

# What Everyone Ought to Know about Suspension and Expulsion in North Carolina Public Schools

The Youth Justice Project of the Southern Coalition for Social Justice has released a new issue brief outlining some of the major issues with discipline in North Carolina public schools. This handout summarizes the major findings of the issue brief. Find the full issue brief and more information here: [www.youthjusticenc.org/our-work/](http://www.youthjusticenc.org/our-work/)

**#1:** North Carolina public schools lack the resources necessary to prevent and effectively address student misbehavior.

**#2:** Suspension and expulsion harm students and schools.

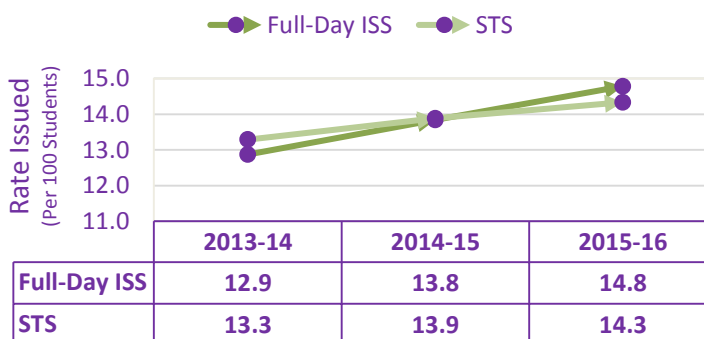
**#3:** Over 100,000 North Carolina public school students received one or more suspensions or expulsions in 2015-16.

	# Issued	# of Students
Partial-day in-school suspensions (ISS)	32,493	19,752
Full-day ISS	223,729	114,311
Short-term suspensions (1-10 school days)	216,895	116,467
Long-term suspensions (more than 10 school days)	1,036	1,005
Expulsions (indefinite exclusion)	27	27

**#4:** North Carolina public school students missed over 1,000,000 combined days of classroom instruction as a result of suspension in 2015-16.

**#5:** In North Carolina public schools during 2015-16, 44,511 students received multiple short-term suspensions (STS) with 14,499 students receiving more than 10 total school days of STS – the equivalent of a long-term suspension.

**#6:** The number and rate of full-day in-school suspension (ISS) and short-term suspension (STS) issued are increasing in North Carolina public schools.

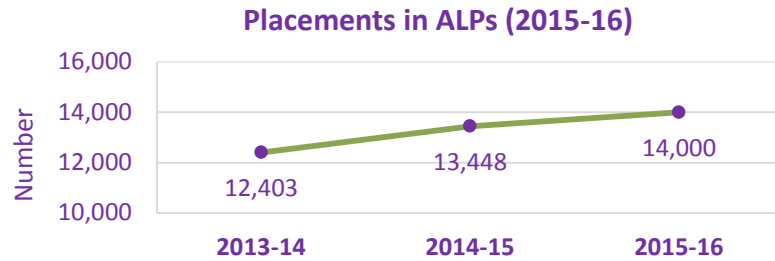


**#7:** Every year, tens of thousands of short-term suspensions are issued to elementary school students in North Carolina public schools.

**#8:** In recent years, long-term suspension and expulsions have declined in North Carolina public schools.

**#9:** The average length of long-term suspension in North Carolina public schools has increased in each of the last three years.

**#10:** The number and rate of placements in North Carolina's Alternative Learning Programs and Schools (ALPs) are increasing.

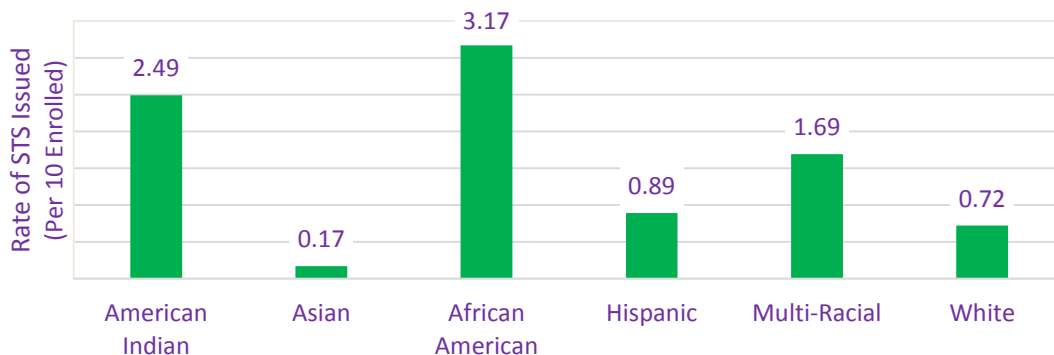


**#11:** Many of the same North Carolina school districts issue a disproportionate share of suspensions every year.

**#12:** North Carolina's alternative schools generally have the highest rates of short-term suspensions issued among schools across the state.

**#13:** Many North Carolina charter schools also have high rates of suspension.

**#14:** Male students, African American students, and students with disabilities are disproportionately suspended and expelled from North Carolina public schools.



**#15:** Male students, African American students, and students with disabilities are disproportionately reassigned to Alternative Learning Programs.

**#16:** There is still too much we do not know about suspension, expulsion, and related discipline data in North Carolina public schools.

**#17:** There are steps that school districts can take to reduce suspensions and make school discipline more effective, fair, and equitable.