



**Dangerous Weapons
and
Disciplinary
Incidents
(School Years
2000-2001, 2001-
2002, 2002-2003,
2003-2004)**

March 2005

**FY 2005
Report
To the
Legislature**

**As required by
Minnesota Statute
Section 121A.06
Subdivision 3**

COMMISSIONER:

Alice Seagren

**Dangerous
Weapons and
Disciplinary
Incidents
(School Years
2000-2001, 2001-
2002, 2002-2003,
2003-2004)**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Heather Britt

Minnesota Department of Education

T: (651) 582-8452

E-MAIL: heather.britt@state.mn.us

March 2005

**FY 2005
Report
To the
Legislature**

1500 Highway 36 West

Roseville, MN 55113-4266

TTY: (800) 627-3529 OR (651) 582-8201

**As required by
Minnesota Statute
Section 121A.06
Subdivision 3**

Upon request, this report can be made available in alternative formats.

ESTIMATED COST OF PREPARING THIS REPORT

This report provides information that is maintained and published as Minnesota Rules by the Office of Revisor of Statutes as a part of its normal business functions.

Therefore, the cost information reported below does not include the cost of gathering the data but rather is limited to the estimated cost of actually analyzing the data, determining recommendations, and preparing this report document.

Special funding was not appropriated for the costs of preparing this report.

The estimated cost incurred by the Minnesota Department of Education in preparing this report is \$2,321.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Minnesota Statute Section 121A.06, Subdivision 3, requires the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) to regularly report on disciplinary incidents, and incidents involving dangerous weapons, that occur in Minnesota public schools. The current report covers school years: 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004. Data for this report were obtained from MDE's Dangerous Weapons and Disciplinary Incidents (DWDI) reporting system.

Although comparisons should not be made across school years, for a variety of reasons, the majority of disciplinary incidents in the DWDI dataset can be characterized in the following way:

- The most common incident types are: disorderly conduct, physical assault/fighting, followed by other major offenses, attendance, and threat/intimidation/verbal assault.
- Almost all incidents occur during school hours.
- Most incidents occur in the classroom, hallway, or other indoor area, followed by other outdoor area of the school.
- Although most incidents do NOT involve weapons, when a weapon is involved, the most common weapon type is a knife.
- Most incidents do not involve victims.
- Male offenders commit approximately three-quarters of incidents.
- The majority of offenders are White, Non-Hispanic, followed by Black, Non-Hispanic.
- Most offenders are clustered in the following grades: seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh.
- With a very few exceptions, most incidents are committed by youth who are students at the school of the incident.
- Students with an IEP commit approximately one-third of the disciplinary incidents.
- The majority of incidents in the DWDI dataset result in out-of-school suspensions.

As a result of new reporting requirements, a desire for additional local validation of disciplinary data, and the need for a broad variety of users to access disciplinary incident data, MDE has developed a new web-based reporting system for disciplinary incidents—the Disciplinary Incident Reporting System (DIRS). This new system, in use for the 2004-2005 school year, will be used to provide data for subsequent reports required by Minnesota Statute Section 121A.06, Subdivision 3. Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may create accounts on the new DIRS system by accessing:

<https://education.state.mn.us/MDEDISecurity/index.do>

and may submit disciplinary incidents using:

<http://education.state.mn.us/DisciplinaryIncident/login.do>.

INTRODUCTION

Each year Minnesota LEAs are required to report all disciplinary incidents resulting in a student being out of school for more than one day, as well as all incidents involving the use or possession of a dangerous weapon in school zones. From the 2000-2001 school year through the 2003-2004 school year, LEAs submitted reports electronically through the Minnesota Department of Education's Dangerous Weapons and Disciplinary Incidents (DWDI) web-based reporting system. *Note that especially large districts submit their data electronically through a batching process, rather than directly through the web-based reporting system.*

Although the Commissioner is required to compile and report on the above data collection at least annually, because of staff reduction and turnover and problems with the data collection system, no report was compiled for the previous 4 school years. Thus the current report represents a four-year report, rather than only a report on the 2003-2004 school year. Data are not aggregated across all school years, but rather reported by school year.

The DWDI system gathers a variety of information about disciplinary incidents, including the following items: type of disciplinary incident; time of incident; location of incident; whether a weapon was involved in the incident; the number of victims involved in the incident; the gender, race/ethnicity, grade, school status, IEP status, 504 status, and disability status of the offender; disciplinary action taken, number of days suspended or out of school, whether a referral was made and whether intervention plans are in place. Although a few additional items are collected as part of the DWDI system, only the above items are included in this report.

CAUTIONS ABOUT DATA

The data captured by the DWDI system are not verified or validated with individual LEAs. In other words, there is currently no data audit system in place to check whether the data entered into the DWDI system are an accurate reflection of all of the incidents in school districts that resulted in a student being out of school for more than one day. Further, the data presented in this report are drawn directly from the DWDI system, with minimal data cleaning undertaken, because of the lack of any comparison data to use in advising the cleaning process. The only incidents excluded from the DWDI system were those incidents that had no “incident type” recorded. Aside from incident type, where missing data are in the system, they are presented in the data tables for each variable.

The data in this report do NOT include data from a separate department dataset on expulsions. The report based on the expulsions dataset is included on MDE’s website and has been previously submitted for each of the school years covered by the current report.

The reader is cautioned not to draw conclusions by comparing DWDI data across years. Incidents in the DWDI system are a reflection of many factors, including the quality of data entered, training and capacity of staff to enter data, as well as individual disciplinary policies of and enforcement of policies by each district. MDE has not provided on-going, consistent technical assistance or training to districts to support entry of data into the DWDI system. Further, MDE has not provided much guidance to districts regarding uniformity of data.

TYPE OF DISCIPLINARY INCIDENTS

Disciplinary incidents are categorized into one of 14 different types. Included below in Table 1 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by type for each school year included in this report. Incident categories are listed in the order they appear in the DWDI system. Incidents of “disorderly conduct” and “physical assault/fighting” are the most common, followed by “other major offenses,” “attendance,” and “threat/intimidation/verbal assault” incidents. Figures 1 and 2 represent graphic illustrations of Table 1, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 1. Type of Disciplinary Incident

Incident Category	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Attendance	4,227	8.28	3,225	6.47	3,458	6.06	2,390	6.68
Disorderly conduct	14,867	29.11	13,072	26.24	15,195	26.62	8,434	23.58
Alcohol	926	1.81	796	1.60	1,052	1.84	916	2.56
Other Drugs	1,829	3.58	2,211	4.44	2,559	4.48	2,241	6.27
Tobacco	2,128	4.17	2,219	4.45	2,245	3.93	1,844	5.16
Physical Assault/fighting	14,148	27.70	15,304	30.71	17,565	30.78	9,836	27.50
Threat/Intimidation/Verbal Assault	3,458	6.77	3,372	6.77	3,966	6.95	2,261	6.32
Sexual Offenses	1,383	2.71	1,292	2.59	1,343	2.35	1,056	2.95
Arson	65	0.13	58	0.12	104	0.18	64	0.18
Vandalism/Property Related	1,313	2.57	1,162	2.33	1,453	2.55	954	2.67
Weapons	1,028	2.01	1,345	2.70	1,362	2.39	1,239	3.46
Other Major Offenses	5,577	10.92	5,632	11.30	6,634	11.62	4,354	12.17
Computer Tampering	96	0.19	109	0.22	118	0.21	128	0.36
Bomb Threat	30	0.06	29	0.06	18	0.03	50	0.14
Total	51,075	100	49,826	100	57,072	100	35,767	100

Figure 1. Type of Disciplinary Incidents (#) by School Year

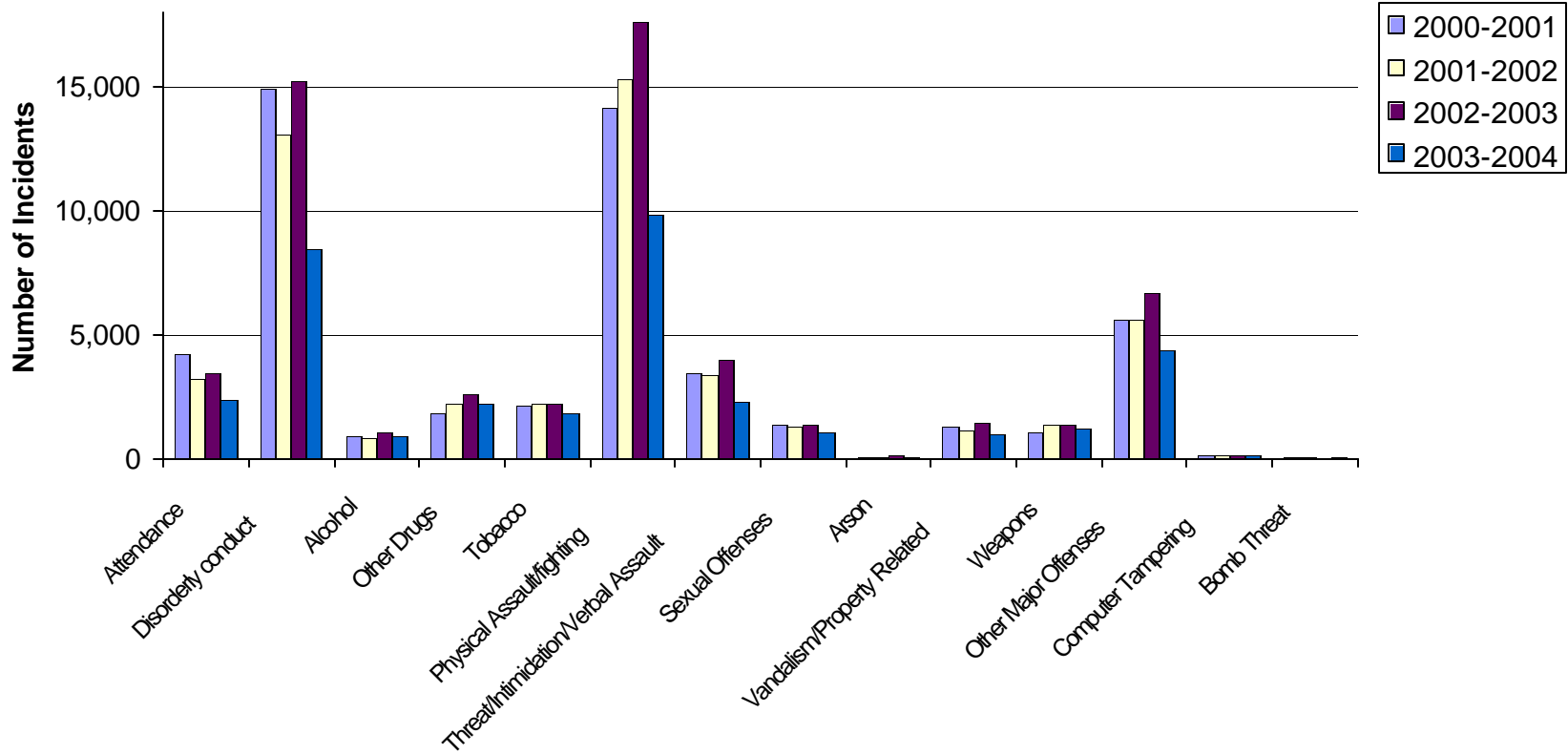
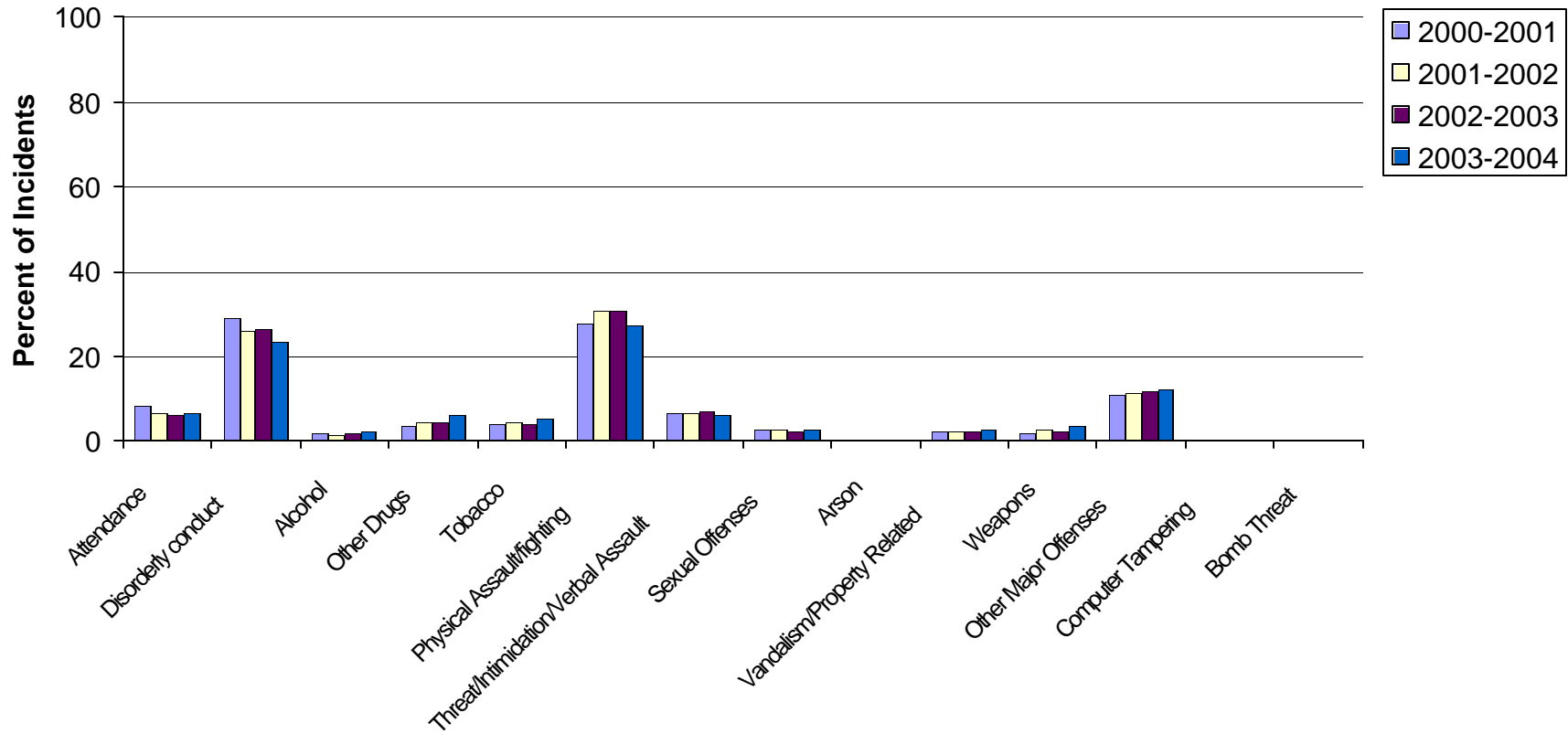


