

# campus Safety dive

# 2023 Access Control and Lockdown

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### Survey: Campuses Continue to Bolster Access Control, but Struggle to Manage Changes

Our latest survey finds that most campuses now embrace lockdown and access technologies but are much more aware of the challenges associated with these systems. *By Robin Hattersley* 

The results from the 2023 *Campus Safety* Access Control and Lockdown Survey have been tabulated, and, like in **2021's survey** when we saw a significant rise in the installation of and demand for access security, locks and door hardware, this year's survey respondents are even more bullish for these technologies. The 2023 increase in demand appears to stem from greater awareness by campuses of their vulnerabilities and the abilities of the various technologies to help address their security gaps. But with the increase in upgrades has come many technology struggles.

Locks and/or door hardware were the most popular purchases with 80% of respondents implementing upgrades to this technology over the past two years.

Lockdown/shelter-in-place policies and procedures (76%), and card and/or biometric access control systems (69%) were the second and third most popular upgrades implemented by our survey takers over the past two years. (See Figure 1 on page 4)

Broken out by sector, K-12 respondents (81%) were the most likely to have updated their lockdown/shelter-in-place policies and procedures recently, while healthcare respondents (75%) were the most likely to upgrade or buy new card and/or biometric access control systems. Nine out of ten healthcare respondents (91%) have purchased locks and/or door hardware in the past two years, followed by K-12 at 86% and higher ed at 72%.

Locks and/or door hardware are the most popular planned purchases or upgrades, with 43% of all survey takers saying they made upgrades to their systems in the past two years and are considering doing so in the next two years. Another 13% said they haven't recently made upgrades to their locks and door hardware but are considering doing so in the next two years. Overall interest in future purchases/upgrades of this technology has increased from 45% in 2021 to 56% today.

Visitor management is also popular, with 55% of all respondents saying they're considering making upgrades soon. Additionally, **NFC/BLE** mobile phone access control has grown in popularity compared to 2021. Now, 55% of all survey respondents have either recently purchased this type of solution and are considering adding more in the next two years or haven't recently made a purchase but are considering doing so in the next two years. That's ten percentage points more than in 2021. More respondents also say they are considering acquiring **window** safety and/or security solutions in the next two years... 53% this year compared to 44% two years ago.

Other types of solutions are also getting a lot of attention, with the following technologies being considered by campuses for upgrades in the next two years: **Intercoms** (52%); **cloud**-based access control (51%); card and/or biometric access control (46%); secure front entrance vestibules (46%); and **fences** (43%).

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#### **Security Comes in Layers**

Schools rely on various technologies to create a comprehensive security solution. From hardware to network solutions, multiple components can be configured in a single system to properly secure a

campus.



Emphasizing there is no one-size-fits-all plan; we must recognize situations require their own approach.

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#### **Consider Preventive Measures**

Combine sturdy doors and locks to deter criminals. Use an access control system with programmable credentials to provide staff quick entry. Integrate a surveillance system to monitor an entire campus at a high-level view and easily toggle to a close-up, detailed view of the video intercom.

Be sure alarms are part of the overall system for alerting staff about emergencies. Practice CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) to ensure grounds and conditions hinder criminal intent, instead of aiding them. Install video intercoms to screen visitors before unlocking the door.

Choose intercoms with mobile app capability so campus personnel can answer calls when they are offsite. Complement a video intercom system with emergency towers and wall boxes offering multiple points to call for help. Select a VMS (visitor management system) that is compatible with your video intercom to keep a record of who has been on your campus.

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In the past two years, has your campus/district/institution adopted new or upgraded any of the following? If not, are you considering doing so in the near future?

