

# Ford May Face Local Strike

Business, Page 45



# Chicago Sun-Times



WARM Pages 4, 35

TUESDAY, MAY 24, 1994

Late Sports Final

# 'Street Math' Test Causes School Furor

By Rosalind Rossi Staff Writer

School officials on Monday were investigating reports that a rookie sixth-grade teacher at a West Side elementary school used questions about cocaine, car thefts and prostitution to test his students' math skills.

During a meeting at May Elementary School, 512 S. Laverne, about 40 angry parents, children and area residents demanded the immediate ouster from the system of teacher Charles Routen, 45, a Board of Educa-

## Angry Parents Call For Teacher's Firing

tion employee since November, 1993. Routen could not be reached for comment Monday.

Parent Theresa Welch said a test allegedly distributed by Routen on Friday amounted to "mental brutality." "This man should not be admitted to a classroom," she said.

Principal Sandra McCann told parents Mon-

day that "until the matter is resolved, he won't be in front of any children."

The test allegedly given by Routen used street vernacular about drugs, car thefts, spray-painting, prostitution and even a murder sentence as the basis for math problems.

One question, for example, was: "Rufus is pimping three girls. If the price is \$65 for each trick, how many tricks will each girl have to turn so Rufus can pay for his \$800-per-day crack habit?"

Marcus McGee, 13, a student in Routen's Turn to Page 22

### TEST QUESTIONS

Two of the math problems allegedly assigned by a sixth-grade teacher at May School:

■ Martin wants to cut his half-pound of heroin to make 20 percent more profit. How many ounces of cut will he need?

■ Willis gets \$200 for stealing a BMW, \$50 for stealing a Chevy and \$100 for a 4X4. If he has stolen two BMWs and three 4X4s, how many Chevys will he have to steal to make \$800?

File:  
Crime -  
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Parent Theresa Welch speaks up at the meeting. She called the test "mental brutality."

# Test

Continued from Page 1

class, said, "Why do we all have to come to school to learn this? We can learn this on the street."

Marcus said he was one of seven students who complained to their parents about the test and refused to go to class Monday. Parents gave a copy of the test to the Sun-Times.

Welch said she and about seven other parents confronted the teacher and McCann about the test Monday morning. Welch and another parent at the meeting, Cynthia Bailey, 38, said Routen admitted during the meeting he made a "mistake" by presenting the test and offered to resign. Routen allegedly said he got the test from a friend.

"He went on to say that he felt that maybe this was the only way he could relate to the children," Bailey said. "I said, 'That's no way to relate to anybody's children.'"

Hailey said she later learned from neighbors that the test had been circulating in some schools for up to three months. Written at the top of the test was "City of Chicago High School Math Proficiency Exam," even though, according to Board spokeswoman Dawn Simmons, the city of Chicago does not certify math tests.

Hailey's son, Ethan Bailey, 12, said he didn't know whether the test was a joke but that students took it seriously, particularly after Routen threatened "to give the whole class an F if they didn't take the test."

"I just put anything down," Ethan said. "I didn't want to put down real answers because he might think I know this stuff."

By Monday afternoon, dozens of parents and Ald. Ed Smith (28th) met in the school auditorium to get an update from McCann and subdistrict 4 administrator Ronald Beavers. McCann had been sent to the board personnel department for medical and psychological evaluation. However, Simmons said Routen didn't show up at board headquarters as scheduled Monday.

"We want his resignation," Welch told school officials. "He admitted he gave the test to the kids. You heard it from the students. You heard it from the horse's mouth. What more information do you need?"

However, McCann cautioned that Routen was "innocent till proven guilty" and said board officials had to first receive written reports about the matter.



Students Shakesha Garner (left), Josie Knox and Ethan Bailey, who were given the test. "I didn't want to put down real answers because he might think I know this stuff," Ethan said.

Beavers promised the group that Routen would not return to May School although he could not guarantee Routen would be kicked out of the system. Said Beavers: "There's something called due process."

Welch's daughter, Ebony Welch, 11, said she didn't understand the test and brought it home to her mother because "I thought there was something wrong with it." Her mother said she called other parents to confirm that their children, too, had been given the test.

Jackie Gallagher, a spokeswoman for the Chicago Teachers Union, said Monday she had not heard of the math test, but noted that some educators advocate teaching kids through "street vernacular."

"I can't condemn this individual teacher because I don't know the circumstances or the difficulties he might have teaching kids in his class with more abstract concepts," Gallagher said. "But if our goal as teachers and educators is to raise the level of our students' involvement in society, discussing crack sales, pimping and knocking up women is not the way to do it."



Sandra McCann

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**To:** Bruce Reed  
Domestic Policy  
, Washington, DC 20503-

Phone No.:

**From:** Bureau of Justice Statistics

Phone No.: 202-307-0784

Fax: 202-307-5846

## Subject:

Following is the press release for \*Students' Reports of School Crime:1989 and 1995,\* embargoed for release at 6:30 p.m. EDT Sunday April 12, with selected highlights. If you do not receive all 11 pages or want the full report, call the BJS fax-on-demand number, 301-519-5550, follow prompts, and select numbers 107-110. The full report will be on the BJS web site at the time of release at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/> under "What's New." and then "Publications." Questions: Stu Smith, 202-307-0784, David Thomas, 202-401-1579. After hours, Mr. Smith, 301-983-9354.

Total pages including cover page: 11



**U.S. Department  
of Education**

**U.S. Department  
of Justice**



ADVANCE FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M. EDT  
SUNDAY APRIL 12, 1998

BJS  
202/307-0784

**JOINT JUSTICE DEPARTMENT/EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STUDY SHOWS  
LITTLE INCREASE IN SCHOOL CRIME BETWEEN 1989 AND 1995**

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- There was no significant change from 1989 to 1995 in the percentage of students who reported having been robbed in school, having property stolen from their lockers or desks or experiencing physical attacks at school, according to a joint study announced today by the Justice Department and the Education Department. In 1995, the study showed that 14.6 percent of students aged 12 through 19 reported violent or property victimization at school, compared to 14.5 percent in 1989.

There was, however, an increase in the percent of students in 1995 likely to be victimized by a violent crime--a physical attack or a robbery by force, weapons or threats--compared to 1989. In 1995, 4.2 percent of all 12- to 19-year-old students experienced a violent crime, compared to 3.4 percent six years earlier.

The data, from the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), also found that fewer than one in 1,000 students reported taking a gun to school in 1995, but about one in 20 students said they saw another student with a gun at school.

In 1995, the study showed that 12.4 percent of the students who saw another student with a gun at school said they were a victim of a violent crime at school, compared to 3.8 percent of those who had not.

Violent victimization was also reported to be associated with the presence of street gangs. In 1995, 7.5 percent of all students who reported gangs in their schools said they had been a violent crime victim at school, compared to 2.7 percent of students who reported no gangs.

Students reporting street gangs in their schools rose from 15 percent in 1989 to 28 percent in 1995. In 1995 half of the Hispanic students aged 12 through 19 reported gangs in their schools, compared to 35 percent of the black students and 23 percent of the white students. Thirty-one percent of the public school students and 7 percent of the private school students said there were gangs in their schools.

In both 1989 and 1995 male students were more likely to experience violent victimization than were their female counterparts. While about 5 percent of male students reported experiencing a violent crime in both 1989 and 1995, the percentage of female students reporting violence rose from 2.0 percent to 3.3 percent.

In 1995, as in 1989, most students reported that drugs, including marijuana, cocaine, crack or uppers/downers, were available to some degree at school. The percentage of students who reported the availability of drugs in 1995 was 65.3 percent, slightly higher than the 63.2 percent reported in 1989. Students in higher grades were more likely than those in lower grades to report that these drugs were available.

For the study, "school" included areas in school buildings, on school grounds or on school buses.

The study, "Students' Reports of School Crime: 1989 and 1995" (NCES 98-241 and NCJ-169607) was written by Kathryn A. Chandler and Chris Chapman of NCES and Michael R. Rand and Bruce M. Taylor of BJS. Single copies may be obtained from the BJS fax-on-demand system by dialing 301/519-5550, listening to the menu, and selecting document numbers 107 through 110, by calling the BJS Clearinghouse at 1-800/732-3277 or by calling the National Library of Education at 1-800/424-1616.

The report can also be downloaded from:

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/hjs/> or from <http://nces.ed.gov>

Additional criminal justice materials can be obtained from the Office of Justice Programs homepage at:

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The Department of Education's media contact is David Thomas at 202/401-1579

###

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After hours contact: Stu Smith at 301/983-9354



U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Educational Research and Improvement  
National Center for Education Statistics



U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
Bureau of Justice Statistics

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March 1998

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**1989 and 1995 School Crime Supplement to  
the National Crime Victimization Survey**

**Excerpts from —  
Students' Reports  
of School Crime:  
1989 and 1995**

Kathryn A. Chandler, National Center for Education Statistics  
Christopher D. Chapman, National Center for Education Statistics  
Michael R. Rand, Bureau of Justice Statistics  
Bruce M. Taylor, Ph.D., Bureau of Justice Statistics

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## Introduction and Background

This report is the first focusing on data collected in the 1995 School Crime Supplement (SCS), an enhancement to the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). The NCVS is an ongoing household survey that gathers information on the criminal victimization of household members age 12 and older. While this report does not cover all of the items in the dataset, it covers those pertinent to school crime. These include: victimization at school, drug availability at school, street gangs at school, and guns at school. In this report, victimization is in terms of prevalence as opposed to counts of events. In other words, the report focuses on the percent of students who have been victimized one or more times.

To put the 1995 estimates in context, data from the 1989 SCS are also presented. Key findings include:

- There was little or no change in the percent of students reporting any (violent or property) victimization at school (14.5 percent versus 14.6 percent), or the percent of students reporting property victimization at school (12.2 percent versus 11.6 percent) between 1989 and 1995 (table 1). However, there was an increase in the percent of students reporting violent victimization at school (3.4 percent versus 4.2 percent) between the two years.
- In 1989, most students, 63.2 percent, reported that marijuana, cocaine, crack, or uppers/downers were available at school (either easy or hard to obtain; table 2). This number increased somewhat to 65.3 percent in 1995.
- The percent of students reporting street gang presence at school nearly doubled between 1989 and 1995, increasing from 15.3 percent to 28.4 percent (table 4).
- In 1995, a series of questions was asked about guns at school.<sup>1</sup> Almost no students reported taking a gun to school (less than one half of one percent), 5.3 percent reported seeing another student with a gun at school, and 12.7 percent reported knowing another student who brought a gun to school.

The supplements were fielded in January through June of their respective years to nationally representative samples of approximately 10,000 students. Eligible respondents to the supplements had to be between the ages of 12 and 19, and had to have attended school at some point during the six months preceding the interview. Respondents were only asked about crimes that had occurred at school during the six months prior to the interview. "At school" was defined as in the school building, on school grounds, or on a school bus.

Readers should be aware that the 1989 SCS estimates on victimization at school shown in this report do not match the estimates presented in the first analysis of the 1989 SCS.<sup>2</sup> In both the

<sup>1</sup> A similar series of questions was not included in 1989.

<sup>2</sup> See L. Bastian and B. Taylor. *School Crime: A National Crime Victimization Survey Report*, NCJ-131645 (U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, D.C.: 1991).

1989 and 1995 SCS collections, persons 12 to 19 years of age were asked to respond to the NCVS and the SCS, and victimization information was captured in both questionnaires. The earlier authors elected to use the victimization information reported in the NCVS, rather than the SCS, in the development of their estimates. Because of a redesign of the NCVS in 1992, the 1995 victimization estimates from the NCVS cannot readily be compared to those developed before 1993.<sup>3</sup> Therefore, the authors of this report elected to reanalyze the 1989 data to compare estimates of victimization in 1995 to 1989 using the SCS data in both cases. Undoubtedly, the redesign of the NCVS also had implications on responses to the SCS. Unfortunately, it is not possible to measure the extent of the impact. (More information about the redesign and a comparison of SCS versus NCVS estimates of victimization can be found in the methodology section of this report.)

This report presents estimates for two points in time, six years apart. Readers should not assume that the time points represent a stable trend between 1989 and 1995. In fact, if estimates had been developed for the intervening years, many changes might be seen.

In this report, each topic is covered in a two- or three-page presentation that consists of bullets and figures. Comprehensive tables on each of the topics can be found after the body of the report. A methodology section, which describes the data collections and the analysis approach, follows the tables. Shown in appendix A are tables containing standard errors of the estimates, and shown in appendix B are the 1989 and 1995 School Crime Supplement questionnaires.

Again, this report does not exhaustively cover all of the data available in the 1989 and 1995 data sets. Readers can obtain the 1989 SCS data through the National Archive of Criminal Justice web site at "<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/>" (study number 9394), and the 1995 SCS data will soon be made available through the same source. A SCS, jointly developed by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), will continue to be fielded as a supplement to the NCVS every few years.

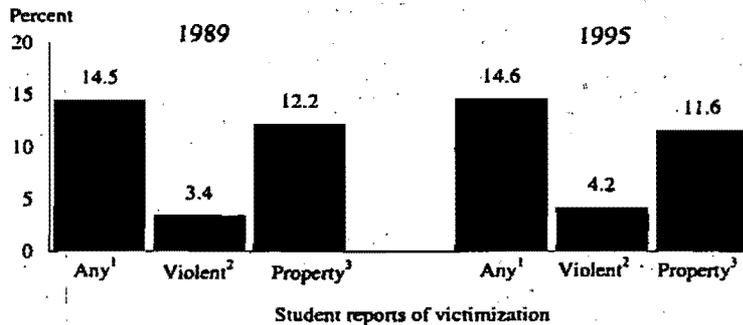
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<sup>3</sup> C. Kindermann, J. Lynch, and D. Cantor. *Effects of the Redesign on Victimization Estimates*, NCJ-164381 (U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, Washington, D.C.: 1997).

## Student Victimization

(See also table 1)

Figure 1.— Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported experiencing various forms of victimization at school: 1989 and 1995



- The overall level of victimization in schools in 1995, 14.6 percent, was similar to that in 1989, 14.5 percent. There was an increase in the percentage of students reporting violent victimizations, however, increasing from 3.4 percent to 4.2 percent.

