

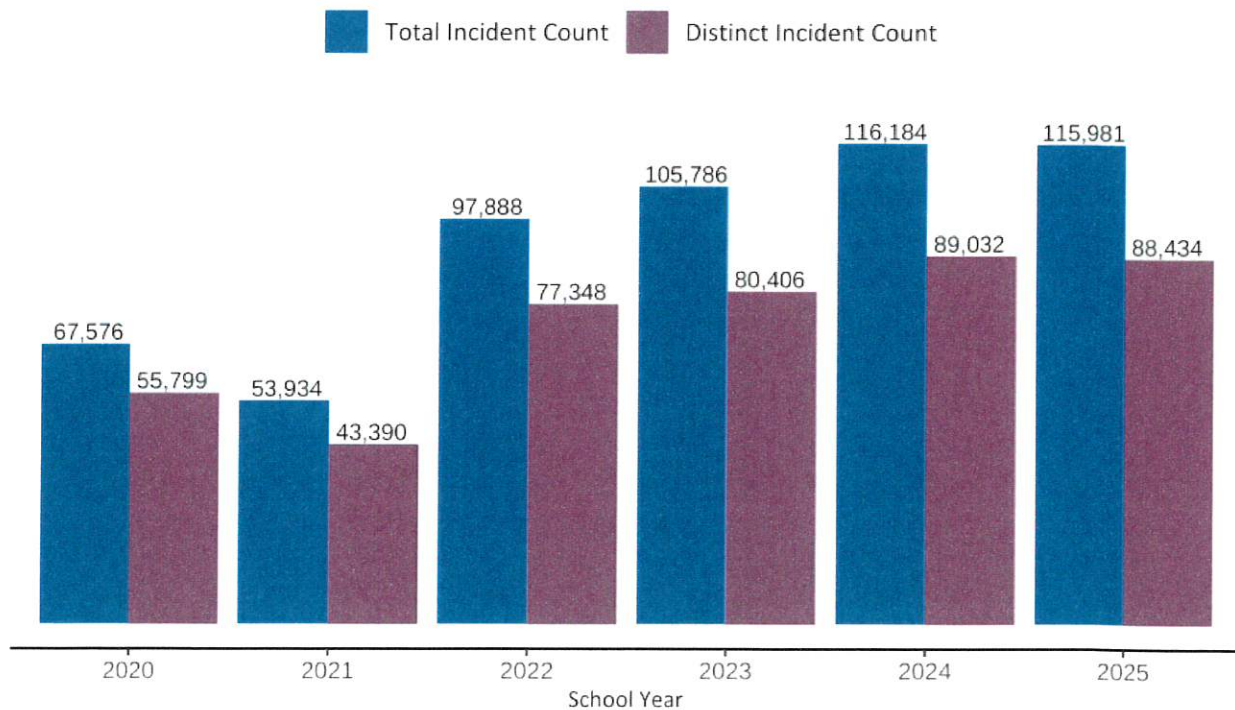
Incidents

Table 1 shows the percentage of LEAs reporting incidents has remained above 92% for the past six years. Figure 1 displays counts of total reported incidents (one incident may be counted more than once if more than one student was involved) and distinct counts of incidents (each incident was counted only once, regardless of the number of students involved) reported statewide for the most recent six years. This comparison presents two different ways to calculate and consider incident counts. Overall, until 2025, distinct incident counts had increased every year since SY 2021 (43,390). In 2025, distinct counts of incidents decreased slightly from 89,032 to 88,434, a 598 incident count decrease over the previous year.

Table 1: Percent of LEAs that reported incidents by school year

School Year	Percent Reported
2020	97.4%
2021	92.9%
2022	95.5%
2023	96.2%
2024	95.5%
2025	97.4%

Figure 1. Incident counts by year



"...some girls vape and do weed in the girls bathroom...From what I've noticed it looks like the same group of kids are doing it...It affects the school environment because a lot of kids seem depressed at school...I'm pretty sure that Student Government is planning a vape prevention week sometime within the next few months to help address the problem...."

~Miriam Pectol, Senior at Tooele High School

"Over my time at Layton High School, I've noticed people using drugs countless times. It's a very common occurrence to walk into a bathroom and see a few kids vaping. There are a couple of bathrooms in the school that are known to avoid because of frequent vaping in them. I've also seen frequent zen usage from lots of people I know and how addicted they are to them. I strongly believe this is very bad for school safety. It hurts students who use these drugs and damages the safe school environment for all."

~Davis Ayala, Senior at Layton High School

"I am a 9th grade student at Shoreline Jr. High in Layton Utah. During my time at Shoreline Jr High I have witnessed people use drugs, specifically in the bathrooms. There is a bathroom at my school that most students avoid because it is known to have drug deals and being a space for vaping. I have seen vapes left in that bathroom and I try to avoid it. It negatively affects the feeling of a safe school environment for learning. I would hope for a drug free environment for students in the future."

~Afton Ayala, 9th grad student at Shoreline Jr. High School

"Hello, my name is Faith York and I am a peace officer for Tooele City Police Department. I am currently assigned to the position of School Resource Officer at Deseret Peak High School and I would like to voice my opinion about juveniles and the justice system.

Opinions that I will bring up are of my own experience and are not a representation of the department that I work for.

First, I would like to talk about my experience as a Peace Officer. I have see juveniles start off with what is described as a "simple" tobacco violation. Some time later they are charged with something more serious like a drug charge. Mare and more eventually these same juveniles are charged with life altering charges such as burglary and now have a felony on their record.

It is discouraging to hear a juvenile come to me and say that they do not fear the justice system as they have only received a slap on the hand...figuratively speaking. We are missing an opportunity to make an impact on these juveniles lives that could significantly alter the path that they are on by implementing stronger punishments. As a law enforcement officer I feel failed by the justice system.

Now I want to take the time to speak to you as a parent. My son who is 16 has unfortunately given into peer pressure. A couple of years ago he was caught with a tobacco vape and referred to the court per my request. I begged to have him given every consequence they could give him but they only provided him with what I considered a mild punishment.

He admitted that he did not learn his lesson the first time and was recently caught with a THC vape. I fear that my son will be provided another chance and the next chard will be much worse or he will pay the ultimate price and lose his life. As a parent I feel failed by the justice system.

We are missing an opportunity to help these juveniles and their families correct this behavior. There are plenty of resources to help struggling youth become functioning members of society. We are not doing these children any favors by giving them a break. In fact, we are failing them."

~Officer Faith York, Tooele Police Department and Deseret Peak High School SRO