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The Kentucky Center for School Safety (KCSS) will be releasing its 2015-16 School Safety Data Report examining law violations committed in Kentucky's public schools on May 1, 2017.

During the 2015-16 school year 6,001 students committed 6,995 law violations. These 6,001 students comprise **less than one percent (0.92 percent)** of the student population (655,475 students), indicating that the vast majority of students in Kentucky's public schools did not commit a reported law violation. This year's report includes an Appendix C that captures types of law violations by grade level and category.

Even though this report shows that less than one percent of students in Kentucky committed a law violation in a school setting, there are several items that warrant close monitoring in the future:

- Marijuana/hashish use and possession is the number one law violation for 2015-16 and accounted for 26.45 percent of all law violations.
- Alcohol use and possession decreased considerably, 26.19 percent, in the 2015-16 report. This violation had increased by 46.80 percent in the previous report.
- This report illustrates trend data for the past three school years of law violations in Kentucky's school districts.

The school district data are grouped by population in order to provide comparative data for school districts of similar size. The district groups include: less than 2,499 students, 2,500-4,999 students, 5,000-9,999 students and greater than 10,000 students.

As required under KRS 158.442, the KCSS analyzes all law violations reported by each of Kentucky's public schools each school year. This analysis provides school officials with statewide data that can be used when reviewing their respective district's student behavioral management policies and practices.

While historically KCSS has undertaken the responsibility of analyzing both board violations and law violations, in 2012, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) began to produce a similar report that reflected the number of resolutions (consequences) assigned for each reported violation. This report focuses solely on law violations committed by students enrolled in our state's public schools.

It is our hope that this data will provide school district officials with the information needed to review their disciplinary approaches as they continue to seek effective methods when addressing law violations.

The 2015-16 School Safety Data Report will be released via KCSS's website [www.kysafeschools.org](http://www.kysafeschools.org) on May 1, 2017.