



ATTENDANCE awareness



Students who miss 10% or more of the school year, for any reason, are considered chronically absent.

Chronic absenteeism hurts students in a variety of ways as they progress through their school career, starting with kindergarten.²

Missing just two days of school each month, totaling 18 days, could qualify as being chronically absent.

Kindergarten and first-grade students who are chronically absent have an **81% chance of reading below grade level** in third grade.³

By **6th grade**, chronic absence becomes a **leading indicator** that a student will **drop out** of high school.⁵

By **9th grade**, chronic absence becomes a **better predictor** of a student dropping out than any 8th grade test score.⁶

By **college**, a chronically absent high school graduate has an **11% chance of receiving any degree**.⁷

Kindergarten students who are chronically absent have a **61% chance** of being held back for **reading below grade level** in third grade.³

In **4th grade**, chronically absent students score an average of **12 points lower of nationally normed tests** than students who show good attendance.⁴

In **8th grade**, chronically absent students score an average of **18 points lower on nationally normed tests** than students who show good attendance.⁴

Between **8th and 12th grade**, a student who is chronically absent is **7.4 times** more likely to **drop out**.¹

1. Attendance Works, 2014, The Attendance Imperative
2. U.S. Department of Education, 2015-2016, Chronic Absenteeism in the Nation's Schools
3. Attendance Works, 2014, Attendance in Early Grades: Why Reading Matters
4. Attendance Works, 2014, Absences Add Up: How School Attendance Influences Student Success
5. Attendance Works, 2020-2021, 10 Facts About School Attendance
6. Attendance Works, 2017, Frequently Asked Questions About Chronic Absenteeism
7. National Center on Educational Outcomes, 2018, Students with Disabilities & Chronic Absenteeism

