# School Suspensions

## Essex County

Feb. 2025

School Districts and Charter Schools available upon request. LEAs retrieved from NYSED Public Reports Portal – "All Institutions: Active Institutions with Congressional, Assembly & Senate Districts"

In New York, students are suspended from schools in response to a wide range of behaviors, including minor infractions like being late to class and dress code violations. This form of punishment begins as early as Pre-Kindergarten. The overreliance on exclusionary discipline continues despite research that indicates suspensions are ineffective and harmful and that they deepen academic inequities, especially for students of color, those from low-income backgrounds, and students with disabilities.

**Some of the short- and long-term impacts of suspension on a child include:**

- Lower math and reading scores
- Decreased school trust and identification with school
- Increased risk of drop out and criminal justice system involvement

## During the 2023-2024 school year…

**New York State**

**137,511**
students suspended

*including 8,331 in Pre-K to Grade 3 and 9,177 for 20 or more days cumulatively*

**957,934**
total lost days of education

**Your County**

**195**
students suspended

*including 23 in Pre-K to Grade 3 and 3 for 20 or more days cumulatively*

**669**
total lost days of education

Black students suspended

*as often as*

**No Data**

White students

Students with disabilities suspended

**2.2x**

General education students

Economically disadvantaged students suspended

**3.4x**

Students who are not economically disadvantaged

To learn more about suspensions in your region and statewide, please visit: https://thechildrensagenda.org/reports/ or scan the QR code



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# Solutions Not Suspensions

## S.134/A.118

**The students in your district** deserve policies that allow them to thrive in a supportive educational environment focused on **accountability, healing relationships, and repairing harm**. The Solutions Not Suspensions bill would:

1. **Require school codes of conduct to include restorative approaches** to discipline and proactively foster a positive school climate
2. **Limit the use of suspensions in Pre-Kindergarten through 3rd grade** to only the most serious behaviors
3. **Shorten the maximum length of suspension from 180 to 20 school days** (except when required by federal law)
4. **Prohibit suspensions for minor infractions** such as tardiness, dress code violations, or insubordination
5. **Require that students who are suspended receive academic instruction** and the opportunity to complete assignments, take exams, and earn credit
6. **Require charter schools to follow state education law** on student behavior and discipline

**24**

*states have already enacted similar legislation limiting the length of suspensions*

Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Washington, D.C., Wisconsin

**17**

*states have already enacted similar legislation limiting suspensions by grade level*

Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, D.C.

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