



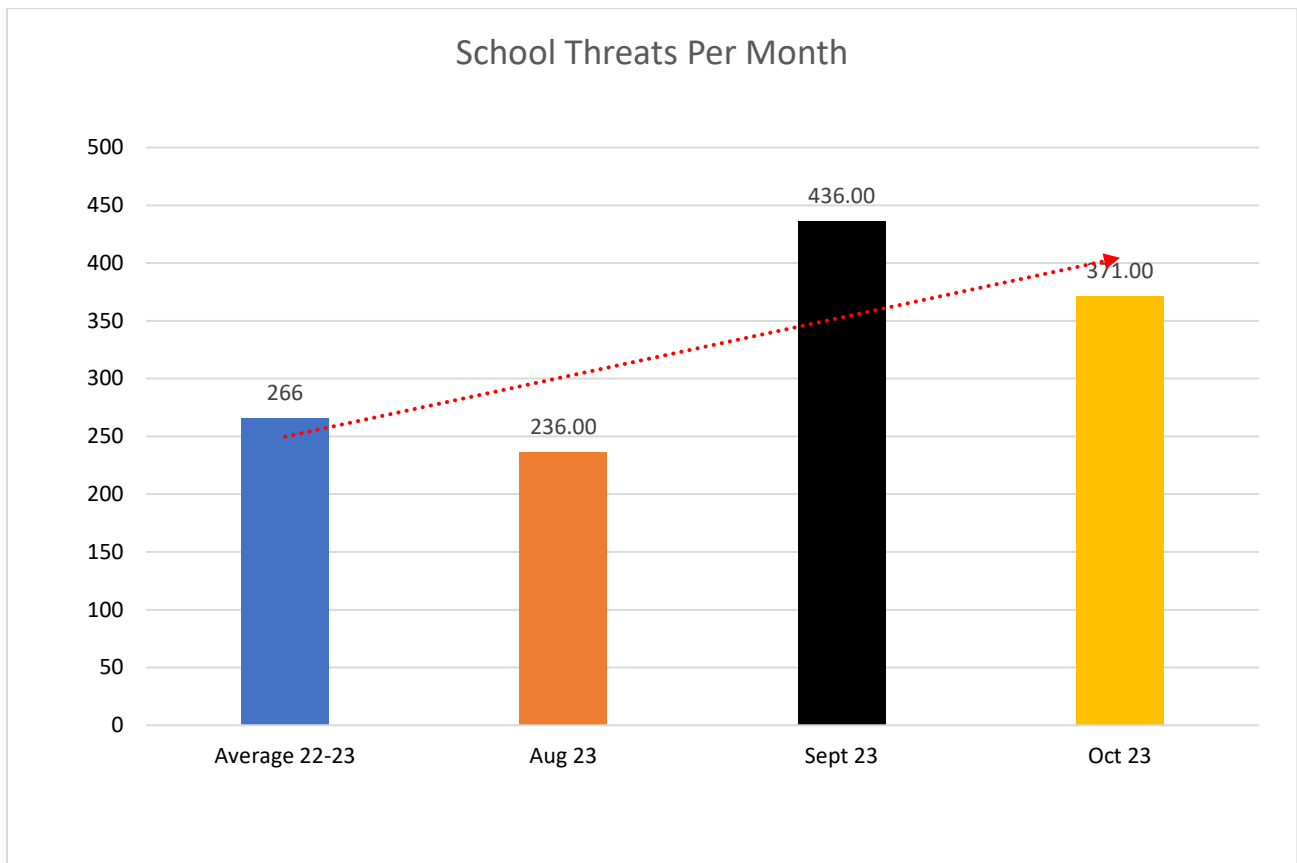
United States School Threats

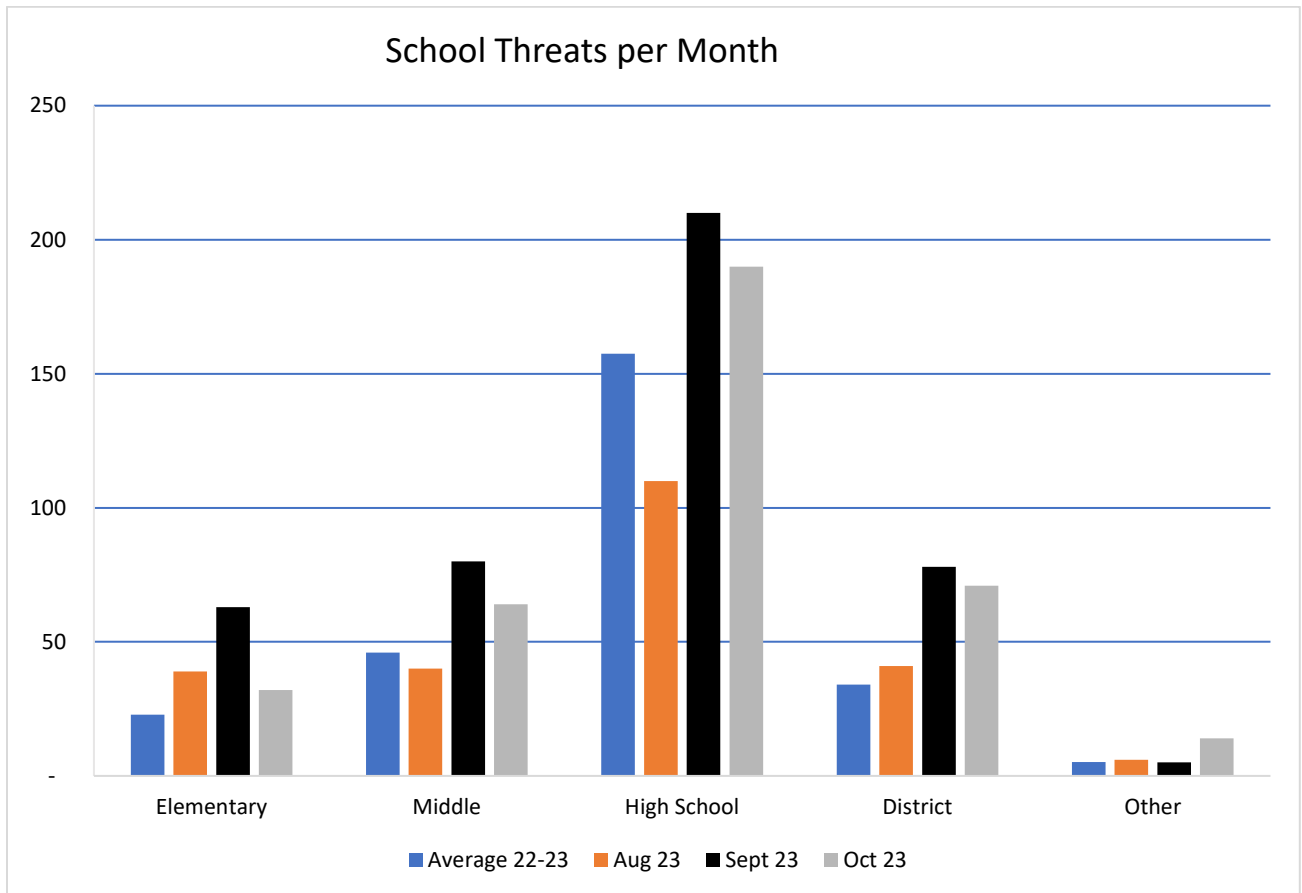
Introduction: This report provides a summary of how threats are impacting U.S. schools.

1. Number of threats (This number should be less than 50 per month)

- This gives us an idea of the volume of threats.
- You will never eliminate all school threats. Historically, this number should be below 50 per month.
 - For three years, we averaged 29 school threats per month.
 - In September 2021, a record of 151 school threats were made, up from a three-year average of 29 per month.

