



Attendance and Discipline Report
SY 2018-19

Summary

Each year, DC PCSB works with public charter local education agencies to track student attendance and disciplinary measures pursuant to the reporting requirements outlined in DC Code § 38-203(i). These measures are significant indicators of the quality learning environments public charter schools provide and the atmosphere students experience. The following report outlines trends in suspensions, expulsions, truancy, and attendance for the 2018-19 school year.

For the sixth straight year, the percentage of students receiving an out of school suspension continues to decline to a new low of 6.2%. The rate is almost a percent lower than last year and half of what it was in school year (SY) 2012-13. Additionally, public charter schools saw the percentage of instruction time lost to out of school suspensions drop to 0.15%, down from 0.41% five years ago. This means that at a school with 500 students, fewer than one student would be out of school for a suspension on any given day. Notably, there were 13 audited students (0.03%) who received a suspension that lasted 11 or more days, which is down significantly from 60 audited students (0.14%) in SY 2017-18.

The percent of students expelled increased slightly from 0.15% to 0.17%. This translates to 74 students, or nine more than last year, being expelled from public charter schools. The rate is a fraction of the 165 students expelled in school year 2012-13, when we first started capturing these data.

In-seat attendance, which measures attendance accounting for both excused and unexcused absences, increased by 0.1%, to 91.7%, and the sector's truancy rate rose from 24.5% to 26.8%. While we are pleased that the in-seat attendance rate rose, we share your disappointment that the truancy rate continues to rise. In 2016-17, District policy mandated that schools could not accept excuse notes more than five days following an absence. While this does not fully explain why truancy rates increased from 17-18 to 18-19, we continue to hear school feedback about the difficulty of this rule. Over the coming months, we will continue to hold our annual School Climate Brunch to help schools understand the data, the root causes of their challenges, and share best practices in overcoming those challenges. The Everyday Counts! Taskforce will play an integral role in that work, as well as our partners Stand Up Shout Out and Parent and Adolescent Support Services.

The public charter school sector continues to focus efforts on ensuring students are attending school every day and growing academically. Across both sectors, schools show a commitment to improving attendance and truancy through a variety of approaches consistent with their philosophy. Schools continue to seek out different and innovative ways to ensure in-seat attendance improves.

Full details on the charter sector's data from school year (SY) 2018-19 can be found below.

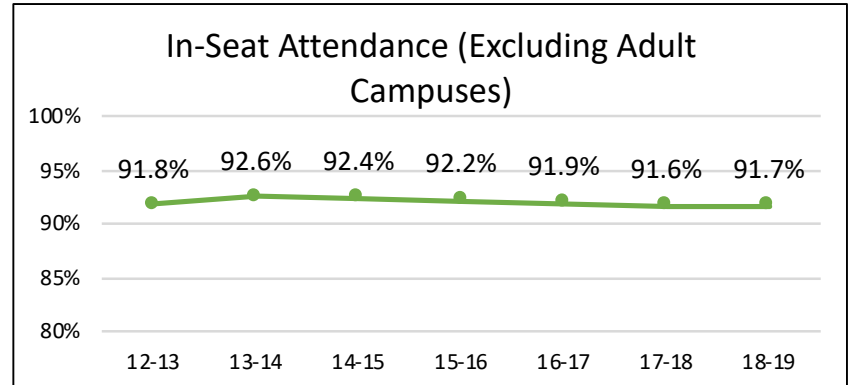
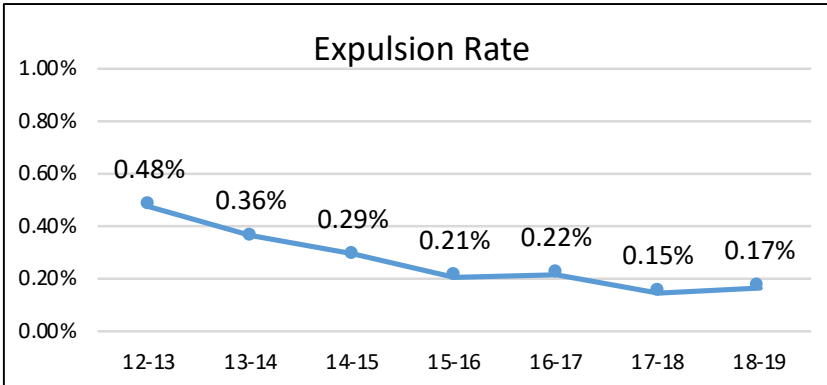
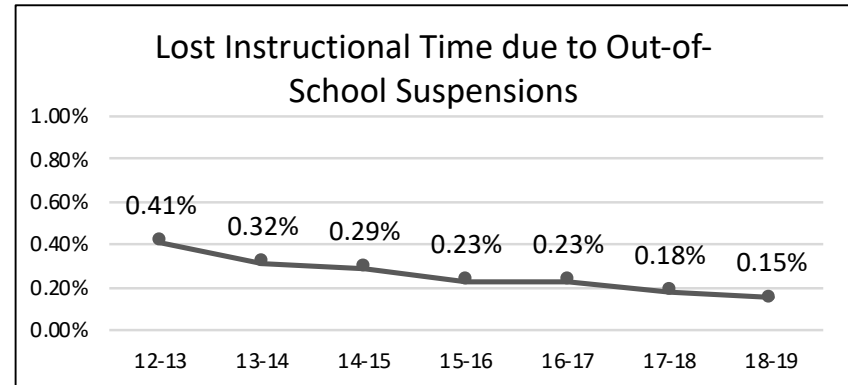
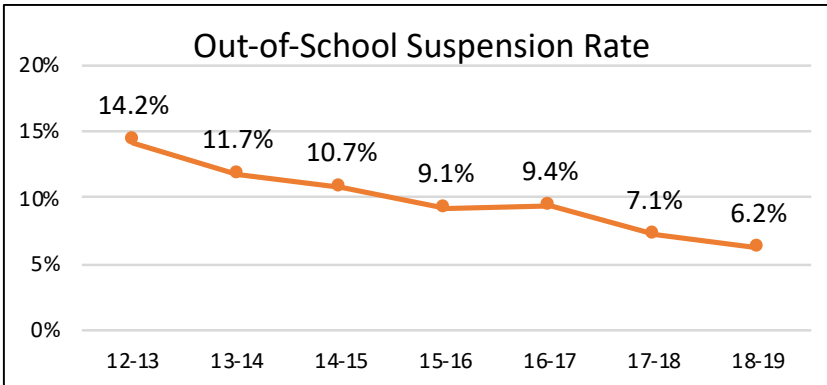
2018-19 DC PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL DISCIPLINE AND ATTENDANCE BRIEFING



