What Do School Records Reveal about Events Leading Up to Expulsion from School?

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OSEP Research Directors' Conference (August 2006)

Information collected with the Sugai-Tobin Archival Review (STAR)

(a) Attendance

(b) Grade retention

(c) School transfers

(d) Academic performance

(e) Special education

f) Office discipline referrals,

g) Functional behavior assessments

h) Behavior support plans

Reliability: 95.71%

- *Inter-observer reliability was assessed for 23% of the students by having two trained data collectors independently complete the STAR.*

- *(Agreement / (Agreement + Disagreement)) * 100.*

- *The mean overall agreement was 95.71% with category agreement ranging from 88.7% to 100%.*

- 209 students from 17 schools in 9 districts in Oregon

- Males out-numbered females, 4 to 1 in both groups.

- On average, **14 or 15 years old** at the time of the exclusion.

- Ss **with disabilities** were disproportionately suspended and expelled from high school
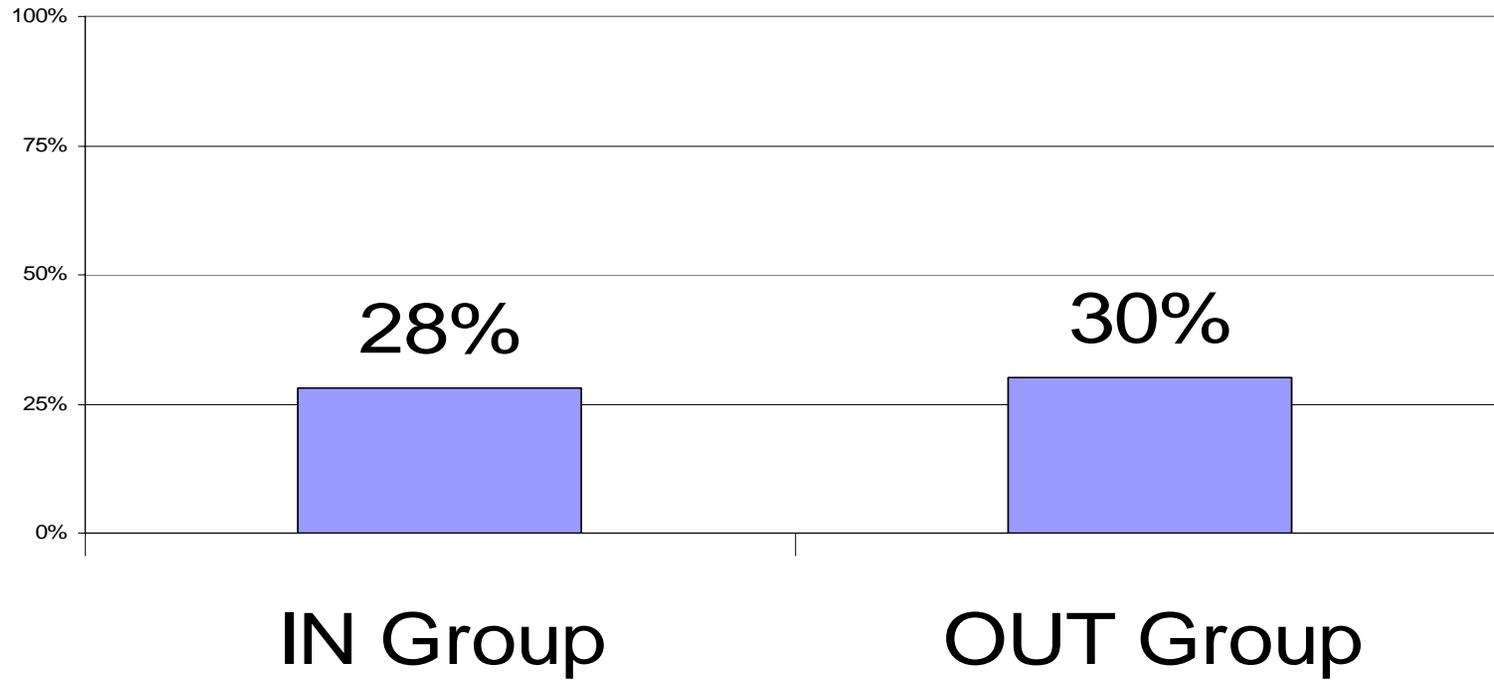
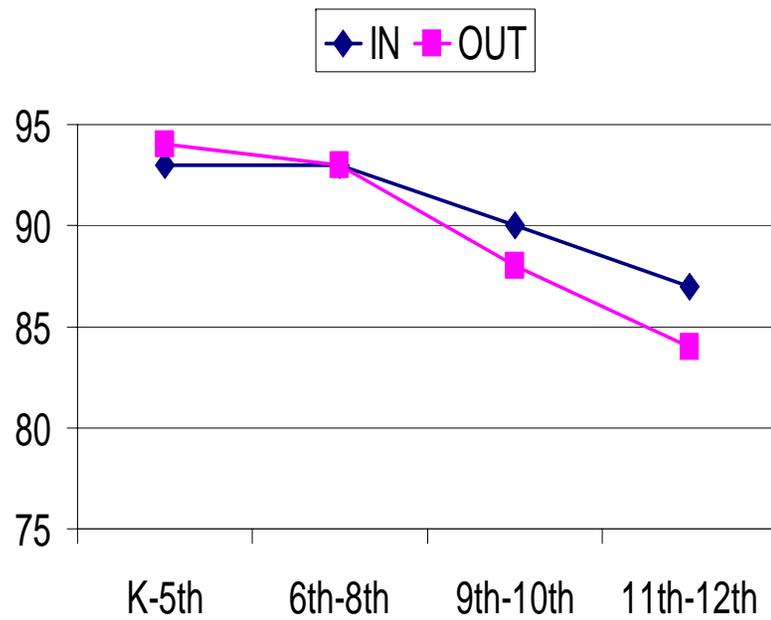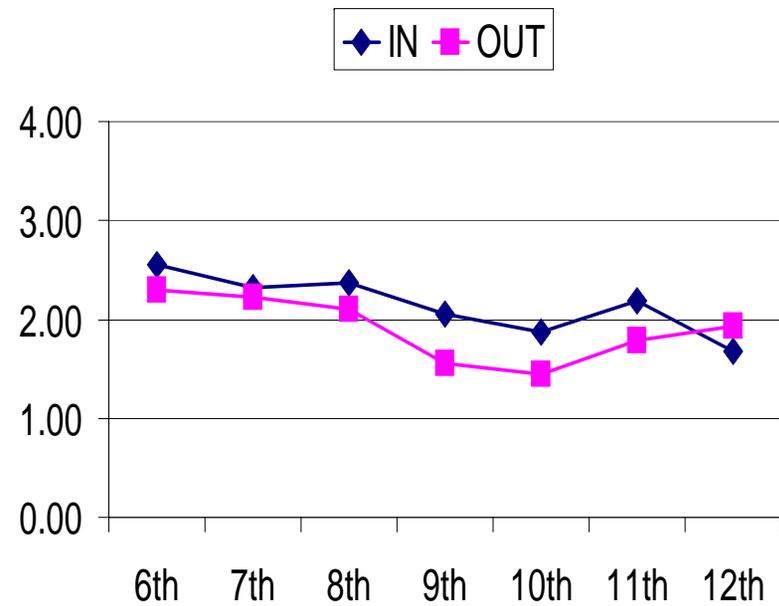| "IN" Group (n = 64, 31%)	"OUT" Group (n = 145, 69%)
– Placement changed instead of expulsion – Hearing officer ruled against expulsion – Expulsions waived	All other students whom the school had identified as having been sent to an expulsion hearing and expelled.

