

The UNRWA Global School Health Policies and Practices Survey (G-SHPPS) was completed by 541 schools from March to August 2023. The school response rate was 76%. The results are representative of all UNRWA schools. Overall, 37% of schools enrolled only male students and 29% enrolled only female students. The remaining schools enrolled both male and female students. Forty-two per cent were primary schools, 38% were secondary schools and 18% were combination primary and secondary schools. In addition, 30% were rural schools and 70% were urban schools.

	%	95% CI
<b>SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES</b>		
Percent of schools that regularly provide health services to students, either on school premises only, at a separate facility through a formal agreement with the school, or both	84.8	(82.7-86.8)
<i>School Health Workers (among schools regularly providing health services)</i>		
Percent of schools in which nurses and at least one other type of health worker provide health services to students	64.4	(61.5-67.4)
Percent of schools in which psychologists, counsellors, or social workers provide health services to students	90.1	(87.8-92.4)
Percent of schools that have a health worker available to students two or more days per week on average	26.9	(24.0-29.8)
<i>Health Services for Students (among schools regularly providing health services)</i>		
As part of the health services offered to students, the percent of schools that routinely provide		
▪ administration of recommended immunizations as a preventive intervention	94.0	(93.2-94.7)
▪ nutrition screenings (such as for anaemia, malnutrition, and obesity) for at least most students	33.8	(30.6-36.9)
▪ health promotion activities focused on reduced consumption of sugar and sugar-sweetened beverages	77.2	(74.5-79.8)
▪ health promotion activities focused on increased physical activity and limited sedentary behavior	83.3	(81.1-85.5)
As part of the health services offered to students which may include a clinical assessment and subsequent care and support or referral to another facility for care, the percent of schools that routinely provide		
▪ counselling to prevent violence (including intimate partner violence, sexual violence, gender-based violence, bullying, and gang violence)	89.1	(87.0-91.1)
▪ counselling on tobacco, alcohol, and other substance use	59.0	(55.8-62.1)
<b>SCHOOL PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT</b>		
<i>Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene</i>		
Percent of schools that have soap and water available at handwashing facilities for students	95.0	(94.4-95.5)
Percent of schools that have drinking water protected from outside contamination available for students	88.6	(87.4-89.8)
Percent of schools in which students have access to improved sanitation facilities that are single sex, functional, and private	92.8	(91.3-94.4)
<i>Injury Prevention and Safety</i>		
Percent of schools that routinely inspect playground equipment, sports facilities, fire extinguishers or other equipment to extinguish a fire, school structures and buildings, school grounds, and the water source for safety issues and hazards	85.2	(83.1-87.4)
<b>FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES</b>		
Percent of schools that provide food and nutrition services to students	29.5	(26.8-32.3)

	%	95% CI
<i>Food Preparation (among schools providing food and nutrition services)</i>		
Percent of schools with a policy describing how food served as part of the food and nutrition services should be prepared to maximize its nutritional quality	58.8	(52.9-64.7)
<i>Other Foods and Beverages Available at School</i>		
Percent of schools in which students may purchase foods or beverages from a vending machine, school store, canteen, or snack bar on school premises	82.3	(80.1-84.4)
Among schools in which students may purchase foods or beverages, the percent of schools which have a policy banning the sale of sugar-sweetened beverages to students	66.0	(62.9-69.0)
<i>Food and Nutrition Services Environment</i>		
Percent of schools with a policy prohibiting advertisements or promotions, including sponsorships, for candy, sugar-sweetened beverages, or other unhealthy foods and beverages on school premises	88.3	(86.1-90.5)
<b>HEALTH EDUCATION</b>		
Percent of schools that teach health education	83.5	(81.5-85.6)
Among schools teaching health education, the percent of schools in which a health education teacher or specialist provides most of the health education instruction in the school	81.5	(78.9-84.0)
<i>Content of Health Education (among schools teaching health education)</i>		
Percent of schools that teach students about:		
▪ coping or stress management skills to help them avoid or reduce health risks	83.7	(81.5-85.9)
▪ physical activity and fitness	92.1	(91.0-93.1)
▪ nutrition and dietary behaviour	85.9	(84.1-87.6)
▪ sexual and reproductive health	41.8	(38.9-44.8)
▪ road safety	89.7	(88.3-91.0)
▪ violence and bullying prevention	99.0	(98.7-99.3)
▪ emotional and mental health	82.7	(80.8-84.7)
▪ tobacco and nicotine use prevention	68.2	(66.2-70.3)
▪ alcohol use prevention	51.3	(48.4-54.2)
▪ illicit drug use prevention	57.6	(54.9-60.3)
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>		
Percent of schools that teach physical education	69.1	(66.4-71.7)
Among schools teaching physical education, the percent of schools in which a physical education teacher or specialist provides most of the physical education instruction	75.0	(72.2-77.9)
<i>Content of Physical Education (among schools teaching physical education)</i>		
Percent of schools that teach students about:		
▪ movement concepts and skills	84.7	(83.1-86.2)
▪ the value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and/or social interaction	87.4	(85.5-89.2)

	%	95% CI
<i>Facilities and Equipment (among schools teaching physical education)</i>		
Percent of schools that have a safe and clean indoor space and outdoor space for physical education class	64.1	(60.8-67.3)
<i>Physical Activity or Recreation Clubs</i>		
Percent of schools that regularly provide recess or other physical activity breaks to students during the school day	78.8	(76.2-81.4)
<b>SCHOOL GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP</b>		
<i>School Health Councils, Committees, or Teams</i>		
Percent of schools that have an official council, committee, or team responsible for implementing health promoting school policies, programs, and activities	88.4	(86.3-90.5)
Among schools with an official council, committee, or team responsible for implementing health promoting school policies, programs, and activities, the percent of schools in which this group:		
▪ formally includes student representatives	96.4	(95.5-97.3)
▪ identifies student health needs based on a review of relevant data	95.7	(94.8-96.6)
<b>SCHOOL POLICIES AND RESOURCES</b>		
Percent of schools with a school policy that provides a specific plan or guidance for promoting overall student health	92.6	(90.9-94.3)
Percent of schools that regularly monitor, evaluate, or assess the quality of their health promoting policies, programs, or activities	91.8	(90.7-92.8)
Percent of schools with a policy specifically about becoming or continuing to be a health promoting school	88.3	(87.2-89.5)
<i>Bullying and Violence Prevention</i>		
Percent of schools with a policy specifically prohibiting bullying and fighting among students and corporal punishment and physical, emotional, or sexual abuse of students by teachers or other school staff	96.5	(95.4-97.7)
<i>Tobacco Use Prevention</i>		
Percent of schools with a policy prohibiting use of at least some tobacco or nicotine products among students, teachers and other school staff, and visitors on school premises	82.5	(80.2-84.7)
<i>Alcohol Use Prevention</i>		
Percent of schools with a policy prohibiting use of alcohol among students, teachers and other school staff, and visitors on school premises	80.6	(78.2-83.0)
<i>Illicit Drug Use Prevention</i>		
Percent of schools with a policy prohibiting use of illicit drugs among students, teachers and other school staff, and visitors on school premises	82.6	(80.8-84.5)
<i>Crisis Preparedness and Emergency Response</i>		
Percent of schools with a policy on crisis preparedness, response, and recovery from a natural disaster, conflict, pandemic, or other emergency situation	97.0	(96.4-97.6)

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