



SURVEY REPORT

School Nurse Insights Report 2025



august schools

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Before we dive in

This summer, hundreds of nurses opened up about the real day-to-day of school health. They're balancing care and compliance, tracking down documentation, and managing it all with limited time and tools.

This report is part of our ongoing effort to:

- Understand the day-to-day challenges nurses face
- Make visible the invisible labor of school nurses
- And advocate for simpler, more supportive systems

This report is built from their insights, but it's not just for them. It's for every nurse who's felt overwhelmed and under-recognized. It's also for school leaders who want to better understand the invisible work happening every day.

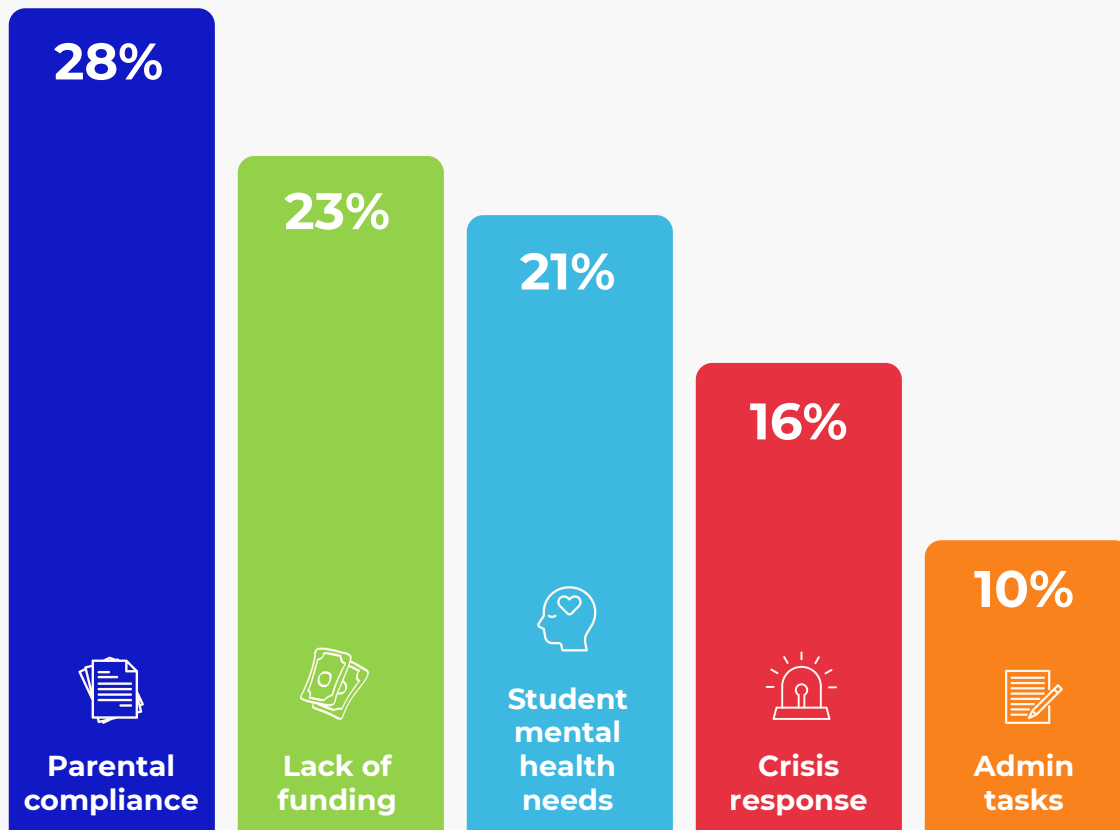
Inside this report, you'll find data, reflections, and a few moments of levity, because even in the chaos, school nurses show up with heart and a sense of humor.



^ Biggest challenges

School nurses are responsible for more than student care. We asked nurses to rank their most pressing challenges, and the responses highlight just how much ground they cover.

? What is your biggest challenge as a school nurse?



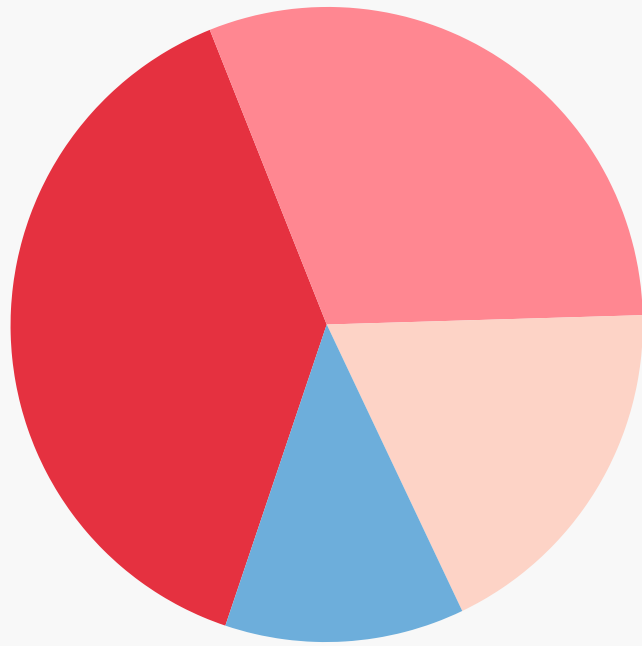
1 in 3 nurses ranked parental compliance with health documentation as their biggest concern. Families are doing their best, but nurses often bear the fallout.

