C L A S S

CLASSIFICATION OF LAWS ASSOCIATED
WITH SCHOOL STUDENTS

class.cancer.gov

The Classification of Laws Associated with School Students (CLASS) is a scoring system that monitors, classifies, and evaluates physical education (PE) and nutrition policies that have been codified into law across the United States. CLASS data are updated regularly and are currently available from 2003–2018.

CLASS uses a **scoring system to code state laws** as they compare to national standards and recommendations for PE and nutrition.

CLASS scores for PE and nutrition laws are available at **elementary**, **middle**, and **high school** levels and also as a summary score.

Policy Map

Users can generate policy maps for **11 PE-related** and **21 nutrition-related policy areas**. Users can also select a particular state to generate information on policy scores by year and by grade level. Data can be printed or downloaded for analysis.
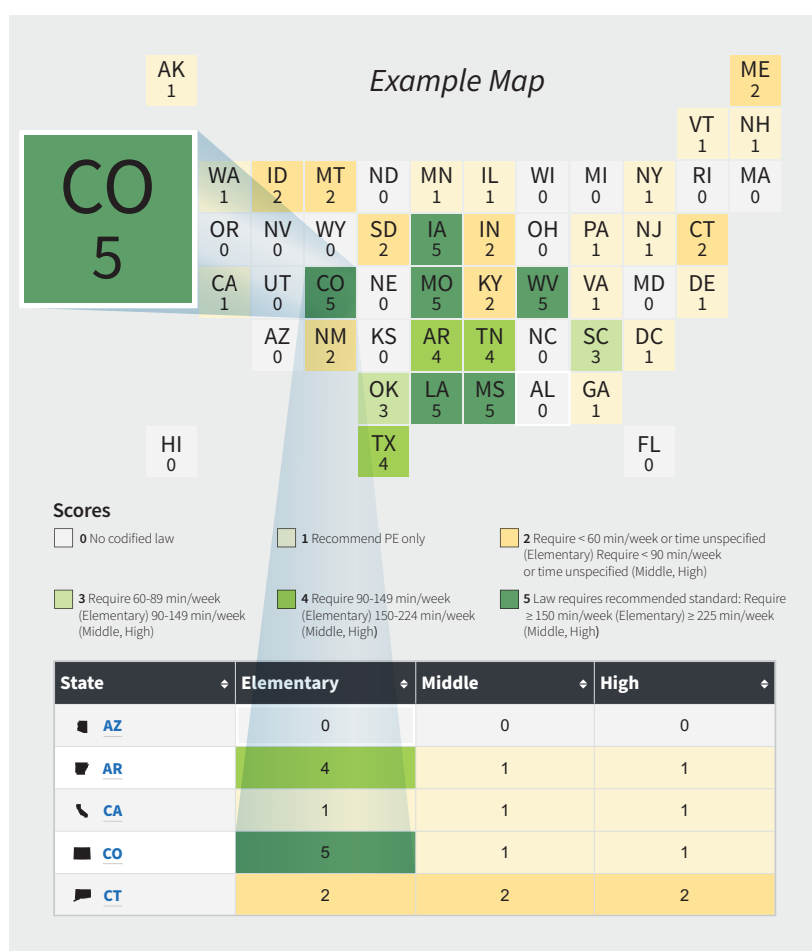
Policy Areas Covered

PE (11 across grade levels)

- PE class time and curriculum standards
- PE teacher and staffing requirements
- Proficiency requirements
- Physical activity time requirements
- Moderate to vigorous activity in PE
- Assessment of health-related fitness
- Recess time
- Joint-use agreement provisions

Nutrition (21 nutrition areas)

- Competitive food and beverage standards
- School meal environment and reimbursable meals
- Potable water and nutrition education requirements
- Food service director qualifications
- Coordinating or advisory council requirements
- Farm-to-School provisions and marketing restrictions
- Body mass index screening
- Provisions around parties, events, and fundraisers

Example Map

State	Elementary	Middle	High
AZ	0	0	0
AR	4	1	1
CA	1	1	1
CO	5	1	1
CT	2	2	2

Scores

- 0 No codified law
- 1 Recommend PE only
- 2 Require < 60 min/week or time unspecified (Elementary) Require < 90 min/week or time unspecified (Middle, High)
- 3 Require 60-89 min/week (Elementary) 90-149 min/week (Middle, High)
- 4 Require 90-149 min/week (Elementary) 150-224 min/week (Middle, High)
- 5 Law requires recommended standard: Require ≥ 150 min/week (Elementary) ≥ 225 min/week (Middle, High)
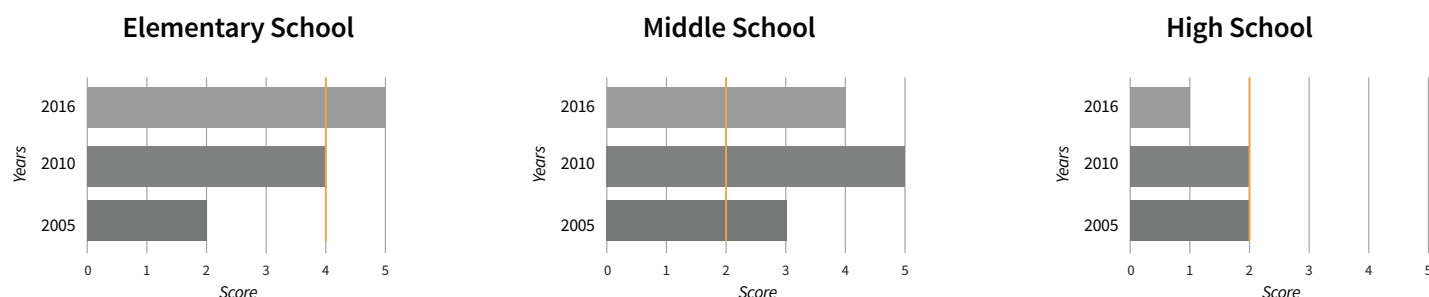
NIH
National Institutes of Health

State Profiles Tool

The profiles tool allows users to create state-specific reports by year, with each report containing charts for all policy areas in PE and nutrition. Each chart indicates state scores across each grade level for a specific policy area and compares scores to the national median. Data can be printed, downloaded, or used for presentations.

Example State Charts

Grey bars show a selected state's policy score by school type. Yellow lines represent the national median* for that particular policy area.

Elementary School

Years	Score
2016	5
2010	4
2005	2

Middle School

Years	Score
2016	4
2010	5
2005	3

High School

Years	Score
2016	1
2010	2
2005	2

*Half the states receive a score above the median and the other half receive a score below the median.

Class Actions

Users can review summaries of publications and analyses of CLASS-related data and informational materials. Links to original publications and presentations are included.

How Can CLASS Help You?

Researchers

Analyze school nutrition- and physical activity-related laws.

For example:

- **Link the data** with other surveillance, health, and education data sets

- Track changes in laws over time

- Evaluate factors associated with implementation of laws

Policymakers

Monitor how state PE and nutrition policies compare to other states.

For example:

- Examine whether states are meeting the most current standards and recommendations for PE and nutrition

School Boards, Teachers, and the Public

Understand how local policies compare to state laws.

For example:

- Examine laws within and across grade levels to see whether they get weaker or stronger as children get older

- Determine whether your school meets state guidelines

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