More U.S. students are being suspended than ever before. In 2006, 3.3 million students were suspended out-of-school at least once and 102,000 were expelled. Most suspensions are for minor misbehavior like “disruptive behavior,” “insubordination” or school fights. Even preschool students are being expelled – at more than three times the rate of K-12 students.

More and more law enforcement officers are in schools and stepping in to handle discipline issues. Arrests in school are increasing and adding to the time students are out of class. Most school arrests are for minor incidents like “disturbance of the peace” or “disruptive conduct,” not dangerous or violent crimes.

Some schools increase their test scores by pushing out low-scoring students. Low-scoring students are suspended during testing days, transferred to alternative schools, enrolled in GED programs or just expelled.

Sources Used