

Measure: Regular Attendance

What is Regular Attendance?

Regular Attendance is a measure of a student's attendance in school during the school year. A student is considered regularly attending school if they have, on average, fewer than two absences per month. In a typical school year, that means a student can miss 17 days of school or less within a single year and be considered a regular attendee. Students who miss more than an average of two days per month, or 10% of enrolled days, are considered chronically absent.

Why is this measure important?

Regular school attendance is a critical building block for student learning. While in school, students develop more than academic skills; they build relationships, experience consistent routines, access vital supports, and gain the sense of belonging that public education is designed to foster. Regular attendance is a powerful indicator of future success in schools. Research shows that students who regularly attend school are more likely to read at grade-level and to graduate high school compared to students who are chronically absent.

How is the data used?

Regular attendance data is used widely throughout Washington state. Like other measures, it informs policy and practices at the local and state level. The data is also included in the [Washington School Improvement Framework \(WSIF\)](#) as a Measure of School Quality and Student Success.

What does the data show?

The data show that over the past three school years, greater percentages of Washington's students are regularly attending school.

Percent of Students Regularly Attending School Statewide

School Year	Percent
2022–23	69.9%
2023–24	72.6%
2024–25	72.9%



What are the business rules for calculating regular attendance?

The Regular Attendance measure is defined as the rate of students who regularly attend school. Regular attendance means having, on average, less than two absences per month. It doesn't matter if the absences are excused or unexcused. An absence is defined as missing at least half of the school day. The measure includes students who were enrolled at least 90 days at any given school.

Numerator = Number of students regularly attending school.

Denominator = Number of students enrolled in any given district for 90 days or more.

Additional Resources

[OSPI Attendance Webpage](#)

OSPI Contact Information

[OSPI Attendance Team](#)

