



Department of
Education

Coordinated
School Health

Tennessee Department of Education
Office of Coordinated School Health
Annual School Health Services Report
2017-18 School Year

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The office of coordinated school health surveys public and private school systems annually to monitor compliance with state school health laws and to assess the scope of school health services provided to Tennessee public school students as mandated in T.C.A § 49-50-1602. One hundred and forty-two (142) local education agencies (LEAs) returned their survey for inclusion in this report. Due to the limited response rate of private schools, the data for those schools are not represented in this report.

Public Schools Data

Wellness issues of students are supervised by licensed school nurses with the goal of appraising, protecting, and promoting health needs. School nurses aim to increase student time in the classroom and decrease the time out of school. Services provided by the school nurse include, but are not limited to, assessment, planning, coordination, and direct care to all students including those with special needs or conditions. Also, the school nurse has the responsibility of collaborating with and/or referring students to community health care professionals to:

- ensure early intervention for health care needs;
- ensure access and referral to primary care services;
- foster appropriate use of primary health care services;
- prevent and control communicable diseases and other health problems;
- provide emergency care for students and staff illness and injury;
- provide daily and continuous services for children with special health care needs;
- promote and provide optimum sanitary conditions for a safe school facility and school environment; and
- provide educational and counseling opportunities for promoting and maintaining individual, family, and community health.

In addition, many services are provided by licensed and qualified professionals such as physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, dentists, health educators, registered dietitians, school counselors, and allied health professionals (e.g., speech therapists, occupational therapists, and physical therapists).

2017-18 School Health Services Highlights

Student Diagnoses

During the 2017-18 school year, **233,671** students in Tennessee public schools had a chronic illness or disability diagnosis reported by parent/guardian and/or by a medical provider. This represents **24 percent** of all Tennessee public school students statewide.

The most common chronic illnesses or disability diagnoses of the public schools were:

- Asthma (**28 percent**)
- ADHD/ADD (**24 percent**)
- Severe allergies (**14 percent**)

Number of Public School Students and Percent of Total by Chronic Illness or Disability Diagnosis 2017-18

Chronic Illness or Disability Diagnosis	Number of Students 2017-18	Percent of Total
Asthma	64,839	28%
ADHD/ADD	55,775	24%
Severe Allergy	32,261	14%
Intellectual Disability	15,553	7%
Other (Cerebral Palsy, Sickle Cell, Cystic Fibrosis)	26,555	11%
Mental Health	16,191	7%
Autism	10,967	5%
Seizure Disorder	7,943	3%
Diabetes	3,587	2%
Total	233,671	101%

Number and Percent Change of Public School Students by Selected Chronic Illness or Disability Diagnosis between 2004-05 and 2017-18

Chronic Illness or Disability Diagnosis	Number of Students 2004-05	Number of Students 2017-18	Percent Change
ADHD/ADD	19,939	55,775	180%
Asthma	38,676	64,839	68%
Diabetes	2,388	3,587	50%
Other (Cerebral Palsy, Sickle Cell, Cystic Fibrosis, Spinal Bifida, etc.)	14,536	26,555	83%
Total	75,539	150,756	100%

The total number of students with selected chronic illnesses or disability diagnoses increased by **100 percent** between 2004-05 and 2017-18.

Asthma

Asthma continues to be the number one chronic illness causing student absenteeism. A continuing concern based on health services trend data is the issue of ensuring that students with asthma are receiving the support they need to effectively manage their medical condition, so students stay safe and can attend school ready to learn. Specific areas of concern include the availability of school nurses to respond to an emergency involving an asthmatic student, the development of individual and school-level action plans for all diagnosed students, and the provision of asthma education to students. The following are data to support this concern:

- During the 2017-18 school year, there were **64,839** students in Tennessee public schools students with an asthma diagnosis.
- Students diagnosed with asthma represent the most common type of chronic illness/disability among Tennessee students (**28 percent of all diagnoses**).
- Of the **64,839** public school students identified as having asthma, only

28,697 students or **44 percent** of all students identified as having asthma were provided an individualized action treatment plan.

