



2017-18 Incident Report

Contents

2017-18 Incident Report.....	1
Background.....	1
Key Findings.....	1
Introduction.....	2
Background.....	2
Incident Data Collection	2
Overall Findings	3
Comparison with SY 2017.....	3
Disciplines Reported.....	3
Incidents by Grade Level and Demographics	3
Incidents by Grade Level	3
Incidents by Demographics	4
Incidents by Race/Ethnicity.....	4
Incidents by Infraction Category	5

Background

- USBE has been working with District and Charter Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to improve incident data reporting. As a result of this effort there was a large increase in the number of incidents reported to USBE in the 2017-2018 school year (SY 2018). It is believed that incident data is still underreported, and incident counts are expected to continue to increase. Until complete statewide incident data reporting can be achieved, year to year comparisons of incident rates should only be made in regard to the rate at which incidents are reported.

Key Findings

- A majority of LEAs (89%) reported incident data in SY 2018. 54,923 primary incident records were submitted to USBE, which is a 55% increase as compared with incidents reported in SY 2017.
- 27,695 students, or 4% of enrolled students, were reported with one or more incident.
- 10,476 students, or 1.5% of enrolled students were reported with one or more discipline (suspension or expulsion) as a result of an incident.
- Nearly a third of infraction types reported were truancies (32%).

Introduction

Background

USBE has been working with LEAs to identify and solve problems that have led to a systemic issue of behavioral incident data underreporting. National data, including SHARP survey data, as well as feedback and anecdotal information received from schools support the belief that behavioral incident data is underreported to USBE. The primary issues that have been identified include complications related to incident data tracking software and student information systems, a lack of clear directives from USBE on what must be reported, and misunderstandings about what the data can and will be used for. USBE has been working with LEAs to solve these issues and improve behavioral incident data reporting.

As a result of this effort there was a large increase in the number of incidents reported to USBE in SY 2018. Despite the increase in reporting in SY 2018 it is believed that incident data is still being underreported to USBE and incident counts are expected to continue to increase as this is resolved. As such, until complete statewide incident data reporting can be achieved, year to year comparisons of incident rates should only be made in regard to the rate at which incidents are reported (rather than any implied rate of occurrence).

Incident Data Collection

USBE collects incident data that is entered and reported through the local student information systems and submitted to the Utah Transcript Record Exchange (UTREx). An incident may involve one or more student, and each student may be reported with one primary infraction and up to four secondary infraction types, as well as one primary weapon and up to four secondary weapons. If the student receives a suspension or expulsion as a result of the incident the discipline type and total duration should be reported. Information can also be reported for victims of incidents, though very little victim data is reported. Victim data is not included in this report. This report only includes information on primary infractions and weapons. Infraction types include:

- Arson
- Assault, physical or sexual
- Bullying
- Disruption
- Fighting (mutual altercation)
- Harassment, non-sexual (physical, verbal, psychological), or sexual (unwelcomed sexual assault)
- Homicide
- Robbery
- Drug or substance violations, including alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, controlled and uncontrolled substances, and distribution
- Terroristic Threat
- Threat/intimidation (causing fear or harm)
- Truancy
- Weapon (Weapon types include guns: handgun, shotgun, rifle, or look-alike; knife or other sharp object; other explosive device; other object used as a weapon; and substance used as a weapon)
- Other

Overall Findings

For the 2018 school year there were 54,923 records of primary infractions reported to USBE. A total of 27,695 students were reported with one or more incident. 17,745 had only one incident reported and 9,950 had more than one incident reported. The number of students enrolled in SY 2018 (for at least 10 days) was 688,260, thus the percentage of students with an incident reported is 4%. For the 2018 school year 137 out of 154 LEAs (89%) reported one or more incident to USBE.

Comparison with SY 2017

For the 2017 school year there were 35,435 records of primary infractions reported to USBE. A total of 17,141 students were reported with one or more incident. The number of students enrolled in SY 2017 (for at least 10 days) was 681,040, thus the percentage of students with an incident reported was 2.5%. For the 2017 school year 73 out of 150 LEAs (49%) reported one or more incident to USBE. There have been big improvements in incident data reporting, though SHARP survey data suggests that actual incident rates (especially bullying rates) are much higher than have been reported.