Special Education Students

Note: Average SPED population in all 9 districts was 14%

Percent of Days Present (Averages)

Legend: ◆ IN ■ OUT

Chart (Percent of Days Present): Y-axis 75 to 95; X-axis categories K-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-10th, 11th-12th

Grade Point Averages (GPAs)

Legend: ◆ IN ■ OUT

Chart (Grade Point Averages): Y-axis 0.00 to 4.00; X-axis categories 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th

Number of Students at Each Grade Level at Time of Exclusionary Event

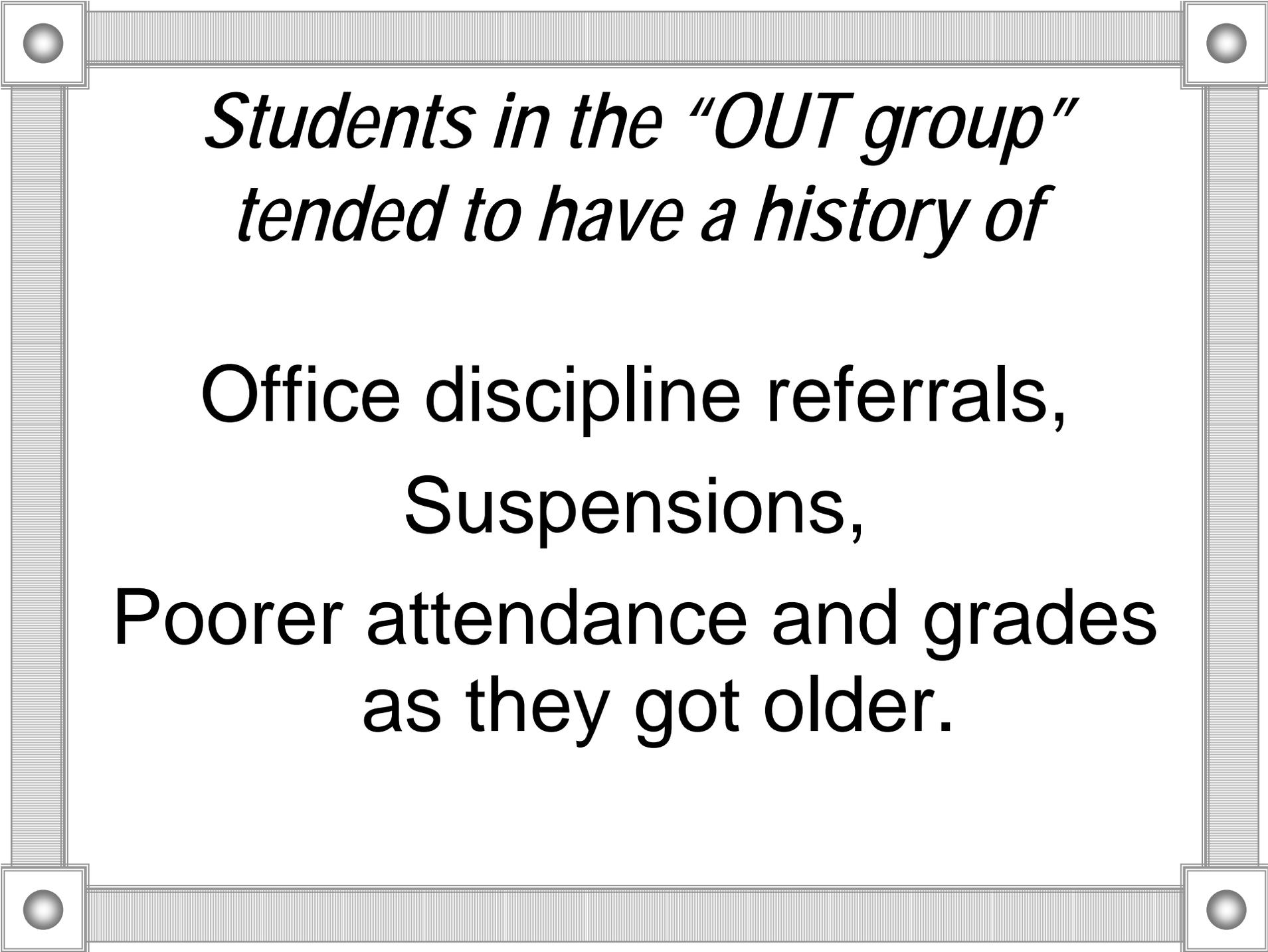| Group	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade	Total
IN	25 (39%)	17 (27%)	13 (20%)	9 (14%)	64
OUT	48 (34%)	47 (33%)	33 (23%)	14 (10%)	142*
Total	73 (35%)	64 (31%)	46 (22%)	23 (11%)	206*

* Three students in the OUT group did not have this information.

Frequency of Office Discipline Referrals: Violent and Nonviolent Offenses

Variable & Grades	IN Group *Average (SD)*	OUT Group *Average (SD)*
Violent K – 5	1 (0.00)	4 (0.71)
Violent 6 – 8	5 (3.32)	4 (2.79)
Violent 9 – 12	2 (1.23)	2 (1.11)
Non-violent K – 5	No records of this on file.	3 (2.74)
Non-violent 6 – 8	**10 (13.01)**	**16 (17.19)**
Non-violent 9 – 12	6 (6.79)	8 (7.20)

