2011−12 Truancy Report

Summary

Truancy Report

RCW 28A.225.151

This report is submitted in response to RCW 28A.225.151, Truancy Reports, which requires the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to report to the Legislature each year the number of unexcused absences, the number of students with ten or more unexcused absences in a school year or five or more unexcused absences in a month, and the number of truancy petitions filed with the courts. The statute requires school buildings to report truancy information to school districts, and school districts to compile, verify, and transmit the reports to OSPI at the end of each school year.

This report provides the data requested by the Legislature and aggregates the data by school district and by county. It does not attempt to interpret the data or provide additional narrative.

Through the 2011−12 school year, the data has been reported to OSPI by districts as aggregate totals, which do not allow for the interpretation by sub-groups of data elements at the building or district level. New practices for absence reporting by school districts for 2012−13 in the Comprehensive Education Data and Research System (CEDARS) will allow for possible expansion of reporting capabilities in future updates.

Expanded tables for Grades 1–8 and Grades 9–12 that include information on enrollment, students with unexcused absences, and truancy petitions for the 2011−12 school year can be found at http://www.k12.wa.us/SecondaryEducation/default.aspx. Questions regarding a particular district's data should be directed to the district that compiled and verified the data.

Background

Directions given to districts for reporting unexcused absences for 2011−12:

1. Enrollment numbers were populated using the CEDARS data from October 2011.
2. Schools are required to report unexcused absence data to their district, and districts were required to verify the data and submit it to OSPI.

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3. Schools are provided the following definition of an unexcused absence:

    According to RCW 28A.225.020, an unexcused absence means a student has not attended a majority of hours or periods in a school day, or has not complied with a more restrictive district policy, and has not met the conditions for an excused absence.

Required District Information Reported:
Each student with an unexcused absence during the reporting period may only be counted once. Schools are required to report the following information:
- Number of students with **five or more** unexcused absences in any one month during the reporting period.
- Number of students with **ten or more** unexcused absences during the school year.
- Number of **truancy petitions** filed with juvenile court from **June 1, 2011, to August 31, 2011.**
- Number of **truancy petitions** filed with juvenile court from **September 1, 2011, to May 31, 2012**.

Statewide 2011–12 Truancy Report Totals: Grades 1–8					
Total October Enrollment	Total Number of Unexcused Absences	Students with Five or More Unexcused Absences in a 30 day Period	Students with Ten or More Unexcused Absences in a School Year	Total Truancy Petitions Filed	Total Truancy Petitions Filed
625,631	134,396	8,830	9,213	2,901	193

Statewide 2011–12 Truancy Report Totals: Grades 9–12					
Total October Enrollment	Total Number of Unexcused Absences	Students with Five or More Unexcused Absences in a 30 day Period	Students with Ten or More Unexcused Absences in a School Year	Total Truancy Petitions Filed	Total Truancy Petitions Filed
324,951	190,602	36,647	40,858	6,752	299

For More Information

For more information regarding BECCA and Truancy Reporting, please see www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/Truancy/default.aspx or contact Sue Furth, Graduation Specialist, at (360) 725-4472 or sue.furth@k12.wa.us.