

# Parent Survey Report: One School in One Data Collection Period

**School Name:** West Middle School

**Set ID:** 12185

**School Group:** Douglas County

**Month and Year Collected:** October 2014

**School Enrollment:** 615

**Date Report Generated:** 11/25/2014

**% Range of Students Involved in SRTS:** Not Applicable

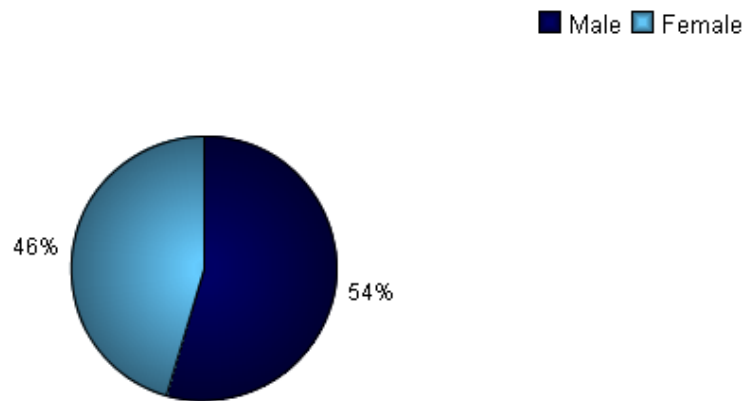
**Tags:**

**Number of Questionnaires Distributed:** 0

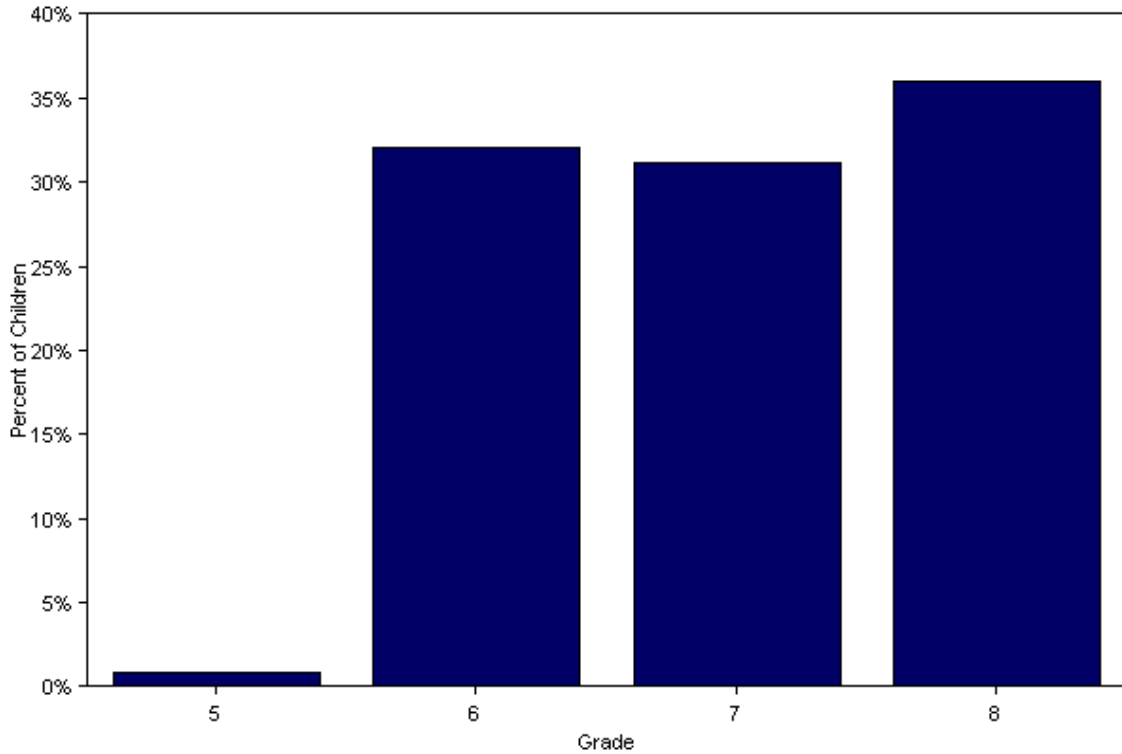
**Number of Questionnaires Analyzed for Report:** 125

This report contains information from parents about their children's trip to and from school. The report also reflects parents' perceptions regarding whether walking and bicycling to school is appropriate for their child. The data used in this report were collected using the Survey about Walking and Biking to School for Parents form from the National Center for Safe Routes to School.