[Op-Ed: The rise in school shooting threats is a cry for help - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](#)







2. **Students impacted** (should be less than 50,000 per month)

- This is a mental health number. Trauma
- How many students are being exposed to life-threatening violence? If this number exceeds 50,000 per month, it may impact the school climate, making students feel unsafe. This can also affect academic performance.
- If you have a school or district that has multiple threats impacting the same students, it can dramatically affect the school climate for that school. It is costly and takes time to restore safety in such situations.
- As many as one in three students (33%) who experience a traumatic event might exhibit symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

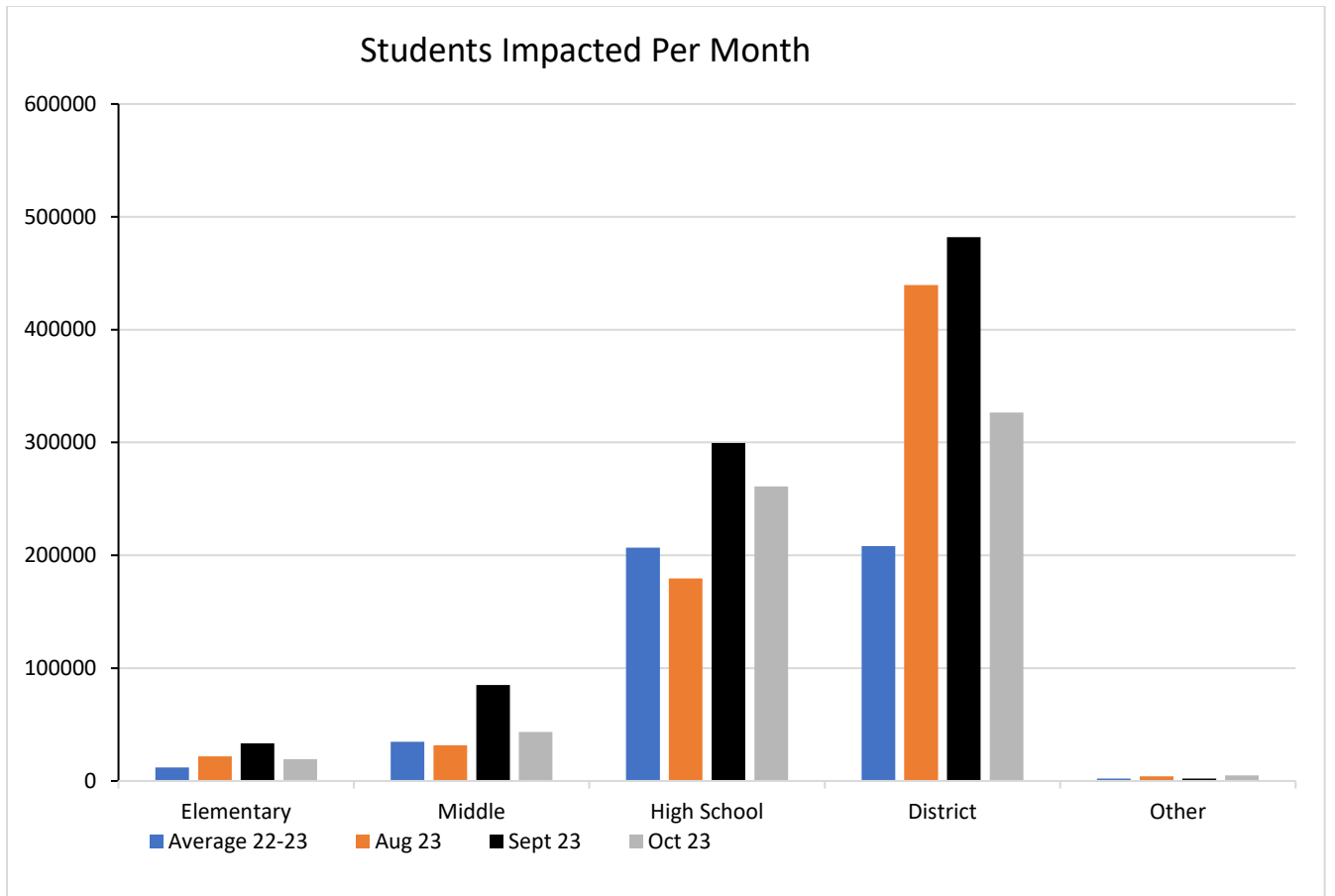
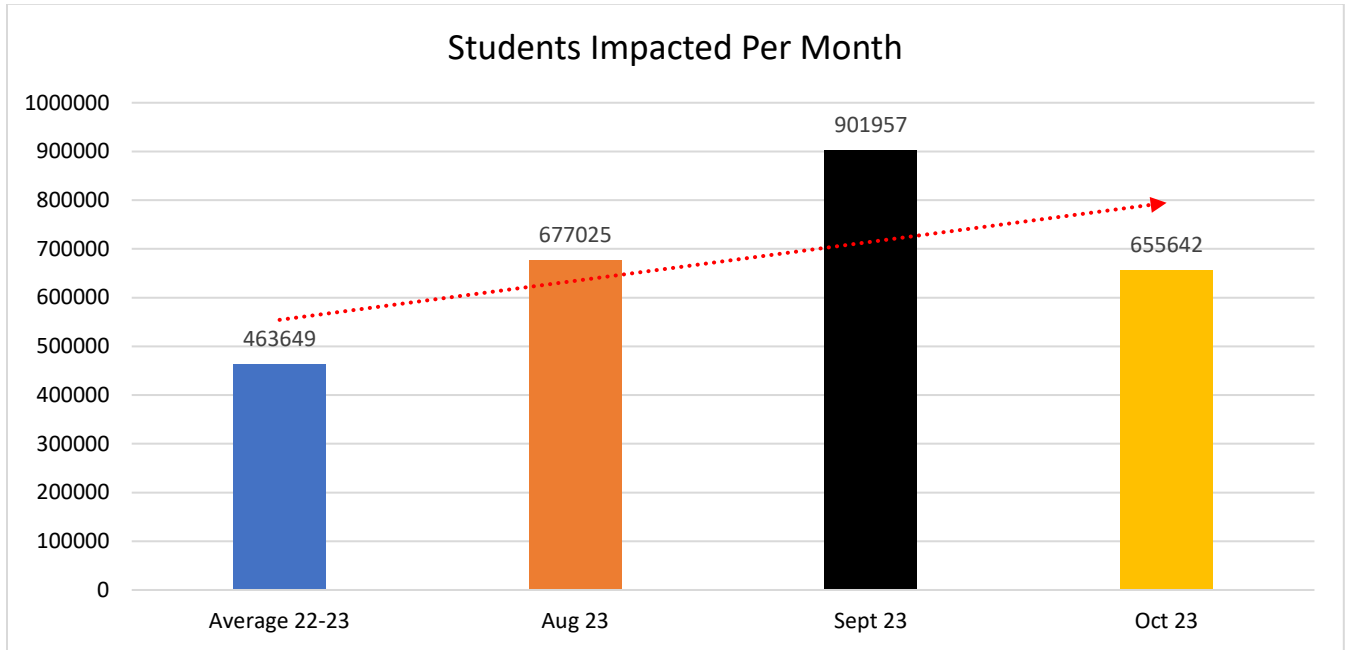
<https://traumaawareschools.org/impact>