Days Suspended from School

Variable & Grades	IN Group *Average (SD)*	OUT Group *Average (SD)*
K – 5	No records of this on file.	1 (1.41)
6 – 8	**4** (2.05)	**16** (22.01)
9 – 12	9 (6.31)	12 (11.14)

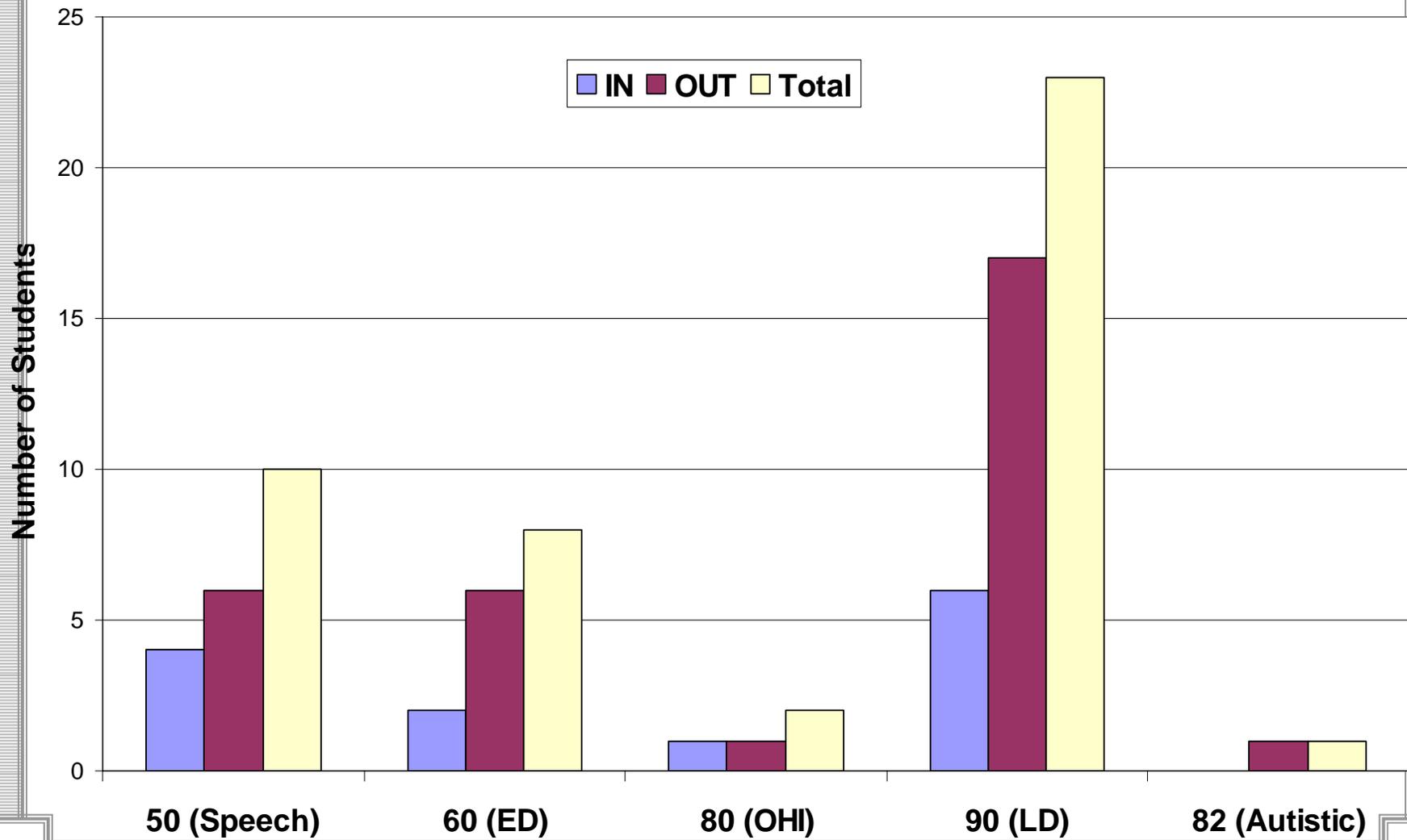*Students in the "OUT group" tended to have a history of*

