

School safety and security

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) collaborate on the "[Report on Indicators of School Crime and Safety](#)," – a comprehensive annual publication. Let's take a look at some of their findings, keeping in mind that students might have spent less time at school in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.

Between 2009 and 2020, the rate of nonfatal criminal victimization decreased from 51 to 11 victimizations per 1,000 students for 12–18 years old students.

In 2020, students aged 12–18 experienced 285,400 victimizations at school – in every 1000 students, 11 were victimized.

About 939,000 violent and 487,000 nonviolent incidents occurred in U.S. public schools during the 2019–20 school year. 70% of schools reported having at least one violent incident, and 62% reported having at least one nonviolent one.

In 2020–21, there were 93 school shootings with casualties, the highest number since 2000–01.

A total of 27,300 criminal incidents against persons and property on campuses of postsecondary institutions were reported to police and security agencies in 2019.

During the 2019 school year, about 22% of students ages 12–18 reported being bullied at school.

During the abovementioned school year, ≈77% of public schools recorded one or more incidents of crime, amounting to a total of 1.4 million incidents.

The percentage of grades 9–12 students who reported having been in a physical fight on school property during the previous year was lower in 2019 than in 2009 (8% vs. 11%).

Almost 3% of students in grades 9–12 reported carrying a weapon on school property at least one day during the previous 30 days in 2019. In comparison, 7.4% reported being threatened or injured with a weapon on school property at least one time during the last year.

21.8% of students in grades 9–12 reported that illegal drugs were made available on school property during the previous 12 months.

During the 2019 school year, 4.8% of 12–18-year-old students reported being afraid of attack or harm at school, compared to 2.7% away from school. 5% of students reported avoiding one or more places at school.

In the school year 2015–16, 9.8% of public school teachers reported they were threatened with injury, while 5.7% reported they were physically attacked by a student from their school during the previous year.

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45 Main Street,
11201 Brooklyn
USA

sales@getkisi.com
getkisi.com

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