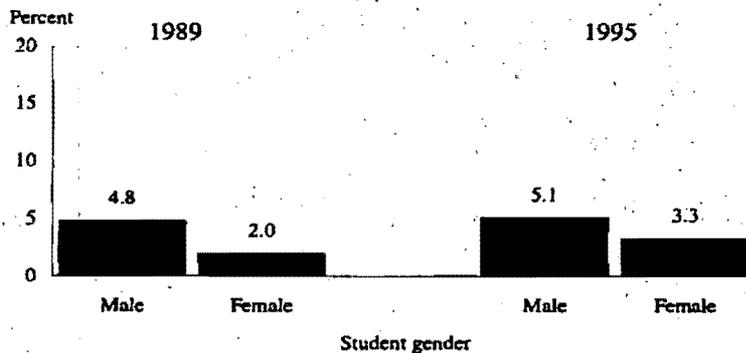
<sup>1</sup>Any victimization is a combination of reported violent and property victimization. If the student reported an incident of either, he or she is counted as having experienced any victimization. If the respondent reported having experienced both, he or she is only counted once under "Any victimization".

<sup>2</sup>Violent victimization includes physical attacks or taking property from the student directly by force, weapons, or threats.

<sup>3</sup>Property victimization includes theft of property from a student's desk, locker, or other locations.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1989 and 1995.

Figure 2.— Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported experiencing violent victimization at school, by gender: 1989 and 1995



NOTE: Violent victimization includes physical attacks or taking property from the student directly by force, weapons, or threats.

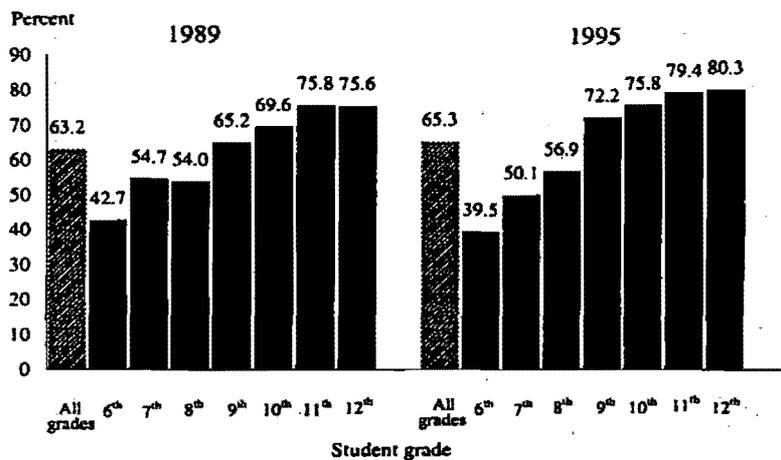
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1989 and 1995.

- In 1995, male students (5.1 percent) were more likely than female students (3.3 percent) to have experienced violent victimization at school. A similar relationship also existed between violent victimization and gender in 1989.
- While the percent of male students who reported having experienced violent victimization at school was about the same in 1989 as it was in 1995, there was an increase in the percent of female students who reported such victimization.

**Availability of Drugs**

(See also tables 2 and 3)

**Figure 6.— Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported that drugs were available at school, by grade: 1989 and 1995**

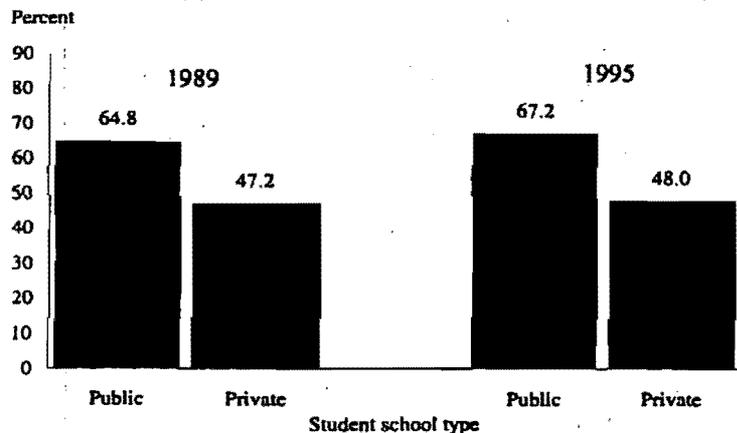


- Though the increase was small, the percentage of students reporting that drugs were available rose from 63.2 percent in 1989 to 65.3 percent in 1995.
- Students in higher grades were more likely than students in lower grades to report that drugs were available at school in both 1989 and 1995.

NOTE: In the 1989 and 1995 SCS, students were asked about the availability of marijuana, cocaine, crack, and uppers/downers. If the students reported any of these to be easy or hard to obtain at school, they are considered having reported that drugs were available at school.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1989 and 1995.

**Figure 7.— Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported that drugs were available at school, by school type: 1989 and 1995**



- In 1995, students in public schools were more likely to report that drugs were available in their schools than were students in private schools (67.2 percent v. 48.0 percent). Similar results occurred in 1989.
- A higher percent of public school students reported that drugs were available at school in 1995 than in 1989. However, the percent of private school students who reported that drugs were available at school was about the same in 1995 as it was in 1989.

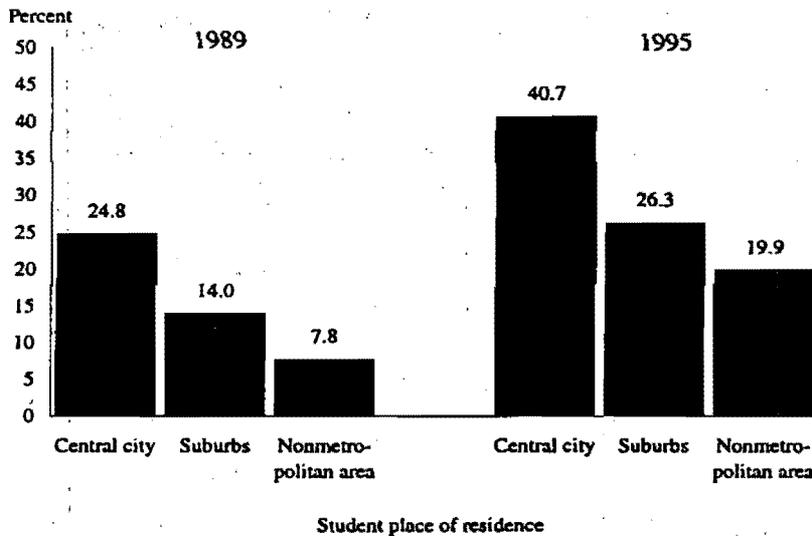
NOTE: In the 1989 and 1995 SCS, students were asked about the availability of marijuana, cocaine, crack, and uppers/downers. If the students reported any of these to be easy or hard to obtain at school, they are considered having reported that drugs were available at school.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1989 and 1995.

## Street Gangs at School

(See also table 4)

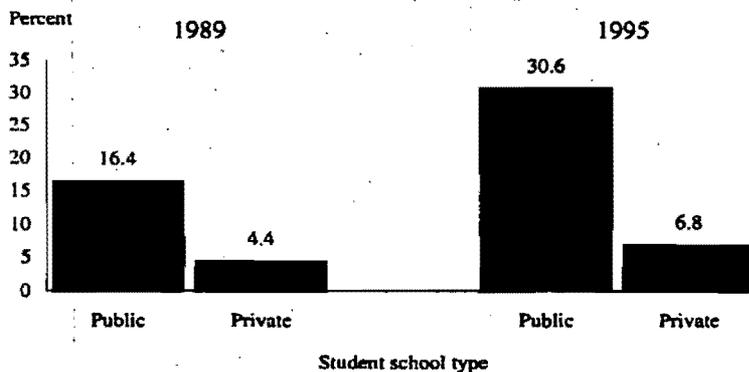
Figure 11.—Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported that street gangs were present at school, by place of residence: 1989 and 1995



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1989 and 1995

- Students in central cities were more likely to respond that there were street gangs at their schools (40.7 percent) than were suburban students (26.3 percent) or students in nonmetropolitan areas (19.9 percent) in 1995. Similar results occurred in 1989.
- Between 1989 and 1995, reports of gang presence increased in all three categories of student place residence.

Figure 12.—Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported that street gangs were present at school, by school type: 1989 and 1995



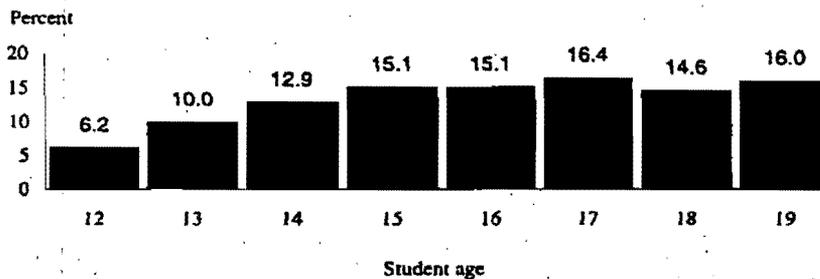
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1989 and 1995

- Students in public schools were more likely to report that street gangs were present at school than were students in private schools in both years. In 1995, 30.6 percent of students in public schools reported that street gangs were present compared to 6.8 percent in private schools. The 1989 percents were 16.4 and 4.4, respectively.
- Public school students were more likely to report that street gangs were present at school in 1995 than in 1989, while private school students were about as likely to report that street gangs were present in both years.

## Guns at School

(See also table 5)

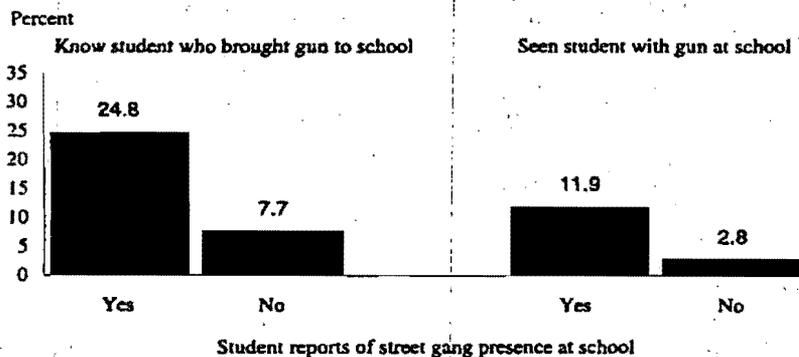
Figure 13.— Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported knowing a student who brought a gun to school, by age: 1995



- In 1995, older students were more likely than younger students to report knowing a student who brought a gun to school.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1995.

Figure 14.— Percent of students ages 12 through 19 who reported the presence of guns at school, by student reports of street gang presence at school: 1995



- Street gang presence at a student's school was related to knowing another student who brought a gun to school (24.8 percent v. 7.7 percent). In addition, street gang presence at a student's school was related to seeing another student with a gun at school (11.9 percent v. 2.8 percent).

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, spring 1995.

EMBARGOED UNTIL May 8, 1998

**Report on State Implementation of the  
Gun-Free Schools Act - School Year  
1996-97**

**Final Report**

**1998**



# **Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act - School Year 1996-97**

## **Final Report**

**Beth Sinclair  
Jennifer Hamilton  
Julie Daft  
Dee Bolcik**

**1998**

**Prepared for:**

**U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education  
and  
Planning and Evaluation Service  
Contract No. EA94052001**

**Prepared By:**

**Westat, Inc.  
Rockville, MD**

**The views expressed in this report developed under contract to the U.S. Department of Education do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Department, and no official endorsement by the Department should be inferred.**

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## Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act -- School Year 1996-1997

### Introduction

The Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA) states that each state receiving federal funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must have a state law that requires all local educational agencies (LEAs) in the state to expel from school for at least one year any student found bringing a firearm to school. (See Appendix A for a copy of the GFSA.) State laws must also authorize the LEA chief administering officer to modify any such expulsion on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the GFSA states that it must be construed to be consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The GFSA requires states to report information about the implementation of the act annually to the Secretary of Education. In order to meet this requirement and to monitor compliance with the GFSA, the Department of Education (ED) requires each state<sup>1</sup> to submit an annual report that provides the number of students expelled (by type of firearm and school level), the number of expulsions that were modified on a case-by-case basis, the number of modified cases that were not for students with disabilities, and the number of expelled students who were referred to an alternative school or program. Two additional items regarding specific LEA compliance with the GFSA were reported but are not included in this report.

### Data Collection and Verification

Westat, under contract to ED, collected the data from each state department of education for 1995-96 and from all but one state for 1996-97<sup>2</sup>.

- As each survey was received, it was reviewed for accuracy and entered into a database.
- In approximately 50 cases (over both years), Westat contacted the state to obtain a correction or clarification of the submitted data. For example, the data provider was contacted if the submitted forms were not internally consistent or if rows or columns did not add to printed totals.
- Once all of the data was received at Westat, all states were contacted and asked to provide a final verification of their data by fax. To date, 53 states have verified their data in this manner<sup>3</sup>.

### Organization of the Report

This report is divided into three sections and summarizes 1996-97 data submitted by the states. The 1995-96 data are not included in this report because, as it was the first year of the GFSA data collection, there were many problems with the quality of the data collected. The first section is a brief summary of the overall findings. The second section presents a summary

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<sup>1</sup> For the remainder of this report, the term "states" refers to all 56 of the jurisdictions (states and territories) covered under the Gun-Free Schools Act.

<sup>2</sup> The state that has yet to submit 1996-97 GFSA information is American Samoa. Westat continues to work to obtain a completed survey instrument from this state.

<sup>3</sup> The states that have yet to verify their data are Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

---

of the 1996-97 data in both tabular and graphic form. The tables in this section contain data notes that are critical to the correct interpretation of the data. The third section presents a page for each state. Each page contains the data submitted by the state as well as any caveats or data notes accompanying the data. Finally, a copy of the GFSA state data collection instrument can be found in Appendix B of this report.

### Data Quality and Interpretation of Findings

**All of the information contained in this report should be interpreted with caution. First, as noted on the summary tables and on the individual state pages, some states attached caveats and data notes to their data that should be considered. This is of particular importance when examining national totals, as they are not made up of data that are comparable from state to state in all cases (for example, some states submitted data on all weapons, not firearms). Second, some states submitted aggregate data that was not broken out by school level and/or type of weapon. The expulsions for these states are included in the overall summary totals but are not included in the figures by type of firearm or school level. This means that the total number of reported expulsions differs for each questionnaire item summarized in this report.**

As with all new reporting efforts, we expect the quality of the data submitted under the GFSA will continue to improve. ED will work to assist the states in their data reporting to ensure this improvement.