August 2019

Longitudinal Analysis of Charter Sector Trends

DC PCSB's goal is to encourage public charter schools to create and implement effective discipline policies and increase students' time in school.



Key Takeaways: School Year 2018-19

Several key indicators of attendance and discipline improved in SY 2018-19, though Expulsions and Truancy both increased.

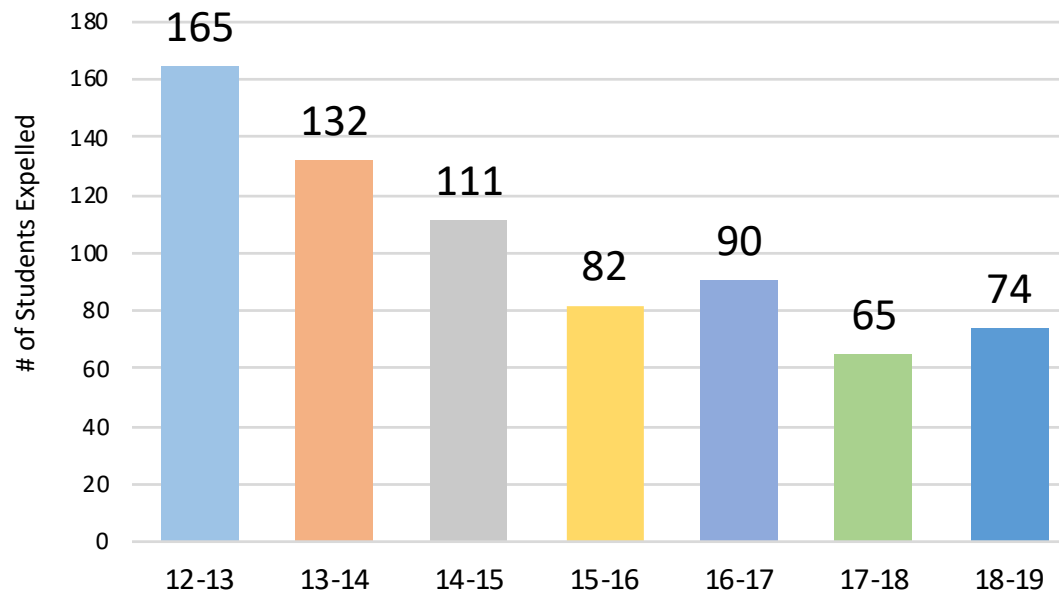
- **Enrollment:** ↑ by **1.3%**
- **Suspensions:** ↓ from **7.1%** to **6.2%**
- **Lost Instruction Time:** ↓ from **0.18%** to **0.15%**
- **Expulsions:** ↑ from **0.15%** to **0.17%**
- **In Seat Attendance:** ↑ from **91.6%** to **91.7%**
- **Truancy:** ↑ from **24.5%** to **26.8%**
- **Chronic Absenteeism*:** ↓ from **26.5%** to **26.2%**