YES	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Card and/or biometric access control system(s)	42%	44%	36%	55%
Locks and/or door hardware	37%	48%	26%	38%
Visitor management system(s)	29%	46%	13%	31%
NFC/BLE mobile phone access control	17%	23%	14%	14%
Fences	32%	43%	22%	43%
Secure front entrance vestibule(s)	36%	53%	25%	34%
Window safety and/or security solution(s)	28%	37%	23%	25%
Intercom(s) for access control	30%	50%	16%	26%
Cloud (Software as a Service) for access control	25%	31%	20%	22%
Lockdown/shelter-in-place policies and procedures	43%	57%	31%	39%
YES and we are considering adding more in the next 2 years	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Card and/or biometric access control system(s)	27%	28%	29%	20%
Locks and/or door hardware	43%	38%	46%	53%
Visitor management system(s)	27%	30%	26%	31%
NFC/BLE mobile phone access control	29%	32%	24%	40%
Fences	27%	28%	26%	34%
Secure front entrance vestibule(s)	31%	30%	32%	35%
Window safety and/or security solution(s)	27%	28%	26%	30%
Intercom(s) for access control	32%	29%	36%	39%
Cloud (Software as a Service) for access control	32%	30%	32%	42%
Lockdown/shelter-in-place policies and procedures	33%	24%	41%	35%
NO but we are considering doing so within the next 2 years	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Card and/or biometric access control system(s)	700/			
	19%	12%	27%	22%
Locks and/or door hardware	13%	8%	20%	5%
Locks and/or door hardware Visitor management system(s)	13% 28%	8% 15%	20% 39%	5% 33%
Locks and/or door hardware	13% 28% 26%	8% 15% 12%	20% 39% 34%	5% 33% 31%
Locks and/or door hardware Visitor management system(s) NFC/BLE mobile phone access control Fences	13% 28% 26% 16%	8% 15% 12% 9%	20% 39% 34% 26%	5% 33% 31% 13%
Locks and/or door hardware Visitor management system(s) NFC/BLE mobile phone access control Fences Secure front entrance vestibule(s)	13% 28% 26% 16% 15%	8% 15% 12% 9% 8%	20% 39% 34% 26% 18%	5% 33% 31% 13% 22%
Locks and/or door hardware  Visitor management system(s)  NFC/BLE mobile phone access control  Fences  Secure front entrance vestibule(s)  Window safety and/or security solution(s)	13% 28% 26% 16% 15% 26%	8% 15% 12% 9% 8% 20%	20% 39% 34% 26% 18% 28%	5% 33% 31% 13% 22% 31%
Locks and/or door hardware  Visitor management system(s)  NFC/BLE mobile phone access control  Fences  Secure front entrance vestibule(s)  Window safety and/or security solution(s)  Intercom(s) for access control	13% 28% 26% 16% 15% 26% 20%	8% 15% 12% 9% 8% 20% 8%	20% 39% 34% 26% 18% 28% 24%	5% 33% 31% 13% 22% 31% 29%
Locks and/or door hardware  Visitor management system(s)  NFC/BLE mobile phone access control  Fences  Secure front entrance vestibule(s)  Window safety and/or security solution(s)  Intercom(s) for access control  Cloud (Software as a Service) for access control	13% 28% 26% 16% 15% 26% 20% 19%	8% 15% 12% 9% 8% 20% 8% 12%	20% 39% 34% 26% 18% 28% 24% 23%	5% 33% 31% 13% 22% 31% 29% 26%
Locks and/or door hardware  Visitor management system(s)  NFC/BLE mobile phone access control  Fences  Secure front entrance vestibule(s)  Window safety and/or security solution(s)  Intercom(s) for access control	13% 28% 26% 16% 15% 26% 20%	8% 15% 12% 9% 8% 20% 8%	20% 39% 34% 26% 18% 28% 24%	5% 33% 31% 13% 22% 31% 29%
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### Why Campuses Upgrade Their Access Control, Locks, Policies and Procedures

A new question that was added to this year's survey was, "If you have recently made or plan to soon make improvements to your access control and lockdown technology, policies and procedures, what prompted you to do so?" More than half (53%) of all respondents said, "Recent incident(s) that happened in other parts of the country." When the answers were segmented out by organization type, 66% of K-12, 73% of healthcare and 41% of college and university respondents said incidents that happened in other parts of the country were motivating factors. (See Figure 2 on page 6)

The differences in responses by sector are understandable. Last year's **Robb** 

#### **Elementary School mass shooting**

in Uvalde, Texas, as well as this spring's active shooter attack at Covenant School in Nashville, Tenn., were widely covered by the media and discussed by the nation as a whole, including superintendents and school boards, not just among school security professionals.

