

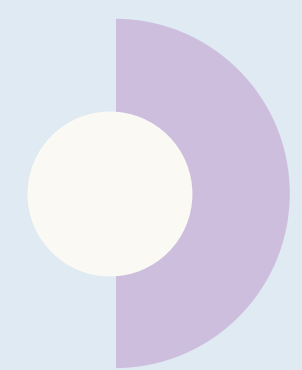


Top furniture to support student mental health

Experience
Positive.



Did you know?



50%

of teachers with flexible learning spaces are more likely to say furniture supports students’ mental health.



74%

of administrators with flexible learning spaces are more likely to say their furniture supports teachers’ mental wellness.

– Seen & Heard: 2024 Voice of Educators Survey
conducted by EdWeek Research Center in partnership with School Outfitters

How can you support student mental health?

Today’s top school districts prioritize student mental health. They’re also using furniture to support their efforts to create flexible, welcoming, and inclusive learning spaces.

In this guide, you’ll learn more about:

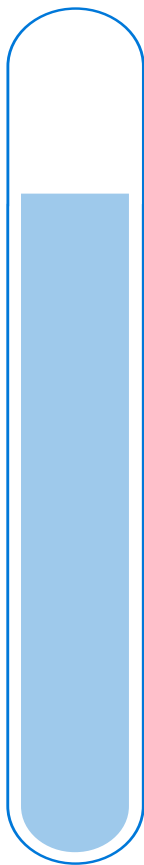
- Today’s student mental health statistics
- Accelerating your school’s learning recovery
- Furniture to support student mental health

You're not alone

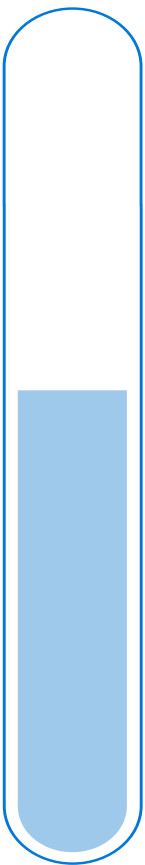
Student mental health by the numbers

Student mental health, spanning psychological, emotional, and educational impacts, manifests in your classrooms as chronic absenteeism, poor test scores, and behavioral disruptions. Know that you're not alone. Educators nationwide face similar challenges, and the statistics suggest that student mental health is still a significant learning loss contributor.

According to College Transitions:

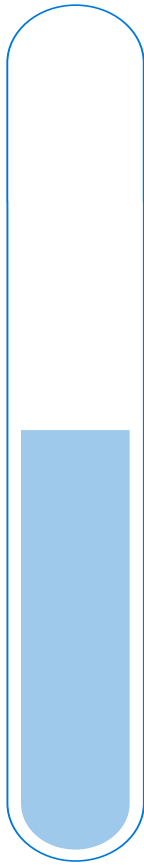


77%
of students experienced moderate (or severe) psychological distress.

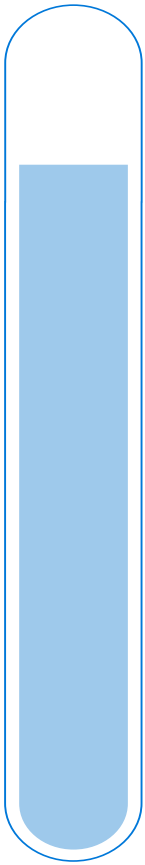


54%
of students experienced loneliness.

According to Acenet:



49%
of students screened positive for depression or anxiety symptoms.
Only 46% of them received counseling or therapy in the previous year.



80%
More than 80% of students said emotional difficulties or their mental health had negatively impacted their academic performance.

A ray of hope in learning recovery efforts

Learning recovery is happening, and is accelerating in new ways. Flexible learning spaces can support student learning and achievement. They can also help you create healthier classroom environments.

How?

Organizational furniture

Organizational features like adequate storage and personal space help maintain order and reduce stress.

Furniture color and aesthetics

The aesthetics of furniture, including color and design, can create a calming environment, while natural elements further enhance this effect.

Collaborative furniture

Active seating and breakout spaces encourage movement and provide opportunities for students to recharge. Collaborative furniture fosters social interaction, building a sense of community and peer support.

Inclusive and adaptive designs

Inclusive and accessible furniture ensures that all students, including those with disabilities or sensory processing needs, feel comfortable and supported.

Five key benefits of flexible learning spaces that can enhance learning recovery

–Collaborative data as shared within Seen & Heard: 2024 Voice of Educators Survey



Supportive classroom environments

Supportive classroom environments aid concentration by giving students comfort to learn at their own pace and style.



