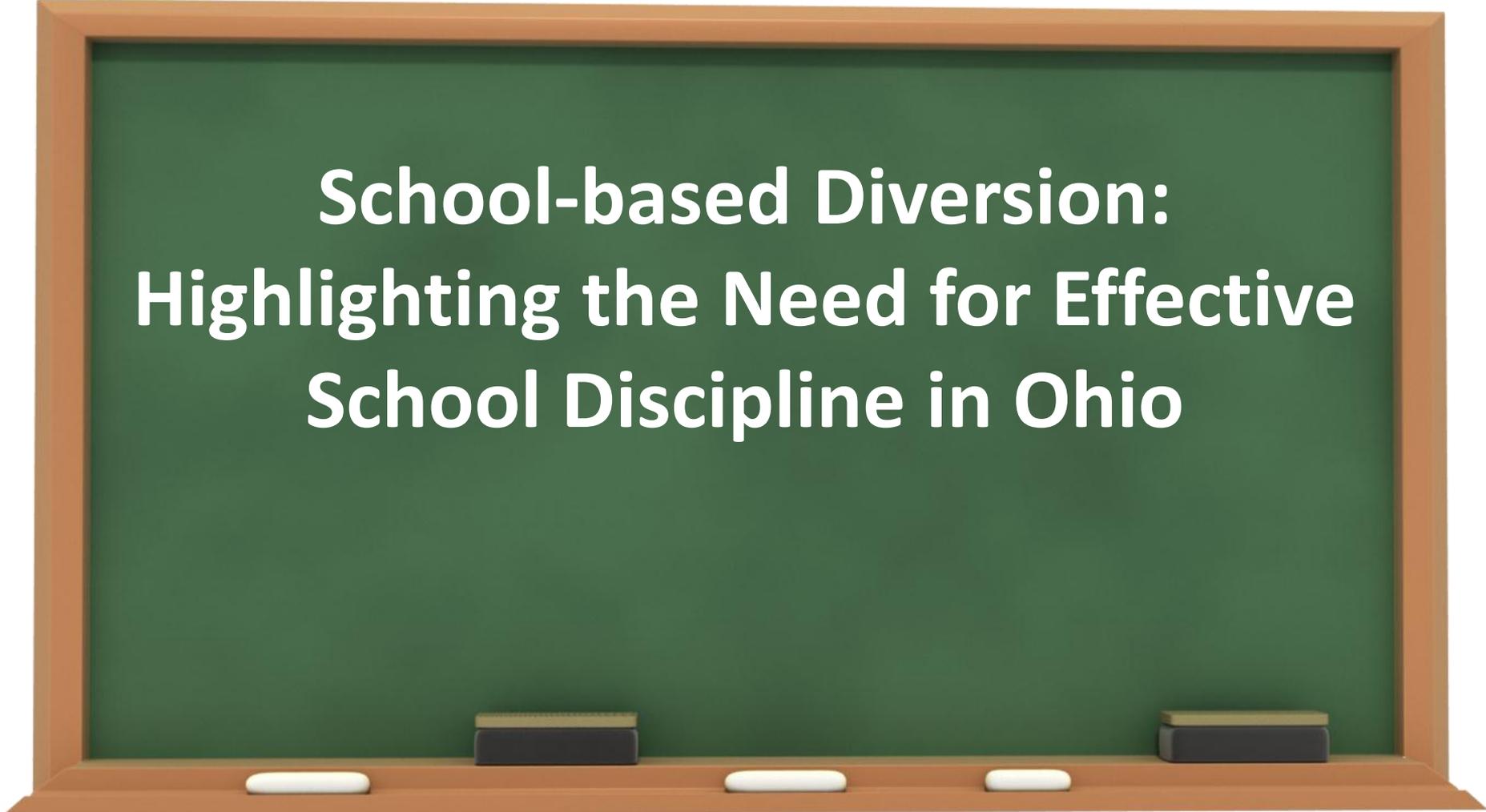


Welcome to...  
*Ohio Communities*  
4  
*Kids*





# School-based Diversion: Highlighting the Need for Effective School Discipline in Ohio

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# Overview

- Snapshot of Ohio schools
- Financial impact of high school dropouts
- Zero tolerance and Ohio school discipline policy
- U.S. and Ohio school discipline data
- Real life examples of policy in practice
- School safety
- Evidence-based approaches to school discipline

