

# Research Informing Changes in K-12 Metrics Framework Released in October

*The following references and data inform what's being learned about the limited transmission of COVID-19 in schools when guidance and protocols like [Ready Schools, Safe Learners](#) are closely followed. This is not intended to be a complete list. The University of Washington summary shared below does contain a more comprehensive bibliography for further reference.*

*Finally, please note that evidence changes and OHA continues to monitor and digest scientific findings to inform state policy and public health decision-making.*

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- 1) OHA has seen very few school outbreaks so far in Oregon; none large. As of December 3, 2020, 139 schools have reported at least one COVID-19 case in a student or staff member. Of these, 77 schools have had only one case.
- 2) Reports from around the United States and internationally include:
  - [“Are The Risks Of Reopening Schools Exaggerated?”](#) (NPR)
  - [“School Children Seem Unlikely to Fuel Coronavirus Surge, Scientists Say”](#) (NY Times)
- 3) [Summary of Evidence Related to Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), U. of Washington, October 19, 2020
- 4) [Robust surveillance from a district in Germany demonstrated little transmission in schools over two months](#)
  - Ehrhardt, J., Ekinci, A., Krehl, H., Meincke, M., Finci, I., Klein, J., Geisel, B., Wagner-Wiening, C., Eichner, M. and Brockmann, S.O., 2020. Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in children aged 0 to 19 years in childcare facilities and schools after their reopening in May 2020, Baden-Württemberg, Germany. *Eurosurveillance*, 25(36), p.2001587.
- 5) [Robust surveillance from England demonstrated little transmission in schools over one month](#)
  - Ismail, S.A., Saliba, V., Bernal, J.L., Ramsay, M.E. and Ladhani, S., 2020. SARS-CoV-2 infection and transmission in educational settings: cross-sectional analysis of clusters and outbreaks in England.

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- 6) [Limited school attendance did not appear to significantly affect transmission.](#) Reopening of schools for all students in countries with low community transmission (Denmark and Norway) has not resulted in a significant increase in the growth rate of COVID- 19 cases. Return of most students to school in countries with higher levels of community transmission (Germany) has been accompanied by increased transmission among students, but not school staff.
  - Stage HB, Shingleton J, Ghosh S, Scarabel F, Pellis L, Finnie T. Shut and re-open the role of schools in the spread of COVID-19 in Europe. medrxiv. June 2020.
- 7) [Investigation of 27 cases from 25 schools found attack rate of 2.8% in Australia.](#) Similar low numbers of cases found in Ireland and Singapore before schools closed.