Tutoring areas

Individual or small group tutoring areas can eliminate embarrassment by allowing students to receive extra help while physically remaining with their peers.



Extended learning time and places

Extended learning time and places give schools the flexibility to achieve learning recovery year-round.



Emotional and social support

Emotional and social support improves student mental health by reducing stress, fostering improved attendance.

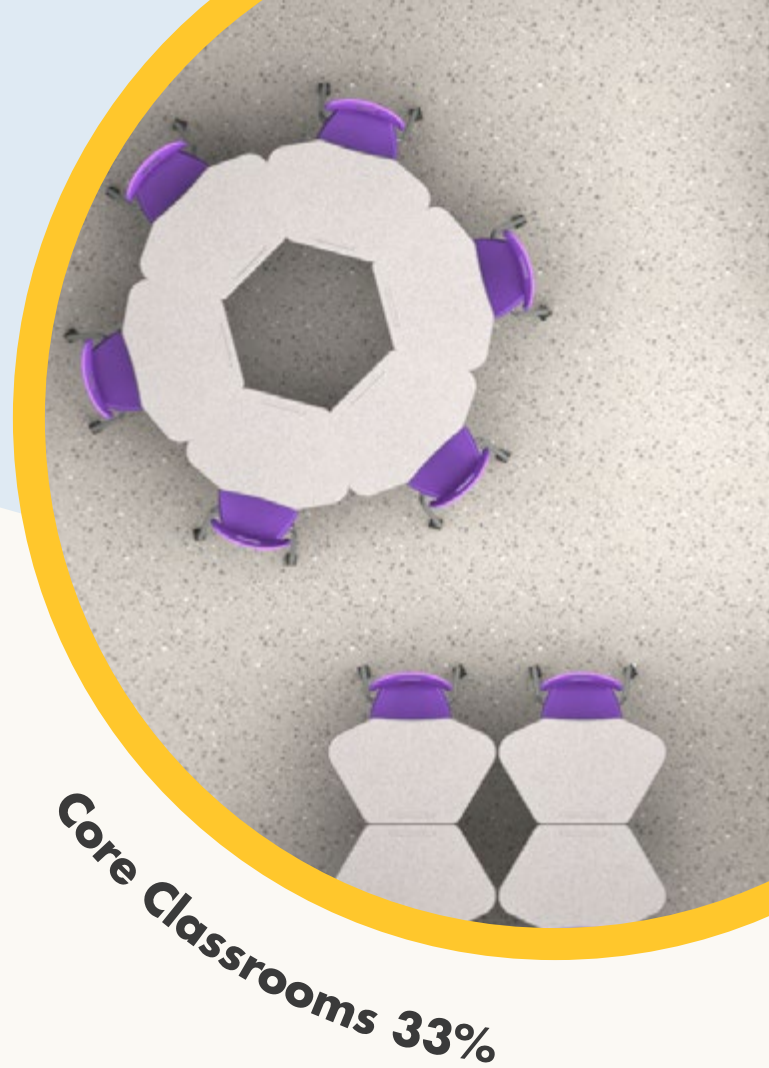


Equity and inclusion

Equity and inclusion create a sense of familiarity and calm, enhancing student engagement.

Schools and districts plan to invest in flexible learning spaces, with a prioritized interest in the following:

–Collaborative data as shared within Seen & Heard: 2024 Voice of Educators Survey



The top 10 room investment priorities for schools over the next five years	
Calming spaces	40%
STEM rooms	33%
Core classrooms	33%
Inclusive learning spaces	31%
Career and technical education	28%
Outdoor spaces	26%
Special education	25%
Makerspaces	24%
Common Areas	22%
Outdoor Education	20%

*Percentage of school and district leaders who say these are top learning space investment priorities over the next five years.
**Out of 20 options presented



Your school can join the flexible learning space movement and improve learning recovery with room designs and furniture.

Explore flexible learning with some of these inclusive, adaptive, and mobile furniture products to help close the gap on mental health challenges and make socio-emotional and mental health a top priority for your school.

