



# Campaign for Common Sense Discipline

## Fact Sheet

### End the Push-out and Criminalization of Youth!

**A new analysis by Voices of Youth in Chicago Education (VOYCE) of the recent discipline data released by Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights demonstrates the far-reaching impact of extreme discipline practices, with a devastating impact on students of color.**

**VOYCE’s analysis of CPS data shows that extreme discipline practices continue to be used extensively across the district, with alarming racial disparities. In the 2012-13 school year:**

- **Black students were over 30 times more likely to be expelled than White students.**
- **CPS issued an average of 386 out-of-school suspensions per day, with students losing over 173,000 instructional days** due to out-of-school suspensions.
- **There were over six-and-a-half times as many out-of-school suspensions per Black CPS student as there were per White CPS student.**
- **White and Black students were about equally likely to have their “misconduct” result in an in-school suspension, but Black students were 46% more likely to have their “misconduct” result in an out-of-school suspension, compared to White students.**
- **25 schools across CPS had more out-of-school suspensions than students.** For example, at Orr High School, there were 676 students and 1,985 out-of-school suspensions, for a rate of 294 out-of-school suspensions per 100 students. Several other schools had rates of over 150 out-of-school suspensions per 100 students, such as Austin Business & Entrepreneurial High School.

**At the same time, CPS data shows that there was incredible variability in the use of out-of-school suspensions across the district. For example, in 2012-13:**

- **At 64 schools across the district, more than 95% of “misconduct” incidents resulted in out-of-school suspension. In contrast, at many schools, less than 5% of incidents resulted in out-of-school suspension.** Even some high schools used alternative approaches. For example, at Hubbard HS, of the 913 incidents, only 101 resulted in out-of-school suspension.

- There were 65 network schools (non-charter, non-contract, non-AUSL) that issued fewer than 10 out-of-school suspensions during the entire year. In contrast, 33 network schools issued 2 or more out-of-school suspensions *per day*.  
(Source: Chicago Public Schools)

**While CPS failed to report data on student arrests, data obtained through public records requests shows the extent to which young people are being criminalized in Chicago Public Schools. During the 2011-12 school year:**

- There were over **4,000 arrests of CPS students**, which amounts to **24 students arrested per day**.
- **Almost one-quarter of the arrested students were ages 14 and under.**
- **96% of the arrests were of Black or Latino students.**
- There were over **5 times as many arrests per Black student** as there were per White student.  
(Source: Chicago Police Department, Public Records Request)

**VOYCE's analysis of data released on Friday, March 21, 2014 by the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights shows that extent of the problem across the State of Illinois.**

**In the 2011-12 school year, there were districts all across the state that exhibited extreme disciplinary practices. For example:**

- There were **595 students referred to law enforcement in Rockford SD 205, 448 in Township HSD 211 (Palatine), and 395 in Glenbard Township HSD 87.**
- There was **1 referral to law enforcement for every 14 students in Thornton Township HSD 215 (Calumet City), 1 for every 23 students in Glenbard Township HSD 87, and 1 for every 28 in Township HSD 211 (Palatine).**
- There was **1 arrest for every 56 students in Dupage HSD 87 and Joliet Township HSD 204, 1 arrest for every 51 students in Township HSD 211 (Palatine), and 1 arrest for every 44 students in Glenbard Township HSD 87.**
- Many districts had extremely high suspension rates. For example, there were **47 out-of-school suspensions for every 100 students in Thornton Township HSD 205 (South Holland), 36 for every 100 in Proviso Township HSD 209 (Forest Park), and 30 per 100 in Thornton Township HSD 215 (Calumet City).**  
(Source: 2011-12 Civil Rights Data Collection)

**While statewide data reports are not yet available from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights, VOYCE's analysis of additional data sources provides a picture of school discipline practices across the State of Illinois:**

- Within the last school year for which we have even a partially-complete data set, there were **over 272,000 out-of-school suspensions of Illinois students, more than 2,400 expulsions, and more than 10,000 arrests**. This resulted in Illinois students **losing well over 1 million instructional days** due to exclusionary discipline, in just one year.

(Source: 2009-10 Civil Rights Data Collection combined with Chicago Police Department public records request)

- Statewide, there were almost **32 out-of-school suspensions for every 100 Black students, compared to only 5 for every 100 White students**. In other words, there were over 6 times as many out-of-school suspensions per Black student as there was per White student.
- There were almost **8 times as many out-of-school suspensions per Black male student as there was per White student**.
- There were almost **9 times as many out-of-school suspensions per Black female student as there was per White female student**.

(Source: Illinois State Board of Education 2011-12)

- **From 1992 to 2009, Illinois' out-of-school suspension rate more than tripled.**

(Source: Civil Rights Data Collection)