

SCHOOL TALKS RESEARCH

Consolidated Research Infographic (October 2023-March 2024)



GAUTENG PROVINCE
EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SCHOOLS n=49 869 GLOBAL SAMPLE:

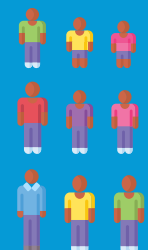
Gender

Female: 51%
Male: 46%
Non-specific: 3%



Grade distribution

Grade 8: 22%
Grade 9: 21%
Grade 10: 25%
Grade 11: 18%
Grade 12: 14%



EDUCATORS' n=961 GLOBAL SAMPLE:

Gender

Female: 71%
Male: 28%
Non-specific: 1%

Age Range:

20-70
years of age

Qualifications

Matric Certificate: 12%
Post-Matric Diploma: 11%
Post-Matric Degree: 77%



Total Experience

9748 Years of teaching experience

LSAS' n=50 GLOBAL SAMPLE:

Gender

Female: 74%
Male: 24%
Non-specific: 2%

Age Range:

20-37
years of age

Qualifications

Matric Certificate: 62%
Post-Matric Diploma: 35%
Post-Matric Degree: 13%



Total Experience

815 Months of teaching experience

PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS n=88

Gender

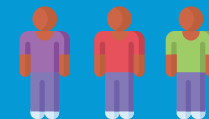
Female: 73%
Male: 25%
Non-specific: 2%

Age Range:

12-67
years of age

Number of dependent children:

1-2 children: 42%
3-4 children: 42%
5+ children: 16%



Single Parents:

57% single parent
43% are not

Employment:

58% employed
42% unemployed

WHAT ARE THE MAIN CHALLENGES?



LEARNERS	EDUCATORS	LSAS'	PARENTS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS
52% Academic Pressure	55% Financial Stress and Pressure	88% Financial Stress and Pressure	61% Financial Stress and Pressure
33% Load shedding	34% Work Pressure	42% Learners with Poor Mental Health	36% Family problems
32% Money Problems	28% Family Problems	34% Family Problems	32% Unemployment
18% Problematic Peers	27% Load shedding	24% Work Pressure	31% Crime
17% Family problems	26% Learners with Poor Mental Health	16% Crime	21% Work Pressure & Paying School Fees

HOW DO THE CHALLENGES MAKE STAKEHOLDERS FEEL?

		Learner	Educator	Parents & Community Members
10	I felt tired for no good reason	23%	25%	22%
09	I felt a little nervous	19%	12%	12%
08	I felt so nervous that nothing could calm me down	15%	7%	16%
07	I felt hopeless	19%	10%	27%
06	I felt a little restless (fidgety)	17%	13%	11%
05	I felt so restless that I could not sit still	14%	8%	7%
04	I felt depressed	18%	14%	21%
03	I felt everything was an effort	25%	20%	21%
02	I felt so sad that nothing could cheer me up	24%	11%	17%
01	I felt worthless	19%	7%	22%

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WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE DEGREE OF RISK?

- 1293** learners talked to 961 educators about their (learner) mental health 9 January-March 2024)
- 361** learners talked about attempting suicide (January - March 2024)
- 284** learners attempted to take their own lives (January - March 2024)
- 88** educators reported suicide attempts of teachers (in a non-specified period)
- 142** educators reported suicide attempts of parents (in a non-specified period)



OUR INTERVENTION - REDUCING RISK?

- 94%** of learners could list a logical source of help for mental health challenges
- 93%** of learners learnt something new about depression during the talk
- 91%** of learners found the school talks helpful 
- 90%** of learners want the SADAG team to come back and talk to their class again
- 90%** of learners could perfectly recall the SADAG Suicide Crisis Helpline number. 

WORKSHOP GAINS



- Felt that they would be more effective in their role as a result of the talk/workshop
- Learnt the contents of a Suicide Safety Plan
- Felt able to identify the signs of depression amongst youths as a result of the talk/workshop
- Learnt how to help teens in crisis (skills)
- Learnt about counselling
- Learnt about trauma
- Learnt where to get help for teens experiencing a mental health crisis
- Could accurately recall the SADAG Suicide Crisis Helpline Number

	EDUCATORS	LSAS'	PARENTS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS
Felt that they would be more effective in their role as a result of the talk/workshop	97%	100%	100%
Learnt the contents of a Suicide Safety Plan	92%	96%	99%
Felt able to identify the signs of depression amongst youths as a result of the talk/workshop	94%	98%	100%
Learnt how to help teens in crisis (skills)	92%	94%	99%
Learnt about counselling	93%	100%	100%
Learnt about trauma	87%	78%	94%
Learnt where to get help for teens experiencing a mental health crisis	98%	100%	100%
Could accurately recall the SADAG Suicide Crisis Helpline Number	65%	74%	59%

WHAT MORE CAN SADAG TALK ABOUT?

Trauma: 44%	Anxiety: 56%	Anxiety: 76%	Bullying: 49%
Teen Sexual Health: 41%	Grief/Loss: 54%	Self-harm: 72%	Anxiety: 47%
Anxiety: 37%	Bullying: 48%	Grief/Loss: 70%	Exam Stress: 45%
Self-harm: 37%	Trauma: 43%	Bullying: 66%	Grief/Loss: 44%
Bullying: 31%	Substance Abuse: 31%	Trauma: 66%	Teen Sexual Health: 40%
Grief/Loss: 31%	Self-harm: 29%	Substance Abuse: 64%	Trauma: 39%
Substance Abuse: 31%	Exam Stress: 36%	Teen Sexual Health: 54%	Substance Abuse: 38%
Exam Stress: 31%	Teen Sexual Health: 28%	Exam Stress: 48%	Self-harm: 32%