# Education is Important!

- Key protective factor for healthy child development
- School connectedness is linked to reduced incidences of substance abuse, violence, suicide attempts, pregnancy, and emotional distress
- School failure is the **#1** predictor of delinquency in girls

*“One of the most important findings of education psychology of the past 30 years is the positive relationship between the amount and quality of engaged time in academic learning and student achievement.”*

Simkins, S. (2004)  
Wald, J. & Losen, D. (2002)  
Skiba, R.J., & Rausch, M.K. (2006)

# SNAPSHOT OF OHIO SCHOOLS & STUDENTS

3,852 schools with 1,754,191 K-12 students

| Male                           | Female  | White                               | Black   | Hispanic   | Asian/PI | American Indian   | Multi-racial |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|--|----------|---|--------------|
| 901,177                        | 853,014 | 1,301,921                           | 285,091 | 60,506   | 30,642   | 2,519   | 73,523       |
| <b>Free Lunch Eligible</b>     |         | <b>Reduced Price Lunch Eligible</b> |         | <b>ELL Students</b><br>(English Language Learners) |          | <b>IEP Students</b><br>(Individualized Education Program) |              |
| 646,984<br>(U.S. avg. 394,820) |         | 98,137<br>(U.S. avg. 66,818)        |         | 37,116<br>(U.S. avg. 58,462)                       |          | 259,448<br>(U.S. avg. 125,576)                            |              |

- Teachers: 109,282
- Staff: 241,212

# High School Graduation Rates Class of 2011



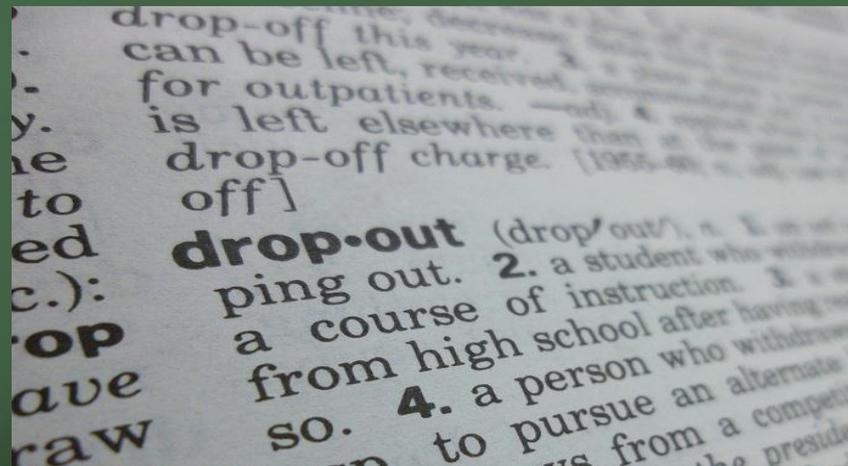
|        | All | White | Black | Hispanic | Asian | American Indian |
|--------|-----|-------|-------|----------|-------|-----------------|
| Ohio   | 80% | 85%   | 59%   | 66%      | 88%   | 71%             |
| US Avg | 79% | 85%   | 67%   | 71%      | 87%   | 64%             |

# HS Dropouts and the High Cost for Taxpayers

- In 2008,
  - The nation's jobless rate for young (16-24) HS dropouts was 54%
  - Their employment rate was:
    - \* 22% below HS graduates
    - \* 33% below young adults w/ some post-secondary education
    - \* 41% below their peers with a 4-year college degree
- The average HS dropout will cost taxpayers \$292,000 over their lifetime

# Juvenile Arrest and Collateral Educational Damage

- 2013 Chicago study found regardless of income:
  - 73% of adolescents arrested later dropped out of HS compared with 51% of those not arrested
  - 1 arrest raises the odds of dropping out of HS by 22%



# High School Graduation & Economic Gains

*Good News!*

Ohio's HS graduation rate ↑  
by 2.1% from the Class of  
2011 to 2012

- These 3,100 additional graduates represent as much as:
  - **\$764 million in increased lifetime earnings, and**
  - **\$3.1 million increase in annual state & local tax revenues**