Disciplines Reported

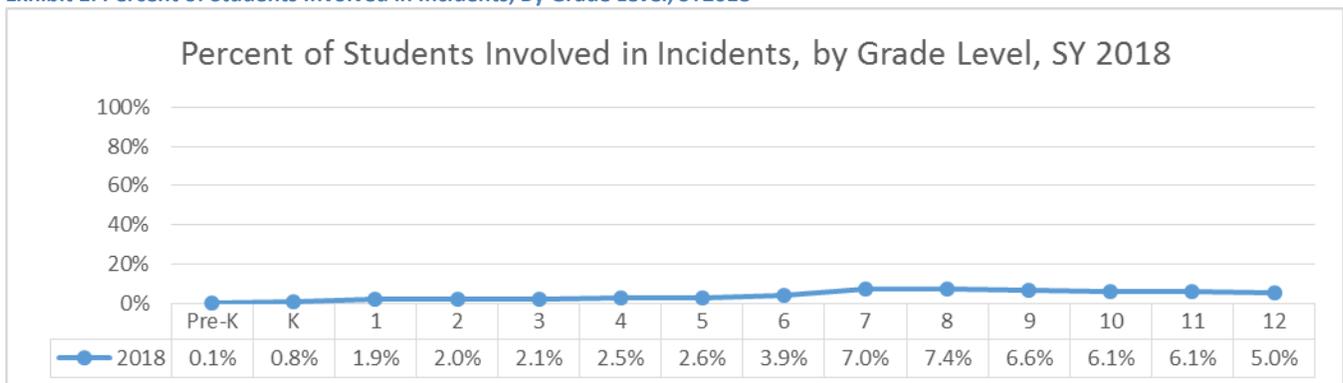
In SY 2018 a total of 15,240 of the 54,923 incidents (27.7%) were reported with a discipline. Among the 27,695 students with an incident reported, 10,476 (37.8%) had a discipline reported. This is 1.5% of the students enrolled during the 2018 school year. A majority of disciplines (73.7%) were out-of-school suspensions, followed by in-school suspensions (26.1%), and expulsions (0.2%). Suspensions can be reported in increments of one tenth of a day. The average duration for disciplines was 1.5 days for in-school suspensions, 3 days for out-of-school suspensions, and 41 days for expulsions.

Incidents by Grade Level and Demographics

Incidents by Grade Level

By grade level the percentage of students reported with an incident stayed low in grades Pre-K through five (below 3%), began to climb in grade six (3.9%) and seven (7%), and peaked in grade eight (7.4%).

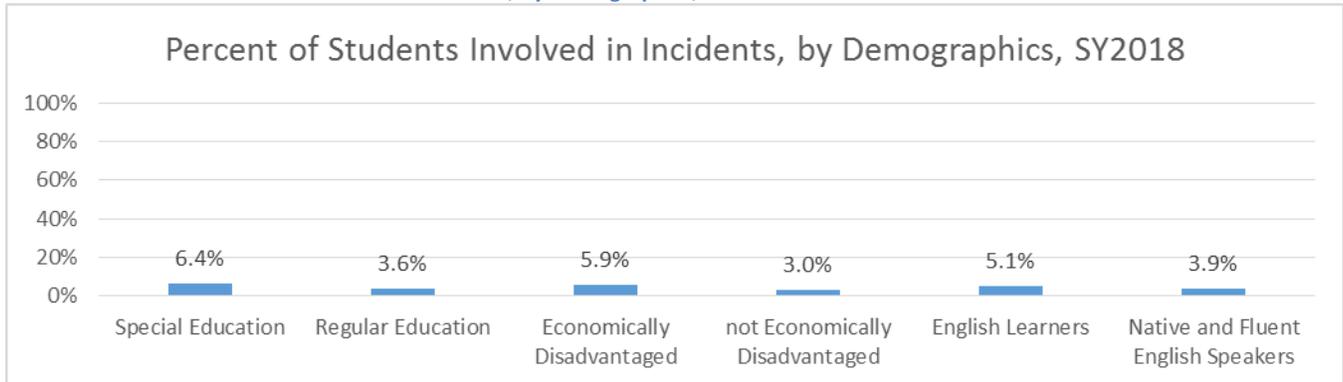
Exhibit 1. Percent of Students Involved in Incidents, By Grade Level, SY2018



Incidents by Demographics

By demographic group, higher percentages of students who are in Special Education, are economically disadvantaged, or are English learners have incidents reported than their counterparts. The biggest gap is in the economically disadvantaged student group. The percentage of economically disadvantaged students who have one or more incident reported is nearly double the percentage of students who are not economically disadvantaged who have had one or more incident reported (5.9% compared with 3%).