Additionally, the <u>dramatic rise</u> in active shooter incidents in the U.S. as a whole has certainly prompted many campuses to bolster security. Although there is a very low probability that your specific hospital, school, or university will actually experience an active shooter event, if it does happen, the impact to your campus and surrounding community is certain to be devastating.

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## Open Doors to a Safer Campus with NFC Wallet Mobile Credentials



Picture this: Every student and staff member walks into your campus securely without using a physical ID card or key fob to get

in. Their smartphone becomes their all-in-one access key, storing a digital representation of their identity securely within its digital confines. With just a simple tap or wave near a reader, their NFC-enabled phone communicates seamlessly with the access control system, granting or denying entry based on their credentials.

That's the power of NFC wallet mobile credentials, which creates an unparalleled user experience when integrated with AlertEnterprise's cyber-physical identity access management platform.

The beauty lies in the automation and streamlining that happens both in the frontend—where students and staff enjoy a frictionless mobile experience—and in the backend, where security operators can manage the entire access ecosystem with ease.

Within seconds, security personnel can issue and revoke credentials remotely rather than meet in person to exchange physical cards. Automated end-to-end lifecycle management and governance of identities instantly enforces policies while removing human error and security gaps. Manual data entry and reporting is eliminated, turning days of work into mere seconds. And Al-powered analytics provide immediate insights to events that need further investigating.

See for yourself at alertenterprise.com.



If you have recently made or plan to soon make improvements to access control and lockdown technology, policies, and procedures, what prompted you to do so?

prompted you to do so?				
· · ·	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Recent incident(s) that occurred on my campus or at my institution.	33%	42%	23%	46%
Recent incident(s) that happened near my campus.	36%	46%	28%	46%
Recent incident(s) that happened in other parts of the country.	53%	66%	41%	73%
Nothing in particular. We just want to improve safety and security on campus.	40%	44%	44%	39%
N/A - We believe our access control and lockdown technology, policies, and procedures are adequate.	7%	5%	8%	9%
N/A - We need to upgrade our access control and lockdown technology, policies, and procedures, but we are not taking steps to do so.	5%	3%	6%	13%
Other	3%	<b>7</b> %	1%	1%

Meanwhile, it appears that many healthcare executives might be waking up to the massive number of **workplace violence** incidents that have occurred at U.S. hospitals for years and intensified during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the survey didn't ask, another development that may be prompting healthcare to pay closer attention to security is last year's Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) **warning** that hospitals must protect their employees and patients from violence.

Recent incident(s) that happened "on my campus" or "near my campus" were motivations for about 46% of hospitals; 42% and 46% for schools, respectively; but only 23% and 28%, respectively, for institutions of higher education. Four in ten respondents overall said nothing in particular prompted them to make upgrades. They just wanted to improve safety and security.

Thankfully, only a small percentage (5%) said, "We need to upgrade our access control and lockdown technology, policies, and procedures, but we are not taking steps to do so." Only 3% of K-12 respondents and 6% of college and university respondents checked this option in the survey. Sadly, 13% of healthcare participants said they know they need to make improvements but aren't doing anything.

#### Equipment Coverage and Quality Ratings Hold Steady

Overall, one in four respondents to this year's survey rate the coverage of their access control/locks/door hardware systems as excellent, which is five percentage points fewer than when we asked this question in 2021. Nearly half (48%) rate it as good, which is three percentage points more than two years ago. (See Figure 3 on page 7)

Please rate the **coverage** of your campus, district or institution's access control technology/locks/door hardware:

	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Excellent	25%	41%	13%	31%
Good	48%	39%	56%	51%
Fair	18%	14%	17%	13%
Below Par	8%	5%	12%	5%
Poor	1%	1%	2%	0%

#### FIGURE 4

Please rate the **quality** of your campus, district or institution's access control technology/locks/door hardware:

	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Excellent	28%	35%	20%	42%
Good	44%	44%	44%	46%
Fair	15%	15%	13%	5%
Below Par	12%	5%	20%	8%
Poor	2%	2%	3%	0%

Interestingly, while more than half of higher education and hospital respondents rated their equipment's coverage as "good," K-12 respondents were much more likely to give an "excellent" rating (41%) compared to only 13% of college respondents and 31% of healthcare respondents.

