

How School-Based Telemedicine Prevents Partial-Day Absences 94% of the Time and Engages Historically Marginalized Students



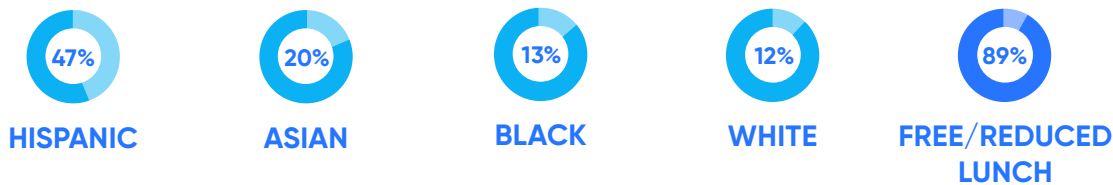
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Health related issues are the top reason children miss days of school, contributing to chronic absenteeism. Even before COVID-19, school districts wanted to understand whether telemedicine services in schools could enable students with a school-day health issue to return to class instead of being sent home, preventing the loss of instruction. Independent researchers studied the impacts of school-based telemedicine over two years in a diverse district.



District Demographics During The Study:

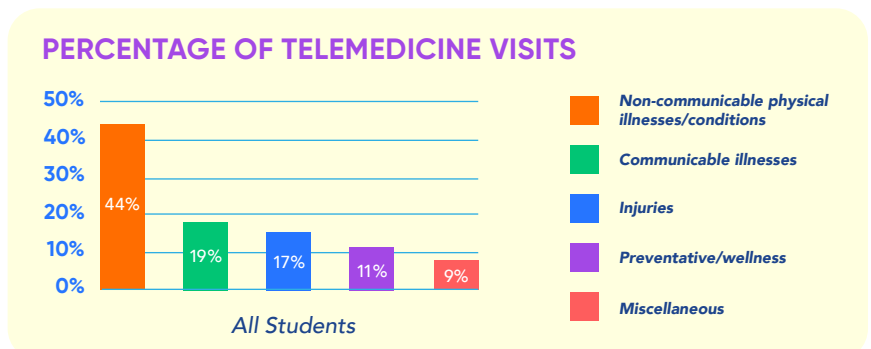
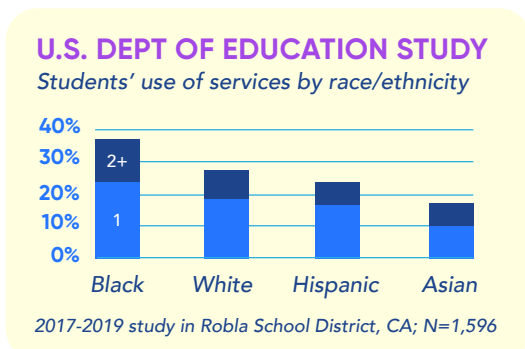


Reduced Early Dismissals and Absenteeism:

The study found that **nearly all telemedicine visits (94%) resulted in students safely returning to class** by resolving immediate health concerns. Students who returned to class received, on average, **three hours of instructional time** remaining in the school day. This resulted in over **2,500 instructional hours saved** over two years.

Increase in Health Equity and Access:

The high return to class rate holds across subgroups by race/ethnicity. **Black students utilized school-based telemedicine services at a rate 50% above** the overall student population. **Hispanic students demonstrated higher usage for preventative/wellness reasons.** These findings suggest that school-based telemedicine services fill an unmet need and can directly impact health equity and educational equity.



ABOUT THE STUDY:

This study followed 1,596 students who were continuously enrolled over a two year period (2017-2019) in Robla Elementary School District's five schools. The district partnered with Hazel Health as their telehealth provider. [Read the full study here.](#)