

## School Exclusions in 2005

('The Times', 30.6.06 - and BBC web-site)

While permanent exclusions fell by 440 to 9,440, fixed-term exclusions rose by 45,500 to 389,560 in 2005. Almost 40,000 pupils were excluded at least three times and more than 2000 pupils, more than 8 times in the year.

Black pupils and those of mixed race were twice as likely to be permanently excluded as white children.

The government saw the figures as proving heads were tackling bad behaviour more effectively, said the Times. John Dunford, General Secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders, said there was not evidence that schools were becoming either less or (as this article implied) more violent places.

The percentage of the total school population permanently excluded was 0.12% in 2004/05, down from 0.14% in 1998/99 but up from 0.11% five years ago in 1999/2000.

The reasons for the permanent exclusions were:

- Persistent disruption: 2,890 (31%)
- Physical assault on pupil: 1,780 (19%)
- Physical assault on adult: 1,270 (13%)
- Verbal abuse/threat to adult: 1,100 (12%)
- Verbal abuse/threat to pupil: 450 (5%)

Other reasons include: drugs and alcohol, theft, damage, sexual misconduct, bullying and racist abuse.