

INQUIRY, EQUITY, AND IMPACT

An Assessment of Educational
Opportunity in Southwest Georgia



**CENTER FOR
EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITY**
ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY

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ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Inquiry, Equity and Impact: An Assessment of Educational Opportunity in Southwest Georgia compiles data from multiple sources, including the Governor's Office of Student Achievement, Georgia Department of Education, Georgia Department of Student Affairs and the US Census. The authors sought to highlight trends where disparities exist and illuminate barriers to educational opportunity by examining five indicators: Student Performance, Teacher Diversity, Rates of Discipline, Funding and Digital Access across the Center's 27-county service area in Southwest Georgia. The purpose of the report is to present the data in one place; make the case for changes in policy and practice that will have an enduring impact on student performance and outcomes; and equip parents with information that can help them make informed decisions regarding their children's education.

Key Findings



Student Performance

Only four counties (Chattahoochee, Lee, Schley and Stewart) had passing grades of C or above and were majority white. The remaining 23 counties had grades of D or below year-after-year and were majority Black and brown.



Teacher Diversity

Within the 27 counties, the majority of the teacher workforce identify as white and female, although Black students comprise the largest percent of the student population.



Rates of Discipline

Of the students disciplined, the majority of the students were Black in 25 of the 27 counties. In all 27 counties, the disciplinary rates for Black students exceeds the population.



Funding

For the 2019-2020 school year, the FESR ranged from a 1 to 4.5. Lee County (majority white) had the highest rating at 4.5 and Baker, Clay, Dooly, Macon, and Randolph county (majority Black) had the lowest at 1.



Digital Access

Nine of the 27 counties had 50% or more of the population unserved by broadband.

Recommendations

- Performance measures beyond standardized tests.
- Provide high-dosage tutoring for struggling learners and for those who are not performing at grade level to reduce the number of students retained.
- Diversify content to ensure culturally relevant curricula.
- Remove barriers to teacher certification.
- Actively work to recruit and retain Black male teachers to aid in improving student outcomes.
- Create culturally-affirming spaces that welcome diverse teachers and administrators alike.
- Reduce and/or eliminate disciplinary practices that reduce learning time
- Re-allocate SRO funds to provide adequate numbers of school counselors, social workers and other personnel, including those who teach creative arts.
- Equitable funding would allocate additional resources to address the needs of students in low-performing schools. Housing values in low-income neighborhoods result in less funding for high poverty schools while high property values mean wealthier districts receive greater per-pupil spending.
- Allow funding to follow the child.
- Make internet access available to every home to ensure that families can access education, healthcare and work.

For more information and to view the full report, visit asuceo.org

ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Albany State University Center for Educational Opportunity (ASU-CEO), located on the campus of Albany State University, a public historically black college and university (HBCU) in Albany, Georgia; was established on April 13, 2018, through generous support from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund Center for Advancing Opportunity.

ASU-CEO examines the barriers to educational access and attainment for fragile families. We seek out the best practices that will impact the way educators, policymakers and stakeholders provide educational opportunity and choice. Our academic research has real-world relevance. We endeavor for the Center for Educational Opportunity to become a premier resource for education reform solutions and believe our efforts have the power to help transform lives.

Mission

We exist to advance educational research in order to strengthen and empower fragile communities, from the bottom-up.

Vision

Communities formerly considered as fragile will demonstrate strong measurable indicators of societal well-being; they will become highly competitive with domestic and foreign competition; and will have a skilled well-educated workforce. Improved access to education exists; barriers have been reduced; family autonomy and educational choice is present. While Albany State University is located in the state of Georgia, the Center aims to establish new, and sustain existing partnerships with local, state, and national research organizations throughout the U.S. and abroad.

ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Core Values

Inquiry

We are researchers who aim to find, discover, and uncover educational models, innovations, and opportunities that provide access to high-quality education for families living in fragile communities.

Integrity

We support research findings that are true, fact-based, and honest. Research discoveries and outcomes should be driven by legitimate research methods and designs.

Innovation

We embrace 'creative destruction'; that is, we recognize the important role that innovation plays in education and the need to remain vigilant in keeping up-to-date with trends in education.

Integration

We value integration across disciplines, across cultures, across socio-economic lines, across sectors, and across educational choices. We believe that a better-educated community will result in a better-prepared workforce, and a better society.

Impact

Research that is action-oriented and impact-based allows us to study and observe outcomes that serve as solutions to educational challenges with shared data findings. In doing so, the deployment of solutions is strategic and timely.

To learn more, please visit asuceo.org.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Education must not simply teach work — it must teach life." W.E.B. DuBois

If the traditional view that the role of education is to prepare graduates for a career or higher education, in what ways is education providing for students who wish to take neither path? Shouldn't education prepare students for life?

Education maintains the status quo.

Educational attainment is an important lever for social mobility. Yet, an educational achievement gap between Black children and their white peers has persisted since the historic *Brown v Board of Education* decision. Dr. Gloria Ladson-Billings writes that this "gap" is better understood as an education debt. "Historical, sociopolitical, and moral decisions and policies that characterize our society have created an education debt" that puts Black children at a deficit. [1] "Education opportunities tend to reinforce social disparities that appear early in life. All of this is well known, and yet in many countries, a student's or school's postal code is still the best predictor for the quality of the education that students acquire." [2] School districts in this report have historically high rates of people mired in poverty.

Transformation, not change is the solution.

This report makes clear that helping students be successful by improving education benefits families, business and industry, and society as a whole. When complemented with wholistic initiatives that tackle the ecosystem of education, including affordable housing, living wage jobs, accessible nutritious foods and healthcare for the region's people, meaningful transformation can occur. Thus, all stakeholders need to act now to seize the momentous potential to reimagine education that serves all children and take the necessary actions to accelerate equitable educational opportunity for Southwest Georgians who continue to be left behind. All resources must be marshaled to build what is broken.

Schools must create affirming spaces, contextualize learning content and eliminate deficit thinking around what its Black students are capable of achieving. Helping students fulfill their potential requires that teachers in front of children see themselves in the children and the children see themselves in the teachers. Ultimately, parents must be given the information and resources to ensure that their children have equitable and high-quality educational opportunities, no matter their race, income, or zip code.

I hope that this report serves as a catalyst for educational transformation for the rural school districts in Southwest Georgia by highlighting the inequalities between the districts. By addressing educational inequities, we will not only create better opportunities for students, but transformative change for society as a whole.

Sincerely,



Kathaleena Edward Monds, Ph.D.
Founding Director, Center for Educational Opportunity (CEO)



WHY THIS STUDY?

This report describes the K-12 educational landscape of the 27 counties served by Albany State University (ASU), a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) located in Albany, Georgia. The impetus to produce this report was to examine student outcomes. In the hierarchy of educational research, rural areas typically do not attract much attention. Examining what is happening in rural educational settings is critical because it affects mostly Black people who historically and currently live in high-poverty areas with limited upward mobility. Failing schools perpetuate cycles of poverty that limit families for generations due to numerous structural barriers. In Southwest Georgia, as similar to communities across the nation, race, parent income, and zip code are strong predictors for student achievement and outcomes.

With new educational funding and priorities in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, billed as a “once-in-a-generation investment in the nation’s physical infrastructure and competitiveness,” now is the time to build an undeniably equitable education system. As the Spencer Foundation writes, “we’ve arrived at an unusual moment in American education, one that invites us to reimagine every part of our work and share bold ideas about the kinds of classrooms, schools, and learning opportunities we hope to create.” [3]

Each data point represents a boy or girl with hopes of receiving instruction that equips them to master literacy, math, science, social sciences, and the arts. This mastery ensures that they can apply their learning to help them solve everyday problems. Repairing what is broken in education requires “reframing learning standards based on culturally relevant and responsive theories” [4], a reallocation of funding, and rectifying legal and regulatory frameworks that contribute to poverty and high-poverty schools.

If the region is to thrive and prosper, it is critical to tap into and unleash genius in these children, if not for moral reasons, but for the well-being of the economy. To address the achievement gap, we must fix the belief gap and “schools must move away from a deficit model that blames black children toward an asset-based approach that acknowledges who children are and what’s important to them.” [5]

“Georgia has a constitutional responsibility to provide an adequate and equitable education for all its citizens. The state’s history has seen this obligation selectively applied based on a student’s race, family income and ability. It is worth analyzing if school districts that operate in Georgia’s Black Belt, the location of generations of enslaved labor, are currently being given a square deal.”

-Georgia Budget and Policy Institute

The authors chose an equity framework for our approach, grounded in a belief that the disparities are better understood as an educational debt versus an educational gap (see Gloria Ladson-Billings). We seek to disrupt deficit thinking about the capabilities of Black children and arm them with knowledge for living and the advantages of evidenced-based culturally-relevant education.

We are especially concerned that the Georgia Department of Education will follow the conservative trend of blocking educational content that includes Black contributions to American society. Conversations around addressing systematic racism and the historical implications of educational inequity are necessary to ensure all students are represented and are given equal access to educational opportunities.

It is our hope that the report is accessible not only to policymakers and scholars but for parents as well. We aim for this report to be user friendly and demystify the data in order for parents to use the information to mobilize and take steps to pursue educational options that best serve their children. Parental agency is paramount, as is equitable access to a community's benefits and resources.

We invite faculty and scholars to use the content across disciplines to further research that strengthens practice and takes a deeper look at the many factors that make up the educational ecosystem. Communities may find ways to broaden students' and families' participation through meaningful engagement and support that helps to build important life skills via experiential learning, out-of-school enrichment, and exposure.

Policymakers may consider policies that redistribute taxpayer dollars in ways that establish funding equity for the most marginalized, help parents exercise choice, and create new educational models and opportunities. Flexible financing enables parents to hire tutors, purchase curriculum, form learning pods, or find virtual options; whatever they determine is the best way to educate their children.

Ultimately, we hope for a transformation of communities that are historically underserved, and the most adversely affected by every economic downturn. They are our family, friends, and neighbors. They are us, just an educational opportunity and a paycheck away.

“The thought of the inferiority of the Negro is drilled into him in almost every class he enters in and almost every book he studies. The American Curriculum inspired white students by telling them that their race -- referring to a homogeneous white identity, beyond ethnic and national difference -- was responsible for all notable progress in the world. The semantics embedded in this curricular orientation, it's very narrative structure intended diminished aspirations for black students and to demotivate them from challenging their current state of subjugation... More than a mere oversight, these gaps were carefully manufactured, a knowledge system constructed by those in power who deemed African- descendant people as outside of history, outside of human time emdash trailing behind 'the great march of human civilization.'”

-Fugitive Pedagogy: Carter G. Woodson and the Art of Black Teaching

METHODOLOGY

The authors collected data from the Georgia Department of Education, State of Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement, U.S. Census Bureau, and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs' Georgia Broadband Program to gain a full picture of each county and school district. Data collected spanned three school years, 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020. Although the global pandemic of COVID-19 brought more attention to educational inequities, we wanted to show that the disparities are historic and occurred prior to 2020.

Data was collected in two waves, spring 2021 and fall 2021. The data collected in spring 2021 was verified in the fall to ensure accuracy. Authors found that the numbers collected from the State of Georgia Governor's Office of Student Achievement were updated numerous times; therefore, the final numbers in this report are from the November 2021's data verification. Total revenues and expenditures were retrieved from the GaDoE website in January 2022.

Five themes were chosen in areas where historically and currently there has been inequity and pronounced disparities between Black and Brown children and their white peers. These include: Student Performance, Teacher Diversity, Rates of Discipline, School Funding, and Digital Access. The rationale and data used are represented below.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Rationale The foundation of education is student outcomes and performance. Quality education is connected to workforce preparedness and positive life outcomes. Moreover, "Georgia's economic pipeline is fueled by its education system and is, according to the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education, the key to economic recovery in Georgia and across the US." [6]. A snapshot of students' performance in the 27 counties provides a baseline for action as it pertains to educational inequities.

Data Used CCRPI, Rates of Retention, Four-year graduation Rate, Race, Gender, College Readiness

TEACHER DIVERSITY

Rationale A racially diverse staff academically benefits all students, yet teachers and administrators are overwhelmingly white in schools where the student population is majority Black and Brown. Studies have also shown that "diversifying the teacher workforce could lead to significant decreases in exclusionary discipline" and increases college matriculation rates, [7]. A snapshot of teacher diversity in the 27 counties highlights the need for teachers of color in order to improve student outcomes.

Data Used Race, Gender, Certified Personnel, Qualifications and Experience

RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Rationale High rates of exclusionary discipline practices have significant impacts on student performance. Black, low-income, and special needs students are disciplined at disproportionate rates. Suspensions cause students to lose days of instruction and the pushout of students fuels the school-to-prison pipeline. [8] A snapshot of the disciplinary disparities within the 27 counties provides a baseline for action to decrease the rate of students entering the juvenile and criminal justice system.

Data Used Race, Gender, Incidents, In and Out of School Suspension Rates, Expulsion Rates
Discipline Rates by Gender and Race

FUNDING

Rationale Better resourced schools tend to have better student performance and outcomes. [9] Quality resources not only include state-of-the-art technology or current textbooks, but also safe school buildings, ample human resources, a variety of extracurricular activities, and partnerships with community organizations. A snapshot of funding allows families, policy makers, and neighboring school districts to understand the cost of education while facilitating discussions on more efficient use of funds directly linked to teaching versus non-teaching expenses. [30]

Data Used Revenue, Expenditures, Financial Efficiency Star Ratings, K-12 Per Pupil Expenditures, School Improvement Federal Funding , Teacher Salaries

DIGITAL ACCESS

Rationale In rural areas, access to high-speed internet is sometimes limited, unavailable, and/or unreliable. During school shutdowns, digital access determined whether students received online instruction. The digital divide creates unequal learning opportunities for students in high-poverty school districts, which in turn affect student outcomes. [10] A snapshot of digital access provides information on existing monopolies of broadband providers; thus, limiting consumer choice and often resulting in high rates of poor quality/service, further highlighting the need for a more trained Computer Science teacher workforce in Georgia.