Lots of paperwork

Documentation is the quiet drain on the day. Nurses know it well. For school leaders, this is where minutes turn into hours: charting, forms, and parent follow-ups. Streamlining here gives care time back.

? On average, how many hours per week do you spend on paperwork and documentation?

-  > 15 hours
-  10-15 hours
-  5-10 hours
-  0-5 hours



**2 in 5 nurses
spend 15+ hours
a week on
documentation.**

That's more than
3 hours a day!



We're here to help

Nurses told us they want less clicking and more care time. That's why August has one-click charting, making documentation faster, cleaner, and easier to manage.

? What's your biggest concern regarding student health documentation?

Too much time spent tracking down information

66%

Accuracy & consistency of documentation

58%

Ease of access for staff 33%

Security & privacy 28%

Difficulty reporting on health data 28%



2 in 3 nurses said that their biggest concern is how much time they spend tracking down information. Especially in the case of an emergency, health data needs to be easy to find.



We're here to help

At August Schools, we've built an EHR that makes it easy to access a student's health information directly on their **Student card**.

Zoe Aguilar

Open new encounter Export Generate files

Consent for treatment
Enrollment needs review
Anxiety Head injury + Add allergies + Add conditions

Pineapple allergy Pineapple allergy Apple allergy

Counselor tags
MTSS Tier 3 + Add tag

Nurse tags
Past Seizures only contact mom + Add tag

Name Zoe Aguilar
DOB 09-28-2008 (16)
Gender female
Legal sex F
Grade Unknown grade
Race Black or African American
Citizenship United States of America
Dorm House Brown - 86

How nurses are working

Here's how the school nurse workday breaks down. For nurses, this will feel familiar. For school leaders, it shows where time goes and why small workflow fixes matter.

? **What percentage of your workday is spent on direct student care vs. administrative tasks?**

54%

Equal amounts
student care and admin work

31%

Majority student care

15%

Majority admin
work



Only 1 in 3 nurses spend most of their day on student care.

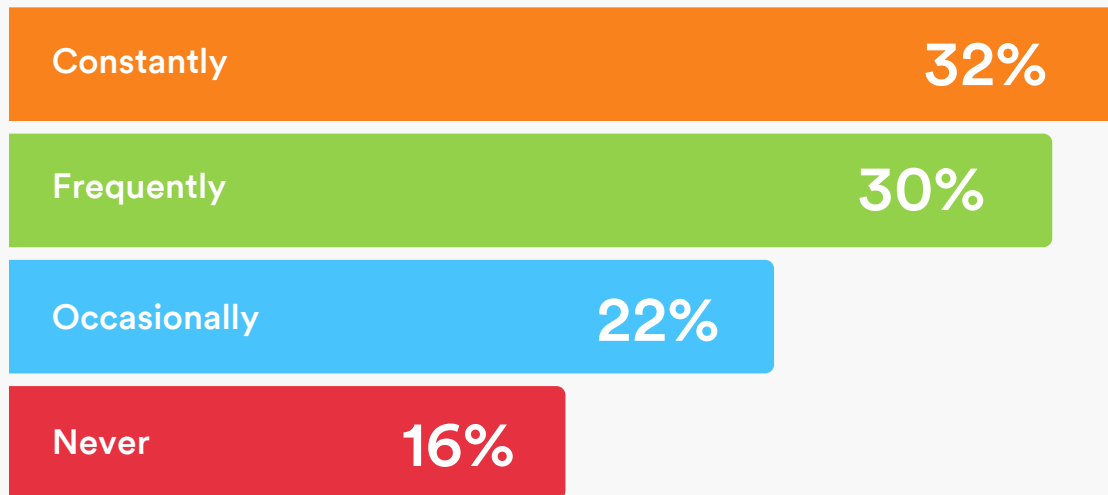
The rest split their time or spend more on paperwork. This balance matters. It limits the time nurses can spend building relationships, responding to needs, and providing care.