Office discipline referrals,

Suspensions,

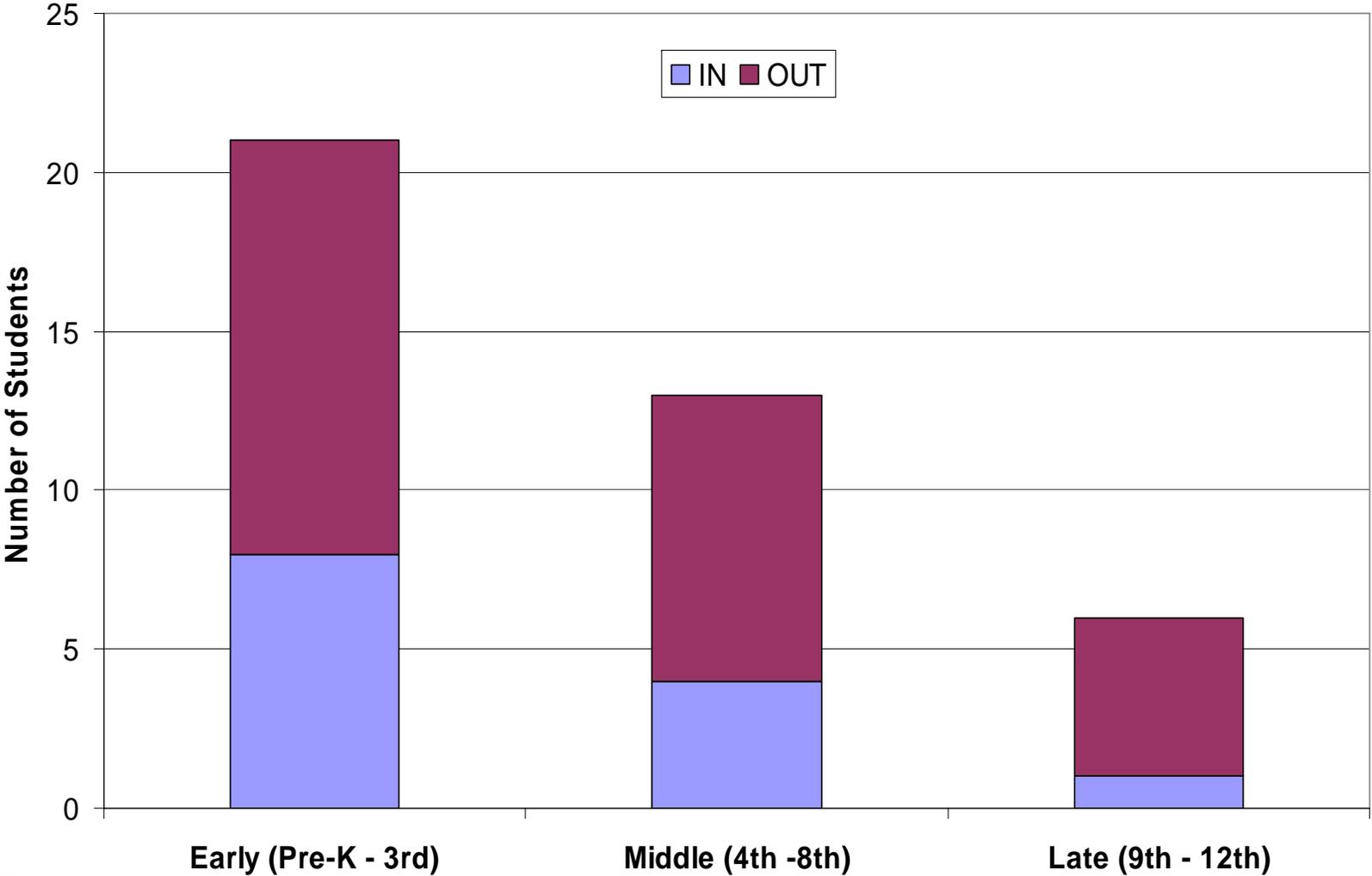Poorer attendance and grades as they got older.

Overall Findings

- Marijuana is the most frequent reason for expulsions

- Escalation in frequency of ODRs (especially non violent) at the middle school level