When combining "excellent" and "good" responses, K-12 and healthcare survey takers are nearly the same: 80% and 82% respectively. Institutions of higher education, however, are well behind their school and hospital brethren with a total of 69% rating their coverage as excellent or good.

Although this year's overall ratings for quality are practically the same as two years ago (72% of 2023 respondents rate it as excellent or good compared to 71% in 2021), when broken down by sector, the satisfaction levels vary significantly. (See Figure 4 above)

At 42%, healthcare participants are the most likely to rate the quality of their access, lock, and door hardware solutions as excellent, compared to only 35% of school respondents and 20% of higher ed respondents. There is still quite a bit of agreement among the sectors: 44% of K-12 and higher ed survey participants and 46% of hospital respondents rate their systems as good.

#### K-12 Schools' Ability to Lockdown Slightly Improving

With the recent dramatic increase in active shooter incidents in the U.S. and hyper-focus on school lockdowns, it should come as no surprise that K-12 survey participants were the respondents to most often say that 75% or more of their campus can lockdown.

This year, 39% of school respondents said they can lockdown 100% of their campus and 44% said they can lockdown 75-99% of their campus. This year's K-12 combined total of 83% is four percentage points more than two years ago when it was 79%.

Hospitals and college campuses, however, are way behind their K-12 peers. Only 43% of healthcare respondents and 35% of participants from institutions of higher education said they can lockdown 75% or more of their campuses. (See Figure 5 on page 9)

However, in all fairness to institutions of higher education and hospitals, often those types of campuses are open to the public, where anyone can walk in from off the street. Additionally, some campuses have city streets running through them, so the ability for them to lockdown completely is an unreasonable expectation.

Although 71% of all respondents said they can lockdown 50% or more of their campuses, that figure is 15 percentage points below 2021's findings (86%) and eight percentage points below 2019's findings (79%).

As far as how quickly their campuses can lockdown, this year, 81% of K-12 respondents said they can lockdown their campuses in 10 minutes or less, with 59% saying they could do so in five minutes or less. (See Figure 6 on page 9)

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### Overcoming Old Access Control Card Security Challenges

Would you be surprised if I said your organization's biggest security vulnerability might be hanging around your neck right now?

For decades, access control systems have relied on 125 kHz proximity cards to grant access to secure spaces. These credentials are popular because of their

affordability and compatibility across most major hardware solutions.

Without encryption, anyone can read or copy the 125 kHz proximity cards used in older access control systems.

This compatibility comes with a major drawback. Proximity credentials can be used with all of those devices because their data is broadcast entirely in the clear. Without encryption, anyone can read or copy that credential!

Brivo launched the Brivo Unified Credential to provide the security of smartcards without sacrificing interoperability across card readers and wireless locks. With the Brivo Unified Credential, the same encrypted smartcard can be used with Brivo Smart Readers and leading manufacturers' wireless locks.

Brivo Mobile Pass provides another path to secure, convenient credentials. New capabilities like employee badge in Apple Wallet from Brivo are key drivers in making digital credentials the preferred option for millennials and Gen Z.

At Brivo, we are committed to providing industry-leading access control solutions. Our products bring cybersecurity and physical security together to protect organizations of all sizes. —Jason Kaveney, Director, Product Management, Brivo

#### Brivo.com



Approximately how much of your campus can lockdown?

	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
100%	19%	39%	9%	9%
75% - 99%	34%	44%	26%	34%
51% - 74%	18%	10%	17%	38%
26% - 50%	16%	1%	31%	13%
1% - 25%	7%	4%	13%	0%
0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
I don't know	4%	2%	3%	7%
N/A	1%	1%	1%	0%

#### FIGURE 6

For the parts of your campus that CAN be locked down, how quickly can that be accomplished?

	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
In 5 minutes or less	37%	59%	23%	25%
6-10 minutes	27%	23%	34%	25%
11-20 minutes	17%	5%	26%	20%
21-30 minutes	6%	3%	7%	21%
31-60 minutes	4%	3%	4%	7%
We can't lock down	2%	2%	1%	1%
l don't know	5%	3%	5%	3%
N/A	2%	2%	1%	0%

Half of healthcare survey takers and 57% of higher ed respondents said they could lockdown in 10 minutes or less.