# Tackling Dropout: If 90% of Ohio's kids (20,000 more kids than now) graduated...

Economic returns would likely include:

- \$244 million in increased annual earnings
- \$20 million increase in state and local tax revenues
- 2,300 new jobs and \$332 million increase in gross state product
- \$442 million increase in home sales and \$23 million increase in auto sales



*“Research demonstrates that when students are removed from the classroom as a disciplinary measure, the odds increase dramatically that they will repeat a grade, drop out, or become involved in the juvenile justice system.”*

- The Council of State Governments

# “Zero Tolerance” in U.S. Public Schools

## History

- Developed as an approach to drug enforcement in 1980s
- Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994: requires 1-year expulsion for students who bring a weapon to school

## Original Purpose

- To make schools safer in an environment of perceived increasing school violence
- To handle disciplinary issues more consistently
- To deter students from violating rules

# Ohio School Discipline Policy Overview

- **Policy of Zero Tolerance for Violent, Disruptive, or Inappropriate Behavior (ORC 3313.534)**
  - “. . .the board of . . . shall adopt a policy of zero tolerance for violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior, including excessive truancy”
- **Suspension, expulsion or permanent exclusion - removal from curricular or extracurricular activities (ORC 3313.66)**
  - “(A) [T]he superintendent...may suspend a pupil from school for not more than ten school days.”. . . “(B) [T]he superintendent...may expel a pupil from school for a period not to exceed the greater of eighty school days...”
  - Adjudication order permanently excluding pupil from public schools (ORC 3313.662) (for committing a criminal offense as defined in the statute...)

# School Discipline & Student Achievement

- A 2013 National Study of 26,000 U.S. middle and high schools (2009-2010 academic year) found:
  - 1 in 9 MS/HS students suspended at least once (2,000,000+)
  - Vast majority for minor infractions of school rules, such as disrupting class, tardiness, and dress code violations

(Losen and Martinez, 2013)

- A 2010 Texas study found:
  - Students with at least 1 disciplinary contact were 5x's more likely to drop out of school compared to those with no disciplinary contact
  - Repeated suspensions and expulsions predicted *poor academic outcomes*
  - Suspensions and expulsions were *not being applied consistently* among schools, even among schools with similar characteristics

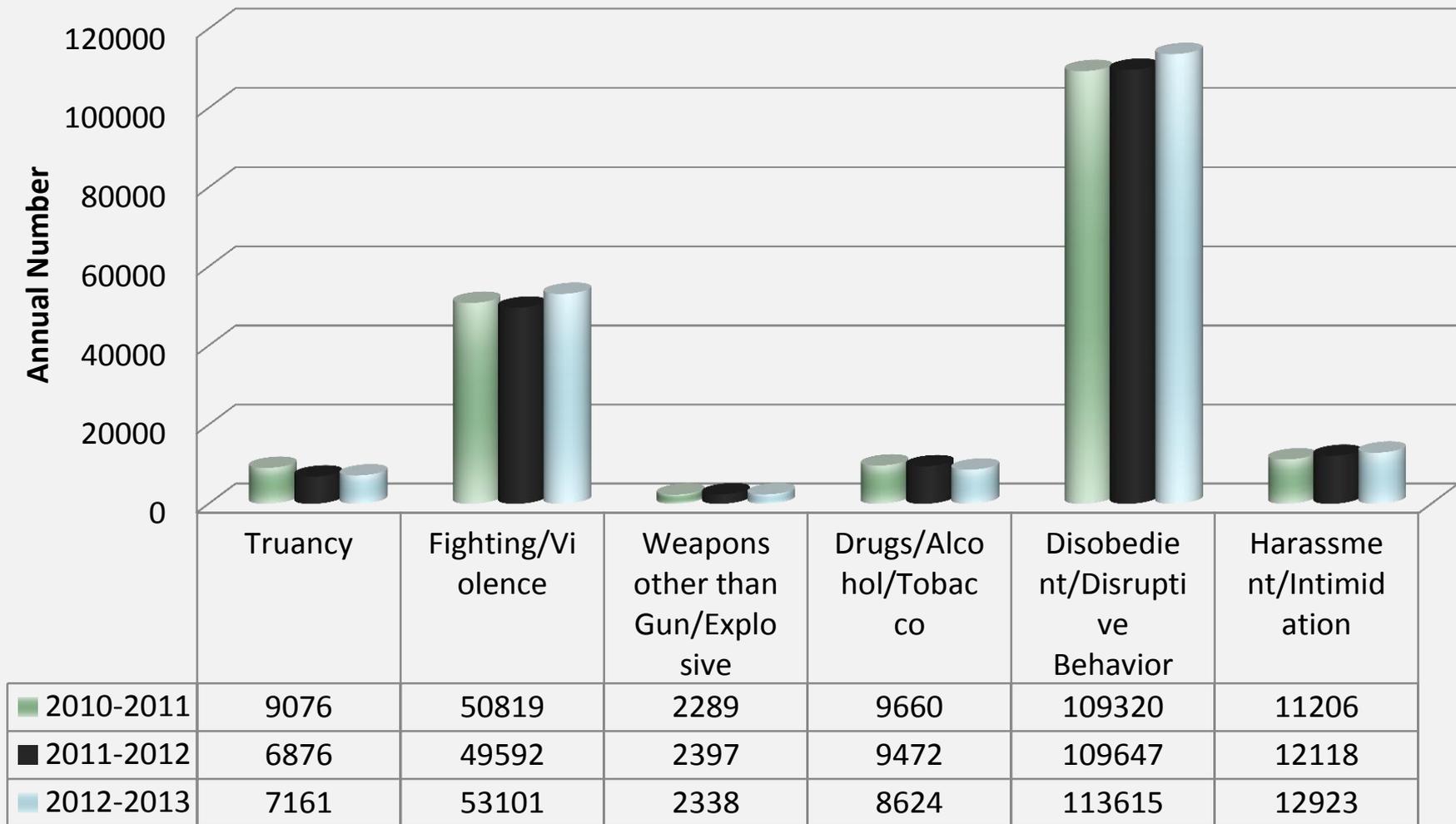
(Fabelo, 2011)