Figure 2. Type of Disciplinary Incidents (%) by School Year



TIME OF DISCIPLINARY INCIDENTS

Disciplinary incidents are categorized into one of two different incident times when they occurred. Included below in Table 2 are the frequencies and percentages of the times of disciplinary incidents for each school year included in this report. Incidents occurring “during school hours” represent the majority of disciplinary incidents reported by LEAs. Note that Table 2 includes a “Missing Data” row, which illustrates those cases where no time of incident was recorded in the dataset. Figures 3 and 4 represent graphic illustrations of Table 2, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 2. Time of Incident

Time of Day	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
During School Hours	28,026	91.08	30,108	92.91	35,455	92.88	33,289	93.07
Outside of School Hours	2,745	8.92	2,298	7.09	2,716	7.12	2,478	6.93
Total	30,771	100.00	32,406	100.00	38,171	100.00	35,767	100
<i>Missing Data</i>	20,304		17,420		18,901			

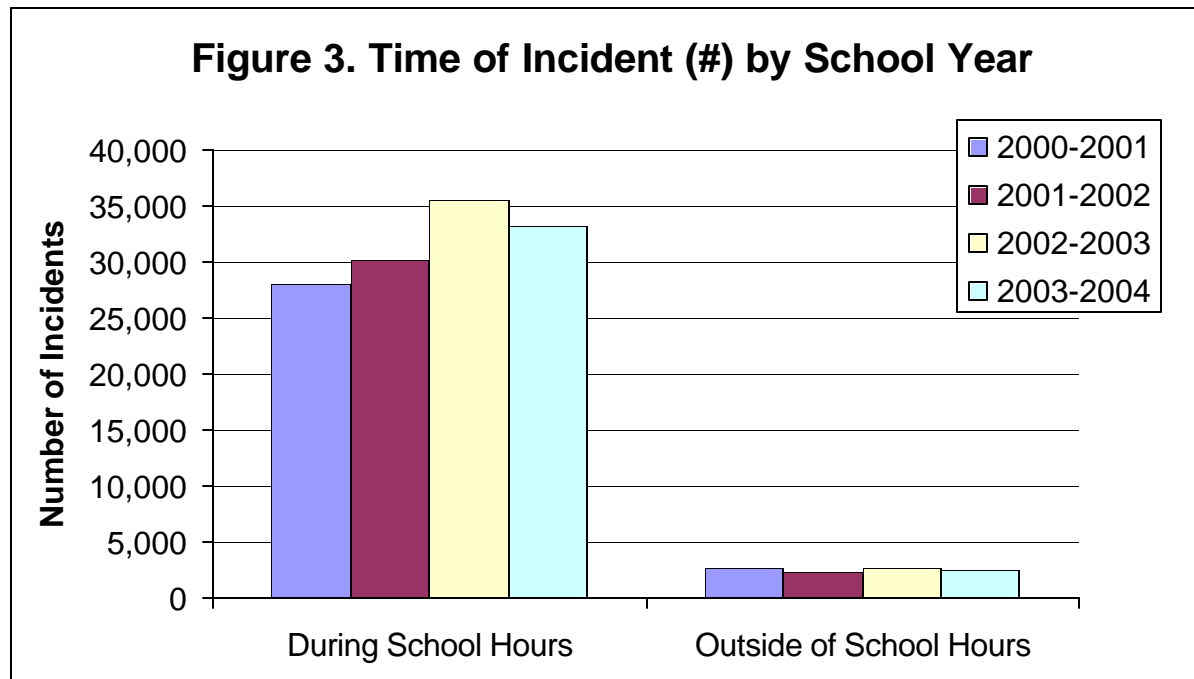
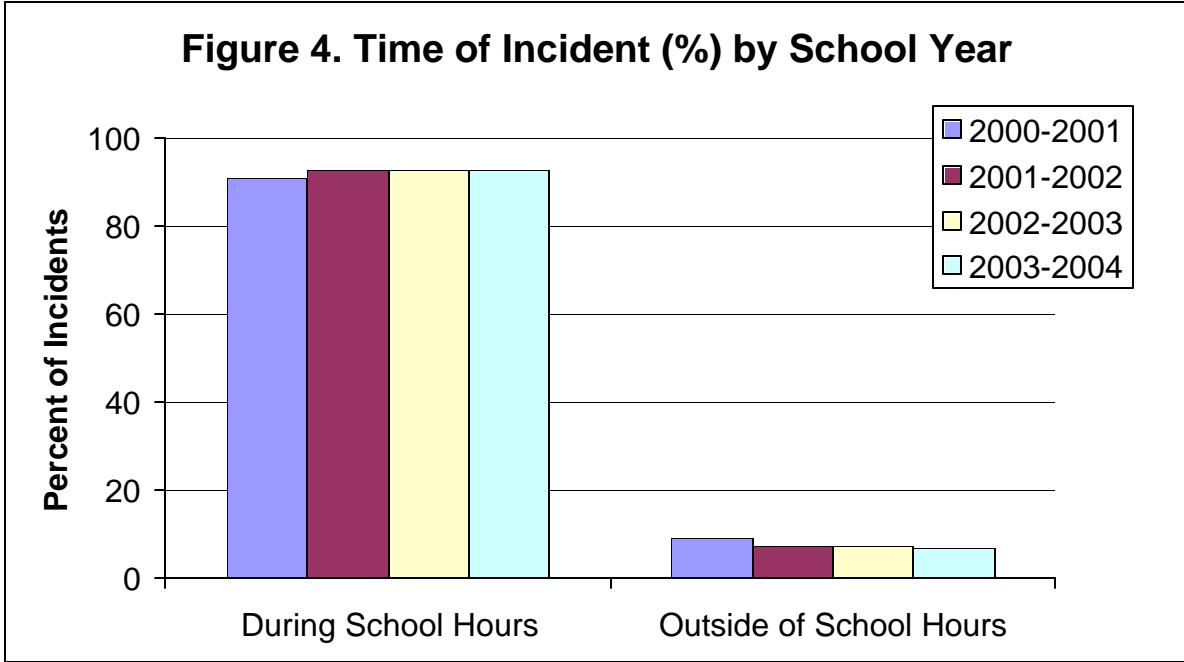


Figure 4. Time of Incident (%) by School Year



LOCATION OF DISCIPLINARY INCIDENTS

Disciplinary incidents are categorized into one of eight different locations where they occurred. Included below in Table 1 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by location for each school year included in this report. Incidents occurring in the “classroom” and “hallway” are the most common, followed by “other indoor area” and “other outdoor area.” Figures 5 and 6 represent graphic illustrations of Table 3, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 3. Location of Incident

Location	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Classroom	11,956	38.86	12,444	38.41	14,802	38.79	13,878	38.81
Hallway	6,744	21.92	7,182	22.17	8,709	22.82	8,190	22.90
Restroom	608	1.98	579	1.79	760	1.99	724	2.02
Other Indoor Area	5,831	18.95	6,361	19.63	7,216	18.91	6,711	18.77
School Bus	937	3.05	957	2.95	1,120	2.94	1,087	3.04
Parking Lot	772	2.51	827	2.55	1,029	2.70	866	2.42
Other Outdoor Area	2,474	8.04	2,635	8.13	2,971	7.79	2,799	7.83
Off Campus	1,446	4.70	1,417	4.37	1,551	4.06	1,506	4.21
Total	30,768	100	32,402	100	38,158	100	35,761	100
<i>Missing Data</i>	<i>20,307</i>		<i>17,424</i>		<i>18,914</i>		<i>6</i>	

Figure 5. Location of Incident (#) by School Year

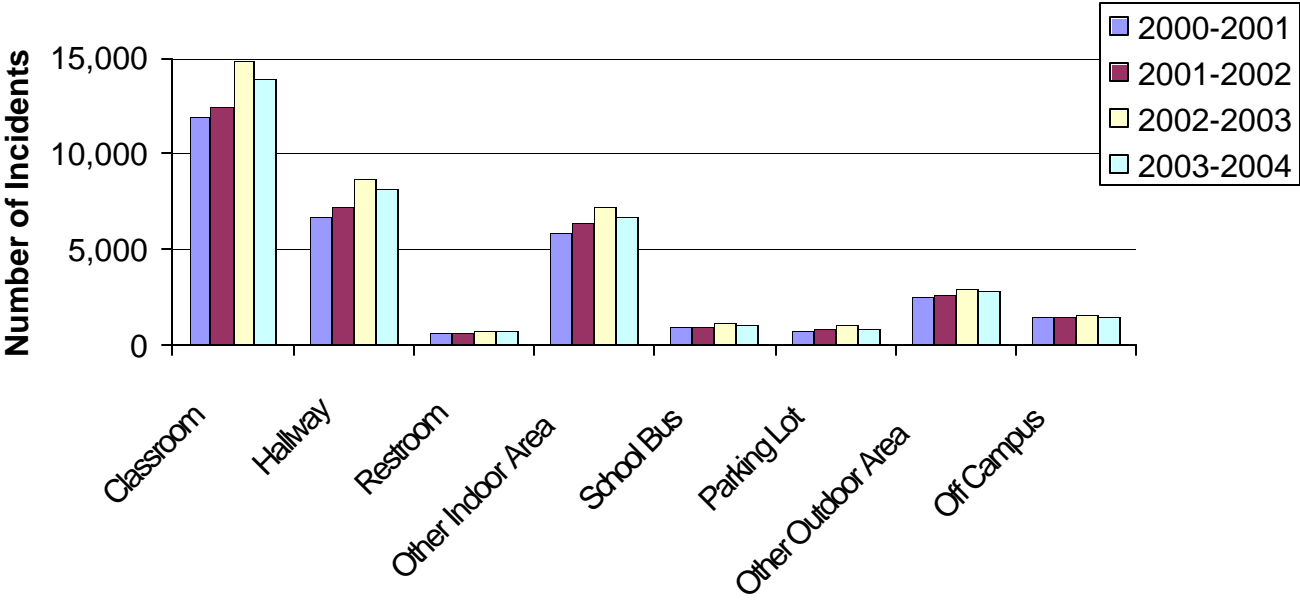
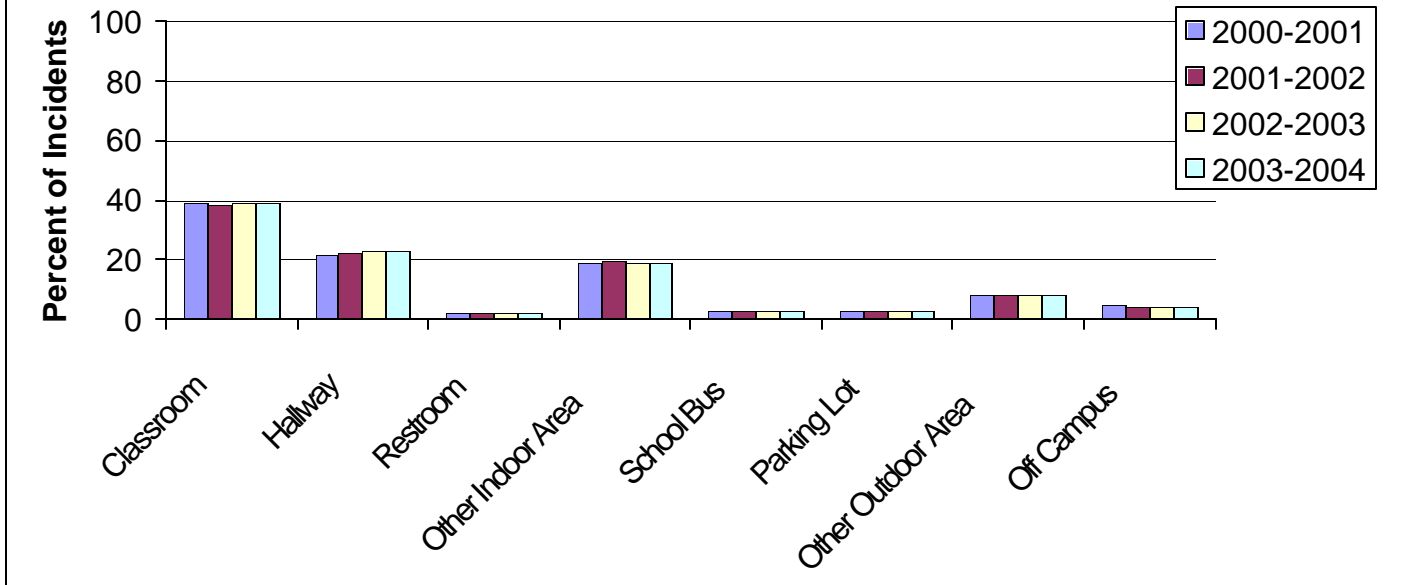


Figure 6. Location of Incident (%) by School Year



INVOLVEMENT OF WEAPONS IN DISCIPLINARY INCIDENTS

If disciplinary incidents involve weapons, the weapons are categorized into one of nine different types. Included below in Table 4 are the frequencies and percentages of incidents where weapons were involved for each school year included in this report. Although weapons are not included in the majority of incidents (see Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2), when weapons are involved, “knives” are the most common, followed by “other weapons.” Figures 7 and 8 represent graphic illustrations of Table 4, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 4. Involvement of Weapon in Incident

Type of Weapon	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Handgun	8	0.88	17	1.49	8	0.57	25	2.02
Long Gun	6	0.66	8	0.70	8	0.57	16	1.29
B-B Gun	25	2.77	44	3.85	53	3.77	75	6.05
Replica/Toy Gun	67	7.41	99	8.66	110	7.83	101	8.15
Knife	520	57.52	685	59.93	893	63.60	715	57.71
Blunt Object	34	3.76	65	5.69	67	4.77	62	5.00
Fire/Explosives	12	1.33	25	2.19	14	1.00	31	2.50
Other Weapon	135	14.93	123	10.76	176	12.54	117	9.44
Non-Knife Cutting Device	97	10.73	77	6.74	75	5.34	97	7.83
Total	904	100	1,143	100	1,404	100	1,239	100
<i>No Weapon Involved/None Reported</i>	50,171		48,683		55,668		34,528	