### Lockdown Training and Hardware Maintenance Continue to Pose Problems

There appears to be no improvement with training on and adherence to lockdown and door hardware policies. Nearly half (49%) of all of this year's respondents said their students, staff, administrators, and faculty aren't trained on campus access

FIGURE 7				
experie problen	r campus/distric nced any of the f ns with its locks/ ast two years?	ollowi	ng	
		Yes	No	Don't Know
	and door hardware been properly d	47%	45%	8%
are not pr	and door hardware operly configured and security	34%	55%	11%
Doors that on them d	t should have locks o not	31%	28%	11%
and teach	staff, administrators, ers aren't trained on s control policies or ow our policies	49%	43%	8%

control policies or don't follow those policies. That's practically the same as the 48% who said this was an issue in 2021. Institutions of higher education are struggling the most with this problem (56%), closely followed by healthcare facilities (50%). At 39%, K-12 schools and districts aren't struggling as much. (See Figure 7)

Lock and door hardware maintenance are also a challenge for 47% of all respondents, which is three percentage points more than two years ago. However, hospitals really struggle with this issue: nearly two out of three (61%) said their locks and door hardware have not been properly maintained.

Of course, once a campus has installed its equipment and trained everyone on how to use it, the next question is, "How effective is it?" (See Figure 8)

Healthcare and school respondents are much more confident than college and university survey takers in the ability of their door hardware and locks to protect against intruders. Seven out of ten healthcare respondents said "Yes" to the question, "Do you have adequate door hardware and locks to protect against outside threats?" Another 25% said, "Somewhat, but it could be better." Likewise, two in three (66%) school respondents answered "Yes" to that question, while 33% answered "Somewhat."

#### FIGURE 8

Do you have adequate door hardware and locks to protect against outside threats?

	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Yes	49%	66%	33%	70%
Somewhat, but it could be better	42%	31%	51%	25%
No	7%	2%	12%	4%
I'm not sure	2%	2%	3%	1%

#### FIGURE 9

When you go into lockdown, how confident are you that you can fully account for everyone in your building(s), including visitors, volunteers and contractors?

	All	K-12	Higher Ed	Healthcare
Really confident	24%	49%	7%	21%
Moderately confident	43%	35%	49%	51%
Slightly confident	17%	9%	22%	21%
Not confident at all	16%	8%	23%	8%

Unlike K-12 and healthcare, the level of confidence among higher ed participants is just OK: 33% answered "Yes" while 51% answered "Somewhat."

Once a facility has locked down, it's important for officials to be able to identify who is and is not on campus. (See figure 9) Not surprisingly, colleges and universities are the least confident in their abilities to account for everyone in their buildings, with 23% of respondents saying they are "Not confident at all," compared to only 8% of schools and hospitals. The reason for this is straightforward: most people on college campuses are adults who can come and go as they please. Although this is also somewhat true in healthcare, hospitals must take great care in tracking their patients and, to a certain extent, the guests who visit them. So, it makes sense that hospital respondents are more confident in their abilities to account for people on their campuses than institutions of higher education.

On the other end of the accountability spectrum, more than eight in ten K-12 respondents are really confident (49%) or moderately confident (35%) they can account for everyone in their buildings. This is probably due to schools being held to an extremely high level of student accountability (in loco parentis).

#### Respondents Report Many More Concerns with Their Systems, Support and Staffing

The challenges associated with physical access control have skyrocketed over the past two years, according to this year's survey. As to why, it is difficult to say.

The Covenant School mass shooting appears to have prompted more respondents to be concerned about their windows and other glass openings, as has Texas' new **requirement** that schools must install window security film. The survey takers who said the design and/or placement of their windows is very challenging or extremely challenging increased 23% from 29% in 2021 to 52% today. (See Figure 10 on page 12)

But windows weren't the only area that experienced a big jump in perceived challenges. Concerns with the tracking of keys also jumped by double digits, with 50% of respondents now saying this is an extremely or very challenging issue for them, compared to 33% only two years ago.

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#### How Tailgating Detection Can Prevent Unauthorized Access to Your Campus



Campuses that want to control who enters their facilities need to guard against tailgating, but what exactly is tailgating?

