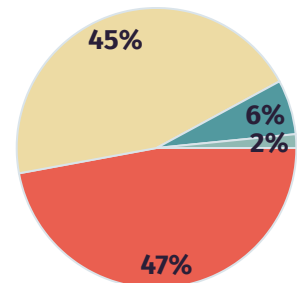
*Based on 18 student class size, 28 teachers per school, 2 staff, and national average teacher salary of \$30/hour.

How many staff members are involved in managing attendance?



- 1-2 staff members 67%
- 3-5 staff members 24%
- 5-7 staff members 4%
- 8+ staff members 5%

How many staff hours per day (per division) are spent ensuring attendance is entered correctly?



- Under 1 hour 47%
- 2-5 hours 45%
- 6-10 hours 6%
- 10+ hours 2%

Findings

Daily Attendance Procedures

1 in

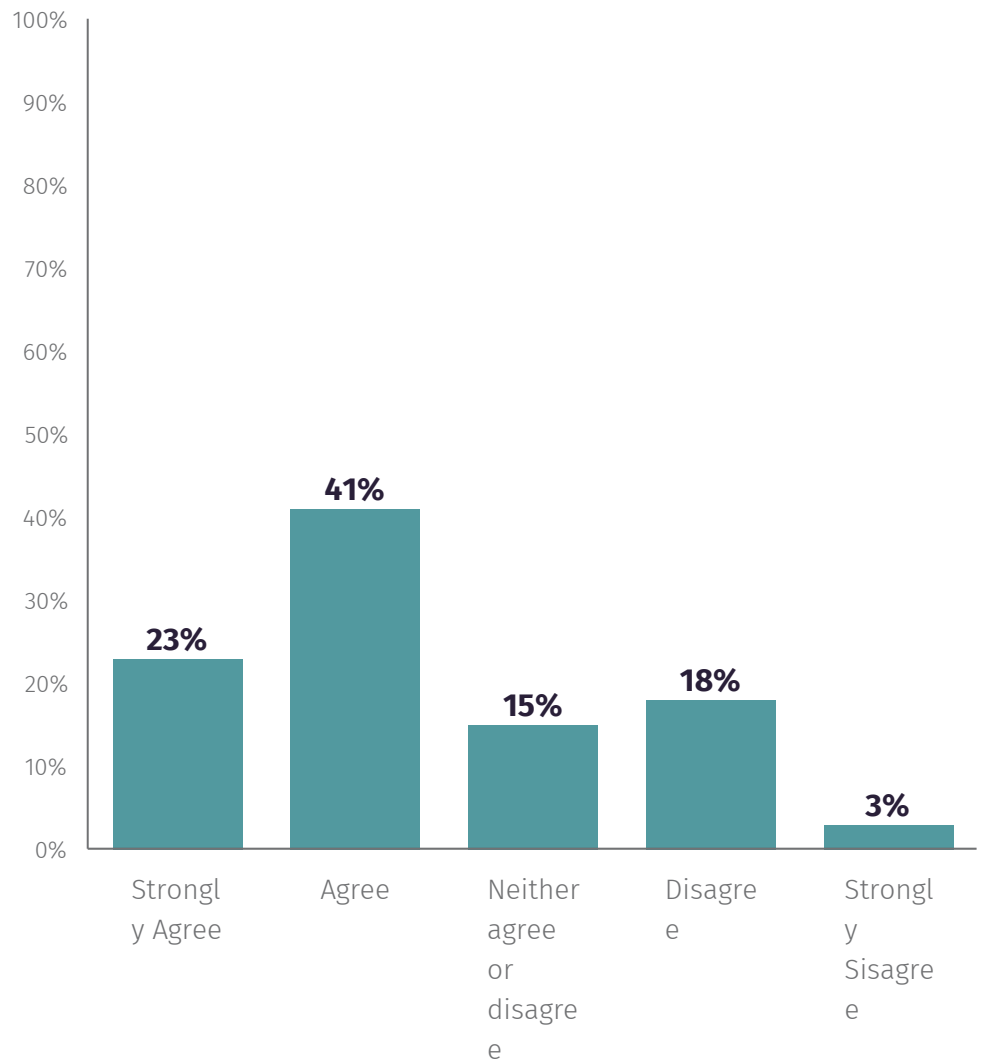
Attendance records are uncertain.

