

# Seven Key Findings

## COVID-19 Prevention, Infection and Control in K–12 Schools Reporting from 1,600+ Alberta Teachers and School Leaders

1

**84%** of respondents do not receive daily confirmation of **COVID-19 screening checklists** completion before a student(s) enters the classroom.



*“I am spending most of my day isolating sick students, and following the sick student protocol. Contacting parents, re-explaining the COVID screening checklist and reassuring teachers.” – Alberta school principal*

2

Only **18%**

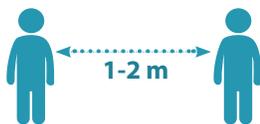


of respondents believe that the **cohorting of students** in place at their school will prevent or contain COVID-19 infection(s). Teachers and school leaders are observing students intermixing at lunchtime, during breaks, on buses, and before and after school.

*“The kids all have active lives outside of the building. They do not adhere to cohorting when off campus. As hard as we try we cannot keep them 2 m apart.” – Alberta classroom teacher*

3

**50%**



of the respondents “never, rarely and occasionally” observe **physical distancing** occurring in their classrooms, hallways and on school grounds.



**Large and growing class sizes** are deemed a significant factor in limiting physical distancing as a preventative health measure.

**1 in 4** teachers have over **30 students** in their **largest classes**. Over 9% have more than 35 students in their classroom.

4

**86%+** of respondents report compliance of **mask wearing** when students are interacting with others in classrooms and hallways, but with some challenges at different grade levels.



5

Student **hand washing** is rare, while disinfectant use is more common.

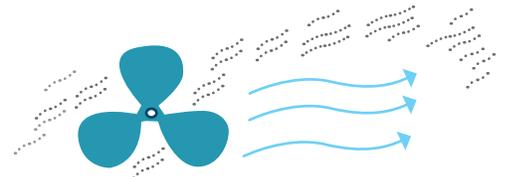


Concerns about adequate staffing for **sanitization** and teachers' role and responsibility to disinfect surfaces in their classroom.



6

**45%**



of the respondents are attempting to create better **ventilation in the school** “frequently, usually, every time,” but they are limited by the nature of the physical school building.

7

Teacher and school leader well-being is of critical concern given the reporting of extreme and unsustainable levels of **fatigue, stress and anxiety** within the profession.



**94%**

of respondents reporting fatigue



**95%**

of respondents reporting stress



**81%**

of respondents reporting anxiety

*“As a school leader I am beyond exhausted. I see my [teacher] colleagues are stressed, anxious and already close to burning out.” – Alberta school leader*

**1,600+ Alberta teachers and school leaders.** Alberta Pandemic Pulse Survey (September 10 to 14, 2020)  
Random stratified sample and longitudinal chain-referral sample.

**Margin of Error +/- 2.5%** on all questions (19 times out of 20).

Further information about the Association's research is available from  
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The Alberta  
Teachers' Association