**Chronic Absenteeism is defined as the proportion of students enrolled in grades K-12 who have missed 10% or more of their instructional days due to excused or unexcused absences*



Expulsion Over Time (PK*—Adult)

Number of Audited Students Expelled



Expulsion rate has cut in half since SY12-13 and remains within national norms

**Note: Since 2015-16, no PK students have been expelled*



Expulsion: Most Improved in 2018-19

School	Grades Served	Ward	2017-18 Rate	2018-19 Rate
LAYC Career Academy PCS	Adult	1	2.94% (4)	0.00% (0)
Cesar Chavez PCS for Public Policy - Parkside Middle School	7--8	7	1.17% (3)	0.00% (0)
KIPP DC - Valor Academy PCS	5--8	7	0.98% (3)	0.00% (0)
Friendship PCS - Blow Pierce Middle	4--8	7	0.83% (2)	0.00% (0)
Center City PCS - Petworth	PK3--8	4	0.79% (2)	0.00% (0)
E.L. Haynes PCS - Middle School	5--8	1	0.57% (2)	0.00% (0)
District of Columbia International School	6--11	4	0.75% (6)	0.19% (2)
Paul PCS - Middle School	6--8	4	0.88% (2)	0.38% (1)
Center City PCS - Trinidad	PK3--8	5	0.50% (1)	0.00% (0)

- 95 of 123 campuses (77.2%) had zero expulsions in SY 2018-19 compared to **87 of 121** campuses (71.9%) in SY 2017-18



Expulsion: Highest Rates in 2018-19

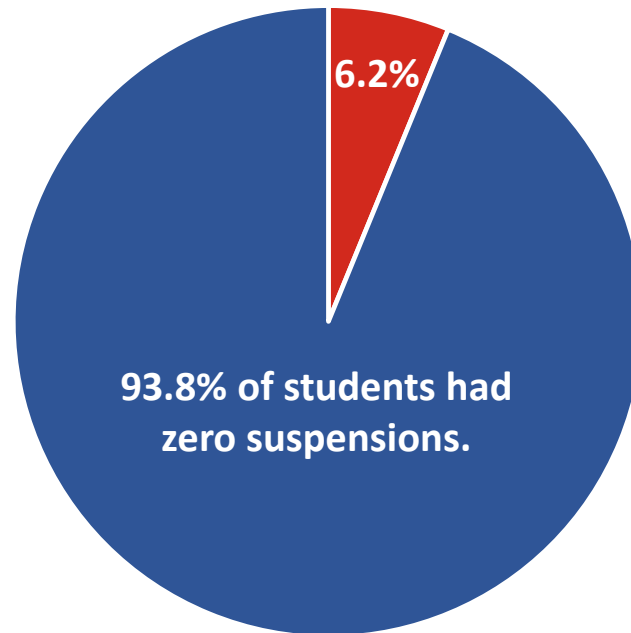
School	Grades Served	Ward	2017-18 Rate	2018-19 Rate
IDEA PCS	9--12	7	0.00% (0)	2.76% (9)
Somerset Preparatory Academy PCS*	6--12	8	0.53% (2)	2.35% (10)
SEED PCS of Washington DC	7--12	7	1.65% (6)	2.11% (6)
Maya Angelou PCS - High School	Alternative	7	0.59% (1)	1.49% (3)
Cesar Chavez PCS for Public Policy - Parkside High School	9--12	7	0.82% (3)	1.43% (5)

*Closed school, takeover underway for SY2019-20



Out-of-School Suspensions (OSS): Charter Rate in 2018-19

SY 2018-19 Charter Sector Rate : 6.2%



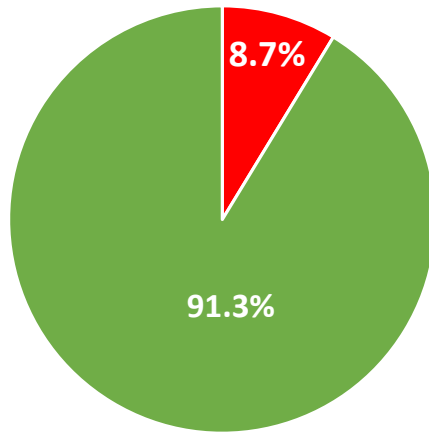
If we exclude Adult and PK students from the chart above, the charter sector average OSS rate was 8.4% in 2018-19 and 9.6% in 2017-18.