- Only **120** public school systems/special schools (**85 percent**) have reported that they have developed a school-wide asthma action plan for all schools.
- During the 2017-18 school year, **43,126** teachers, coaches, and other school personnel were trained in asthma education using a formal curriculum. This represents a **12 percent increase** from the previous school year.
- An additional **22,988** asthmatic public school students received asthma education training in Tennessee public schools. However, this represents only **35 percent** of all students diagnosed with asthma who received asthma education training.
- School health services directors were asked if a nurse was present all day in schools where a student might need **asthma** medication administered during an emergency situation. **57 percent** (81 school systems/special schools) indicated “yes,” while **43 percent** (61 school systems/special schools) reported “no.”
- Also, **19,849** public school students with asthma have a prescribed medication available at school.

Seizure Disorders

The amount of public school students with the diagnosis of seizures continues to rise as well as the number of students that have the emergency medication Diastat[®] available at school. Education and training of non-medical staff members for administering Diastat[®] has increased.

- There were **7,943** public school students reported with a seizure disorder in 2017-18 but only **2,285** of those students had Diastat[®] available for use at school compared to **835** students in 2008-09. This represents a dramatic increase over the past eight years.
- A total of **169** doses of Diastat[®] were administered to students in public school systems during the 2017-18 school year.
- School health services supervisors in **120** LEAs (**85 percent**) reported having a district Diastat[®] policy in place, while **22** LEAs (**15 percent**) reported they did not have a district Diastat[®] policy.
- School districts report that **109** school systems (**77 percent**) have a policy allowing the nurse to administer the first dose of Diastat[®] at school, **12** LEAs did not allow nurses to administer the first dose of Diastat[®] at school (**8 percent**), and **21** LEAs did not answer the question (**15 percent**).
- There were **468 students** with an order to administer Diastat[®] during the 2017-18 school year who did not have a full-time nurse assigned to the school

compared to **172** students in 2008-09. In addition, **566** nurses were assigned to a school to serve as a full-time nurse for the student with an order to administer Diastat®.

- During the 2017-18 school year, **169** students received Diastat® more than once per year compared to **24** students in 2008-09.
- **139** out of **142** school systems/special schools called 911 immediately as the standard protocol when Diastat® was administered compared to **117** school systems in 2008-09. Diastat® was administered **248** times at school by a nurse, **94** times by a trained volunteer, and **140** times by parents or guardians during the 2017-18 school year.
- Also, **136** school systems (**96 percent**) reported that if a student who has Diastat® at school has a seizure and no nurse is available to administer the medication, then a 911 call serves as standard protocol. **Six** LEAs answered that this was **not** their standard protocol.
- During the 2017-18 school year, **78** LEAs (**55 percent**) had a policy allowing trained volunteers to administer Diastat®, **46** LEAs (**32 percent**) did not have a policy, and **18** LEAs (**13 percent**) did not answer the question.

Seizure Disorders/Diastat Medication 2008-09 and 2017-18

Number of students that had Diastat® available at school 2008-09	Number of students that had Diastat® available at school 2017-18	Percent Change	Number of students that required administration of Diastat® 2008-09	Number of times Diastat® was administered at school 2017-18	Percent Change
835	2285	174%	87	169	94%

In 2017-18, there were **2285** students with a seizure disorder diagnosis with Diastat® available for use at school compared to **835** students in 2008-09. This represents a **174 percent** increase over an eight-year period.

Allergies

There were **32,261** students diagnosed with allergies in Tennessee public schools during the 2017-18 school year. School districts across Tennessee have reported that there is a dramatic increase in the number of students who are diagnosed with severe allergies. Staff members are choosing to obtain education regarding the signs and symptoms of anaphylactic reactions and how to administer the emergency medication, Epinephrine.

