



# Creating Safe Schools

## EXAMINING STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF THEIR PHYSICAL SAFETY AT SCHOOL

Safety is essential to student well-being and success. Students who feel unsafe at school—both physically and psychologically—cannot learn to their fullest potential. A new study based on survey data from a group of ACT-tested 10th- through 12th-grade students showed that:

### Although students reported feeling...

1. Safe traveling between home and school **97%**
2. Safe at school **91%**
3. Welcome at school **90%**

Students also reported that concerns about school safety negatively impact their ability to learn

**23%**



**84%**

reported cameras inside their school



**71%**

reported cameras outside their school



**44%**

reported their school provides mental health services for students who need them



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reported their school is locked during school hours, has security staff, or has explained an emergency plan

Of all the questions students were asked, providing/increasing mental health services (38%) for students who need them was most commonly noted as something that would increase feelings of safety. Other frequent responses were to hire/increase security staff (36%) and for the school to develop/clarify an emergency plan (30%).