Out-of-School Suspensions (OSS): Charter Rate in 2018-19

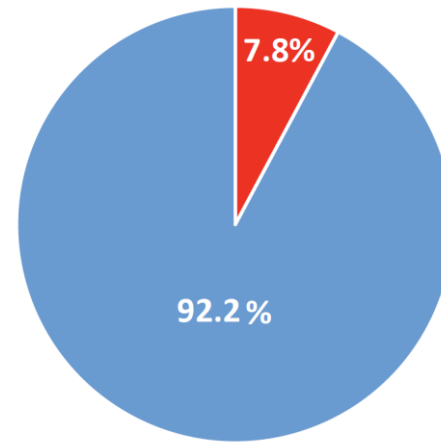
SY 2018-19 Charter Sector Rates

At Risk Students: 8.7%



If we exclude Adult and PK students from the above, the OSS rate for At Risk students was 11.0% in 2018-19.

African American Students: 7.8%



If we exclude Adult and PK students from the above, the OSS rate for African American students was 9.9% in 2018-19.



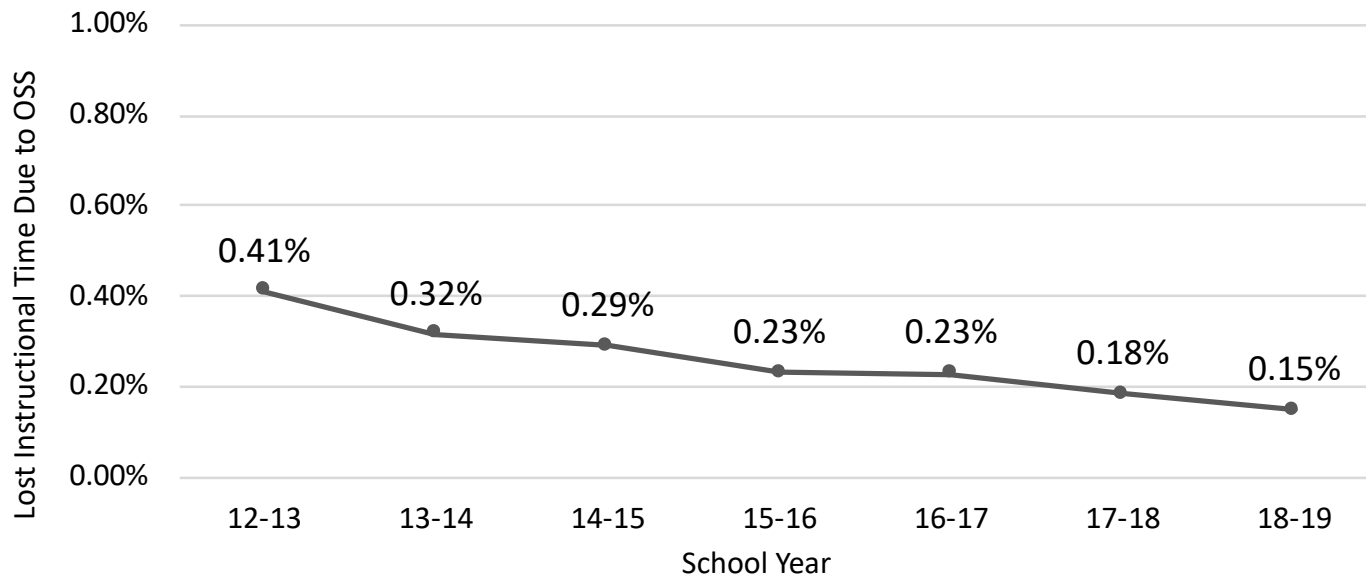
Out-of-School Suspensions: Notable Improvements in 2018-19

School	Grades Served	Ward	# of Audited Students Suspended
Friendship PCS - Technology Preparatory Middle School	7--8	8	From 53 to 5
Cesar Chavez PCS for Public Policy - Parkside Middle School	7--8	7	From 65 to 12
E.L. Haynes PCS - High School	9--12	4	From 60 to 18
Perry Street Preparatory PCS	PK3--8	5	From 29 to 0
Capital City PCS - Middle School	5--8	4	From 46 to 21
Friendship PCS - Southeast Elementary	PK3--3	8	From 40 to 2
DC Prep PCS - Edgewood Middle School	4--8	5	From 44 to 22
Friendship PCS - Armstrong	PK3--5	5	From 35 to 9
Friendship PCS - Technology Preparatory High School	9--12	8	From 24 to 8
BASIS DC PCS	5--12	2	From 42 to 11



Lost Instruction Time Due to Suspensions: Trends Over Time

Lost Instruction Time Due to Out-of-School Suspensions



SY 2017-2018		SY 2018-2019	
13,652 days lost to suspension		11,535 days lost to suspension	
7,429,813 enrolled days		7,508,043 enrolled days	



11+ Day Suspensions: Highest Rates in 2018-19

Campus	Grades Served	Ward	% of students	# of students
Friendship PCS - Collegiate Academy	9--12	7	0.72%	4
Maya Angelou PCS - Young Adult Learning Center	Adult	7	0.61%	1
Cesar Chavez PCS for Public Policy - Chavez Prep	6--9	1	0.43%	1

Note: This metric examines students with 11+ days in a single suspension, not 11+ cumulative days suspended.

