**TIP LINES FOR SCHOOL SAFETY**
A National Portrait of Tip Line Use

**How common are tip lines?**
Just over half (51%) of public middle and high schools in the United States had a tip line in operation at the conclusion of the 2018–2019 school year.

**Number of years school tip line has been in operation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>17%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<td>5 years</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<td>6 years</td>
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<td>7 years</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<td>8 years</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 years</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 years</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 or more years</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What types of problems are reported to tip lines?**

- Bullying or harassment: 34%
- Possess, sell, or distribute drug (including vaping): 14%
- Suicidal Ideation - Reported by another person: 11%
- School complaint: 8%
- Threat of planned school attack: 6%
- Sexual assault/harassment: 5%
- Non-safety concern: 5%
- Self-harm (e.g. cutting): 5%
- Threat of assault: 4%
- Threat to safety: 4%
- Cyberbullying: 3%
- Depression: 2%
- Possess, consume, or distribute alcohol: 2%
- Child abuse: 2%
- Fighting: 2%
- Possession of a weapon: 1%
- Sexting: 1%
- School rule violation: 1%
- Vandalism: 1%
- Theft/stealing: 1%
- Suicidal Ideation - Self-reported: 1%
- Animal abuse: 1%
- Sexual harassment: 1%
- Dating violence: 1%
- Gang activity resulting in violence: 1%
- Fire setting: 1%
- Other: 4%

**What benefits do school administrators see from their tip lines?**

- Increased Awareness
- Effective Responses
- Incident Prevention

- School is more aware of potential safety issues: 77%
- Prevented incidents of self-harm/suicide: 73%
- Respond more effectively to bullying: 67%
- Prevented violent incidents: 56%
- Respond more effectively to drug use: 53%

**What challenges do school administrators see with operating tip lines?**

- Insufficient Information: 41%
- Raising Student Awareness: 36%
- Getting students to submit tips: 34%
- False/Inaccurate Tips: 30%
- Out of scope: 28%
- Raising community awareness: 24%
- Insufficient staff to triage: 5%
- Insufficient staff training: 5%
- Insufficient staff to respond to tips: 5%
- Establishing/keeping FAQs up to date: 7%
- Legal liability issues: 7%
- Technological challenges/Issues: 5%