

2017–2018 Student Climate Survey Results

Student Climate Perceptions Slightly Down From 2016–2017

What was the purpose of the Student Climate Survey?

Austin Independent School District (AISD) uses the Student Climate Survey to gather students’ opinions and perceptions of school climate in the spring of every academic year. The survey comprises 44 items related to student engagement, behavioral environment, academic self-confidence, adult fairness and respect, teacher expectations, culture and language, social and emotional learning (SEL) skills, and college intentions. Survey data are used to monitor a variety of key initiatives and policies and examine factors related to student achievement and teacher success. This report summarizes district-level survey results for the 2016–2018 academic years.

How did students rate school climate in 2017–2018?

Students’ perceptions were largely unchanged or slightly down from the previous year. Sometimes to each

socioeconomic status, special education status, and English learner status will be released in the coming months.

Student Engagement

Table 1.

Elementary school students continued to report the highest levels of engagement and enjoyment with respect to schoolwork and homework. A substantial minority of middle and high school students did not feel teachers connected classwork with the real world.

Student engagement	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
I like to come to school.	83%	83%	79% ^{a,b}	68%	72%	66% ^a	69%	74%	67% ^b
I enjoy doing my schoolwork.	81%	80%	77% ^{a,b}	59%	63%	57% ^{a,c}	60%	63%	55% ^{b,c}
My homework helps me learn the things I need to know.	87%	86%	82% ^{a,b}	70%	70%	67% ^{a,c}	73%	73%	69% ^{b,c}
My schoolwork makes me think about things in new ways.	84%	85%	83% ^{a,b}	69%	75%	73% ^a	70%	75%	72% ^b
I have fun learning in my classes.	88%	88%	86% ^{a,b}	69%	76%	72% ^a	71%	78%	73% ^b
My teachers connect what I am doing to my life outside the classroom.	79%	80%	77% ^{a,b}	58%	62%	59% ^a	61%	66%	60% ^b
I receive recognition or praise for doing good work.	88%	91%	87% ^{a,b}	75%	83% ⁺	77% ^{a,c}	74%	82%	74% ^{b,c}

Source. 2016–2018 Student Climate Surveys

Note. Figures represent the percentage of students who responded *sometimes* or *a lot of the time*. Matched

school level is indicated by + symbols.

Statistical and Meaningful

A z test for proportions was used to determine whether

between students' responses based on school level were indicative of

or likely due to chance.

noted with superscripts.

Cohen's h size was used to determine whether the magnitude of

greater than or equal to .20 are considered meaningful in education research and are noted with a plus sign

AISS students in grades 3 through 11 have participated in the Student Climate Survey since 2004. Survey response options *a lot of the time*, *sometimes a little of the time*, *never*, and *don't know*. As with previous years, *don't know* responses are excluded from all calculations.

In 2018, we added additional items to further assess students' perceptions of SEL skills.

All schools administered the survey online in 2018.

Adult Fairness and Respect

Table 4.

Students continued to report high levels of agreement that adults at school treated them with fairness and respect. to their ideas and opinions.

Adult fairness and respect	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Teachers at this school care about their students.	97%	97%	96% ^{a,b}	89%	90%	89% ^{a,c}	89%	92%	90% ^{b,c}
Adults at this school listen to student ideas and opinions.	93%	92%	91% ^{a,b}	80%	81%	79% ^a	82%	83%	80% ^b
Adults at this school treat all students fairly.	94%	94%	94% ^{a,b}	82%	85%	84% ^a	84%	87%	86% ^b
	97%	97%	97% ^{a,b}	91%	93%	93% ^{a,c}	87%	89%	89% ^{b,c}
My teachers are fair to everyone.	94%	94%	93% ^{a,b}	82%	85%	84% ^{a,c}	84%	89%	87% ^{b,c}
Teachers at this school know who I am.	92%	95%	93% ^{a,b}	87%	92%	90% ^{a,c}	89%	89%	89%

SEL Skills

Table 7.

2016–2017.

SEL skills	Elementary			Middle			High		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
I use ways to calm myself down.	83%	88%	75% ^{a,b+}	75%	83%	72% ^{a,c+}	80%	88% ⁺	80% ^{b,c+}
I don't give up, even when I feel frustrated.	89%	93%	88% ^{a,b}	82%	88%	85% ^a	82%	87%	85% ^b
It is easy for me to talk to adults at my school about my problems.	73%	76%	75% ^{a,b}	59%	63%	62% ^a	60%	65%	62% ^b
I say "no" to friends who want me to break the rules.	91%	95%	88% ⁺	86%	91%	87% ^c	87%	93%	89%
During my school day, I am aware of when my feelings change.	*	*	87% ^b	*	*	88% ^c	*	*	92% ^{b,c}
During my school day, I am aware of when my thoughts change from positive to negative.	*	*	87% ^{a,b}	*	*	89% ^{a,c}	*	*	93% ^{b,c}
During my school day, I am aware of how my body feels when my feelings change.	*	*	88% ^b	*	*	87% ^c	*	*	91% ^{b,c}
At my school, I often notice how people feel and act.	*	*	90% ^a	*	*	88% ^{a,c}	*	*	90% ^c
If I get angry with a classmate, we can talk about it and make it better.	*	*	77% ^{a,b}	*	*	66% ^{a,c}	*	*	74% ^{b,c}
I make friends easily at school.	*	*	88% ^b	*	*	87% ^c	*	*	83% ^{b,c}

Source. 2016–2018 Student Climate Surveys

Note. Figures represent the percentage of students who responded *sometimes* or *a lot of the time*

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indicate new items.

College Intentions

Cason Fayles, MA

Department of Research and Evaluation

www.austinisd.org/dre