Types of Epi-Pen Use	2009-10	2017-18	Percent Change
Number of students who have Epi-Pens® available at schools	6,230	9,305	49%
Number of students who required administration of the Epi-Pen®	95	143	51%
Number of teachers and staff trained to administer an Epi-Pen® if needed	19,240	49,598	158%

Substantial increases have occurred during the past six years regarding the number of students that:

- have Epi-Pens® available at schools (**49 percent increase**)
- require administration of the Epi-Pen® at school (**51 percent increase**)

Additionally, the number of school personnel trained to administer an Epi-Pen® if needed increased by **158 percent**.

Type, Number and Percent of Student Allergies 2017-18

Type of Student Allergies	Number of Students with Allergies	Percent of Total
Environmental	44,979	30%
Other - (Includes allergies to medication)	40,169	27%
Other - Food	18,477	12%
Nuts	16,750	11%
Insects	13,062	9%

Shellfish	5,955	4%
Eggs	3,946	3%
Latex	2,848	2%
Dye	2,315	2%
Total	148,501	100%

The most common types of allergies among Tennessee students were:

- Environmental (**30 percent**)
- “Other” – including medications (**27 percent**)
- “Other” foods (**12 percent**)
- Nuts (**11 percent**)

Type, Number and Percent Change of Student Allergies 2010-11 and 2017-18

Type of Student Allergies	Number of Students with Allergies 2010-11	Number of Students with Allergies 2017-18	Percent Increase
Environmental	26,785	44,979	68%
Other (Including medication allergies)	22,672	40,169	77%
Other - Food	8,938	18,477	60%
Insects	7,737	13,062	69%
Nuts	7,319	16,750	129%
Shellfish	2,254	5,955	164%
Eggs	1,831	3,946	116%
Dye	1,720	2,315	35%
Latex	1,459	2,848	95%

Total	80,715	148,501	84%
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Between the 2010-11 and 2017-18 school years, the number of students identified with allergies increased by **84 percent**. Nut (**129 percent**), shellfish (**164 percent**), and egg (**116 percent**) allergies increased the most between the 2010-11 and 2017-18 school years.

During the 2017-18 school year, **60 percent** of all public school districts/special schools chose to maintain epinephrine auto-injectors in at least two unlocked, secure locations with the intent to be administered to any student believed to be having a life-threatening or anaphylactic reaction.

Diabetes

There were **3,587** students in Tennessee public schools with a diagnosis of diabetes during the 2017-18 school year.

- **2,988** students (**83 percent**) were diagnosed with Type I diabetes.
- **599** students (**17 percent**) were diagnosed with Type II diabetes.

Number of Students Diagnosed with Type I or Type II Diabetes by Grade Level 2017-18

Grade Level	Number of Students Type I Diabetes	Number of Students Type II Diabetes
Pre-school	19	3
Kindergarten	64	2
Grades 1-5	668	54
Grades 6-8	797	181
Grades 9-12	1,440	359
Total	2,988	599

There were **102 out of 142** public school systems that reported that they have a policy that allows trained volunteers to administer Glucagon® (emergency medication for diabetic students that are unconscious due to a low blood glucose level) in schools.

School health services directors were asked if a nurse was present all day in schools where a student might need **Glucagon®** medication administered during an emergency situation. **Sixty-five percent (93** school systems/special schools) indicated “yes,” while **35 percent** (49 school systems/special schools) reported “no.”