Finally, this report is not designed to provide information to the reader regarding the rate at which students carry firearms to school. The data reported by the states concern disciplinary actions only.

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### Summary

- ★ Overall, 55 states reported data under the GFSA for the 1996-97 school year. These states reported that they expelled an estimated total of 6,093 students from school for bringing a firearm<sup>4</sup> to school out of a total 5- to 7-year-old population of slightly over 51 million in 1996. However, not all states reported data for all of their districts and some states reported total expulsions for all weapons, not just firearms. Therefore, the figures reported by some states may either over- or underestimate the actual expulsions under the GFSA. Refer to Table 1 for more detailed information regarding these over- and underestimates as well as other data caveats.
- ★ Fifty-six percent of the expulsions reported by school level were students in high school, 34 percent were in junior high, and 9 percent were in elementary school. These data were reported by school level by 49 states. (See Table 2).
- ★ Fifty-eight percent of the expulsions reported by type of firearm were for bringing a handgun to school. Seven percent of these expulsions were for bringing a rifle or shotgun to school and 35 percent were for some other type of firearm (such as bombs, grenades, or starter pistols). The data were reported by type of weapon by 47 states. (See Table 3).

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<sup>4</sup> Please see Appendices A and B for a detailed definition.

- ★ Forty-three states reported on expulsions that were shortened to less than one year. In these states, 34 percent of expulsions were shortened to less than one year. (See Table 4).
- ★ Thirty-nine states reported on the disability status of students receiving shortened expulsions. In these states, 63 percent of shortened expulsions were for students who were not considered disabled. (See Table 5).
- ★ In the 41 states reporting data on alternative placements, 56 percent of the expelled students in these states were referred to an alternate school or placement. (See Table 6)

### Expulsions for Bringing a Firearm to School – Overview

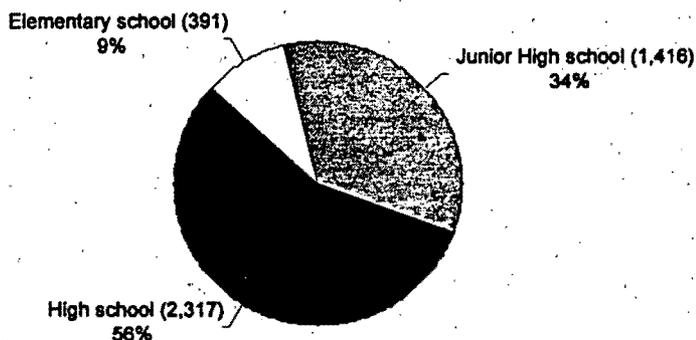
Overall, 55 states provided data on the number of students expelled for bringing a firearm to school, for a total of 6,093 expulsions. California<sup>5</sup>, Ohio<sup>6</sup>, and Texas were the only states with greater than 500 expulsions, and the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Guam, and Puerto Rico reported that they had none during the 1996-97 school year. When viewed as the number of expulsions per 1,000 enrolled students, Colorado<sup>7</sup>, Ohio<sup>6</sup>, and Missouri<sup>8</sup> had the highest number of expulsions per 1,000 students. However, not all states reported data for all of their districts and some states reported total expulsions for all weapons, not just firearms. Refer to Table 1 for more detailed information on these caveats.

#### School Level

Forty-nine states provided data on their expulsions by school level. Over two-thirds of all reported expulsions were reported by school level (4,125 of 6,093)<sup>9</sup>.

Of these 4,125 expulsions, over half (2,317 or 56 percent) were students in senior high schools, 34 percent (1,416) were students in junior high, and 9 percent (391) were elementary school students. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 1 and Table 2)

**Figure 1. Number and percentage of students expelled, by school level, 1996-97**



**Data Notes:**

- Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
- See the detailed caveats on Table 2 for additional information regarding these data.
- The figures shown in this graph are based on data reported by 49 states.

<sup>5</sup> The expulsions reported by California represent the total number of school crime incidents that involved a gun.

<sup>6</sup> The data submitted by Ohio are for expulsions for the use/possession of weapons, rather than just firearms.

<sup>7</sup> Colorado reported figures that represent expulsions for all weapons, not just firearms.

<sup>8</sup> The expulsions reported by Missouri may include expulsions for other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.

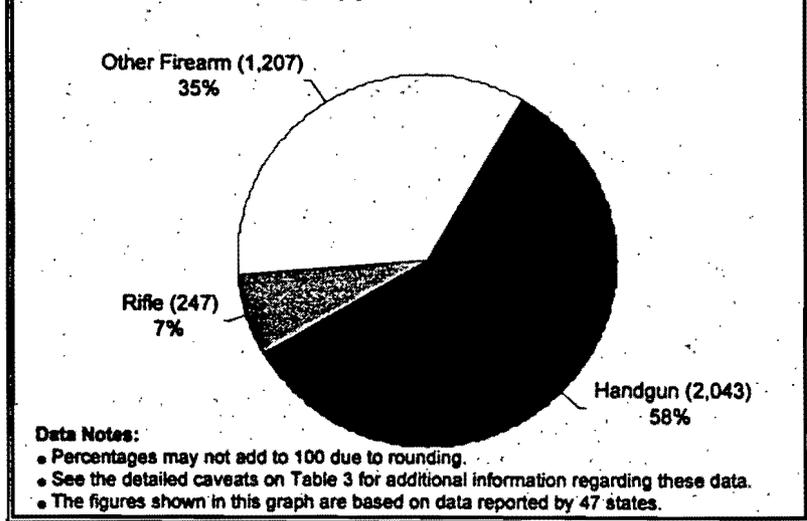
<sup>9</sup> One expulsion was from a non-graded school.

## Type of Firearm

Forty-seven states provided data differentiating the type of firearm brought to school by students. Almost 60 percent of all reported expulsions were reported by type of firearm (3,497 of 6,093).

Of these 3,497 expulsions, 58 percent (2,043) involved handguns, 7 percent (247) involved rifles or shotguns, and the remaining 35 percent (1,207) involved other types of firearms (such as bombs, grenades, starter pistols, and rockets). Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 2 and Table 3)

**Figure 2. Number and percentage of students expelled, by type of firearm, 1996-97**



## Shortened Expulsions and Students with Disabilities

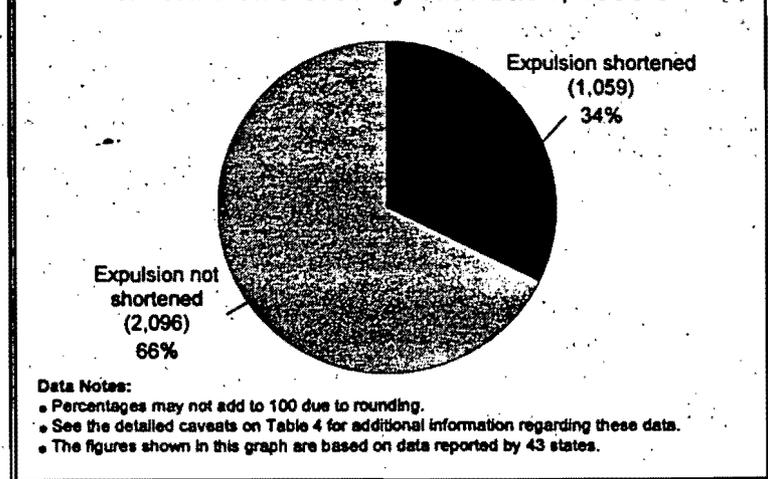
The GFSA allows the LEA chief administering officer to modify any expulsion for firearm violations on a case-by-case basis (for example, by shortening the expulsion to less than one year). The purpose of this provision is to allow the chief administering officer in a school district to take unique circumstances into account as well as to ensure that the IDEA and GFSA requirements are implemented consistently. In order to capture these modifications, states are asked to report the number of students who had their period of expulsion shortened, as well as the number of these cases that were not for students with disabilities.

## Shortened Expulsions

Forty-three states reported the number of students whose expulsions were shortened to less than one year as part of the case-by-case review process.

Of the 3,155 expulsions in these states, 1,059 (or 34 percent) were shortened to less than one year. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 3 and Table 4)

**Figure 3. One-year expulsions vs. expulsions shortened on a case-by-case basis, 1996-97**

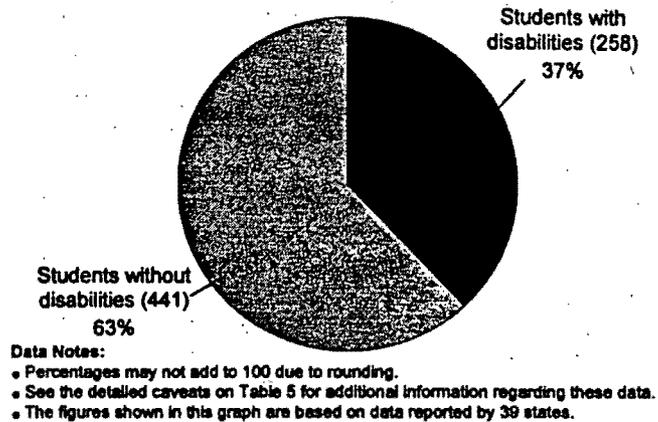


### **Disability Status of Students with Shortened Expulsions**

Thirty-nine states reported on the disability status of the students with shortened expulsions. Among these 39 states, the overall number of shortened expulsions was 699 (compared to 1,059 for the 43 states shown in Table 4).

Of these 699 students, 441 (63 percent) were not considered disabled under section 602(a)(1) of IDEA. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 4 and Table 5)

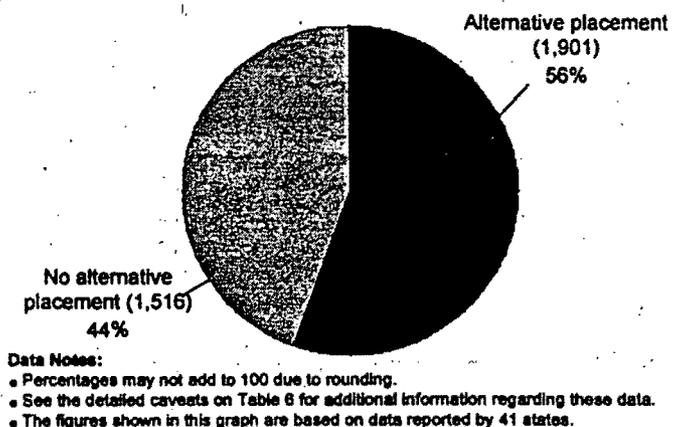
Figure 4. Expulsions shortened on a case-by-case basis, students with and without disabilities, 1996-97



### **Referrals**

The GFSA has in place provisions that allow local officials to refer expelled students to an alternative school or program. Forty-one states reported information for this data item and among these states, 1,901 students (56 percent) were referred for an alternative placement. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 5 and Table 6)

Figure 5. Expulsions referred to an alternative placement, 1996-97



**Table 1**

Number of students expelled for GFSA violations per 1,000 students of the school-age population, 1996-97

| State                    | Number of students expelled in 1996-97 | School-age population 1996 | Expelled students per 1,000 of pop. | Data Caveats                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama                  | 91                                     | 780,000                    | 0.117                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Alaska                   | 19                                     | 135,000                    | 0.141                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arizona                  | 152                                    | 807,000                    | 0.188                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arkansas                 | 62                                     | 484,000                    | 0.128                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| California <sup>1</sup>  | 723                                    | 6,132,000                  | 0.118                               | This figure represents the total number of school crime incidents that involved a gun.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Colorado <sup>1</sup>    | 475                                    | 728,000                    | 0.652                               | Reported figures are expulsions for ALL weapons; not just firearms.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Connecticut              | 19                                     | 575,000                    | 0.033                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Delaware                 | 7                                      | 126,000                    | 0.056                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| District of Columbia     | 0                                      | 75,000                     | 0.000                               | The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator reported that the District has a policy in place, but the policy was not enforced in 1996-97. The District is now surveying each school to determine whether the school had a policy of expulsions in place in 1996-97 and whether students were expelled. <sup>2</sup> |
| Florida                  | 202                                    | 2,467,000                  | 0.082                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Georgia                  | 244                                    | 1,401,000                  | 0.174                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Hawaii                   | 0                                      | 215,000                    | 0.000                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Idaho                    | 33                                     | 258,000                    | 0.128                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Illinois                 | 250                                    | 2,241,000                  | 0.112                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indiana                  | 109                                    | 1,089,000                  | 0.100                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Iowa                     | 40                                     | 537,000                    | 0.074                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kansas                   | 43                                     | 507,000                    | 0.085                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kentucky                 | 70                                     | 710,000                    | 0.099                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Louisiana                | 88                                     | 906,000                    | 0.097                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maine                    | 13                                     | 228,000                    | 0.057                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maryland <sup>1</sup>    | 73                                     | 927,000                    | 0.079                               | Reported figure is for the number of incidents, rather than the number of expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Massachusetts            | 54                                     | 1,031,000                  | 0.052                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Michigan <sup>1</sup>    | 92                                     | 1,865,000                  | 0.049                               | Data are for the period Jan 1995 through June 1997 (a larger period of time than the 1996-97 school year).                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Minnesota                | 18                                     | 931,000                    | 0.019                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Mississippi <sup>3</sup> | 11                                     | 552,000                    | 0.020                               | Information submitted for handguns only.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Missouri <sup>1</sup>    | 318                                    | 1,027,000                  | 0.310                               | Reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Montana                  | 12                                     | 177,000                    | 0.068                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nebraska <sup>3</sup>    | 20                                     | 329,000                    | 0.061                               | Nebraska did not collect expulsion data from elementary schools. The school-age population figures are for all children aged 5 to 17.                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Nevada                   | 54                                     | 293,000                    | 0.184                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Hampshire            | 15                                     | 220,000                    | 0.068                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Jersey               | 57                                     | 1,415,000                  | 0.040                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Mexico               | 71                                     | 365,000                    | 0.195                               | Twenty expulsions were reported separately as an unknown firearm. These were added to the "other firearms" expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                              |

