Understanding School Behavior Data

To promote safe, respectful and productive learning environments that contribute to student success, Chicago Public Schools reports school-level data on behavior incidents, suspensions and expulsions. This information is available to everyone via the CPS.edu website. Discipline data help schools develop effective practices to support students' social and emotional needs. School discipline practices are guided by the [CPS Student Code of Conduct](). Below, you'll find guidance to help interpret behavior data.

Reported Misconducts

The **number of misconducts** shows the total number of times in a school year that a school reports behaviors that violate the Student Code of Conduct. This can be one indicator of how well schools document misconducts and use behavior data for improvement. . Misconducts classified as Groups 1-2 reflect minor disruptions such as leaving class without permission, Groups 3-4 misconducts include moderate behavior incidents such as fighting, and Groups 5-6 misconducts include serious or illegal behaviors such as engaging in gang activity.

Suspensions

The **total number of suspensions** shows the number of reported misconducts that result in a suspension. This may be one indicator of the overall climate of a school and the productivity of the learning environment. When over-used, suspensions can negatively impact student attendance, behavior, achievement and their connection to school. Note: larger schools may have higher numbers of suspensions than smaller schools. OSS indicates an out of school suspension and ISS indicates an in school suspension. Suspensions are reported for only district-managed schools.

The **number of suspensions per 100 students** shows the number of reported misconducts that result in a suspension for every 100 students at the school. This helps account for schools of different sizes when considering how frequently students are suspended, and makes it possible to make school level comparisons. This can be one indicator of a school's approach to discipline and how often suspensions are used.

The **number/percentage of unique students receiving a suspension** shows the number of individual students/percentage of the student body who received one or more suspensions during the given time period. This shows how many students were directly impacted by suspensions. Students who received multiple suspensions during the given time period are only counted once in this metric.

Percent of misconducts resulting in suspensions shows how often reported misconducts result in suspensions. This may be one indicator of whether the school offers effective social and emotional supports and alternatives to suspension. This may also reflect how thoroughly a school tracks and monitors behavior incidents and responses.

Average length of suspensions shows the average number of days that students are suspended for each reported misconduct that results in a suspension. In general, schools should minimize lost instructional time due to disciplinary responses whenever possible.

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Expulsions

The **number of expulsions** shows the unique number of students who received an expulsion for a reported misconduct. Expulsions are issued after a hearing officer determines that a student engaged in behavior(s) that are the most seriously disruptive or illegal in nature and no other alternatives are appropriate. Students referred for expulsion may also be given the opportunity to participate in intervention and/or remediation programs in lieu of expulsion. These students are not counted in the overall number of expelled students. Expulsions are reported for both district- and charter-managed schools.

The **number of expulsions per 100 students** shows the number of students expelled for every 100 students who attend the school. This helps account for schools of different sizes when considering how frequently students are expelled, and makes it possible to make school level comparisons.

Police Notifications

The **number of police notifications** shows the number of times the school administration documented contacting police to respond to a disciplinary incident. When police are notified, police actions such as arrest are determined by the responding officers. Arrest data is tracked by the Chicago Police Department.

The **number of police notifications per 100 students** shows the number of reported police notifications for every 100 students at the school. This helps account for schools of different sizes when considering how frequently police are notified, and makes it possible to make school level comparisons. This metric can be one indicator of a school's approach to discipline and its reliance on police response.

The **number/percentage of unique students with a police notification** shows the number of individual students/percentage of the student body who police were notified about during the given time period. Students for whom there were multiple police notifications during the given time period are only counted once in this metric.

Percent of misconducts resulting in police notification shows how often reported misconducts result in police notifications. This may be one indicator of whether the school uses effective behavioral de-escalation strategies and interventions. This may also reflect how thoroughly a school tracks and monitors behavior incidents and police notifications.