Figure 7. Involvement of Weapon (#) by School Year

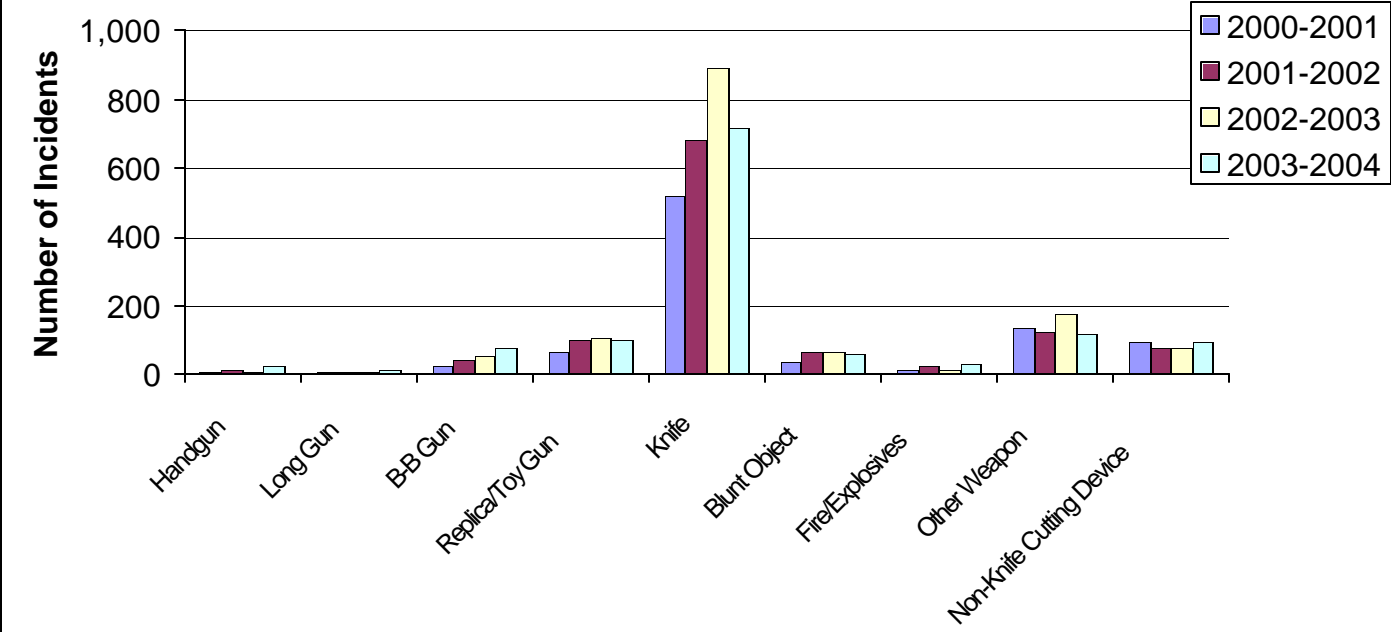
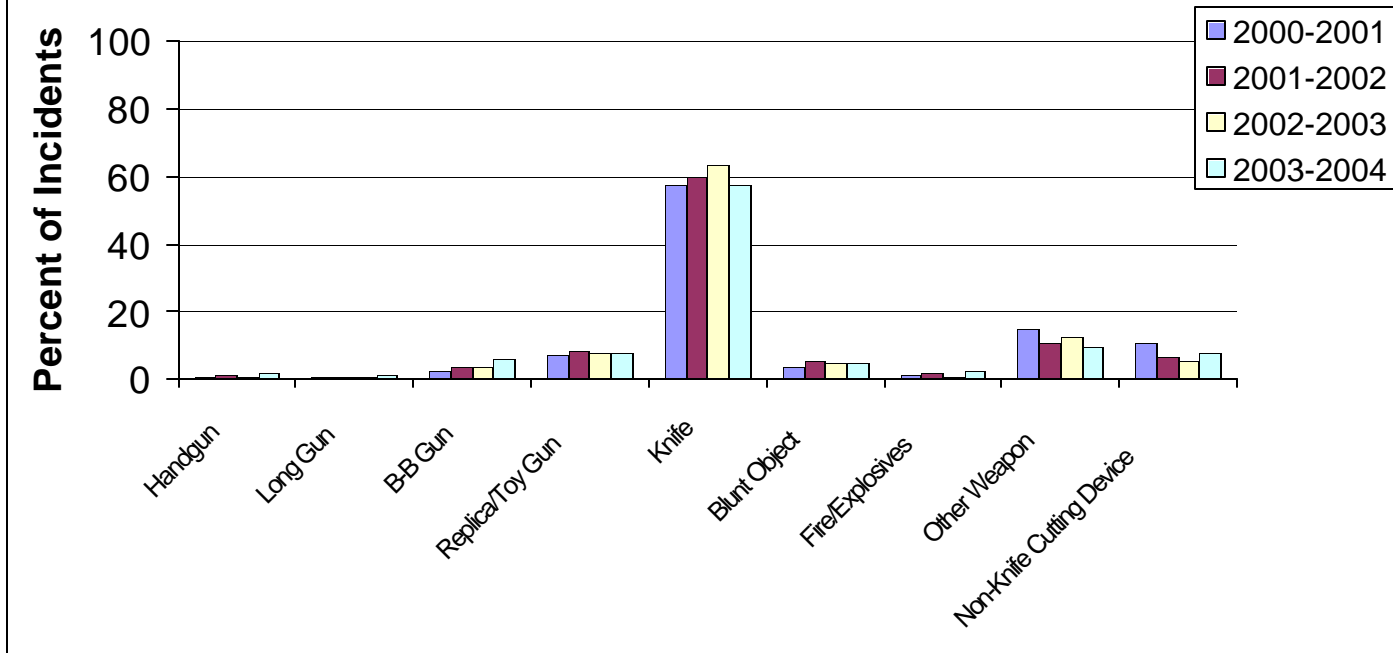


Figure 8. Involvement of Weapon (%) by School Year



NUMBER OF VICTIMS INVOLVED IN INCIDENTS

Disciplinary incidents are recorded with the number of victims involved. Although LEAs can enter any number of victims, for the purposes of this report, the number of victims has been categorized into five options. Included below in Table 5 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by number of victims involved for each school year included in this report. Most incidents included in the DWI dataset are incidents where no victims were involved. Figures 9 and 10 represent graphic illustrations of Table 5, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Note: It is especially unclear whether the data about number of victims is accurate (in particular because the DWI system is geared toward gathering general incident data and data about the offender).

Table 5. Number of Victims Involved

Number of Victims	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
No (0) Victims	47,390	92.79	46,000	92.34	52,818	92.56	31,685	88.60
1 Victim	3,420	6.70	3,575	7.18	3,977	6.97	3,765	10.53
2 Victims	184	0.36	178	0.36	201	0.35	233	0.65
3 - 5 Victims	61	0.12	59	0.12	65	0.11	66	0.18
More than 5 Victims	20	0.04	3	0.01	5	0.01	11	0.03
Total	51,075	100	49,815	100	57,066	100	35,760	100

Missing Data

11

6

7

Figure 9. Number of Victims Involved (#) by School Year

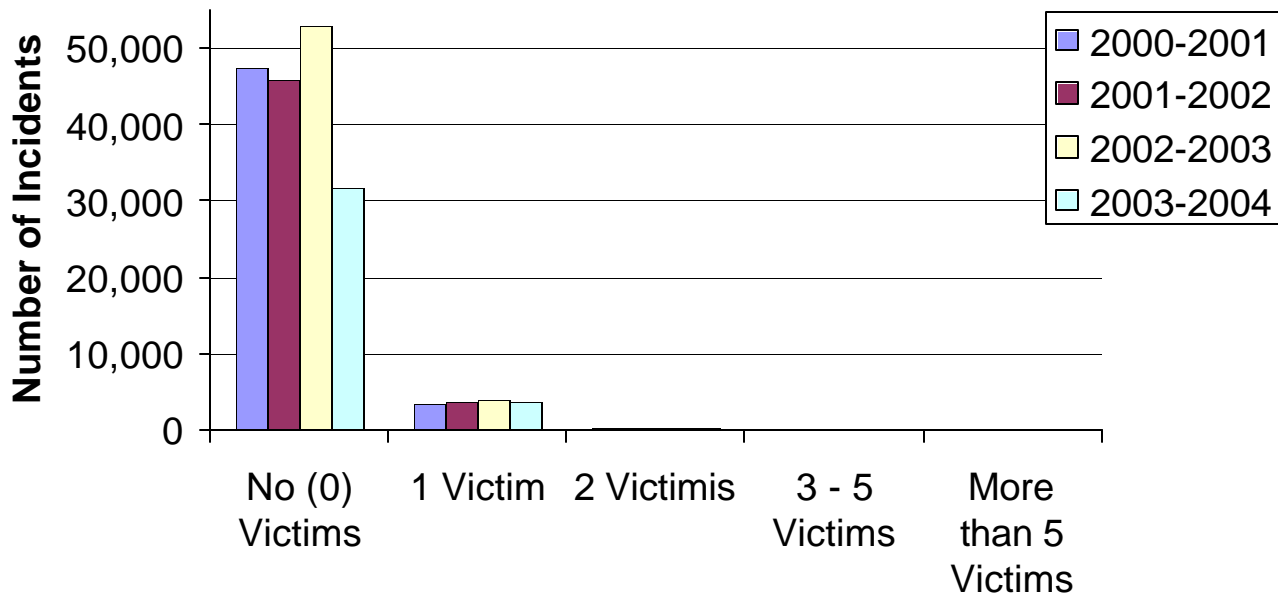
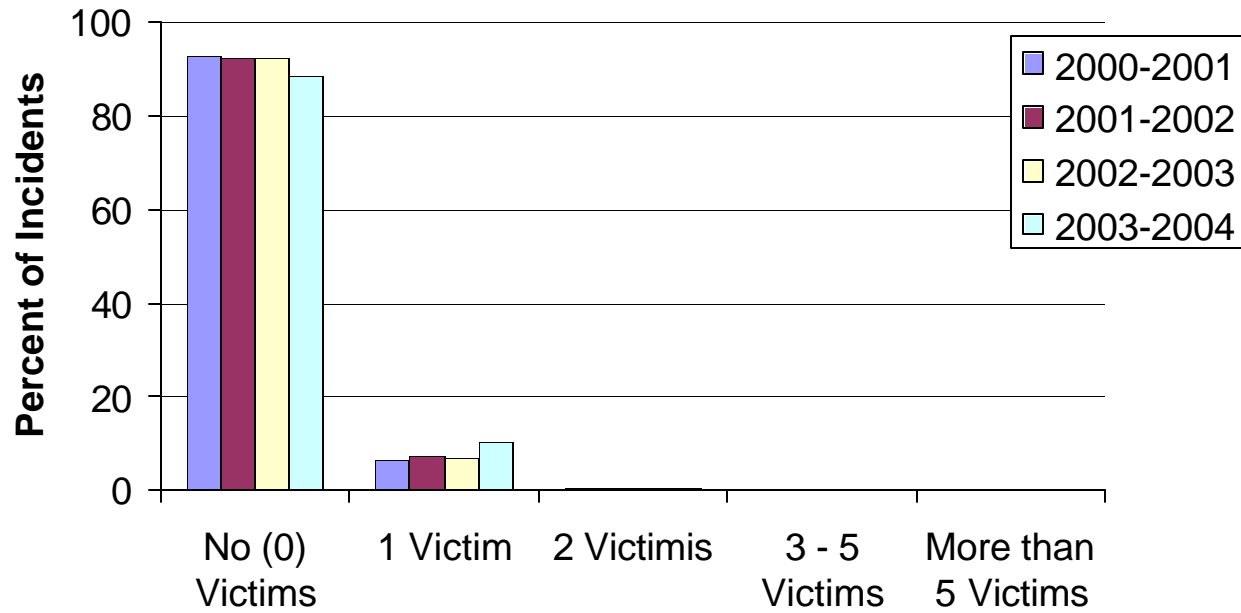


Figure 10. Number of Victims Involved (%) by School Year



AGES OF OFFENDERS

Disciplinary incident data includes a variety of information about the offender involved in the incident. This report does not include data about the age of the offender, because with the exception of the 2000-2001 data, this variable is largely missing from the dataset.

GENDER OF OFFENDERS

Gender of offender is recorded for each disciplinary incident. Included below in Table 6 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by gender of offender for each school year included in this report. The majority of offenders in the DWI dataset are males. Figures 11 and 12 represent graphic illustrations of Table 6, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 6. Gender of Offender

Gender	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Female	12,835	25.13	12,683	25.65	14,543	25.48	8,409	23.51
Male	38,240	74.87	36,756	74.35	42,523	74.52	27,358	76.49
Total	51,075	100	49,439	100	57,066	100	35,767	100