3

11 million

Potential number of students at educational/safety risk every day due to inaccurate attendance reporting.

Attendance is always accurate at our school across each division:



Findings

Daily Attendance Procedures

2 Million

Estimated number of hours spent locating students annually.

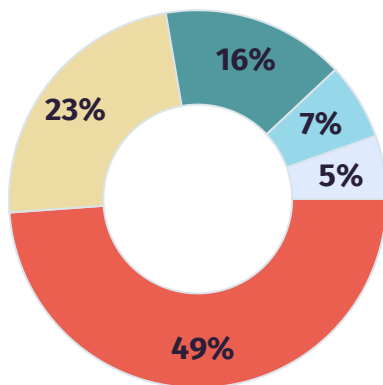
100,000

Estimated school employees per year to locate students.

41%

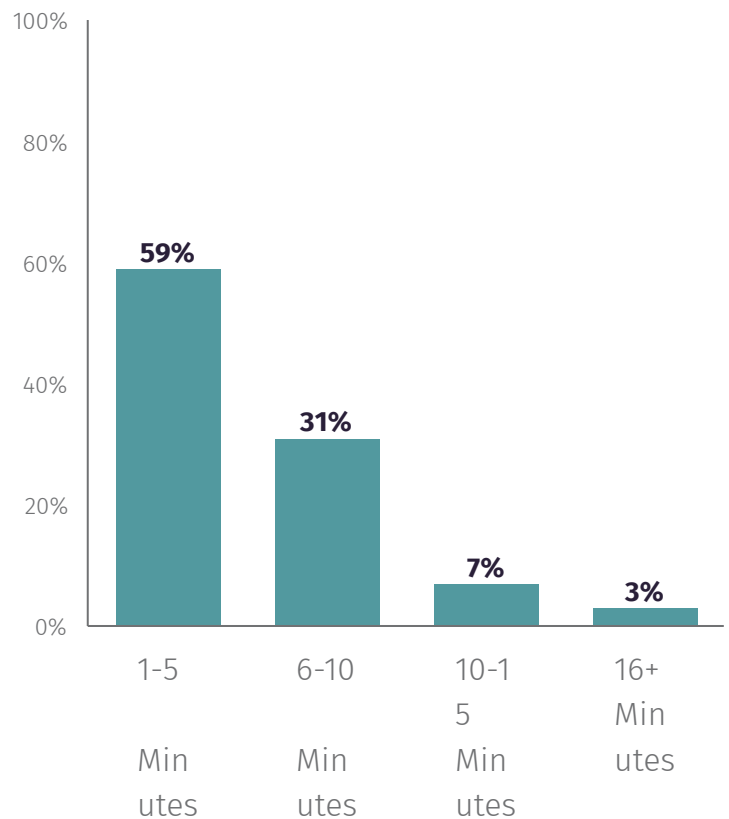
Percentage of schools taking at least 6 minutes to locate a student.

How many times per week is a staff member tasked with locating a student during the day?



- 1-5 times per week 49%
- 6-10 times per week 23%
- 10-20 times per week 16%
- 20-30 times per week 7%
- 30+ times per week 5%

A student isn't in their scheduled class right now, on average how long does it take to locate them?



Findings

Daily Attendance Procedures

85%

Of schools rely on inaccurate SIS/LMS attendance data to locate students in real time.