Data Used Areas served and unserved by broadband, Broadband internet subscriptions, Households with a computer, Households with a broadband internet subscription, Total online K-12 students, Online Direct Instruction, Teachers with computer science certification

Study Limitations

While there were other measures including school drop out rates, AP/IB course offerings, rates of students for whom English is a second language, rates of students with disabilities, and other data that we could have examined to paint a fuller picture, we chose indicators that represented the broadest sample of students. We also noted that some data culled from the Governor's Office of Student Achievement was revised and updated during the data collection period and therefore may show discrepancies. The terminology used in this report mirrors the sources used (i.e., Hispanic, female, male), therefore we were confined to their definitions and word choice.

PILLAR 1: STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Albany State University Center for Educational Opportunity's 27-county service area is home to persistently low-performing schools and districts, as defined by the Governor's Office of Student Achievement's (GOSA) Georgia School Grades Reports. Grades Reports "include A-F letter grades based on school performance and other useful information about the school, such as performance on statewide assessments, the make-up of the school's student body, the graduation rate, and additional academic information." [11] Grade Reports are based on the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI). The CCRPI score is reported on a 0-100 scale. The score is comprised the combined score of five metrics: Content Mastery, Progress, Closing Gaps, Readiness, and Graduation Rate. [12]

While the CCRPI is used by GOSA, a 2020 report by the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute found that the "CCRPI overwhelmingly relies on test score data and is therefore a better measure of the wealth of a school system than the school staff's ability to educate students." [13] Therefore, additional indicators must be used to demonstrate student performance and the quality of education.

Within this report is a snapshot of districts' overall performance statewide, students' academic growth, and 3rd and 8th grade reading at or above grade-level targets according to GOSA. We believe that these grades reflect system failures, not student failures; and our focus is student-centered, not system centered.

4
of 27 Counties Had a Passing Grade of C or Above

5 Counties with Lowest Enrollments (2019-20)	
Clay	195
Baker	250
Webster	278
Quitman	286
Stewart	405

5 Counties with Highest Enrollments (2019-20)	
Dougherty	13,627
Colquitt	9,191
Lee	6,435
Thomas	5,523
Sumter	4,194

Using the indicators set by GOSA, only four counties within the University's 27-county service area – Chattahoochee, Lee, Schley, and Stewart – had passing grades of C or above over the three years reported. The three school districts with the highest passing grades, Chattahoochee, Lee, and Schley, had majority white students. The remaining 23 counties consistently had grades of D or below year-after-year, and had majority Black students. This aligns with the historical and current trend of racial inequities, not only in Southwest Georgia but nationwide. The 23 failing school districts inadequately prepare students for future careers and successful life outcomes.

This report also highlights retention rates (held back a grade) over the three years reported. In the majority of the 27 counties, boys were retained more often than girls, and in some cases rates reached three times higher. In addition, Black students were retained at higher rates than white and Hispanic students in most counties.

In 2019, the average four-year graduation rate of the 27 counties is 86.6%. In the same year, graduates are reported to be college and career ready at rates ranging from 26% (Stewart County) to 89% (Schley County). In 2017, the college enrollment rate ranges from a low of 40% (Dooly County) to a high of 69% (Sumter County). Both Stewart and Dooly County, which have the lowest college enrollment rate and college and career readiness rates have majority Black students. Lack of college and career readiness negatively impacts current and future generations, while robbing these districts of human capacity,

PILLAR 2: TEACHER DIVERSITY

Educational research shows that a diverse teacher workforce increases student performance. This is particularly true for Black students. A IZA Institute of Labor Economics report showed that “low-income Black male elementary school students who were paired with a Black teacher in the third, fourth, or fifth grades were 39% less likely to drop out of high school. The researchers also found that matching low-income Black students of both sexes with at least one Black teacher between the third and fifth grades increased their aspirations to attend a four-year college by 19%.” Moreover, “as Black students receive instruction from a greater number of Black teachers, the probability of suspension decreases.” [14]

Research also shows that white teachers hold lower expectations of Black students. “When white teachers and Black teachers assessed the same African American students, white teachers were 40% less likely to predict that their Black students would complete high school, and 30% less likely to believe they would graduate from a four-year college program.” [15] Teacher diversity within schools, particularly ones with a majority Black population, can increase student performance and college readiness.

Within the 27 counties, the majority of the teacher workforce identify as white and female, although Black students comprise the largest percent of the student population. Female teachers outnumber male teachers in all counties. “This has been a consistent trend in Georgia’s teacher population and provides an area for potential recruitment outside traditional gender patterns.” [16] Research also indicates that male teachers have positive influences on male students. [17] Therefore, within districts with high rates of retained Black male students, additional Black male teachers would be an asset to this student population.

Within the 27 counties, the majority of the teacher workforce identify as white and female, although Black students comprise the largest percent of the student population.

The majority of teachers within the 27 counties have been teaching for more than 10 years. However, high poverty areas have higher rates of inexperienced teachers, teachers instructing outside of their subject area, higher rates of emergency provisional credentials, and a workforce with a smaller share of Master's degrees. Failure to retain quality teachers and high turnover rates affect student outcomes negatively. [16] Therefore, high poverty areas and majority Black schools should work to retain their teachers and provide adequate resources for their instructional success.

PILLAR 3: RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Research has historically shown that Black students are disproportionately disciplined in K-12 public schools. [18] Zero tolerance policies, implicit biases, and systematic disparities within the educational system contribute to this disciplinary gap. Institutional policies and discriminatory practices have led to the school-to-prison pipeline, which funnels Black students into the criminal legal system from primary school. In order to fight these disparities, national initiatives such as Rethink Discipline, a part of President Obama's My Brother's Keeper initiative, were established to disrupt this pipeline and work toward more positive outcomes for Black students.

In Georgia, Black students comprise 37% of the K-12 population, but account for 56% of the population that is disciplined, which is consistent with national statistics. Legislation such as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 2016, Unsafe School Choice Option of 2017, and the Georgia Appleseed Initiative, tries to address the widespread disparities in the treatment of students of color in the state. [19] However, the over criminalization of Black students continues. The 27 counties followed the national and state trends where Black students are disproportionately disciplined than any other race.

In Georgia, there are 44 offenses which range from level 1 to level 3, in addition to a variety of types of punishment that can be administered. [19] Prior to 2019, corporal punishment was legal within Georgia schools. The most common type of punishments in the 27 counties from 2017-2020 was in school suspension (ISS), followed by out of school suspension (OSS), and "other." "Other" includes a range of incidents, however student incivility (insubordination or disrespect to staff members or other students; includes but is not limited to refusal to follow school staff member) is the highest in this category.

5 Counties with Lowest # of Disciplinary Incidents Reported		
2019-20	#Incidents	#Students
Webster	22	278
Mitchell	26	1,277
Quitman	77	286
Stewart	106	405
Baker	116	250

5 Counties with Highest # of Disciplinary Incidents Reported		
2019-20	#Incidents	#Students
Dougherty	3,381	13,627
Sumter	2,464	4,194
Colquitt	2,495	9,191
Worth	2,280	3,305
Lee	1,672	6,435

In 26 counties, the disciplinary rates for Black students exceeds the population. For example, in Colquitt County where Black students averaged 26% of the student population and an average of 50% of the students disciplined were Black. Of the nine counties that had majority white students, only two had majority incidents from white students. In all counties, boys always had the highest number of incidents; however Black boys were typically disciplined disproportionately. In all but two counties, Black girls were disciplined at a higher rate than white girls. In all counties the majority of those disciplined were economically disadvantaged, meaning poor students are disciplined disproportionately. Black, low-income, and special needs students are disciplined at disproportionate rates and have significant impacts on student performance.

36%

K-12 BLACK STUDENT POPULATION IN GA

56%

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS DISCIPLINED, BLACK

PILLAR 4: FUNDING

Funding for K-12 education is an on-going debate. Models used today have been adopted by many school districts and systems, with little attention given to associating funding with value-creation. And while traditional public schools do receive funding support from individual, local, state, national entities, how those funds are expended in serving the most fragile is one that needs further study. “Segregated schools often are the outgrowth of residential segregation, prescribing which children attend which neighborhood schools. With property taxes comprising a major source of school funding, you can draw a straight line between segregation and unequal resources. A report from EdBuild shows white school districts receive \$23 billion more than predominantly nonwhite districts, despite educating the same number of students.” [\[31\]](#)

According to GOSA, “the Financial Efficiency Star Rating (FESR) provides a comparison of district spending per student with overall academic performance. Districts can earn between a one-half star and five stars, with a one-half star rating for districts with the highest per pupil expenditure (PPEs) and low College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) scores, and a five-star rating for districts with the lowest PPEs and high CCRPI scores” [\[20\]](#). For the 2019-2020 school year, the FESR ranged from a 1 to 4.5, in comparison to the State of Georgia's FESR rating of one. Lee County (a majority white district) had the highest rating at 4.5 and Baker, Clay, Dooly, Macon, and Randolph county (majority Black districts) had the lowest at 1.

Funding for the 2019-2020 school year within the 27 counties was higher than the State of Georgia. Of teacher salaries, Schley County (a majority white district) had the highest salary at \$60,973 and Quitman (a majority Black district) had the lowest at \$46,614. For 12 of the counties, teacher salaries fluctuated and had a decrease between the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school year.

2.2

**AVERAGE
FINANCIAL
EFFICIENCY STAR
RATING**

5 Counties with Lowest Teacher Salaries (2019-20)		5 Counties with Highest Teacher Salaries (2019-20)	
Quitman	\$46,614	Schley	\$60,973
Mitchell	\$49,913	Stewart	\$58,721
Macon	\$50,258	Marion	\$58,649
Clay	\$51,006	Terrell	\$57,692
Baker	\$52,006	Thomas	\$57,611

Thirteen of the 27 counties received federal school improvement funding. Federal funding included Additional Targeted Improvement and Support (ATSI), Comprehensive and Support (CSI), and Targeted Improvement and Support (TSI) support funding for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. [\[21\]](#) Dougherty county received the most federal funding of \$1.6M over the two year period.

13

**DISTRICTS RECEIVED
FEDERAL SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT FUNDING**

PILLAR 5: DIGITAL ACCESS

Understanding the digital divide is important today because of the crucial role that broadband plays in a student's life. The absence of broadband providers means that communities are less likely to have opportunities to utilize services, either educational or work-related. The Internet provides access to educational resources, tools, information, and the virtual connection to people; thus, allowing students to effectively and efficiently learn, in the absence of face-to-face instruction.

Rural Georgia counties have worked to strategically develop economic development initiatives that will attract industries to these parts of the state. According to Blankenship "rural broadband expansion so far has largely missed rural counties in which Black Georgians either are or are near the majority." [22] The Georgia Department of Community Affairs has designated Broadband Ready Communities. These communities must demonstrate compliance with the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan inclusive of the promotion of the deployment broadband services, and demonstrate compliance with the adoption of a Broadband Model Ordinance. [23] Of the 27 counties, four (Colquitt, Lee, Marion, and Schley) are deemed as Broadband Ready Communities.

Research shows that students who lack access to Internet, experience a "homework gap" that serves to create an uneven playing field in the classroom. [24] Nine of the 27 counties had 50% or more of the population unserved by broadband. The lack of broadband access creates a further educational divide for students in a time where online learning has become integral during a global pandemic.

4

**of 27 Counties
were deemed as
Broadband
Ready
Communities**

12

**of 27 Counties
have a Teacher
with a Computer
Science
Endorsement**

Having qualified teachers in K-12 education that have S.T.E.M certifications and/or endorsements in Computer Science creates opportunities for sustainability in the educational landscape. As technology advances and S.T.E.M related career opportunities grow, students need to be equipped with resources and instruction to be competitive within the workforce. Within the 27 counties only twelve districts had teachers with a Computer Science Endorsement, with typically less than ten teachers with the certification.