## Sex of children for parents that provided information



### Grade levels of children represented in survey



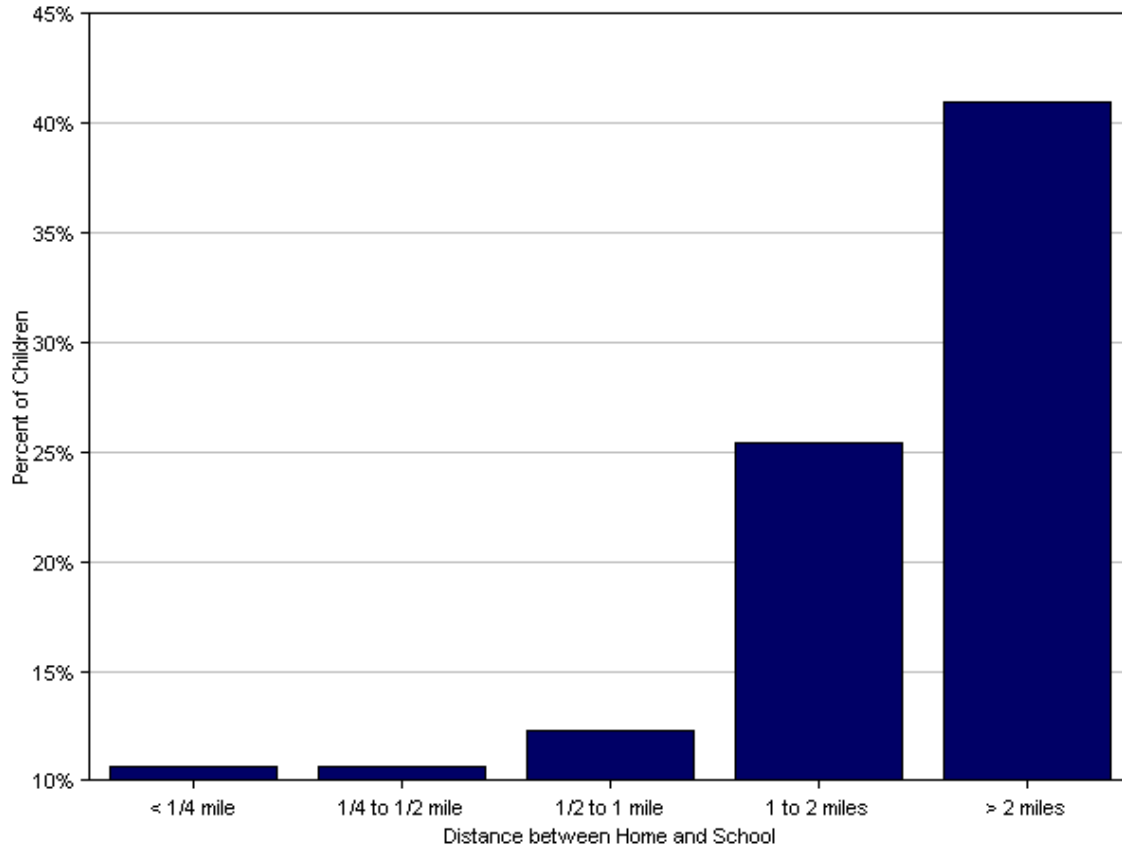
### Grade levels of children represented in survey

Grade in School	Responses per grade	
	Number	Percent
5	1	1%
6	40	32%
7	39	31%
8	45	36%

No response: 0

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

### Parent estimate of distance from child's home to school



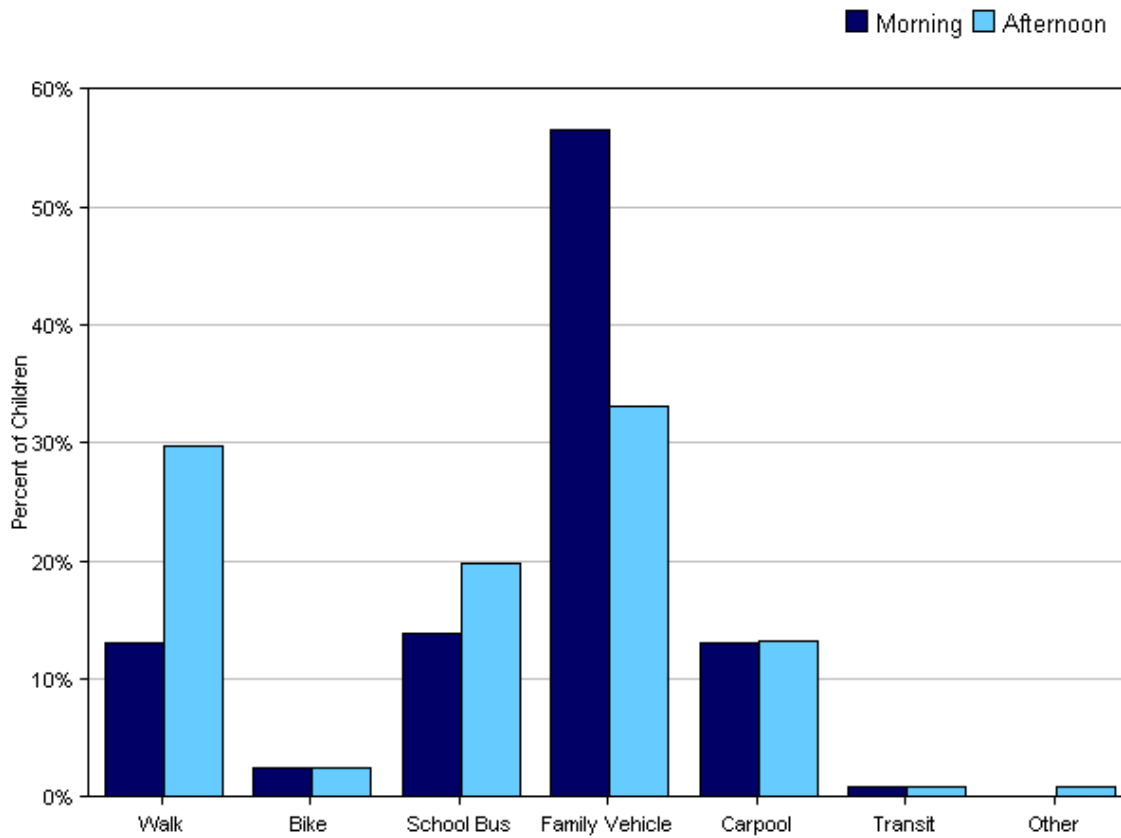
### Parent estimate of distance from child's home to school

Distance between home and school	Number of children	Percent
Less than 1/4 mile	13	11%
1/4 mile up to 1/2 mile	13	11%
1/2 mile up to 1 mile	15	12%
1 mile up to 2 miles	31	25%
More than 2 miles	50	41%

