

School Discipline Fact Sheet

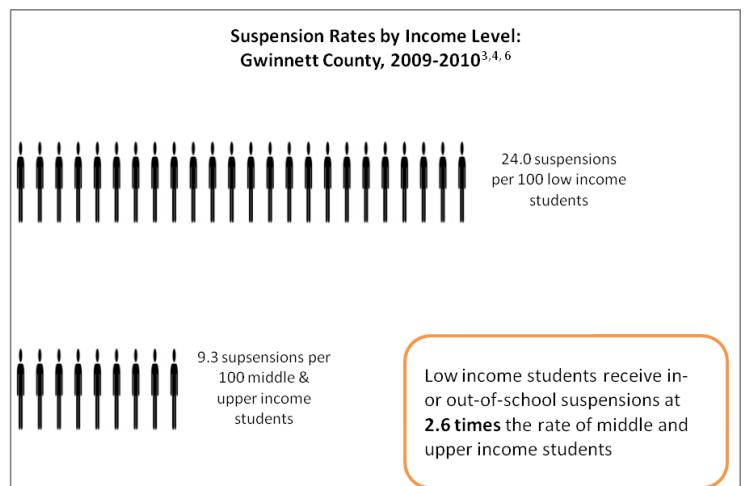
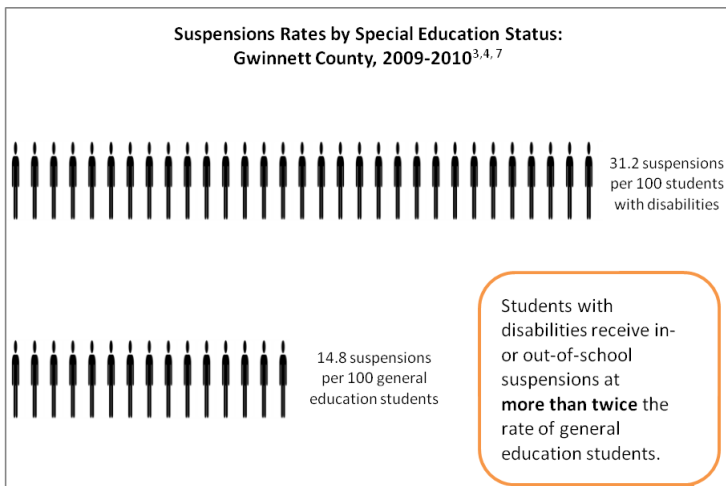
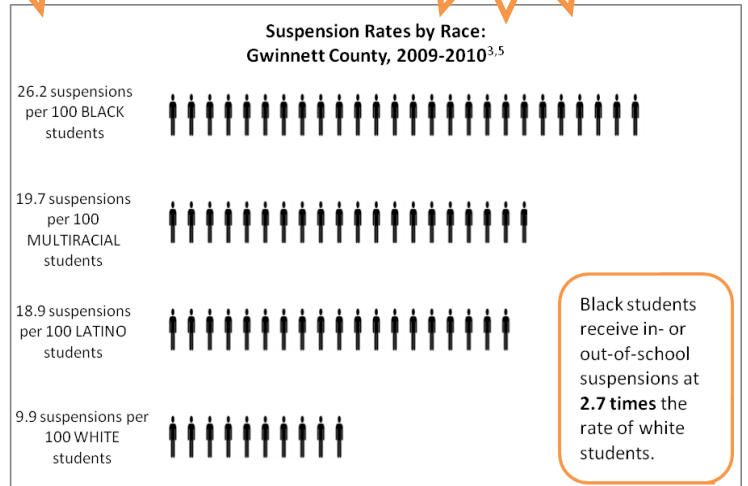
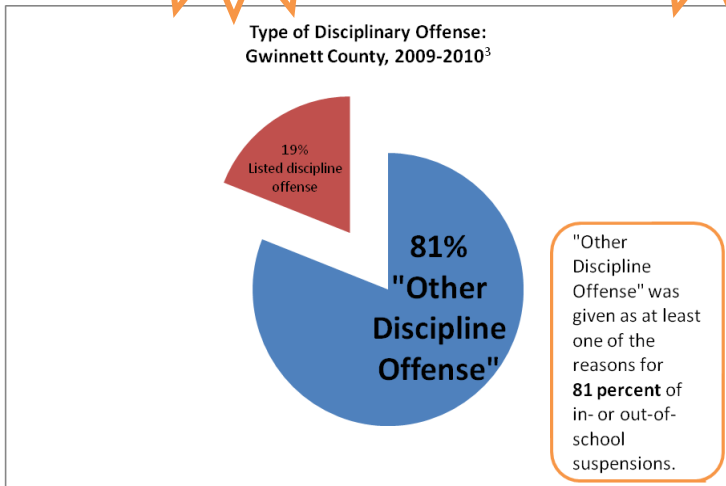
Gwinnett County, Georgia

Maintaining a safe and healthy instructional climate is a critical responsibility of schools in the 21st century. Student behavior and academic achievement are inseparable, and safer schools are higher achieving schools. Unfortunately, many schools use only one set of tools—suspension, expulsion, and arrest—to maintain discipline and safety. Rather than contribute to a better learning environment, the overuse of these exclusionary practices has been shown to predict dropout and contribute to an unhealthy school atmosphere affecting students and teachers alike.

Gwinnett County students lost **127,547 days** of instructional time to in- or out-of-school suspensions during the 2009-2010 school year.²

124 Kindergarteners were suspended out-of-school during the 2009-2010 school year in Gwinnett County.³

Education Week named Gwinnett County one of 25 “drop out epicenters” in the U.S. & projects that **5,115 students** who entered 9th grade in 2007 will not graduate after four years.¹



1. Editorial Projects in Education Research Center (2010). National and State Graduation Rates, 1996-7 to 2006-7. Available from <http://edweek.org>.
 2. Georgia Department of Education (2010). Data on Assignments/Days Assigned to In-School or Out-of-School Suspension. On file w/author.
 3. Georgia Department of Education (2010). DOE Suspensions 2010 District Totals. On file w/author.
 4. Georgia Department of Education (2010). Enrollment by Grade Level (PK-12), Gwinnett County, School Year 2009-2010, Enrollment on Oct 6, 2009. Available from http://app3.doe.k12.ga.us/ows-bin/owa/fe_pack_enrollgrade_entry_form.
 5. Georgia Department of Education (2010). Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, Gender and Grade Level (PK-12), Gwinnett County, School Year 2009-2010, Enrollment on Oct 6, 2009. Available from http://app3.doe.k12.ga.us/ows-bin/owa/fe_pack_ethnicsex_entry_form.
 6. Georgia Department of Education (2010). Free and Reduced Price Meal Eligibility, October 31, 2009 (FY2010-1). Available from http://app3.doe.k12.ga.us/ows-bin/owa/fe_pack_frm001_public_entry_form.
 7. Georgia Department of Education (2010). Gwinnett County, 2009-2010 Special Education Annual Report, Enrollment of Students with Disabilities Ages 3-21. Available from <http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/ReportingFW.aspx?PageRec=211&PID=61&PTID=67&CTID=216&StateId=ALL&T=0&RID=105>.