



## **2012 Shape of the Nation Report: Quick Facts**

1. 43 states (84%) mandate that schools must provide their students with elementary physical education.
2. 41 states (80%) mandate that schools must provide their students with middle school physical education.
3. 44 states (86%) mandate that schools must provide their students with high school physical education.
4. 38 states (75%) mandate that schools must provide their students with physical education in elementary, middle/junior high, and high school.
5. 6 states (12% - Illinois, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, and Vermont) require physical education in every grade, K-12.
6. 16 states (31%) have established mandated minutes/week for elementary physical education participation.
7. 18 states (35%) have established mandated minutes/week for middle school physical education participation.
8. 10 states (20%) have established mandated minutes/week for high school physical education participation.
9. 6 states (12%) have established mandated minutes/week for all grade levels for school physical education participation.
10. 50 states (98%) have adopted state standards for physical education. Only Iowa does not have physical education standards.
11. 28 states (55%) allow exemptions or waivers for schools regarding physical education time or credit requirements.
12. 33 states (65%) permit schools to allow students to substitute other activities for physical education class and/or credits for graduation.
13. 9 states (18%) require elementary schools to provide students with recess.
14. 11 states (22%) prohibit the practice of withholding physical activity, including recess, as punishment or for disciplinary reasons.
15. 11 states (22%) prohibit the use of physical activity as punishment for inappropriate behavior or for disciplinary reasons.
16. 13 states (25%) require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity time for elementary school students.
17. 7 states (14%) require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity time for middle school students.

18. 3 states (6%) require a minimum weekly amount of physical activity time for high school students.
19. 34 states (67%) require school districts to provide their local school wellness policies to the state education agency.
20. 27 states (53%) monitor the implementation of local school wellness policies.
21. 12 states (24%) distributed written physical education curriculum to schools/school districts in the past year.
22. 20 states (40%) distributed written goals and objectives for physical education programs to schools/school districts in the past year.
23. 17 states (33%) distributed student learning benchmarks for physical education to schools/school districts in the past year.
24. 15 states (29%) distributed a chart describing scope and sequence for physical education to schools/school districts in the past year.
25. 18 states (35%) distributed lesson plans or learning activities for physical education to schools/school districts in the past year.
26. 30 states (59%) allow required physical education credits to be earned through online physical education courses.
27. 17 states (33%) require online physical education courses to be taught by a certified physical education teacher.
28. 26 states (51%) require some form of student assessment in physical education.
29. 14 states (27%) require fitness assessments. 9 states (18%) require the use of a particular fitness assessment.
30. 12 states (24%) require collection of height and weight data by schools/school districts.
31. 9 states (18%) require collection of BMI data by schools/school districts.
32. 28 states (55%) require physical education grades to be included in a student's grade point average.
33. 21 states (41%) have a teacher evaluation system in place for physical education teachers.
34. 40 states (78%) require all who teach elementary school physical education to be certified/licensed.
35. 42 states (82%) require all who teach middle school/junior high school physical education to be certified/licensed.
36. 46 states (88%) require all who teach high school physical education to be certified/licensed.
37. 37 states (73%) require professional development/continuing education to maintain/renew physical education teacher certification/licensure.
38. 10 states (20%) provide funding for professional development for physical education teachers.
39. 31 states (61%) actively support the National Board Certification process.
40. 1 state (2% - New York) requires each school district to have a licensed physical educator serve as a physical education coordinator for the district.
41. 42 states (82%) currently employ someone to oversee or coordinate physical education for the state.

**\*Statistics are out of 51 states, with the District of Columbia being considered a state for the purposes of this report.**