

Mott Poll Questions



School Attendance

The following questions were answered by parents with children age 11-18 years old attending junior high or high school.

Q1. For the 2023-24 school year, how many days has your [x]-year-old child been absent? (include full days; absent for any reason)

1. 0
2. 1
3. 2-3
4. 4-5
5. 6-9
6. 10 or more

Q2. When it's unclear whether your [x]-year-old child is sick enough to miss school, what are you most likely to do?

1. Send your child to school and hope for the best
2. Keep your child home just to be safe
3. Call a healthcare provider for advice
4. Let your child decide

Q3. What else do you take into account in deciding whether to send your [x]-year-old child to school when they may be sick? *Select all that apply.*

1. How child is behaving
2. Risks to other kids/teachers (e.g., classmate with cancer)
3. If child has a test or presentation
4. If child has an after-school activity they want to attend
5. If there is a school nurse onsite that day
6. If a parent can stay home with the sick child
7. If child needs a "mental health day"
8. If child thinks they can make it through the day
9. None of the above

Q4. How much does your [x]-year-old child worry about a negative impact on grades if they are absent from school?

1. Very much
2. Some
3. Not at all
4. Unsure

Q5. When your [x]-year-old child misses school, is the amount and timeframe for make-up work reasonable?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure

Q6. How much does your [x]-year-old child worry about missing friends or school activities if they are absent?

1. Very much
2. Some
3. Not at all
4. Unsure

Q7. Does your [x]-year-old child's school have an attendance policy?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure

[If Q7 = yes]

Q8. What happens if your [x]-year-old child misses a certain number of days? *Select all that apply.*

1. Note/call home to parents
2. Parent or child have to talk with the principal/school staff
3. Child can get marked down on grades
4. Child not allowed to participate in certain activities
5. Have to get a doctor's note
6. Possibility of truancy charge/violation
7. Nothing – no consequences
8. Not sure

[If Q7 = yes]

Q9. How much do you agree with the following?

	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
a. The attendance policy at my [x]-year-old child's school encourages parents to send children to school when they are sick.			
b. The attendance policy makes it difficult for children with a medical condition.			
c. The attendance policy is needed to make sure children go to school.			

All information is the sole property of the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health. It can only be used if there is an acknowledgment that "The information came from, is copyright by and is owned by and belongs to the Regents of the University of Michigan and their C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health. It cannot be republished or used in any format without prior written permission from the University."



C.S. Mott Children's Hospital National Poll on Children's Health

Co-Director: Sarah J. Clark, MPH
Co-Director: Susan J. Woolford, MD, MPH
Design Lead: Sara L. Schultz, MPS
Data Analyst: Acham Gebremariam, MS
Contributor: Gary L. Freed, MD, MPH
Poll Manager: Dianne C. Singer, MPH
Contact: <https://MottPoll.org>
X (Formerly known as Twitter): @CSMottPoll