Don't know or No response: 3

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

## Typical mode of arrival at and departure from school



## Typical mode of arrival at and departure from school

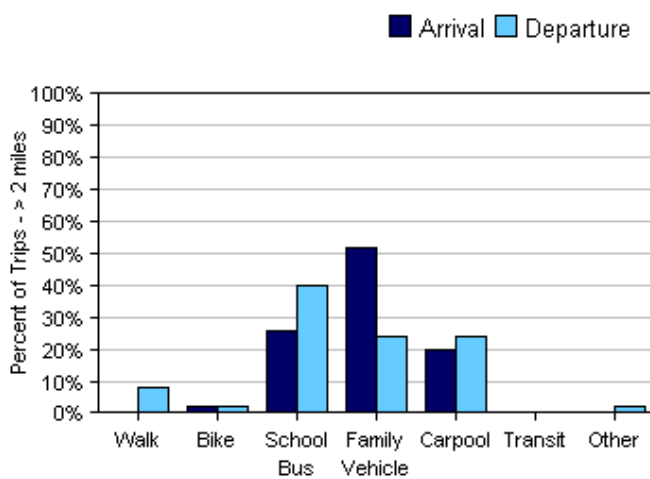
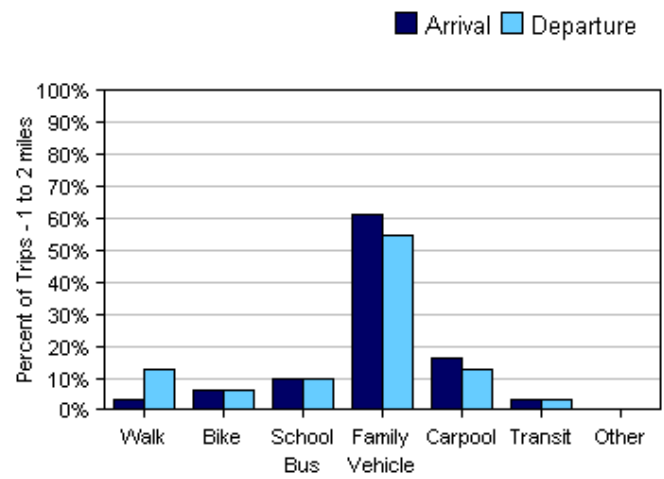
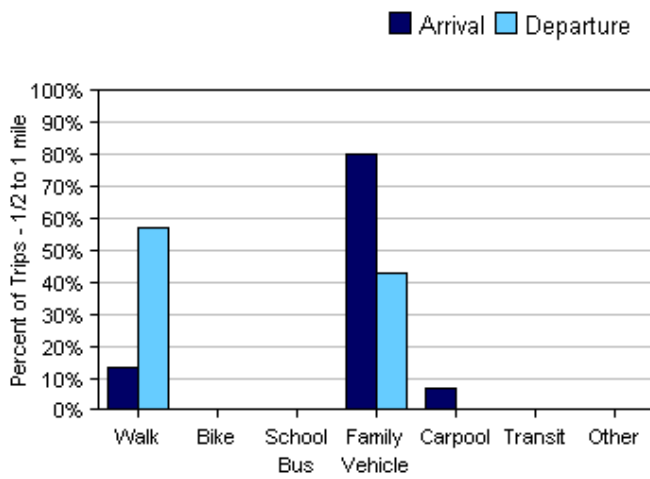
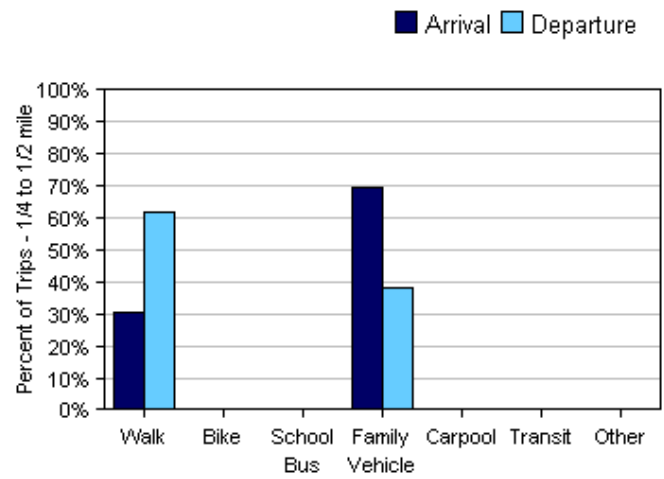
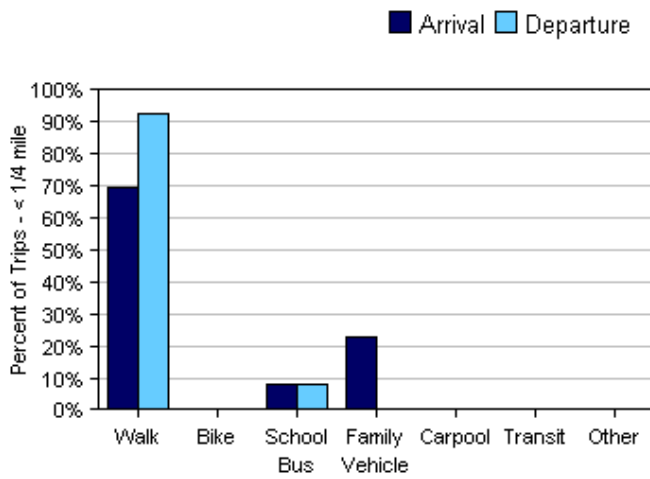
Time of Trip	Number of Trips	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle	Carpool	Transit	Other
Morning	122	13%	2%	14%	57%	13%	0.8%	0%
Afternoon	121	30%	2%	20%	33%	13%	0.8%	0.8%

No Response Morning: 3

No Response Afternoon: 4

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

## Typical mode of school arrival and departure by distance child lives from school



## Typical mode of school arrival and departure by distance child lives from school

### School Arrival

Distance	Number within Distance	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle	Carpool	Transit	Other
Less than 1/4 mile	13	69%	0%	8%	23%	0%	0%	0%
1/4 mile up to 1/2 mile	13	31%	0%	0%	69%	0%	0%	0%
1/2 mile up to 1 mile	15	13%	0%	0%	80%	7%	0%	0%
1 mile up to 2 miles	31	3%	6%	10%	61%	16%	3%	0%
More than 2 miles	50	0%	2%	26%	52%	20%	0%	0%

