

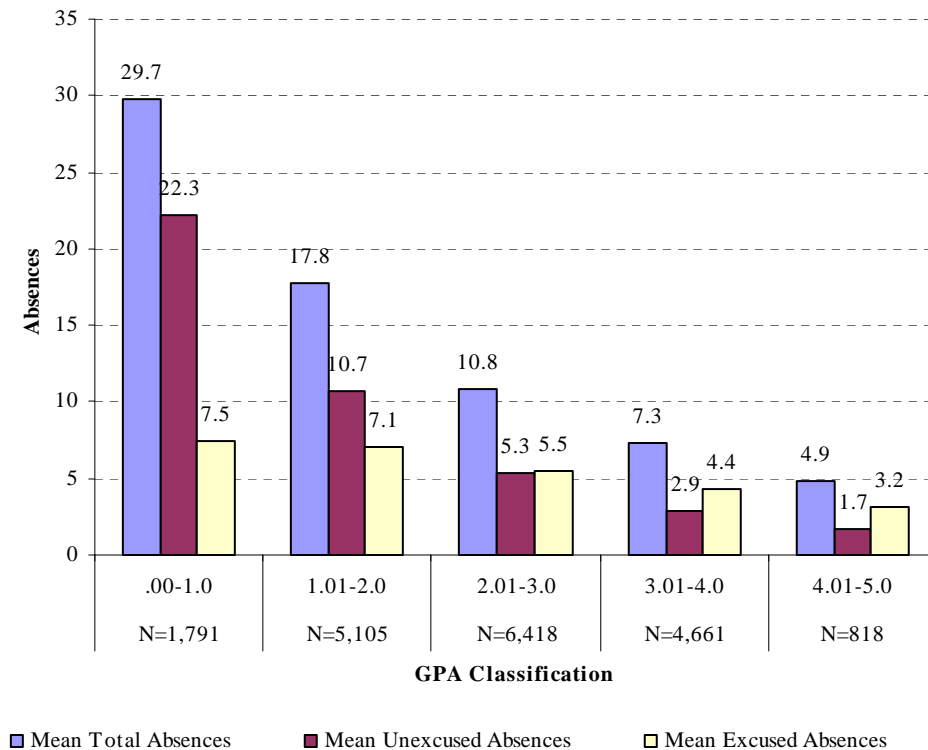


Question: What is the relationship between student grade point average and student attendance?

Response: Student attendance and grade point average (GPA) data for all high schools during the 2006-2007 school year were taken from district databases and joined to examine how student attendance may be related to students' overall GPA. The GPAs used in the analysis were calculated within the district's student information system (SASI). The GPAs were cumulative and included all course work on which credit was earned. The absences were based on an all-day absence code. The GPA data were separated into five categories ranging from .00-1.0 to 4.01-5.0, and the average number of absences per student within each grouping was calculated.

The results from the data analysis indicated that as students missed more classes, their GPA decreased significantly (Figure 1). This was particularly true for unexcused absences. The average number of unexcused absences per student with a GPA of .00 to 1.0 was 30, while the average number of absences per student with a GPA of 4.01-5.0 was 5. These relationships may have been influenced by district policy and state law, which require that students not miss more than 10% of the days that class is offered to be eligible to receive credit in the class.

Figure 1: Mean Absences by GPA Classification Group, 2006-2007



Source: AISD Student Information Systems (SASI) as of September 18, 2006, prepared by the Department of Program Evaluation.