In North Carolina in 2015/16 (the most recent year of data), 11 percent of elementary school students were chronically absent, which is consistent with the national rate. There are disparities by race/ethnicity.

American Indian/Alaska Native students have the highest rates of chronic absence in North Carolina at 21 percent, followed by multiracial students (15 percent), and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students (13 percent). Eleven percent of both black and white students were chronically absent. The lowest rates were among Hispanic (9 percent) and Asian (7 percent) students.