

Online Occurrence Reporting System (OORS) Audit of Bias-Related Harassment Incidents 2009-2010 Summary Findings

During the 2009-10 school year, the Department of Education conducted its second annual audit of incident reports documenting bias-related infractions of the Student Discipline Code. All incident reports were sorted according to the infraction classification levels in the Student Discipline Code. A rigorous reading of incident reports found that of the 141,030 Level 1-5 incidents, the total number of bias-related incidents was 8,298, or 5.88% of behavioral incidents recorded during the 2009-10 school year.

Below are the percentages of bias-related incidents by Incident Level per the Citywide Standards of Discipline and Intervention Measures (The Discipline Code) for all incidents at all grade levels.

Level	% of all incidents with at least one bias
Level 1	4.18%
Level 2	13.63%
Level 3	22.86%
Level 4	57.65%
Level 5	1.68%

NOTE: Of the total Level 4 incidents, 49% relate to making sexually suggestive comments, innuendos, propositions or similar remarks or engaging in nonverbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature (e.g. touching, patting, pinching, or lewd or indecent public behavior). 23.34% relate to engaging in intimidating and bullying behavior.

Below are the percentages of bias-related incidents by Incident Level per the Citywide Standards of Discipline and Intervention Measures (The Discipline Code) for Elementary and Secondary grade levels.

Elementary Level: Kindergarten-Grade 5	
Level	Percentage
1	5.19%
2	28.26%
3	26.94%
4	38.25%
5	1.36%
Total	100.00%
Secondary Level: Grades 6-12	
Level	Percentage
1	3.80%
2	8.11%
3	21.32%
4	64.97%
5	1.79%
Total	100.00%

The categories of bias-related harassment were ranked as follows (in terms of prevalence):

Category	Total	Percentage
Gender (Sex)	5,732	64.37%
Race, Color	1,480	16.62%
Gender Identity, Gender Expression, Sexual Orientation	810	9.10%
Ethnicity, National Origin	451	5.06%
Religion, Creed	253	2.84%
Disability	179	2.01%
Total	8,905	100.00%

NOTE: A total of 8,298 individual bias related incidents occurred. Incidents that contained evidence of more than one type of bias were counted for each type of bias; hence, the higher number of 8,905 for the total of bias related categories (+607) in the table above.