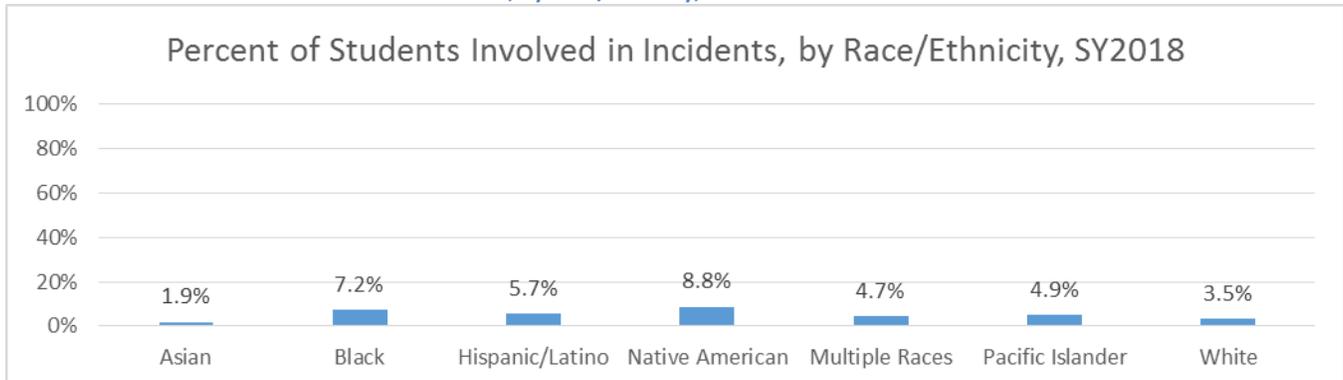
Exhibit 2. Percent of Students Involved in Incidents, By Demographics, SY2018



Incidents by Race/Ethnicity

By racial/ethnic group, higher percentages of students who are identity as Native American, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Pacific Islander have incidents reported than the state average. The biggest gap is with Native American students. The percentage of Native American students who have one or more incident reported is more than double the state average (8.8% compared with 4%). The percentage of Black/African American students who have one or more incident reported is second highest at 7.2%. The percentage of Asian students who have one or more incident reported is lowest at 1.9%.

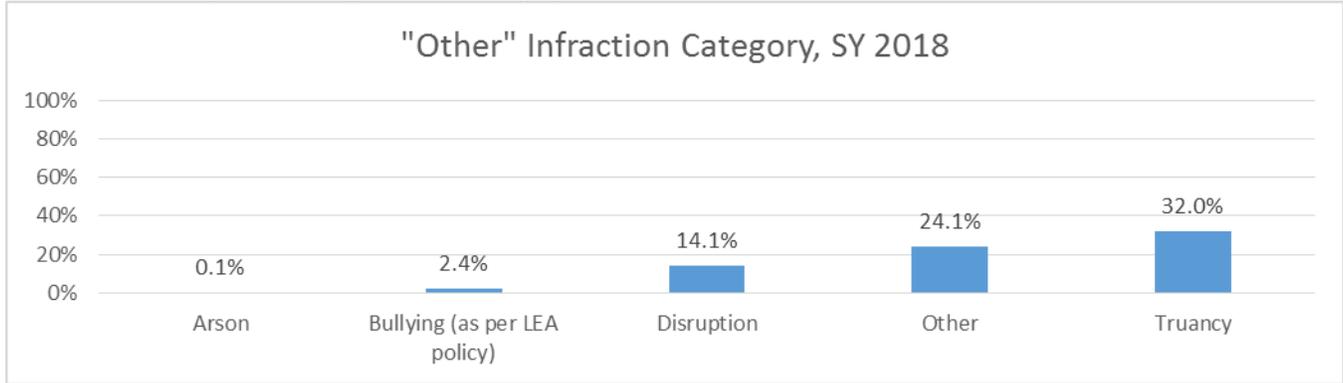
Exhibit 3. Percent of Students Involved in Incidents, By Race/Ethnicity, SY2018