We're here to help

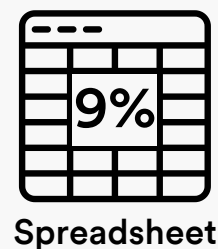
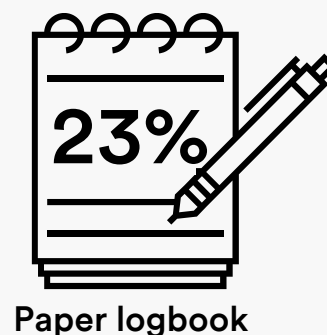
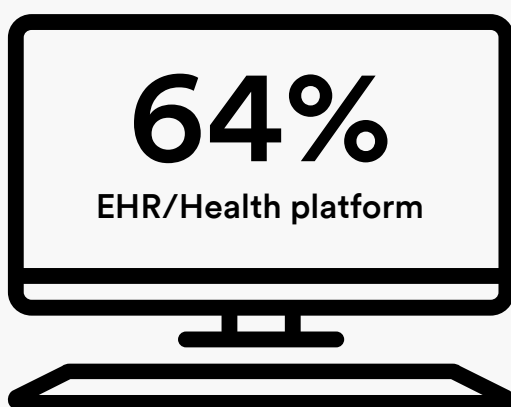
Charting in August Schools is quick and easy with our pre-built templates. Spending less time charting means more time for student care.

? How often do you have to stay late or take work home to complete documentation?



4 in 5 nurses stay late or take work home at least occasionally to finish documentation. Only 16% never do. For most, paperwork doesn't end when school does.

? How do you typically track student visits to your office?



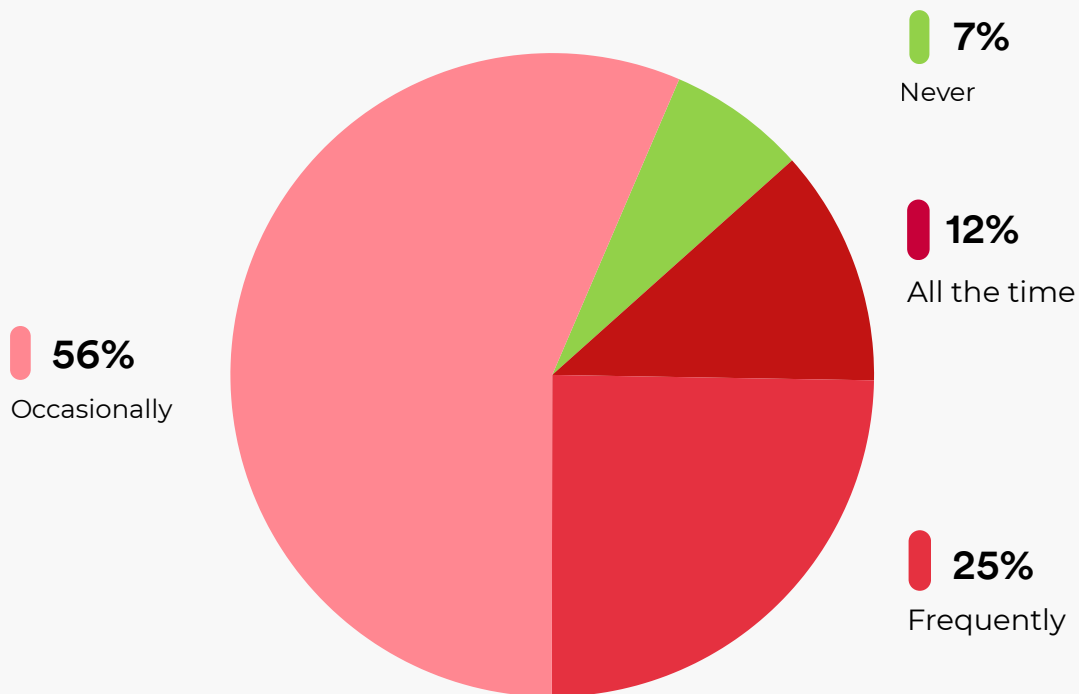
Other 4%



How often do you have to enter the same student health information in multiple places?

93%

of school nurses re-enter the same student health information in multiple places



We're here to help

August Schools is an EHR that is integrated directly with your SIS, meaning you never have to enter student health information twice.

? How long does it take you to prepare required reports for your school or district?

Whether it's for a district office, an independent school board, or a state audit, nurses are often the ones pulling and packaging health data. We asked how long that takes in a typical cycle.



Most nurses spend hours each week just generating reports. **1 in 5 nurses** spend almost a whole school day generating reports.