Missing Data

387

6

Figure 11. Gender of Offender (#) by School Year

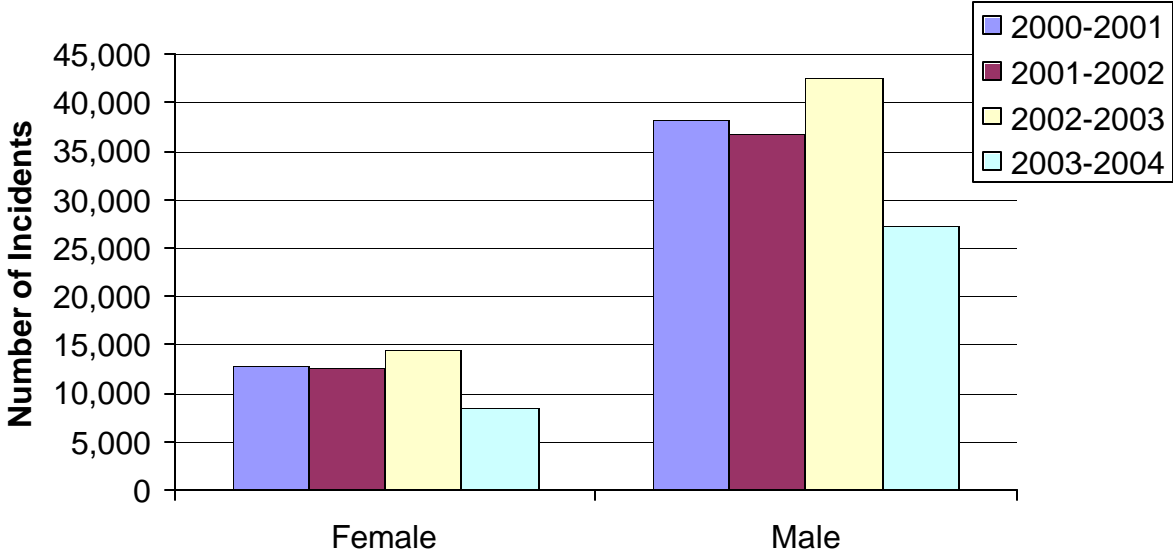
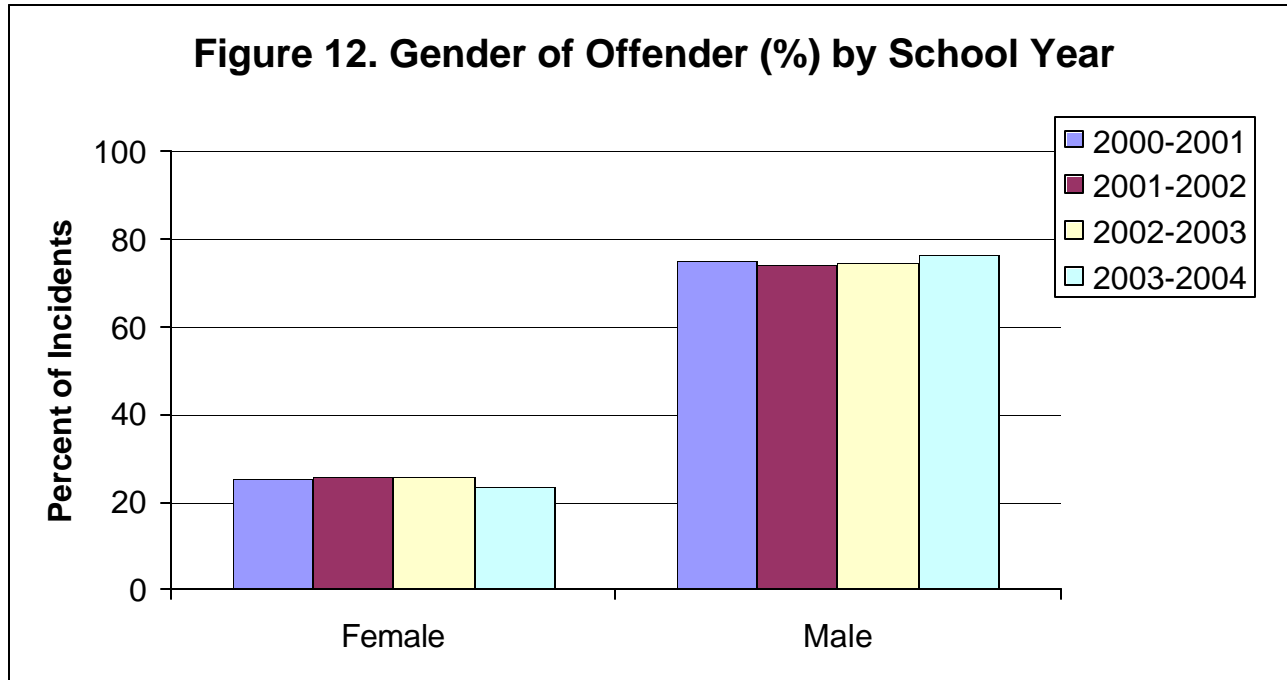


Figure 12. Gender of Offender (%) by School Year



RACE/ETHNICITY OF OFFENDERS

The race/ethnicity of the offender is recorded for each disciplinary incident. Included below in Table 7 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by race/ethnicity of offender for each school year included in this report. Note that school personnel enter DWI data and these personnel may or may not verify the race/ethnicity of students directly with students themselves. The majority of offenders in the DWI dataset are White, Non-Hispanic, followed by Black, Non-Hispanic. Figures 13 and 14 represent graphic illustrations of Table 7, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Note that in 2003-2004, Minnesota student demographics, as cited by the MDE website, were as follows: American Indian or Alaskan Native: 2.1%; Asian or Pacific Islander: 5.4%; Hispanic: 4.6%; Black, Non-Hispanic: 7.8%; White, Non-Hispanic: 80.2%.

Table 7. Race/Ethnicity of Offender

Race/Ethnicity	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2,921	5.72	2,549	5.16	3,178	5.57	2,625	7.34
Asian or Pacific Islander	1,448	2.84	2,088	4.22	2,231	3.91	931	2.60
Hispanic	2,097	4.11	2,480	5.02	3,201	5.61	1,937	5.42
Black, Non-Hispanic	18,790	36.79	16,470	33.31	19,000	33.29	6,276	17.55
White, Non-Hispanic	25,818	50.55	25,852	52.29	29,456	51.62	23,998	67.10
Total	51,074	100	49,439	100	57,066	100	35,767	100

Missing Data

1

387

6

Figure 13. Race/Ethnicity of Offender (#) by School Year

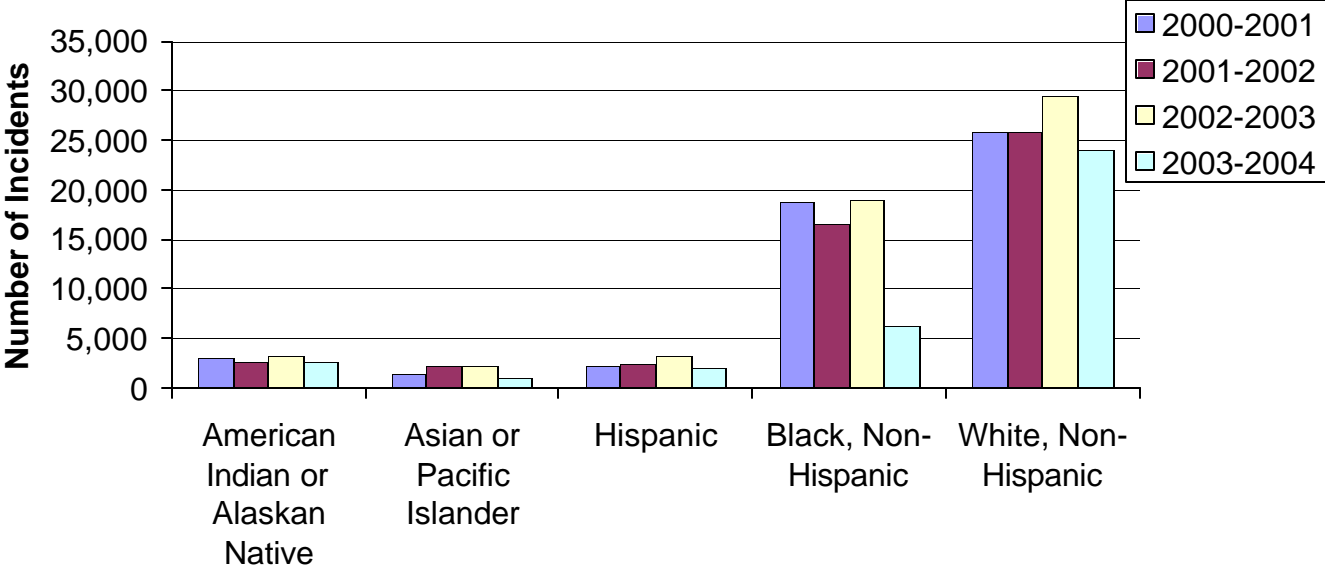
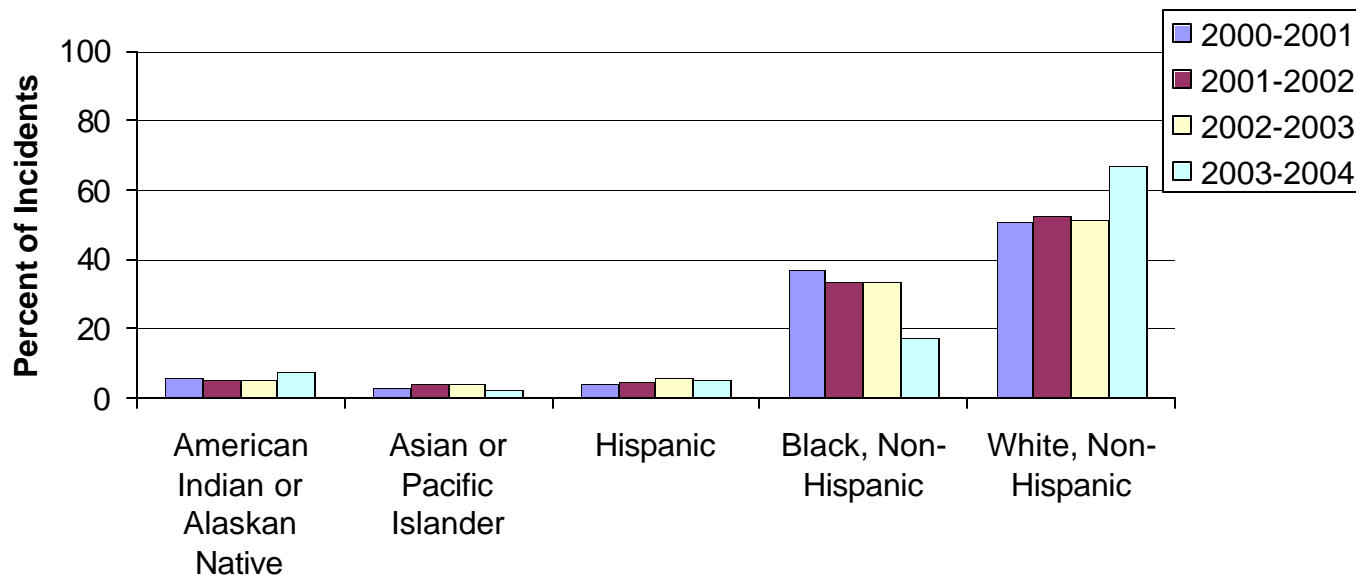


Figure 14. Race/Ethnicity of Offender (%) by School Year



GRADE OF OFFENDERS

Grade of offender is recorded for each disciplinary incident. Included below in Table 8 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by grade of offender for each school year included in this report. The majority of offenders in the DWDI dataset are clustered around seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth and eleventh grades. Figures 15 and 16 represent graphic illustrations of Table 8, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 8. Grade of Offender

Grade	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Kindergarten	402	0.79	223	0.45	160	0.30	63	0.18
First	582	1.14	493	1.00	450	0.85	235	0.68
Second	1,038	2.03	638	1.30	603	1.14	256	0.74
Third	1,454	2.85	885	1.80	833	1.58	369	1.07
Fourth	1,876	3.68	1,468	2.98	1,406	2.66	589	1.70
Fifth	2,399	4.70	2,056	4.18	1,938	3.67	982	2.84
Sixth	4,810	9.43	4,156	8.44	4,598	8.71	2,460	7.10
Seventh	7,330	14.37	7,180	14.59	8,005	15.16	4,513	13.03
Eighth	8,614	16.88	8,810	17.90	9,575	18.14	5,874	16.96
Ninth	7,924	15.53	7,808	15.86	8,780	16.63	6,070	17.53
Tenth	6,737	13.20	6,938	14.10	6,980	13.22	5,498	15.88
Eleventh	4,662	9.14	5,191	10.55	5,514	10.44	4,337	12.52
Twelfth	3,195	6.26	3,375	6.86	3,956	7.49	3,382	9.77
Total	51,023	100	49,221	100	52,798	100	34,628	100
<i>Missing Data</i>	52		605		4,274		1,139	

Figure 15. Grade of Offender (#) by School Year

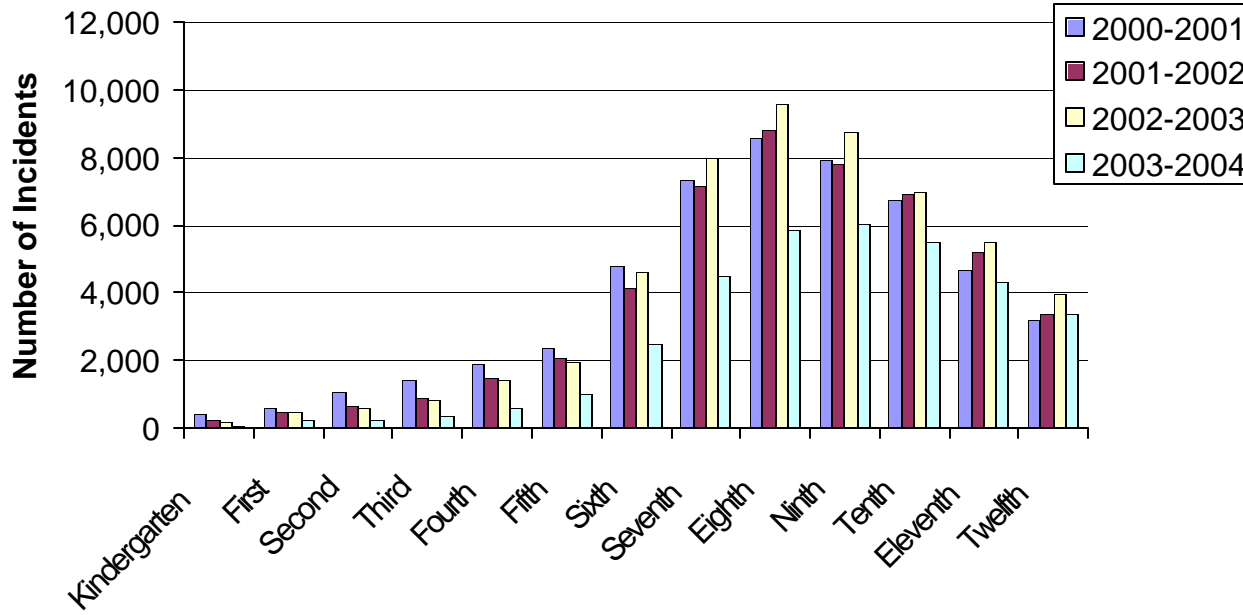
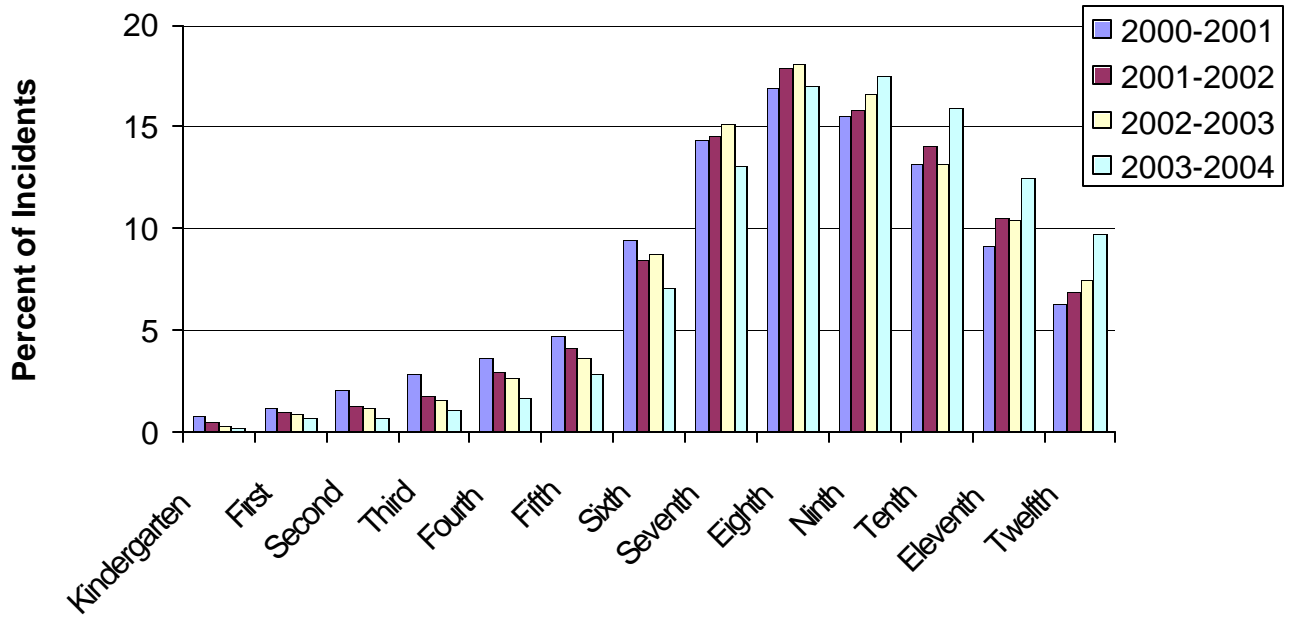