27 COUNTY OVERVIEW

	2017–2018		2018–2019		2019–2020	
	Grade	\$ Per Pupil Expenditures	Grade	\$ Per Pupil Expenditures	Grade	\$ Per Pupil Expenditures
Baker	F	\$19,367	F	\$21,591	D	\$22,622
Calhoun	D	\$14,485	F	\$17,252	F	\$42,834
Chattahoochee	C	\$13,697	C	\$15,273	C	\$17,894
Clay	F	\$18,826	F	\$23,346	D	\$26,558
Colquitt	D	\$12,299	D	\$11,929	C	\$12,437
Crisp	D	\$12,203	D	\$13,810	D	\$19,935
Decatur	D	\$11,751	D	\$11,305	D	\$13,970
Dooly	F	\$15,922	F	\$16,407	F	\$15,140
Dougherty	D	\$15,077	D	\$14,394	D	\$14,795
Early	D	\$12,920	D	\$13,811	D	\$14,666
Grady	D	\$10,916	F	\$12,332	D	\$13,991
Lee	B	\$11,887	B	\$10,688	B	\$10,632
Macon	F	\$21,704	F	\$14,869	D	\$16,895
Marion	C	\$11,583	D	\$12,842	D	\$12,874
Miller	D	\$12,218	F	\$13,431	D	\$14,892
Mitchell	C	\$13,434	F	\$14,287	F	\$20,901
Quitman	F	\$23,026	F	\$21,905	D	\$22,168
Randolph	F	\$15,657	D	\$18,373	D	\$17,797
Schley	B	\$11,028	C	\$11,371	B	\$11,576
Seminole	C	\$12,021	C	\$12,291	D	\$14,670
Stewart	C	\$37,459	C	\$20,801	C	\$22,380
Sumter	F	\$12,643	C	\$13,743	D	\$17,928
Terrell	D	\$12,555	D	\$14,950	D	\$14,977
Thomas	C	\$13,451	D	\$13,153	C	\$14,397
Turner	F	\$14,152	F	\$14,988	D	\$14,763
Webster	D	\$15,141	D	\$15,786	C	\$17,567
Worth	C	\$19,563	C	\$13,458	D	\$11,786

5 Counties with Highest Total Per Pupil Expenditures		
2019-20	\$ Per Pupil	#Students
Calhoun	\$42,834	512
Clay	\$26,558	250
Baker	\$22,622	250
Stewart	\$22,380	405
Quitman	\$22,168	286

5 Counties with Lowest Total Per Pupil Expenditures		
2019-20	\$ Per Pupil	#Students
Lee	\$10,632	6,435
Schley	\$11,576	1,225
Worth	\$11,786	3,035
Colquitt	\$12,437	9,191
Marion	\$12,874	1,308

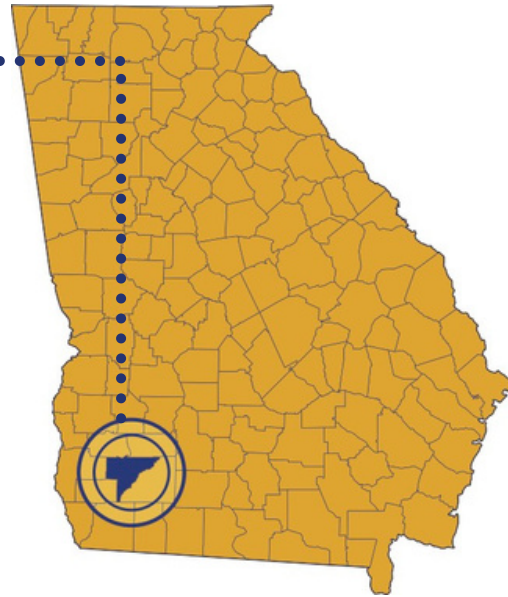
BAKER

county

BAKER

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	3,038
Black Alone, %	44%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	47.9%
Median Household Income	\$32,917
Persons in Poverty	24.8%
Owner occupied housing rate	65.3%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	80.6%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	12.9%



District Letter Grade [11]

F	2017
F	2018
D	2019

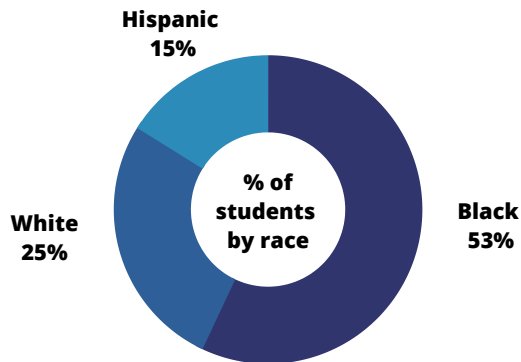
Student District Enrollment

2020 [30]

250

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

50%



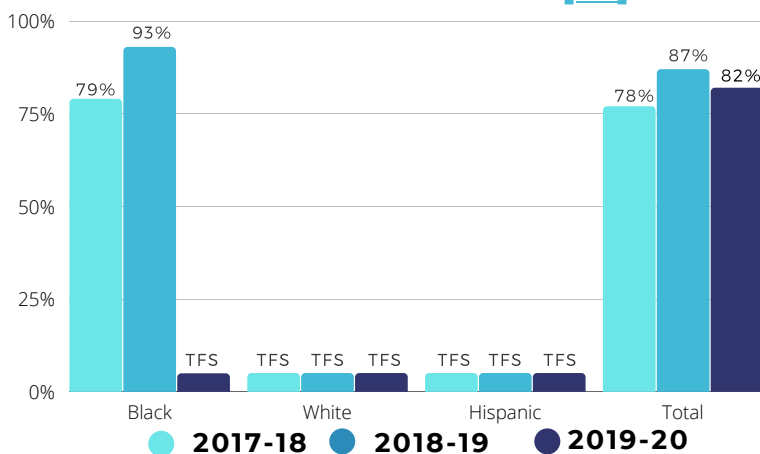
BAKER COUNTY SCHOOLS

Baker County K-12 School

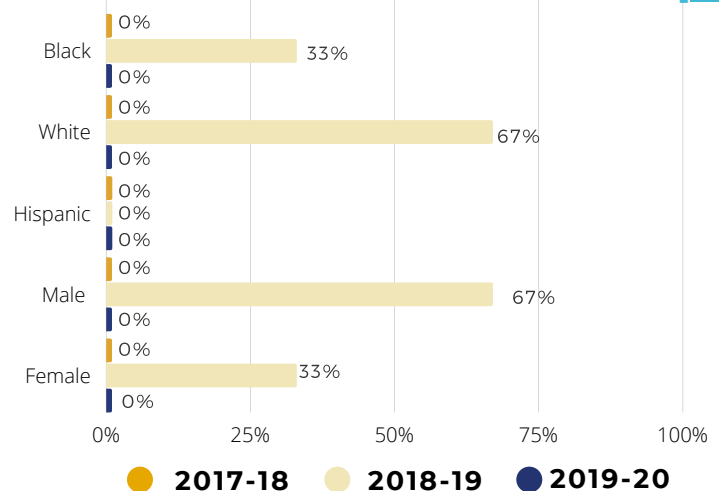
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Baker County's overall performance is higher than 7% of the 27 county districts statewide. In addition, its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 7% of districts, middle school students' academic growth is higher than 60%, and its high school students' academic growth is higher than 25% of districts. By 3rd grade, 33.3% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 50.0% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 87.0%, which is higher than 42% of districts. The college enrollment rate for the year 2017 was 50%. In 2020, 80% percent of graduates are college and career ready." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



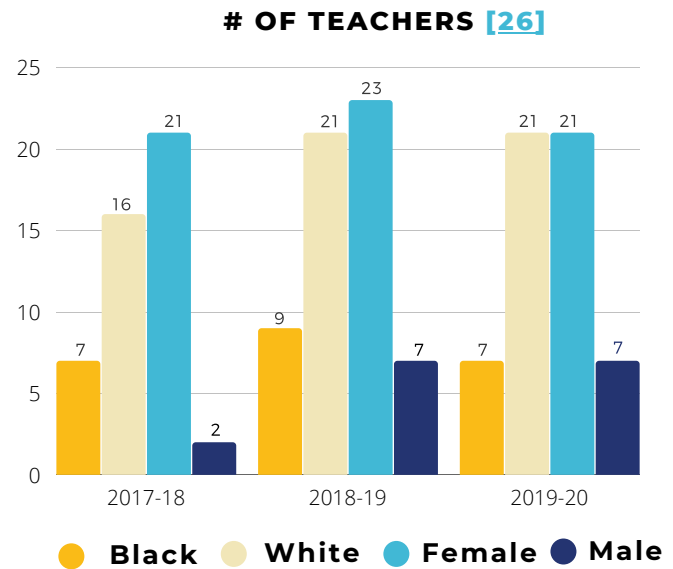
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

The majority of the teachers in Baker County were white, female, and full-time. For the three-year period, white teachers outnumbered Black teachers and female teachers outnumbered male teachers. For 2019-20, female and white teachers exceeded Black and male teachers 3 to 1. The retention rate of teachers falls into the <10-year range, meaning most teachers are new to the profession. The majority of teachers earned a Bachelor's degree, which is the minimum for teacher certification.

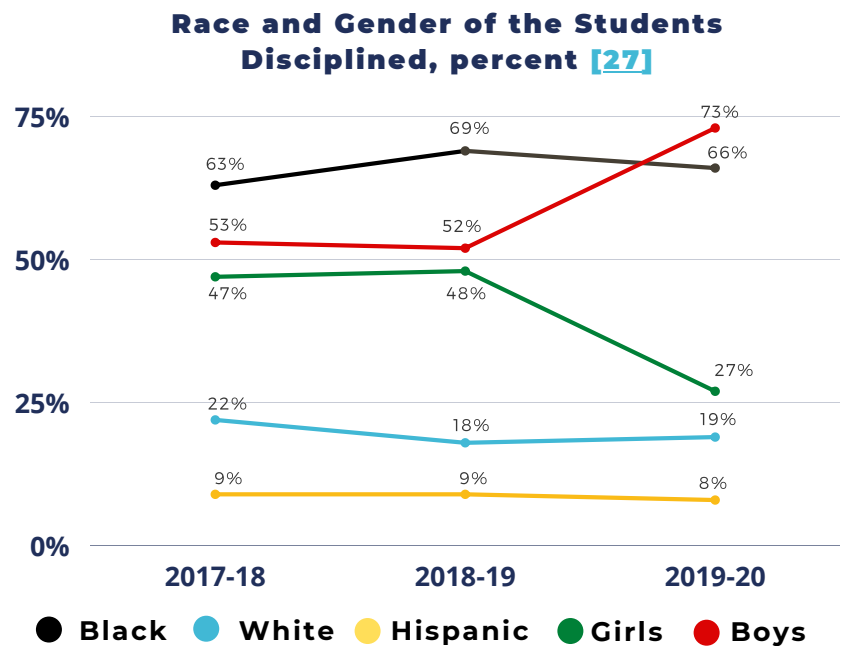
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	21	29	28
# Full Time Teachers	23	30	28
# Part Time Teachers	0	0	0
Retention ≤ 10 Years	11	14	10
Retention > 10 Years	12	16	18
Teachers Education > B.A.	11	14	13



RATES OF DISCIPLINE

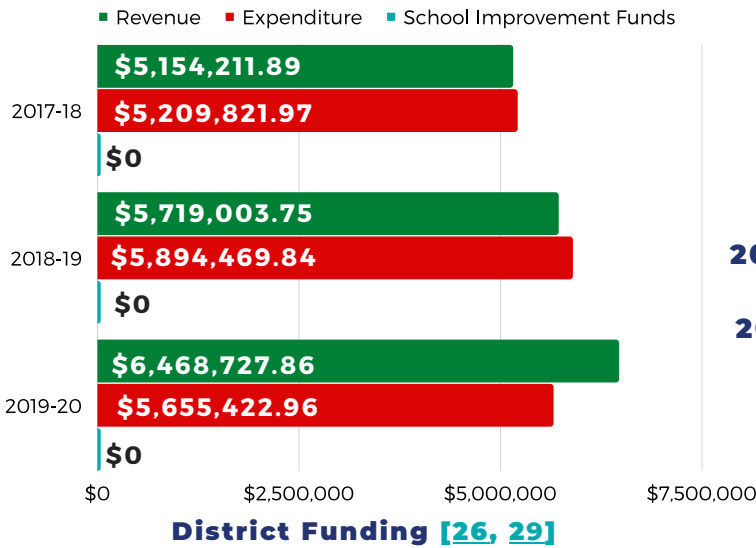
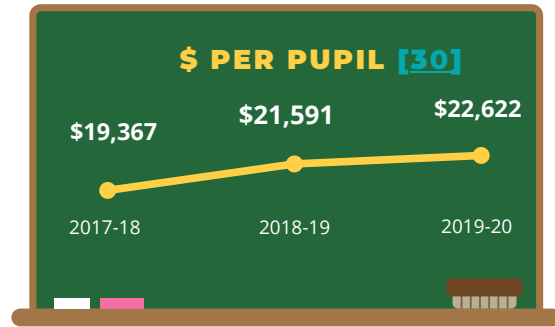
Disciplinary incidents increased from 37 in 2017-18 to 116 in 2019-20, an increase of 214% (79). In 2020, Black students were 53% of the student population but were 66% of the students disciplined. Over the three-year period, Black students were the majority disciplined and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Baker County had a low rate of expulsion, which averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 10% and out of school suspension rate average was 3%.