Management Tasks for Type I Diabetic Students	Number of Type I Diabetic Students
Number of students who require management tasks by a licensed health care professional (to provide injections)	1,376
Number of students who require assistance by a school staff member (to provide injections)	188
Number of students managing their own injections but a nurse is required to monitor them at least two times per year	464
Number of students who require minimal (at least two times per year) assistance with management of diabetic pumps	450
Number of students who require management of diabetic pumps by a licensed health care professional	662
Number of students who require assistance to manage diabetic pumps by a school staff member	185
Number of students who have Glucagon® ordered as an emergency treatment for low blood glucose	2,483
Number of students with Type I diabetes who have Glucagon® available at school	2,167
Number of schools that have a full-time nurse assigned to the school because of a student(s) with Type I diabetes	360
Number of students with Type I diabetes who require a full-time nurse to be on the premises at all times at that school	850

Management Tasks for Type 2 Diabetic Students 2017-18

Management Tasks for Type 2 Diabetic Students	Number of Type II Diabetic Students
Number of students with Type II diabetes who require management tasks by a licensed health care professional (to provide injections)	110
Number of students with Type II diabetes who only need a nurse to monitor at least two times per year	46
Number of students with Type II diabetes who are managed by injections	142
Number of students with Type II diabetes who require assistance by a school staff member	18

Health Services Provided in Tennessee Schools

The most common types of health services provided to students by a licensed health care provider in Tennessee public schools include:

- care of ill/injured students and staff
- skilled nursing skills to students with health needs in general education
- skilled nursing skills to students with special needs with an IEP
- medication administration to students
- body mass index (BMI) screening
- vision, hearing, blood pressure, scoliosis, and dental screenings

The most common types of health services provided by unlicensed health care providers in Tennessee schools include:

- vision screenings
- hearing screenings
- medication administration
- scoliosis screenings
- dental screenings
- BMI screenings

School Nurses

Tennessee school districts hire nurses to serve the general and special education student populations. During the 2017-18 school year, **1,528** school nurses worked in Tennessee public schools.

- Out of the **1,714** public schools in Tennessee that answered this question on the survey, **58 percent** employed a nurse full time in their school. Of the public school nurses, **44** were master of science nurses (MSNs), **437** were bachelor of science nurses (BSNs), **452** were registered nurses (RNs), and **646** were licensed practical nurses (LPNs).
- Also, **93 percent** of all Tennessee school nurses were hired by the LEA as full-time employees, **four percent** through public health departments, **four percent** on an agency contract, **two percent** through local hospitals, and **<.01 percent** from education service centers.
- School systems reported **10 percent** of all school nurses served only special education students, and **90 percent** served the general student population.
- Public school districts reported that **142 out of 142** school systems met the recommendation contained in the BEP formula for number of nurses per student ratio of 1:3,000. (This calculation does not include nurses who are contracted or hired to provide procedures or treatments only.) All school systems in Tennessee have reported to be in compliance with this law.
- School health services directors were asked if a nurse was present all day in schools where a student might need **asthma** medication administered during an emergency situation. **Fifty-seven percent (81** school systems) indicated "yes," while **43 percent (61** school systems/special schools) reported "no."
- School health services directors were asked if a nurse was present all day in schools where a student might need **Diastat[®]** medication administered during an emergency situation. **Sixty-five percent (92** school systems/special schools) indicated "yes," while **35 percent (50** school districts) reported "no."

Type, Number, and Method of Funding for School Nurses 2017-18

School Nurses	FTEs Employed by School System/Special Schools	FTEs Employed by Health Department	FTEs Employed by Hospital	FTEs Contracted by Agency	FTEs Ed Services Center	Totals
Master of Science (MSNs)						
General Student Population School Nurses	31	3.55	2	5	0	41.55
Special Ed Nurses	2	0	0	0	0	2
Bachelors of Science (BSNs)						
General Student Population School Nurses	371.1	27.43	1	22	0	421.53
Special Ed Nurses	15.5	0	0	.2	0	15.5
Registered Nurse (RNs)						
General Student Population School Nurses	385.25	27.43	1	19	0	432.68
Special Ed Nurses	18	0	1	0	0	19
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPNs)						
General Student Population School Nurses	484.4	6	18	13	6	527.4
Special Ed Nurses	114.25	0	0	4.5	0	118.75
Total	1,421.5	64.41	23	13.5	6	1528.41

**Position of Those Who Provided First Aid at the School in the Absence of the RN
Nurse
2017-18**

Position Title	Total Number of Position used in LEA	Percent of LEAs (142 Reporting)
Secretary	128	90%
Teacher	119	84%
School Health Aide	24	17%
Principal/Assistant Principal	114	80%
LPN	99	70%
Parent Volunteer	7	5%
Other	73	51%

Return to Class

During the 2017-18 school year, there were **4,339,483** student visits to a public school nurse. **Eighty-eight percent** of those visits resulted in a student's ability to return to class instead of being sent home. This is an increase from 86 percent from the 2016-17 school years return to class report data.