Figure 16. Grade of Offender (%) by School Year



SCHOOL STATUS OF OFFENDERS

School status of the offender is recorded for each disciplinary incident. Included below in Table 9 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by school status of offender for each school year included in this report. The majority of offenders in the DWI dataset are students from the school of the incident. Figures 17 and 18 represent graphic illustrations of Table 9, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 9. School Status of Offender

School Status	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Non-Student	22	0.04	14	0.04	16	0.03	9	0.03
Student of School of Incident	51,032	99.92	38,656	99.83	47,355	99.88	35,689	99.78
Student of Another School	16	0.03	12	0.03	27	0.06	38	0.11
Unknown	5	0.01	40	0.10	16	0.03	31	0.09
Total	51,075	100	38,722	100	47,414	100	35,767	100
<i>Missing Data</i>			11,104		9,658			

Figure 17. School Status of Offender (#) by School Year

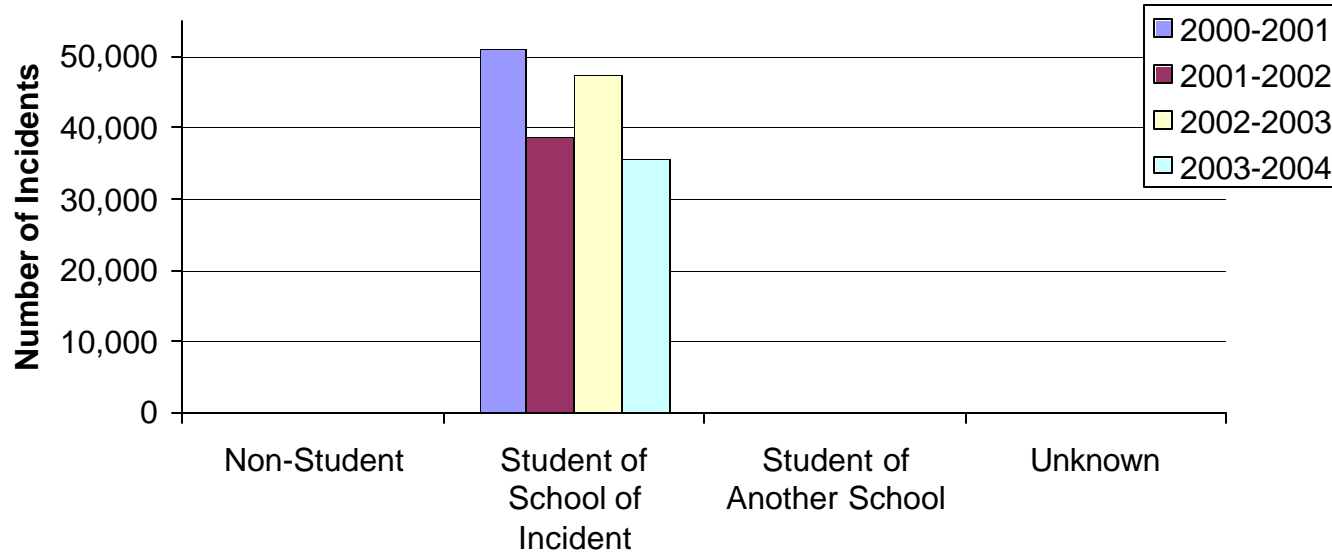
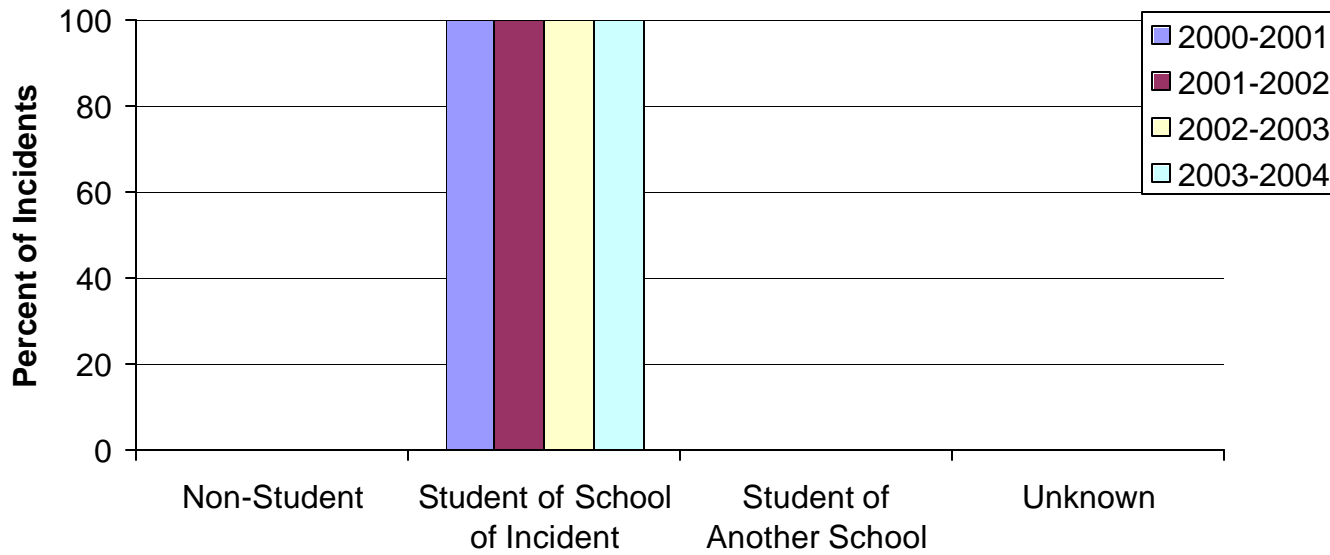


Figure 18. School Status of Offender (%) by School Year



IEP (INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLAN) AND 504 STATUS OF OFFENDERS

IEP and 504 status of the offender are recorded for each disciplinary incident. Included below in Table 10 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by IEP status of offender for each school year included in this report. Approximately one-third of offenders in the DWI dataset have an IEP (compared with approximately 12% of all students in the 2003-2004 school year). Figures 19 and 20 represent graphic illustrations of Table 10, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 10. IEP Status of Offender

IEP Status	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
No IEP	34,915	68.37	33,679	68.12	31,376	61.67	24,798	69.33
Yes IEP	16,154	31.63	15,760	31.88	19,505	38.33	10,969	30.67
Total	51,069	100	49,439	100	50,881	100	35,767	100
<i>Missing Data</i>	6		387		6,191			

Figure 19. IEP Status of Offender (#) by School Year

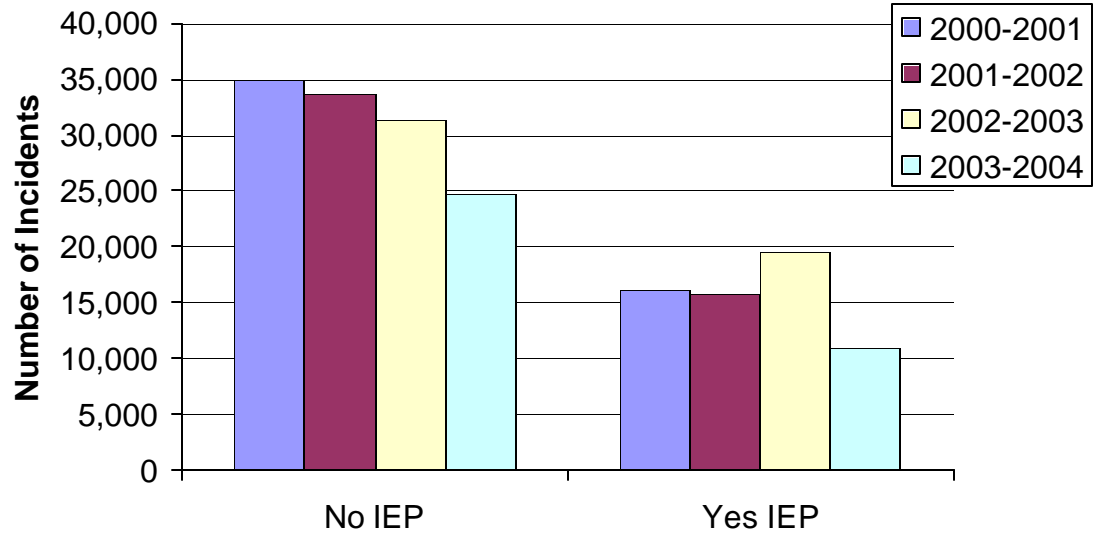
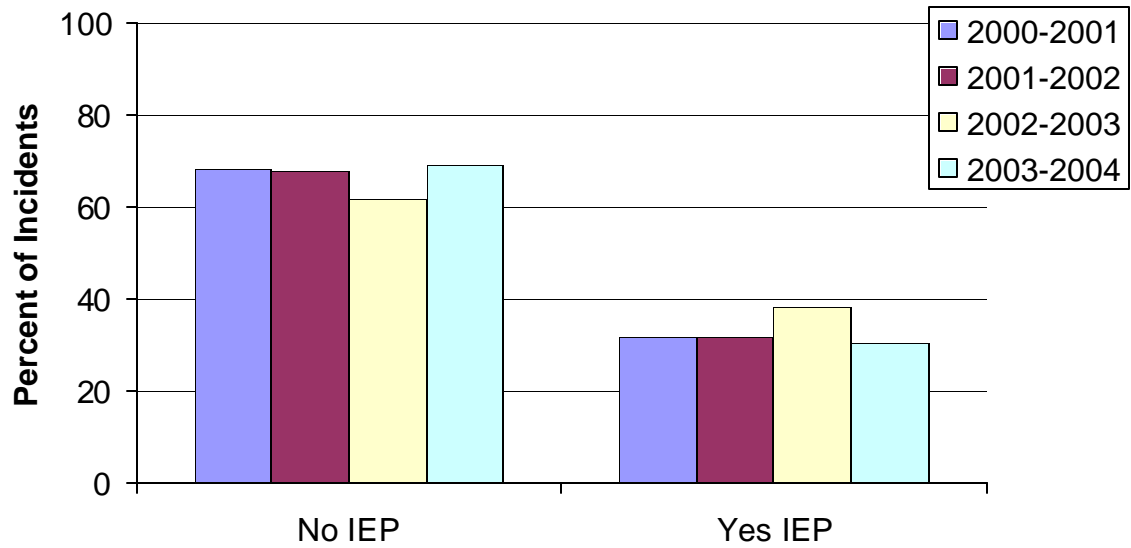


Figure 20. IEP Status of Offender (%) by School Year



Included below in Table 10 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by 504 status of offender for each school year included in this report. Between 1% and 7% of offenders in the DWI dataset have an IEP. Figures 21 and 22 represent graphic illustrations of Table 11, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 11. 504 Status of Offender

504 Status	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
No 504	30,435	98.89	32,185	98.94	44,557	93.97	35,392	98.95
Yes 504	342	1.11	344	1.06	2,857	6.03	375	1.05
Total	30,777	100	32,529	100	47,414	100	35,767	100
<i>Data Missing</i>	<i>20,298</i>		<i>17,297</i>		<i>9,658</i>			

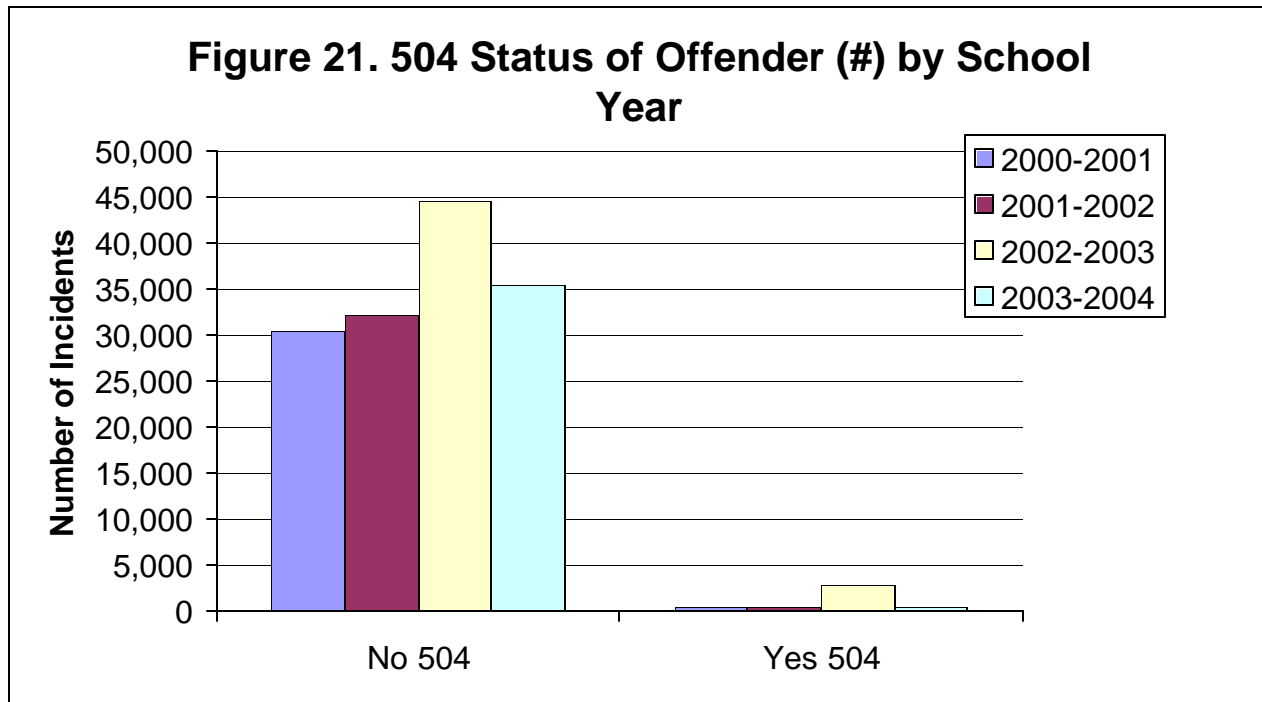
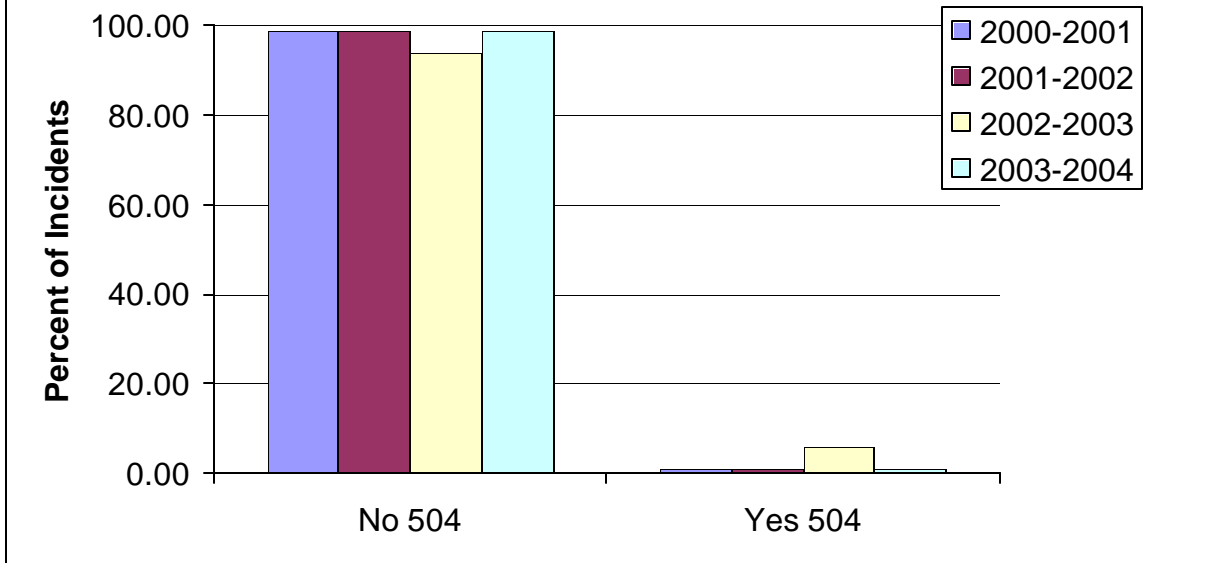


