How to Find School Discipline Data: Behaviors and Length of Exclusion

Washington's Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction publishes data on student discipline in every school district in the state. If you have the Microsoft Excel program, you can download the data and review it. To find the data:

Step 1: Go to http://www.k12.wa.us/DataAdmin/PerformanceIndicators/DataAnalytics.aspx#discipline

Step 2: Scroll down to number 13 in the table, and click on 13.Discipline

Graduation		
6. Dual Credit Programs	The percentage of students enrolled in dual credit programs and the percentage of students who earned dual credits and certificates (e.g., AP, IB, Running Start, Tech Prep)	Dual Credit Programs State Report Card
7. SAT and ACT	The percentage of students who took the SAT and ACT, and the average SAT and ACT scores earned	
8. Postsecondary Enrollment and Remediation	The percentage of high school graduates who were academically prepared and attended postsecondary education institutions within one year of graduating high school	High School Feedback Reports
9. Financial Aid for College	The percentage of students who accessed financial aid for college	Financial Aid Overview
10. Postsecondary Persistence	Percentage of students who persisted in postsecondary programs and completed certificates and degrees	
11. Graduation Rates	Four-year and five-year graduation rates	Graduation and Dropout Statistics Graduation: A Team Effort
12. 9th Grade Course Failure	ELA, math, and science course failure rates in 9th grade	
13. Discipline	Suspensions and expulsions	**CLICK HERE!** Equity in Discipline
14. Attendance	Attendance, especially chronic absenteeism	Attendance

Step 3: Download the data file entitled "Discipline Behavior (School Years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15)"

13. Discipline

What do these discipline data show?
- How many students are suspended or expelled
- Who is suspended or expelled (by race, sex, program, etc.)

What do the discipline behavior data show?
- How many times students are suspended or expelled
- How long are they removed
- For which behaviors

Data Files
- Discipline Rates (School years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15) (updated 04/2016)
- Raw Discipline Data with original data suppression labels: 1-5, n<20, suppressed (does not include Section 504 student group data)
- Discipline Behavior (School years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15) (12/07/15)

Helpful Resources
- Data and Analytics: Suspension and Expulsion (Explanatory PowerPoint introducing discipline analytics, May 2015)
- Explaining Proportionality (one-page PDF)
- Measuring Disproportionality in Discipline and using the Composition Index
- Behaviors associated with Suspensions and Expulsions (Explanatory PowerPoint PDF, December 2015)
- Behavior Code Descriptions (one-page, back to back PDF) (Word)
- OSPI Discipline Equity website for more information and resources

Video Tutorials
- Discipline Data Basics (9 mins, MP4)
- Discipline Data Power View (8 mins, MP4)
- Behavior and Length of Removal (41 mins, WMV, December 2015)

CLICK HERE!

Step 4: Watch the video tutorial on how to navigate the data (on the same page as you downloaded the data)

Step 5: Review the data for the following questions:

a) What behaviors are most frequently the cause of suspension and expulsion in your district?

b) What percentage of suspension and expulsion in your district is due to non-violent behaviors, such as disruptive conduct, failure to cooperate, or "other behavior"?

c) Are students of color disproportionately suspended or expelled for non-violent behaviors, such as disruptive conduct, failure to cooperate, or "other behavior?

d) How many instructional days did students in your school district lose to suspension and expulsion?