In SY 2018-19 there were **13** audited students (**0.03%**) who received a suspension which lasted 11 or more days, compared to **60** audited students (**0.14%**) in SY 2017-18.



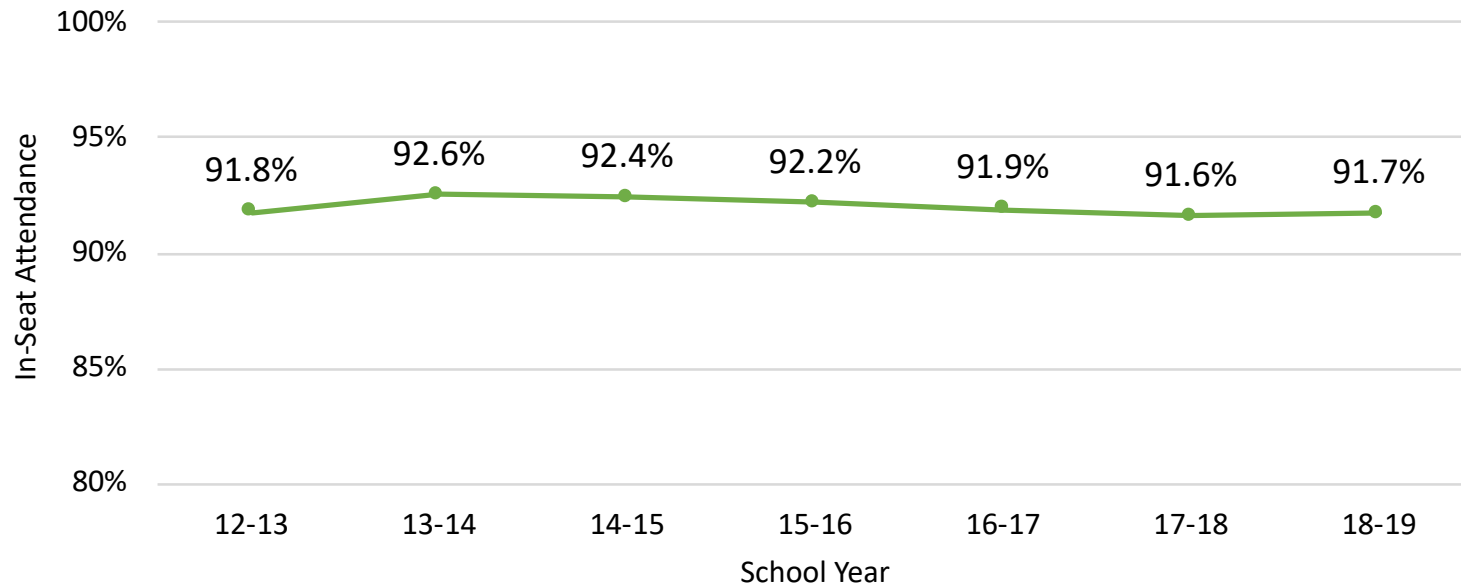
DC PCSB's Role in Addressing Discipline

- DC PCSB assesses discipline policies when new applicant groups apply for a charter
- DC PCSB's Enrollment Ceiling Increase Policy includes two indicators on exclusionary discipline
- When schools are up for charter review, we work with the schools on revising charter goals, which may include goals around discipline
- Schools' discipline policies are posted on DC PCSB's website. All must have the following:
 - Clear explanation of infractions, consequences and due process
 - Explanation of disciplinary steps for students with disabilities
- We analyze discipline data each month to look for trends and alert schools when they are discipline rate outliers.



Attendance Rates Over Time

In-Seat Attendance (Excluding Adult Campuses)



Note: OSSE has not yet released the final, validated 2018-19 attendance rates; therefore, attendance rates presented here may change slightly between the release of this report and Fall 2019.



