



Nebraska School Health Data Snapshot

Chronic Conditions Data from School Nurse Data Project, 2022-2023 School Year

The Children's Nebraska School Health Program and Nebraska School Nurses Association teamed up to collect data from school nurses. The numbers of students with chronic conditions were counted by using the National Association of School Nurses Uniform Data Points in an online survey open from May to October 2023. Nurses from 25 districts provided data, representing over 116,000 of Nebraska's 328,722 K-12 students. Here are the results and what they mean for our state.



8.1%

Students with Asthma
Estimated 26,600 Statewide



0.3%

Students with Diabetes
(Type 1 or Type 2)
Estimated 1,000 Statewide



2.6%

Students with Life-Threatening Allergies
Estimated 8,500 Statewide



0.8%

Students with Seizure Disorder
Estimated 2,600 Statewide



Asthma

School nurses educate students on how and when to use their inhalers correctly to manage their symptoms and keep them in class. They administer life-saving medication in the event of acute asthma attacks. Research shows that students with asthma in schools that have a full-time nurse had improved symptom management and fewer school absences. *



Diabetes

The numbers of youth with Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes have been increasing. Caring for students with diabetes requires the school to act as a team. School nurses educate staff on recognizing when students with diabetes need immediate care, as well as providing direct services to students.



Allergies

Allergies can be a life-threatening condition, so it is imperative that all school staff are trained to recognize symptoms and provide a quick response. School nurses train staff on how to implement Rule 59 to save the lives of students (and even staff) in the event of anaphylaxis.



Seizures

Any student can have a seizure, but those with epilepsy can have specific triggers and symptoms. School nurses educate students with epilepsy on avoiding triggers and managing their condition with medication to prevent seizures. They train staff on how to identify seizures that may present differently in different students. School nurses administer emergency seizure medication to students and may train staff on how to administer these medications in their absence.



Chronic Condition Care Coordination

School nurses do more than just treat the student in the office; they serve as liaisons between school staff, family, healthcare providers, and community organizations in order to fully address the child's needs. Access to school nurses and health services can help reduce chronic absenteeism among students with chronic health conditions through care coordination and health education. **

*CDC Research Brief: Chronic Health Conditions and Academic Achievement, 2017

**CDC Managing Chronic Health Conditions in Schools: The Role of the School Nurse, 2017