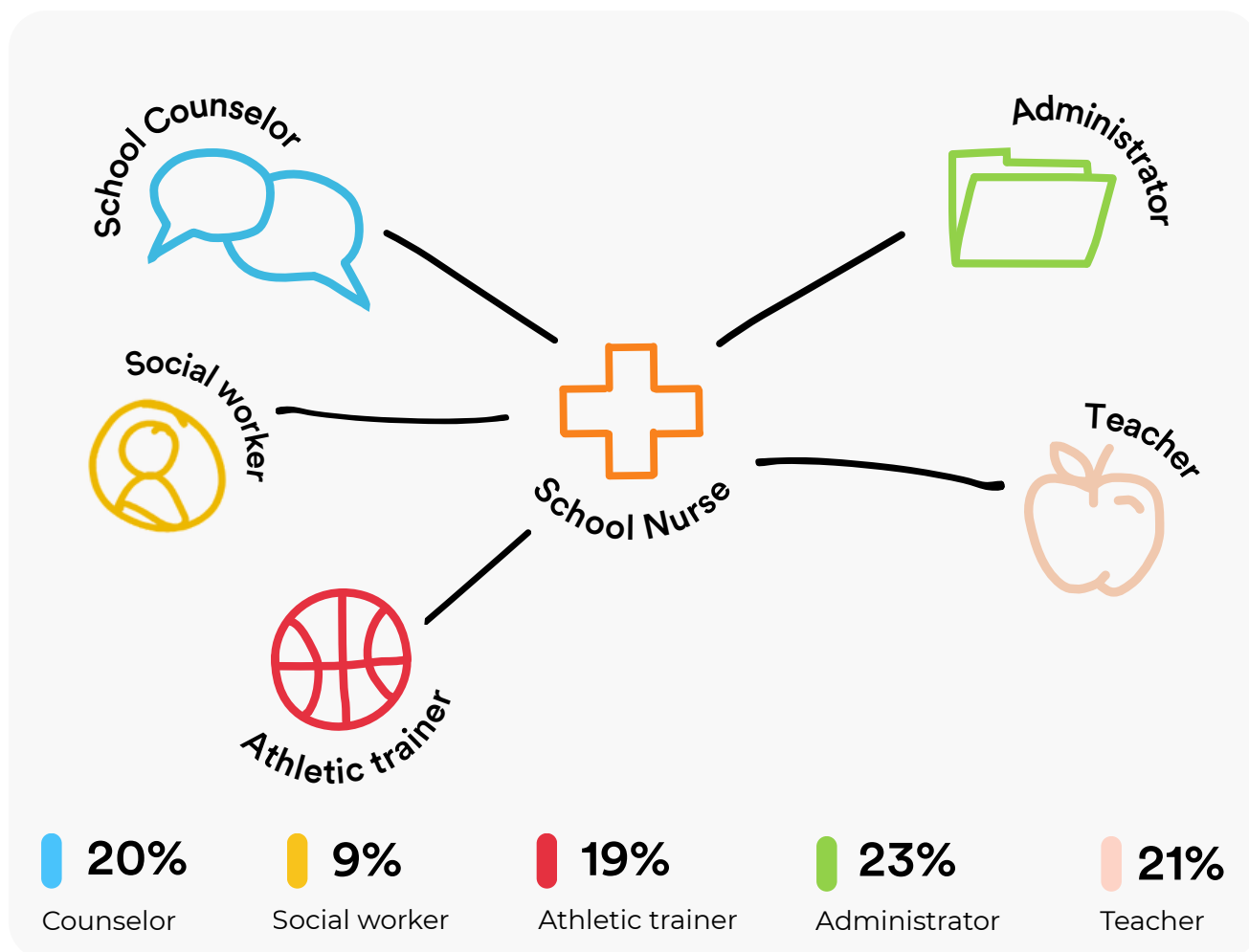


We're here to help

In August, all reporting draws from centralized, organized student records. Use built-in templates, filter by date, grade, condition, or cohort, and export to CSV or PDF. Save your go-to reports so they're one click next time. Audit-ready logs, time stamps, and role-based access support FERPA compliance while keeping data easy to retrieve.

Working together

? Who do you collaborate with most at your school?



