

Polk County *School-to-Prison Pipeline*

2018-19

Schools are Under-resourced



Police Fill the Gaps

188

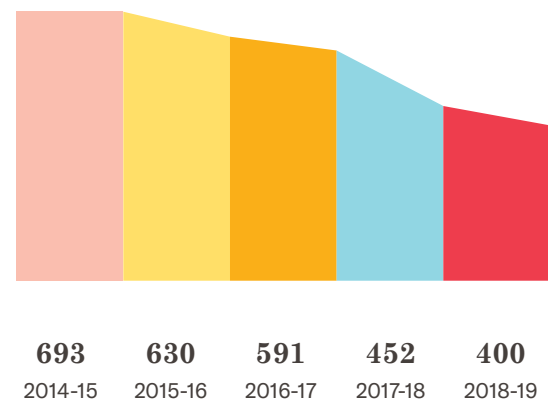
**Police Officers
in school**

When there are *not enough professionals* trained to serve students' needs and there are officers without clear responsibilities, students who need help end up facing criminal sanctions.

The number of police officers in Polk County Schools *increased from 44 officers* in the 2014-15 school year **to 188 officers** in the 2018-19 school year.

400

Student Arrests



Polk County

School-to-Prison Pipeline

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Captured by the Criminal Justice System



Out of the **3,304** total youth arrests in Polk County:

30
younger than 11.

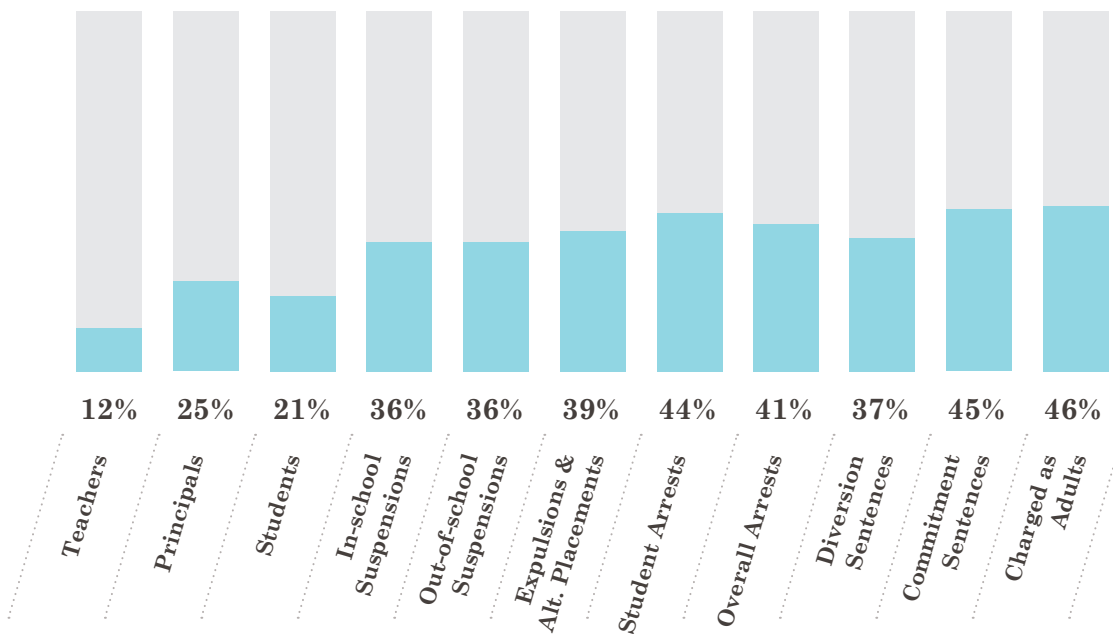
276
eligible for pre-arrest diversion.

152
committed to residential programs.

59
charged in adult court.

Racial Disparities Persist

Statewide, Black students continued to be disproportionately subjected to exclusionary discipline, arrest and harsh punishment, like being charged as adults. This is despite a nearly 20% increase in the rate of white students arrested. Meanwhile, Black representation in teaching and school leadership continues to remain low.



Fla. Dept. of Education, PK-12 Education Information Services, [PK-12 Education Information Services](#), *Membership in Florida Public Schools, Final Survey 2, 2018-19 (Student enrollment, demographics)*; *Staff in Florida's Public Schools, District Reports 2018-19 (Social worker, counselor & psychologist staffing; teacher & principal demographics)*; *Safe Schools, Safe Schools Appropriation Expenditures Report, 2014-15 & 2018-2019 (Officer staffing)*; *Discipline Data, 2018-19 (Discipline demographics)*. [Safe Schools](#)

Fla. Dept. of Health, *2018-19 Summary of School Health Services (School nurse staffing)*. [Fla. Dept of Health](#)

Fla. Dept. of Juvenile Justice, *Delinquency in Schools 2018-19 (School arrests)*; *Delinquency Profile 2018-19 (Youth arrests, demographics)*; *Civil Citation and Other Alternatives to Arrest Dashboard 2018-19 (Civil citation eligible arrests)*. [Fla. Dept. of Juvenile Justice](#)