***“Adolescents are biologically wired to exhibit risk-taking behaviors, impulsive responses, and exercise poor judgment.”***

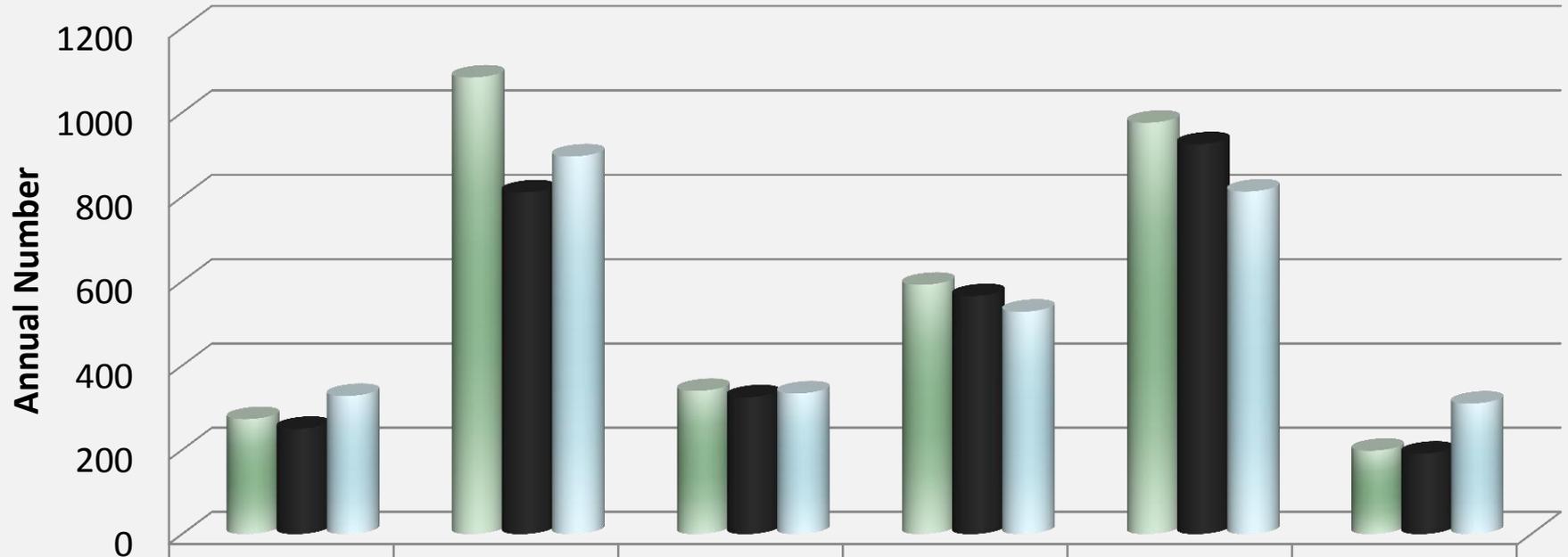
(Steven Teske, Chief Juvenile Court Judge, Clayton County, GA 2011)