Don't know or No response: 3

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

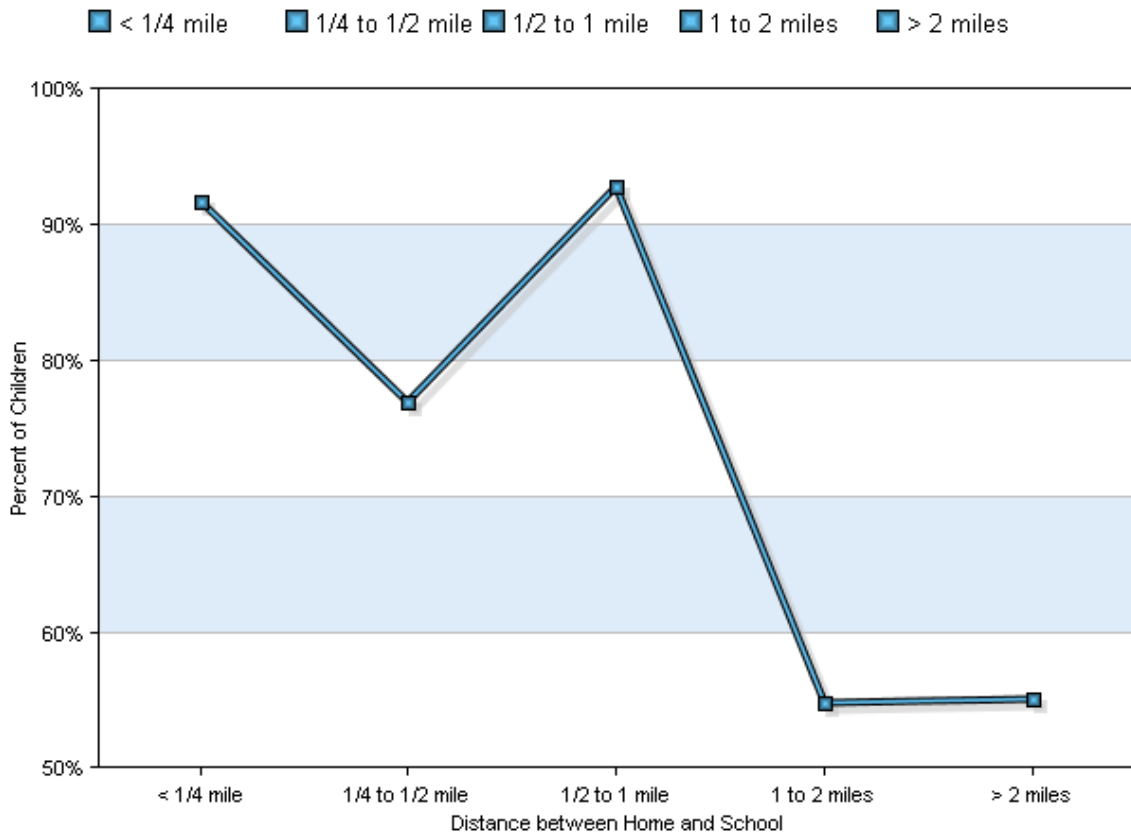
### School Departure

Distance	Number within Distance	Walk	Bike	School Bus	Family Vehicle	Carpool	Transit	Other
Less than 1/4 mile	13	92%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%
1/4 mile up to 1/2 mile	13	62%	0%	0%	38%	0%	0%	0%
1/2 mile up to 1 mile	14	57%	0%	0%	43%	0%	0%	0%
1 mile up to 2 miles	31	13%	6%	10%	55%	13%	3%	0%
More than 2 miles	50	8%	2%	40%	24%	24%	0%	2%

Don't know or No response: 4

Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Percent of children who have asked for permission to walk or bike to/from school by distance they live from school

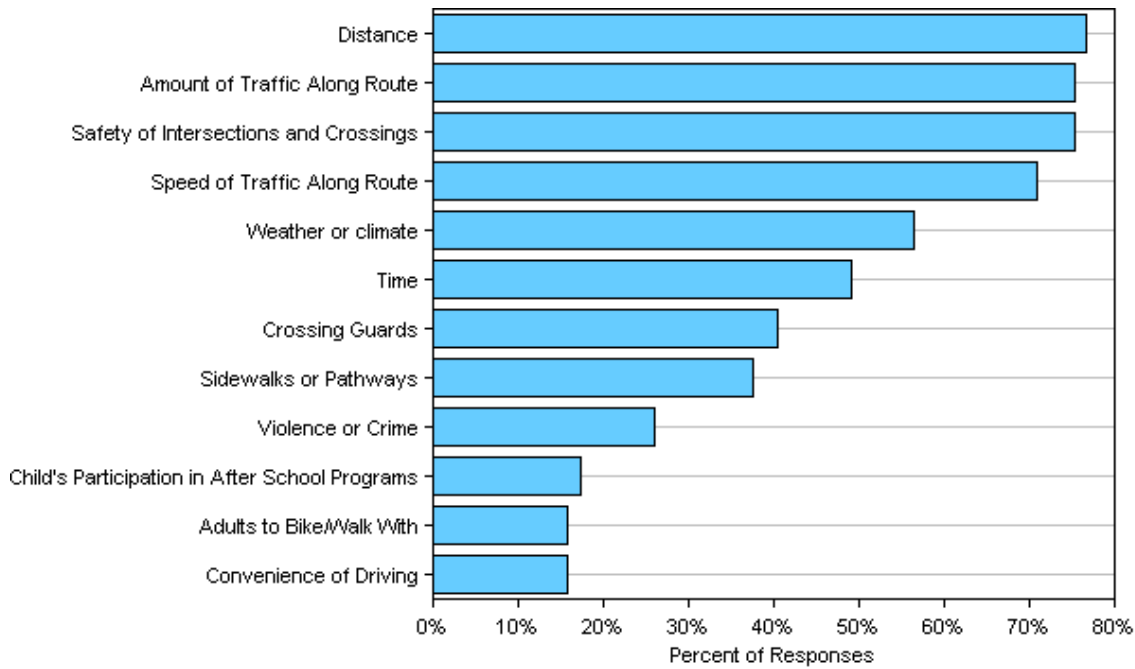


Percent of children who have asked for permission to walk or bike to/from school by distance they live from school