During the 2017-18 school year, **2,816** 911 emergency calls were made in Tennessee public schools. Of these calls, **2,259 (80 percent)** were made when a nurse was in the school building, and **557 (20 percent)** were made when a nurse was **not** in the school building.

Emergencies

There were **11,290** public school students received emergency treatment for medical conditions caused by trauma or sudden illness such as broken bones, resuscitation, seizure, and burns during the school year. This represents a **six percent** decrease from the previous school year.

Medications

There were **2,101,157** medication doses administered to students in Tennessee public schools during the 2017-18 school year. Intravenous and insulin doses are not represented in this report due to reporting inconsistencies.

- All medications except those designated by an individual healthcare plan (IHP) must be maintained in a secure location under the supervision of a school nurse and/or other school personnel who have been oriented/trained and assigned to handle medications and record keeping per state guidelines.
- All public school districts reported that medications were locked in a secure storage location.

The majority of the doses (**77 percent**) administered to Tennessee public school students were given by mouth (oral).

Type of Medication Administered 2017-18	Number of Medication Doses Administered Daily	Number of Medication Doses Administered on an as Needed Basis	Total Number	Percent of Total
Oral	1,222,269	399,349	1,621,618	77%
Inhaled	131,481	112,511	241,992	12%
Topical	14,209	126,216	140,422	7%
Ophthalmic and Otic	9,598	14,911	24,509	1%
Parenteral Medications Other than Insulin OR IV	62,937	3,689	66,626	3%
Intranasal	3,180	1,538	4,718	<1%

Parenteral Medication Intravenous and Insulin	Invalid Data	Invalid Data	Invalid Data	n/a
Rectal	4	147	151	<1%
Total	1,444,762	656,395	2,101,157	

Student Health Screenings

Every year, parents of Tennessee public school students are notified by school staff of the availability of free student school health screenings.

Why screen students for health concerns?

- We know that healthy children learn better. For example, if a child cannot hear very well it will be difficult for him/her to concentrate on school work. Likewise, if a student cannot see the board where the teacher writes lesson notes, then it will be difficult for him/her to comprehend a classroom lesson.
- When a health concern is identified early through a regular school health screening, steps can be taken to access needed health care so that health and academic issues do not develop into serious problems.
- All parents are given the opportunity to exclude their child from screenings if they wish to not take advantage of this service.
- According to the *Tennessee School Health Screening Guidelines*, students in grades pre-K, K, 2, 4, 6, and 8 are screened annually for vision and hearing.
- Students in grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8, and one year of high school (usually Lifetime Wellness class) are screened annually for blood pressure and body mass index (BMI) in addition to vision and hearing.
- School staff members are encouraged to screen students for oral health problems and screen sixth grade students for scoliosis.
- There were **54,464** public school students that received dental screenings at their school.
- There were **14,880** public school students that received scoliosis screenings.

***Type, Number and Percent of Total Number of Screenings
2017-18***

Type of Health Screening	Number of Students Screened	Percent of Total Number School Health Screenings
Vision	334,008	24%
Hearing	325,797	23%
Body Mass Index (BMI)	352,135	25%
Blood Pressure	319,706	23%
Dental	54,464	4%
Scoliosis	14,880	1%
Total	1,400,900	100%

During the 2017-18 school year, **128,878** student referrals were made to a health care provider as a result of a public school health screening. Referral suggestions are provided to the parent/guardians.