# Ohio Out of School Suspensions by Reason and Year, 2010-2013



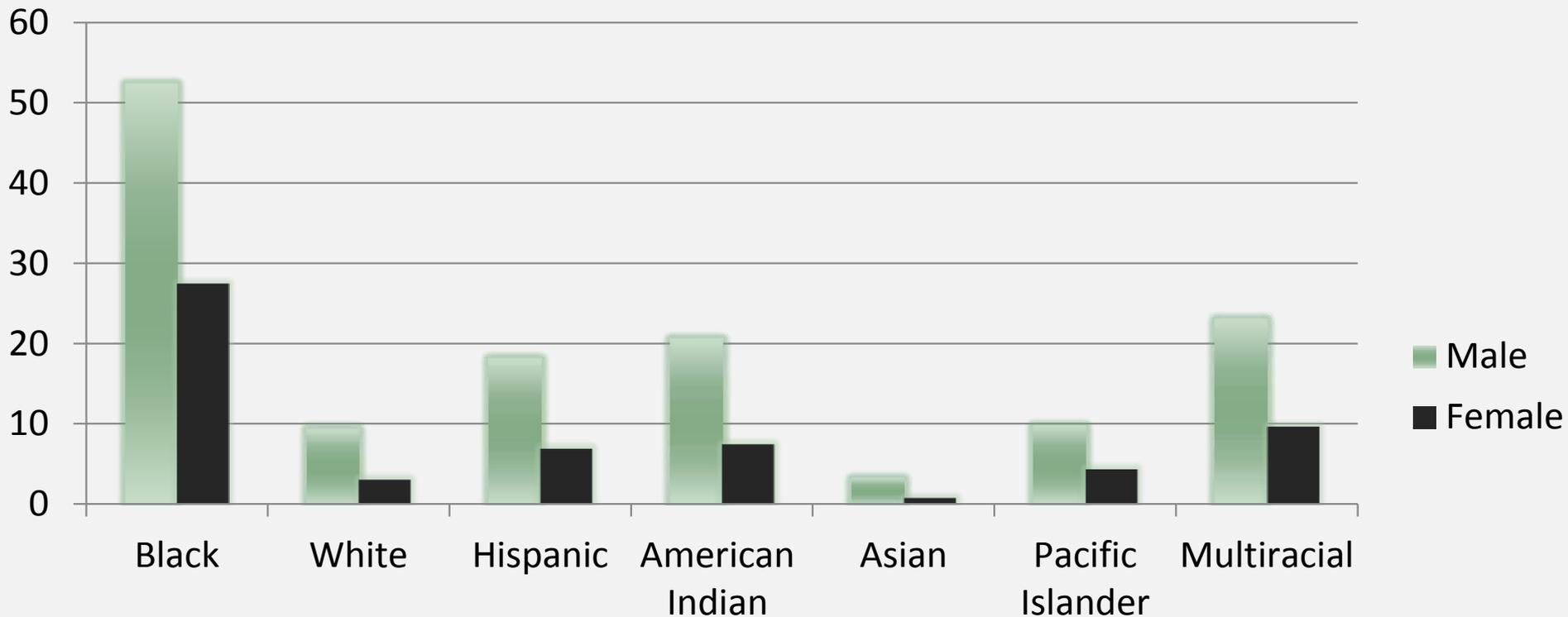
# Ohio Expulsions by Reason and Year, 2010-2013



|           | Truancy | Fighting/Violence | Weapons other than Gun/Explosive | Use/Possession of Drugs | Disobedient/Disruptive Behavior | Harassment/Intimidation |
|-----------|---------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2010-2011 | 273     | 1083              | 340                              | 592                     | 976                             | 198                     |
| 2011-2012 | 250     | 811               | 325                              | 565                     | 925                             | 191                     |
| 2012-2013 | 328     | 896               | 334                              | 528                     | 813                             | 310                     |