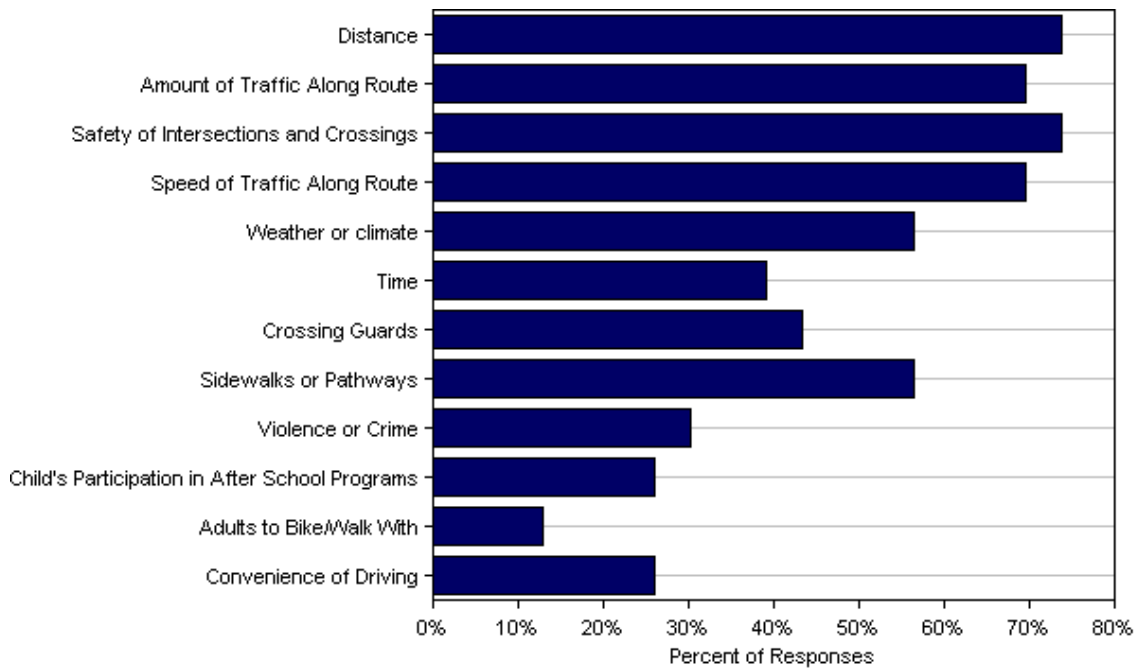
Asked Permission?	Number of Children	Less than 1/4 mile	1/4 mile up to 1/2 mile	1/2 mile up to 1 mile	1 mile up to 2 miles	More than 2 miles
Yes	78	92%	77%	93%	55%	55%
No	41	8%	23%	7%	45%	45%

Don't know or No response: 6  
 Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Issues reported to affect the decision to not allow a child to walk or bike to/from school by parents of children who do not walk or bike to/from school



Issues reported to affect the decision to allow a child to walk or bike to/from school by parents of children who already walk or bike to/from school





Issues reported to affect the decision to allow a child to walk or bike to/from school by  
parents of children who already walk or bike to/from school

Issue	Child does not walk/bike to school	Child walks/bikes to school
Distance	77%	74%
Amount of Traffic Along Route	75%	70%
Safety of Intersections and Crossings	75%	74%
Speed of Traffic Along Route	71%	70%
Weather or climate	57%	57%
Time	49%	39%
Crossing Guards	41%	43%
Sidewalks or Pathways	38%	57%
Violence or Crime	26%	30%
Child's Participation in After School Programs	17%	26%
Adults to Bike/Walk With	16%	13%
Convenience of Driving	16%	26%
<b>Number of Respondents per Category</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>23</b>

No response: 33

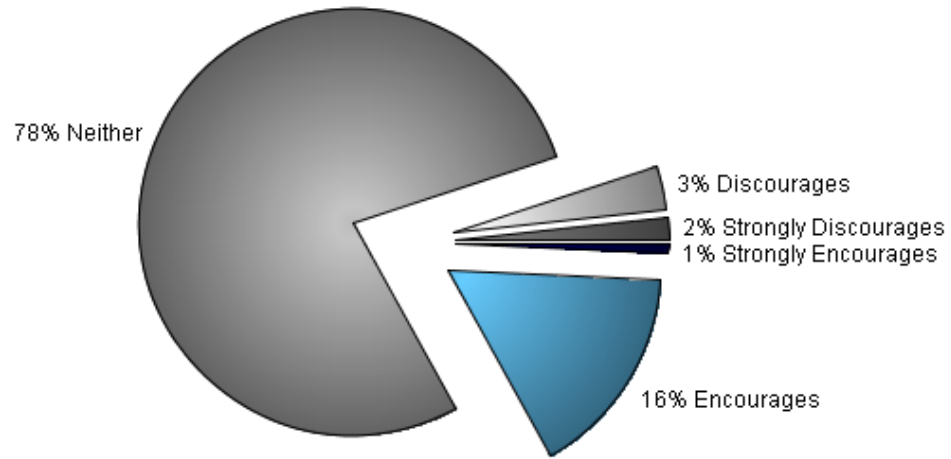
Note:

--Factors are listed from most to least influential for the 'Child does not walk/bike to school' group.

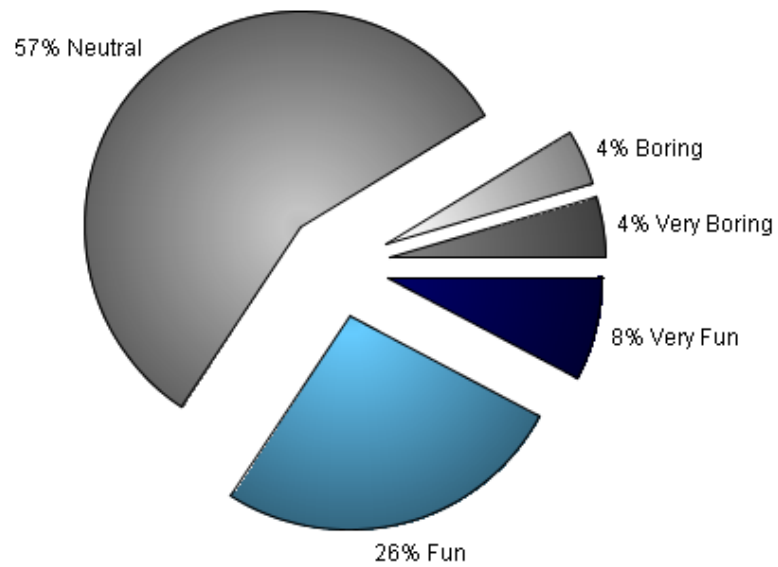
--Each column may sum to > 100% because respondent could select more than issue

--The calculation used to determine the percentage for each issue is based on the 'Number of Respondents per Category' within the respective columns (Child does not walk/bike to school and Child walks/bikes to school.) If comparing percentages between the two columns, please pay particular attention to each column's number of respondents because the two numbers can differ dramatically.

