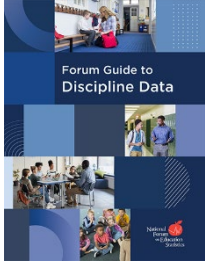


# Publication Summary

## Forum Guide to Discipline Data



Detailed and accurate discipline data have many uses at the national, state, local, and school levels. At the federal level, the U.S. Department of Education collects and uses discipline data in several ways. The Office for Civil Rights collects discipline data directly from local education agencies (LEAs) as a part of the Civil Rights Data Collection. Through the *EDFacts* collection system from state education agencies (SEAs), the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services collects Individuals with Disabilities Education Act discipline data, and the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education collects Gun-Free Schools Act data.

At the state and local levels, education agencies use discipline data to examine the effectiveness of their discipline policies and procedures. At the school level, educators use discipline data to understand the context of student behavior, plan responses to support students, and prevent future incidents. Properly collecting, analyzing, and using discipline data can provide educators with insight into both individual student needs and overall areas for improvement in school climate and safety. Discipline data also can help educators develop and measure the impact of prevention and intervention plans.

The National Forum on Education Statistics (Forum) developed the *Forum Guide to Discipline Data* to help education agencies collect, manage, report, and use discipline data. The primary audience for this resource includes education agency staff involved in collecting and using discipline data to improve student outcomes; promote positive, productive, and safe learning environments; and ensure equity in education. This audience includes staff responsible for reporting accurate and timely data to the federal government.

The resource includes the following chapters and appendices:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction** provides an overview of why agencies collect discipline data, changing dimensions of discipline data, and the importance of reviewing data in context.
- **Chapter 2: Key Considerations for Tracking Discipline Data** examines how agencies can define incidents, manage and maintain discipline data, and train staff to collect data.
- **Chapter 3: Using and Reporting Discipline Data** focuses on how agencies can use discipline data to support students and staff and to ensure a safe environment conducive to teaching and learning, including effectively reporting data.
- **Chapter 4: Case Studies from State and Local Education Agencies** features case studies from education agencies about their collection and use of discipline data, including best practices their agencies use.
- **Appendix A: Relational Databases and Data Modeling** discusses how relational databases can help to manage incident-based discipline, and how this information can be mapped via a data model.

The *Forum Guide to Discipline Data* is a product of the National Forum on Education Statistics and is available on the Forum website at [https://nces.ed.gov/forum/pub\\_2023050.asp](https://nces.ed.gov/forum/pub_2023050.asp). The information and opinions published in the guide are the product of the Forum and do not necessarily represent the policies or views of the U.S. Department of Education, the Institute of Education Sciences, or the National Center for Education Statistics.