**Table 1 (cont'd)**

| State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Number of students expelled in 1996-97 | School-age population 1996 | Expelled students per 1,000 of pop. | Data Caveats                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| New York <sup>3</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 128                                    | 3,220,000                  | 0.040                               | The data reported for 1996-97 represents 71% of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included. The school-age population figures are for all children aged 5 to 17.                                                  |
| North Carolina                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 163                                    | 1,321,000                  | 0.123                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| North Dakota                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1                                      | 127,000                    | 0.008                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Ohio <sup>1</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 937                                    | 2,089,000                  | 0.449                               | The data submitted are for expulsions for the use/possession of <u>weapons</u> rather than firearms.                                                                                                                    |
| Oklahoma                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 0                                      | 653,000                    | 0.000                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Oregon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 85                                     | 597,000                    | 0.142                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 200                                    | 2,133,000                  | 0.094                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Rhode Island                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 7                                      | 172,000                    | 0.041                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| South Carolina                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 94                                     | 684,000                    | 0.137                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| South Dakota                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 17                                     | 153,000                    | 0.046                               | The reported figure includes air guns.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Tennessee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 98                                     | 958,000                    | 0.102                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Texas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 532                                    | 3,870,000                  | 0.137                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Utah                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 80                                     | 490,000                    | 0.163                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Vermont                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 5                                      | 111,000                    | 0.045                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Virginia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 92                                     | 1,777,000                  | 0.052                               | Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles.                                                                                                                                                            |
| Washington                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 146                                    | 1,051,000                  | 0.139                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| West Virginia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 27                                     | 315,000                    | 0.086                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Wisconsin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 54                                     | 1,006,000                  | 0.054                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Wyoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0                                      | 102,000                    | 0.000                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Puerto Rico                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 0                                      | 852,354                    | 0.000                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| American Samoa                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | No data submitted for 1996-97          | 13,629                     | -                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Guam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0                                      | 31,797                     | 0.000                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Northern Marianas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1                                      | 7,766                      | 0.129                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Virgin Islands                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1                                      | 26,197                     | 0.038                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>6,093</b>                           | <b>51,293,743</b>          | <b>0.119</b>                        | Because all states did not submit data in a uniform way, this total should be considered an estimate. Refer to the caveats shown on the individual state lines for a full picture of the data submitted under the GFSA. |
| Number of states:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                        | 55                         |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Data Notes:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                        |                            |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The school-age population figures are children aged 5 to 17, including both public and private school students. For the 50 states and the District of Columbia, these figures are for 1996. For Puerto Rico and the other outlying areas, the figures shown are for 1990.   |                                        |                            |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <sup>1/</sup> The figure reported by this state may overstate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                         |                                        |                            |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <sup>2/</sup> The U.S. Department of Education is working to address this issue. The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator also reported that the policy is being enforced this year (1997-98) and that so far, four students have been expelled for firearms violations. |                                        |                            |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <sup>3/</sup> The figure reported by this state may understate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                        |                                        |                            |                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

**Table 2**

Number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by school level, 1996-97

| State                             | School Level |   |             |   |             | Data Caveats |     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---|-------------|---|-------------|--------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                   | Elementary   | % | Junior High | % | Senior High |              | %   | Total                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Alabama                           | 12           |   | 31          |   | 48          |              | 91  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Alaska                            | 4            |   | 2           |   | 13          |              | 19  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arizona                           | 32           |   | 38          |   | 81          |              | 152 | Row does not add to the total because one expulsion was from a non-graded school.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Arkansas                          | 10           |   | 40          |   | 12          |              | 62  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Colorado <sup>1</sup>             | 44           |   | 202         |   | 229         |              | 475 | Reported figures are expulsions for ALL weapons, not just firearms.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Connecticut                       | 0            |   | 3           |   | 16          |              | 19  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Delaware                          | 1            |   | 0           |   | 6           |              | 7   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| District of Columbia <sup>2</sup> | 0            |   | 0           |   | 0           |              | 0   | The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator reported that the District has a policy in place, but the policy was not enforced in 1996-97. The District is now surveying each school to determine whether the school had a policy of expulsions in place in 1996-97 and whether students were expelled. <sup>2</sup> |
| Florida                           | 8            |   | 73          |   | 121         |              | 202 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Georgia                           | 11           |   | 82          |   | 151         |              | 244 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Hawaii                            | 0            |   | 0           |   | 0           |              | 0   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Illinois                          | 39           |   | 62          |   | 149         |              | 250 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indiana                           | 3            |   | 46          |   | 60          |              | 109 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Iowa                              | 4            |   | 18          |   | 18          |              | 40  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kansas                            | 3            |   | 10          |   | 30          |              | 43  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kentucky                          | 4            |   | 30          |   | 36          |              | 70  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Louisiana                         | 16           |   | 30          |   | 42          |              | 88  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maine                             | 1            |   | 2           |   | 10          |              | 13  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maryland <sup>1</sup>             | 4            |   | 13          |   | 56          |              | 73  | Reported figure is for the number of incidents, rather than the number of expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Massachusetts                     | 3            |   | 23          |   | 28          |              | 54  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Minnesota                         | 0            |   | 7           |   | 11          |              | 18  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Mississippi <sup>3</sup>          | 0            |   | 4           |   | 7           |              | 11  | Information submitted for handguns only.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Missouri <sup>1</sup>             | 43           |   | 134         |   | 141         |              | 318 | Reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Montana                           | 3            |   | 2           |   | 7           |              | 12  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nebraska <sup>3</sup>             | MD           |   | 6           |   | 14          |              | 20  | Nebraska did not collect expulsion data from elementary schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nevada                            | 2            |   | 20          |   | 32          |              | 54  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Hampshire                     | 0            |   | 7           |   | 8           |              | 15  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Jersey                        | 7            |   | 23          |   | 27          |              | 57  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Mexico                        | 3            |   | 24          |   | 44          |              | 71  | Twenty expulsions were reported separately as an unknown firearm. These were added to the "other firearms" expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| New York <sup>3</sup>             | 4            |   | 48          |   | 76          |              | 128 | The data reported for 1996-97 represents 71% of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| North Carolina                    | 5            |   | 54          |   | 104         |              | 163 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| North Dakota                      | 0            |   | 0           |   | 1           |              | 1   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Table 2 (cont'd)**

| School Level                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |            |             |              |            |              |            | Data Caveats                                                 |                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Elementary | Junior High | Senior High  | Total      |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Oklahoma                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 0          | 0           | 0            | 0          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Pennsylvania                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 19         | 50          | 131          | 200        |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Rhode Island                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1          | 1           | 5            | 7          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| South Carolina                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 5          | 40          | 49           | 94         |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| South Dakota                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 0          | 2           | 5            | 7          |              |            | The reported figure includes air guns.                       |                                                                                                                   |
| Texas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 72         | 171         | 289          | 532        |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Utah                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 14         | 32          | 34           | 80         |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Vermont                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1          | 1           | 3            | 5          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Virginia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 7          | 21          | 64           | 92         |              |            | Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles. |                                                                                                                   |
| Washington                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 6          | 39          | 101          | 146        |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| West Virginia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 0          | 7           | 20           | 27         |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Wisconsin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 0          | 18          | 36           | 54         |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Wyoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0          | 0           | 0            | 0          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Puerto Rico                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 0          | 0           | 0            | 0          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Guam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0          | 0           | 0            | 0          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Northern Marianas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 0          | 0           | 1            | 1          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Virgin Islands                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 0          | 0           | 1            | 1          |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>391</b> | <b>9%</b>   | <b>1,416</b> | <b>34%</b> | <b>2,317</b> | <b>56%</b> | <b>4,125</b>                                                 | Refer to the caveats shown on the individual state lines for a full picture of the data submitted under the GFSA. |
| <b>Data Notes:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |            |             |              |            |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| MD=Missing Data                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |            |             |              |            |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>1/</sup> The figure reported by this state may overstate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                         |            |             |              |            |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>2/</sup> The U.S. Department of Education is working to address this issue. The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator also reported that the policy is being enforced this year (1997-98) and that so far, four students have been expelled for firearms violations. |            |             |              |            |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>3/</sup> The figure reported by this state may understate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                        |            |             |              |            |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Percent of expulsions reported by school level:                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |            |             |              | 68%        |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |
| Number of states reporting information by school level:                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |            |             |              | 49         |              |            |                                                              |                                                                                                                   |

**Table 3**

Number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by type of firearm, 1996-97

| State                    | Type of Firearm |   |                   |   |       |   | Total | Data Caveats                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|---|-------|---|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                          | Hand-gun        | % | Rifle/<br>Shotgun | % | Other | % |       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Alabama                  | 84              |   | 3                 |   | 4     |   | 91    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Alaska                   | 11              |   | 6                 |   | 2     |   | 19    | The figures reported under rifles and shotguns include any "generic" guns reported by districts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Arizona                  | 103             |   | 18                |   | 31    |   | 152   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arkansas                 | 53              |   | 4                 |   | 5     |   | 62    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Connecticut              | 12              |   | 3                 |   | 4     |   | 19    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Delaware                 | 6               |   | 1                 |   | 0     |   | 7     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| District of Columbia     | 0               |   | 0                 |   | 0     |   | 0     | The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator reported that the District has a policy in place, but the policy was not enforced in 1996-97. The District is now surveying each school to determine whether the school had a policy of expulsions in place in 1996-97 and whether students were expelled. <sup>2</sup> |
| Florida                  | 174             |   | 6                 |   | 22    |   | 202   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Georgia                  | 165             |   | 16                |   | 63    |   | 244   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Hawaii                   | 0               |   | 0                 |   | 0     |   | 0     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Idaho                    | 8               |   | 3                 |   | 22    |   | 33    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Illinois                 | 104             |   | 6                 |   | 140   |   | 250   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indiana                  | 77              |   | 11                |   | 21    |   | 109   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Iowa                     | 18              |   | 3                 |   | 19    |   | 40    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kansas                   | 30              |   | 7                 |   | 6     |   | 43    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kentucky                 | 56              |   | 4                 |   | 10    |   | 70    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maine                    | 9               |   | 2                 |   | 2     |   | 13    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maryland <sup>1</sup>    | 52              |   | 4                 |   | 17    |   | 73    | Reported figure is for the number of incidents, rather than the number of expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Massachusetts            | 36              |   | 0                 |   | 18    |   | 54    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Minnesota                | 6               |   | 1                 |   | 11    |   | 18    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Mississippi <sup>3</sup> | 11              |   | 0                 |   | 0     |   | 11    | Information submitted for handguns only.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Missouri <sup>1</sup>    | 8               |   | 2                 |   | 308   |   | 318   | Reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Montana                  | 7               |   | 1                 |   | 4     |   | 12    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nevada                   | 35              |   | 2                 |   | 17    |   | 54    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Hampshire            | 11              |   | 3                 |   | 1     |   | 15    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Jersey               | 27              |   | 2                 |   | 28    |   | 57    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Mexico               | 26              |   | 7                 |   | 38    |   | 71    | Twenty expulsions were reported separately as an unknown firearm. These were added to the "other firearms" expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| New York <sup>3</sup>    | 78              |   | 10                |   | 40    |   | 128   | The data reported for 1996-97 represents 71% of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| North Dakota             | 0               |   | 0                 |   | 1     |   | 1     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oklahoma                 | 0               |   | 0                 |   | 0     |   | 0     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oregon                   | 55              |   | 8                 |   | 22    |   | 85    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Pennsylvania             | 84              |   | 15                |   | 101   |   | 200   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Rhode Island             | 7               |   | 0                 |   | 0     |   | 7     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Table 3 (cont'd)**

| State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Type of Firearm |               |            |           |              | Data Caveats                                                 |              |                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Hand-gun        | Rifle/Shotgun | Other      | Total     |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| South Carolina                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 69              | 6             | 19         | 94        |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| South Dakota                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 1               | 1             | 5          | 7         |              | The reported figure includes air guns.                       |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Texas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 324             | 50            | 158        | 532       |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Utah                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 68              | 3             | 9          | 80        |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Vermont                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 4               | 1             | 0          | 5         |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Virginia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 56              | MD            | 36         | 92        |              | Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles. |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Washington                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 111             | 32            | 3          | 146       |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| West Virginia                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 13              | 5             | 9          | 27        |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Wisconsin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 42              | 1             | 11         | 54        |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Wyoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0               | 0             | 0          | 0         |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Puerto Rico                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 0               | 0             | 0          | 0         |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Guam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0               | 0             | 0          | 0         |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Northern Marianas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1               | 0             | 0          | 1         |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Virgin Islands                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1               | 0             | 0          | 1         |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>2,043</b>    | <b>58%</b>    | <b>247</b> | <b>7%</b> | <b>1,207</b> | <b>35%</b>                                                   | <b>3,497</b> | Refer to the caveats shown on the individual state lines for a full picture of the data submitted under the GFSA. |
| <b>Data Notes:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                 |               |            |           |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| MD=Missing Data                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                 |               |            |           |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>1/</sup> The figure reported by this state may overstate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |               |            |           |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>2/</sup> The U.S. Department of Education is working to address this issue. The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator also reported that the policy is being enforced this year (1997-98) and that so far, four students have been expelled for firearms violations. |                 |               |            |           |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>3/</sup> The figure reported by this state may understate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                        |                 |               |            |           |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Percent of expulsions reported by type of weapon:                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |               |            | 57%       |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |
| Number of states reporting information by type of weapon:                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                 |               |            | 47        |              |                                                              |              |                                                                                                                   |