Incidents by Infraction Category

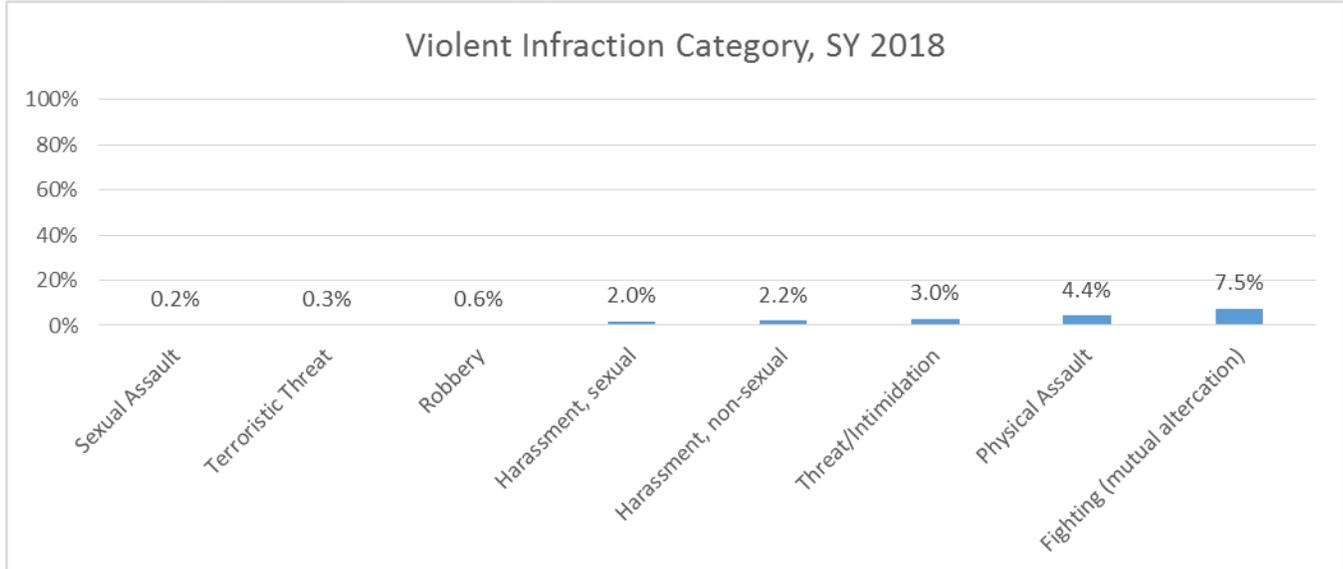
Infractions are grouped into four categories. In 2018, the “Other” infraction category accounted for the majority of the 54,923 infractions reported (72.8%), with a plurality of these infractions being truanancies (17,584, or 32% of all infractions).

Exhibit 4. Incidents by Infraction Type, "Other" Category, SY2018



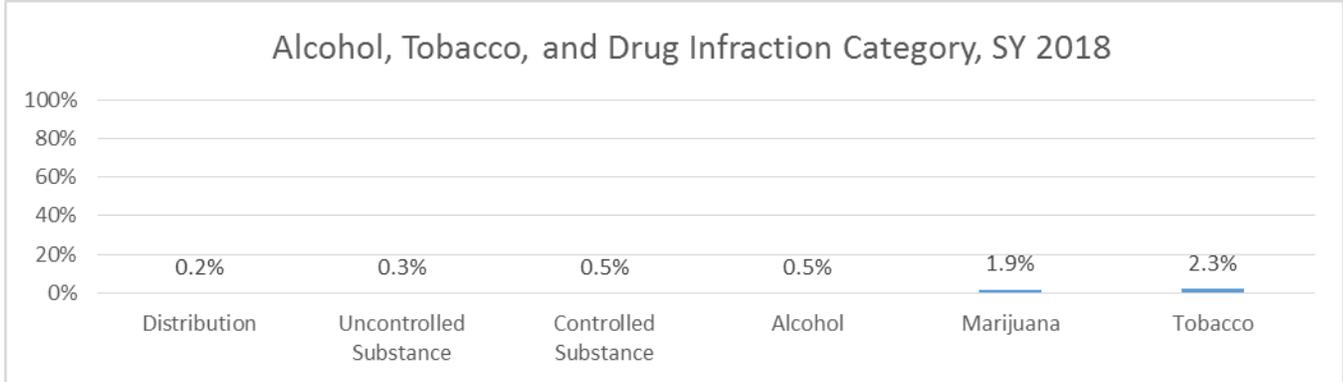
The “Violent” infraction category accounted for the next highest percentage of all infractions reported (20.2%), with a plurality of these infractions being for fighting (4,115, or 7.5% of all infractions).

Exhibit 5. Incidents by Infraction Type, Violent Category, SY2018



The “Alcohol, Tobacco, Drug” infraction category accounted for 5.6% of all infractions reported, with a plurality being for tobacco (1,236, or 2.3% of all infractions), followed closely by Marijuana (1,058, or 1.9% of all infractions).

Exhibit 6. Incidents by Infraction Type, Alcohol, Tobacco, Drug Category, SY2018



The remainder of infractions were reported as Weapon infractions (753, or 1.4% of all infractions), though over a fifth of the weapon infractions were reported as “none”. A majority of the weapons infractions were reported as “knife or other sharp object” (421, or 0.8% of all infractions), followed by “none” and “look alike” (76, or 0.1% of all infractions).

Exhibit 7. Incidents by Infraction Type, Weapon Category, SY2018

