

# WORCESTER, MA (2009-10)

Suspension Rate K-12 for All Students: 22.7%

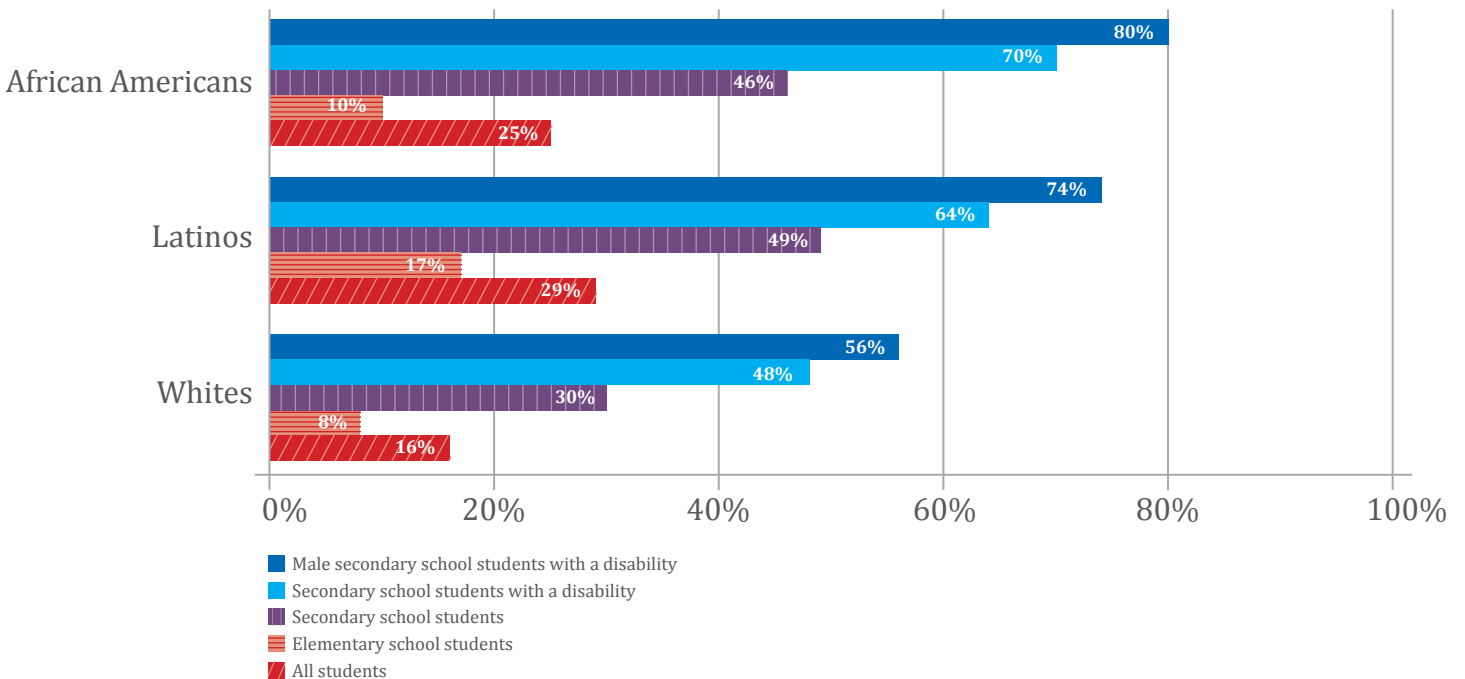
Suspension Rate for All Secondary School Students: 38.0%

Number of Students Suspended One or More Times: 5,460

Number of Secondary School Students Suspended One or More Times: 3,750

Disaggregation by school level, race and disability status reveals profound disparities in the risk for out of school suspensions. The graph below and detailed tables that follow describe deep disparities along the lines of race, gender, disability status and English learner status that are much greater at the secondary school level than at the elementary school level.

**Figure 1: Risk for Suspension at the Elementary and Secondary Levels by Selected Subgroups**



In Worcester, the risk for suspension grew from elementary to secondary school as follows: 22 points for Whites; 32 points for Latinos; and 36 points for Black students. However, for each racial group it was males with disabilities enrolled at the secondary level that experienced an extremely high risk for suspension.