**Table 4**

Number and percent of expulsions for GFSA violations shortened on a case-by-case basis, 1996-97

| State                 | Total Expulsions | Total Number Shortened | Overall Percent Shortened | Data Caveats                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama               | 91               | 19                     | 21%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arizona               | 152              | 34                     | 22%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arkansas              | 62               | 20                     | 32%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Connecticut           | 19               | 5                      | 26%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Delaware              | 7                | 1                      | 14%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| District of Columbia  | 0                | NA                     | 0%                        | The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator reported that the District has a policy in place, but the policy was not enforced in 1996-97. The District is now surveying each school to determine whether the school had a policy of expulsions in place in 1996-97 and whether students were expelled. <sup>2</sup> |
| Florida               | 202              | 28                     | 14%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Georgia               | 244              | 47                     | 19%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Hawaii                | 0                | NA                     | 0%                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Idaho                 | 33               | 12                     | 36%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Indiana               | 109              | 92                     | 84%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Iowa                  | 40               | 18                     | 45%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kansas                | 43               | 11                     | 26%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kentucky              | 70               | 17                     | 24%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maine                 | 13               | 6                      | 46%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Massachusetts         | 54               | 37                     | 69%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Minnesota             | 18               | 12                     | 67%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Missouri <sup>1</sup> | 318              | 33                     | 10%                       | Reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Montana               | 12               | 7                      | 58%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nebraska <sup>3</sup> | 20               | 7                      | 35%                       | Nebraska did not collect expulsion data from elementary schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nevada                | 54               | 3                      | 6%                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Hampshire         | 15               | 9                      | 60%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Jersey            | 57               | 20                     | 35%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Mexico            | 71               | 12                     | 17%                       | Twenty expulsions were reported separately as an unknown firearm. These were added to the "other firearms" expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| New York <sup>3</sup> | 128              | 47                     | 37%                       | The data reported for 1996-97 represents 71% of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| North Carolina        | 163              | 64                     | 39%                       | North Carolina reported that the figures for this question are based on estimates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| North Dakota          | 1                | 1                      | 100%                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oklahoma              | 0                | NA                     | 0%                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oregon                | 85               | 37                     | 44%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Pennsylvania          | 200              | 141                    | 71%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Rhode Island          | 7                | 7                      | 100%                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| South Carolina        | 94               | 16                     | 17%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| South Dakota          | 7                | 3                      | 43%                       | The reported figure includes air guns.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Texas                 | 532              | 167                    | 31%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Vermont               | 5                | 4                      | 80%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Washington            | 146              | 103                    | 71%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| West Virginia         | 27               | 8                      | 30%                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Table 4 (cont'd)**

| State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Total Expulsions | Total Number Shortened | Overall Percent Shortened | Data Caveats                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wisconsin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 54               | 11                     | 20%                       |                                                                                                                   |
| Wyoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 0                | NA                     | 0%                        |                                                                                                                   |
| Puerto Rico                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 0                | NA                     | 0%                        |                                                                                                                   |
| Guam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0                | NA                     | 0%                        |                                                                                                                   |
| Northern Marianas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1                | 0                      | 0%                        |                                                                                                                   |
| Virgin Islands                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 1                | 0                      | 0%                        |                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>3,155</b>     | <b>1,059</b>           | <b>34%</b>                | Refer to the caveats shown on the individual state lines for a full picture of the data submitted under the GFSA. |
| Number of states reporting the number of expulsions that were shortened on a case-by-case basis:                                                                                                                                                                            |                  |                        |                           | 43                                                                                                                |
| <b>Data Notes:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                  |                        |                           |                                                                                                                   |
| The GFSA includes provisions that authorize the LEA chief administering officer to modify any GFSA expulsion on a case-by-case basis (for example by shortening the expulsion to less than one year).                                                                       |                  |                        |                           |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>1/</sup> The figure reported by this state may overstate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                         |                  |                        |                           |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>2/</sup> The U.S. Department of Education is working to address this issue. The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator also reported that the policy is being enforced this year (1997-98) and that so far, four students have been expelled for firearms violations. |                  |                        |                           |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>3/</sup> The figure reported by this state may understate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                        |                  |                        |                           |                                                                                                                   |

**Table 5**

Number and percent of expulsions for GFSA violations shortened for non-disabled students on a case-by-case basis, 1996-97

| State                 | Total Number Shortened | Number Non-disabled Shortened | Percentage Non-disabled Shortened | Data Caveats                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama               | 19                     | 9                             | 47%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arizona               | 34                     | 16                            | 47%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arkansas              | 20                     | 15                            | 75%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Connecticut           | 5                      | 4                             | 80%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Delaware              | 1                      | 0                             | 0%                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| District of Columbia  | NA                     | NA                            | 0%                                | The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator reported that the District has a policy in place, but the policy was not enforced in 1996-97. The District is now surveying each school to determine whether the school had a policy of expulsions in place in 1996-97 and whether students were expelled. <sup>2</sup> |
| Florida               | 28                     | 13                            | 46%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Georgia               | 47                     | 19                            | 40%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Hawaii                | NA                     | NA                            | 0%                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Idaho                 | 12                     | 0                             | 0%                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Iowa                  | 18                     | 14                            | 78%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kansas                | 11                     | 10                            | 91%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kentucky              | 17                     | 13                            | 76%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maine                 | 6                      | 3                             | 50%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Massachusetts         | 37                     | 28                            | 76%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Minnesota             | 12                     | 12                            | 100%                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Missouri <sup>1</sup> | 33                     | 5                             | 15%                               | Reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Montana               | 7                      | 6                             | 86%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nebraska <sup>3</sup> | 7                      | 5                             | 71%                               | Nebraska did not collect expulsion data from elementary schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nevada                | 3                      | 1                             | 33%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Hampshire         | 9                      | 4                             | 44%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Jersey            | 20                     | 20                            | 100%                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Mexico            | 12                     | 12                            | 100%                              | Twenty expulsions were reported separately as an unknown firearm. These were added to the "other firearms" expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| New York <sup>3</sup> | 47                     | 13                            | 28%                               | The data reported for 1996-97 represents 71% of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| North Dakota          | 1                      | 1                             | 100%                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oklahoma              | NA                     | NA                            | 0%                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Pennsylvania          | 141                    | 118                           | 84%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Rhode Island          | 7                      | 6                             | 86%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| South Carolina        | 16                     | 12                            | 75%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| South Dakota          | 3                      | 1                             | 33%                               | The reported figure includes air guns.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Vermont               | 4                      | 4                             | 100%                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Washington            | 103                    | 62                            | 60%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| West Virginia         | 8                      | 7                             | 88%                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Table 5 (cont'd)**

| State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Total Number Shortened | Number Non-disabled Shortened | Percentage Non-disabled Shortened | Data Caveats                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wisconsin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 11                     | 8                             | 73%                               |                                                                                                                   |
| Wyoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | NA                     | NA                            | 0%                                |                                                                                                                   |
| Puerto Rico                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | NA                     | NA                            | 0%                                |                                                                                                                   |
| Guam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | NA                     | NA                            | 0%                                |                                                                                                                   |
| Northern Marianas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 0                      | 0                             | 0%                                |                                                                                                                   |
| Virgin Islands                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 0                      | NA                            | 0%                                |                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>699</b>             | <b>441</b>                    | <b>63%</b>                        | Refer to the caveats shown on the individual state lines for a full picture of the data submitted under the GFSA. |
| Number of states reporting the number of shortened expulsions that were <u>not</u> disabled:                                                                                                                                                                                |                        |                               |                                   | 39                                                                                                                |
| <b>Data Notes:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                        |                               |                                   |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>1/</sup> The figure reported by this state may overstate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                         |                        |                               |                                   |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>2/</sup> The U.S. Department of Education is working to address this issue. The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator also reported that the policy is being enforced this year (1997-98) and that so far, four students have been expelled for firearms violations. |                        |                               |                                   |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>3/</sup> The figure reported by this state may understate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                        |                        |                               |                                   |                                                                                                                   |

**Table 6**

Percentage of students expelled for GFSA violations referred to an alternative placement, 1996-97

| State                 | Total Expulsions | Referred | Percent Referred | Data Caveats                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Alabama               | 91               | 37       | 41%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Alaska                | 19               | 2        | 11%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arizona               | 152              | 68       | 45%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Arkansas              | 62               | 6        | 10%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| California            | 723              | 723      | 100%             | This figure represents the total number of school crime incidents that involved a gun.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Connecticut           | 19               | 14       | 74%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Delaware              | 7                | 3        | 43%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| District of Columbia  | 0                | NA       | 0%               | The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator reported that the District has a policy in place, but the policy was not enforced in 1996-97. The District is now surveying each school to determine whether the school had a policy of expulsions in place in 1996-97 and whether students were expelled. <sup>2</sup> |
| Florida               | 202              | 110      | 54%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Georgia               | 244              | 130      | 53%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Hawaii                | 0                | NA       | 0%               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Idaho                 | 33               | 3        | 9%               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kansas                | 43               | 22       | 51%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Kentucky              | 70               | 21       | 30%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maine                 | 13               | 5        | 38%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Maryland <sup>1</sup> | 73               | 21       | 29%              | Reported figure is for the number of incidents, rather than the number of expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Massachusetts         | 54               | 30       | 56%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Minnesota             | 18               | 12       | 67%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Montana               | 12               | 4        | 33%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Nebraska <sup>3</sup> | 20               | 15       | 75%              | Nebraska did not collect expulsion data from elementary schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Nevada                | 54               | 42       | 78%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Hampshire         | 15               | 4        | 27%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Jersey            | 57               | 15       | 26%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| New Mexico            | 71               | 5        | 7%               | Twenty expulsions were reported separately as an unknown firearm. These were added to the "other firearms" expulsions.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| New York <sup>3</sup> | 128              | 65       | 51%              | The data reported for 1996-97 represents 71% of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| North Carolina        | 163              | 21       | 13%              | North Carolina reported that the figures for this question are based on estimates.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| North Dakota          | 1                | 0        | 0%               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oklahoma              | 0                | NA       | 0%               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Pennsylvania          | 200              | 78       | 39%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Rhode Island          | 7                | 0        | 0%               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| South Carolina        | 94               | 36       | 38%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| South Dakota          | 7                | 3        | 43%              | The reported figure includes air guns.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Texas                 | 532              | 322      | 61%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Vermont               | 5                | 1        | 20%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Washington            | 146              | 61       | 42%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| West Virginia         | 27               | 9        | 33%              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Table 6 (cont'd)**

| State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Total Expulsions | Referred     | Percent Referred | Data Caveats                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wisconsin                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 54               | 13           | 24%              |                                                                                                                   |
| Wyoming                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 0                | NA           | 0%               |                                                                                                                   |
| Puerto Rico                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 0                | NA           | 0%               |                                                                                                                   |
| Guam                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0                | NA           | 0%               |                                                                                                                   |
| Northern Marianas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 1                | 0            | 0%               |                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>3,417</b>     | <b>1,901</b> | <b>56%</b>       | Refer to the caveats shown on the individual state lines for a full picture of the data submitted under the GFSA. |
| Number of states reporting the expelled students referred to an alternative placement:                                                                                                                                                                                     |                  |              |                  | 41                                                                                                                |
| <b>Data Notes:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                  |              |                  |                                                                                                                   |
| The GFSA has provisions in place that allow local officials to refer expelled students to an alternative school or program.                                                                                                                                                |                  |              |                  |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>1/</sup> The figure reported by this state may overstate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                        |                  |              |                  |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>2/</sup> The U.S. Department of Education is working to address this issue. The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator also reported that th policy is being enforced this year (1997-98) and that so far, four students have been expelled for firearms violations. |                  |              |                  |                                                                                                                   |
| <sup>3/</sup> The figure reported by this state may understate the number of actual GFSA violations.                                                                                                                                                                       |                  |              |                  |                                                                                                                   |

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**Individual State Summaries**

# Alabama

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Alabama under Alabama's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 12       | 0                   | 0                 | 12    |
| Junior High  | 27       | 1                   | 3                 | 31    |
| Senior High  | 45       | 2                   | 1                 | 48    |
| Total        | 84       | 3                   | 4                 | 91    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

19

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

9

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

37

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** For 1996-97 the SDFSC System Coordinators collected their own data. For the 1998-99 school year, the data will be collected state-wide through an electronic data collection.

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# Alaska

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Alaska under Alaska's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 1        | 3                   | 0                 | 4     |
| Junior High  | 1        | 1                   | 0                 | 2     |
| Senior High  | 9        | 2                   | 2                 | 13    |
| Total        | 11       | 6                   | 2                 | 19    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

2

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** The figures included under rifles and shotguns include any "generic" guns reported by districts.

---

Note: MD = missing data.

# Arizona

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Arizona under Arizona's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 14       | 9                   | 9                 | 32    |
| Junior High  | 23       | 2                   | 13                | 38    |
| Senior High  | 65       | 7                   | 9                 | 81    |
| Total        | 103      | 18                  | 31                | 152   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

34

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

16

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

68

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** One expulsion for bringing a handgun to school was for a student in an ungraded school. Therefore the handgun column does not add to the total (102 vs. 103).

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# Arkansas

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Arkansas under Arkansas's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 8        | 1                   | 1                 | 10    |
| Junior High  | 35       | 1                   | 4                 | 40    |
| Senior High  | 10       | 2                   | 0                 | 12    |
| Total        | 53       | 4                   | 5                 | 62    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

20

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

15

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

6

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# California

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in California under California's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 52    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 51    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 97    |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 723   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

723

---

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** The reported figure is the total number of school crime incidents that involved a gun. Information was reported for 1,057 districts but was available by school level for only 557 of these districts. Therefore, the total column does not add to the printed total (199 vs. 723).

---

Note: MD = missing data.

# Colorado

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Colorado under Colorado's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 44    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 202   |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 229   |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 475   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Reported figures are expulsions for ALL weapons, not just firearms.

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Note: MD = missing data .

# Connecticut

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Connecticut under Connecticut's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 2        | 1                   | 0                 | 3     |
| Senior High  | 10       | 2                   | 4                 | 16    |
| Total        | 12       | 3                   | 4                 | 19    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

5

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

4

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

14

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# Delaware

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Delaware under Delaware's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 5        | 1                   | 0                 | 6     |
| Total        | 6        | 1                   | 0                 | 7     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

1

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

0

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

3

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# District of Columbia

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in District of Columbia under District of Columbia's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Total        | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

NA

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

NA

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

NA

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator reported that the District has a policy in place, but the policy was not enforced in 1996-97. The District is now surveying each school to determine whether the school had a policy of expulsions in place in 1996-97 and whether students were expelled. The U.S. Department of Education is working to address this issue. The District of Columbia SDFSCA coordinator also reported that the policy is being enforced this year (1997-98) and that so far, four students have been expelled for firearms violations.

---

# Florida

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Florida under Florida's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 5        | 0                   | 3                 | 8     |
| Junior High  | 63       | 0                   | 10                | 73    |
| Senior High  | 106      | 6                   | 9                 | 121   |
| Total        | 174      | 6                   | 22                | 202   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

28

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

13

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

110

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# Georgia

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Georgia under Georgia's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 9        | 0                   | 2                 | 11    |
| Junior High  | 52       | 4                   | 26                | 82    |
| Senior High  | 104      | 12                  | 35                | 151   |
| Total        | 165      | 16                  | 63                | 244   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

47

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

19

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

130

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# Hawaii

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Hawaii under Hawaii's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Total        | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

NA

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

NA

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

NA

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: NA = not applicable.