	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	37	119	116
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	7%	15%	9%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	0%	8%	0.3%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%



FUNDING

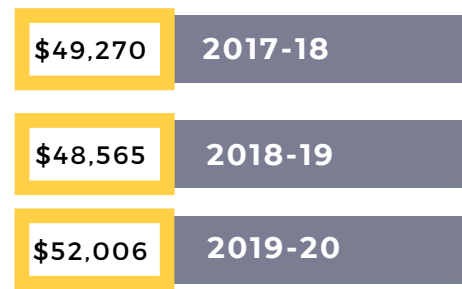
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Baker County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$19,367 to \$22,622 which represents a 16.8% (\$3,254) increase. Baker County had a funding shortfall during 2017-18 and 2018-19 academic years by -\$55,610 and -\$175,466, respectively. From 2017-18 to 2019-20 teacher salaries increased by 5.6% (\$2,736). Baker county had a Financial Efficiency Rating of one spanning 2017-2019 and received no School Improvement Federal Funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

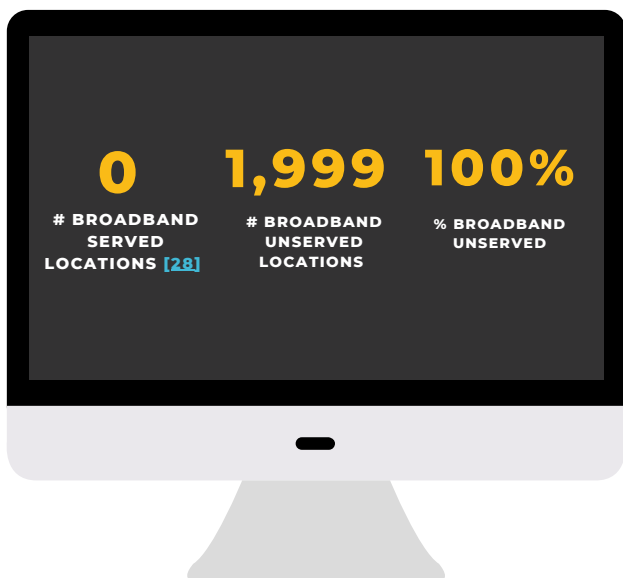


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Baker County's population is among one of the smallest within the 27-county area. Only half of the population in Baker County households have broadband internet subscriptions and 100% of those living in the county are unserved by broadband internet access. The number of online students remains low. There was an increase of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year, the rate decreased. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



63.7%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

50.6%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	11	37	26	# of Students Online
	5	28	18	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	8	13	11	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

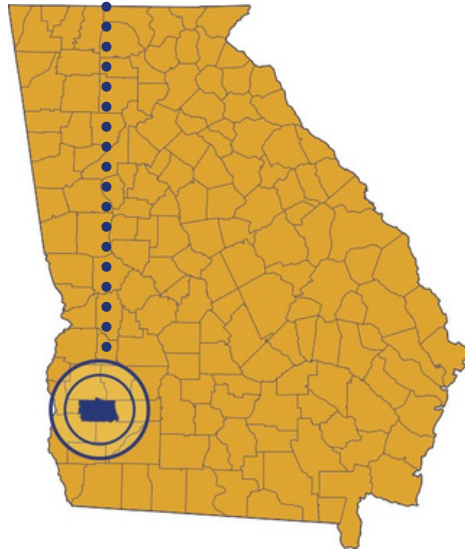
CALHOUN

county

CALHOUN

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	6,189
Black Alone, %	60.8%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	32.7%
Median Household Income	\$34,167
Persons in Poverty	35.9%
Owner occupied housing rate	65.6%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	72.9%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	9.1%



District Letter Grade [11]

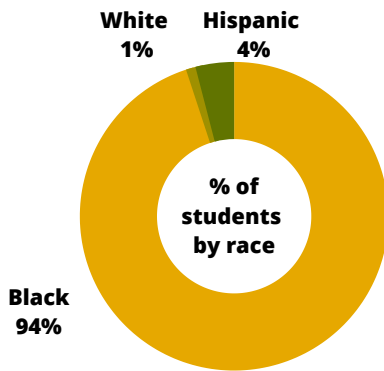
D	2017
F	2018
F	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

512

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

53%



CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Calhoun County High School

Middle Schools

Calhoun County Middle School

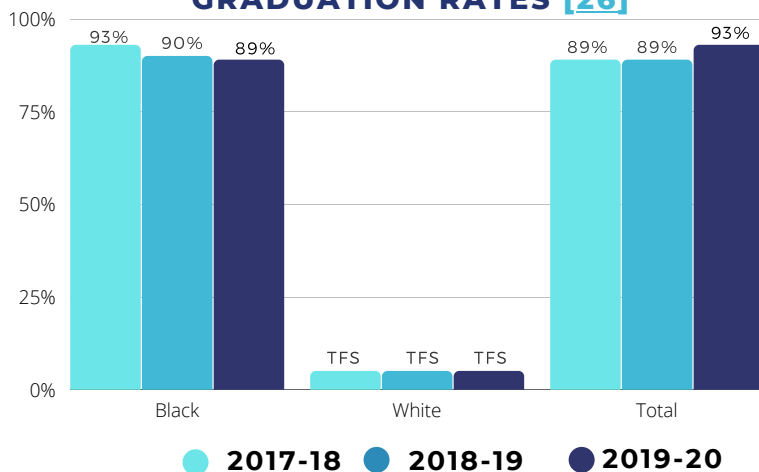
Elementary Schools

Calhoun County Elementary School

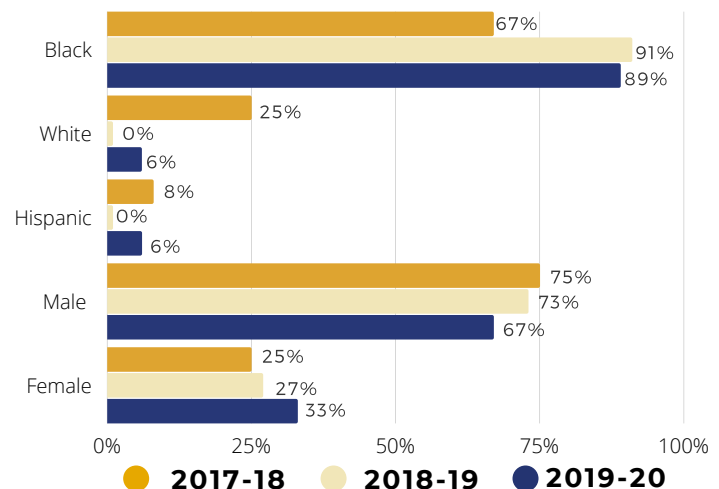
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Calhoun County's overall performance is higher than 1% of districts statewide. In addition, its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 41% of districts, its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 43% of districts, and its high school students' academic growth is higher than 98% of districts. By 3rd grade, 25.7% of its 3rd grade students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 23.4% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 88.5%, which is higher than 52% of districts, and 48.8% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 53%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



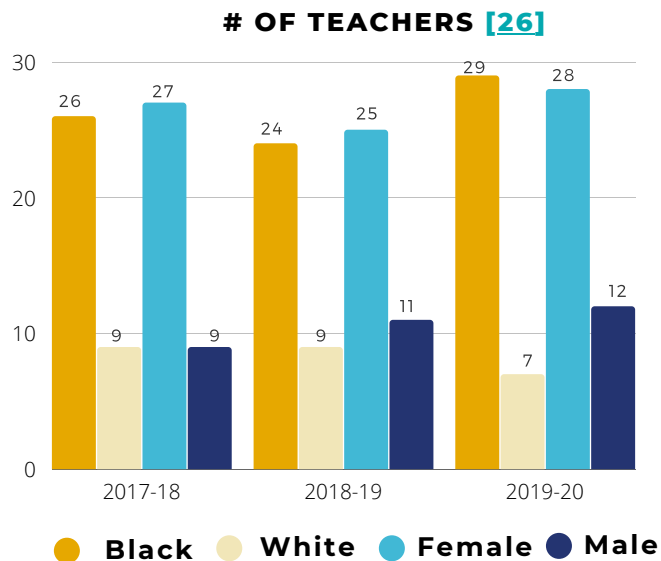
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

The majority of the teachers in Calhoun County were Black, female, and full-time. For the three-year period, their population of teachers have been less than 40 with a slight increase each year. Black teachers outnumbered white teachers 3 to 1 and female teachers outnumbered male teachers. Male teachers did account for about one-third of the teachers. The retention rate of teachers has is largely even for those teaching less than 10 years and more than 10. Meaning they have both novice and experienced teachers in the profession. Around half of the teachers have earned Master's degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	31	34	39
# Full Time Teachers	35	34	38
# Part Time Teachers	1	2	2
Retention ≤ 10 Years	20	17	15
Retention > 10 Years	16	19	15
Teachers Education > B.A.	22	22	25

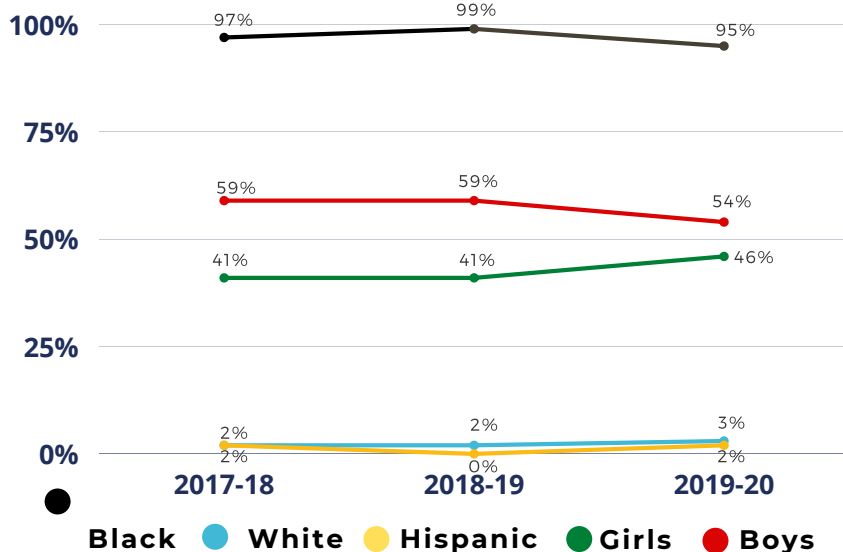


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents in Calhoun have fluctuated over the three-year period. It peaked at 331 in 2018-19 and ended at 265 in 2019-20. Black students comprise the majority of the student population at 94% in 2020, and over the three-year period, Black students were the majority disciplined. Hispanic students were the least disciplined and Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. White girls were the least disciplined, and two years no disciplinary actions within this population. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Calhoun County had a low rate of expulsion, that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 15% and out of school suspension rate average was 10%.

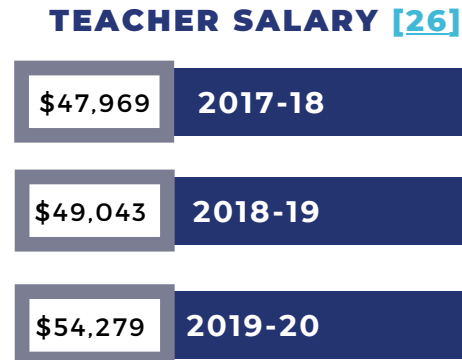
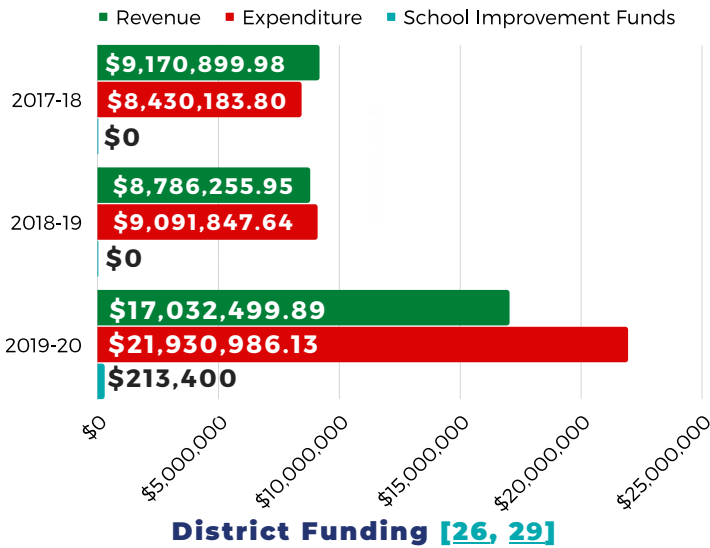
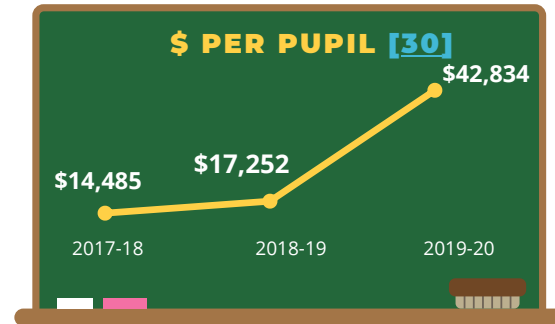
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	230	331	265
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	11%	17%	18%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	10%	10%	11%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0.4%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