In-Seat Attendance: Highest Rates (Excluding Adult and PK-Only Campuses)

Highest ISA Rates SY 2018-19	Grades Served	Ward	ISA Rate
Friendship PCS - Online Academy	K--8	4	99.6%
Center City PCS - Brightwood	PK3--8	4	97.2%
Washington Latin PCS - Middle School	5--8	4	96.0%
Friendship PCS - Woodridge International Middle	4--8	5	95.7%
Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys PCS	4--4	7	95.6%
Shining Stars Montessori Academy PCS	PK3--6	5	95.6%
Friendship PCS - Southeast Middle	4--6	8	95.5%
Mundo Verde Bilingual PCS	PK3--5	5	95.4%
Richard Wright PCS for Journalism and Media Arts	8--12	6	95.4%
DC Bilingual PCS	PK3--5	5	95.4%



In-Seat Attendance: Lowest Rates (Excluding Adult and PK-Only Campuses)

Lowest ISA Rates SY 2018-19	Grades Served	Ward	ISA Rate
Goodwill Excel Center PCS *	Alternative	2	62.1%
Maya Angelou PCS - High School	Alternative	7	69.1%
Kingsman Academy PCS	Alternative	6	73.9%
Monument Academy PCS	Alternative	6	85.1%
IDEA PCS	9--12	7	85.5%
St. Coletta Special Education PCS	Alternative	7	85.9%
Democracy Prep Congress Heights PCS **	PK3--8	8	86.8%
The Children's Guild DC PCS	Alternative	5	87.8%
E.L. Haynes PCS - High School	9--12	4	88.2%
City Arts & Prep PCS **	PK3--8	5	88.4%
Ingenuity Prep PCS	PK3--5	8	88.4%

* Goodwill Excel Center PCS primarily serves students over 18 years of age.

** Closed school



Truancy Rate: Percent of students ages 5-17 with 10+ unexcused absences

SY 2018-19 Charter Sector Rate: **26.8%**
(up from **24.5%*** in SY 2017-18)

- The DC PCSB Truancy Policy seeks to reduce absenteeism by encouraging schools to focus on strategies to improve attendance.
- **Two** schools received a Truancy Notice of Concern in SY 2018-19.
- The Policy compels schools and DC PCSB staff to track improvement in attendance at the school and student level.

**Prior to 2016-17, schools' individual attendance policies set the period of time following an absence in which excuse notes could be accepted. In 2016-17, District policy mandated that schools could not accept excuse notes more than 5 days following an absence. While this does not explain why rates went up from 17-18 to 18-19, we continue to hear school feedback about the difficulty of this rule.*



Truancy: Highest Rates (Excluding Schools with < 25 Truant-Eligible Students)

School Name	Grades Served	Ward	18-19 # Students Truant	18-19 Truancy Rate	18-19 ISA Rate
Maya Angelou PCS - Young Adult Learning Center*	Adult	7	34	79.1%	46.5%
The Children's Guild DC PCS	Alternative	5	253	65.5%	87.8%
LAYC Career Academy PCS*	Adult	1	18	64.3%	55.0%
Goodwill Excel Center PCS *	Alternative	2	24	63.2%	62.1%
YouthBuild DC PCS*	Adult	1	27	62.8%	62.9%
KIPP DC - Discover Academy PCS	PK3--K	8	75	61.0%	89.6%
Democracy Prep Congress Heights PCS **	PK3--8	8	407	59.8%	86.8%
Ingenuity Prep PCS	PK3--5	8	246	59.3%	88.4%
KIPP DC - AIM Academy PCS	5--8	8	218	55.3%	91.8%

* Adult schools

** Closed school



Our Role in Improving Attendance & Discipline

- For SY 2019-20, DC PCSB will continue to work with OSSE and charter LEAs to streamline the process for collecting and reporting truancy and discipline data.
- Through **transparency**, we encourage schools to adopt and improve on best practices, which increase instructional time. DC PCSB provides a series of dashboards that charter schools may use to view their monthly attendance and discipline data, by grade band and/or student subgroup, as well as comparable charter sector data.



REFERRALS AND BARRIERS TO ATTENDANCE



Court Social Services and Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) Referrals (Self-Reported Data)

The number of minors (age 5-13) referred for truancy to **CFSA**

- 1,399 students referred

The number of minors (age 14-17) referred for truancy to the **Court Social Services**

- 318 students referred



Barriers to Attendance (Self-Reported Data)

Number of students who met with a Student Support Team (SST), or its equivalent, for attendance purposes

- 4,654 students met with an SST (average of 41 per campus)

Summary of strategies implemented by the SSTs (varies by school)

- Calls, letters, and texts home
- Home visits
- Increased attendance data sharing with staff and families
- Transportation assistance
- Wake-up calls or providing alarm clocks
- Credit recovery and/or flexible scheduling
- Free or reduced before/after-school care
- Incentives (for teachers and for students)
- Counseling
- Providing clothing or school supplies
- Health interventions



Barriers to Attendance (Self-Reported Data)

Summary of the services used by students to reduce unexcused absences (varies by school)

- Kids Ride Free / Carpooling / Other transportation assistance
- Vouchers for childcare
- School-based support networks (mentoring, homework clubs)
- Communication apps (such as *Remind*)

Summary of the common barriers to implementing the recommendations of the SST (varies by school)