# Idaho

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Idaho under Idaho's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Total        | 8        | 3                   | 22                | 33    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

12

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

0

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

3

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Information was provided on the data collection instrument by type of weapon but not by school level.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Illinois

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Illinois under Illinois's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 14       | 0                   | 25                | 39    |
| Junior High  | 22       | 1                   | 39                | 62    |
| Senior High  | 68       | 5                   | 76                | 149   |
| Total        | 104      | 6                   | 140               | 250   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Indiana

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Indiana under Indiana's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 3        | 0                   | 0                 | 3     |
| Junior High  | 24       | 5                   | 17                | 46    |
| Senior High  | 50       | 6                   | 4                 | 60    |
| Total        | 77       | 11                  | 21                | 109   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

92

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: MD = missing data.

1. Number of students expelled in Iowa under Iowa's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 1        | 0                   | 3                 | 4     |
| Junior High  | 9        | 2                   | 7                 | 18    |
| Senior High  | 8        | 1                   | 9                 | 18    |
| Total        | 18       | 3                   | 19                | 40    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

18

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

14

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Kansas

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Kansas under Kansas's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 3        | 0                   | 0                 | 3     |
| Junior High  | 7        | 0                   | 3                 | 10    |
| Senior High  | 20       | 7                   | 3                 | 30    |
| Total        | 30       | 7                   | 6                 | 43    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

11

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

10

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

22

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Kentucky

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Kentucky under Kentucky's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 4        | 0                   | 0                 | 4     |
| Junior High  | 26       | 1                   | 3                 | 30    |
| Senior High  | 26       | 3                   | 7                 | 36    |
| Total        | 56       | 4                   | 10                | 70    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

17

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

13

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

21

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# Louisiana

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Louisiana under Louisiana's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 16    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 30    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 42    |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 88    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

Note: MD = missing data.

# Maine

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Maine under Maine's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Junior High  | 2        | 0                   | 0                 | 2     |
| Senior High  | 6        | 2                   | 2                 | 10    |
| Total        | 9        | 2                   | 2                 | 13    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

6

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

3

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

5

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# Maryland

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Maryland under Maryland's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 2        | 0                   | 2                 | 4     |
| Junior High  | 7        | 0                   | 6                 | 13    |
| Senior High  | 43       | 4                   | 9                 | 56    |
| Total        | 52       | 4                   | 17                | 73    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

21

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Reported figure is for the number of incidents, rather than the number of expulsions.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Massachusetts

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Massachusetts under Massachusetts's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 1        | 0                   | 2                 | 3     |
| Junior High  | 20       | 0                   | 3                 | 23    |
| Senior High  | 15       | 0                   | 13                | 28    |
| Total        | 36       | 0                   | 18                | 54    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

37

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

28

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

30

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Michigan

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Michigan under Michigan's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 92    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Information submitted as a cumulative total only, not broken out by type of weapon or school level. Data are for the period from January 1995 through June 1997.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Minnesota

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Minnesota under Minnesota's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 7                 | 7     |
| Senior High  | 6        | 1                   | 4                 | 11    |
| Total        | 6        | 1                   | 11                | 18    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

12

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

12

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

12

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Mississippi

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Mississippi under Mississippi's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 4        | 0                   | 0                 | 4     |
| Senior High  | 7        | 0                   | 0                 | 7     |
| Total        | 11       | 0                   | 0                 | 11    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: Information submitted for handguns only.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Missouri

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Missouri under Missouri's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 43                | 43    |
| Junior High  | 1        | 0                   | 133               | 134   |
| Senior High  | 7        | 2                   | 132               | 141   |
| Total        | 8        | 2                   | 308               | 318   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

33

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

5

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.

---

Note: MD = missing data.

# Montana

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Montana under Montana's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 3        | 0                   | 0                 | 3     |
| Junior High  | 1        | 0                   | 1                 | 2     |
| Senior High  | 3        | 1                   | 3                 | 7     |
| Total        | 7        | 1                   | 4                 | 12    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

7

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

6

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

4

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Nebraska

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Nebraska under Nebraska's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 6     |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 14    |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 20    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

7

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

5

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

15

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Information reported for all firearms combined, not broken out by type of weapon. Nebraska did not collect expulsion data from elementary schools.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Nevada

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Nevada under Nevada's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 2                 | 2     |
| Junior High  | 12       | 0                   | 8                 | 20    |
| Senior High  | 23       | 2                   | 7                 | 32    |
| Total        | 35       | 2                   | 17                | 54    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

3

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

1

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

42

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# New Hampshire

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in New Hampshire under New Hampshire's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 6        | 0                   | 1                 | 7     |
| Senior High  | 5        | 3                   | 0                 | 8     |
| Total        | 11       | 3                   | 1                 | 15    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

9

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

4

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

4

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# New Jersey

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in New Jersey under New Jersey's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 4        | 0                   | 3                 | 7     |
| Junior High  | 10       | 0                   | 13                | 23    |
| Senior High  | 13       | 2                   | 12                | 27    |
| Total        | 27       | 2                   | 28                | 57    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

20

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

20

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

15

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# New Mexico

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in New Mexico under New Mexico's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 3                 | 3     |
| Junior High  | 7        | 0                   | 17                | 24    |
| Senior High  | 19       | 7                   | 18                | 44    |
| Total        | 26       | 7                   | 38                | 71    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

12

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

12

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

5

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: 20 expulsions were reported separately as an unknown firearm. These were added to the "other firearms" expulsions.

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# New York

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in New York under New York's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 2        | 0                   | 2                 | 4     |
| Junior High  | 25       | 4                   | 19                | 48    |
| Senior High  | 51       | 6                   | 19                | 76    |
| Total        | 78       | 10                  | 40                | 128   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

47

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

13

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

65

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** The data reported for 1996-97 represents 71% of all LEAs. All of the 5 largest LEAs are included.

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# North Carolina

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in North Carolina under North Carolina's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 5     |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 54    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 104   |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 163   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

64

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

21

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** North Carolina reported that the information submitted was broken out by school level but not by type of firearm. North Carolina also reported that the responses to items 2 and 4 are estimates.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# North Dakota

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in North Dakota under North Dakota's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 0        | 0                   | 1                 | 1     |
| Total        | 0        | 0                   | 1                 | 1     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

1

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

1

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

0

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# Ohio

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Ohio under Ohio's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 937   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** 1996-97 data submitted as a single aggregate figure only and are expulsions for the use/possession of weapons rather than firearms only.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Oklahoma

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Oklahoma under Oklahoma's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Total        | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

NA

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

NA

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

NA

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: NA = not applicable.

# Oregon

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Oregon under Oregon's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Total        | 55       | 8                   | 22                | 85    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

37

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

---

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Information submitted by type of weapon but not broken out by school level.

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**Note:** MD = missing data.

# Pennsylvania

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Pennsylvania under Pennsylvania's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 4        | 0                   | 15                | 19    |
| Junior High  | 12       | 2                   | 36                | 50    |
| Senior High  | 68       | 13                  | 50                | 131   |
| Total        | 84       | 15                  | 101               | 200   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

141

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

118

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

78

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Rhode Island

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Rhode Island under Rhode Island's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Junior High  | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Senior High  | 5        | 0                   | 0                 | 5     |
| Total        | 7        | 0                   | 0                 | 7     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

7

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

6

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

0

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# South Carolina

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in South Carolina under South Carolina's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 4        | 0                   | 1                 | 5     |
| Junior High  | 28       | 0                   | 12                | 40    |
| Senior High  | 37       | 6                   | 6                 | 49    |
| Total        | 69       | 6                   | 19                | 94    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

16

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

12

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

36

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# South Dakota

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in South Dakota under South Dakota's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 2                 | 2     |
| Senior High  | 1        | 1                   | 3                 | 5     |
| Total        | 1        | 1                   | 5                 | 7     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

3

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

1

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

3

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: The reported figures include air guns.

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# Tennessee

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Tennessee under Tennessee's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | 98    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

---

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** The information was submitted as an aggregate figure only. It was not broken out by type of weapon or school level.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Texas

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Texas under Texas's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 43       | 0                   | 29                | 72    |
| Junior High  | 104      | 1                   | 66                | 171   |
| Senior High  | 177      | 49                  | 63                | 289   |
| Total        | 324      | 50                  | 158               | 532   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

167

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

322

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

Note: MD = missing data.

# Utah

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Utah under Utah's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 9        | 0                   | 5                 | 14    |
| Junior High  | 29       | 2                   | 1                 | 32    |
| Senior High  | 30       | 1                   | 3                 | 34    |
| Total        | 68       | 3                   | 9                 | 80    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

Note: MD = missing data.

# Vermont

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Vermont under Vermont's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Junior High  | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Senior High  | 2        | 1                   | 0                 | 3     |
| Total        | 4        | 1                   | 0                 | 5     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

4

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

4

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

1

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Virginia

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Virginia under Virginia's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 2        | MD                  | 5                 | 7     |
| Junior High  | 10       | MD                  | 11                | 21    |
| Senior High  | 44       | MD                  | 20                | 64    |
| Total        | 56       | MD                  | 36                | 92    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles.

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**Note:** MD = missing data.

# Washington

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Washington under Washington's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 5        | 1                   | 0                 | 6     |
| Junior High  | 30       | 8                   | 1                 | 39    |
| Senior High  | 76       | 23                  | 2                 | 101   |
| Total        | 111      | 32                  | 3                 | 146   |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

103

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

62

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

61

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# West Virginia

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in West Virginia under West Virginia's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 5        | 0                   | 2                 | 7     |
| Senior High  | 8        | 5                   | 7                 | 20    |
| Total        | 13       | 5                   | 9                 | 27    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

8

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

7

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

9

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Wisconsin

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Wisconsin under Wisconsin's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 14       | 1                   | 3                 | 18    |
| Senior High  | 28       | 0                   | 8                 | 36    |
| Total        | 42       | 1                   | 11                | 54    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

11

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

8

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

13

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

---

# Wyoming

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Wyoming under Wyoming's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Total        | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

NA

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

NA

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

NA

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★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection:** The information submitted was broken out by school level but not by type of weapon.

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Note: NA = not applicable.

# Puerto Rico

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Puerto Rico under Puerto Rico's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Total        | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

NA

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

NA

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

NA

---

★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: NA = not applicable.

# American Samoa

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in American Samoa under American Samoa's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Junior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Senior High  | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |
| Total        | MD       | MD                  | MD                | MD    |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

MD

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

MD

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: No data submitted for 1996-97.

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Note: MD = missing data.

# Guam

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Guam under Guam's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Total        | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

NA

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

NA

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

NA

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: NA = not applicable.

# Northern Marianas

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Northern Marianas under Northern Marianas's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Total        | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

0

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

0

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

0

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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# Virgin Islands

## Gun-Free Schools Act – 1996-97 Data

1. Number of students expelled in Virgin Islands under Virgin Islands's state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

| School Level | Handguns | Rifles/<br>Shotguns | Other<br>Firearms | Total |
|--------------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|
| Elementary   | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Junior High  | 0        | 0                   | 0                 | 0     |
| Senior High  | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |
| Total        | 1        | 0                   | 0                 | 1     |

2. Number of expulsions reported in item #1 that were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA:

0

3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are NOT students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?

NA

4. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?

MD

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★ Caveats or notes on the data collection: None.

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Note: MD = missing data, NA = not applicable.

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**Appendix A – The Gun-Free Schools Act**

**“PART F—GUN POSSESSION****“SEC. 14601. GUN-FREE REQUIREMENTS.**

**“(a) SHORT TITLE.—**This section may be cited as the ‘Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994’.

**“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—**

**“(1) IN GENERAL.—**Except as provided in paragraph (3), each State receiving Federal funds under this Act shall have in effect a State law requiring local educational agencies to expel from school for a period of not less than one year a student who is determined to have brought a weapon to a school under the jurisdiction of local educational agencies in that State, except that such State law shall allow the chief administering officer of such local educational agency to modify such expulsion requirement for a student on a case-by-case basis.

**“(2) CONSTRUCTION.—**Nothing in this title shall be construed to prevent a State from allowing a local educational agency that has expelled a student from such a student’s regular school setting from providing educational services to such student in an alternative setting.

**“(3) SPECIAL RULE.—(A)** Any State that has a law in effect prior to the date of enactment of the Improving America’s Schools Act of 1994 which is in conflict with the not less than one year expulsion requirement described in paragraph (1) shall have the period of time described in subparagraph (B) to comply with such requirement.

**“(B)** The period of time shall be the period beginning on the date of enactment of the Improving America’s Schools Act and ending one year after such date.

**“(4) DEFINITION.—**For the purpose of this section, the term ‘weapon’ means a firearm as such term is defined in section 921 of title 18, United States Code.

**“(c) SPECIAL RULE.—**The provisions of this section shall be construed in a manner consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

**“(d) REPORT TO STATE.—**Each local educational agency requesting assistance from the State educational agency that is to be provided from funds made available to the State under this Act shall provide to the State, in the application requesting such assistance—

**“(1)** an assurance that such local educational agency is in compliance with the State law required by subsection (b); and

**“(2)** a description of the circumstances surrounding any expulsions imposed under the State law required by subsection (b), including—

**“(A)** the name of the school concerned;

**“(B)** the number of students expelled from such school;

and

Gun-Free  
Schools Act of  
1994.  
20 USC 8921.

“(C) the type of weapons concerned.

“(e) REPORTING.—Each State shall report the information described in subsection (c) to the Secretary on an annual basis.

“(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Two years after the date of enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, the Secretary shall report to Congress if any State is not in compliance with the requirements of this title.

20 USC 8922.

**\*SEC. 14602. POLICY REGARDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM REFERRAL.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—No funds shall be made available under this Act to any local educational agency unless such agency has a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm or weapon to a school served by such agency.

“(b) DEFINITIONS.—For the purpose of this section, the terms ‘firearm’ and ‘school’ have the same meaning given to such terms by section 921(a) of title 18, United States Code.

20 USC 8923.

**\*SEC. 14603. DATA AND POLICY DISSEMINATION UNDER IDEA.**

“The Secretary shall—

“(1) widely disseminate the policy of the Department in effect on the date of enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 with respect to disciplining children with disabilities;

Records.

