

## SAFE SCHOOLS/HEALTHY STUDENTS INITIATIVE STAFF SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY

The purpose of the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Staff School Climate Survey is to assess school staff perceptions of the learning environment in the following areas:

- Academic norms, standards, and priorities
- Working environment in the school
- Learning supports and barriers
- Staff-student relationships and staff supportive relationships
- Student connectedness to the school
- Problems posed by student risk behaviors (substance use, violence, and truancy)
- Staff and student safety
- Nature, communication, and enforcement of school rules/policies
- Availability of health and counseling services

The survey takes 7 to 8 minutes to complete.

### RESPONSE RATES

The 2009 administration of the Staff School Climate Survey produced a 72 percent response rate with close to 27,000 school staff respondents:

- 2006 cohort (Year 3)—62 percent response rate
- 2007 cohort (Year 2)—84 percent response rate
- 2008 cohort (Year 1)—66 percent response rate

The 2010 administration included:

- 2006 cohort (Year 4)—77 percent response rate
- 2007 cohort (Year 3)—82 percent response rate
- 2008 cohort (Year 2)—69 percent response rate
- 2009 cohort (Year 1)—74 percent response rate

### PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Ratings by elementary school staff were the most positive while ratings by high school staff were the least positive
- Ratings by administrators were more favorable than teachers for each of the scales
- There were several significant changes in scale ratings between administration periods

*(Note: Findings limited to 2007 and 2008 cohorts that administered the survey through the NET; schools with a response rate less than 70 percent or greater than 100 percent were not included.)*

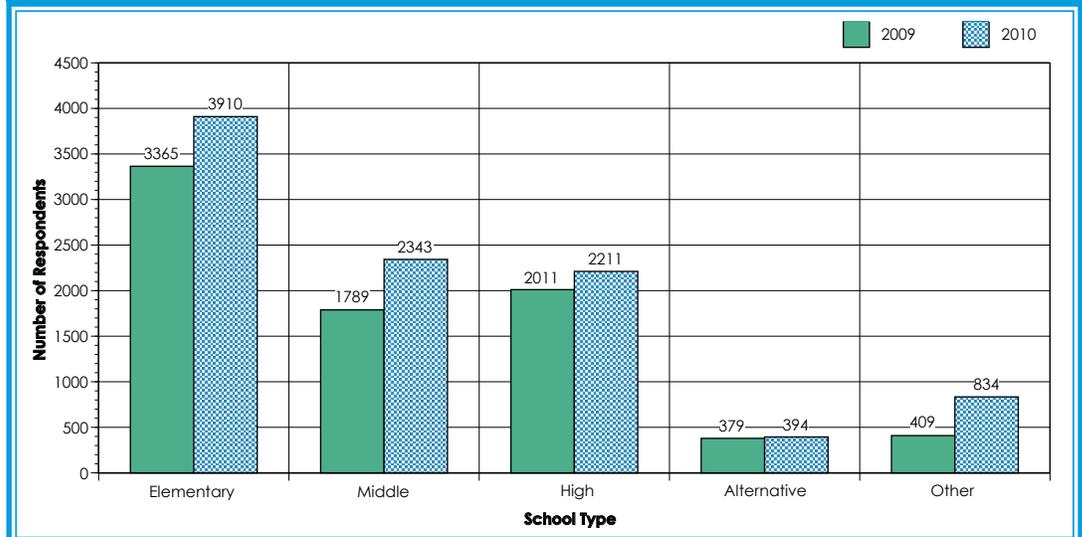
## CHANGES FROM 2009 TO 2010 ADMINISTRATION BY SCHOOL TYPE AND SCALE

	ELEMENTARY	MIDDLE	HIGH
Staff/Student Relationships	—	+	
Student Behaviors that Facilitate Learning	—	+	
School-level Norms and Standards		+	+
Perception of Student Violent Behavior		+	
Perception of School as a Safe Place		+	
Clear, Consistent Communication and Policy Enforcement			
Adequate Health/Counseling Services	+	+	
Perception of Problems with ATOD Use			

