

CALIFORNIA (2009-2010)

Suspension Rate K-12 for All students: 7.1%

Suspension Rate for All Elementary School Students: 2.7%

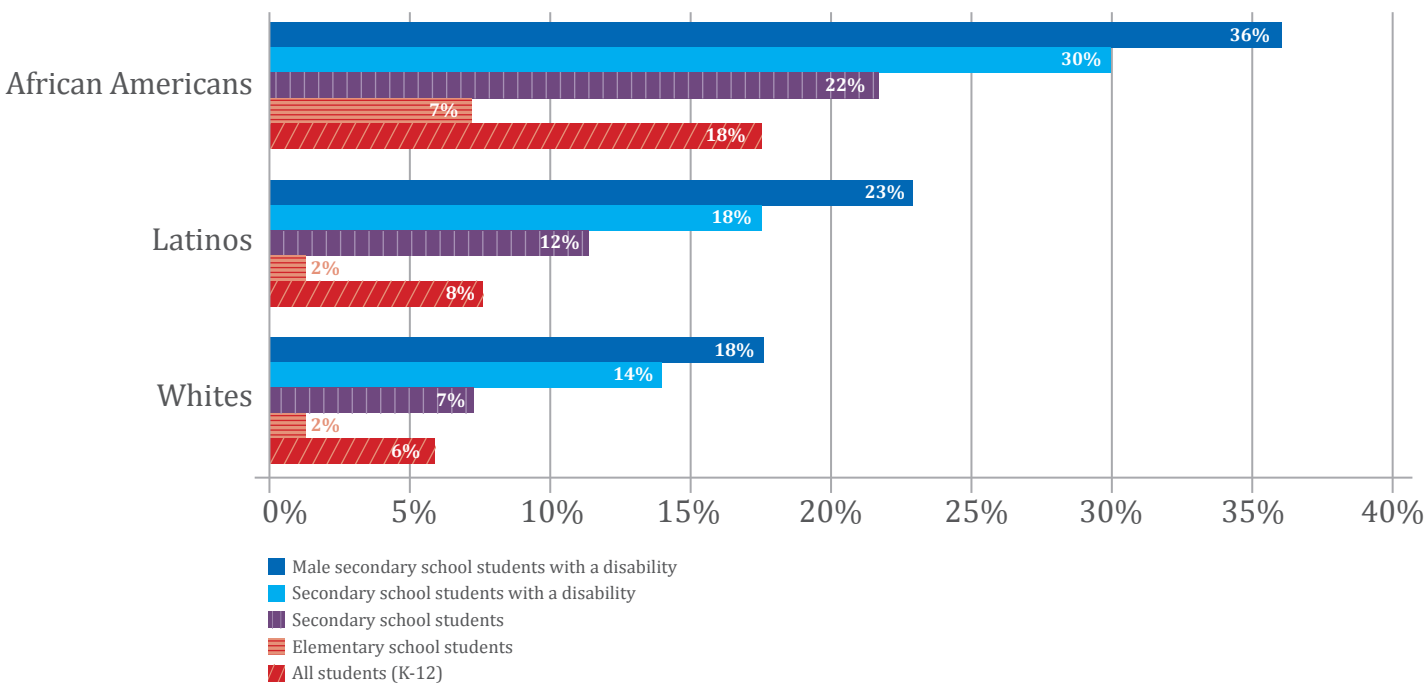
Suspension Rate for All Secondary School Students: 10.8%

Number of Students Suspended One or More times: Over 391,000¹

Number of Secondary School Students Suspended One or More Times: 280,465

Disaggregation by school level, race, and disability status reveals profound disparities in the risk for out-of-school suspensions. The graph below and detailed tables that follow describe deep disparities along the lines of race, gender, disability status, and English learner status that are much greater at the secondary school level than at the elementary school level.

Figure 1: Risk for Suspension at the Elementary and Secondary Levels by Selected Subgroups



In California, the risk for suspension increased from elementary to secondary school as follows: 5 points for Whites, 10 points for Latinos, and 15 points for Black students. However, for each racial group, males with disabilities enrolled at the secondary level were by far the most at risk for out-of-school suspension.

¹ Data were collected from many, but not from every school district. These are the numbers of students suspended at least one time. Each student is counted just once (unduplicated) but may have been suspended multiple times. Therefore, these numbers are of students who were suspended out of school and should not to be confused with the numbers of suspensions meted out (incidents). Further, students who were expelled or suspended in-school were not included in these counts.