- Housing instability
- Challenges with public transportation, traffic, and parking
- Low parental engagement, particularly for early childhood programs
- Pregnancy / lack of access to childcare
- Unmet physical or mental health needs (of the student or a family member)
- Parent or student work schedule
- Slow follow-up from outside organizations once a referral is made
- Incarceration
- Extended trips to home countries



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School Characteristics				Attendance Rate		# of Students Ages 5 to 17 by Days of Unexcused Absences								
School Name	Campus Ward	Grades Served	Number of Students Enrolled (aged 5 to 17)	In-Seat Attendance Rate (Students aged 5 to 17)	# with 0 days	% with 0 days	# with 1-5 days	% with 1-5 days	# with 6-10 days	% with 6-10 days	# with 11-20 days	% with 11-20 days	# with 21+ days	% with 21+ days
Ideal Academy PCS	4	PK3-8	208	93.0%	10	4.8%	72	34.6%	50	24.0%	50	24.0%	26	12.5%
Ingenuity Prep PCS	8	PK3-5	415	88.9%	12	2.9%	90	21.7%	86	20.7%	113	27.2%	114	27.5%
Inspired Teaching Demonstration PCS	5	PK3-8	384	95.5%	78	20.3%	212	55.2%	70	18.2%	23	6.0%	1	0.3%
Kingsman Academy PCS	6	Alternative	223	78.9%	93	41.7%	46	20.6%	21	9.4%	20	9.0%	43	19.3%
KIPP DC - AIM Academy PCS	8	5-8	394	91.8%	7	1.8%	88	22.3%	103	26.1%	143	36.3%	53	13.5%
KIPP DC - Arts and Technology Academy PCS	7	PK3-K	101	92.5%	2	2.0%	20	19.8%	34	33.7%	41	40.6%	4	4.0%
KIPP DC - College Preparatory PCS	5	9-12	794	90.6%	11	1.4%	177	22.3%	262	33.0%	241	30.4%	103	13.0%
KIPP DC - Connect Academy PCS	5	PK3-K	106	93.3%	3	2.8%	28	26.4%	35	33.0%	35	33.0%	5	4.7%
KIPP DC - Discover Academy PCS	8	PK3-K	123	90.9%	2	1.6%	18	14.6%	36	29.3%	45	36.6%	22	17.9%
KIPP DC - Grow Academy PCS	6	PK3-K	108	91.3%	3	2.8%	21	19.4%	40	37.0%	30	27.8%	14	13.0%
KIPP DC - Heights Academy PCS	8	1-4	470	91.9%	3	0.6%	100	21.3%	166	35.3%	148	31.5%	53	11.3%
KIPP DC - KEY Academy PCS	7	5-8	341	93.3%	6	1.8%	107	31.4%	124	36.4%	87	25.5%	17	5.0%
KIPP DC - Lead Academy PCS	6	1-4	410	92.7%	8	2.0%	122	29.8%	116	28.3%	119	29.0%	45	11.0%
KIPP DC - LEAP Academy PCS	7	PK3-PK4	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10	n<10
KIPP DC - Northeast Academy PCS	5	5-8	333	91.1%	4	1.2%	68	20.4%	110	33.0%	118	35.4%	33	9.9%
KIPP DC - Promise Academy PCS	7	K-4	521	92.6%	13	2.5%	126	24.2%	151	29.0%	160	30.7%	71	13.6%
KIPP DC - Quest Academy PCS	7	1-4	426	91.6%	11	2.6%	104	24.4%	130	30.5%	118	27.7%	63	14.8%
KIPP DC - Spring Academy PCS	5	1-4	420	92.7%	12	2.9%	96	22.9%	161	38.3%	111	26.4%	40	9.5%
KIPP DC - Valor Academy PCS	7	5-8	340	93.0%	11	3.2%	97	28.5%	151	44.4%	67	19.7%	14	4.1%
KIPP DC - WILL Academy PCS	6	5-8	334	93.1%	13	3.9%	99	29.6%	114	34.1%	88	26.3%	20	6.0%
Latin American Montessori Bilingual PCS	4	PK3-5	322	95.1%	15	4.7%	164	50.9%	94	29.2%	38	11.8%	11	3.4%
LAYC Career Academy PCS	1	Adult	28	60.5%	2	7.1%	4	14.3%	4	14.3%	7	25.0%	11	39.3%
Lee Montessori PCS - Brookland	5	PK3-5	127	95.8%	11	8.7%	67	52.8%	38	29.9%	8	6.3%	3	2.4%
Mary McLeod Bethune Day Academy PCS	5	PK3-8	276	91.6%	36	13.0%	167	60.5%	49	17.8%	18	6.5%	6	2.2%