- Schools with Zero Tolerance policies were most likely to waive expulsions and return some students to school "on probation."
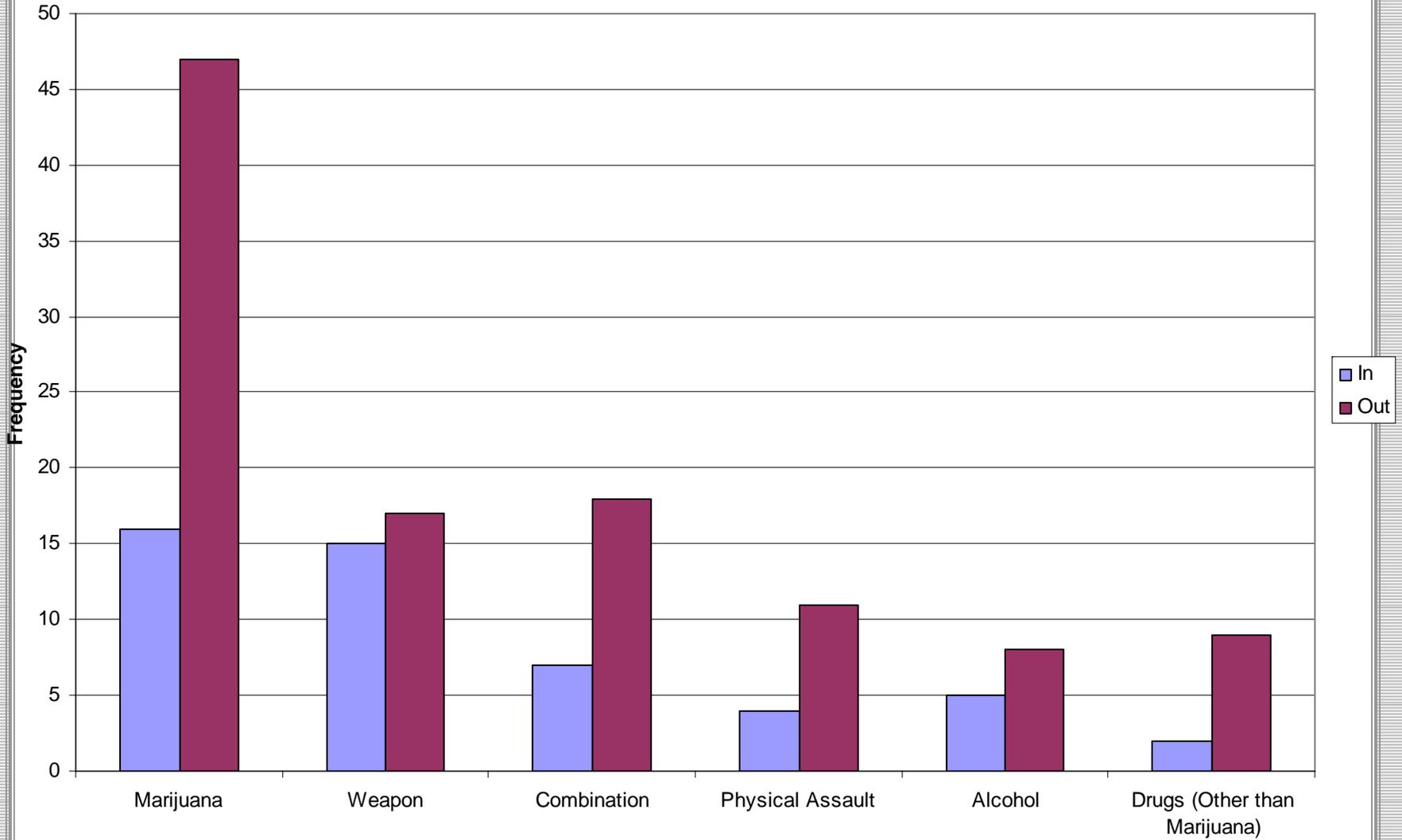
Count of Students' Primary Disabilities by "IN" School, "OUT" of School, and Total

Legend: IN, OUT, Total

Y-axis: Number of Students (0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25)

X-axis categories: 50 (Speech), 60 (ED), 80 (OHI), 90 (LD), 82 (Autistic)

When Special Education Started

Number of Students

Legend: ☐ IN ☐ OUT

Y-axis: 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25

X-axis: Early (Pre-K - 3rd), Middle (4th -8th), Late (9th - 12th)

Most Frequent Reasons for Expulsions by Type of Expulsion

Frequency

Legend:
- In
- Out

Reason	In	Out
Marijuana	16	47
Weapon	15	17
Combination	7	18
Physical Assault	4	11
Alcohol	5	8
Drugs (Other than Marijuana)	2	9

For More Information

- *Contact Tary J. Tobin: ttobin@uoregon.edu or write to: Educational and Community Supports, College of Education, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1235.*

- *A copy of the text (and a related spreadsheet) of a recently revised version of Sugai-Tobin Archival Review (STAR-R) are available online at http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~ttobin.*