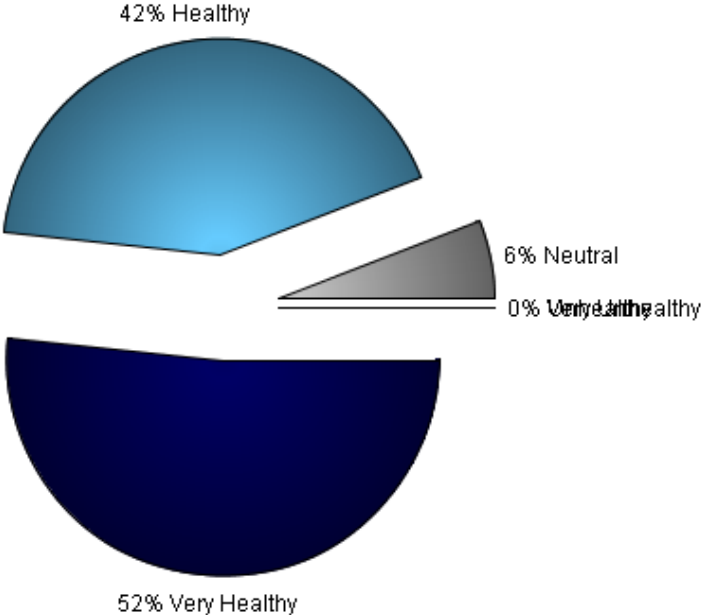
Parents' opinions about how much their child's school encourages or discourages walking and biking to/from school



Parents' opinions about how much fun walking and biking to/from school is for their child



Parents' opinions about how healthy walking and biking to/from school is for their child



## Comments Section

SurveyID	Comment
1251932	The crosswalk at Yale & Crestline is an accident waiting to happen for West & Sunset Hill kids. I'm not sure if cars don't expect it to be there? Everyday I see kids darting across and cars failing to yeild to the pedestrians.
1251942	My single biggest concern is the crossing of Peterson Road. Both my children went to Deerfield and, even with a crossing guard (who people regularly ignore), the speeding and a diminished sight line (the crest of the hill on the East side of Peterson at Arrowhead) make the intersection extremely dangerous. Greater and more frequent enforcement of the speed limit and crossing light may help,
1251945	No sidewalks on most of the route to West from our apartment complex. 6th street very dangerous for kids to cross.
1251959	Biggest complaint is no crossing guard at 3 way stop at 8th and Kasold, many cars run that 3 way stop and it's multiple lanes in two directions. Harvard and Kasold is out of the way but I insist that she walks that route to use the crossing guard. Crossing Kasold has always been one of our biggest concerns. I marked violence or crime as a concern - not that there has been any among the kids walking from school but more of a concern when looking at registered sex offender map. I'm sure that could be a concern in many neighborhoods across our town.
1251965	There are two street crossing points that make me nervous. The most obvious is Iowa and Harvard. I have seen people blow through red light's at high rates of speed.
1252021	Daughter lives at both parents homes, she is driven to school on days her father takes/picks her up.
1252022	Daughter lives at both parents homes, she is driven to school on days her father takes/picks her up.
1252024	My daughter walks with several friends which I feel makes it safer. I would not be as comfortable if she walked alone.
1252034	I am appalled by the terrible situation for getting children to and from West Middle School from my neighborhood. There should be buses for people who live in my neighborhood (near Peterson) and there should be sidewalks along Rockledge and protected crossings across N. MacDonald. I regularly see children walking in the dark for school breakfast along Rockledge with no reflective clothing and no sidewalks as I drive my daughter to chorale rehearsals in the morning. Will it take a fatality to build a walkway over North Macdonald and continuous sidewalks along Rockledge, or can we sensibly take care of that route now? Pick up from West from the North side is a total nightmare. The city has shunted bus duty to middle class parents who can afford to wait in long irrational lines of cars as children dart out to find their parents. The street layout is not designed to support that many cars. There should be a better bus system, and we as citizens should be willing to use tax dollars to pay for it. My daughter rides her bike home from school sometimes because it is safer (light) and downhill. Getting to West in the morning from my neighborhood is dangerous and difficult. I know an adult who was struck on his bike by a car at the intersection of Rockledge and N. MacDonald. I urge the powers that be to build a walkway or at the very least a crosswalk and to compel the businesses along Rockledge to complete the sidewalks. I worry that one dark morning I might hit a child walking to breakfast. Respectfully, *****
1252037	For me, it's almost entirely a safety issue. I have an 8th grade daughter who is petite and has been mistaken as being a younger student. Our home is just far enough from school (and across a busy intersection with much traffic) that neither she nor I are comfortable with her walking unaccompanied home from school. Even a group of other students would suffice. But alone -- no.
1252047	Students should not have to cross 6th street, a major highway, to get to school. The school boundaries do not reflect the safety boundaries.
1252190	Part of the reason we allow our daughter to walk alone to and from school is the route she takes along Iowa and Harvard (as we live on Iowa). We have not yet allowed her to walk through the other streets by herself, but they seem safe enough.
1252418	Traffic along Kasold Drive is most intimidating for child safety. So many drivers at the Kasold Dr & Harvard intersection are mostly paying attention to getting to their destination and not pedestrians or other traffic. I've been hit by other motorists in my vehicle or close to it many times there. A crossing bridge or tunnel at that intersection are the safest solutions that I can see for Kasold Dr.
1252504	My daughters had to walk every year - 2.39 miles from school until THIS year! Yay! They finally qualified for the bus. Very stressful crossing 6th street and Peterson street. I'm so thankful they can ride the bus home now.
1253081	Iowa and Harvard should have a crossing guard to serve middle school kids.
1253169	A 4-way stop at Yale and Crestline would make me feel much more secure about letting my children walk to and from school.

