



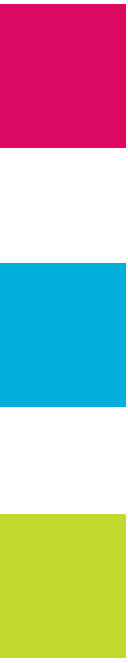
2025-26 School Safety and Security Survey Results

Safety and Security Committee Meeting, August 4, 2026

Dr. Colleen Paeplow, Senior Director, Data, Research and Accountability (DRA)
Kendrick Scott, Senior Director of Security

Desired Outcomes

- Receive an overview of the survey process
- Review survey findings
- Allow time for questions and feedback



Overview of Survey Process

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Overview of Survey Process

Strategic Plan Alignment

Priority 3: We will prioritize establishing structures and processes to provide timely and consistent service for every student and an inviting, safe environment for every school.

Aim 18: Prioritize safety upgrades, including upgrading facilities, improving safety plans, and focusing on cyber-security.

Overview of Survey Process

Survey development:

- Validated research-based surveys
- Open-source surveys
- Research literature

Input from essential partners :

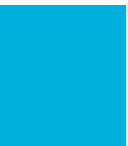
- Safety/ Security Committee Board Members
- Area Superintendents
- Chief Officers
- High school students

Overview of Survey Process

Survey Definitions

School Safety: a feeling of being protected from factors that may jeopardize a safe school environment. A safe school promotes student mental health, fosters a positive social climate among students and staff, and minimizes psychological and physical violence and aggressive behavior.

School Security: measures that protect students from potentially harmful external threats. A secure school takes measures, such as enforcing procedures and policies, to block threats to everyone within the school as well as the school infrastructure. Examples include using door locks, lockdown drills, cameras, panic buttons, school resource officers or metal detectors.



Review School Safety and Security Survey Findings

Take Aways

- Most students have a **positive sense of safety** at school and many may **demonstrate help -seeking behaviors**
- **Positive school climates and school security measures** make students feel safe
- Student **interactions with peers and staff can be strengthened** as well as awareness of reporting systems

Take Aways

- **School bathrooms** reported as most in need of improvement
- Students selected **staff monitoring and locked external doors** as top measures to enhance school security
- Students want **current security measures to be strengthened** with some additional measures

Survey Response Rate

42%: 23,041 students respondents from 37 high schools

Most students have a positive sense of safety at school and will seek help when needed



82%

generally feel safe
at school



78%

likely to
report safety concerns
to friends, family, adult
outside of school



64%

likely to
report safety concerns
to adults at school

Most students have a positive sense of safety at school and will seek help when needed



78%

reported it's unlikely someone from school will bully them online



73%

infrequently worry about violence at school



68%

reported it's not difficult for students bullied in school to get help from an adult

A positive school climate makes students feel safe

Students wrote about **relationships with school staff** who are

- accessible to students
- monitor areas of the school
- enforce strict standards of behavior

Security measures make students feel safe

Students wrote about **current school practices** that assure their safety

- locking external and internal doors
- conducting drills
- using cameras
- assigning School Resource Officers (SROs)

Student interactions with peers and staff can be strengthened



64%

indicated **students**
rarely physically
fight at school



60%

reported adults treat
students fairly at
school



59%

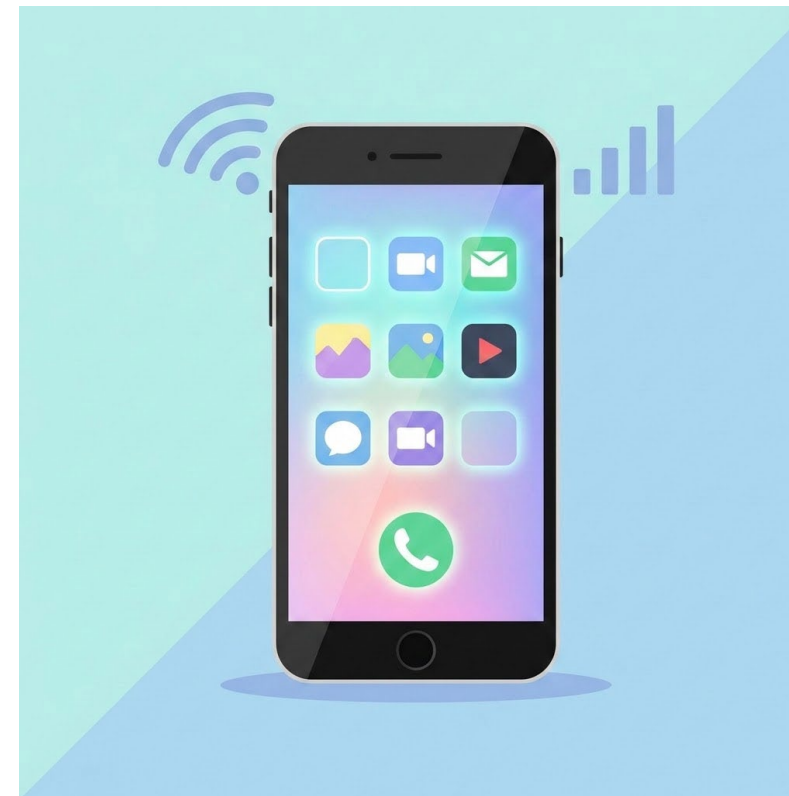
noted **students** are
respectful to each
other