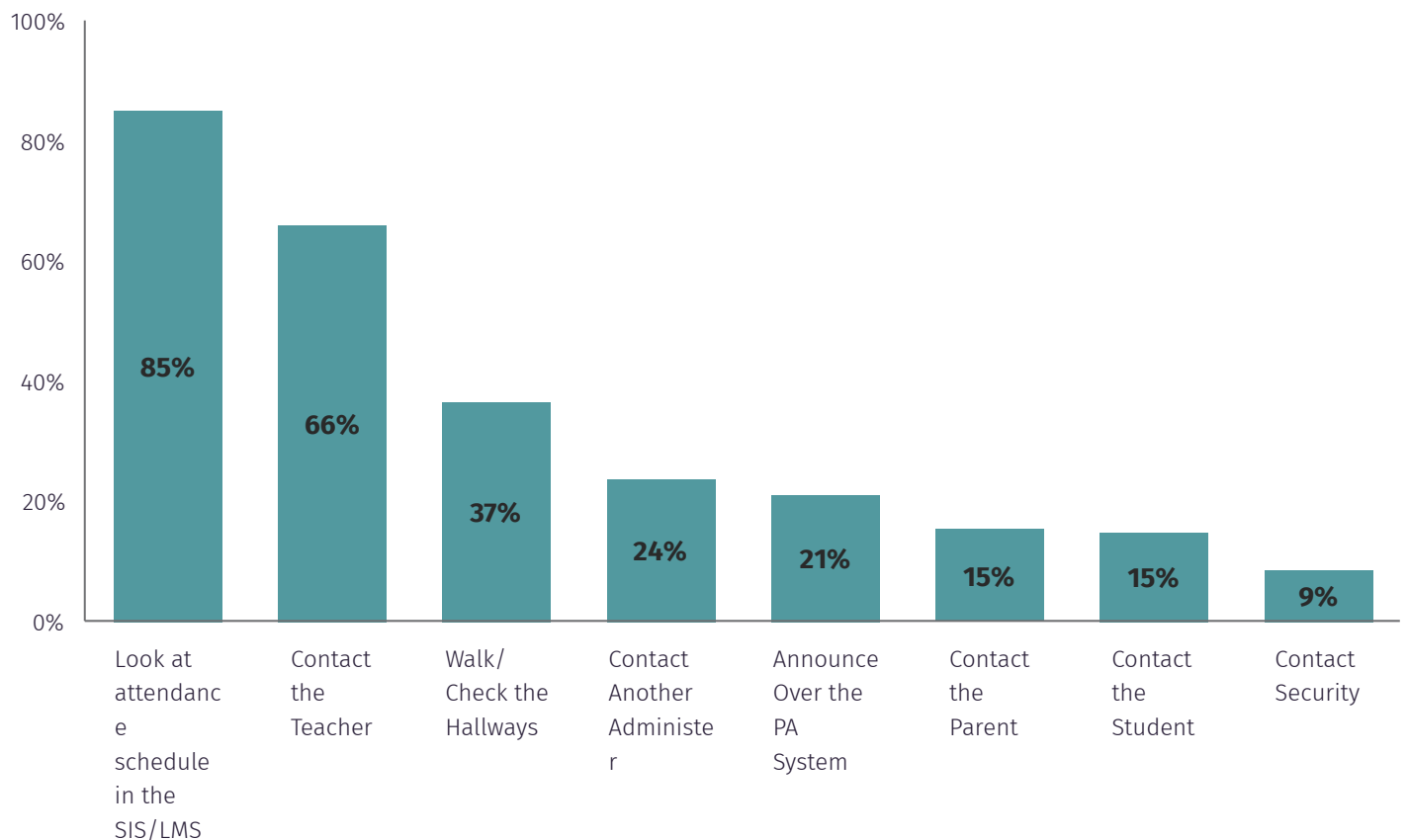
87%

Of teachers are interrupted during teaching time.

37%

Of schools resort to walking hallways to locate a student.

How do you locate a student during the day today?



