CHRONIC ABSENCE IN THE EARLY GRADES IN NC

In North Carolina in 2021/22 (the most recent year of data), 29 percent of elementary school students were chronically absent, which is higher than the national average of 21 percent. There are disparities by race/ethnicity.

American Indian/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students have the highest rates of chronic absence in North Carolina at 45 percent, followed by African American and multi-racial students (33 percent), then 30 percent for Hispanic and 27 percent for white students. The lowest rate is among Asian students (16 percent).