

Ohio's Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Data Summary

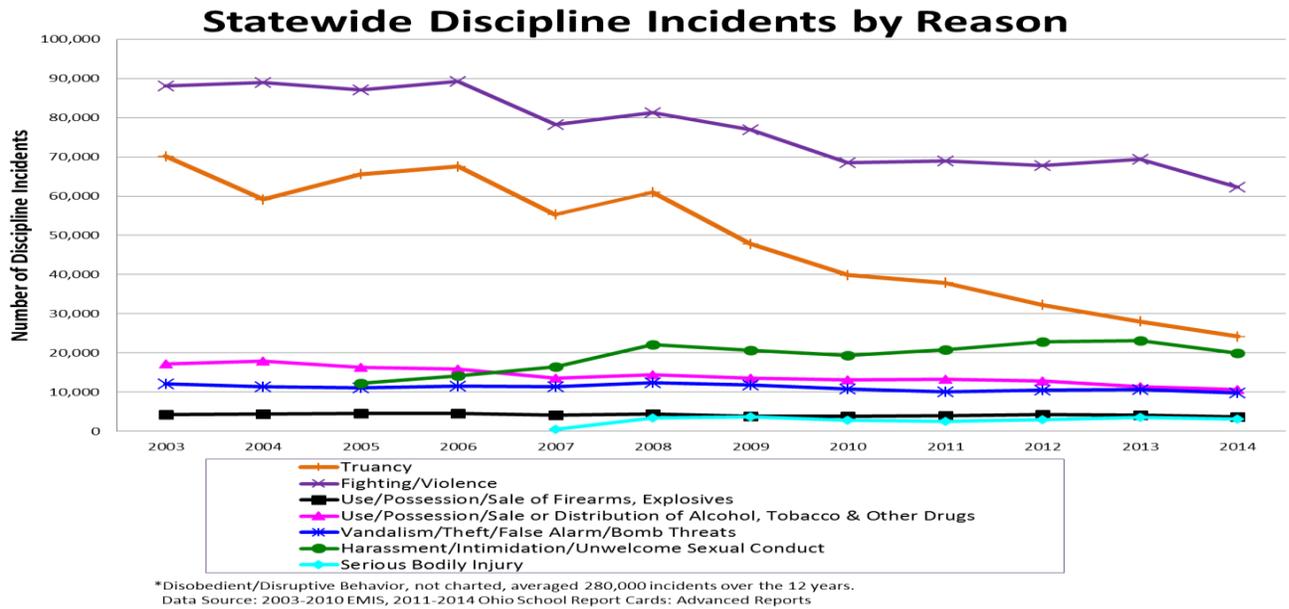
To ensure the safety of Ohio's students, the Ohio Revised Code 3313.666 requires all school districts that receive federal funding to have a policy prohibiting harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Ohio's Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying model policy contains procedures for reporting, documenting and investigating incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying including cyber bullying. Ohio's Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying model policy also delineates responsibilities for school personnel when addressing bullying behavior and presents student intervention strategies.

Ohio's Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying model policy defines harassment, intimidation or bullying as any intentional written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibited toward other particular student more than once and the behavior causes mental or physical harm to the other student; is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student, including violence within a dating relationship, and an act committed through electronic means including the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

During the 2015-2016 school year the Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Initiative reviewed data on bullying behavior collected by state agencies to determine the state of bullying behavior over the past nine years. The following data sets were used for this purpose, ODE EMIS data which reflects discipline for the reason of harassment, intimidation and bullying, Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data which is student self-report data from ODH and the School Health Index data from secondary school principals to determine strengths and weakness in school policies for promoting health and safety also from ODH.

Trends in bullying in Ohio

The Ohio Department of Education's Education Management Information System (EMIS) is a statewide data collection system for Ohio's primary and secondary education, including demographic information, attendance, course information, financial data, test results and student discipline data. Districts EMIS data accounts for school and district incidents of bullying, harassment and intimidation based on student discipline. Students who are suspended or expelled for harassment, intimidation and bullying are reported in EMIS. The following slide is an aggregate report of discipline data reported to the Ohio Department of Education through EMIS for the discipline reason harassment, intimidation and bullying.



