



## Reasons for Chronic Absenteeism (RCA)

<b>Demographic Items</b>
<b>What is the name of your school?</b>
How old are you? (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21)
<b>What is your gender? (male, female, other [for example: transitioning, transgendered, etc.])</b>
What grade are you in? (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)
Do you get free or reduced price lunch? (yes/no)
<b>What is your mother's level of education?</b> some high school high school diploma GED some college 2-year or associates degree 4-year or bachelors degree masters degree doctorate degree
<b>What is your Race? (*if more than one race select multi-racial)?</b> Multi-racial Asian Black/African American Hispanic/Latino White American Indian or Alaskan Native Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander Prefer not to say
<b>Do you get special education services? (yes/no)</b>
<b>Is English your first language or the language you use most often? (yes/no)</b>
<b>What are your grades?</b> All A's A's and B's Mostly B's B's and C's Mostly C's C's and D's Mostly D's D's and F's

<b>Mostly F's</b>
A mix of grades
<b>About how many days of school did you miss <u>last year</u>?</b>
5 days or less
6-10 days
11-15 days
16-20
More than 20 days
<b>About how many days of school did you miss in the <u>last month</u>?</b>
0-1 days
2-3 days
4 or more days
<b>Compared to other students, how many school days did you miss last year?</b>
The same as other students
More than other students
Fewer than other students
<b>How do you usually get to/from school?</b>
Walk or ride a bike
By bus
By car

**Survey Items/Directions:**

Please rate each question as being **Never, Rarely, Sometimes, or Usually** the reasons you miss school.

- **Never** means that it is never a reason you have missed school.
- **Rarely** means that it is not very often a reason you have missed school.
- **Sometimes** means that it is a reason you have missed school more than 3 times.
- **Usually** means that it is often the reason you have missed school.

Item	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually
1. I was sick (short term: flu, cold, headache).				
2. I was sick (long term: asthma, allergies, chronic-illness).				
3. I did not feel safe <i>on the bus ride or walk to or from school.</i>				

Item	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually
4. I hung-out with friends or family instead of going to school.				
5. I had an appointment (doctor, dentist, counselor, etc.).				
6. I did not get my work done or study for a test.				
7. I stayed up too late and missed school.				
8. There were problems with the car (would not run, ran out of gas, etc.).				
9. I did not want to be teased or bullied.				
10. I think school is boring.				
11. I missed the bus, or the bus was late or the bus did not come.				
12. I did not feel safe <i>at school</i> .				
13. There was no reason for me to go to school.				
14. I had to take care of or help a family member				

(child, sibling, relative, etc.).				
Item	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually
<b>15. No one misses me when I don't come to school.</b>				
<b>16. I don't think school will help me reach my future goals.</b>				
<b>17. I had to work.</b>				
<b>18. I did not want to walk in bad weather.</b>				
<b>19. My parents don't care if I miss school.</b>				
<b>20. I overslept.</b>				
<b>21. I was too stressed or upset to come to school.</b>				
<b>22. I had to go to court or was in jail or juvenile detention center.</b>				
<b>23. I did not want to see another student(s) because of drama or conflict.</b>				
<b>24. I was out of town.</b>				
<b>25. I had a family emergency (death, illness,</b>				

<b>injury, drama, etc.).</b>				
<b>Item</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Usually</b>
<b>26. I was suspended.</b>				
<b>27. I didn't have the right or clean clothes or supplies for school.</b>				
<b>28. School work is hard for me.</b>				
<b>29. My school is in bad shape or is not clean.</b>				
<b>30. I was homeless or had no place to stay.</b>				
<b>31. The water, heat, or power were turned off at home.</b>				
<b>32. I did not want to see a teacher.</b>				
<b>33. My school does not have basic supplies (books, toilet paper, etc.).</b>				
<b>34. I did not want to get in-trouble for being late or tardy.</b>				
<b>35. My school is not a nice place to be (people are not nice, people don't care about others, unfair rules, etc.).</b>				

Item	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually
<b>36. I get sick at school.</b>				
<b>37. I did not want to go to a class.</b>				
<b>38. I was or wanted to get drunk or high.</b>				
<b>39. I get sent to the office too much.</b>				
<b>40. I was too sad or depressed to come to school.</b>				
<b>41. I had to move.</b>				
<b>42. Are there any other reasons not listed that you miss school?</b>				
<b>43. What are the reasons you do come to school (e.g. friends, clubs/sports, etc.)?</b>				
<b>44. What would help you come to school more?</b>				

For additional information contact: Amber Brundage [Abendumage@usf.edu](mailto:Abendumage@usf.edu)