

Louisiana Believes

Distance Learning Survey
April 2020

Distance Learning Survey

The Louisiana Department of Education issued a Distance Learning Survey to all school systems statewide. The survey ran from April 7 to April 17.

The survey asked education leaders to provide information on how their school systems are providing distance learning. Question categories included:

- Distance Education (instructional methods, materials used, frequency of contact, etc.)
- Parental Engagement
- Technology Accessibility
- Staffing
- School Calendar
- Overall Needs

All 192 school systems responded.

Distance Education

100 percent of school systems surveyed are providing some form of distance education.

- 100 percent of all school systems statewide responded to the survey, including all traditional city/parish school systems, charter schools and state schools.
- 100 percent of school systems surveyed are providing some form of distance education. This may include the curricular materials typically used in classrooms, supplementary or different curricular materials, or both.

Instruction

Only 17 percent of school systems are using solely the curricular materials typically used in classrooms.

- Approximately 17 percent of school systems are using only the curriculum typically used in classrooms, 4 percent are using only supplemental materials, and 79 percent are using some combination of both.
- On average, school systems report a majority of the content students are receiving is review (approximately 61 percent).
- Students receiving distance learning are receiving English language arts and math across all grades, whereas access to science and social studies is more prevalent in grades 3-12 than in PK-2.

Communication

It is estimated that 1/4 of students are not receiving feedback on their learning.

- An estimated 173,000 students, or about 24 percent of all public students statewide, are not receiving feedback on their learning based on survey responses.
- Approximately 32 percent of school systems are connecting with students daily, 38 percent are connecting weekly, and 30 percent on some other frequency.

Technology

School systems, on average, report more than 1/3 of students and nearly 1/10 of teachers do not have the right technology to maximize learning.

Question	School System Average %
What percentage of students have home Internet access (fixed/landline or cellular/hotspot/mifi)?	66%
What percentage of students have access to a phone that could be used for conference calls/learning?	78%
What percentage of staff have the necessary technology including Internet access and computers to do their jobs at home?	93%
What percentage of students DO NOT have access to a school-issued or personal tablet/computer.	28%

Future Planning

While many school systems plan for offering some form of summer school, only 28 percent are planning on starting the school year earlier.

- Currently, 70 percent of school systems that responded are contingency planning on offering summer school, but only 28 percent are contingency planning on starting the school year earlier.
- School systems identified their Top 3 needs for additional support as:
 - Technology access for students (71 percent of responses)
 - Providing supports and related services for students with disabilities (51 percent of responses)
 - Professional development for teachers to successfully provide distance learning (43 percent of responses)