In Ohio, school districts were required to have an Anti-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying policy in place by December of 2007. During the 2006-2007 school year 10,811 students were suspended or expelled for harassment, intimidation and bullying/unwelcome sexual conduct. During the 2007-2008, there was a slight increase with 13,996 students suspended or expelled for these behaviors. Discipline numbers declined during the 2008– 2009 school year with only 13,326 students suspended or expelled, and 13,028 students suspended or expelled during the 2009-2010 school year. However, students disciplined for harassment, intimidation and bullying/unwelcome sexual conduct increased during the 2010-2011 school year with 13,484 students disciplined, 14,487 students suspended or expelled during the 2011-2012 school year and 15,462 students during the 2012-2013 school year. During the 2013-2014 school year there was a decline with 13,195 students suspended or expelled with for harassment, intimidation and bullying/unwelcome sexual conduct. In the 2014-2015 school year 13,939 students were suspended or expelled and during the 2015-2016 school year 15,010 students were suspended or expelled for harassment, intimidation and bullying/unwelcome sexual conduct. Since the 2006-2007 school year there has been an increase in reporting discipline incidents for students suspended or expelled for harassment, intimidation and bullying/unwelcome sexual conduct.

How to compare local bullying statistics to state data

Through the State Report Card, schools, districts and community agencies can access the number of students that have been suspended or expelled for harassment, intimidation and bullying using the Advanced Reports option. The following is a link to the State Report Card to access district and school discipline data on harassment, intimidation and bullying (<http://reportcard.education.ohio.gov/Pages/Power-User-Reports.aspx>).

Working with the school district EMIS Coordinator or building principal would allow school and community professionals to obtain their district or school building discipline data.

Analysis of the discipline data using harassment, intimidation and bullying as the discipline reason will help school and community professionals identify the amount of bullying behavior addressed through discipline each school year. Other discipline reasons to review would be disruptive behavior and fighting and violence. Student behavior in these areas may be related to harassment, intimidation and bullying. Schools may also use data sources that report student behavior that is not reported in EMIS this data should be reviewed as well to determine the needs for schoolwide and targeted interventions.

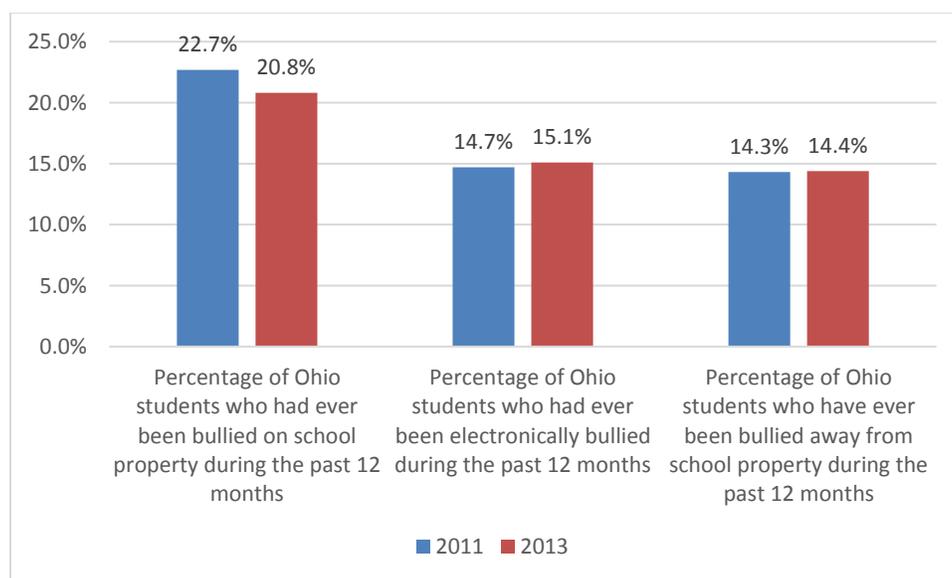
How to determine local ‘priorities/needs’ areas based on local data

The Ohio Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is part of a nationwide surveying effort conducted every two years in a sample of high schools across the state. This effort is led by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to monitor students' health risks and behaviors in six categories identified as most likely to result in adverse outcomes. These categories include unintentional injury and violence; tobacco use; alcohol and other drug use; sexual behaviors that contribute to unintended pregnancy and disease; dietary behaviors; and physical inactivity.