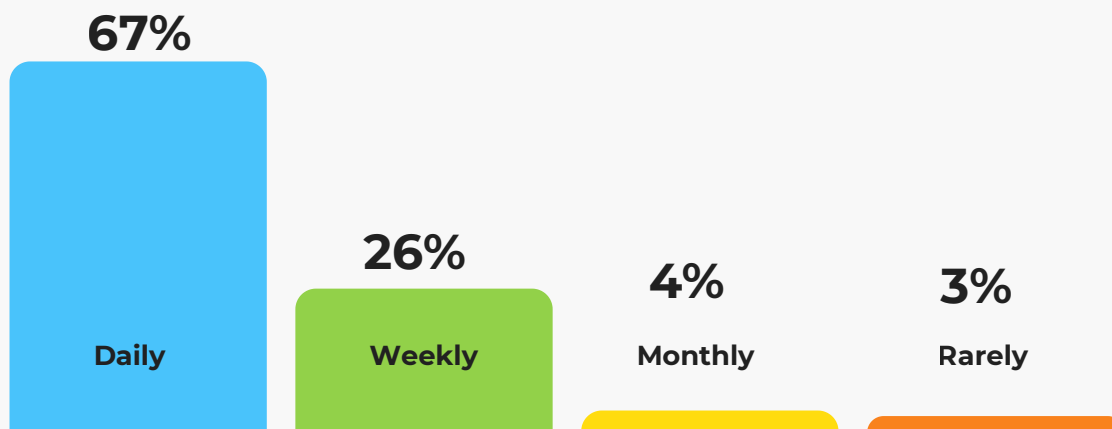
Additional roles nurses work with: psychologist, physical and occupational therapists, other school nurses, migrant specialist, student support, truancy officer, & BCBA.

We're here to help

In August, when a nurse notices that a student is struggling with anxiety or missing class, they can tag a counselor or administrator directly in the chart, so no one falls through the cracks.



How often do you communicate with other student support staff (counselors, athletic trainers, administrators) about student health?



Daily collaboration is the norm. 67% of nurses connect with counselors, athletic trainers, or administrators every day and 26% weekly. That cadence makes efficient, schoolwide communication essential.



How often do you feel like other school staff understand the role of a school nurse?

29% 40% 25% 6%
Never Somewhat Not really Totally get it



Only 6% of nurses feel fully understood by their school staff. For most nurses, the role is only partly seen. That's a chance for schools to listen, learn, and back them up.

? **If a student has a chronic condition (asthma, diabetes, etc.), how often do teachers or staff come to you for guidance?**

Even when a student has a known chronic condition like asthma or diabetes, many nurses aren't looped in as often as they should be. They ensure students not only stay safe, but thrive academically.



1 in 10 nurses report that teachers rarely or never ask for guidance. Supporting students with chronic conditions takes teamwork, and that starts with communication.