Figure 22. 504 Status of Offender (%) by School Year



DISABILITY STATUS OF OFFENDERS

Disability status of the offender is recorded for each disciplinary incident. Included below in Table 12 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by disability status of offender for each school year included in this report. The majority of offenders do not have a disability. Of those students with a disability, “emotional/behavioral disorders” and “specific learning disability” are the most common disabilities. Figures 23 and 24 represent graphic illustrations of Table 10, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 12. Disability of Offender

Disability	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Speech/Language Impaired	723	1.42	317	0.83	402	0.79	165	0.46
Mild-Moderate Mentally Impaired	687	1.35	549	1.44	609	1.20	267	0.75
Moderate-Severe Mentally Impaired	45	0.09	28	0.07	47	0.09	46	0.13
Physically Impaired	25	0.05	21	0.05	35	0.07	24	0.07
Hearing Impaired	87	0.17	105	0.27	99	0.19	45	0.13
Visually Impaired	17	0.03	9	0.02	19	0.04	0	0.00
Specific Learning Disability	5,625	11.01	4,475	11.71	5,125	10.07	2,580	7.21
Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	8,432	16.51	8,464	22.15	10,256	20.16	5,965	16.68
Deaf-Blind	32	0.06	5	0.01	11	0.02	25	0.07
Other Health Impaired	676	1.32	884	2.31	1,105	2.17	746	2.09
Autistic	85	0.17	118	0.31	189	0.37	121	0.34
Early Childhood Special Education	74	0.14	22	0.06	43	0.08	39	0.11
Traumatic Brain Injury	28	0.05	33	0.09	47	0.09	20	0.06
Developmentally Adapted Physical Impairment	0	0.00	12	0.03	8	0.02	0	0.00
Multiple Impaired	2	0.00	4	0.01	8	0.02	26	0.07
No Disability	34,536	67.62	23,160	60.62	32,871	64.61	25,691	71.84
Total	51,074	100	38,206	100	50,874	100	35,760	100
<i>Missing Data</i>	1		11,620		6,198		7	

Figure 23. Disability of Offender (#) by School Year

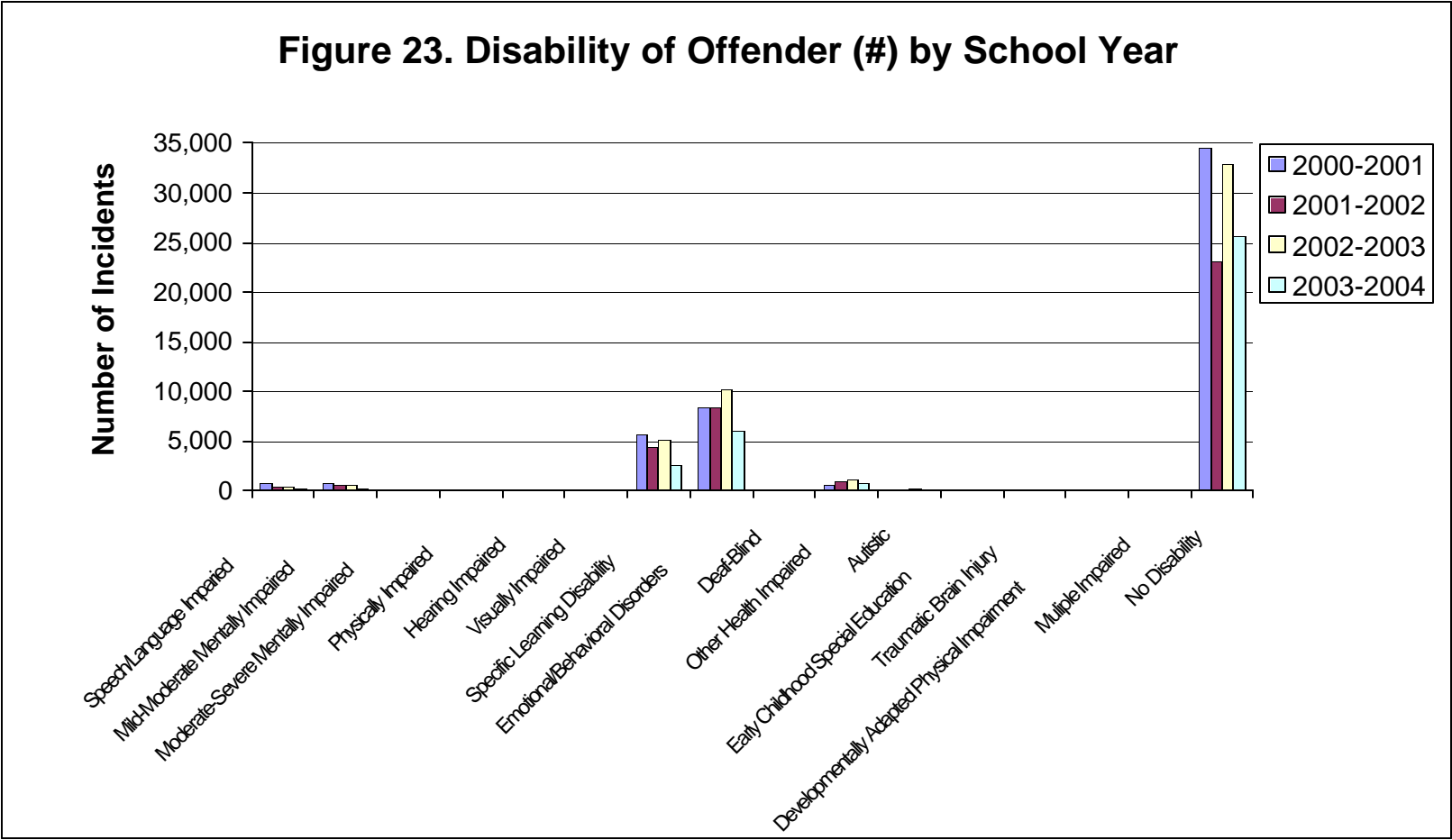
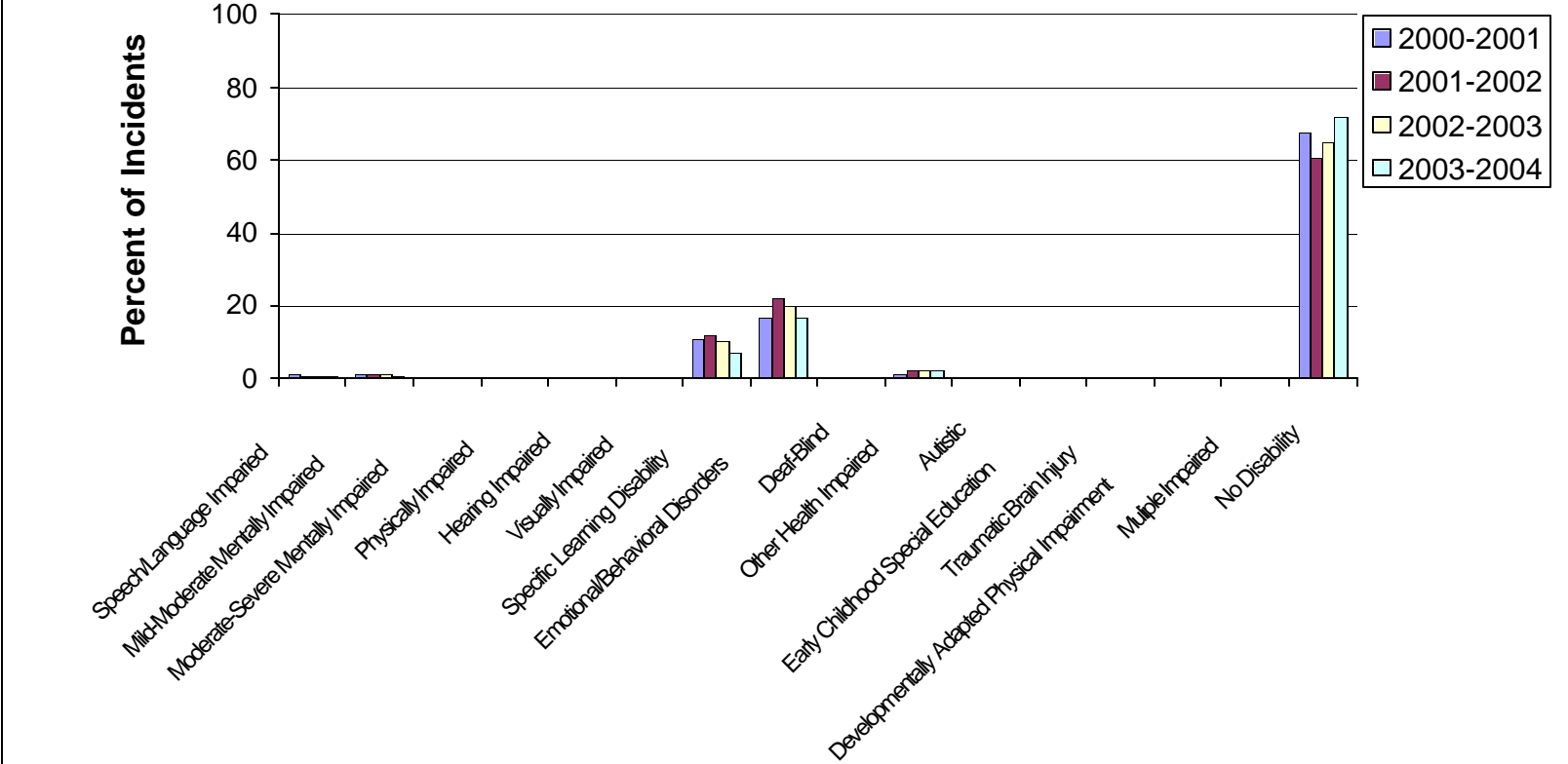


Figure 24. Disability of Offender (%) by School Year



LEP (LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY) STATUS OF OFFENDERS

LEP status of the offender is recorded for each disciplinary incident. Included below in Table 13 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by LEP status of offender for each school year included in this report. Between 2% and 8% of offenders in the DWDI dataset are LEP (compared with approximately 3% of all students in the 2003-2004 school year). Figures 25 and 26 represent graphic illustrations of Table 13, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 13. LEP Status of Offender

LEP Status	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Not LEP	48,231	94.44	45,938	92.92	45,786	95.82	35,011	97.89
Yes LEP	2,841	5.56	3,499	7.08	1,997	4.18	756	2.11
Total	51,072	100	49,437	100	47,783	100	35,767	100
<i>Missing Data</i>	3		389		9,289			