The YRBS is the largest public health surveillance system in the U.S. and the only reliable source of health behavior data for the teen population in Ohio. Ohio has participated in the YRBS since 1993 and has obtained weighted data every two years, except in 1995, 2001, and 2009. The YRBS data are used at the state and local levels to:

- compare Ohio's progress to achieving national objectives for *Healthy People 2020*
- assess trends in priority health-risk behaviors among high school students
- evaluate the impact of school board and community interventions and
- provide data for informed legislative, policy and practice decisions

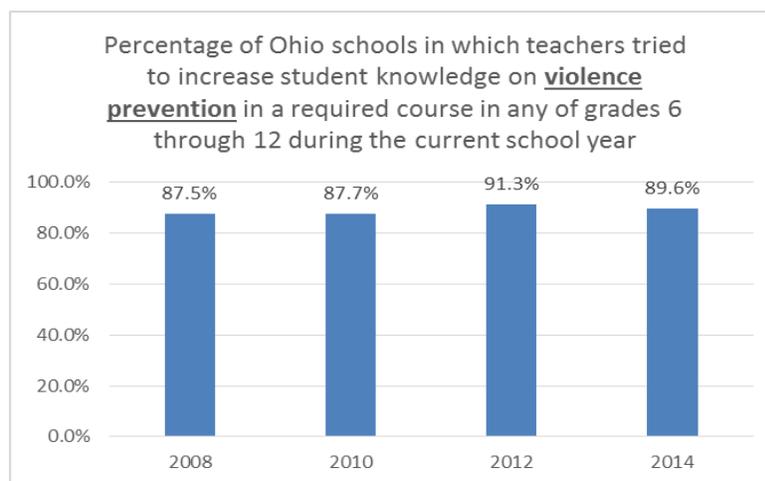
Based on 2011-2013 YRBS data, approximately 21% of Ohio students have been bullied on school property in the past year; approximately 14% have been electronically bullied in the past year; and approximately 14% have been bullied away from school property in the past year.



The Ohio School Health Profiles Survey (SHP) is a system of surveys created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that are used to assess school health policies and practices in states, large urban school districts, territories, and tribal governments. Surveys are conducted every two years by the Ohio Department of Health among middle and high schools and lead health education teachers. Profiles monitor the status of:

- School health education requirements and content
- Physical education and physical activity
- School health policies related to HIV infection/AIDS, tobacco-use prevention, and nutrition
- Asthma management activities
- Family and community involvement in school health programs
- School health coordination

Based on 2008-2014 SHP data, approximately 90% of Ohio schools attempt to increase student knowledge on violence prevention.



Tools, strategies, and resources to mitigate priorities/needs in Ohio schools at local level

The Ohio Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a general education initiative, supporting all children and youth. PBIS is a decision-making framework that guides selection, integration, and implementation of the best evidence-based academic and behavioral practices for improving important academic and behavioral outcomes for all students.

PBIS emphasizes four integrated elements: data for decision-making, measurable outcomes supported and evaluated by data, practices with evidence that these outcomes are achievable, and systems that efficiently and effectively support implementation of these practices. School and community professionals can use EMIS data, YRBS data, and SHP data to inform decision-making and determine practices and outcomes that are achievable, measurable and support the identified practices in the school. Utilization of the most appropriate strategies to reduce and/or prevent harassment, intimidation, and bullying will ultimately lead to safer schools for Ohio students.

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