The effects of trauma on children are far more pervasive than adults imagine. The National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence found that over 60% of children surveyed experienced trauma, crime, or abuse in the prior year, with some experiencing multiple traumas. Often, children and adolescents do not have the necessary coping skills to manage the impact of stressful or traumatic events. As such, as many as one in three students who experience a traumatic event might exhibit symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Following a child's exposure to a traumatic event, parents and teachers are likely to observe the following symptoms:

It is common for those affected directly and indirectly to have increased anxiety, nightmares, difficulty sleeping, resistance to school, inability to trust, uneasiness, depression, fear, decline in academic performance, inability to fully express their thoughts and feelings, why questions, absence of feelings of safety and security, changes in eating habits, increased anger, hyper-vigilance, grief, loss, guilt, etc. These symptoms and behavior may result in Acute Stress Disorder, [Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder](#) (PTSD), and even delayed Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. Mental health clinicians trained in trauma and grief can assist and support children and families during this healing time."

—[Melissa Dumaz](#), MS, LMFT, founder of [uhelpyou.com](#)

<https://www.wsav.com/news/local-news/it-causes-trauma-school-leaders-parents-concerned-for-kids-mental-health-with-recent-threats/>
<https://www.psycom.net/mental-health-wellbeing/school-shooting-survivor-mental-health>





3. **Lost Instructional Hours** (this number should be less than 100,000 per month)

- This is an academic impact number.
- If this number exceeds 80,000 – 100,000 per month, it may impact academic scores.

[Education's long COVID: 2022–23 achievement data reveal stalled progress toward pandemic recovery - NWEA](#)