“(2) collect data on the incidence of children with disabilities (as such term is defined in section 602(a)(1) of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act) engaging in life threatening behavior or bringing weapons to schools; and

Reports.

“(3) submit a report to Congress not later than January 31, 1995, analyzing the strengths and problems with the current approaches regarding disciplining children with disabilities.

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**Appendix B – Data Collection Instrument**

**ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA)**

**as amended by**

**IMPROVING AMERICA'S SCHOOLS ACT OF 1994 (IASA)**

**TITLE XIV, PART F**

**GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT REPORT**

**FORM APPROVED  
OMB #1810-0602**

**Expiration Date: 4/30/00**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1810-0602. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 8 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Portals Building, Room 604, Washington, DC 20202-6123.

## **GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT REPORT**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA), Part F of Title XIV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, requires that each State have in effect a State law requiring local educational agencies (LEAs) to expel from school for a period of not less than one year a student found to have brought a weapon to school. In addition, under the GFSA, LEAs receiving ESEA funds must adopt a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm to school.

Each State's law also must allow the chief administering officer of the LEA to modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. The GFSA also states that nothing in the GFSA shall be construed to prevent a State from allowing a local educational agency that has expelled a student from such student's regular school setting from providing educational services to that student in an alternative setting.

The GFSA also requires States to provide annual reports to the Secretary of Education concerning implementation of the Act's requirements. The Secretary is required to report to Congress if any State is not in compliance with the GFSA.

**PLEASE USE THE ATTACHED FORM TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GFSA.**

## GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT

1. The time period covered by this report is the 1996-1997 school year.
2. Please complete this entire form. If questions are left blank, we will not be able to interpret the results and will have to follow up with a phone call. If a response to a question is "0" or "none," be sure to enter "0" or "none." If information is not available or not applicable, please indicate by using the following abbreviations:

MD = Missing Data

NA = Not Available

3. Please retain a copy of the completed form for your files so that you will have a copy on hand to refer to if we have questions about your responses.
4. Please complete the attached form and mail no later than November 1, 1997 to:

Westat  
1650 Research Boulevard  
Rockville, MD 20850

If questions arise about completing any of the items on the attached form, please do not hesitate to contact the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program at (202) 260-3954 for clarification.

**GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT  
STATE REPORT FORM**

**RESPONDENT INFORMATION**

**Name of Agency Responding:**

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**Mailing Address:**

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**Name and Title of Individual Completing this Report:**

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**Telephone and Fax Number of Individual Completing this Report:**

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## ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LEA                | local educational agency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| GFSA               | Gun-Free Schools Act                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| IDEA               | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| ESEA               | Elementary and Secondary Education Act                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Elementary school  | A school classified as elementary by state and local practice and composed of any span of grades not above Grade 6. Combined elementary/junior high schools are considered junior high schools and combined elementary and secondary schools (e.g., K-12 buildings) are classified as high schools for this report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Junior high school | A separately organized and administered school intermediate between elementary and senior high schools, which might also be called a middle school, usually includes Grades 7, 8, and 9; Grade 7 and 8; or Grades 6, 7, and 8. Combined elementary/junior high schools are considered junior high schools for this report; junior/senior high school combinations are defined as senior high schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Senior high school | A school offering the final years of school work necessary for graduation, usually including Grades 10, 11, and 12; or Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Combined junior and senior high schools are classified as high schools for this form; combined elementary and secondary schools (e.g., K-12 buildings) are classified as high schools.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Other firearms     | Firearms other than handguns, rifles or shotguns as defined in 18 USC 921. According to Section 921, the following are included within the definition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive;</li><li>- the frame or receiver of any weapon described above;</li><li>- any firearm muffler or firearm silencer;</li><li>- any destructive device, which includes:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) bomb;</li><li>(2) grenade,</li><li>(3) rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces,</li><li>(4) missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce,</li><li>(5) mine, or</li><li>(6) similar device</li></ul></li><li>(b) any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter</li><li>(c) any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described in the two immediately preceding examples, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.</li></ul></li></ul> |

## FIREARMS EXPULSIONS

1. Please indicate the number of students expelled in your State under your State's law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school. *[Do not include in your response to this question students who have brought a firearm to school but who have not been expelled, whether because of disability, an intervening court order, delays in the process, or any other reason.]*

| School Level       | Handguns | Rifles/Shotguns | Other Firearms |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| Elementary School  |          |                 |                |
| Junior High School |          |                 |                |
| Senior High School |          |                 |                |
| Total              |          |                 |                |

2. How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA? *[Do not include in your response to this question modifications under the case-by-case exception provision of Section 14601(b)(1) other than those that shorten the term of the expulsion to less than one year.]*
- 
3. How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are not students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?
- 

*[The GFSA explicitly states that the Act must be construed in a manner consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Compliance with the GFSA can be achieved consistent with the IDEA as long as discipline of such students is determined on a case-by-case basis under the GFSA provision that permits modification of the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. A student with a disability who brings a firearm to school may be removed from school for ten school days or less, and in accordance with State law, placed in an interim alternative educational setting that is determined by the student's individualized education program team, for up to 45 calendar days. If the student's parents initiate due process proceedings under the IDEA, the student must remain in that interim alternative educational setting during authorized review proceedings, unless the parents and school district can agree on a different placement. Before an expulsion can occur, the IDEA requires a determination by a group of persons knowledgeable about the student on whether the bringing of a firearm to school was a manifestation of the student's disability. A student with a disability may be expelled only if this group of persons determines that the bringing of a firearm to school was not a manifestation of the student's disability, and the school follows applicable IDEA procedural safeguards before the*



6. List the name and address of each LEA that has not provided an assurance that it is in compliance with the requirement in Section 14602 that an LEA receiving ESEA funds have in place a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm to a school.

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(Attach a separate sheet if more space is required to list LEAs.)



FOR RELEASE: May 8, 1998

Contact: Melinda Kitchell Malico  
(202) 401-1008

**MORE THAN 6,000 STUDENTS NATIONWIDE EXPELLED  
FOR BRINGING A FIREARM TO SCHOOL**

In school year 1996-97, the U.S. Department of Education estimates that, under zero tolerance policies, 6,093 students were expelled from public schools for bringing a firearm to school.

"This report is a clear indication that our nation's public schools are cracking down on students who bring guns to school," said U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley. "We need to be tough minded about keeping guns out of our schools and do everything possible to keep our children safe."

The Gun-Free Schools Act, signed into law in 1994, requires states to pass laws ordering school districts to expel for one year any student who brings a firearm to school. All states have passed such laws and this report is the first state-by-state look at the implementation of the act.

The overwhelming majority of expulsions under the law -- 58 percent -- were for handguns brought to school. Seven percent were for rifles or shotguns, and 35 percent were for some other type of firearm, including bombs, grenades, or starter pistols. Forty-seven states and territories reported this data by state.

"I urge schools to do everything possible to make sure that expelled students are sent to alternative schools," said Riley. "A student who gets expelled for bringing a gun to school should not be allowed to just hang out on the street. These young people need to get their lives turned around."

--MORE--

The department notes the report's findings should be interpreted with caution. Some states submitted data on all weapons, not firearms. Others submitted aggregate data not broken out by school level and/or type of weapon. Data collection is improving since implementation of the law, but the quality of data on expulsions varies widely state-to-state.

Guns prompted expulsions in all levels of schools. The majority of expulsions, 56 percent, were in high schools, 34 percent were in junior highs and 9 percent were in elementary schools. More than two-thirds of all reported expulsions were reported by school level, with 49 states and territories reporting this data.

States must submit annual reports on the number of students expelled by firearm type and school level; the number of expulsions that were modified on a case-by-case basis; how many of those cases were not for students with disabilities; and the number of expelled students who were referred to an alternative school or program. The report includes state-by-state data for these categories; however, not all states and territories submitted data for each category.

Other findings from the report include:

- one-third of expulsions were shortened to less than one year, with 43 states and territories reporting this data. The law permits flexibility by allowing school districts to modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- 39 states reported on the disability status of the students who received shortened expulsions, revealing that 63 percent of these students were not considered disabled.
- 56 percent of students were referred for an alternative placement. The Gun Free Schools Act allows local officials to refer expelled students to an alternative school or program. Forty states reported information for this item.

The Gun Free Schools Act is authorized under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended in 1994. The data covers students in grades K-12.

###

**Tobacco Q&A**  
**May 8, 1998**

**Q: I understand Minnesota will announce this afternoon that it has settled its tobacco lawsuit. What does this mean for tobacco legislation?**

**A:** Assuming Minnesota has settled its suit as reported in the press, we think it will add to the momentum behind strong, comprehensive, and bipartisan tobacco legislation. In four states, the tobacco industry will have been held accountable -- and will have agreed to tough measures to reduce youth smoking. The remaining challenge is to pass legislation that puts these and other measures into place on a national level. All our nation's children are at risk from tobacco, and we must have comprehensive national legislation to stop young Americans from smoking before they start.

**Background:** According to the AP, under the settlement, which has not yet been formally announced, the tobacco companies would pay Minnesota and Blue Cross and Blue Shield more than \$6 billion over the next 25 years. Other portions of the proposal, according to "St. Paul's Pioneer Press," are permanent injunctions to combat marketing cigarettes to minors and engaging in anti-competitive activities; the shutdown of the Council for Tobacco Research, an organization used to raise doubts about the health hazards of smoking; and the release of more internal tobacco company documents.

**Tobacco Q&A's**  
**May 8, 1998**

**Q. Today's New York Times indicates that smuggling of US cigarettes abroad is a major problem. Don't you expect this to become exacerbated if there is a significant price increase on cigarettes?**

A. The article highlighted that tobacco companies are complicit in smuggling overseas, which reiterates what Treasury Deputy Secretary Larry Summers said last week during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing. Broadscale smuggling simply does not take place without the companies' knowledge and complicity. It is ironic that on the very day of this report of industry complicity in smuggling, the industry should put out an advertisement saying that comprehensive tobacco legislation would cause smuggling problems.

The Administration has proposed a system that would minimize smuggling, similar to the one that's been in place for alcoholic beverages for over sixty years and largely incorporated in Senator McCain's bill. This system would (1) create a "closed distribution system" for tobacco products so that only licensed entities can sell or buy products; (2) clearly brand packages for export, to prevent them from being diverted, and (3) establish and enforce penalties and other actions for violators. Under this system, US cigarette manufacturers who were complicit in any smuggling operation would face enormous legal risks such as the possibility of losing their license. We believe that with these safeguards in place, tobacco smuggling will be minimized.

**Q. How do you respond to the full page ad in today's Washington Post quoting major law enforcement organizations which believe that the McCain bill will create a huge black market for cigarettes?**

A. First, as today's New York Times story indicates, broadscale smuggling cannot take place without the knowledge and complicity of the tobacco industry. It's ironic that the industry is running this ad, when the industry that is responsible for this law enforcement problem.

Of course, we take this issue very seriously, but we believe that safeguards can be put in place to minimize the danger of smuggling. Last week, at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, Treasury Deputy Secretary Larry Summers proposed a system that would minimize smuggling, similar to the one that's been in place for alcoholic beverages for over sixty years and largely incorporated in the McCain bill. Other major law enforcement organizations, such as the Major Cities Chiefs and the International Association of Chiefs of Police, have written letters agreeing with the Treasury Department that black market activity can be minimized through sufficient law enforcement safeguards. This system would (1) create a "closed distribution system" for tobacco products so that only licensed entities can sell or buy products; (2) clearly brand

packages for export, to prevent them from being diverted, and (3) establish and enforce penalties and other actions for violators.

At the hearing, law enforcement officials from ATF and Customs concurred that with the right system in place we can keep smuggling to a minimum.

**Class Size Q's and A's**  
**May 8, 1998**

**Q. The Senate already rejected a class size amendment several weeks ago when it took up the Coverdell bill, along with other key parts of the President's education agenda, such as school construction. What do you expect Congress to do with the legislation the President transmitted today?**

**A.** We expect the Congress to take this proposal up, and we will fight to get it passed in both the House and Senate. The fact that the Senate turned this down as an amendment to the Coverdell bill does not mean it will do so when the proposal is considered on its own terms. As we learned in 1996, as we get closer to the Fall elections, Congressional interest in taking steps to improve education increases. Reducing class size and modernizing school buildings are among the most important and tangible steps this Congress can take to improve our schools.

This proposal is an important part of the President's overall effort to strengthen public education. Parents and teachers know that children will learn more in smaller classes, and the report released by the Education Department backs that up with solid research evidence. This national effort to reduce class size in the early grades will help significantly improve the quality of our public schools.

Smaller classes should not be a partisan issue. It isn't a partisan issue outside of Washington, where governors of both parties (e.g., Wilson in CA, Gilmore in VA, Carper in DE) have launched their own efforts to reduce class size. Mayors of both parties, who met with the President just yesterday, support federal funding to help reduce class size. We hope the Congress will join with parents, educators and elected officials to support this effort on a bipartisan basis.

**Q. The President has proposed to pay for this class size reduction initiative out of funds from the proposed tobacco settlement. Yet in an interview (with Al Hunt) last week, the President said he would be willing to let Congress give states more flexibility in how to spend tobacco money. How hard is the President going to fight for this proposal?**

**A.** Right now, the President is focusing on making sure Congress passes legislation that will dramatically reduce youth smoking. As the legislative process progresses, we will work closely with the Congress to ensure that the President's priorities are reflected in how tobacco revenue is spent. The President is going to fight hard for this proposal, as he has been doing for all of his education proposals. That's why he went to Delaware today--to continue to make the case for his proposals throughout the country.

**Q. The President has proposed to pay for this class size reduction initiative out of funds from the proposed tobacco settlement. If the Congress doesn't pass tobacco legislation will the President be forced to drop this proposal, or is there another funding source for this?**

A. Of course, we expect the Congress to pass tobacco legislation this year. The President and members of Congress from both parties are working to make that happen, and we believe it will. But if tobacco legislation does not provide funds for these purposes, we will look for other offsets. This is a high Administration priority, and we will work hard to find effective funding mechanisms.

