



INTERACTIVE INSTITUTES **2020**  
BUILDING AND SUSTAINING A CULTURE OF HIGH-QUALITY DATA

# Understanding Suspension and Expulsion Data Collection



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Collect, Report, Analyze, and  
Use High-Quality Part B Data



# Presenters



**Fort Worth, TX – March 3–4, 2020**

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**Nashville, TN – Cancelled Due to COVID-19**

Tony Ruggiero, IDEA Data Center



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# Agenda



- Discipline reporting requirements
- Discipline definitions
- Data sources
- Data quality challenges
- Information and stories the data provide



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# IDEA 618 Discipline Reporting Requirements



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# IDEA 618 Reporting Requirements



- States are required to report the Discipline data under Title 1, Part A, Subsection 618 of IDEA
- States must submit data for children with disabilities, ages 3 through 21, who receive special education and related services under Part B of IDEA



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# IDEA 618 Reporting Requirements (cont.)



1. DG512/C005—The number of children with disabilities (IDEA) who are ages 3 through 21 and were removed to an interim alternative educational setting
2. DG475/C006—The number of children with disabilities (IDEA) who are ages 3 through 21 and were suspended or expelled for disciplinary reasons
3. DG476/C007—The number of times children with disabilities (IDEA) who are ages 3 through 21 were unilaterally removed by school personnel (not the IEP [individualized education program] team) from their current educational placement to an interim alternative educational setting (determined by the IEP team) due to drug or weapon offenses or serious bodily injury



# IDEA 618 Reporting Requirements (cont.)



4. DG598/C088—The unduplicated number of children with disabilities (IDEA) who are ages 3 through 21 and were subject to any kind of disciplinary removal during the school year
5. DG682/C143—The number of times children with disabilities (IDEA) who are ages 3 through 21 were subject to any kind of disciplinary removal
6. DG683/C144—The unduplicated number of children (students) who were removed for disciplinary reasons from their regular school program for the remainder of the school year or longer, including all removals resulting from violations of the Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA) of 1994



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# IDEA 618 Reporting Requirements (cont.)



- Part B data managers submit data to OSEP through the *EDFacts* Submission System (ESS)
- Data are due annually on first Wednesday in November
- OSEP reviews the data for quality and provides feedback
- States are given opportunity to address data quality before data are published



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# IDEA 618 Reporting Requirements (cont.)



## State Supplemental Survey (SSS-IDEA)

- SSS-IDEA collects metadata related to the IDEA Section 618 data collections
- OSEP uses the data to verify the accuracy of the IDEA Section 618 data and to understand and appropriately analyze the data
- States submit data via the *EDFacts* Metadata and Process System (*EMAPS*)



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# IDEA 618 Reporting Requirements (cont.)



## State Supplemental Survey (SSS-IDEA)

1. Does your state remove students with disabilities (IDEA) from their educational placement for disciplinary purposes for the remainder of the school year or longer?
2. If No, please provide the relevant statutory/regulatory/policy citation(s) that prohibit this practice. Data is submitted via *EMAPS*.



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# Discipline Definitions



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# Definitions



## *Disciplinary removal*

Any instance in which a child with a disability is removed from his/her educational placement for disciplinary purposes, including in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion, removal by school personnel to an interim alternative educational setting for drug or weapon offenses or serious bodily injury, and removal by hearing officer for likely injury to the child or others.



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# Definitions (cont.)



## *In-school suspensions*

Instances in which a child is temporarily removed from his/her regular classroom(s) for disciplinary purposes but remains under the direct supervision of school personnel. Direct supervision means school personnel are physically in the same location as students under their supervision.



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# Definitions (cont.)



## *Out-of-school suspensions*

Instances in which a child is temporarily removed from his/her regular school for disciplinary purposes to another setting (e.g., home, behavior center). This includes both removals in which no IEP services are provided because the removal is 10 days or less as well as removals in which the child continues to receive services according to his/her IEP.



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# Definitions (cont.)

## *Expulsion*

An action taken by the LEA in which a child is removed from his/her regular school for disciplinary purposes for the remainder of the school year or longer in accordance with LEA policy. This includes removals resulting from violations of the Gun-Free Schools Act that are modified to less than 365 days.

# Data Quality Challenges



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# Data Quality Challenges



- Completeness
- Underreporting
- Overreporting
- Understanding the definitions and concepts within definitions and applying “universally”
- Differences in interpreting definitions and concepts for ages 3–5 and ages 6–21



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# What Do the Data Tell Us?



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# Turning Data Into Information



- What are the differences for in-school suspension rates for children by disability category?
- What are the differences for out-of-school suspension rates for children by race and ethnicity?
- What are the differences for expulsion rates for children by English Learner (EL) status?
- What are the differences for in-school suspension rates by ages 3–5 and 6–21 (preschool and K-12)?



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# Questions?



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# Contact Us



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# For More Information



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