During the 2017-18 school year, **9 percent** of students who participated in school health screenings received a referral to a healthcare provider. Of those students who were referred to a healthcare provider, **13 percent** were confirmed by a public school staff member that the student actually visited their healthcare provider.

Type, Number and Percent of Students Referred to a Health Care Provider as a Result of School Health Screening Programs 2017-18

Type of Health Screening	Number of Referral(s) made to a Healthcare Provider	Percent of Total
Body Mass Index	49,813	39%
Vision	37,674	30%
Dental	11,000	9%
Blood Pressure	20,661	16%
Hearing	8,921	7%
Scoliosis	809	<1%
Total	128,878	100%

***Type and Number of Students Screened, Referred to a Healthcare Provider and Confirmed Follow-ups by School Staff As a Result of School Health Screening Programs
2017-18 Public Schools***

Type of Health Screening	Number of Students Screened	Number of Students Referred to Healthcare Provider	Number of Confirmed Referral Follow-ups by School Staff
Vision	334,008	37,674	7,984
Hearing	325,797	8,921	1,273
Body Mass Index (BMI)	352,135	49,813	1,119
Blood Pressure	319,706	20,661	2,356
Dental	54,464	11,000	4,324
Scoliosis	14,880	809	161
Total	1,400,990	128,878	17,217

Individual Health Care Plans (T.C.A. § 49-50-1602)

During the 2017-18 school year, **133** school districts (**94 percent**) reported that all students with chronic or long-term illnesses had an individual health care plan (IHP) in place, whereas **9** school districts (**six percent**) reported they had not provided plans for all applicable students.

Health Care Procedures Performed at School

During 2017-18, **10,850** public school students received a procedure on a daily or routine basis at school from a licensed health care professional. The most frequent procedures performed by licensed health care professionals were:

- Blood glucose monitoring (**18 percent**)
- Carbohydrate counting (**18 percent**)
- “Other” procedures (**18 percent**)
- Diabetes injections (**14 percent**)

During 2017-18, **4,162** students performed their own procedure on a daily or routine basis at school without assistance.

Frequent procedures performed by students without any assistance were:

- Blood glucose monitoring (**26 percent**)
- Carb counting (**21 percent**)
- Insulin injections (**14 percent**)
- Insulin pump management (**10 percent**)

During 2017-18, **350** students received a procedure on a daily or routine basis at school from an unlicensed health care professional.

The most frequent procedures performed by unlicensed health care professionals were:

- Blood glucose monitoring (**50 percent**)
- Carb counting (**24 percent**)
- Urine ketone testing (**14 percent**)

Type, Number, and Percent of Public School Students Receiving a Health Care Procedure on a Daily or Routine Basis at School from a Licensed Health Care Professional 2017-18

Procedure Performed by Licensed Health Care Professional	Number of Students Receiving Procedure on a Daily or Routine Basis at School from Licensed Health Care Professional	Percent of Total
Other	1948	18%
Blood Glucose Monitoring	1981	18%
Carb Counting	1978	18%
Insulin Injections	1563	14%
Urine Ketone Testing	1063	10%

Nebulizer Treatment	886	8%
Insulin Pump	603	6%
Gastric Tube Feeding	632	6%
Clean Intermittent Catheterization	196	2%
Total	10,850	100%

Type, Number, and Percent Change of Public School Students Receiving a Health Care Procedure on a Daily or Routine Basis at School from a Licensed Health Care Professional 2006-07 to 2017-18

Procedure Performed by Licensed Health Care Professional	Number of Students Receiving Procedure on a Daily or Routine Basis at School from Licensed Health Care Professional 2006-07	Number of Students Receiving Procedure on a Daily or Routine Basis at School from Licensed Health Care Professional 2017-18	Percent Change
Blood Glucose	2,490	1,981	-20%
Carb Counting	1,532	1,978	29%
Other	776	1,948	151%
Insulin Injections	911	1,563	72%
Nebulizer Treatment	735	886	21%
Urine Ketone Testing	NA	1,063	NA
Insulin Pump	NA	603	NA
Nasogastric Tube feeding	867	632	-27%