**Q. Delaware is trying to pass its own legislation to reduce class size in the early grades. Why should the federal government do the same thing, if states are already doing it?**

A. First, there are many states and many communities which are not yet working to give students small classes, so it is a mistake to assume that because some states are working to lower class size that all are. Second, while it is very important to give students smaller classes, it is also expensive to do this. The President has called for national effort to create smaller classes, and for creating a partnership between federal, state and local governments to accomplish this goal. The President's proposal provides significant resources to help states and communities reduce class size.

**Q. California already has a major initiative to reduce class size to 19 students in grades 1-2. If the President's proposal passes, wouldn't a state like California simply stop spending its own money on this, and use federal money instead?**

A. Like most federal education programs, the President's proposal would require states to continue its own efforts and not simply substitute federal funds for state funds. But, California could use the funds under this program to further reduce class size in the early grades -- say to 15 students. Or, it could use these funds to expand its efforts to additional grades.

**School Shootings Q&A**  
**May 8, 1998**

**Q. In recent months, several small towns have experienced multiple shootings in their schools: Jonesboro, West Paducah, Pearl, and Edinboro. Why do you think this is happening and what is the Administration doing about this problem?**

**A.** In the wake of the tragedy in Jonesboro, Arkansas in March, President Clinton asked the Attorney General and Secretary of Education to convene a panel of experts to discuss the recent school shootings. Two weeks ago, the President met with this group to discuss the common features of these tragic shootings and learn about what we can do to prevent such horrible incidents from occurring in the future.

Shootings like these are very rare. Recent studies tell us that almost no homicides occur in schools, and that 90% of public schools do not report any serious crimes to law enforcement. Still, we cannot overlook these tragedies as statistical anomalies. They tell us a great deal about the changing and more violent youth culture and about young people who grow up disconnected from their communities. These young people see simple conflicts resolved with weapons on television and in video games, and they do not have responsible adults in their lives to teach them differently.

We are still learning the details about the recent shootings. We do know, however, that there are some similarities between most of these cases: the alleged offenders knew their victims, had access to firearms, and -- perhaps most importantly -- exhibited warning signs that went unnoticed or unreported to responsible adults. The Attorney General and Secretary of Education will continue to review these cases and their similarities, and make any necessary recommendations to the President.

But our overall response must be to take on the broader issue of youth violence in our country. Too many children in America are being killed with guns and using guns to kill each other, and there is so much that we can do to prevent this senseless violence. We can do more to make our schools free of gangs, guns, and drugs; to cut off youth access to firearms; to keep our children off the streets and in safe and supervised settings. So we hope that the Congress will take the opportunity to consider our comprehensive youth violence strategy before it adjourns this year.

**Questions and Answers on the Report on Gun-Free Schools  
May 8, 1998**

**Q: What is the Gun-Free Schools Act?**

A: Enacted on October 20, 1994, as part of the Improving America's Schools Act, the Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA) requires each state receiving Federal funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to have in effect a state law requiring Local Educational Authorities (LEAs) to expel for a period of not less than one year any student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school. These policies are more commonly referred to as "zero tolerance" gun policies.

**Q: What does the GFSA Report tell us about implementation of the GFSA?**

A: This report provides the first comprehensive information about expulsions under the GFSA. With all states now having passed legislation requiring zero tolerance policies, the report's primary finding is that of the 51 million students in elementary and secondary schools, 6,093 were expelled last year for bringing a firearm to school. Most of these were high school students (56%), and most cases involved handguns (58%). Also, most of the students expelled (56%) were placed in an alternate school or placement.

The GFSA report further breaks down the data by state, school level, type of firearm and expulsions that were shortened.

**Q: Does this represent an increase or decrease in expulsions?**

A: It is difficult to compare the estimated number of expulsions last year with this year's report. Although we estimated that a similar number of students -- about 6,000 -- were expelled for bringing a weapon to school last year, fewer states had submitted data -- and the data were also less specific. This year's report is really the first comprehensive picture we have of expulsions under the GFSA.

Whether expulsions are up or down, however, is much less important than the fact that more than 6,000 students bringing a firearm to school is unacceptable. And the more detailed information we have about this problem, the better we will be able to address it.

**Q: Do you believe that the GFSA is making our schools safer?**

A: Absolutely. As a result, all of the states have passed and are now enforcing zero tolerance policies that have disciplined and/or removed more than 6,000 dangerous students from our schools. Zero tolerance for firearms is now an important component of school safety throughout the country, and that will make a difference. As the Superintendent of the Alexandria, Virginia Public Schools recently told the President in a White House event, strict enforcement of zero tolerance causes students to change their behaviors. In

Alexandria, zero tolerance initially resulted in increased suspensions and disciplinary actions, but the number of suspendable offenses have now dropped by 40%.

But we need more than zero tolerance policies to make and keep our schools safe. We need more resources for after school programs to keep children safe and supervised. And we need police, parents and other responsible adults to be involved with their schools.

**Q: What happens to students who are expelled?**

A: The majority of expelled students are being sent to alternate schools, and the number of these schools has nearly tripled over the past decade (from 894 to 2,604). However, the report seems to indicate that some of these students are not being placed in alternative schools, and that is troubling. The Administration supports the growing movement to develop alternative schools, many of which tend to be charter schools.

**Q: Why were some of the expulsions in the GFSA report shortened?**

A: For one of two reasons: first, the GFSA generally allows the chief educational officer at the local level to modify expulsions on a case-by-case basis; and, second, this flexibility allows children with disabilities to be disciplined under the provisions of another law -- the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Under the IDEA, disabled children may be suspended for not more than 10 school days or removed to an alternative setting for up to 45 days.

**Q: The District of Columbia has indicated in the GFSA report that, although it is currently implementing its GFSA policy, it did not do so during the 1996-1997 school year. Why not?**

A: We are beginning an investigation of why the District did not enforce this policy during 1996-1997. We do know, however, that the District is currently enforcing the GFSA. In fact, four students have already been expelled this year for bringing a firearm to school. The Department of Education is working closely with the incoming school superintendent, Arlene Ackerman, to make sure that the District continues to comply with the GFSA.

**Q: Is DC in danger of losing its funding because it did not implement the law in 1996-1997?**

A: Under the GFSA, any state that does not comply with the GFSA could lose its ESEA formula grants funds -- or \$31 million in the District's case. We know that the District is now enforcing the law. We are beginning an investigation, with the full co-operation of the incoming superintendent, to understand why the law was not enforced during the 1996-1997 school year. We expect to have some preliminary answers within the next 30 days.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 5/7/98

ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 5/8/98

9:00 AM

Subject: CLASS SIZE REDUCTION AND TEACHER QUALITY ACT

|                | ACTION                              | FYI                      |                   | ACTION                              | FYI                                 |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| VICE PRESIDENT | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | McCURRY           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| BOWLES         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | McGINTY           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| McLAIR         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | NASH              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| PODESTA        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | REED →            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| MATHEWS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | RUFF              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| RAINES         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | SMITH             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BEGALA         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SOSNIK            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| BERGER         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | SPERLING          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
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| ECHAVESTE      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | STERN             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| EMANUEL        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | STREETT           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
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| IBARRA         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | WALDMAN           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| KLAIN          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | YELLEN            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| LEWIS          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <u>MIKE COHEN</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| LINDSEY        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
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REMARKS:

COMMENTS TO STAFF SECRETARY

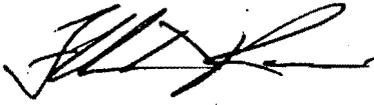
RESPONSE:



THE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Franklin D. Raines 

SUBJECT: Presidential Transmittal of the "Class-Size Reduction and Teacher Quality Act of 1998"

I am forwarding a legislative proposal -- entitled the "Class-Size Reduction and Teacher Quality Act of 1998" -- for your transmittal to the Congress. This proposal would implement your FY 1999 Budget initiative to help States and local educational agencies recruit, train, and hire 100,000 additional teachers in order to reduce the average class size to 18 in grades 1 through 3, and improve the quality of teaching.

This package contains two originals and eight copies of: the Presidential Transmittal Message to the Congress, the legislative proposal, a sectional analysis of the proposal, and a related fact sheet.

These materials were prepared by the Department of Education. They have been coordinated with the Domestic Policy Council and this Office. (The legislative proposal was also reviewed by the Departments of the Treasury, Justice, and the Interior.)

Attachments

TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:

I am pleased to transmit today for your immediate consideration and enactment the "Class-Size Reduction and Teacher Quality Act of 1998." This legislative proposal would help States and local school districts recruit, train, and hire 100,000 additional well-prepared teachers in order to reduce the average class size in our Nation's public schools to 18 in grades 1 through 3. It is an essential part of our overall effort to strengthen public schools throughout the Nation.

As schools across the Nation struggle to accommodate a surge in enrollments, educators and parents have become increasingly concerned about the impact of class size on teaching and learning, particularly in the critically important early grades, where students learn reading and other basic skills. This concern is justified: rigorous research confirms what parents and teachers have long believed -- that students in smaller classes, particularly in the early grades, make greater educational gains and maintain those gains over time. These gains occur because teachers in small classes can provide students with more individualized attention, spend more time on instruction and less time on discipline, and cover more material effectively. Moreover, the benefits of smaller classes are greatest for poor, minority, and inner-city children, the children who frequently face the greatest challenges in achieving to high educational standards.

Smaller classes will have the greatest impact on student learning if the new teachers brought into the classroom are well qualified to teach reading and to take advantage of smaller learning environments. For this reason, my proposal emphasizes not just class-size reduction but also educator professional development, and it will give school districts adequate time to recruit and train staff while phasing in smaller classes. Furthermore, all new teachers hired under the program would be required to pass a State teacher competency test and would also have to be certified to teach or be making satisfactory progress toward full certification.

We can help all of our students learn to read independently and well by the third grade, get a solid foundation in basic skills, and reach high educational standards if we start them off with small classes and well-prepared teachers in the early grades.

Under my proposal, the Department of Education would allocate \$20.8 billion in mandatory appropriations over a 10-year period (beginning with \$1.1 billion in fiscal year 1999) to States. The States would then distribute the funds to local school districts based on their relative class sizes in grades 1 through 3, as well as on their ability and effort to finance class-size reductions with their own resources. The bill would provide States with considerable flexibility in distributing

these funds, while ensuring that the most needy school districts receive a fair share.

Moreover, because the proposal would actually appropriate the funds needed to carry out the program, States and local communities could count on these funds without the need for separate congressional appropriations each year. This proposal is fully paid for within my Fiscal Year 1999 Budget, and therefore would not reduce the budget surplus.

School districts would use these funds to reduce class sizes in grades 1 through 3. Just as importantly, these funds would also be available for a variety of activities to ensure that students in the early grades receive sound and effective instruction, such as making sure that teachers know how to teach reading and other subjects effectively in small classes.

This proposal includes strong accountability for results. Participating school districts would produce "report cards" documenting reductions in class sizes and the achievement of their students in reading, based on rigorous assessments. Schools whose students fail to make gains in reading would be required to undertake corrective actions. In addition, the Education Department would undertake a comprehensive national evaluation of this program and its impact on reading achievement and teaching.

I urge the Congress to take prompt and favorable action on this proposal. Its enactment would help school districts reduce class sizes in the early grades and improve instruction and achievement in reading, issues that are of major importance to parents and to the Nation.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

THE WHITE HOUSE

# THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

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For Immediate Release

May 8, 1998

## Class-Size Reduction and Teacher Quality Act

### FACT SHEET

The President today forwarded to Congress a legislative proposal to help States and school districts recruit, train, and hire 100,000 additional teachers in order to reduce the average class size to 18 in grades 1 through 3. The legislation would also assist school districts in ensuring that the new teachers hired, in the national effort to reduce class sizes, have the skills and training needed to educate their students to high standards.

#### Need for the Bill

The need for this legislation is clear. As schools across the Nation have struggled to accommodate increasing enrollments, educators and parents have become increasingly concerned about the impact of class size on teaching and learning, particularly in the early elementary grades, where students learn reading and other basic skills. This concern is justified: rigorous research has shown that students in smaller classes, particularly in those grades, make greater educational gains and maintain those gains over time. Moreover, the benefits of smaller classes are greatest for poor, minority, and inner-city children, the children who frequently face the greatest challenges in achieving to high educational standards.

Smaller classes will have the greatest impact on student learning if the new teachers brought into the classroom are well qualified to teach reading and to take advantage of smaller learning environments. For this reason, the proposal emphasizes not just class-size reduction but also educator professional development, and it will give school districts adequate time to recruit and train staff while phasing in smaller classes.

#### Summary of the Proposal

- o The bill would authorize \$20.8 billion in mandatory appropriations over a 10-year period, beginning with \$1.1 billion in FY 1999. This proposal is fully paid for in the President's FY 1999 Budget, and therefore would not reduce the budget surplus.
- o The Department of Education would distribute these funds to States on the basis of each State's share of funding under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title I program (which provides formula grants primarily on the basis of counts of children living in poverty).

- o States, in turn, would distribute the funds to school districts that have the most crowded classes, in grades 1 through 3, and the least ability to finance class-size reductions with their own resources. In order to ensure that the neediest districts are treated equitably, districts with high levels of child poverty would be guaranteed the same share of funding, under this program, as they receive under Title I.
- o School districts would use most of the funds to reduce class sizes in grades 1 through 3. Because students learn best in small classes, at least 10 percent of the funds allocated to school districts would be used for such activities as training teachers in proven practices for teaching reading and in effective practices in small classes; providing mentors or other support for newly hired teachers; recruiting well-prepared teachers; testing new teachers before they are hired; and developing rigorous new assessments for new teachers.
- o The initiative would help ensure teacher quality by requiring States to give teacher competency tests to new teachers hired under this initiative, and it would help States adopt rigorous assessments of teaching proficiency and upgrade certification requirements for new teachers.
- o The Federal Government cannot, and should not, bear the entire cost of making reductions in class sizes; rather, this should be a shared local, State, and Federal responsibility. For this reason, the bill would require school districts, except the neediest ones, to provide a portion of the costs under the program. It would set a matching rate of up to 35 percent, depending on the poverty rate of the district.
- o The proposal stresses accountability for results. Schools and school districts participating in the program would issue report cards to parents and the public, documenting their progress in reducing class size, recruiting well-prepared teachers, and, most importantly, improving reading performance in the early grades. Schools whose students fail to make reading gains, over time, would be required to undertake serious improvement actions and, ultimately, would lose program funding.