

Comprehensive School Health Services (CSHS) Performance Measures

Job Aid



School Health Institute for Education
and Leadership Development

What are the seven performance measures for Models and Affiliates?

1

The seven performance measures are:

1. Decrease in the percentage of students who are chronically absent (Target – 3% decrease annually). (Chronically absent refers to the percentage of students who were absent 10% or more of their total number of student days of membership in a school. Source: DESE)
2. Increase in the percentage of ELL students assessed for unmet health care needs by nursing services (Target – increase assessments by 10% annually).
3. Decrease in the percentage of students who are overweight or obese (Target - 1% decrease annually).
4. Increase in the percentage of students who are identified as experiencing symptoms of depression and/or anxiety, or suicidal ideation, and are not currently receiving behavioral health care, that are referred for mental health services by school health/counseling staff (Target – increase by 10% annually).
5. Increase in the percentage of students who are identified as homeless or marginally housed assessed for unmet health care needs by nursing services (Target – increase assessments by 10% annually).
6. Increase in the percentage of students who have special healthcare needs (e.g. asthma, autism, ADHD, diabetes, life-threatening allergies, seizure disorders, diagnosed mental health disorder) with an Individual Health Care Plan (IHCP) developed (Target – 50% IHCPs developed).
7. Increase in the percentage of students who fail a screening (vision, hearing, postural, BMI, SBIRT) with a referral made (Target – 85% of referrals made).

What data sources can be used to assess each performance measure?

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In general, DESE data and school district data can be used to assess performance measures.

Possible data sources that can be used to assess each specific performance measure include:

- Absenteeism: DESE attendance data (historical and sorted by student group), and current attendance data from the Student Information System (SIS)
- ELL: electronic health record (EHR) system and SIS
- Overweight/obese: screening records (for students in grades 1, 4, 7, and 10) and EHR system
- Behavioral health: EHR system
- Homeless: EHR system and homeless liaison reports
- Special healthcare needs: EHR system
- Referral: EHR system

How often are performance measures assessed and reported?

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Performance measures are assessed annually at the end of the school year and reported using the status report form (online).

What happens if a performance measure target has not been met?

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If a performance measure target has not been met, a plan for improvement must be developed using needs assessment data, a racial equity lens, evidence-based interventions, and quality improvement methods. If multiple targets have not been met, it is recommended that the district select one measure and provide a plan for improvement (selecting a different measure each year).

What are some possible starting strategies for improvement in performance measures?

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Possible starting strategies for improvement in performance measures include:

- Absenteeism:
 - Identify absenteeism early in the school year
 - Identify students absent in lower grades (elementary)
 - Target interventions at racial/ethnic subgroups with greatest absenteeism
 - Create interventions for students with asthma
- ELL:
 - Flag the ELL students in the EHR
 - Query EHR system monthly to identify ELL students not seen
- Overweight/obese:
 - Review evidence-based strategies
 - Focus interventions on subgroups (i.e., race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status) with the greatest percentage of obese/overweight students
 - School meal and food policies
 - Increase opportunities for daily physical activity
- Behavioral health:
 - Use the EHR to track students with mental health issues
 - Improve outreach, especially to subgroups disproportionately impacted
- Homeless:
 - Track all data elements in EHR system
 - Query EHR system to identify students for follow up
- Special healthcare needs:
 - Run a monthly query of students with special healthcare needs without IHCPs
 - Identify missing IHCPs by race/ethnicity subgroups
- Screening Referral:
 - Improve the referral tracking and follow up system
 - Use EHR to track referrals and completed referrals
 - Run a monthly query of students who fail a screening but don't have a referral
 - Check for disparities by race/ethnicity

What resources are available to schools for reporting performance measures assessments?

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If a school needs help reporting performance measures assessments, the following resources may be able to provide assistance or guidance:

- If you need help with your EHR system, contact your EHR vendor's technical support department or ask another CSHS district that uses the same EHR system.
- Regional consultants and other nurse managers may be able to provide additional guidance.
- Printable worksheets and guides that are emailed to the nurse manager at the beginning of the year.
- Online data collection forms (include additional instructions and tips for using the online tool).
- For data questions, email Kathrine.A.Mansfield@mass.gov or robert.leibowitz@mass.gov (not for financial questions)
- To submit updates on staffing changes or changes to an email address, email karen.robitalle3@mass.gov