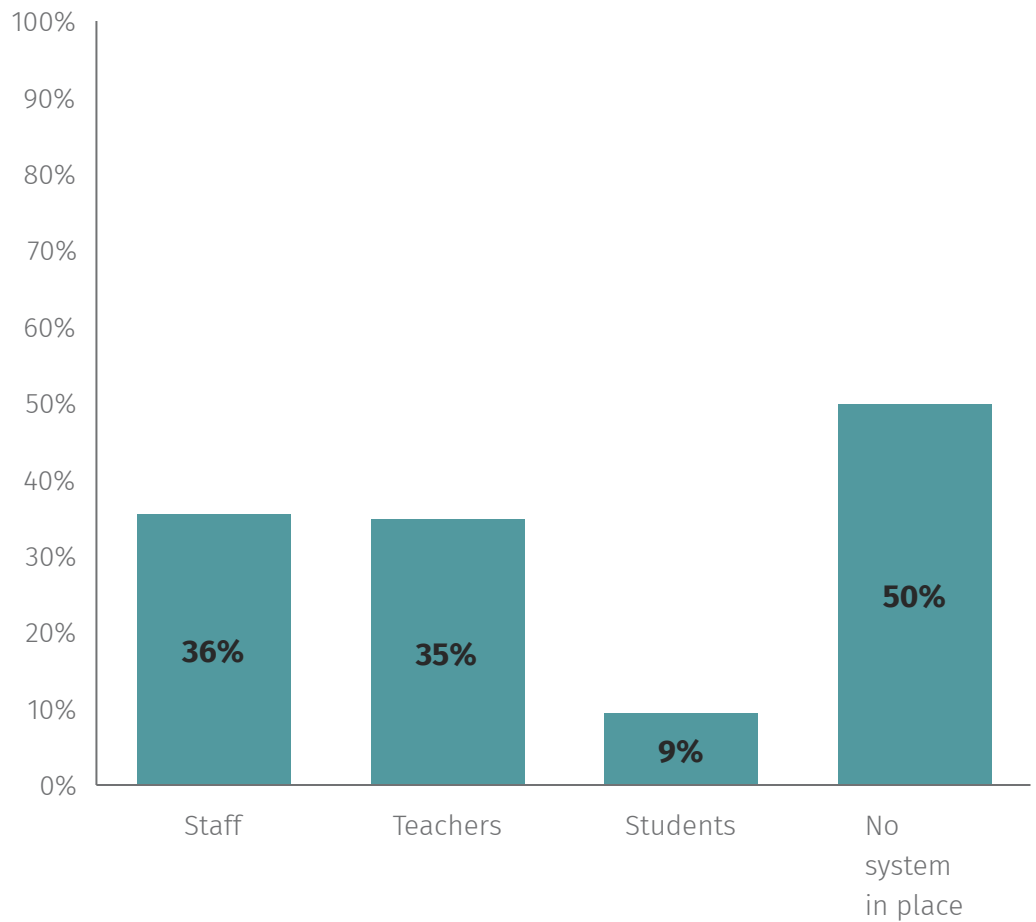
Findings

Daily Attendance Procedures

+50%

Of schools have no system in place to notify staff or students when they are out of compliance with attendance.

Do you have a system that notifies the following individuals when students are out of compliance?



Drill & Emergency Management

69%

Of schools rely on SIS/LMS attendance data to locate students during lockdown drills.