4%

Never, they don't ask and I wish they would

5%

Rarely, they mostly figure it out themselves

57%

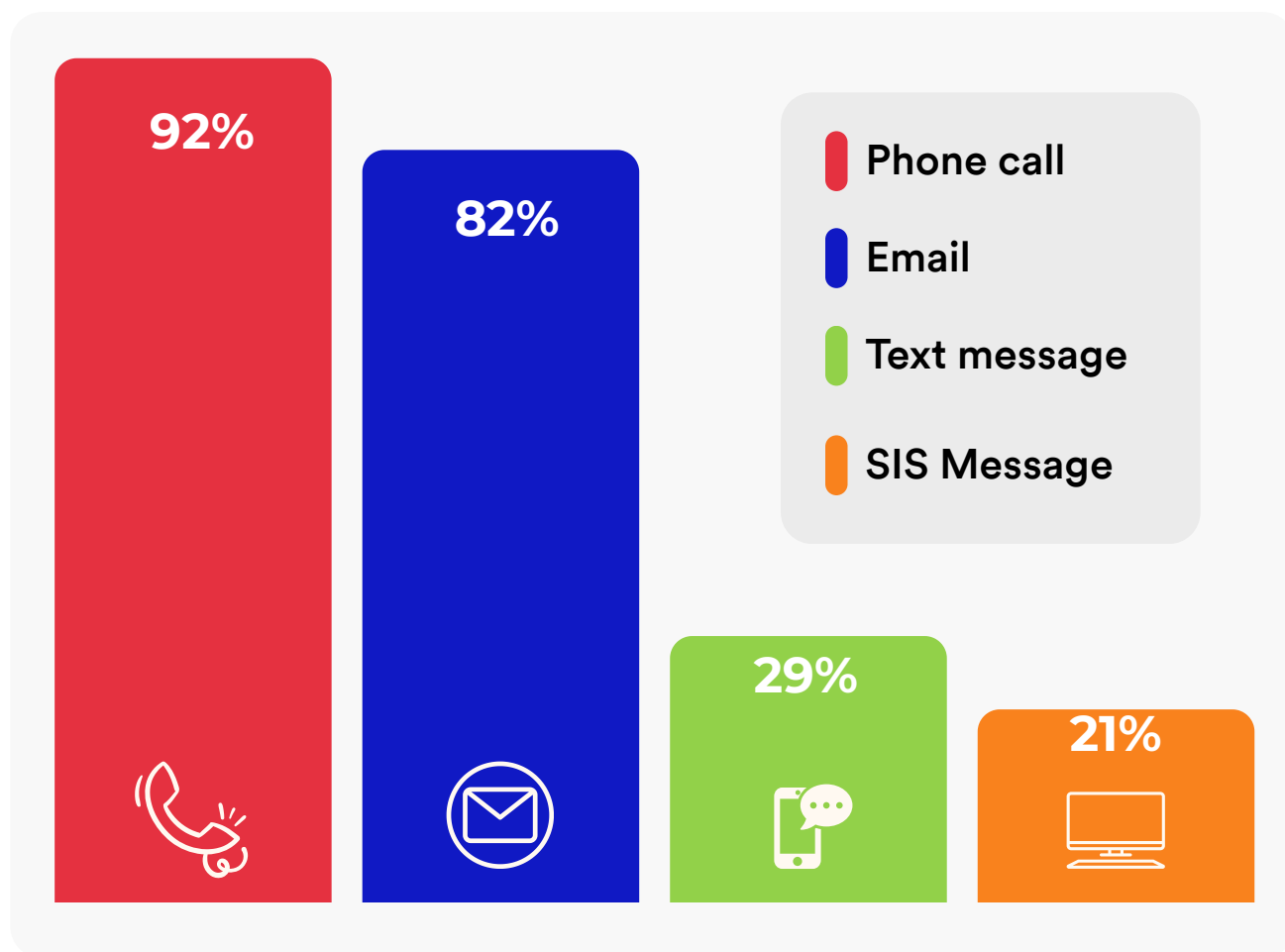
Sometimes, but not often enough

34%

All the time, they ask frequently

? What methods do you most commonly use to communicate with families?

When nurses need to keep families in the loop, whether it's an emergency or just a heads-up about a stomachache, they need a way to connect quickly.



“Being able to text parents in August is one of my favorite things.”

Holly, School Nurse

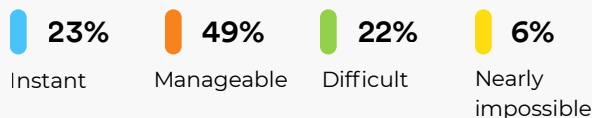
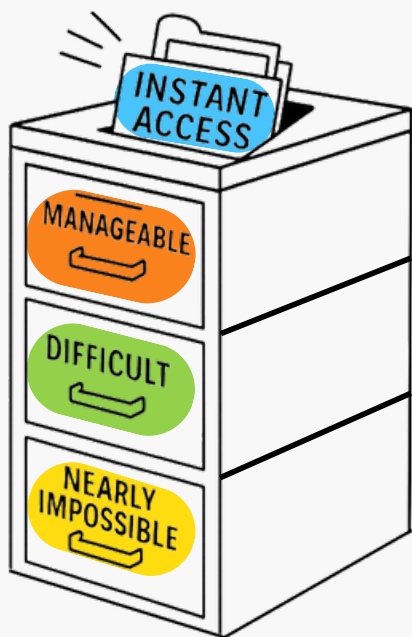
[Read the case study](#)



Technology & security



How easy is it for you to access a student's past health records when needed?



Did you know?

1 in 3 nurses described the process of accessing past health records as difficult and time-consuming or nearly impossible.



We're here to help

August keeps student health records organized, searchable, and time-stamped. Whether you're answering parent questions, or prepping for an audit, no more searching through file cabinets.



Meet our Resident Nurse, Laura Estrada, RN, BSN



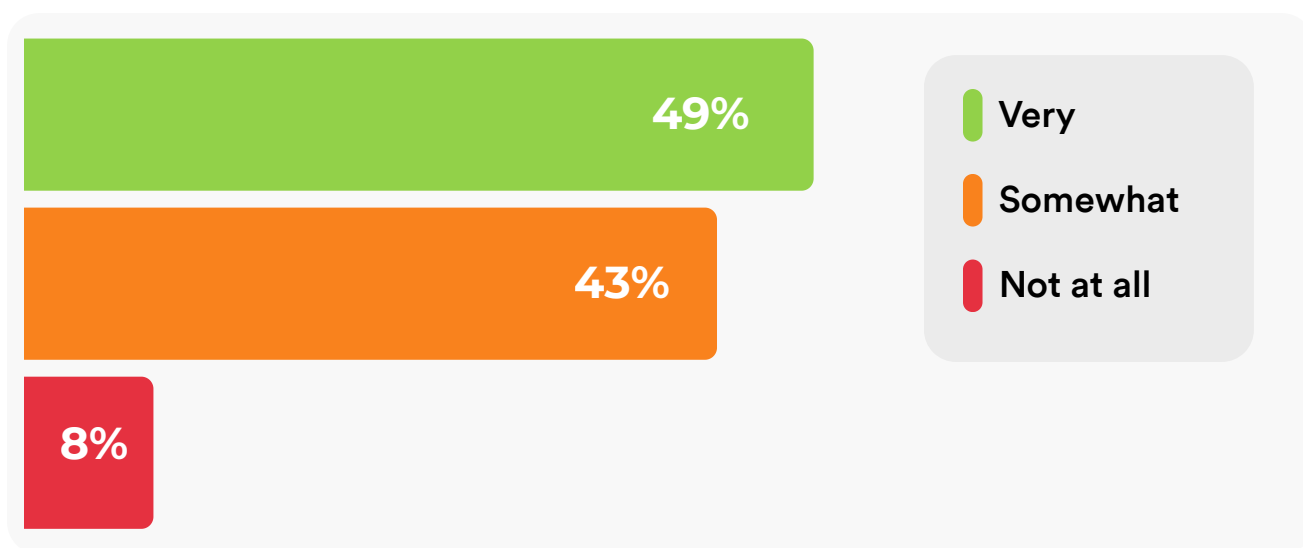
After using August at her own school, Laura joined the August Schools team as our Resident Nurse. She brings a school nurse's perspective to everything we do. She helps us ask the right questions and design features that truly support the work nurses do every day.