Figure 25. LEP Status of Offender (#) by School Year

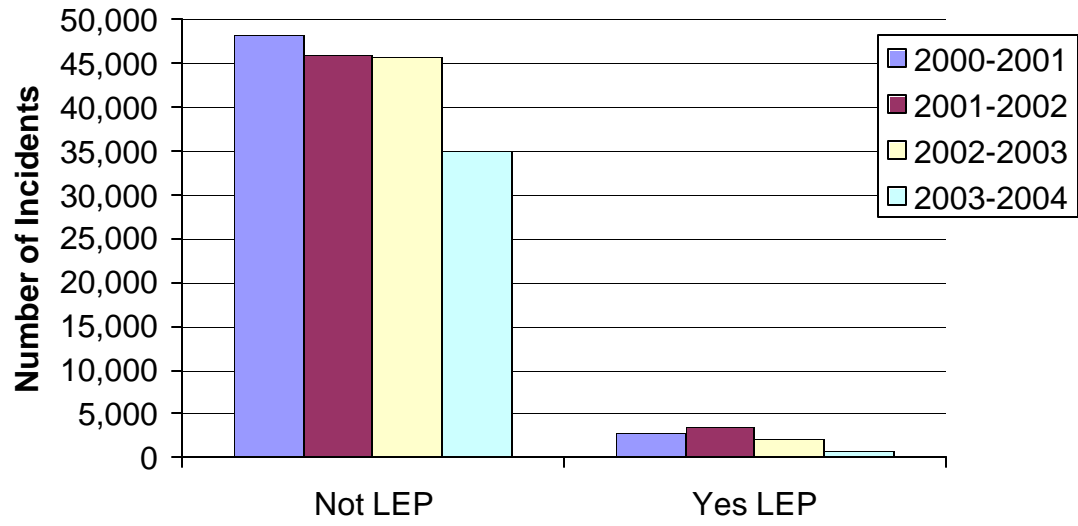
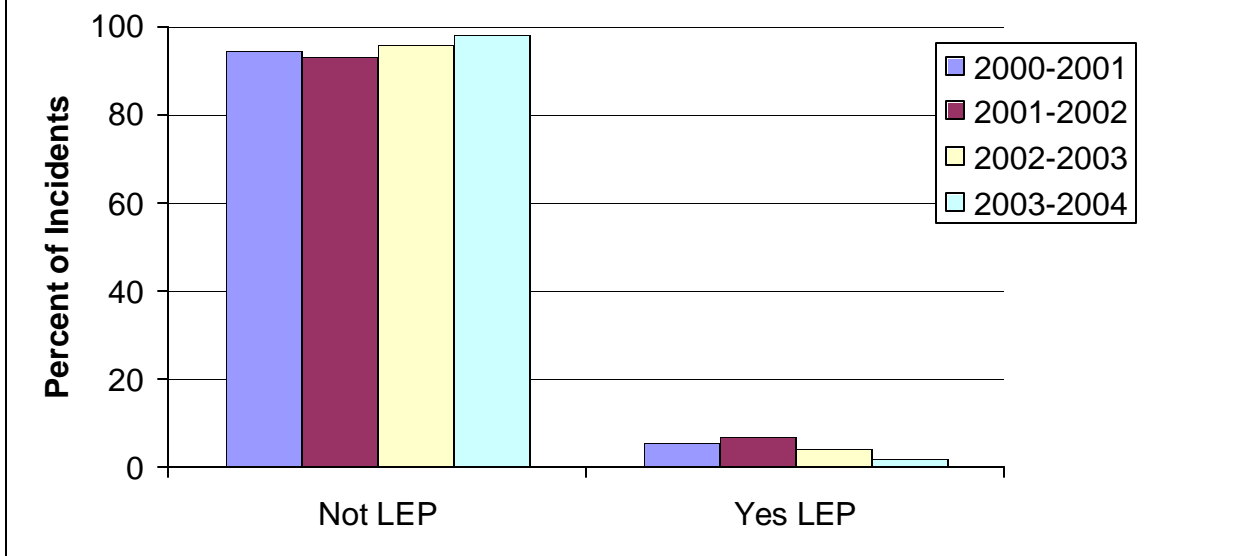


Figure 26. LEP Status of Offender (%) by School Year



DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN

Disciplinary incidents are categorized by one of six different disciplinary actions taken. Included below in Table 14 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by action taken for each school year included in this report. The vast majority of incidents in the DWDI dataset result in out-of-school suspensions. Figures 27 and 28 represent graphic illustrations of Table 14, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 14. Disciplinary Actions Taken

Disciplinary Action	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Out-of-School Suspension	50,293	98.47	38,228	98.11	56,050	98.21	34,827	97.37
Expulsion	192	0.38	127	0.33	208	0.36	154	0.43
Exclusion	62	0.12	38	0.10	79	0.14	61	0.17
Student Transferred	53	0.10	107	0.27	143	0.25	148	0.41
Handled Internally	413	0.81	413	1.06	496	0.87	524	1.47
Disabled Student to Alt. Setting	62	0.12	52	0.13	94	0.16	53	0.15
Total	51,075	100	38,965	100	57,070	100	35,767	100

Missing Data

10,861

2

Figure 27. Disciplinary Actions Taken (#) by School Year

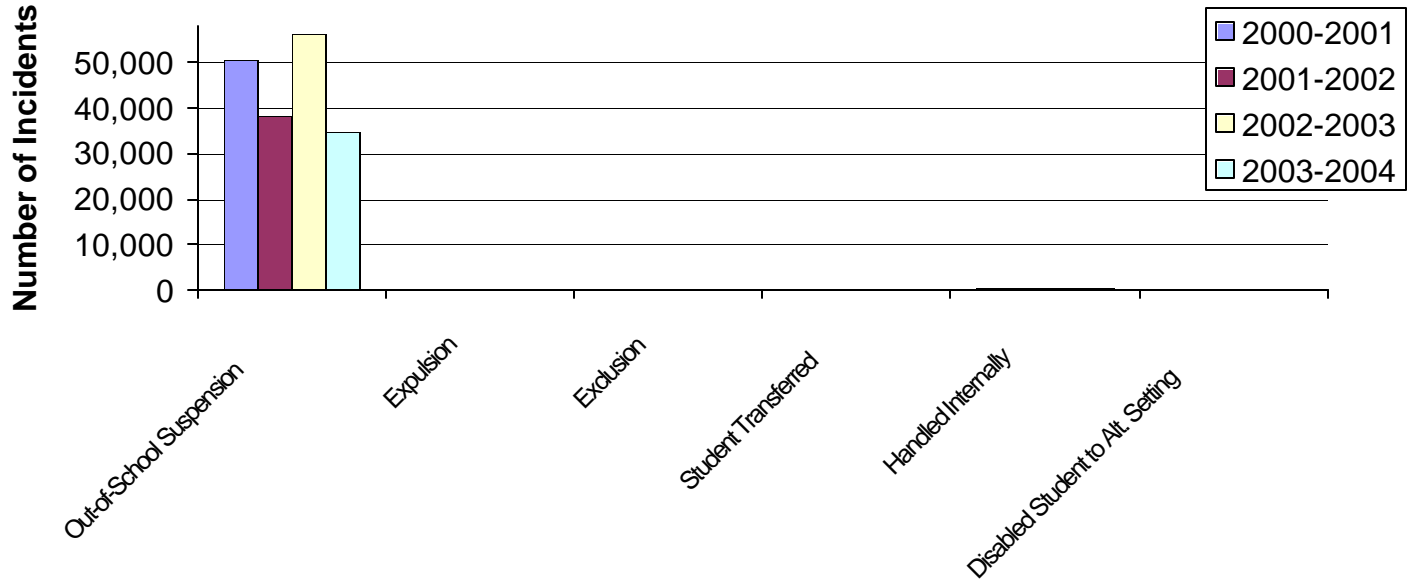
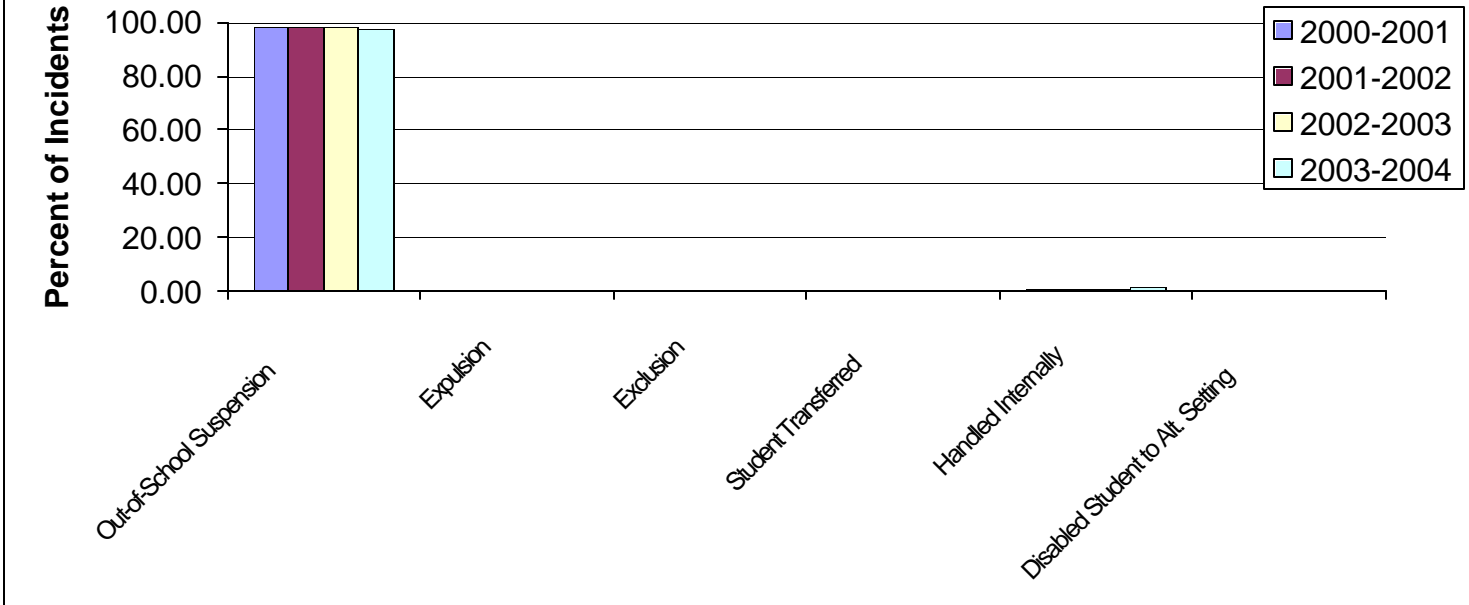


Figure 28. Disciplinary Actions Taken (%) by School Year



TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS SUSPENDED/OUT OF SCHOOL

The DWDI dataset also includes information from LEAs about how many days students were suspended or out of school. Included below in Table 15 are the mean number of days out of school, median number of days out of school and total (i.e., sum) number of days offenders were out of school as a result of disciplinary incidents.

Table 15. Number of Days Suspended/Out of School

Statistics	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004
Mean	2.68	2.87	2.89	3.06
Median	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Total Number of Days	137,096	124,570	138,748	109,621

REFERRALS MADE

Disciplinary incidents are categorized by whether a referral for follow-up was made for the student involved in the incident. Included below in Table 16 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by whether a referral was made for each school year included in this report. Between 17% and 21% of disciplinary incidents in the DWDI dataset are referred for follow-up. Figures 29 and 30 represent graphic illustrations of Table 16, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 16. Follow-Up Referrals

Referral Made For Follow-Up	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
No Referral	25,279	82.15	26,171	80.74	30,431	79.81	28,465	79.59
Yes Referral	5,493	17.85	6,241	19.26	7,698	20.19	7,301	20.41
Total	30,772	100	32,412	100	38,129	100	35,766	100
<i>Data Missing</i>	20,303		17,414		18,943		1	

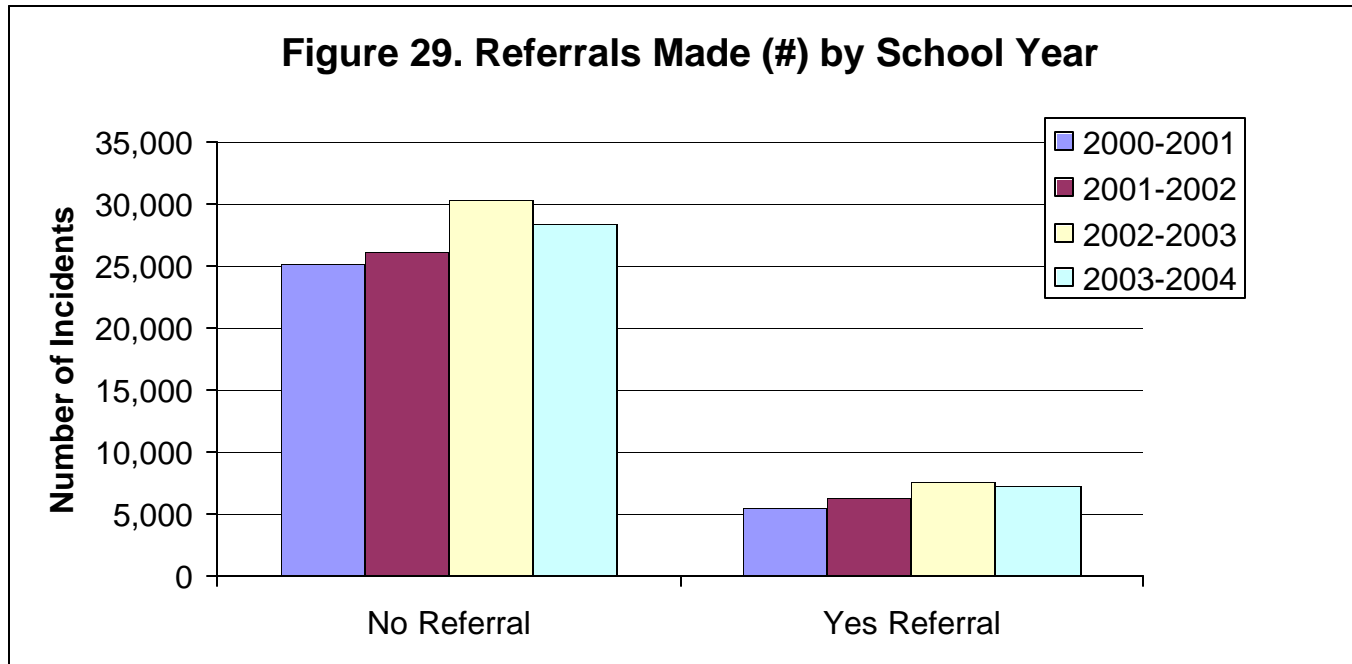
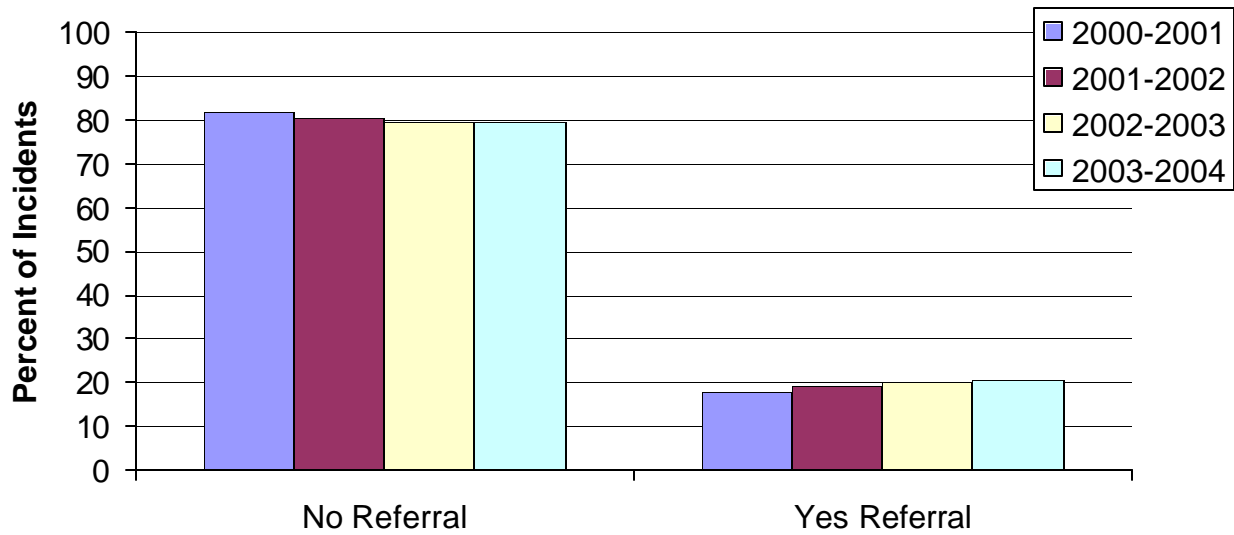


Figure 30. Referrals Made (%) by School Year



INTERVENTION PLANS

Disciplinary incidents are categorized by whether an intervention plan was developed for the student involved in the incident. Included below in Table 17 are the frequencies and percentages of disciplinary incidents by whether an intervention plan was developed for each school year included in this report. At least half of the disciplinary incidents in the DWDI dataset result in the development of an intervention plan. Figures 31 and 32 represent graphic illustrations of Table 17, using frequency of incidents and percent of incidents, respectively.