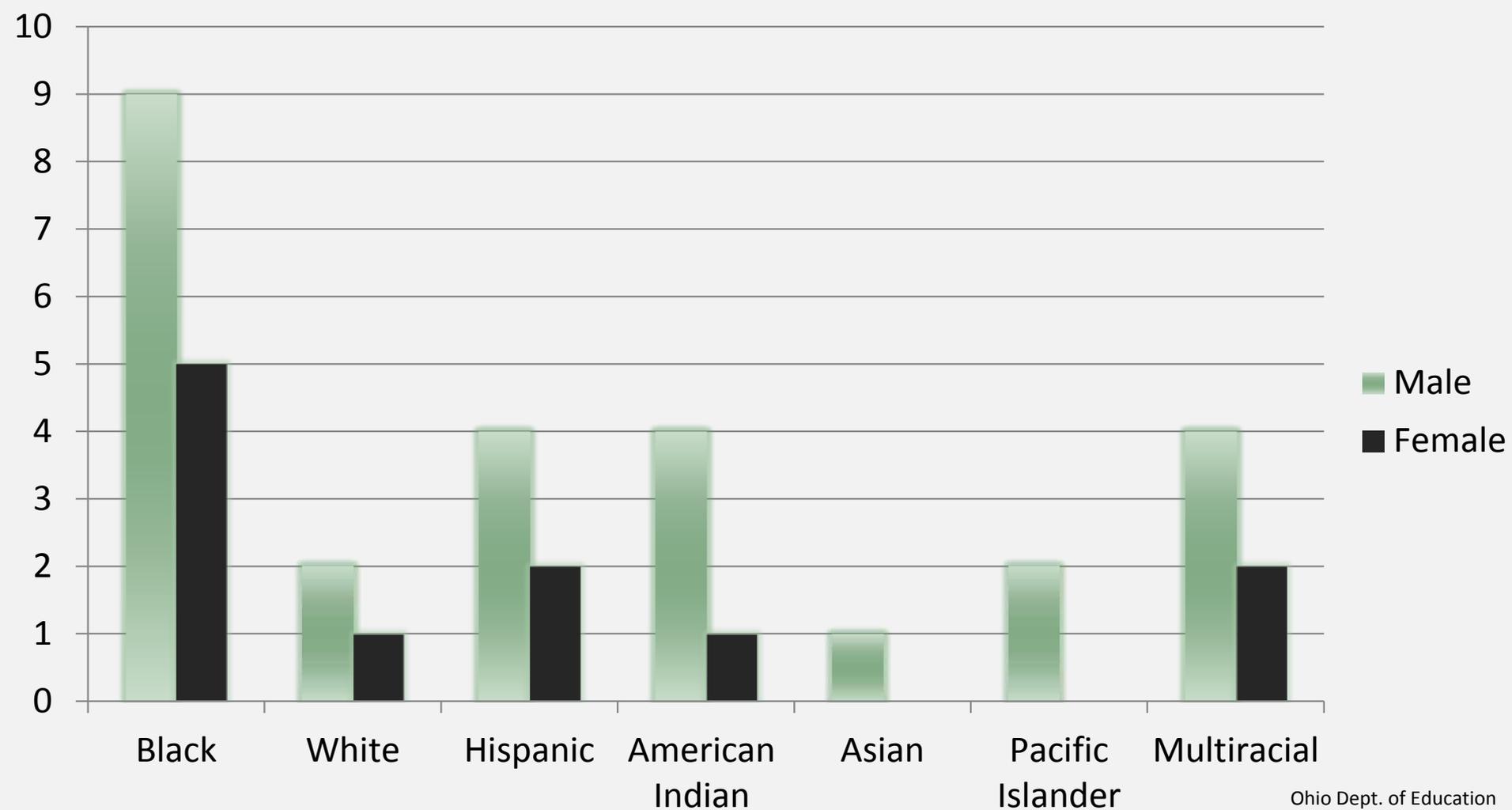
# Disproportionate Impacts of Zero Tolerance in Ohio