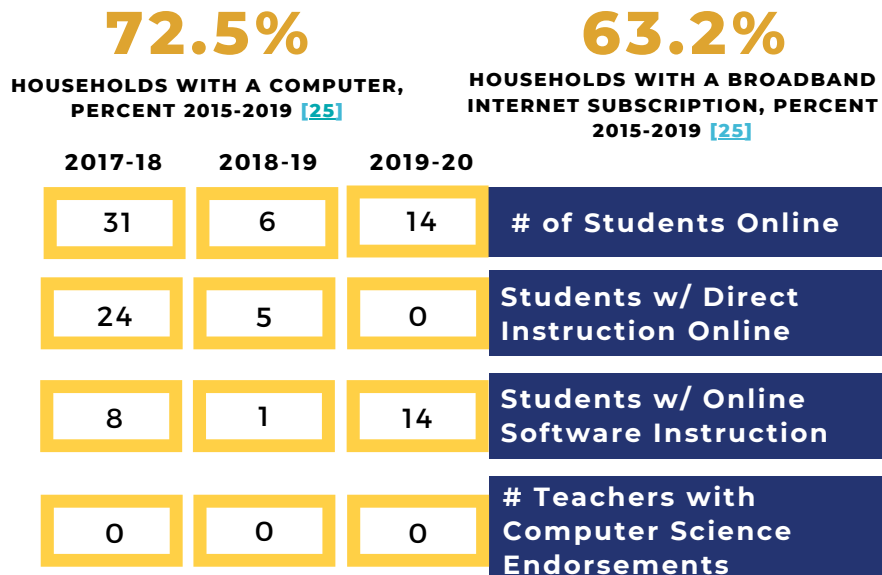
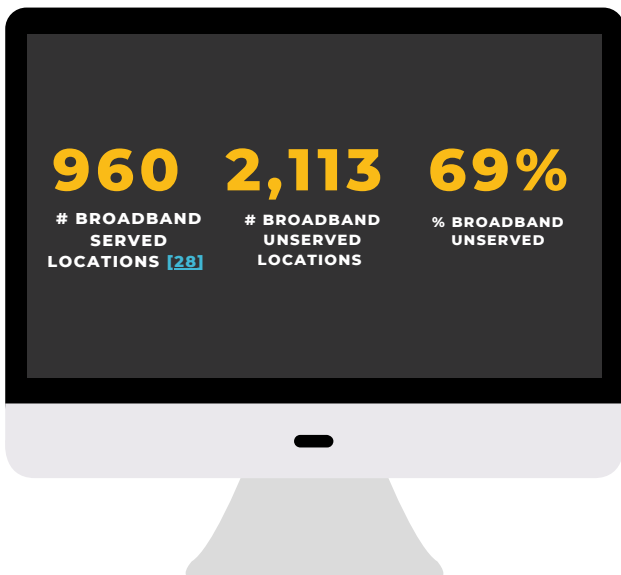
FUNDING

In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Calhoun County's total expenditures nearly tripled. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$14,485 to \$42,834 which represents a 195.7% (\$28,349) increase. Even with an increase in total expenditures and total revenues during these two comparison years, Calhoun County had a funding shortfall during the 2019-20 academic year by -\$4,898,486. From 2017-18 to 2019-20 teacher salaries increased by 13.2% (\$6,310). Calhoun county had a Financial Efficiency Rating of 1.5 over the reported years and received \$213,400 School Improvement Federal Funding for the 2019-20 school year.



DIGITAL ACCESS

Calhoun County, in 1997, established the Telecommunications Department to understand the digital needs of businesses in the area. Many rural communities are working collaboratively with local electricity providers to ensure access to broadband for K-12 educational institutions and businesses alike. More than half of the population in Calhoun County households have broadband internet subscriptions and 69% of those living in the county are unserved by broadband internet access. The number of online students remains low. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year, the rate increased. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



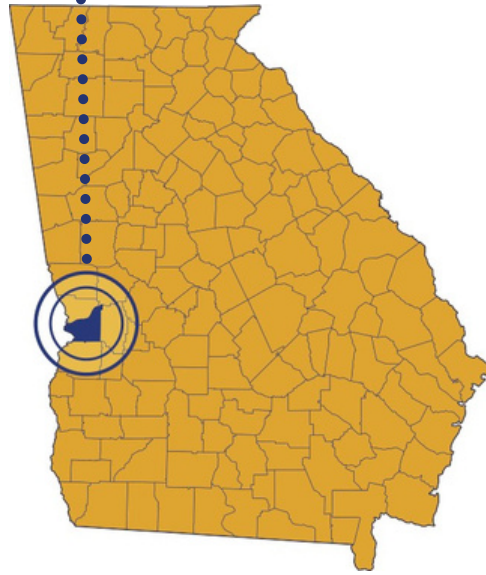
CHATTAHOOCHEE

county

CHATTAHOOCHEE

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	10,907
Black Alone, %	19.4%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	57%
Median Household Income	\$47,096
Persons in Poverty	18.5%
Owner occupied housing rate	24.6%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	94.3%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	29.5%



District Letter Grade [11]

C	2017
C	2018
C	2018

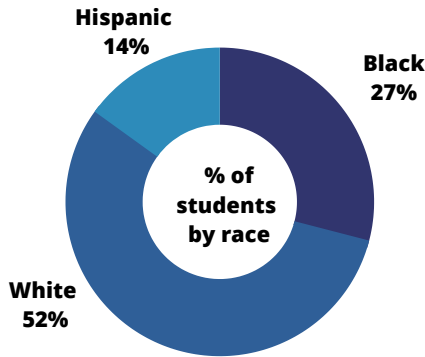
Student District Enrollment

2020 [30]

904

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

41%



CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Chattahoochee County High School

Middle Schools

Chattahoochee County Middle School

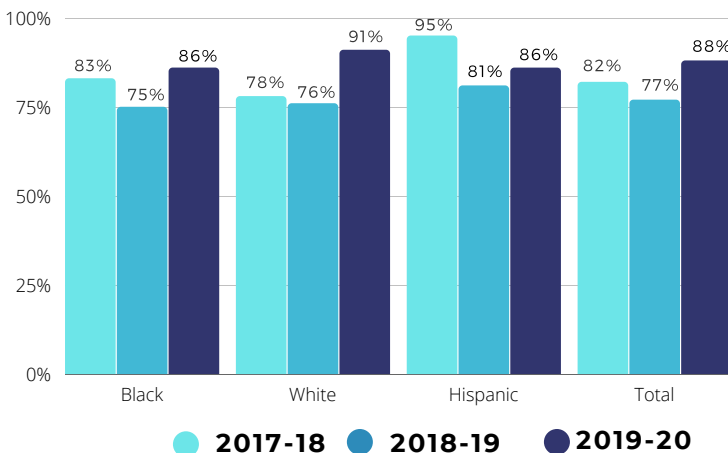
Elementary Schools

Chattahoochee County Education Center

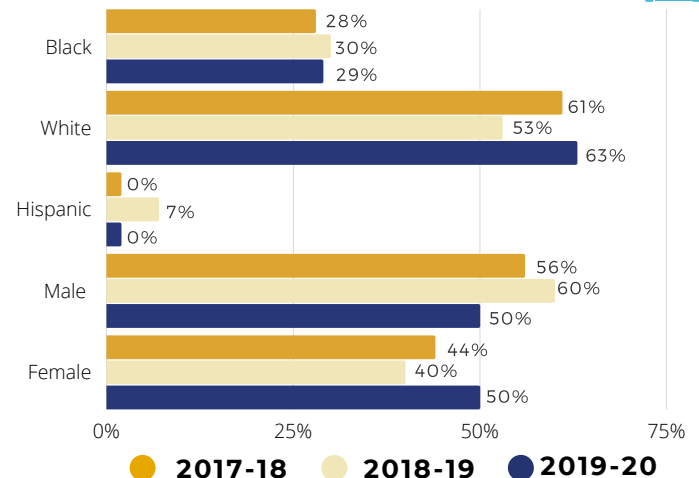
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Chattahoochee County's overall performance is higher than 65% of districts statewide. In addition, its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 34% of districts, its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 15% of districts, and its high school students' academic growth is higher than 95% of districts. By 3rd grade, 45.7% of its 3rd grade students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 49.2 % of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 76.7%, which is higher than 5% of districts and 43.4% of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 41%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



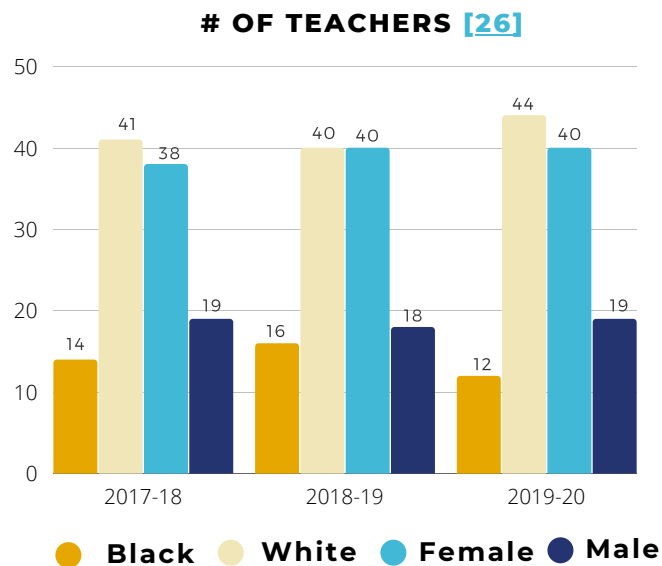
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

The majority of the teachers in Chattahoochee County were white, female, and full-time. Over the three years reported, white teachers outnumbered Black teachers 3 to 1. Female teachers also outnumbered male teachers with a 2 to 1 ratio. The retention rate for the majority of Chattahoochee County teachers fall are less than 10 years. The majority of teachers earned a Bachelor's degree, which is the minimum for teacher certification. However, around of third of the teachers earned a Master's degree.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	53	55	57
# Full Time Teachers	54	56	55
# Part Time Teachers	3	2	4
Retention ≤ 10 Years	30	35	36
Retention > 10 Years	27	23	23
Teachers Education > B.A.	30	31	31

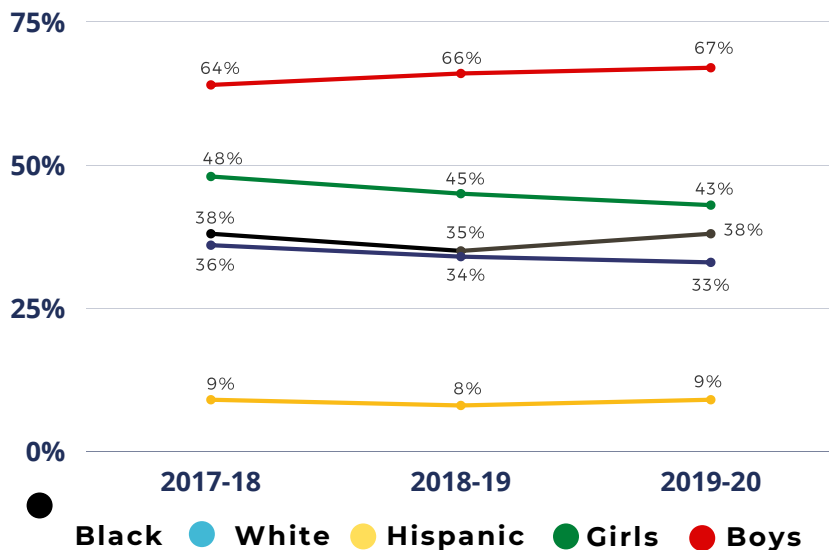


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Chattahoochee was one of few counties that saw an increase in disciplinary incidents. Incidents increased from 285 in 2017-18 to 394 in 2019-20, an increase of 38% (109). In 2020, Black students were 27% of the student population but were 38% of the students disciplined. Over the three-year period, white students were the majority disciplined and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. Black girls made up the majority of girls disciplined except for 2019-2020. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Chattahoochee County had a low rate of expulsion, that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 7% and out of school suspension rate was 12%.

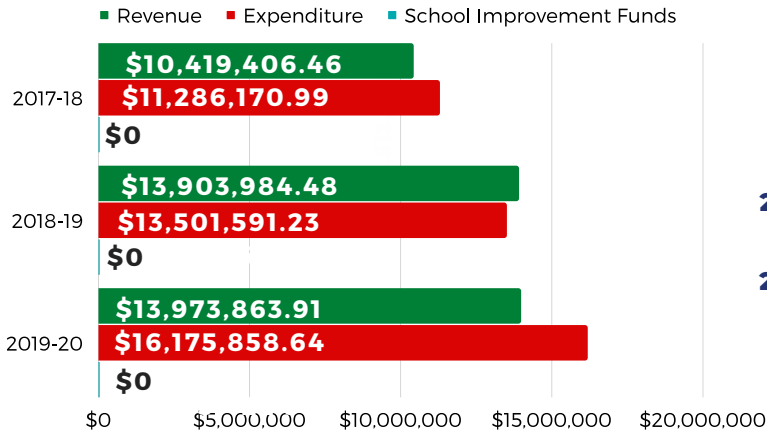
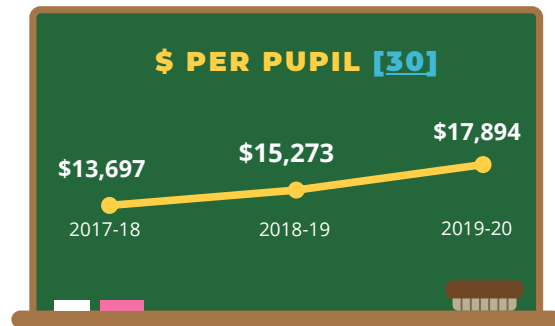
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	285	283	394
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	12%	11%	13%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	8%	8%	4%
Expulsion Rate	0.2%	0%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

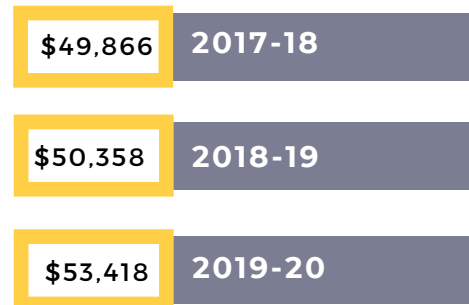
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Chattahoochee County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$13,697 to \$17,894 which represents a 30.6% (\$4,197) increase. For two of the three years reported, Chattahoochee exceeded its budget by \$866,764.53 in 2017-18 and \$2,201,994.73 in 2019-20; however, in 2018-19 the county had a financial surplus of \$402,393.25. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 7.1% (\$3,552). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2 and 2.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Chattahoochee County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