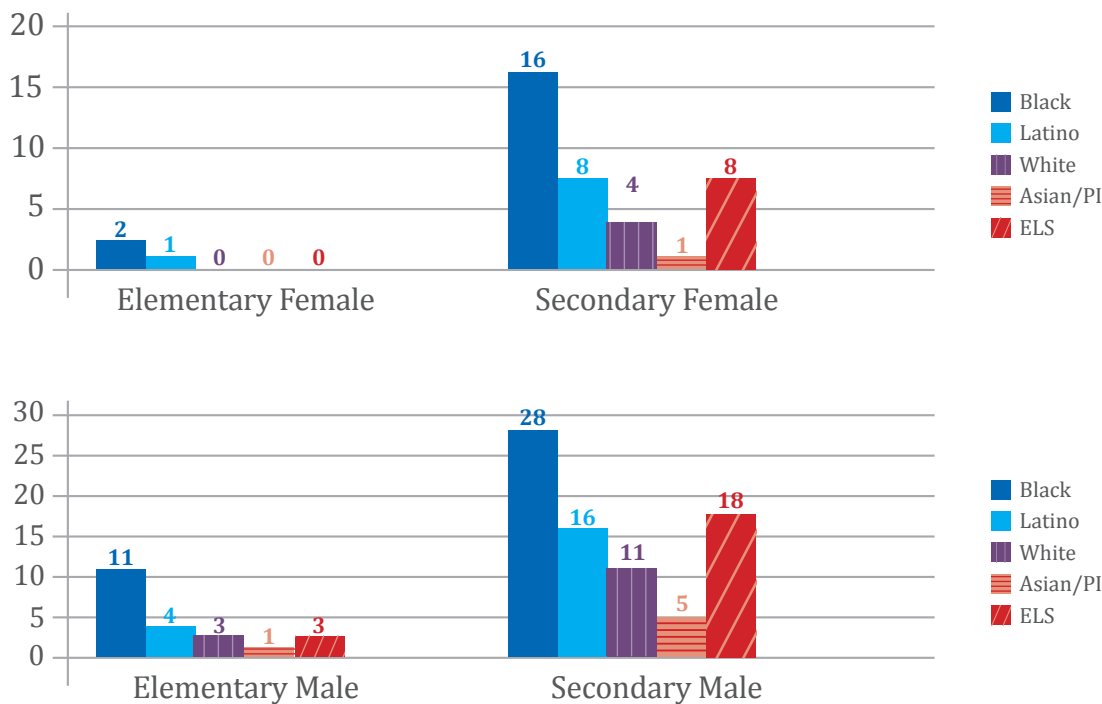
Table 1: Students with Disabilities Compared to Students without Disabilities by Race and School Level

California	Elementary Schools Without Disabilities	Elementary Schools With Disabilities	Secondary Schools Without Disabilities	Secondary Schools With Disabilities
White	2%	2%	7%	14%
Latino	2%	3%	12%	18%
Black	6%	9%	21%	30%

Note: All numbers rounded to the nearest whole number.

In California the gap between Black and White students ranged from 4 points for elementary students without disabilities to 16 points for secondary students with disabilities. The Latino/White gap was also greater at the secondary school level.

Figure 2: Percentage of Enrolled Subgroup Suspended at Least Once by Race and English Learner Status (ELS) with Gender by School Level



Note: All numbers rounded to the nearest whole number

The graph shows a steep rise in the risk for suspension at the secondary level in the California that is especially large for Black male students and male English learners. Most notable is that over one in four Black secondary school males were suspended at least once. Moreover, English learners, especially males who were suspended at relatively low rates in elementary school, became the second most frequently suspended male group at the secondary school level. Finally, Black females at the secondary level were suspended at a rate that was as high, or higher than the male subgroups besides Blacks and ELs.

Hotspot and Lower Suspending Secondary Schools in California

Research has indicated that profound differences in suspension rates can be found at the school level within one district. The first two columns in the table below show the number of secondary schools in California that suspended 50% or more and 25% or more of any racial group. The third column shows the number of schools that suspended 25% of their total enrollment without disaggregation, and the last column shows the number of schools that did not suspend more than 10% of any subgroup.

Table 2: Number of Hotspots and Lower Suspending Secondary Schools for All Groups in California

Number of Schools	Suspended Any Group Over 25%	Suspended Any Group Over 50%	All Student Rate Over 25%	Suspended No Group Over 10%
2,556 Secondary Schools	905	219	288	636

- 288 secondary schools in California suspended over 25% of their student body in the aggregate.
- More than one third of California’s secondary schools (905) suspended at least one subgroup at that high rate.
- Of these, 219 secondary schools suspended at least one subgroup at a rate of 50% of total enrollment.
- About one quarter of California’s secondary schools (636) were lower suspending schools where not one subgroup experienced a suspension rate above 10%.
- This analysis did not look at race with disability or with gender at the secondary school level.

Where to find out more about California school districts: The information in these tables is available for every school district that reported its data to OCR in 2009-2010. For convenience, we have provided an analysis.

The full set of analyzed data collected on every district by OCR in 2009-2010 is available via the spreadsheets posted (along with instructions) on our website at www.civilrightsproject.ucla.edu. There are also instructions posted with the Excel spreadsheet document to help users to sort and filter by all the indicators represented in these graphs and tables, and also to compare district data to districts within each state or across the nation. Much of this information will soon be available by using a web tool on our website that will allow for some degree of comparison. Additional data on school discipline for 2011-2012 that is otherwise identical to the raw data analyzed for this report can be obtained by filing a state sunshine act request with your school district.