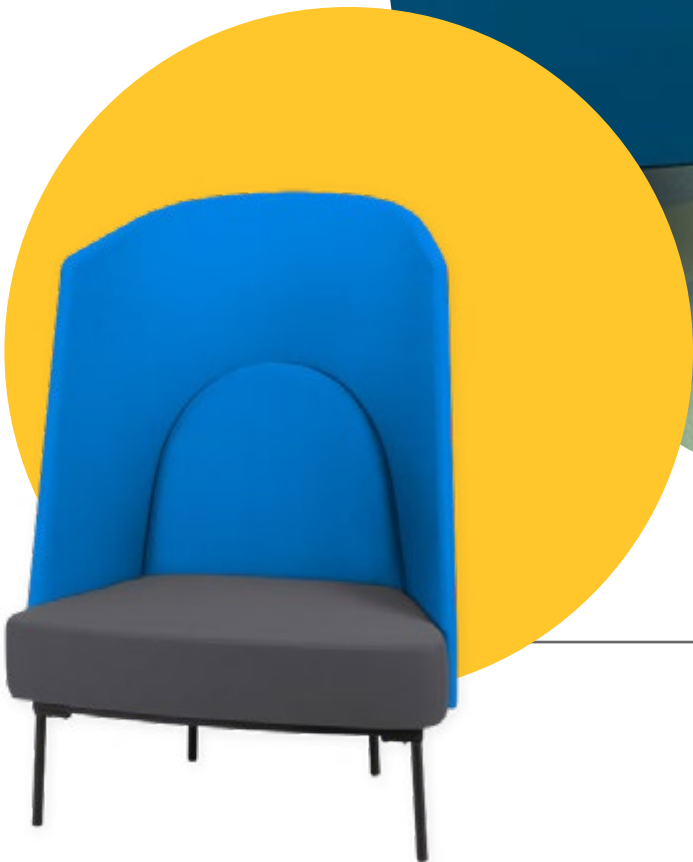
Classroom chairs and adaptive or inclusive seating prioritize student needs

Students will be able to focus and relax in their educational spaces when they have comfortable places to sit that meet their needs.

- Soft seating
- Floor seating
- Balance stools
- Rocking and vestibular chairs
- Bean bag chairs



Shapes Series II
Common Area Chair



Study Pod Seating



Mobile Lounge Recliner

Ease anxiety with inclusive sensory products and furniture

Overstimulated students can significantly benefit from available calming spaces, sensory play, and comfort products in the classroom.

- Portable Sensory Den
- Comfy Hugging Peapod
- Indoor/Outdoor Pillow
- Calming rugs
- Sensory tents

Cloud Rug



Pebble Rug



Portable Sensory Den



Promote social and emotional learning with the right furniture

Emphasize cooperation over competition and provide class-room instruction that focuses on building social skills. You can also expand social-emotional learning (SEL) programs with collaborative furniture.

Collaborative desks

Collaborative tables

Playground and park collections

Activity tables

Cafeteria tables



Round Mobile Stool
Cafeteria Table



Indoor/Outdoor
Plastic EasyRock Stool



Students need breaks in spaces that provide peace and comfort

Support your students’ mental health by making quiet spaces and calming zones available. Some students might benefit from working alone on projects, too. These classroom essentials are great additions for breaks and privacy.

- Room dividers and portable partitions
- Headphones
- Study carrels
- Tents and Zen dens
- Student lounge seating

Comfy Hugging Peapod



Double-Sided
Tempered Glass Partition

Encourage creativity and healthy interests wherever possible

Provide opportunities for students to be physically active and use creative skills and encourage good physical health. School-based programs with the right furniture can improve academic, emotional, and psychosocial outcomes, according to [Edutopia](#).

Art rooms

Computer labs

Science labs

CTE spaces

Music and choir rooms

Help students develop a sense of accomplishment

Praise students for their efforts and contributions, along with their successes. Outward praise can improve how students feel within their school and classroom environments.

Floor display cases

Counter-height display cases

Memorabilia boxes

Bulletin boards and letter boards

Wall-mount displays



Access Display Case



Legacy 88 Series
Display Case

We understand furniture and room designs that support mental health

Learning recovery can happen in small steps, with one piece of classroom furniture at a time. Find new ways you can support student mental health with a little inspiration from School Outfitters. We see what other districts are doing to make great strides in combating absenteeism and academic setbacks with their students. You can benefit from our expertise and find furniture to complement your mental health support efforts.

Talk to a furniture expert about products to support student mental health.

1-800-260-2776 | sales@schooloutfitters.com

About School Outfitters

School Outfitters is on a mission to help students, teachers, and administrators Experience Positive wherever learning takes place. The company's belief in people—that everyone deserves a chance to be themselves, to be seen, heard, and to realize their potential—translates into a relentless quest to do better and be better. As a result, School Outfitters' innovation in creating flexible learning spaces has won the repeat business of 97% of America's top 1,000 school districts.

Founded in 1998 and voted as a Cincinnati Top Workplace for 12 consecutive years, School Outfitters is 100% employee owned and operated. The company offers a broad range of flexible furnishings, collaborative arrangements, and technology integrations, delivered through more than 150 product lines, including exclusive distribution of Learniture, Norwood, Sprogs, and Egghead.

To join the more than 30,000 customers who have chosen School Outfitters to Experience Positive, visit www.schooloutfitters.com