According to Detex Marketing Manager Tim Shafer, tailgating occurs when an unauthorized

person follows an authorized person into a secured area.

"And when unauthorized individuals come into a building, campus officials have no knowledge of the risk until the event occurs," he says. "That event could be a disgruntled former employee, violent activists, stalkers or something worse."

Fortunately, there is a solution.

"The Detex AT-5200 and AT-5600 sneak detection systems for doors are the most accurate and cost-effective way a campus can detect access by unauthorized persons," Shafer says. "Compared to video surveillance systems, the AT-5200 and AT-5600 have lower false alarm rates and are much more affordable."

Shafer recommends campuses adopt the following policies to support their organization's tailgating detection technology:

- » Everyone must card through the opening in a single-file line
- » No one should hold open the doors for others
- » Everyone should present their ID card when entering the building
- » Access cards should not be shared. If this happens the AT-5200 and AT-5600 anti-passback feature can help.

To learn more visit **detex.com** 



Other challenges that saw a more than 10% increase in survey takers saying they are extremely or very challenging include "Lack of a visitor management system, or the system we have needs to be upgraded," up from 27% in 2021 to 42% today; and "Our campus layout is open, so it's very difficult to lockdown our campus or control access," up from 39% in 2021 to 52% now.

Even "Lack of metal detection or our detectors need to be upgraded" and "Our students, faculty and/or staff are required to carry too many credentials (cards) or keys," each saw an increase of 8% of respondents (38% and 31%, respectively) who said these problems are now extremely challenging or very challenging.

Campuses also appear to be struggling more with their access control, lock, and lockdown policy and personnel issues compared to two years ago. *(See Figure 11 on page 13)* This year, 14% more respondents said the lack of IT department support/buy-in and cooperation is an extremely challenging or very challenging issue — up from 24% in 2021 to 38% now. At 49% and 41% respectively, healthcare and K-12 respondents are the ones who are struggling with this issue the most. This trend is particularly troubling because most access control, visitor management, intercom and other related technologies run on the network.

#### FIGURE 10

PHYSICAL ACCESS CONTROL: Aside from cost/budget issues, how significant have been the following challenges that you may have faced during the past two years?

	Extremely Challenging	Very Challenging	Somewhat Challenging	Marginally Challenging	Little or No Challenge	Don't know
Our campus layout is open, so it's very difficult to lockdown our campus or control access	25%	27%	18%	16%	13%	2%
Our students, faculty and/or staff are required to carry too many credentials (cards) or keys	7%	24%	14%	18%	34%	4%
Lack of metal detection, or our detectors need to be upgraded	20%	18%	21%	14%	20%	6%
Lack of a visitor management system, or the system we have needs to be upgraded	10%	32%	23%	12%	21%	2%
Design and/or placement of our windows makes us vulnerable to safety and security incidents	19%	33%	20%	11%	15%	2%
Tracking and managing keys	17%	33%	20%	13%	16%	2%

Support/buy-in from management and administration also appears to be slipping. This year, 13% more respondents said the lack of management support is extremely or very challenging -- up from 28% two years ago to 41% today. Healthcare is struggling the most with this issue (54%), while 41% of school survey participants and 36% of college respondents say this issue is extremely or very challenging. In a similar vein, support/buy-in from students, faculty and/or staff appears to have deteriorated by 12%. Now, 40% of all respondents say this problem is extremely or very challenging for them. Two years ago, that percentage was 28.

Additionally, our current labor shortage may be affecting the staffing and training required to manage campus access control systems. Ten percent more respondents this year say that "Staff don't know how to effectively manage our access control system(s)" is an issue that's extremely challenging or very challenging for them (39% now, compared to 29% in 2021). Eleven percent more now indicate a lack of staffing is an extremely challenging or very challenging issue for them -- up from 28% two years ago to 39% today.

This year's survey also found that 9% more campuses are struggling to develop or maintain appropriate policies to support their access control systems. More than

#### FIGURE 11

ACCESS CONTROL, LOCK and LOCKDOWN POLICY & PERSONNEL ISSUES: Aside from cost/budget issues, how significant have been the following challenges that you may have faced during the past two years?