1251928	The most dangerous intersections are those right next to West: at Harvard & Crestline and Yale & Crestline. I've seen many people (many parents rushing to drop-off) fly through the crosswalks without even looking. Children often have to wait until someone finally notices and allows them to cross. A crossing guard, even for a short amount of time, would help in getting people to pay attention to the fact that there is a crosswalk (especially at Yale where there is no stop sign). The pick up line in the afternoon is also really bad and parents often block the crosswalks while waiting in line and force kids to step out from between cars. If the SRO could help out for a week or two with enforcement, I think it would really help with awareness. I've taught my son to make eye contact with drivers before attempting to cross
1251964	Alot of issues with student school route: -no building sidewalks north of 9th street, scared of him walking on the road home, as vehicles do go 40+ mph on Crestline at times without the consideration of kids walking on the road (this is going to be an ongoing issue that I am scared of when winter comes, what happens if a car goes 40+ mph and loses control on the road and hits a kid walking home??). -no street crossings on Crestline or roads next to it, the closest one is all the way by the Elementary school -Basically the lack of sidewalks for all the kids to walk north of 9th str
1251995	Laudable goal, in my opinion unenforced traffic violations--particularly cars refusing to stop or not recognizing pedestrians on 6th-Street intersections--makes walking/biking too hazardous for children to risk daily commute to school.
1251998	I told (*School Official*) that we are 2.1 miles from West and didn't need a bus but he said some of the area in our subdivision (Deerfield 2) was more than the 2.5 limit. I told him I still thought it shouldn't be offered or the parents going should pay for a bus like those in other parts of town.
1252002	Have let my son walk but only with friends. For safety reasons we haven't let him walk home alone.
1252003	My work schedule often prevents me from being able to pick my child up from school. Due to policy, we are not eligible for bus services and when weather is inclement this is a real hardship for my child/family.
1252004	Streets in Lawrence are highly dangerous. I am very reluctant that changes could be fully implemented that would give me enough confidence that my child would be nearly risk free from possibly fatal bike vehicle accidents. I simply do not trust drivers on the streets. It just isn't worth it to risk death or permanent injury in order to encourage biking to school. There is almost no justification you can make that I would be comfortable with. A biker dies on Lawrence streets almost yearly.
1252009	This survey doesn't address the drop off/pick up issues at the school. The congestion during football games in particular, in the front of the school, is dangerous. Parking along the driveway should not be allowed. It doesn't allow for cars or children to safely navigate through the driveway.
1252013	My son doesn't love walking home after school, but it is good exercise for him and he often walks home with friends, so he gets in some social time. When he was little, I was very concerned about his safety because our neighborhood has a lot of rental properties and we don't always know everyone in the neighborhood. I also had concerns about high traffic areas and the inattentiveness of drivers. I'm not AS worried now that he is older, however, I still have safety concerns for other children. Thank you very much for inquiring about this topic. I have seen kids as young as kindergarten walking to school without an adult. This worries me VERY much and I have actually had to stop my vehicle and get out because two very young children were physically fighting with each other. I walked the children home and their guardian just started yelling at them as they entered the house and then she slammed the door in my face. I think that our community could use some extra support and safe guards. The safety of our children is very important and definitely worth the money.
1252014	My son doesn't love walking home after school, but it is good exercise for him and he often walks home with friends, so he gets in some social time. When he was little, I was very concerned about his safety because our neighborhood has a lot of rental properties and we don't always know everyone in the neighborhood. I also had concerns about high traffic areas and the inattentiveness of drivers. I'm not AS worried now that he is older, however, I still have safety concerns for other children. Thank you very much for inquiring about this topic. I have seen kids as young as kindergarten walking to school without an adult. This worries me VERY much and I have actually had to stop my vehicle and get out because two very young children were physically fighting with each other. I walked the children home and their guardian just started yelling at them as they entered the house and then she slammed the door in my face. I think that our community could use some extra support and safe guards. The safety of our children is very important and definitely worth the money.
1252031	the Crestline/Yale rd intersection is quite dangerous because cars driving through Crestline do not stop all the time. A 4-way stop sign in that intersection will help there (similar to the one in Crestline and Harvard).
1252035	We live 2.4 miles from my son's school. I work an hour away. To avoid forcing him to walk an hour each way, crossing VERY busy & dangerous traffic in freezing, sleeting, icy, rainy, & potentially dangerous weather containing lightning, I am forced to drop him off an hour before school starts. He then has to huddle under a tiny alcove with children who are in the same position until the school sees fit to allow them inside. 2.4 miles & he doesn't qualify to ride a bus? I've heard some pretty ridiculous things in my life, this has to be in the top 10. Maybe top 5 if you leave out anything relating to the Kardashians, anti gay marriage laws, & both Bigfoot & The Lock Ness Monster.
1252113	If we lived closer to school I wouldn't mind him walking or riding a bike. I still think too much traffic and drivers not always watching for children. I walked to school for elementary and middle school and drivers did not always stop for pedestrians to cross even on a cross walk.