[Learn more about Laura](#)

? How confident are you that student health documentation at your school is stored securely?

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) schools are legally required to safeguard student education records, including health documentation. That means ensuring only authorized staff have access, and that records are stored securely, accurately, and confidentially. In practice, this affects everything from how nurses log visits to how easily they can retrieve a student's care history during an emergency.



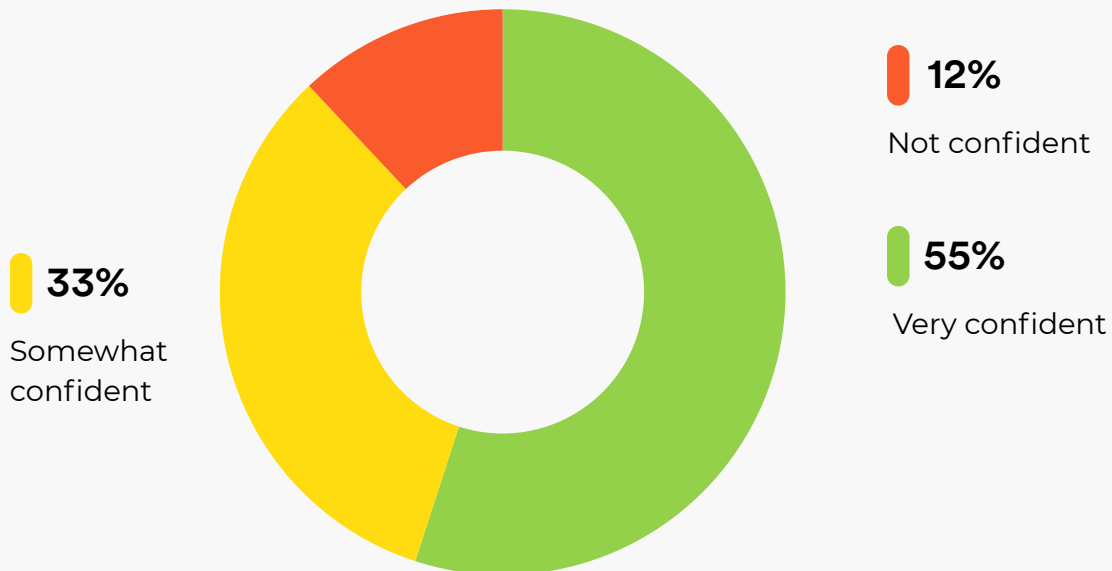
Despite the legal and practical importance of secure documentation, **only half of nurses say they're very confident that student health records are stored securely.**



We're here to help

In August Schools, features like role-based access controls, FERPA-aligned permissions, and audit trails ensure that sensitive health records are only seen by those who need them, and that every action is logged. With cloud-based encryption and secure staff messaging, nurses can document care confidently, without compromising privacy or compliance.