Table 17. Intervention Plan Development

Plan Developed?	2000-2001		2001-2002		2002-2003		2003-2004	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
No Plan	13,315	43.27	14,304	44.13	14,174	37.17	15,187	42.46
Yes Plan	17,456	56.73	18,108	55.87	23,955	62.83	20,579	57.54
Total	30,771	100	32,412	100	38,129	100	35,766	100
<i>Missing Data</i>	20,304		17,414		18,943		1	

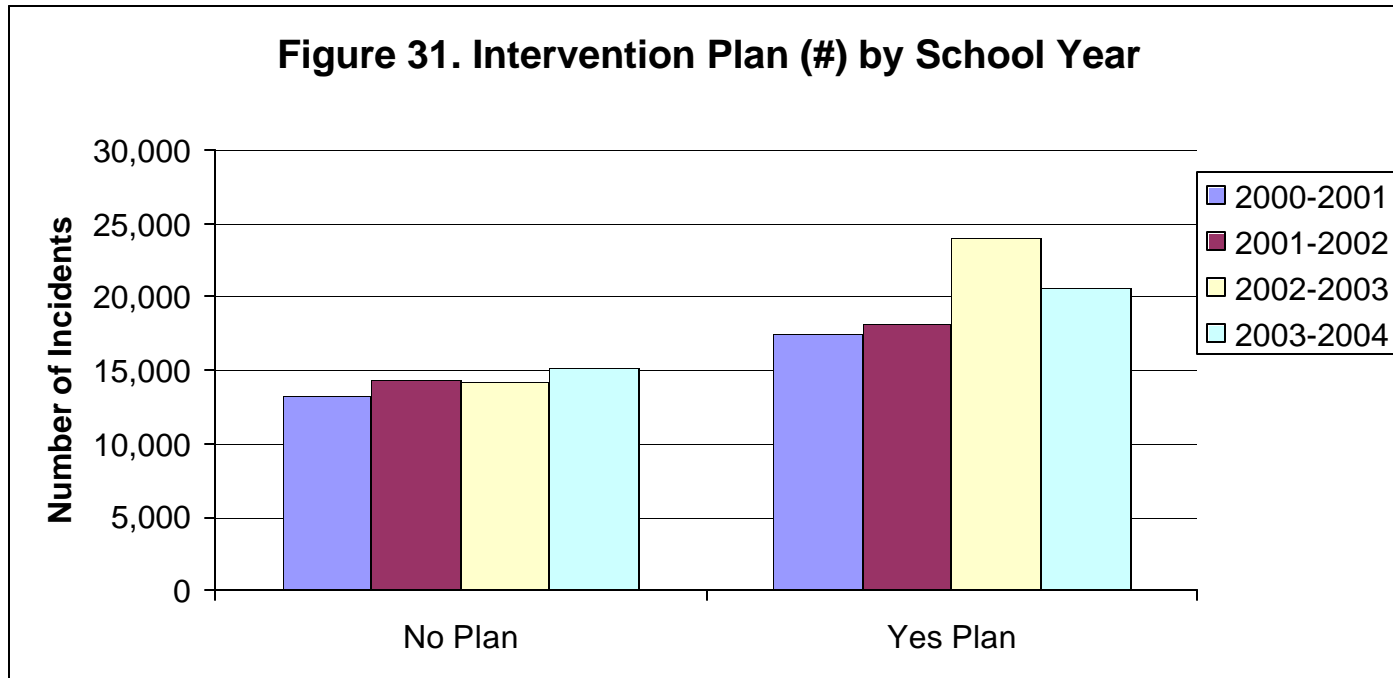
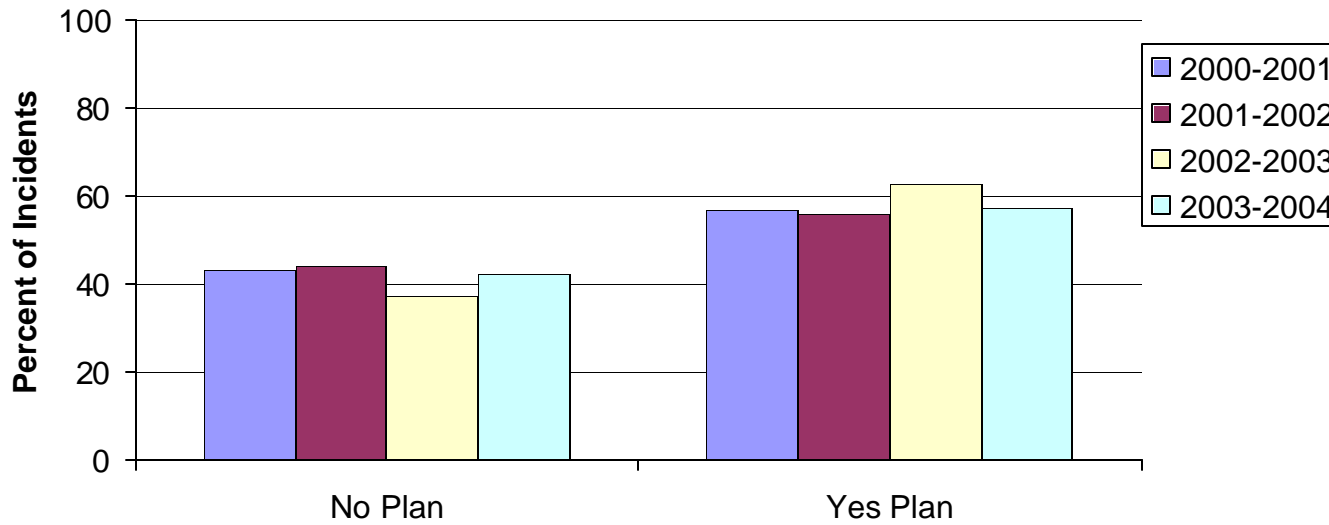


Figure 32. Intervention Plan (%) by School Year



APPENDIX A: DANGEROUS WEAPONS AND DISCIPLINARY INCIDENTS DATA COLLECTION FORM

Note: While most districts employed the DWDI on-line data entry system for their incident entry, MDE provided a hard copy form for those districts needing hard copy records of their data.

DISCIPLINARY INCIDENT/ DANGEROUS WEAPONS REPORT

GENERAL INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS: Incident information is required pursuant M.S. Section 127.26 to 127.39; Civil Rights Act of 1964; the Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, as amended to include the Gun-Free Schools Act, and M.S. Section 121.207, Subd. 2. This report is to be completed and returned to the above address. As this report will be machine scanned for data entry, please use **this original report** to make **GOOD, CLEAR** copies on white paper, and save the original for future copy-making. Complete form using black or blue ink only.

DISTRICT INFORMATION

District Number and Type	School Building Number	School Name
--------------------------	------------------------	-------------

INCIDENT INFORMATION

Please provide the following information about the incident.

Incident Number:

Date of Incident: / /

Time of Incident During school hours
 (check one): Outside of school hours

Category of Incident: Choose **ONE** category which best describes the incident. See category descriptions attached to this form.

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance | <input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco | <input type="checkbox"/> Arson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disorderly Conduct | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Assault/Fighting | <input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism/Property Related |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol | <input type="checkbox"/> Threat Intimidation | <input type="checkbox"/> Weapons Possession |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs (Other than alcohol) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Offense (Assault/Harassment) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Major Offense |

Dangerous Weapons: Identify the **MOST** dangerous weapon involved in this incident. (Skip to **Location** if no weapon was used.)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handgun | <input type="checkbox"/> B-B Gun | <input type="checkbox"/> Knife/Cutting Instrument | <input type="checkbox"/> Blunt Object |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long Gun (Rifle/Shotgun) | <input type="checkbox"/> Replica/Toy Gun | <input type="checkbox"/> Fire/Explosive | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Weapon |

Location of the Incident: Identify the area where the incident started. Choose **ONE**.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom | <input type="checkbox"/> Restroom | <input type="checkbox"/> School Bus | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Outdoor Area (On Campus) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hallway | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Indoor Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking Lot | <input type="checkbox"/> Off Campus |

OFFENDER INFORMATION

Please provide the following information about the offender.

Student ID Number*:

Grade: **Gender:** Male Female

(MARSS 13 Digit Number) If you do not know the student's MARSS number, please contact your MARSS coordinator.

Date of Birth: / /

Month Date Year

Offender Race: The manner of determining this information is left to the district policy or may be assigned based on sight.

- | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic | <input type="checkbox"/> Black, not Hispanic Origin | <input type="checkbox"/> White, not Hispanic Origin |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|

- Offender Status:** Non-Student Student of school of incident Student of another school Offender status unknown

Offender's School District Number:

District Type:

Building Number:

School Name: _____

Offender Disability Information:

Does this student have an IEP (receiving special education services)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Does this student have a Section 504 Accommodation Plan ?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

Offender Limited English Proficiency: YES NO

Offender's Primary Disability: Check the primary disability/enrollment status of the individual. Choose **ONE**.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Speech/Language Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Visually Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Autistic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mild-Moderate Mentally Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Learning Disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Special Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate-Severe Mentally Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Emotional/Behavioral Disorders | <input type="checkbox"/> Traumatic Brain Injury Disabled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physically Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf-Blindness | <input type="checkbox"/> Severely Multiply Impaired |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Impaired | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Health Impaired | |

DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN		Report only out-of-school suspensions of one full day or more. Fractions of a day should be rounded up; i.e., 2 ½ rounded to 3. DO NOT report in-school suspensions or suspensions of less than one day.
<input type="checkbox"/> Out-of-school suspension <input type="checkbox"/> Expulsion or Exclusion for dangerous weapons possession <input type="checkbox"/> Disabled student placed in an alternative educational setting <input type="checkbox"/> Student transferred <input type="checkbox"/> Student remains in school (other action taken)	^ Number of days suspended <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> ^ Number of days expelled or excluded <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>	How was disciplinary action determination made? <input type="checkbox"/> By school district personnel <input type="checkbox"/> By hearing officer

VICTIM INFORMATION		If there are multiple victims, complete one form per additional victim using the same incident number for each.
Were victims involved? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO → If "NO," skip to the Intervention Action plan section.		
Student ID Number*: <input style="width: 100px;" type="text"/>	Grade: <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>	Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth: <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>	*(MARSS 13 Digit Number) If you do not know the student's MARSS number, please contact your MARSS coordinator.	
Victim's Race: The manner of determining this information is left to the district policy or may be assigned based on sight.		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic <input type="checkbox"/> Black, not Hispanic Origin <input type="checkbox"/> White, not Hispanic Origin		
Victim's Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Employee/Staff (non-student) <input type="checkbox"/> Other non-student <input type="checkbox"/> Student of school of incident <input type="checkbox"/> Student of another school <input type="checkbox"/> Victim status unknown		
Victim's School District Number: <input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>	District Type: <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/>	Building Number: <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 30px;" type="text"/> School Name: _____

COSTS INCURRED DUE TO INCIDENT	
Were costs incurred as a result of this incident?	
<input type="checkbox"/> YES → (If "YES," estimate cost in whole dollars, no cents) →	Cost of the incident to the school : \$ <input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/> .00 Cost of the incident to the victim : \$ <input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/> .00
<input type="checkbox"/> NO	

INTERVENTION ACTION	
Was a referral made to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Is there an intervention plan to reduce the possibility of a recurrence of this or similar incident?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION			To be filled out by individual completing this form.
_____ Typed / Printed Name of Person Completing this Report	_____ Title of Person Completing this Report	_____/_____/_____ Date of Report Completion	
Phone Number: (_____) - _____ - _____		FAX Number: (_____) - _____ - _____	

APPENDIX B: MINNESOTA STATUTE 121A.06

[Minnesota Statutes 2004, Table of Chapters](#)

[Table of contents for Chapter 121A](#)

121A.06 Reports of dangerous weapon incidents in school zones.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** As used in this section:

(1) "dangerous weapon" has the meaning given it in section [609.02](#), subdivision 6;

(2) "school" has the meaning given it in section [120A.22](#), subdivision 4; and

(3) "school zone" has the meaning given it in section [152.01](#), subdivision 14a, clauses (1) and (3).

Subd. 2. **Reports; content.** By January 1, 1994, the commissioner, in consultation with the criminal and juvenile information policy group, shall develop a standardized form to be used by schools to report incidents involving the use or possession of a dangerous weapon in school zones. The form shall include the following information:

(1) a description of each incident, including a description of the dangerous weapon involved in the incident;

(2) where, at what time, and under what circumstances the incident occurred;

(3) information about the offender, other than the offender's name, including the offender's age; whether the offender was a student and, if so, where the offender attended school; and whether the offender was under school expulsion or suspension at the time of the incident;

(4) information about the victim other than the victim's name, if any, including the victim's age; whether the victim was a student and, if so, where the victim attended school; and if the victim was not a student, whether the victim was employed at the school;

(5) the cost of the incident to the school and to the victim; and

(6) the action taken by the school administration to respond to the incident.

The commissioner also shall develop an alternative reporting format that allows school districts to provide aggregate data, with an option to use computer technology to report the data.

Subd. 3. **Reports; filing requirements.** By February 1 and July 1 of each year, each school shall report incidents involving the use or possession of a dangerous weapon in school zones to the commissioner. The reports must be made on the standardized forms or using the alternative format developed by the commissioner under subdivision 2. The commissioner shall compile the information it receives from the schools and report it annually to the commissioner of public safety, the criminal and juvenile information policy group, and the legislature.

HIST: 1993 c 326 art 1 s 1; 1Sp1995 c 3 art 9 s 7,8; art 16 s 13; 1998 c 397 art 9 s 1,2,26; art 11 s 3

Copyright 2004 by the Office of Revisor of Statutes, State of Minnesota.