1252400	I would have let him ride his bike when he attended Deerfield except there is no crossing light or guard at Riverridge and N. Iowa and it is a very busy road. He attends West now and it is too far for him to walk or ride and too many busy roads on the route.
1252401	My son needs to cross 6th Street and 9th Street. Due to the amount of traffic (and the way people drive) in the mornings we drive him to school. Traffic is less of a concern when school lets out so he walks home.
1252417	My son enjoys walking home after school with friends. I drive him in the morning because of time and weather.
1252425	One option not listed is siblings or friends to walk/bike with for safety in numbers. We have been grateful for crossing guards at major intersections for elementary school, but many more streets for middle school that car pooling works better. Many parents work and with commute, school start time is such a small window that driving or car pooling is a necessity for such a long distance to be covered for timely arrival while getting home after school doesn't have the same time constraint and is healthy, weather permitting.
1252432	Very concerned that this child chose to ride his bike around town alone without telling me. Lied and said he was going to the library. The bus is no fun because it arrives almost an hour before school starts. My husband signed him up for the bus to save on gas money.
1253471	i don't feel safe for him to walk across 9th and Iowa...its a very busy and dangerous route, I work at 7am so I chose to drop him off at Munchers donut shop at 630am and he has to wait until 730am to walk to school from there because I'm so worried about him crossing over that busy street he has already almost got hit 2x and threatened by someone on the way to/from school by someone breaking into a car while he was passing and he is a little clumsy and has already fallen 2x I'm worried he's gonna fall in the street or get hit on Iowa
1251994	Not sure what question 15 has to do with this particular survey, however I did answer it. My child does 0 hour and does after school sports so driving her is really the only way for us. She has walked home in the past and enjoyed it when friends could walk with her, but they can't always do that.
1252012	Worried about neighbor/drug house on our street
1252016	A sex offender lives on our walking route. We have 2 intersections that she might use, both on Harvard, only one with a crossing guard. Additional guards needed at 9th & Lawrence, and Harvard and Lawrence. The sex offender is a huge deal, though, and distance. It really is a mile, uphill both ways. For real, no lie!
1252029	It would be great if there was a sidewalk in front of the school from the west or a paved path across the field from the cut through. It just seems as if walking/ bike riding is not thought of too highly when you can't really get there from the west on Harvard or from the cut through on Wellington without going through grass or out of your way.
1252058	There are some days my child does have to walk but weather is also a factor. I also don't like her walking by herself.
1252144	The main factor for us is distance, with safety a second concern. Walking more than two miles each way and having to cross Sixth Street, Kasold Drive and Lawrence Avenue is too much of a barrier.
1252747	There should be a 4-way stop at the intersection of Crestline Drive and Yale Road. Cars often fly through on Crestline Drive. That is where there is crosswalk, but that doesn't seem to encourage drivers to slow down. Also, there should be side walks on along Yale Road. The sidewalk stops right after crossing Crestline Drive on Yale and heading east. Kids have to use the streets to walk, and that does not seem very safe. Above all, that intersection does not seem very safe. Please consider petitioning the City of Lawrence to make an improvement.
1252995	I do not feel it is safe due to the amount of traffic and the risk of something happening to her.
1251924	crossing 6th street is our major concern with our kids walking or biking to and from West
1251951	Crossing Kasold is a big concern for us, as are a few of the intersections along 9th.
1252020	There needs to be a better traffic control plan for dropping off and picking up students. It is too congested in the back lot pick up. Possibly consider having one way traffic flow plan on Yale heading east and change flow in north parking lot to flow west.
1252071	My major concern for my son is his health issues with cold or wet weather
1252083	Without dedicated bike paths/lanes, I would be very reluctant to have my child ride a bike to school. Some drivers just do not give ample room for bicyclists to ride safely on the streets.
1252209	These discussions must take place in conjunction with bringing back a school bus for all children more than 1 mile from school. Taking away those buses meant increased traffic and congested drop off locations, which are huge hazards to pedestrians and could create accidents between vehicles. I urge the committee to carefully observe the traffic patterns in all weather and involve the Traffic Safety Commission's input as well. We essentially doubled or tripled the amount of traffic. Busing is a good option. Bring it back or at least try to the city buses to be usable for middle and high school students. The times and routes do not coincide with boundaries and start times.

1252322	after snow/ice, sidewalks are not cleared for my child to walk to school safely - it forces him to step out into traffic to pass by the houses that haven't taken the time to shovel/de-ice their sidewalks. On another note, West needs street lights on the north-east corner of the building and at the street on the same side. early morning walkers are completely in the dark. also, when plowing the north parking lot, they pushed the snow to the east into such a pile that a child had to walk blindly out into the parking lot from the sidewalk by the garden. pile should be placed in a different location in the lot for safety!
1252608	The street in front of Sunset Elementary should only allow parking on one side of the street. When parking is on both sides it makes the street very narrow to get through to West.
1253072	We live a little too far away to make walking or riding a bike a reasonable choice on a regular basis. I also don't know if he has good enough time management skills to walk that far and make it to school on time. Plus he would have to cross 6th street to get to school. He doesn't always pay enough attention to his surroundings so I would be nervous about him making that trip by himself, especially with the crazy traffic around West (particularly in the mornings). When school started I was surprised that there were not any crossing guards. I guess with budget cuts and all middle schoolers are expected to be able to cross fairly busy streets on their own. They seem to make it okay and I haven't seen anyone get hit by a car yet. It worries me though. The traffic load in that area (before and after school) seems way too high for the narrow streets in that neighborhood. Maybe if the streets could be widened (more like Lawrence Ave. in front of Deerfield Elementary) it wouldn't be so bad.
1251944	We need better traffic control at Yale and Crestline during school days. Sidewalks on Yale would be good too.
1252005	Walking is not the problem---the north parking lot is poorly designed and drivers are all over the place....creates a potentially dangerous situation.
1252011	There is not a middle school that is close enough for my child to safely walk or bike to and from school.
1251970	Question #10 is awkwardly worded - if your kid walks to school exactly how are you supposed to answer? I'm leaving leeway for the fact I'm just too dumb to figure this out. By the way, most important is teaching the people picking up the kids how to use their signals and be considerate of others. Perhaps a couple roving "enforcers" with batons would help? If opened up for volunteers I'll happily do so.
1251992	My children have been almost 2.5 miles away from both their elementary and middle schools. Both of these schools require crossing at a busy intersection of a road that nearly moves at highway speed. Without considerable effort, there will never be a safe way for children in our neighborhood to walk or bike to school.
1252132	With two working parents my child doesn't have a choice but to ride his bike to school! The budgeting priorities in this district are backwards when money can be spent on athletic facilities and "administrators" but not on getting the children to and from school in the first place! Transporting elementary students should be the highest priority.
1252033	There are no safe routes between our home and West Middle School. The only two walking options are 6th street, going West, to Iowa, going South, then to 9th street, going West. Or Maine Street, going South, to 9th Street, going West. Neither of the routes offer sidewalks from beginning to end.