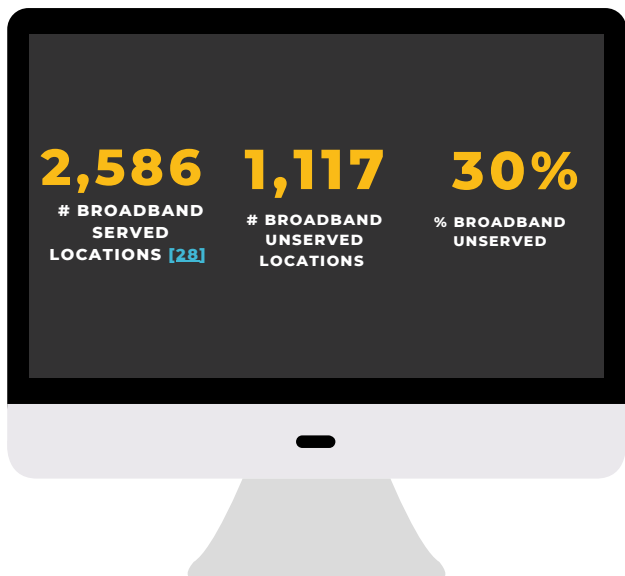
TEACHER SALARY [26]



District Funding [26, 29]

DIGITAL ACCESS

Chattahoochee County is the home of Ft. Benning military base. Seventy-eight percent of its households have broadband internet subscriptions and 30% of those living in the county are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year, the rate increased. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



85.9%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

78.1%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
87	64	168	# of Students Online	
1	17	1	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
86	51	167	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

CLAY

county

CLAY

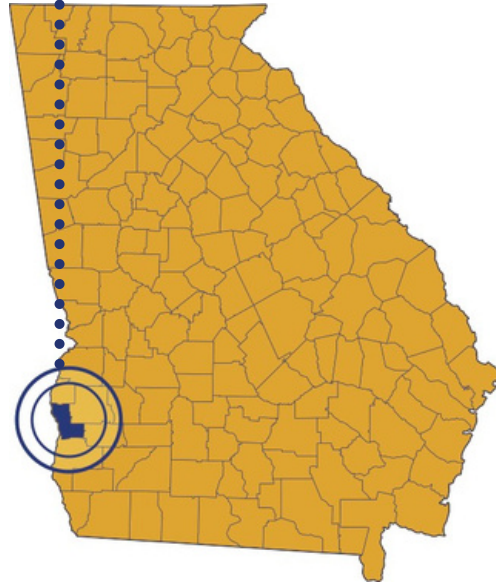
COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	2,834
Black Alone, %	60.4%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	36.3%
Median Household Income	\$22,325
Persons in Poverty	28.8%
Owner occupied housing rate	72.9%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	80%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	12.5%



District Letter Grade [11]

F	2017
F	2018
D	2019

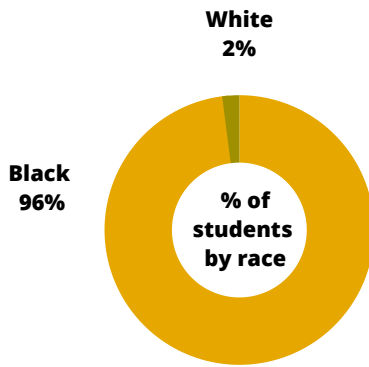


Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

195

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

N/A



CLAY COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Clay County High School

Middle Schools

Clay County Middle School

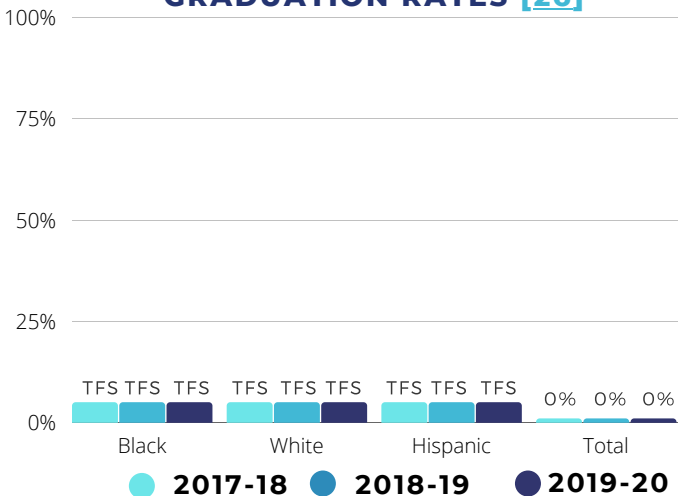
Elementary Schools

Clay County Elementary School

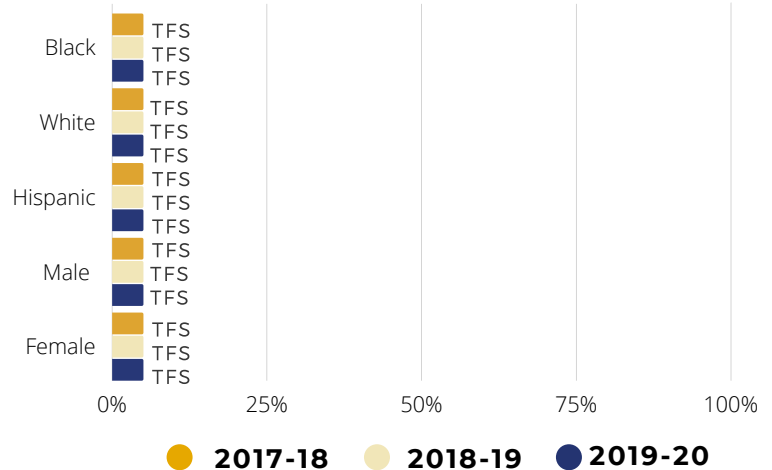
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Clay County's overall performance is higher than 23% of districts statewide. In addition, its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 36% of districts, and its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 96% of districts. By 3rd grade, 23.5% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 6.8% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



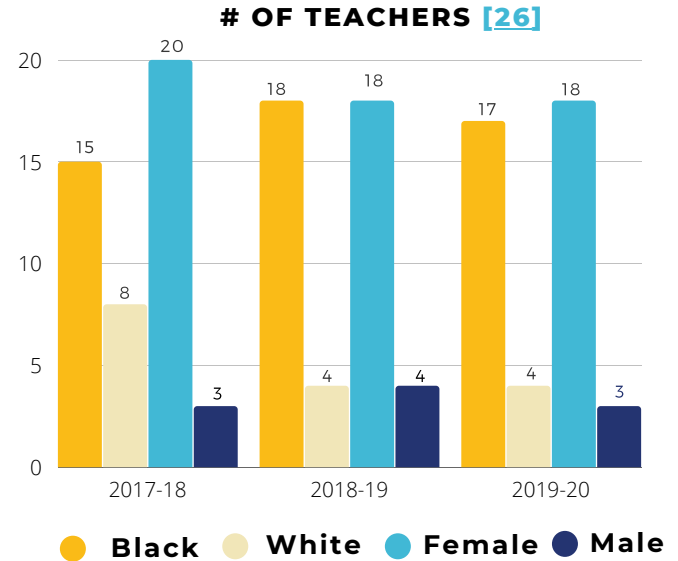
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

The majority of the teachers in Clay County were Black, female, and full-time. Over the last three school years, their number of teachers have ranged from 23 to 20 and are female and black. This teaching population is a representation of the population of Clay County. The number of males teaching is very low indicative that teaching not a males profession in Clay County. The retention for the teachers is low in all categories with no one have ten years of experience. Clay County has decreased the number of teachers who teach out of their field or who are inexperienced in high poverty areas by 77% and 22% respectively. However, Clay county increased teachers with emergency or provisional credentials from none to 16% (2019-20) in high poverty areas.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	23	21	20
# Full Time Teachers	22	20	19
# Part Time Teachers	1	2	2
Retention ≤ 10 Years	8	6	7
Retention > 10 Years	15	16	14
Teachers Education > B.A.	13	14	14

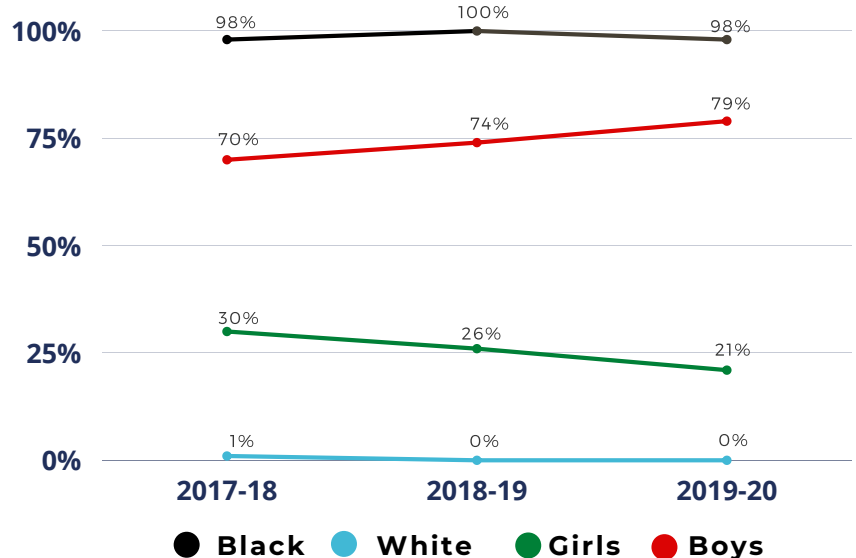


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 284 in 2017-18 to 135 in 2019-20, a decrease of 53% (149). Black students comprise the majority of the student population at 96% in 2020, and over the three-year period, Black students were the majority disciplined. Over the three-year period no white girls had reported disciplinary incidents, and for two years no white boys reported incidents. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Clay County had a low rate of expulsion for two years of the years reported, but a 1% rate of expulsion in 2018, the highest in the 27 counties. The county's average rate of in-school suspension was 19%, one of the highest in the 27 counties. The average out of school suspension rate was 7% over the three-year period reported.

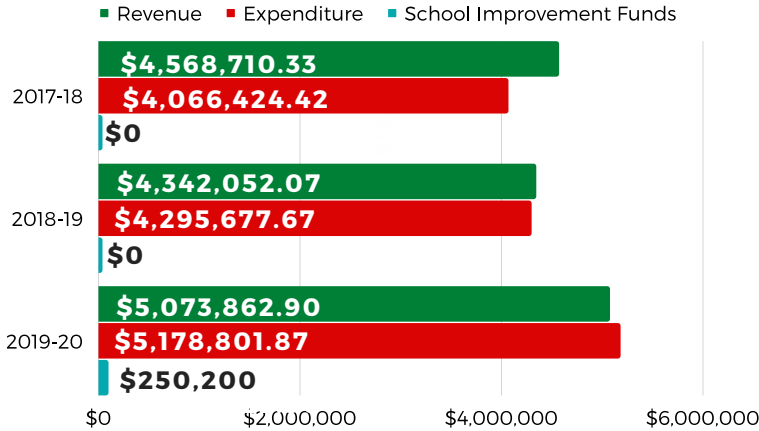
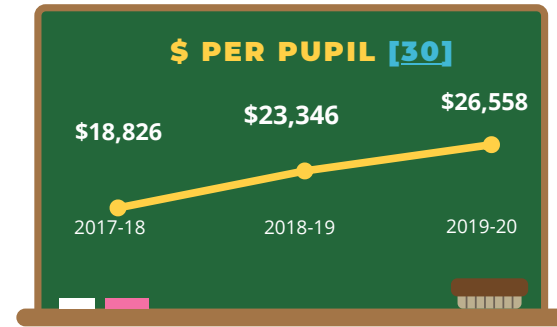
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	284	142	135
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	26%	14%	16%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	10%	6%	5%
Expulsion Rate	1%	0%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

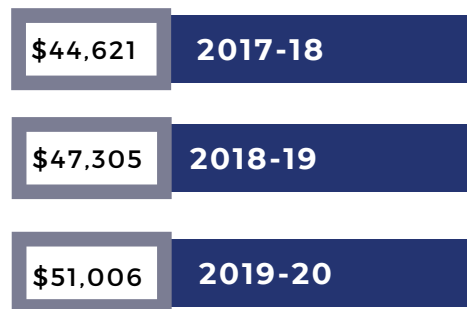
In reviewing the 2017-18 to 2019-20 academic years, Clay County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$18,826 to \$26,558 which represents a 41.1% (\$7,732). For the three years reported, Clay had a surplus of \$502,285.91 and \$46,374.40 during the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school years, but a shortfall in 2019-20 by -\$104,938.97. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 14% (\$6,385). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of one for 2017-2019, the lowest rating and the same as the state of Georgia. Clay County received \$250,200 in school improvement federal funding for the 2019-20 school year.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



District Funding [26, 29]

DIGITAL ACCESS

Clay County's population is among one of the smallest within the 27-county area. Nearly sixty-seven percent of the population in Clay County households have broadband internet subscriptions and 50% of those living in the county are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year, the rate increased. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



79.6%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

66.6%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	85	23	31	# of Students Online
	85	23	31	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	0	0	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