Clean Intermittent Catheterization	287	196	-31%
Total	7,598	10,850	43%

***Number and Type of Personnel Trained Annually to Administer Medications
2017-18***

Personnel Trained Annually to Administer Medications	Number	Percent of Total
Teachers	11,715	57%
Secretaries	2,729	13%
Teaching Assistants, Nurse Assistants. School Health Aides	2,299	11%
Other	1,227	6%
LPN Nurses	619	3%
Principals/Assistant Principals	1,441	7%
School Counselors	414	2%
Total	20,444	

Head Injury/Concussions

Ninety-eight percent of all public school districts/special schools (**139** districts) have adopted guidelines and policies concerning the nature, risk, and symptoms of concussion and head injury.

HIV and Blood-borne Pathogens Training

During the 2017-18 school year, **142 out of 142** school districts/special schools provided HIV and blood-borne pathogens training to school staff.

Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) (T.C.A. § 49-5-414)

During the 2017-18 school year, **25,025** full-time school employees were currently certified in CPR.

Districts reported that **141 out of 142** public school systems provided CPR training as a professional development opportunity this past school year (2017-18).

During the 2017-18 school year, **391** schools provided CPR to students (T.C.A. § 49-5-414), and **54,942** students were trained in CPR.

Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

There were 1,713 out of 1,714 Tennessee public schools that reported having an automated external defibrillator (AED). An AED was reported to be have been used **21** times in the 2017-18 school year.

Immunizations and Meningococcal Information to Parents

Public school districts (**130 out of 142** school districts) report that they require proof of immunization prior to new student admission to any public school, nursery school, kindergarten, pre-school, or day care and provide special provisions for homeless children (T.C.A. § 49-6-5001).

During the 2017-18 school year, **138** school districts (**97 percent**) shared Meningococcal vaccine information with parents. **Four** school districts (**3 percent**) did not provide this information to parents.

School-based Clinics

In 2017-18, **19,556** EPSDTs (well child exams) were provided to Tennessee students either by a school clinic practitioner, a private provider in the schools, or a county health department via school transport. Of these, **82 percent** received EPSDT through *Well Child, Inc.* or another private provider at school, and **16 percent** received an EPSDT through a school-based clinic.

- Increased to **294** school-based/school-linked clinics in 2017-18 from **276** clinics in 2016-17 (**7 percent increase**).
- Survey respondents said their school districts planned to open **15** new clinics during the 2018-19 school year.
- Of the **294** schools that provided clinic services in 2017-18, **one percent** used tele-medicine, **70 percent** provided services to staff as well as students, **28 percent** provided immunizations, and **2 percent** provided dental services in the clinic.

Comparisons between Various School-Based Clinic Indicators 2013-14 and 2017-18

School-based Clinic Indicators	2013-14	2017-18	Percent Change
Number of LEAs with school clinics	37	39	5%
Number of schools with clinics	186	294	58%
Number of students served in school clinics (physical health only)	29,310	41,211	41%
Number of student referrals to other health care providers	3,223	5,187	61%
Number of student referrals "confirmed" by clinic staff	2,043	3,082	51%
Number of EPSDT exams by clinic	6,314	3,115	-51%
Number of EPSDT exams by private provider (<i>Well Child Inc., etc.</i>)	41,164	15,917	-61%
Number of students received an EPSDT exam due to schools transporting students to the local health depart	4	305	7,525%

Number of school-based/school-linked clinics providing behavioral health services for students	93	144	55%
Number of students receiving behavioral health services in school-based/school-linked	NA	2,557	N/A
Number of students referred to community behavioral health provider	3,614	2,300	-36%
Number of behavioral health referrals confirmed by clinic staff	1,278	1,830	43%
Number of school clinics using tele-medicine	87	219	158%