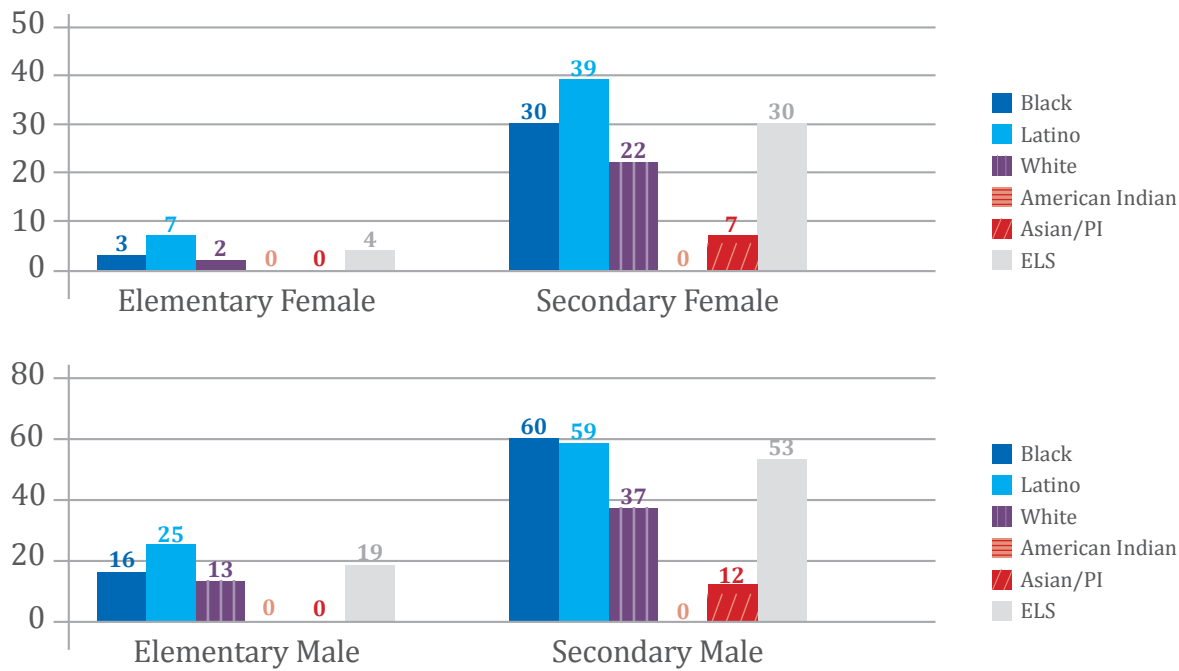
**Table 1: Students with Disabilities Compared to Students without Disabilities by Race and School Level**

Worcester	Elementary School Students Without Disabilities	Elementary School Students With Disabilities	Secondary School Students Without Disabilities	Secondary School Students With Disabilities
White	5%	18%	25%	48%
Latino	13%	29%	43%	64%
Black	8%	18%	40%	70%
American Indian	0%	0%	16%	N/A
Asian/PI	0%	0%	0%	9%

Note: All numbers rounded to the nearest whole number; only included if 100 students enrolled in subgroup were enrolled.

In Worcester, the gap between Black and White students ranged between 3 points for elementary students without disabilities to 22 points for students with disabilities at the secondary level. The Latino/White gap also increased at the secondary school level.

**Figure 2: Percentage of Enrolled Subgroup Suspended at Least Once by Race and English Learner Status (ELS) with Gender by School Level**



Note: All numbers rounded to the nearest whole number.

The graph shows a steep rise in the risk for suspension at the secondary level in Worcester that is especially large for Blacks male students and Latino male students. Most notable is that three out of five Black secondary school males were suspended at least once. Second, is that English learners males also experienced an unusually large 34 percentage point increase in their risk for suspension at the secondary school level. Third, Latinas at the secondary level were suspended at the highest rate for females.

## Hot Spot and Lower-Suspending Secondary Schools in Worcester:

Research has indicated that profound differences in the rates of suspension can be found at the school level within the same district. The second and third columns in the chart below show the number of secondary schools in Worcester that suspended 25% or more and 50% or more of any subgroup by race/ethnicity, gender, disability status, or English learner status. The fourth column shows the number of schools that suspended 25% of their total enrollment without disaggregation and the last column shows the number of schools that did not suspend more than 10% of any subgroup.

**Table 2: Number of Hot Spots and Lower -Suspending Secondary Schools for All Groups in Worcester**

Number of Secondary Schools	Suspended Any Group Over 25%	Suspended Any Group Over 50%	All Student Rate Over 25%	Suspended No Group Over 10%
11	10	8	10	0

- Almost all secondary schools in Worcester suspended over 25% of their student body in the aggregate.
- Most of Worcester's secondary schools (10) suspended at least one subgroup at that high rate.
- Of these, 8 secondary schools suspended at least one subgroup at a rate of 50% of their total enrollment.
- Worcester had no lower-suspending secondary schools.
- This analysis did not look at race with disability with gender at the secondary school level.

**Where to find out more about Worcester or other school districts:** The information in these charts are available for every school district that reported its data to OCR in 2009-10. For your convenience we have provided a two-page analysis like that of Worcester above for 20 large districts representing every region of the United States.

**The full set of analyzed data on every district OCR collected data from in 2009-10 are available via the spreadsheets posted (along with instructions) on our website.** The excel sheet allows users to sort and filter by all the indicators represented in these graphs and tables, and also to compare district data to districts within each state or across the nation. Much of this information will soon be available by using a web tool on our website that will allow for some degree of comparison. Additional data on school discipline, for 2011-12, that is otherwise identical to the raw data analyzed for this report can be obtained by filing a Freedom of Information Act request with your school district. Moreover in Massachusetts, discipline data for the 2011-12 school year will be posted on the state's website here: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/apa/dart/default.html>.