


# Attendance and Health





**COUNT ME IN!**  
Attending School, Preparing for Life

---

**Friday, August 16, 2019**  
Maine AAP, Maine Assoc of School Nurses, Maine DOE  
Susan Lieberman, Count ME In

1

## Multiple Measures of Attendance


**Truancy**

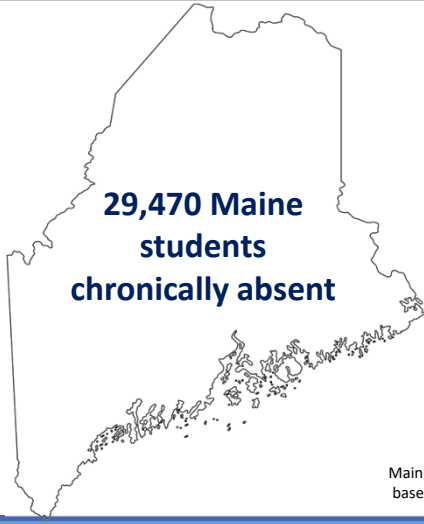
**Who is missing school without permission?**  
Typically refers to unexcused absences. Each state has the authority to define truancy and when it triggers legal intervention.

**Chronic Absence**

**Who is missing so much school they are academically at risk?**  
Missing 10% for any reason— excused, unexcused, etc. Chronic absence is a required reporting metric and a measure for school improvement in ESSA.

3

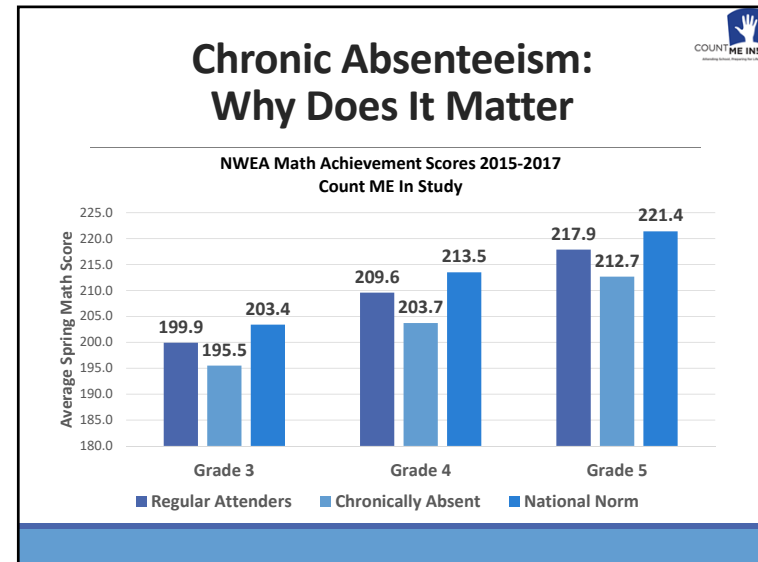




**29,470 Maine students chronically absent**


Maine Department of Education  
based on 2017-18 school year

2



4


## Count ME In



- Established 2013
- Community of Educators and Youth Serving Organizations
- Data-driven and data-informed
- Parent and Youth Guided
- Focus on Whole-School and Whole Community Approach

5

## Count ME In Steps, Challenges and Supports



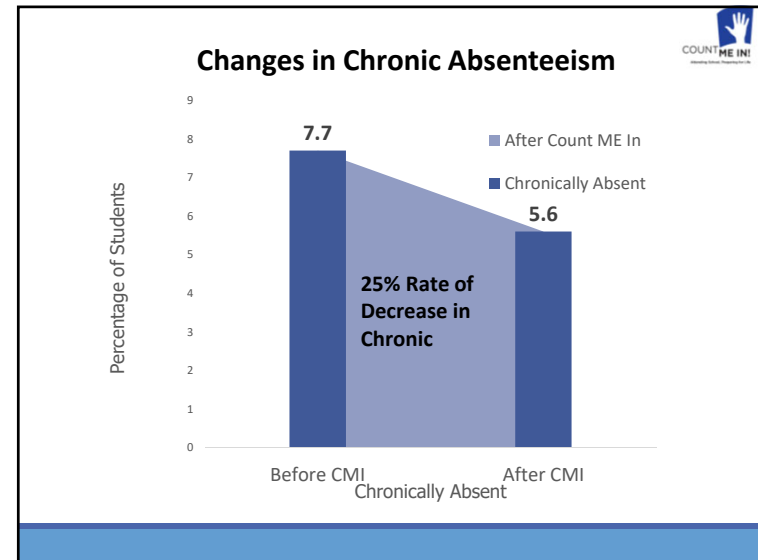
- Universal Messaging and Positive Engagement**
- Implement Early Warning and Response System**
- Establish Review Structure**
- Implement Data-Driven Interventions**
- Incorporate Partners and Continuous Quality Improvement Review**

7

## Link Student Health and Absenteeism

- Leading Health Conditions that Impact Attendance
- Successful Learners are Healthier Adults
- Increased Connection with School, Students More Likely to Attend and Less Likely to Engage in Risky Behaviors
- Address Root Causes



6



8

**School Nurses and Medical Providers are Key**

- Outreach to Families
- Share Guidance When a Student Should Stay Home
- Know Your Community's Chronic Absentee Rate And the Students who are Chronically Absent
- Participate on School Teams
- Facilitate Partnerships between Medical Providers and School Nurses




9

**THANK YOU!**

**Susan Lieberman:** [slieberman@countmeinmaine.org](mailto:slieberman@countmeinmaine.org)  
207-747-9059

Additional Resources  
Count ME In: [www.countmeinmaine.org](http://www.countmeinmaine.org)  
Attendance Works: [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)



*Count ME In is funded with support from Sam L Cohen Foundation, United Way of Greater Portland, United Way of York County and Unum*



11

**Your Ideas**

1. Approximately, how many times during the year do you contact medical providers?
2. What type of information is helpful to support students' health at school?
3. What is the best way to receive the information?



10