

Every Period Counts Survey Findings

As part of the Every Period Counts campaign Irise International commissioned a nationally representative survey of girls across the UK, with support from campaign allies Bloody Good Period, In Kind Direct, Freedom4Girls and Cysters.

The research was carried out online by Research Without Barriers between 4th and 15th May 2023. The sample comprised 1,007 girls aged 13-18.

Key findings include:

- A third of girls (344 out of 1,007) are missing school due to a lack of care or access to period products - that's over 3 million days missed every year.
- Nearly half of all school girls (434 out of 1,007) are struggling to access period products at school.
- 61% of girls (610 out of 1,007) have had issues accessing toilets in lessons when on their period.
- Further 44% of girls (446 out of 1,007) feel too embarrassed to ask for period products at school.
- A quarter (24% 240 out of 1,007) have been too embarrassed to notify a teacher when they have started their period.
- A further 25% (251 out of 1,007) have had to justify exactly why they needed to go to the toilet.
- One in four girls (24% 245 out of 1,007) have to hide their period products when accessing a toilet at school.
- More than 1 in 10 schools still don't provide free period products, with 13% of girls (128 out of 1,007) stating that their school/college doesn't offer free period products at all.
- A huge 52% of girls (527 out of 1,007) say they have never been taught how to use period products at school or college.