Maya Angelou PCS - High School	7	Alternative	179	73.5%	4	2.2%	64	35.8%	55	30.7%	19	10.6%	37	20.7%
Maya Angelou PCS - Young Adult Learning Center	7	Adult	43	49.4%	1	2.3%	2	4.7%	6	14.0%	7	16.3%	27	62.8%
Meridian PCS	1	PK3-8	519	92.9%	72	13.9%	223	43.0%	104	20.0%	91	17.5%	29	5.6%
Monument Academy PCS	6	Alternative	139	85.1%	8	5.8%	43	30.9%	24	17.3%	32	23.0%	32	23.0%
Mundo Verde Bilingual PCS	5	PK3-5	508	95.7%	61	12.0%	340	66.9%	92	18.1%	12	2.4%	3	0.6%
National Collegiate Preparatory PCHS	8	9-12	251	89.1%	8	3.2%	93	37.1%	75	29.9%	49	19.5%	26	10.4%
Paul PCS - International High School	4	9-12	448	90.8%	66	14.7%	214	47.8%	92	20.5%	54	12.1%	22	4.9%
Paul PCS - Middle School	4	6-8	266	94.8%	65	24.4%	139	52.3%	45	16.9%	16	6.0%	1	0.4%
Perry Street Preparatory PCS	5	PK3-8	287	93.5%	56	19.5%	151	52.6%	65	22.6%	10	3.5%	5	1.7%
Richard Wright PCS for Journalism and Media Arts	6	8-12	289	95.4%	101	34.9%	159	55.0%	15	5.2%	7	2.4%	7	2.4%
Rocketship PCS - Legacy Prep	7	PK3-3	313	91.5%	5	1.6%	119	38.0%	125	39.9%	56	17.9%	8	2.6%
Rocketship PCS - Rise Academy	8	PK3-4	489	94.1%	95	19.4%	273	55.8%	63	12.9%	45	9.2%	13	2.7%
Roots PCS	4	PK3-5	72	92.1%	72	100.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
SEED PCS of Washington DC	7	7-12	281	94.2%	70	24.9%	149	53.0%	45	16.0%	13	4.6%	4	1.4%
Sela PCS	4	PK3-5	138	92.8%	9	6.5%	38	27.5%	48	34.8%	35	25.4%	8	5.8%
Shining Stars Montessori Academy PCS	5	PK3-6	185	96.2%	30	16.2%	89	48.1%	34	18.4%	24	13.0%	8	4.3%
Somerset Preparatory Academy PCS	8	6-12	427	89.2%	33	7.7%	189	44.3%	102	23.9%	73	17.1%	30	7.0%
St. Coletta Special Education PCS	7	Alternative	184	85.9%	13	7.1%	95	51.6%	40	21.7%	22	12.0%	14	7.6%
Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys PCS	7	4-4	56	95.6%	2	3.6%	26	46.4%	21	37.5%	6	10.7%	1	1.8%
The Children's Guild DC PCS	5	Alternative	386	87.8%	2	0.5%	57	14.8%	92	23.8%	128	33.2%	107	27.7%
The Family Place PCS	1	Adult	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
The Next Step/El Proximo Paso PCS	1	Adult	40	77.1%	5	12.5%	8	20.0%	8	20.0%	6	15.0%	13	32.5%
Thurgood Marshall Academy PCS	8	9-12	385	92.3%	42	10.9%	146	37.9%	117	30.4%	50	13.0%	30	7.8%
Two Rivers PCS - 4th Street	6	PK3-8	454	93.6%	43	9.5%	234	51.5%	116	25.6%	57	12.6%	4	0.9%
Two Rivers PCS - Young	5	PK3-4	259	94.4%	33	12.7%	143	55.2%	55	21.2%	21	8.1%	7	2.7%
Washington Global PCS	6	6-8	219	94.1%	22	10.0%	145	66.2%	47	21.5%	4	1.8%	1	0.5%
Washington Latin PCS - Middle School	4	5-8	373	96.0%	104	27.9%	218	58.4%	42	11.3%	7	1.9%	2	0.5%
Washington Latin PCS - Upper School	4	9-12	321	93.9%	75	23.4%	175	54.5%	44	13.7%	20	6.2%	7	2.2%
Washington Leadership Academy PCS	5	9-11	312	90.0%	4	1.3%	88	28.2%	116	37.2%	85	27.2%	19	6.1%
Washington Yu Ying PCS	5	PK3-5	430	95.4%	36	8.4%	233	54.2%	118	27.4%	35	8.1%	8	1.9%
YouthBuild DC PCS	1	Adult	43	66.5%	2	4.7%	9	20.9%	5	11.6%	7	16.3%	20	46.5%
CHARTER SECTOR AVERAGE (Students aged 5 to 17)			32269	92.3%	3786	11.7%	13275	41.1%	7691	23.8%	5245	16.3%	2272	7.0%

Note: Students who are enrolled for 9 or fewer days are not included in attendance metrics.