



Education by the Numbers

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Several factors contribute to student success and achievement. Students' attendance has been shown to affect students' success in school (Hanson, 2020). However, it appears that less attention is given to how teacher absences affect student success (Hanson, 2020).

Research shows that teachers are the most important in school factor for student learning (Hanson, 2020). Teacher attendance is directly related to student achievement. For example, Miller, Murnane, and Willett (2008) assessed that 10 additional days of teacher absences reduced achievement in mathematics of fourth grade students by 3.2% of a standard deviation. Moreover, they found that 10 days of teacher absences resulted in some students' designation in the state proficiency system to be lowered (Miller, Murnane, & Willett, 2008). This data suggests teachers' absences can lead to learning loss for students. What does the numbers say about teacher absences?

Teacher Absences		
	Reasons	Percentages
	Sick Leave	52%
	Personal Leave	23%
	Professional Leave	18%
	Other	7%
Categorizing Teacher Absences based on 187 working days/year		
Chronically Absent	18 or more days (22days average)	10%
Frequent	11-17 days/year	25%
Moderate	4-10 days/year	47%
Excellent	0-3 days/year	18%

References

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