	Extremely Challenging	Very Challenging	Somewhat Challenging	Marginally Challenging	Little or No Challenge	Don't know
Policies supporting our access control system(s) don't exist or the ones we have need to be updated	21%	21%	19%	18%	18%	3%
We don't have enough staff to operate our access control system(s) and/or locks	11%	28%	21%	15%	23%	3%
Staff don't know how to effectively manage our access control system(s)	14%	25%	19%	16%	23%	4%
Support/buy-in from students, faculty and/or staff is lagging	14%	26%	23%	16%	18%	2%
Support/buy-in from management/administration is lagging	12%	29%	16%	20%	21%	2%
IT department buy-in/support and cooperation lagging	17%	21%	18%	17%	24%	3%

two out of five (42%) said that "Policies supporting our access control system(s) don't exist or the ones we have need to be updated" is an issue that's extremely or very challenging. At 46% and 47% respectively, schools and hospitals are especially struggling with this problem.

### Campuses Need More Card Access Control and Biometrics

It appears that the need for card access control and biometrics has become quite apparent to campus protection professionals this year. Now, 41% of all respondents say not having card access control or biometrics is extremely challenging or very challenging for them. That's 18 percentage points more than in 2021. When broken down by sector, K-12 survey takers were the most likely to say "extremely" or "very" -- 44%, compared to 40% of higher ed respondents and 37% of healthcare respondents. (See Figure 12 on page 15)

Concerns regarding "Our access system(s) isn't integrated with other public safety systems (e.g. video surveillance, intrusion, fire, etc.)" also increased this year. Now, 39% of all participants say this issue is extremely or very challenging, which is 13% more than two years ago. School respondents were, again, the most likely to say this problem is extremely or very challenging for them: 47%, compared to 40% of hospitals and 30% of colleges and universities.

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#### There's Really No 'One-Size-Fits-All' School Security Solution



Despite many other manufacturers' tendency to sell or market one all-encompassing

solution, NAPCO Security Technologies instead addresses the wide spectrum of school-specific and regional differences (i.e., floorplans, architecture, construction, and building/life-safety codes). Our technology solutions can fit every budget and application, and include a full line of easy-to-deploy, retrofit or update, mechanical, electronic, and integrated systems:

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#### **Overcome Budgets and Timing Hurdles**

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More than one in three (35%) of all survey participants said maintenance of card access systems is extremely challenging or very challenging, which is 13% more than when we asked about this topic in 2021. However, healthcare is struggling more with this issue than other campuses. More than half (51%) said this issue is extremely or very challenging for their campuses, compared to 47% of K-12 respondents and 25% of participants from colleges and universities.

Access control software bugs and updates are also becoming more problematic, with 35% of all survey participants saying this issue is extremely challenging or very challenging for them. That's 12% more than two years ago. At 45% and 43% respectively, healthcare and K-12 respondents are having a much harder time than their peers in higher education, where 23% said this issue is extremely or very challenging for their institutions.

"Older access system(s) can't integrate/interoperate with new access control systems" is an extremely or very challenging issue for 34% of all participants, which is 9% more than two years ago. This issue is most pronounced on K-12 campuses, with 45% saying this issue is extremely or very challenging for them, compared to 25% of colleges and universities and 33% of healthcare facilities. •

Campus Safety thanks the more than 450 school, university, and healthcare security professionals who participated in our survey. We truly appreciate your input!

#### FIGURE 12

ACCESS CONTROL TECHNOLOGY: Aside from cost/budget issues, how significant have been the following challenges that you may have faced during the past two years?

	Extremely Challenging	Very Challenging	Somewhat Challenging	Marginally Challenging	Little or No Challenge	Don't know
We don't have a card access control or biometric system installed on our campus	27%	14%	12%	12%	33%	2%
Maintenance of card access systems	5%	30%	16%	15%	29%	6%
Older access system(s) can't integrate/interoperate with new access control systems	13%	21%	20%	15%	24%	<b>7</b> %
Our access system(s) isn't integrated with our other public safety systems (e.g. video surveillance, intrusion, fire, etc.)	11%	28%	22%	16%	20%	4%
Access control software bugs and updates	14%	21%	14%	21.1%	25%	6%

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