Out of School Suspensions per 100 Students  
Ohio, 2012-2013 Academic Year



# Disproportionate Impacts of Zero Tolerance in Ohio

Expulsions per 1000 Students  
Ohio, 2012-2013 Academic Year



# Disproportionate Impacts of Zero Tolerance in Ohio

## Out of School Suspensions, 2012-2013 School Year

Source: Ohio Department of Education

### Students without Disabilities -- % Out of School Suspensions

|  | <i>Black (13% of enrollment)</i> | <i>Hispanic (3.6% of enrollment)</i> | <i>White (63.3% of enrollment)</i> |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Truancy                                | 1.6                              | 0.25                                 | 1.5                                |
| Fighting/Violence                      | 13.5                             | 0.91                                 | 8.9                                |
| Use/possession of Gun                  | 0.05                             | -                                    | 0.04                               |
| Weapon other than Gun/Explosive        | 0.23                             | 0.05                                 | 0.72                               |
| Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco                  | 0.75                             | 0.13                                 | 3.0                                |
| <b>DISOBEDIENT/DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR</b> | <b>31.2</b>                      | 2.5                                  | 17.3                               |
| Harassment/Intimidation                | 2.8                              | 0.29                                 | 2.4                                |

### Students with Disabilities -- % Out of School Suspensions

|  | <i>Black (2.9% of enrollment)</i> | <i>Hispanic (0.6% of enrollment)</i> | <i>White (10.3% of enrollment)</i> |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Truancy                                | 1.3                               | 0.15                                 | 1.1                                |
| Fighting/Violence                      | 12.7                              | 0.94                                 | 10.7                               |
| Use/possession of Gun                  | 0.05                              | -                                    | 0.03                               |
| Weapon other than Gun/Explosive        | 0.25                              | 0.04                                 | 0.83                               |
| Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco                  | 0.83                              | 0.11                                 | 3.0                                |
| <b>DISOBEDIENT/DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR</b> | <b>26.2</b>                       | 2.2                                  | <b>20.9</b>                        |
| Harassment/Intimidation                | 3.0                               | 0.26                                 | 3.2                                |

