# NYCLU <br> NEW YORK CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION <br> Student Safety Act Reporting on Suspensions <br> 2015-2016 School Year 

37,647 total suspensions
[15.6\% decrease from 2014-15]
$72.0 \%$ short-term (principal) suspensions $(27,122)$
[19.6\% decrease from 2014-15]
$28.0 \%$ long-term (superintendent) suspensions $(10,525)$ [3.2\% decrease from 2014-15]
49.6\% suspensions of Black students
$36.8 \%$ suspensions of Latino students
8.0\% suspensions of white students
$5.6 \%$ suspensions of students of another race
$38.6 \%$ suspensions of students with an IEP
9.3\% suspensions of English language learners

801
suspensions of grades K-2

DOE Enrollment
(Oct. 31, 2015)
K-12 student population: 1,062,116
27.1\% Black
40.5\% Latino
14.8\% white
15.5\% Asian
18.7\% students with an IEP
12.5\% English language learners

Source: DOE demographic snapshot

Student Suspensions by Year
1999-2016


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Pursuant to New York City DOE rules, teachers can remove a child from a classroom for up to four days. Classroom removals can be an important cooling off period for students and adults, but they can also be abused as suspensions without process. It is important for the City to look more closely at these numbers, as they are on the rise.

## Most Frequently Suspended Infractions

Serious infractions, for which the DOE requires a school to suspend, account for less than 15 percent of suspensions reported for the 2015-2016 school year. This means that, according to DOE disciplinary guidelines, over 85 percent of the infractions for which suspensions were issued could have been dealt with in other ways that involve less missed class days, including parent conference, detention or removal from the classroom.

Infractions with the most suspensions, Grades 6-12

| \# Of Suspensions | Infraction |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 8,742 | B36 | Altercation and/or Physically Aggressive Behavior |
| $5,158^{*}$ | B24 | Minor Altercation (previously "Horseplay") |
| 2,471 | B39 | Intimidating or Bullying Behavior |
| 2,340 | B37 | Coercion/Threats |
| 1,835 | B58 | Weapon Possession (other than firearm) |

* Number of superintendent suspensions was redacted so this is an underestimate.

Infractions with the most suspensions, Grades K-5

| \# Of Suspensions | Infraction |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1,171 | A33 | Altercation and/or Physically Aggressive Behavior |
| 381 | A43 | Reckless Behavior with Substantial Risk of Serious Injury |
| 326 | A24 | Minor Altercation |
| 288 | A34 | Coercion/Threats |
| 216 | A56 | Weapon Possession (other than firearm) |


[^0]:    Shaded grey area represents years prior to mayoral control.