COLQUITT

county

COLQUITT

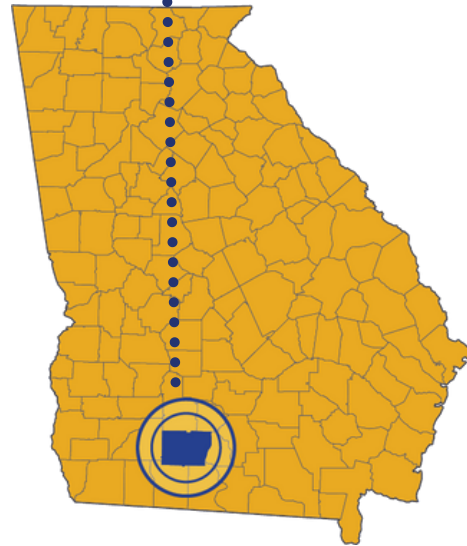
COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	45,600
Black Alone, %	23.8%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	55.4%
Median Household Income	\$36,435
Persons in Poverty	21.9%
Owner occupied housing rate	63%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	74.7%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	12.8%



District Letter Grade [11]

D	2017
D	2018
C	2019



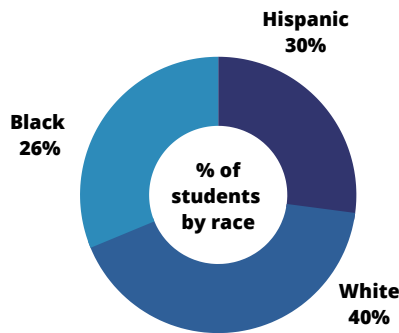
COLQUITT COUNTY SCHOOLS

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

9,191

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

58%



High Schools

- Colquitt County High School
- C. A. Gray Junior High School

Middle Schools

- Willie J Williams Middle School

Elementary Schools

- Cox Elementary School
- Doerun Elementary School
- Funston Elementary School

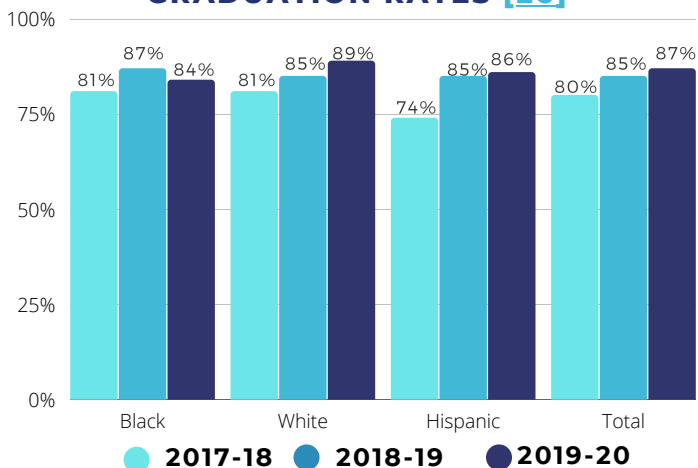
Elementary Schools

- Hamilton Elementary School
- Norman Park Elementary School
- Odom Elementary School
- Okapilco Elementary School
- Stringfellow Elementary School
- Sunset Elementary School
- Wright Elementary School

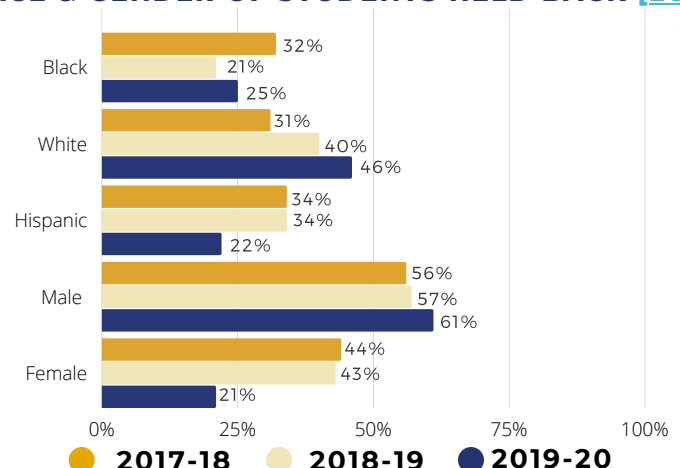
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Colquitt County's overall performance is higher than 38% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 40% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 53% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 83% of districts. By 3rd grade, 37.1% of its 3rd grade students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 46.4% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 85.4%, which is higher than 30% of districts and 58.7% percent of graduates were deemed college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 58%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



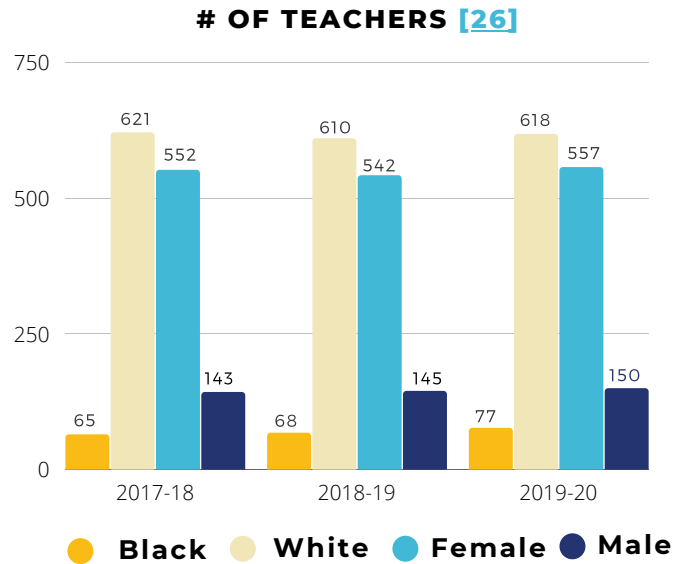
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Colquitt County had over 600 white teachers for the three-year period and have less than 100 (about 11%) Black teachers. The majority of the teachers are full time and female with a 2:1 ratio to males. The majority of teachers have been working in the field for over 10 years. More than half of the teachers have earned a Master's degree. Colquitt also has a high rate of teachers that have 6-Year Specialist's degree, around 20%.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	658	654	675
# Full Time Teachers	667	643	661
# Part Time Teachers	28	45	46
Retention ≤ 10 Years	287	261	304
Retention > 10 Years	408	426	403
Teachers Education > B.A.	406	407	404

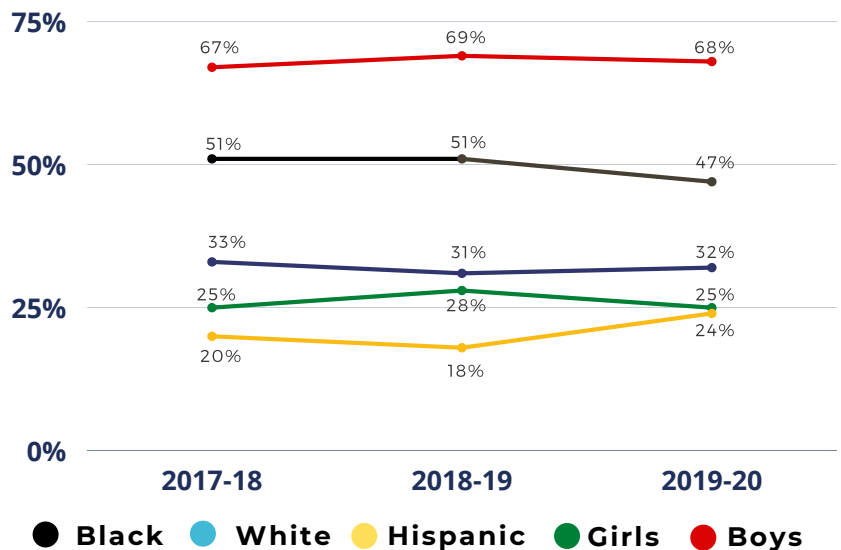


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 2906 in 2017-18 to 2495 in 2019-20, a decrease of 14% (411). In 2020, Black students were 26% of the student population but were 47% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Colquitt County had a low rate of expulsion of that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 8% and out of school suspension rate was 7%.

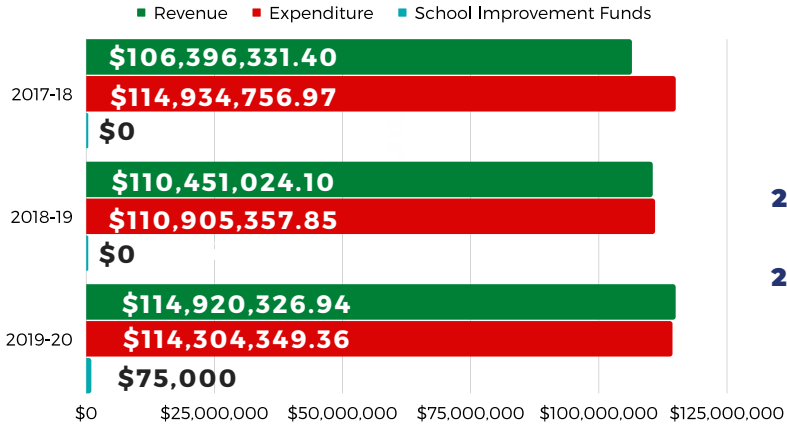
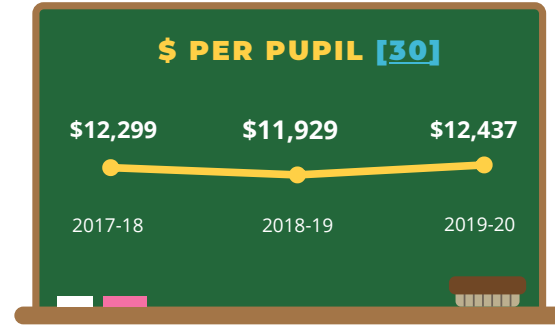
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	2,906	2,870	2,495
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	9%	8%	8%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	7%	7%	7%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0.1%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

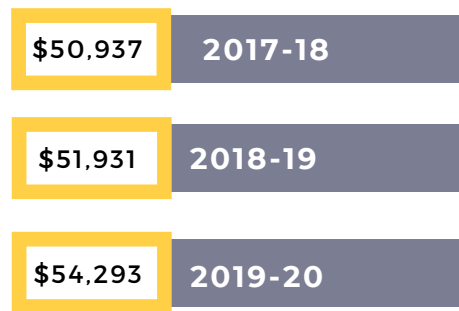
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Colquitt County's total expenditures slightly increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$12,299 to \$12,437 which represents a 1.1% (\$137) increase. This is one of the few counties in the report with only marginal increases in per pupil expenditures. Colquitt County reported a surplus of \$615,977.58 during the 2019-20 academic year. Each year teacher salaries increased. From 2017-18 to 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 6.6% (\$3,356). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Colquitt County received \$75,000 in school improvement federal funding for the 2019-20 school year.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



District Funding [26, 29]

DIGITAL ACCESS

Colquitt County has been designated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs as a Broadband Ready Community. Colquitt County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 73.4%, while 18% are unserved by broadband internet access. Fewer students took online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year, the rate increased. There were seven teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019- 2020 school year.



84.3%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

73.4%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
# of Students Online	165	23	31	
Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	165	23	31	
Students w/ Online Software Instruction	0	0	0	
# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	0	0	7	

CRISP

county

CRISP

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	22,372
Black Alone, %	44.8%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	49.2%
Median Household Income	\$36,042
Persons in Poverty	26.7%
Owner occupied housing rate	54.5%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	82.8%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	14.1%



District Letter Grade [11]

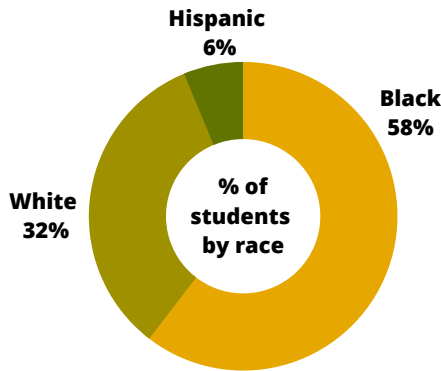
D	2017
D	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

3,685

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

63%



CRISP COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Crisp County High School

Middle Schools

Crisp County Middle School

Elementary Schools

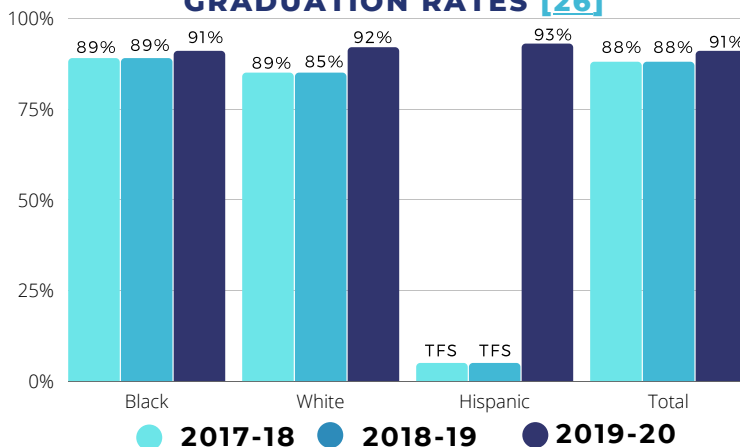
Crisp County Primary School

Crisp County Elementary

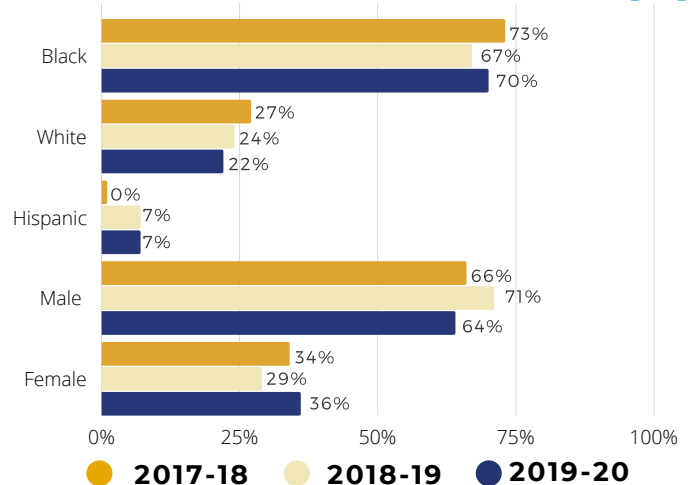
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Crisp County's overall performance is higher than 33% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 37% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 66% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 50% of districts. By 3rd grade, 31.8% of its 3rd grade students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 60% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 87.7%, which is higher than 48% of districts and 75.4% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 63%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