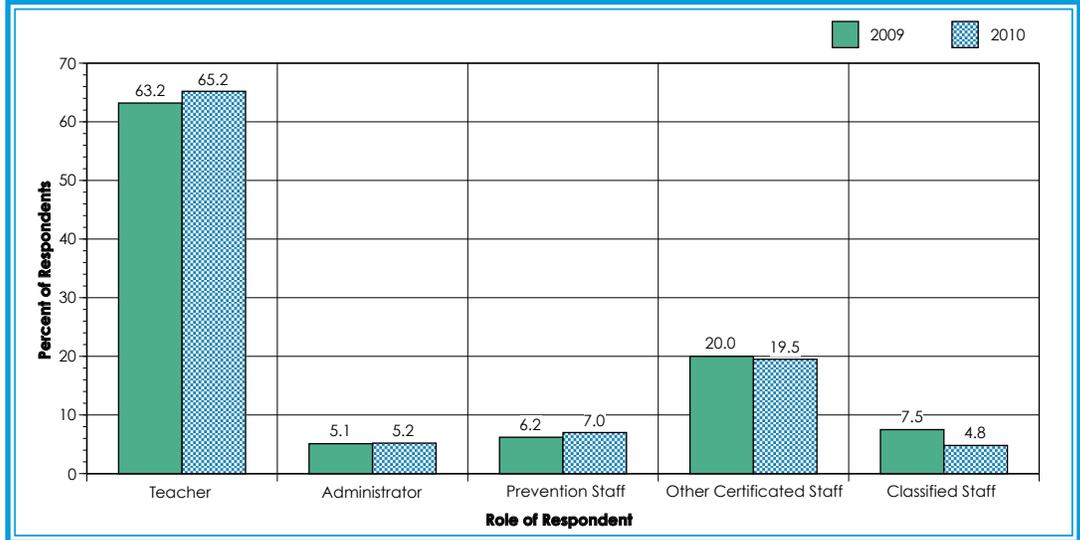
## SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

- 2009 administration
  - N = 7,953
    - ✓ 3,101 responses administered as a census (39 percent)
    - ✓ 4,852 responses administered as part of a sample (61 percent)
- 2010 administration
  - N = 9,692
    - ✓ 4,301 responses administered as a census (44 percent)
    - ✓ 5,391 responses administered as part of a sample (56 percent)

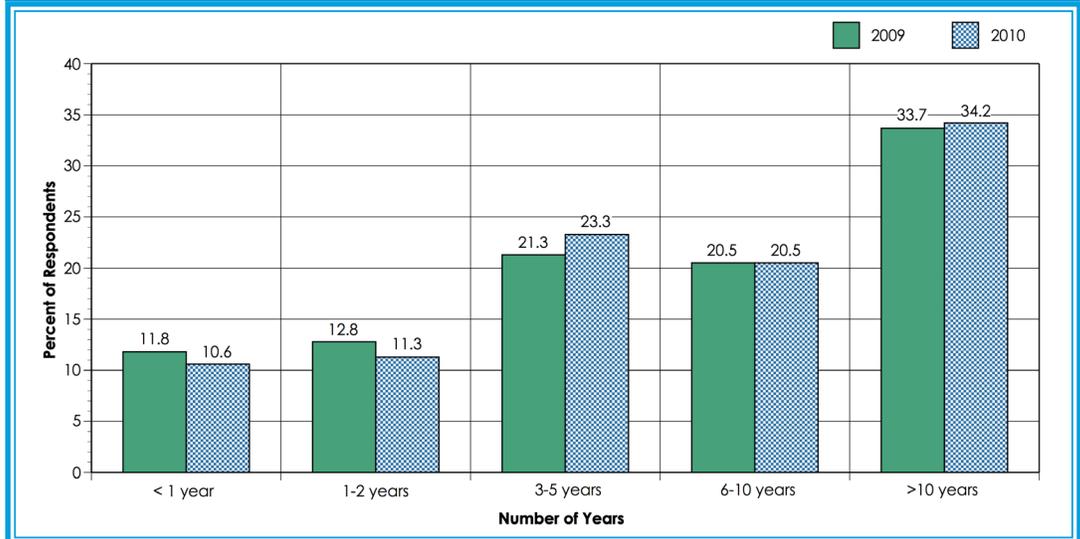
## NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS BY SCHOOL TYPE AND YEAR OF ADMINISTRATION



