



Quick Facts

The Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Program Data for End of Year 2006-2007 *

During the 2006 – 2007 school year, 60 funded programs served 7,743 students. Program staff reported the following data at the end of the school year.

Of the students receiving services through Expelled and At-Risk Student Services (EARSS) funding, 49% reduced at least one failing grade; 52% of students improved their attendance; 52% of youth with a history of discipline problems reduced their number of office referrals; 52% have demonstrated other measures of academic success; and 54% have improved their social and emotional functioning.

Of the students served by these funds, approximately 978 students were expelled and 6,765 were at-risk of expulsion. The state reports 2,381 expulsion incidents for the 2006-2007 school year. This is a duplicate count of expelled students. Therefore we know that at least 41% of expelled students were served by EARSS funding.

Most students served were male (64%). 36% of students were female.

Of the 7743 students served, 46% were Caucasian, 42% were Hispanic/ Latino, 6% were African American, 4% were American Indian, and 1% was Asian/Pacific Islander.

The grant funds require that students served in these programs are either expelled or at-risk of expulsion. For 6,765 students, the reasons for being at-risk of expulsion included:

	<i># Students</i>	<i>% of Students</i>
Truancy	2,236	33%
Disobedient Behavior	1,503	22%
Alcohol tobacco or other drug use	1,064	16%
Bullying/Harassing Behavior	763	11%
Fights or other Violent Behavior	545	8%
Other:	289	4%
Suspensions for reasons not detailed above	190	3%
Criminal Behavior	175	3%

For the 978 students who were expelled, reasons included:

	<i># Students</i>	<i>% of Students</i>
Drug Violations	311	32%
Dangerous Weapons	151	15%
Disobedient Defiant or Repeated Interference	133	14%
Detrimental Behavior	110	11%
Other Violations of Code of Conduct	100	10%
Alcohol Violations	56	6%
3rd Degree Assaults Disorderly Conduct	47	5%
Destruction of School Property	30	3%
1st 2nd Degree or Vehicular Assaults	24	2%
Robbery	9	1%
Other Felonies	7	1%

19% (1,446) of the students served had an active Individual Education Plan (IEP) and were receiving Special Education services. The percent of Special Education students in the state last year was 10.7%. Therefore, EARSS programs are serving a disproportionately higher number of students than the total population of students with Special Education needs.

Of the students with active IEP's:

Learning Disabilities Perceptual Communicative Disability	38% of students with an IEP
Significant Identifiable Emotional Disability (SIED)	35%
Significant Limited Intellectual Capacity Multiple Disability	10%
Physical Disability Autism Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)	8%
Speech Language	6%
Vision Hearing Deaf Blind	2%

13% of students' first means of communication is a language other than English. The percent of English Language Learner (ELL) students in the state was 12.6%. From these data, we know that EARSS programs are serving similar proportions of English Language Learners as the total population in the state.

**Colorado Department of Education
Prevention Initiatives
Expelled and At-Risk Student Services**

Expulsion should be the last step taken after several attempts to deal with a student who has discipline problems. The Colorado Department of Education/Prevention Initiatives has funded school districts across the state to provide services to expelled students and students that are at risk of expulsion, under the *Expelled and At-Risk Student Services Grant* of Amendment Twenty-Three.

The Colorado Department of Education has two goals:

1. Support students who are unable to avoid mandatory suspension or expulsion.
2. Develop strategies to help students who are at risk of suspension or expulsion.

Applicants may be school districts, BOCES, nonpublic, non-parochial schools, alternative schools within a school district, charter schools, and pilot schools. Sites that have been funded previously may apply for a new strategy, if the previously funded strategy has been sustained in the district, school, or BOCES. Proposed programs may target specific buildings, the entire school district, or involve multiple districts.

For more information on the Expelled and At-Risk Student Services program visit: www.cde.state.co.us and click "At Risk/Prevention" (located on the left navigation bar).

Prepared for the Colorado Department of Education by the National Center for School Engagement in accordance with section 22-33-205(4) C.R.S.

Authors: Heather MacGillivray & Gretchen Erickson, National Center for School Engagement
www.schoolengagement.org