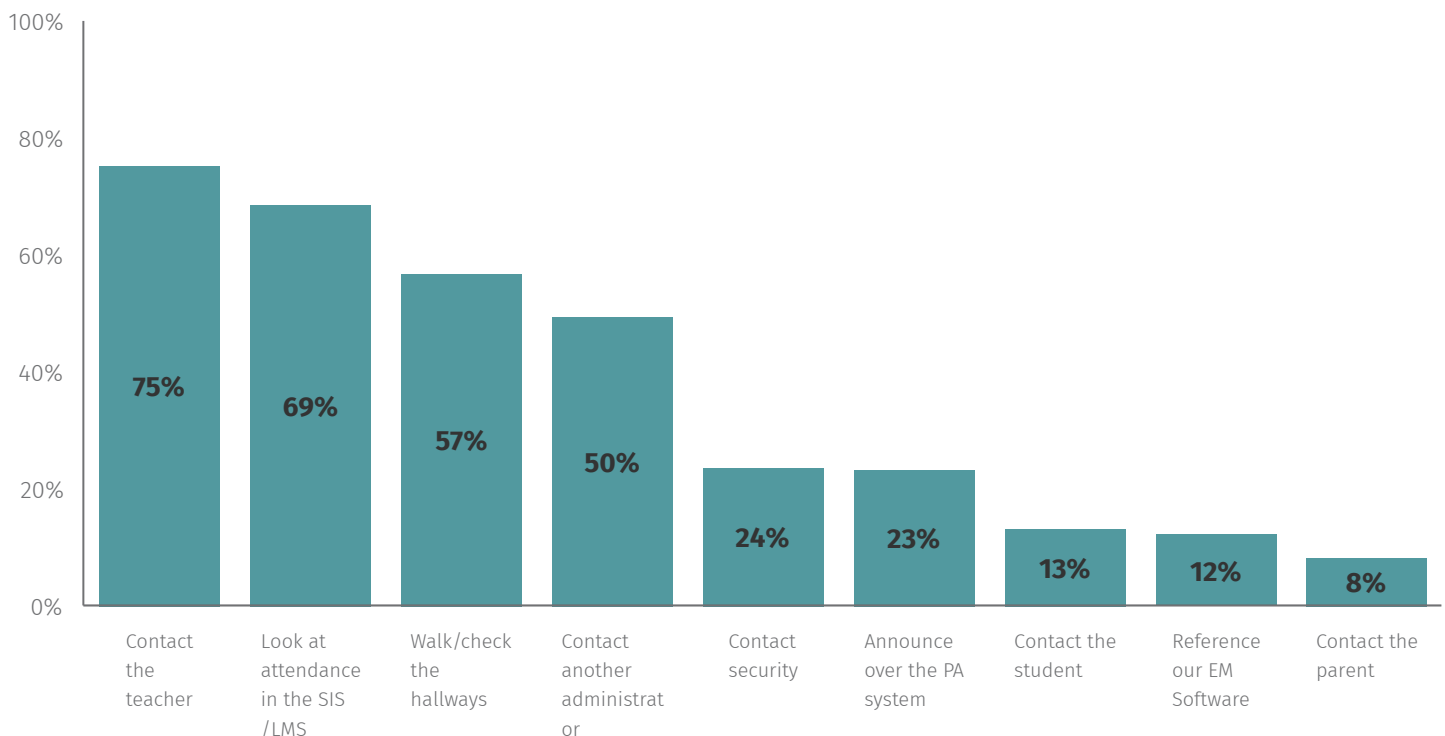
59%

Percentage of schools that need to look in more than one location to missing people during a lockdown drill.