Students use of reporting systems may be impacted by low awareness

60%

likely to use
**Say Something
Anonymous
Reporting System**

16%
unfamiliar

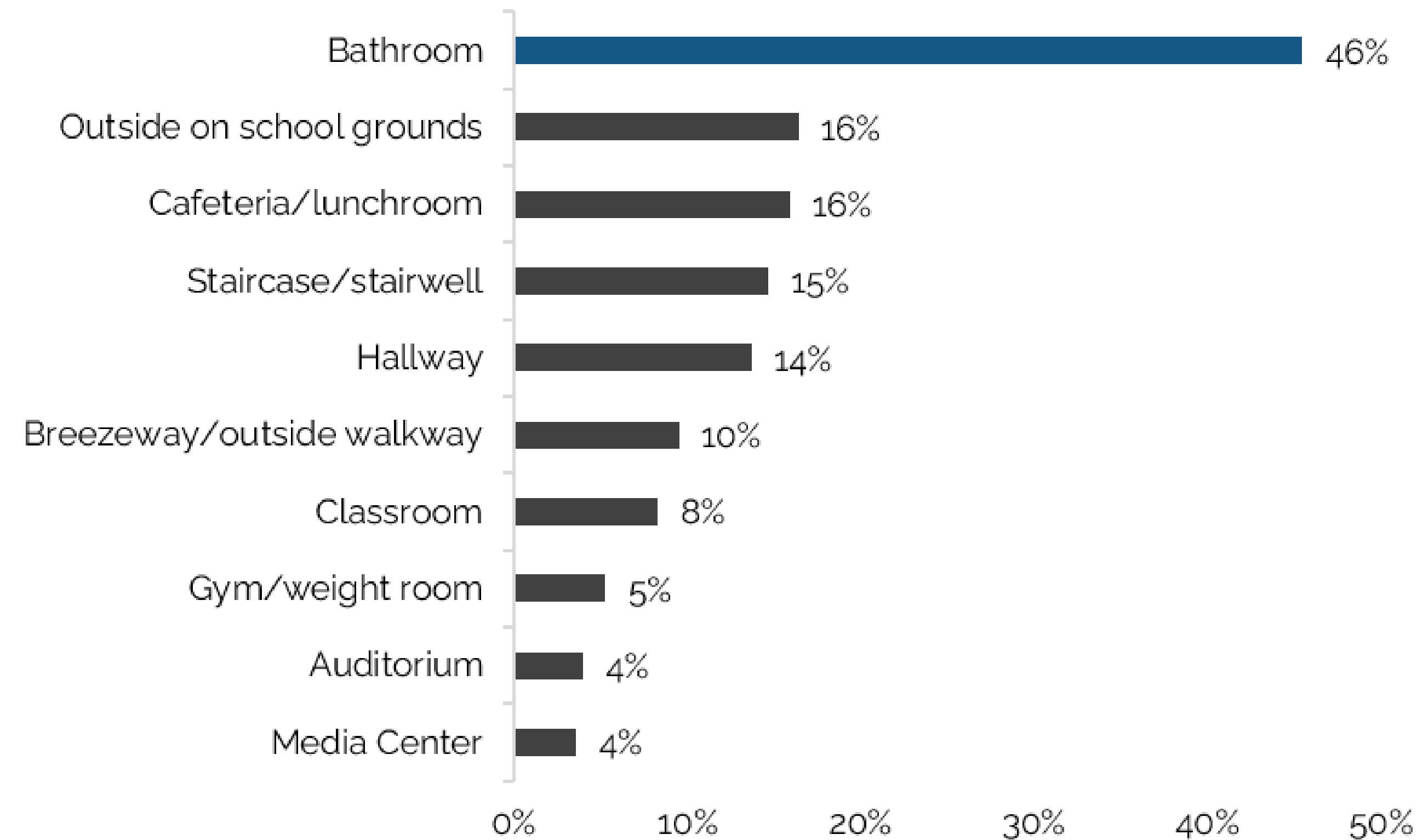


29%

likely to use the
WCPSS Tip Line

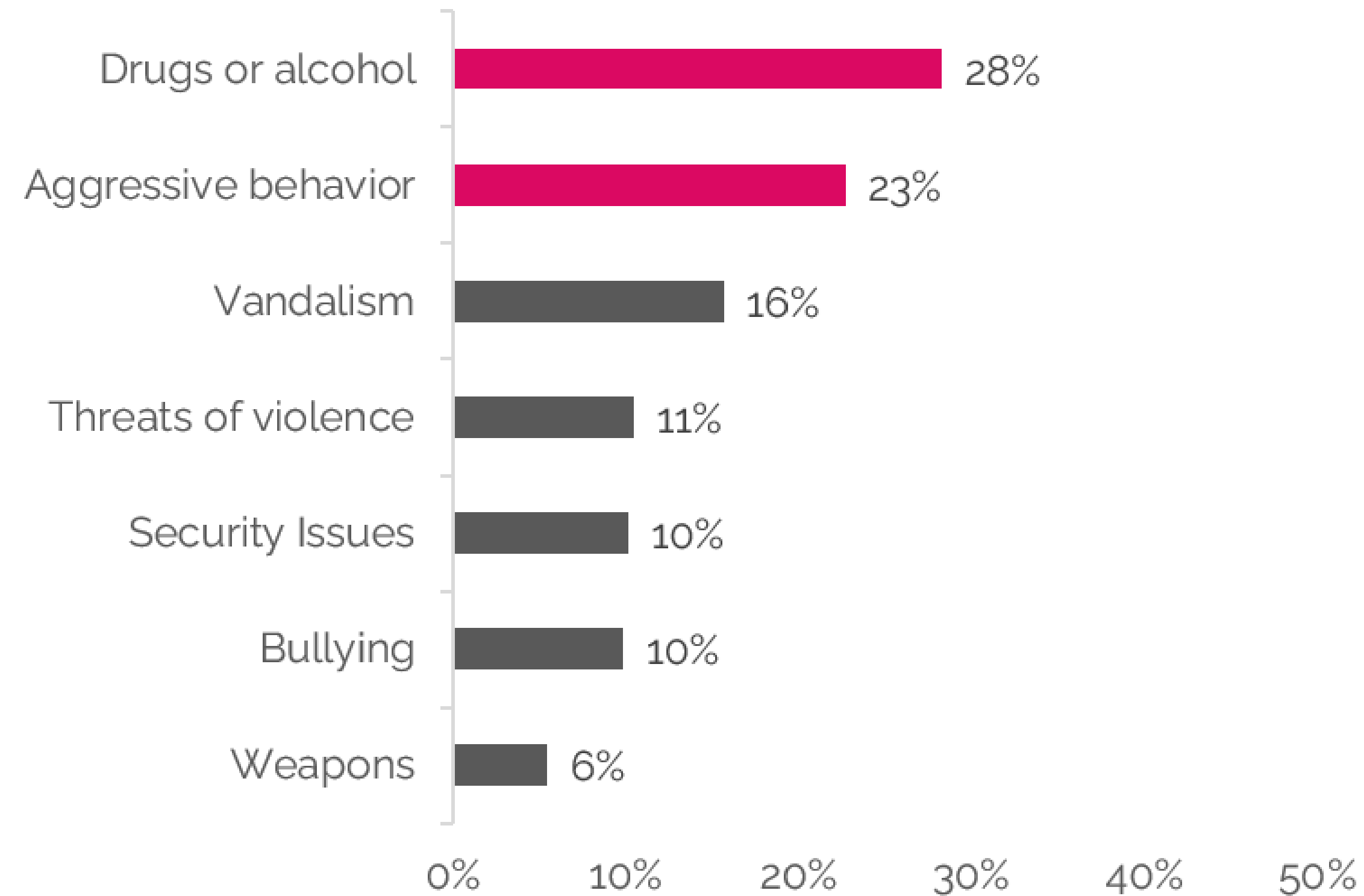
31%
unfamiliar

Students selected school bathrooms as primary area needing improvement



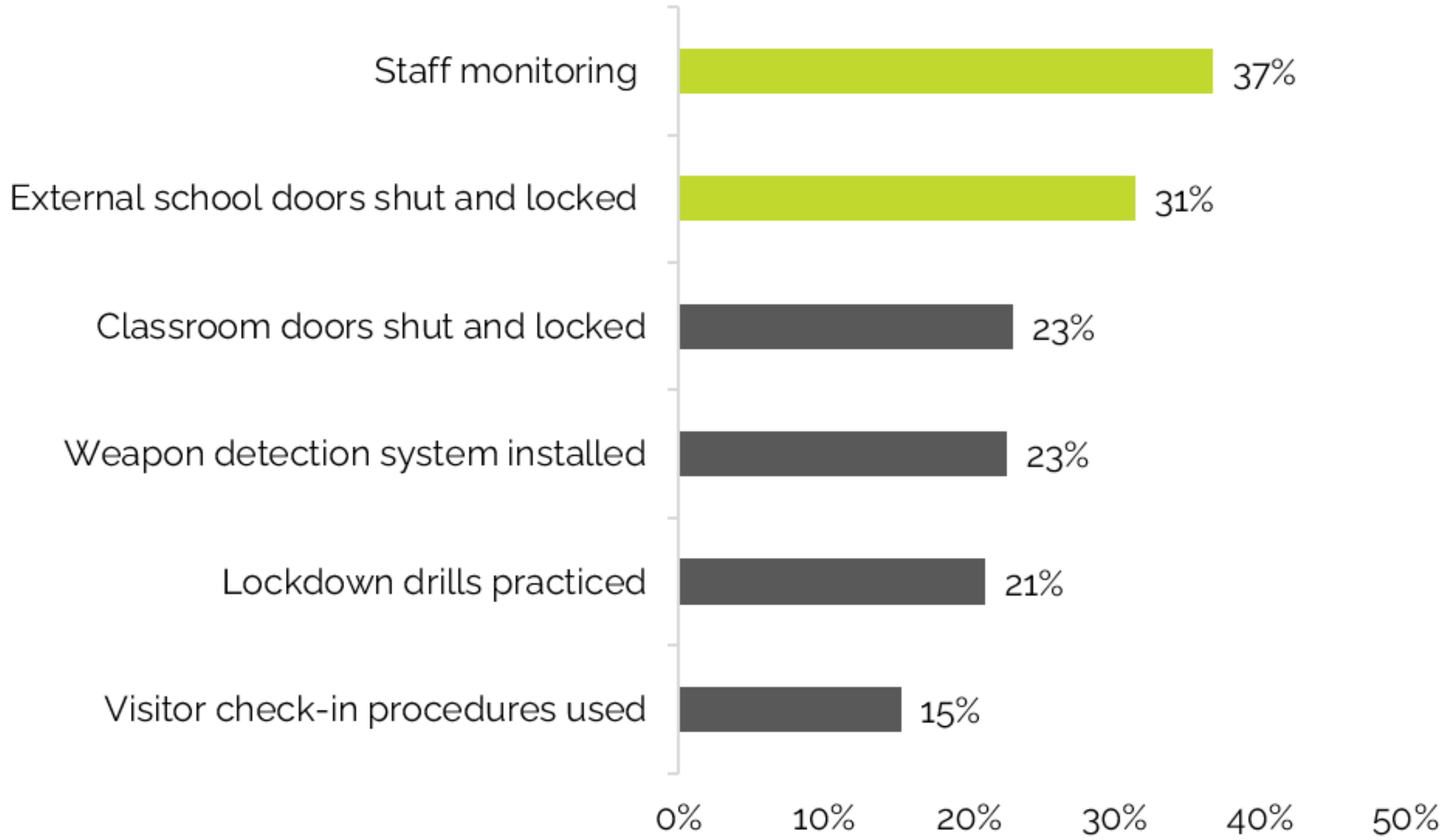
Note. Students were allowed to select more than one area. $\frac{1}{3}$ selected “none of these areas” as needing improvement.

Students selected drugs/alcohol and aggressive behavior as top reasons the areas need improvement



Note. Students were allowed to select more than one reason.

Students selected staff monitoring and locked external doors as top measures to enhance school security



Staff monitoring response items include:

- ❖ class transitions between buildings
- ❖ hallways during class transitions
- ❖ arrival and dismissal transitions
- ❖ student lunch passes

Note. Students were allowed to select more than one measure. 1/3 selected “none of these improvements”.

Students want more frequent staff monitoring to enhance sense of safety

Students want staff to **monitor the bathrooms** to

- address vaping, smoking and drug use
- fix broken stall locks
- manage inappropriate student behavior such as fighting and bullying

Students want current security measures strengthened with some additions

Students want **current security measures to be strengthened** with some additional measures

- ensuring that exterior and classroom doors remain locked
- conducting lockdown drills more frequently
- hiring more SROs
- installing weapon and vape detection systems, additional cameras and school-entry verification systems

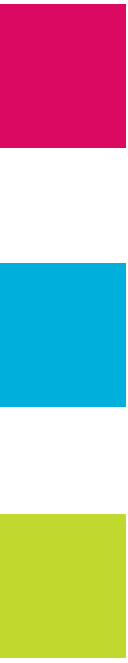


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Questions and Feedback