



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

RESEARCH, EVALUATION, & ASSESSMENT

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RESEARCH STUDY: FY22 TO FY26 END-OF-YEAR ATTENDANCE, DISCIPLINARY INCIDENTS, AND ACTIONS

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The Department of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment (DREA) developed an interactive [FY22 to FY26 End-of-Year Attendance, Disciplinary Incidents, and Actions dashboard](#) summarizing student attendance and behavior overall and by student subgroup.¹ Data includes the type, number, and percent of total absences, discipline incidents, and actions by subgroup and school. Table 1 provides a high-level summary of the data.

Table 1. Attendance and Discipline Summary by School Year

	<i>Percent of Students with 11 or More Total Absences</i>	<i>Number of Disciplinary Incidents</i>	<i>Percent of Students with One or More ODR</i>	<i>Percent of Students with One or More ISS</i>	<i>Percent of Students with One or More OSS</i>
FY26	39.2%	42,059	10.7%	2.9%	6.1%
FY25	37.6%	42,071	10.1%	2.9%	5.8%
FY24	39.0%	53,181	11.6%	3.7%	6.9%
FY23	37.0%	48,935	11.0%	3.3%	6.5%
FY22	38.4%	46,395	10.6%	3.1%	6.2%

Attendance

- In FY26, 39.2% of students had 11 or more total absences, similar to prior years. This pattern of stability is consistent across student subgroups: White students (FY22: 33.9% to FY26: 36.8%), Black students (FY22: 36.1% to FY26: 36.0%), and Hispanic students (FY22: 44.9% to FY26: 44.5%).
- Among students within each subgroup, ELL (FY22: 43.4% to FY26: 40.3%) and ESE (FY22: 44.3% to FY26: 43.9%) students were more likely to have 11 or more total absences compared to their non-ELL and non-ESE counterparts. Notably by FY24, absenteeism rates for ELL and non-ELL students became comparable, while the gap between ESE and non-ESE students remained.

Disciplinary Incidents

- The total number of incidents reported in FY26 were 42,059 and was lower than the total number of incidents reported in the past (FY25: 42,071; FY24: 53,181; FY23: 48,935; FY22: 46,395). Consistently from FY22 to FY26, Physical Aggression, Repetitive Disobedience/Insubordination, Severe Inappropriate Activity, and Fighting were the most frequently reported incidents.

¹ The FY22 to FY26 End-of-Year Attendance, Incidents, and Actions dashboard may be found at: <http://l.sdpbc.net/AttDisp26EOY>

- The percent of students with one or more incidents remained relatively stable from FY22 to FY26 (FY26: 10.7%; FY25: 10.1%; FY24: 11.6%; FY23: 11.0%; FY22: 10.6%).
- Level 1 incidents accounted for 26.4% of the incidents reported in FY26 (FY25: 23.3%; FY24: 29.1%; FY23: 31.3%; FY22: 33.9%), while Level 2 incidents accounted for 60.5% of the incidents reported in FY26 (FY25: 62.5%; FY24: 58.2%; FY23: 55.0%; FY22: 52.9%).
- The percentage of incidents rising to the School Environmental Safety Incident Reporting (SESIR) level in FY26 was 16.7%, remaining similar to prior years (FY25: 17.7%; FY24: 15.3%; FY23: 17.2%; FY22: 17.0%).

Disciplinary Actions

- In FY26, 42.7% of incidents resulted in Out-of-School Suspension (OSS). The proportion of incidents resulting in OSS remained stable compared to prior years (FY25: 43.1%; FY24: 43.3%; FY23: 43.7%; FY22: 43.3%).
- Of the students who received at least one OSS, more than half were Black; a consistent pattern over the past five years (FY22: 54.5% to FY26: 54.3%), followed by Hispanic students (FY22: 26.3% to FY26: 28.0%), and White students (FY22: 15.4% to FY26: 14.1%). In FY26, the relative risk ratio² for Black students receiving an OSS compared to non-Black students was 2.7, meaning Black students were nearly three times as likely to be suspended compared to non-black students.
- Percentages of students with one or more incidents resulting in OSS remained similar from FY22 to FY26 for ELL (FY22: 16.1% to FY26: 19.4%) and ESE (FY22: 28.2% to FY26: 29.2%) subgroups.

Next Steps

Principals are encouraged to monitor their school's discipline and attendance data by accessing the up-to-date dashboards. The following questions are offered as a guide to begin exploration:

1. When comparing your school's absence status to schools of the same type in your area, is your school's absence status significantly higher or lower?
2. Are there substantial subgroup differences in absence rates?
3. Which incident types are most common? Has this trend changed over the last three years?
4. Are there substantial subgroup differences in the rate of incident referrals, OSS, and ISS?

For questions regarding this report, please contact Dr. Paul Houchens, Director of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment at 561-434-8780 or Dr. Adam Miller, Chief of Performance Accountability at 561-434-8851. For questions about individual school data, please contact the appropriate regional/instructional superintendent or school principal. Questions about attendance and discipline policies should be directed to Melissa Patterson, Director, Safe Schools at 561-653-5193.

² The OSS risk ratio for Black students is calculated by dividing the OSS rate for Black students (the number of Black students receiving OSS divided by the total number of Black students) by the OSS rate for non-Black students (the number of non-Black students receiving OSS divided by the total number of non-Black students).