# Disproportionate Impacts of Zero Tolerance in Ohio

## Expulsions, 2012-2013 School Year

Source: Ohio Department of Education

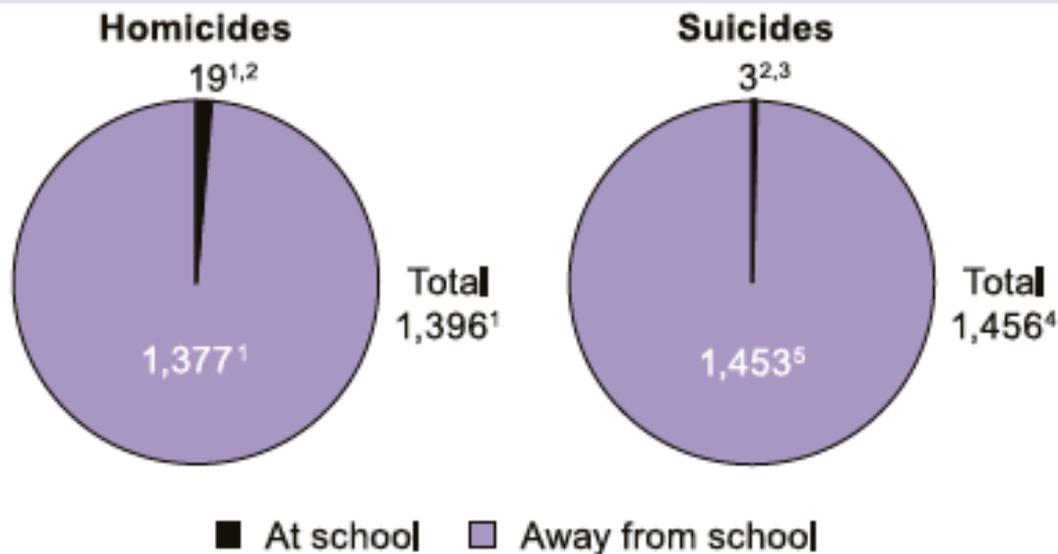
| Students without Disabilities -- % Expulsions |                                   |                                      |                                    |
|---|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|   | <i>Black (13% of enrollment)</i>  | <i>Hispanic (3.6% of enrollment)</i> | <i>White (63.3% of enrollment)</i> |
| Truancy                                       | 2.4                               |                                      | 4.6                                |
| <b>FIGHTING/VIOLENCE</b>                      | <b>16.7</b>                       |                                      | 5.3                                |
| Use/possession of Gun                         | 0.87                              |                                      | 0.34                               |
| Weapon other than Gun/Explosive               | 3                                 | 0.56                                 | 4.3                                |
| Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco                         | 4.5                               | 0.87                                 | 10.2                               |
| Disobedient/Disruptive Behavior               | 9.9                               | 0.65                                 | 10.2                               |
| Harassment/Intimidation                       | 3.9                               | 0.31                                 | 3.1                                |
| Students with Disabilities -- % Expulsions    |                                   |                                      |                                    |
|   | <i>Black (2.9% of enrollment)</i> | <i>Hispanic (0.6% of enrollment)</i> | <i>White (10.3% of enrollment)</i> |
| Truancy                                       | -                                 | 0.15                                 | 2.5                                |
| <b>FIGHTING/VIOLENCE</b>                      | <b>14.3</b>                       |                                      | 6.7                                |
| Use/possession of Gun                         | 2.5                               |                                      | -                                  |
| Weapon other than Gun/Explosive               | 2.8                               |                                      | 9.9                                |
| Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco                         | 7.1                               |                                      | <b>11.3</b>                        |
| Disobedient/Disruptive Behavior               | 12                                |                                      | 10.1                               |
| Harassment/Intimidation                       | 7.8                               |                                      | 4.4                                |

*“These kinds of policies provide no latitude for school authorities to consider the seriousness of the threat or degree of risk posed by the student’s behavior.”*

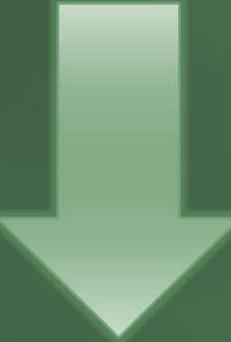
American Bar Association Journal (Tebo, 2000)

# School-Related Violent Deaths 2009-2011

Number of school-associated homicides and suicides of youth ages 5–18, by location:  
2009–10 and 2010–11



# School Victimization Trend Data between 1992-2011

- 
- 74% in violent victimization at school
  - 82% in theft victimization at school
  - Bullying trend data available only since 2005
    - No trend to suggest increase or decrease
    - Nationally, 28% of 12-18 year olds report being bullied at school and 9% report cyber-bullying

# THE IMPACT OF ZERO TOLERANCE POLICIES

- No evidence that zero tolerance policies applied to mundane and nonviolent misbehavior improve school safety or student behavior
- Schools with higher rates of suspension and expulsion are rated as having poorer school climates and lower achievement scores
- Law Enforcement presence has increased criminalization of certain behaviors
- Kids who drop out of High School are 8x's more likely to end up in prison

Skiba, R. (2004)  
Theriot, M. (2009) Losen, D. (2011)  
Jenson, J. & Fraser, M. (2005)  
Skiba, R. & Rausch, M.K. (2006)  
American Psychological Association (2008)  
American Academy of Pediatrics (2003)

- **Promising & Evidence-Based Approaches to Effective School Discipline & Positive School Climate**
- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
  - create positive social culture by teaching positive behavior
  - targeted prevention for more at-risk youth
  - individualized interventions for students with serious emotional or behavioral issues
- Social & Emotional Learning (CASEL)
- Ohio School-Based Responder Model
  - Developed in Jackson and Summit counties for youth with mental health needs
- Teacher Training and Support
  - Teaching culturally-sensitive classroom behavior management

LET  
GO



CREATIVE

EMBRACE  
CHANGE

THINK DIFFERENT



LISTEN



YOU KNOW  
MORE THAN YOU  
KNOW YOU KNOW...



ANYTHING  
IS  
POSSIBLE