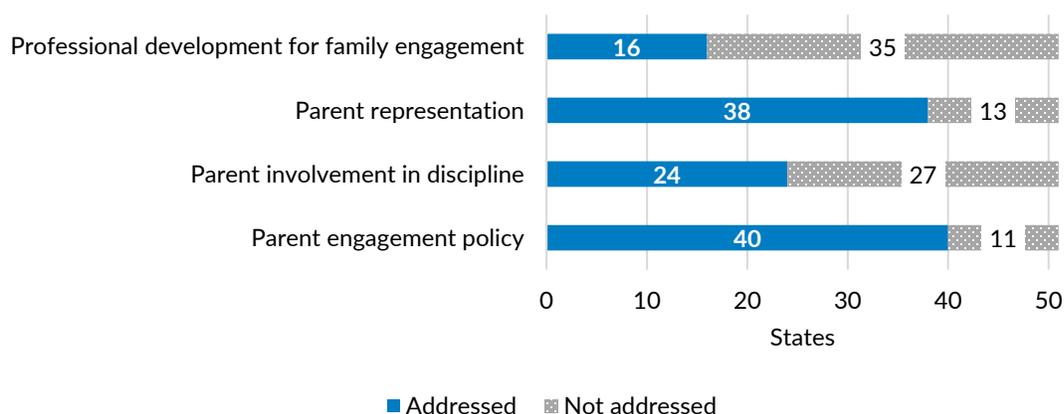


How comprehensively do states cover family engagement?

- About half of states (24 states), have moderate coverage of family engagement topics in their state laws (range: 44 percent to 66 percent), whereas 12 states are more comprehensive in their coverage (range: 78 percent to 100 percent). The area that was least frequently addressed in state law involved professional development on parent engagement strategies representing an area of policy opportunity.
- Fifteen states had limited coverage of family engagement topics. South Dakota was the only state that did not address any family engagement topics.

Figure 2. Number of States Covering Selected Family Engagement Topics



Child Trends, in partnership with The Institute of Health Research and Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago and EMT Associates, Inc., examined the extent to which 11 healthy schools domains are addressed in state policy. These domains include the 10 components of the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model: Health Education; Physical Education and Physical Activity; Nutrition Environment and Services; Health Services; Counseling, Psychological, and Social Services; Social and Emotional Climate; Physical Environment; Employee Wellness; Family Engagement; and Community Involvement. An additional domain, the WSCC References domain, addresses the extent to which state laws include explicit references to the WSCC model or similar language, such as the Center for Disease Control and Preventions' Coordinated School Health model.

This sub-brief provides an overview of how state policies cover the Family Engagement domain. Sub-briefs covering the other domains as well as the compiled report can be found on the [Child Trends website](#). Definitions of each of the nine topics are provided in the Appendix of the compiled report. Data from all topics are available through the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) [State Policy Database on School Health](#).

¹ Warren, M. R., Hong, S., Rubin, C. L., & Uy, P. S. (2009). Beyond the bake sale: A community-based relational approach to parent engagement in schools. *Teachers college record*, 111(9), 2209-2254.