? **How confident are you in your school's ability to quickly access student health data during an emergency?**

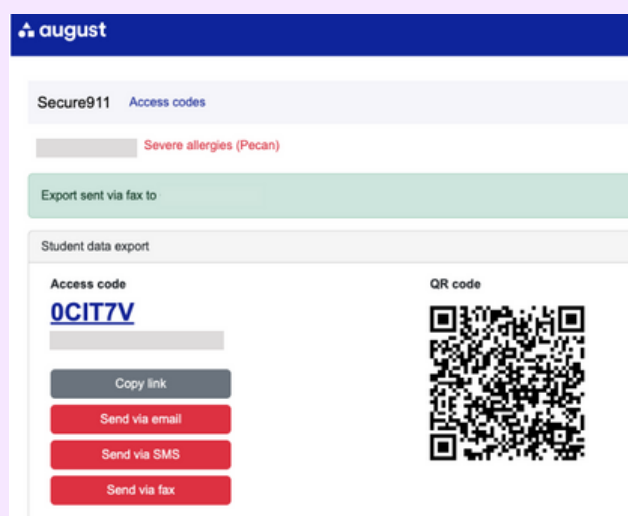


Only half of nurses feel very confident that their school could access data quickly in an emergency. This means nearly half of schools may be unprepared to act quickly when seconds matter.



We're here to help

With August, critical student health information is never out of reach. Emergency QR codes give EMTs and hospital staff instant, secure access to a student's medical alerts, care plans, and contacts. It's built for speed when it matters most.



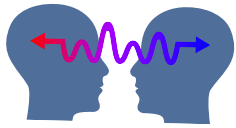


A moment of fun



If you could have one school nurse superpower, what would it be?

Read minds



45%

To know exactly what's wrong with students



Magic



22%

To complete all your charting with one click



Mind control



17%

To get parents to fill out missing health forms



Teleport



10%

To wherever a student needs help



Healing



6%

Instantly heal minor injuries





If school nursing had an official theme song, what would it be?

The health office hits you didn't know you needed. We asked school nurses what their theme song would be. The answers? A little chaotic, totally relatable, and completely on point. This unofficial soundtrack captures the highs, the lows, and the “how is this my job?” moments.

EVERYDAY ANTHEMS FOR EXTRAORDINARY NURSES

SIDE A

Stayin' Alive
Bee Gees
I Will Survive
Gloria Gaynor
Help!
The Beatles
Under Pressure
Queen, David Bowie
Manic Monday
The Bangles
Lean on Me
Bill Withers

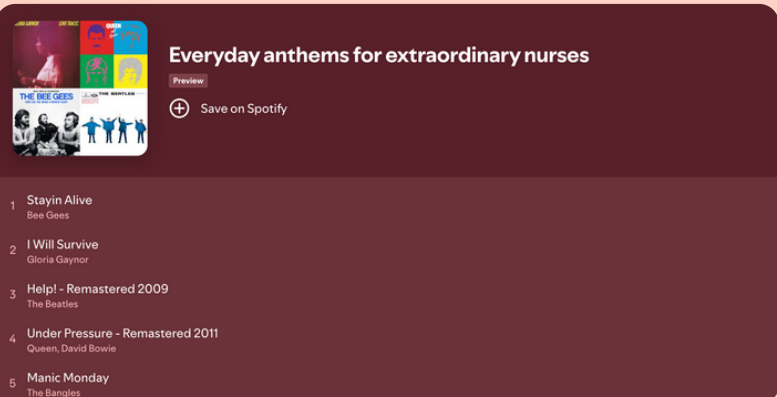
SIDE B

Survivor
Destiny's Child
Respect
Aretha Franklin
Crazy Train
Ozzy Osbourne
4 to 5
Dolly Parton
Shake It Off
Taylor Swift
Eye of the Tiger
Survivor



Give it a listen!

Click on the maroon box to explore the full playlist. Experience the soundtrack of school nurses, made by the heroes themselves.



Key takeaways & recommendations

What school leaders and districts should know

School nurses are showing up every day to meet rising student health needs. But too often, they're doing it without the systems, time, or recognition they deserve. Across the country, they're spending hours on documentation, chasing down forms, entering the same information in multiple places, and staying late just to keep up. Many don't feel their role is understood, and too few are confident that their school could access health data quickly in an emergency.

This isn't just a nurse issue. It's a student safety issue, a staffing issue, a systems issue. When nurses have streamlined tools and supportive infrastructure, they can spend more time on what matters: providing care, building trust with families, and helping students stay safe, healthy, and ready to learn.

How you can better support school nurses

Supporting school nurses starts with listening, and then acting. This report makes it clear: nurses are essential to student wellbeing, but they're stretched thin by outdated systems and time-consuming administrative tasks.

Leaders can make a difference by investing in:

- **Efficient documentation tools** that reduce double entry and make health records easier to manage
- **Secure, FERPA-compliant systems** that protect student data and ensure quick access in emergencies
- **Stronger collaboration tools** that help nurses stay in sync with counselors, administrators, and families
- **Policies and workflows** that recognize the full scope of a nurse's role and reduce unnecessary burdens

At August, we work alongside school nurses to build tools that reflect the real-life demands of the job, with streamlined charting, centralized records, and secure communication all in one place. Because when school nurses are supported, students are safer, families are better informed, and schools run smoother.