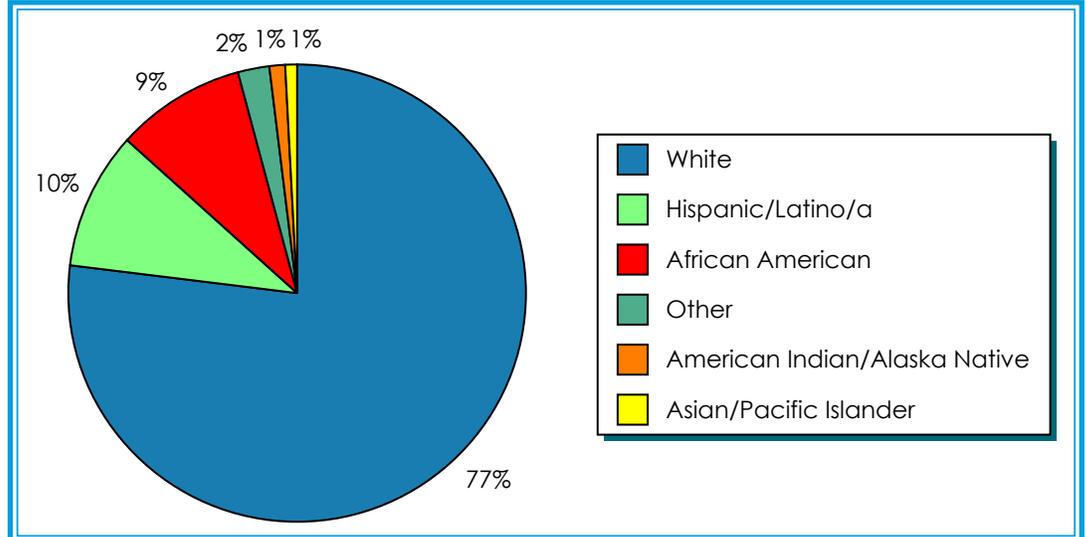
## PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS BY ROLE AND YEAR OF ADMINISTRATION



## NUMBER OF YEARS RESPONDENT WORKED AT SCHOOL BY YEAR OF ADMINISTRATION



## 2009/2010 RACE/ETHNICITY OF RESPONDENTS



### STAFF SCHOOL CLIMATE SURVEY SCALES AND ITEMS

Staff/student relationships (6 items, alpha=0.94):

- Adults really care about every student
- Adults acknowledge and pay attention to students
- Adults want every student to do their best
- Adults listen to what students have to say
- Adults believe that every student can be a success
- Adults treat all students fairly

Student behaviors that facilitate learning (8 items, alpha=0.85):

- Students are healthy and physically fit
- Students arrive at school alert and rested
- Students are motivated to learn
- Students are well behaved
- A problem with disruptive student behavior
- A problem with racial/ethnic conflict among students
- A problem with student depression or other mental health problems
- A problem cutting classes or being truant

School-level norms and standards (9 items, alpha=0.88):

- School is a supportive and inviting place to learn
- School sets high standards for academic performance for all students
- School promotes academic success for all students

- School is welcoming to and facilitates parent involvement
- School is a supportive and inviting place for staff to work
- School encourages opportunities for students to decide things like class activities or rules
- School fosters an appreciation of student diversity and respect for each other
- Adults support and treat each other with respect
- Adults feel a responsibility to improve this school

Perception of student violent behavior (7 items, alpha=0.87):

- A problem with harassment or bullying among students
- A problem with physical fighting among students
- A problem with lack of respect of school staff by students
- A problem with gang-related activity
- A problem with weapons possession
- A problem with vandalism (including graffiti)
- A problem with theft

Perception of school as a safe place (2 items, alpha=0.93):

- School is a safe place for students
- School is a safe place for staff

Clear, consistent communication and enforcement of policies (2 items, alpha=0.86):

- School clearly communicates to students the consequences of breaking school rules
- School effectively handles discipline and behavioral problems

Adequate health/counseling services (3 items, alpha=0.67):

- School provides adequate counseling and support services for students
- School provides adequate health services for students
- School provides students with healthy food choices

Perception of problems with ATOD use (2 items, alpha=0.91):

- A problem with student alcohol and drug use
- A problem with student tobacco use