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**The School Health Research Network (SHRN)**

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The School Health Research Network (SHRN) Student Health and Well-being Survey (SHW) in Schools



**School Year (s):** Years 7 - 11

**SHRN Survey Year (s):** 2023/24

**SHRN Release date:** 18th March 2025

| **Measure** | **Transgender,**  **n=928 (0.7%)** | **Boy-MAB,**  **n=62,876 (49.3%)** | **Girl-FAB,**  **n=61,861 (48.5%)** | **Neither word describes me,**  **n=1,921 (1.5%)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Percentage who rated their life satisfaction as 6 or above\* | 53 [50, 57] | 86 | 75 | 49 |
| Mean UCLA loneliness scale score† | 6 [6, 6] | 5 | 5 | 6 |
| Percentage who like school a lot† | 12 [8, 17] | 14 | 10 | 9 [6, 13] |
| Percentage who agree that the pupils in their classes enjoy being together | 41 [37, 44] | 63 | 43 | 34 |
| Percentage who agree that most of the pupils in their classes are kind and helpful | 31 [28, 34] | 50 | 37 | 43 |
| Percentage who agree that other pupils accept them as they are | 31 [28, 35] | 65 | 50 | 25 |
| Percentage who agree that their own ideas are taken seriously at school\* | 24 [21, 27] | 37 | 31 | 22 |
| Percentage who agree that they feel like they belong at their school | 29 [26, 32] | 59 | 43 | 22 |
| Percentage who agree their teachers accept them | 49 [45, 52] | 73 | 62 | 40 |
| Percentage who agree that their teachers care about them as a person\* | 42 [38, 45] | 60 | 49 | 35 |
| Percentage who agree that they feel a lot of trust in their teachers | 34 [31, 37] | 51 | 35 | 27 |
| Percentage who agree that there is a member of staff they can confide in\* | 62 [58, 65] | 66 | 66 | 54 |
| Percentage who have been bullied at school in the past couple of months\* | 65 [62, 68] | 32 | 41 | 66 |
| Percentage who have been cyber-bullied in the past couple of months\* | 42 [39, 46] | 17 | 24 | 45 |

**Keywords:** Well-being, Health, Gender, Survey,

**Technical Notes**

Breakdowns are reported across four gender identities: transgender (reported gender identity contrasts with reported sex at birth), boy-male at birth, girl-female at birth, and unspecified gender minority (gender identity reported as ‘neither word describes me’).

All well-being measures have been recoded as binary indicators, except for the UCLA loneliness scale (where higher scores reflect more frequent loneliness). 95% confidence intervals are provided within square brackets for denominators of less than 1000. See Page et al (2024) for details on survey methods (available at: https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyae161).

Please note that indicators marked with an asterisk (\*) are included on Public Health Wales’s Secondary School Children’s Health and Well-being Dashboard. Please refer to the Dashboard for further information on these indicators.

Please note that indicators marked with a dagger (†) are based on a subset of the SHW survey. Sample sizes (and percentages) by gender identity reflect the full SHW sample. For each individual indicator, the sample size will vary based on non-response and whether the question was asked to all students or a subset of students (†).

**Rounding and Disclosure Control:** Figures are rounded to the nearest decimal point. Only estimates based on 50 responses or more are presented. Data items based on less than 50 responses are considered at risk for deductive disclosure and are suppressed.

In many countries, including in the United Kingdom (UK), COVID-19 social distancing measures placed substantial restrictions on children’s lives in 2020 and 2021, including closure of schools and limitations on play. Many children faced milestones such as transition to secondary school having missed several months of face-to-face schooling in the previous academic years.

**Sample:** The sample is nationally representative of secondary school students in school years 7 to 11.

**Acronyms:** SHRN - The School Health Research Network, SHW- Student Health and Well-being.

**Find out More About The SHRN Student Health and Well-being Survey:** Nicholas Page, Shujun Liu, Kelly Morgan, Lianna Angel, Edna Ogada, Chris Roberts, Honor Young, Simon Murphy, Data Resource Profile: The School Health Research Network (SHRN) Student Health and Well-being (SHW) survey of 11–16-year-olds (2017–2023), *International Journal of Epidemiology*, Volume 53, Issue 6, December 2024, dyae161, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyae161>

And visit [shrn.org.uk](https://www.shrn.org.uk)

**About SHRN:** The School Health Research Network (SHRN) is a research-policy-practice partnership between Cardiff University, Welsh Government and Public Health Wales which generates and translates research evidence to improve young people’s health and well-being in Wales and beyond.

**Data Disclaimer:** The statement below is to be included on all outputs utilising SHRN data that have been developed without oversight or involvement from the SHRN team at Cardiff University. This may include (but is not limited to) reports, academic journal articles, and presentations.

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