12%

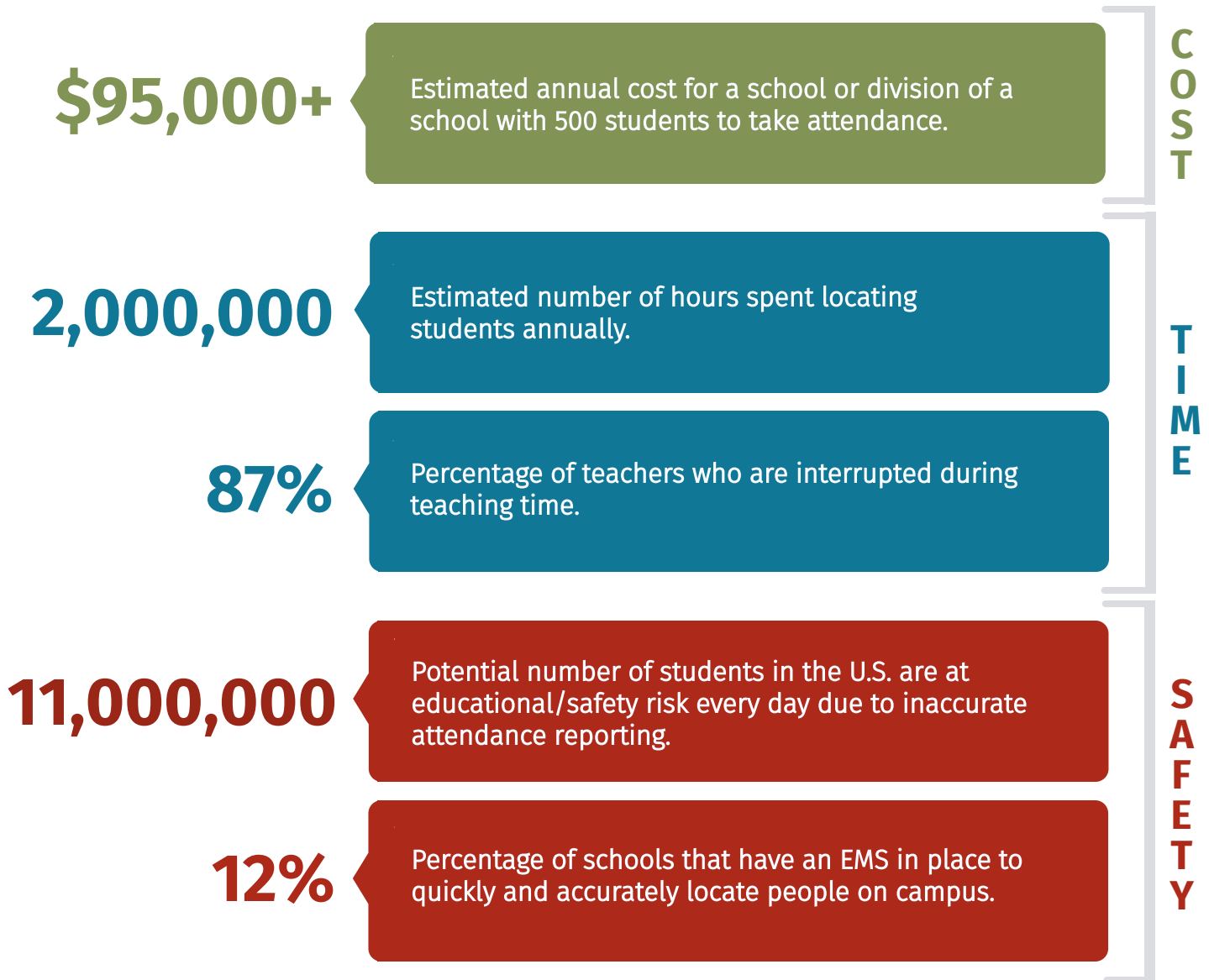
Of schools with an EMS in place to quickly and accurately locate people on campus.

How do you locate a missing student, staff or faculty member during a lockdown drill?



Key Findings

The evidence is clear that attendance, one of the most critical and required processes on K-12 campuses, has had significant gaps for years, and has been exacerbated by the recent pandemic. Here are the key takeaways from our recent survey that highlight the impact on safety, time, and cost on K-12 campuses.



External References

How artificial intelligence will impact K-12 teachers

2020 | English | J. Bryant, C. Heitz, S. Sanghvi, D. Wagle | McKinsey & Company

Taking Attendance - Must We?

2021 | English | Rita-Marie Conrad, PhD | Berkeley Center for Teaching & Learning

The Challenge of Taking Attendance in Remote Learning

2020 | English | P. Jordan, H.N. Chang | FutureEd