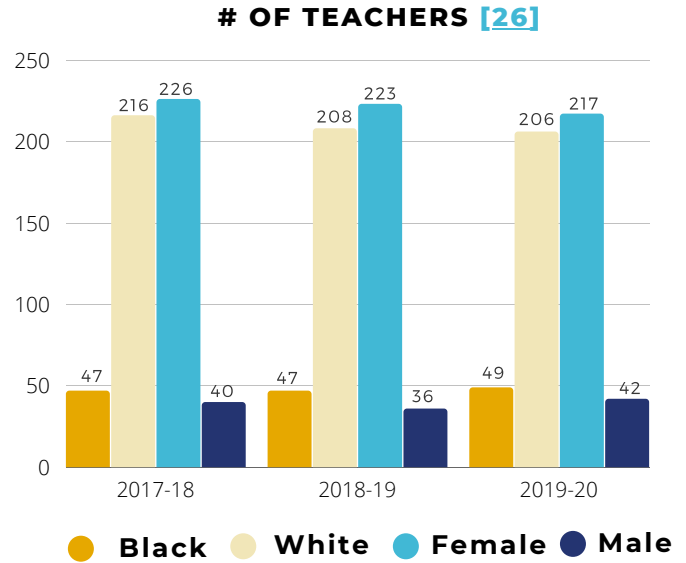
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Crisp County has 250+ teachers and over 200 are white, less than 50 are Black, and less than 50 are male. Unlike other counties, Crisp also had Asian teachers, however the majority are white. The ratio of white to non-white teachers is 4 to 1. The ratio of female to male teachers are 4 to 1. The retention rate for the majority of the teachers is more than 10 years. Over the three year reporting period, the majority of the teachers (around 60%), earned a Master's, Specialist, or Doctorate degrees.

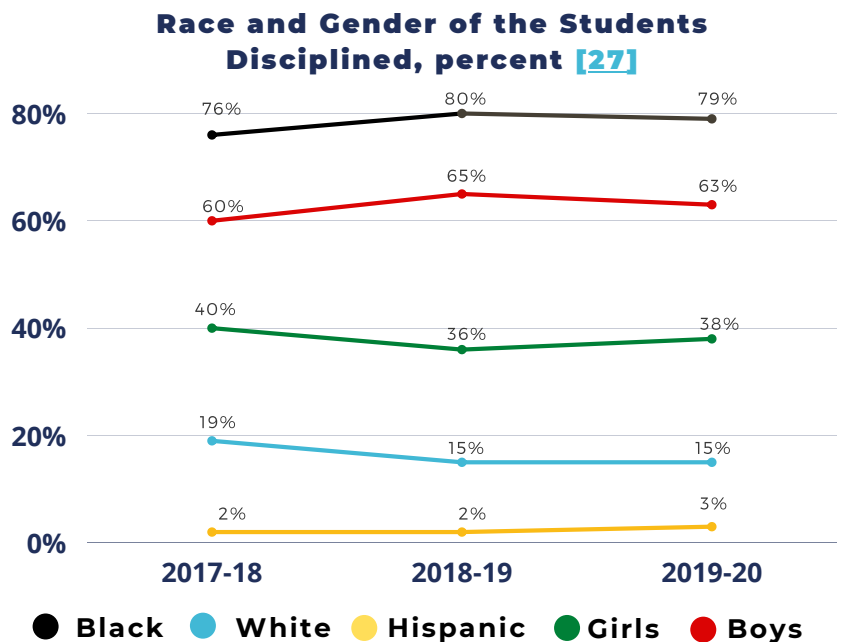
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	255	244	237
# Full Time Teachers	259	255	255
# Part Time Teachers	7	4	4
Retention ≤ 10 Years	115	115	117
Retention > 10 Years	151	144	142
Teachers Education > B.A.	158	151	145



RATES OF DISCIPLINE

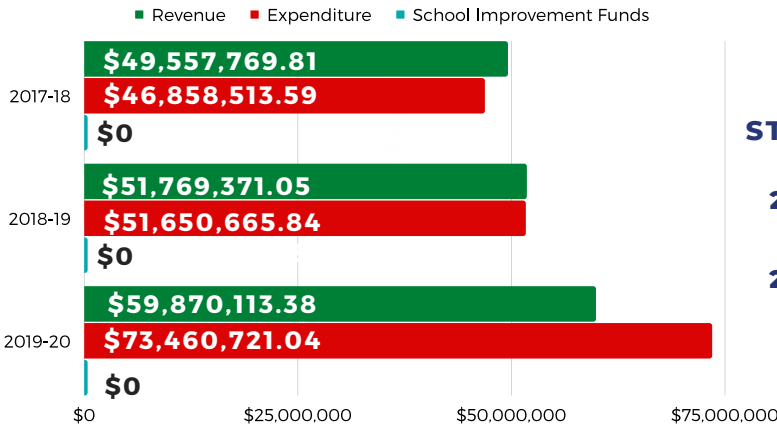
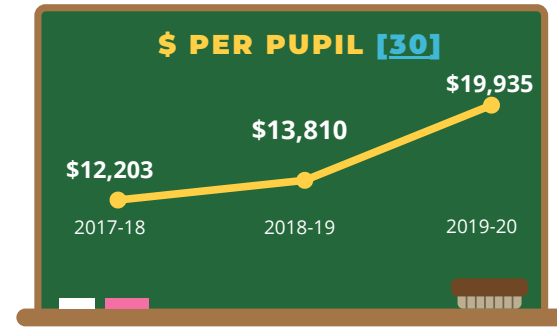
Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 3246 in 2017-18 to 1568 in 2019-20, a decrease of 52% (1678). In 2020, Black students were 58% of the student population but were 79% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race, and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Crisp County had one of the highest rates of expulsion of the 27 counties, averaging 0.5%. The county's average rate of in-school suspension was 12% and the average out of school suspension rate was 11%.

	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	3,246	2,369	1,568
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	19%	11%	7%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	12%	11%	9%
Expulsion Rate	1%	1%	0.1%



FUNDING

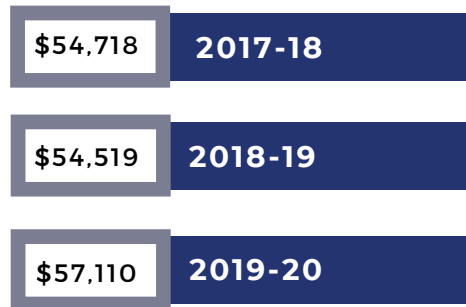
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Crisp County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$12,203 to \$19,935 which represents a 63.5% (\$7,732) increase. Crisp County reported a surplus of \$2,699,256.22 and \$118,705.21 during the 2018-19 and 2019-20 academic years, respectively. Each year teacher salaries increased. From 2017-18 to 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 4.4% (\$2,392). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Crisp County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



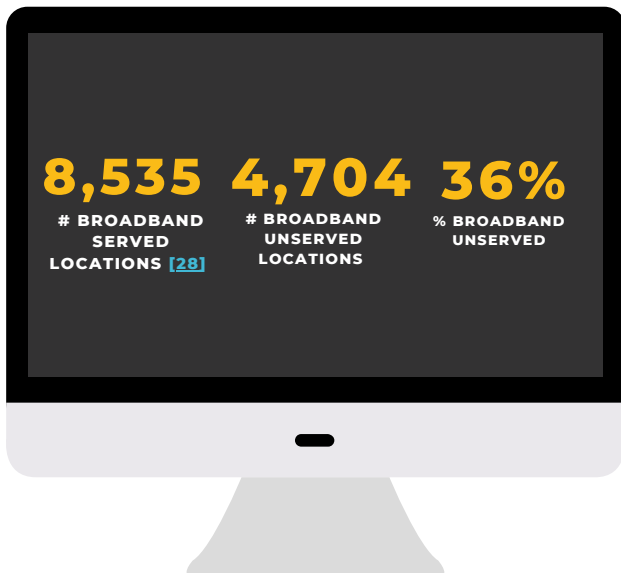
TEACHER SALARY [26]



District Funding [26, 29]

DIGITAL ACCESS

Crisp County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 60.6%, while 36% are unserved by broadband internet access. There has been an increase in the number of students taking online classes each year from 2017-18, 2018-2019 and the 2019-20 school year. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



78.2%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

60.6%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	238	257	314	# of Students Online
	2	2	6	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	237	255	309	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

DECATUR

county

DECATUR

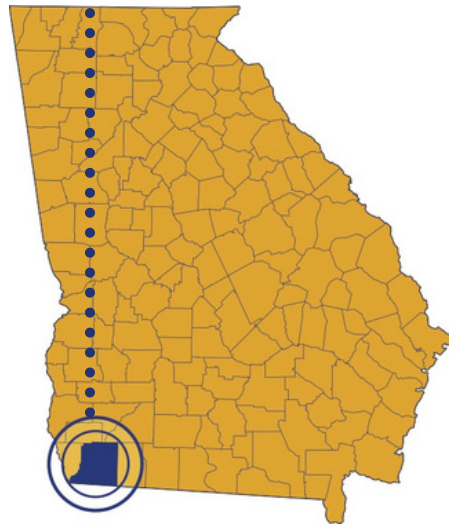
COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	26,404
Black Alone, %	42.7%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	49.4%
Median Household Income	\$41,481
Persons in Poverty	23.4%
Owner occupied housing rate	57.5%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	82.5%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	13.8%



District Letter Grade [11]

D	2017
D	2018
D	2019



DECATUR COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Bainbridge High School

Middle Schools

Bainbridge Middle School
Hutto Middle School

Elementary Schools

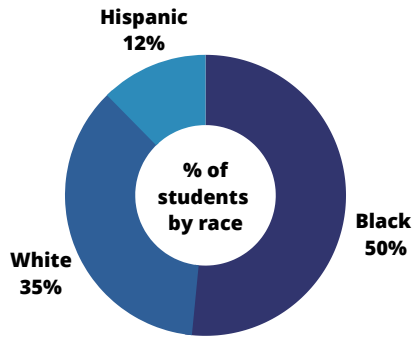
John Johnson Elementary School
Jones-Wheat Elementary School
New Beginning Learning Center
Potter Street Elementary School
West Bainbridge Elementary School

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

4,538

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

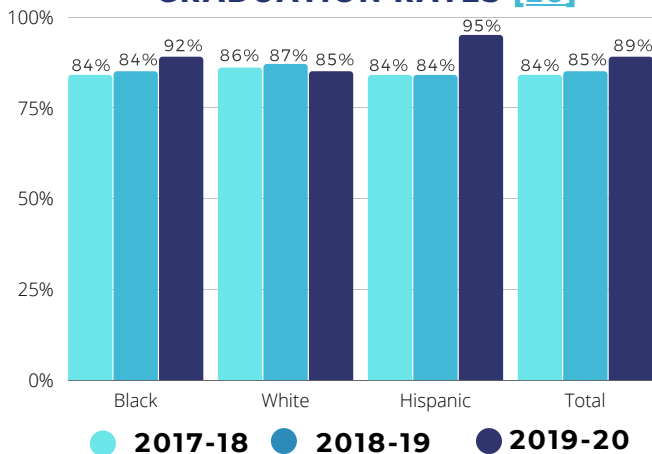
50%



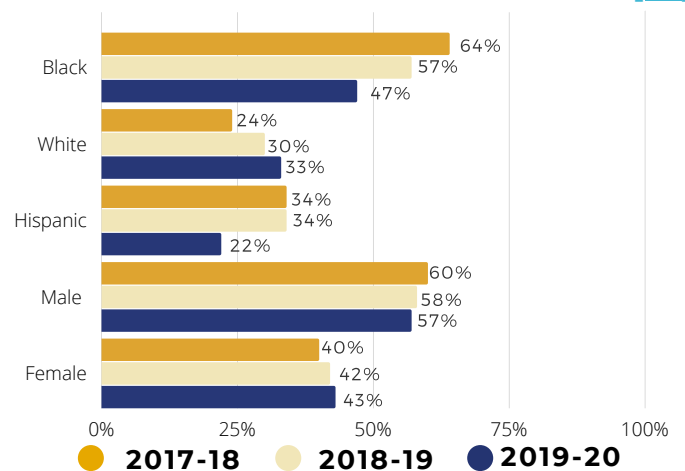
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Decatur County's overall performance is higher than 18% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 5% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 1% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 71% of districts. By 3rd grade, 46.4% of its grade students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 58% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. 60.1% percent of graduates are college and career ready. Its four-year graduation rate is 85.0%, which is higher than 28% of districts. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 50%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



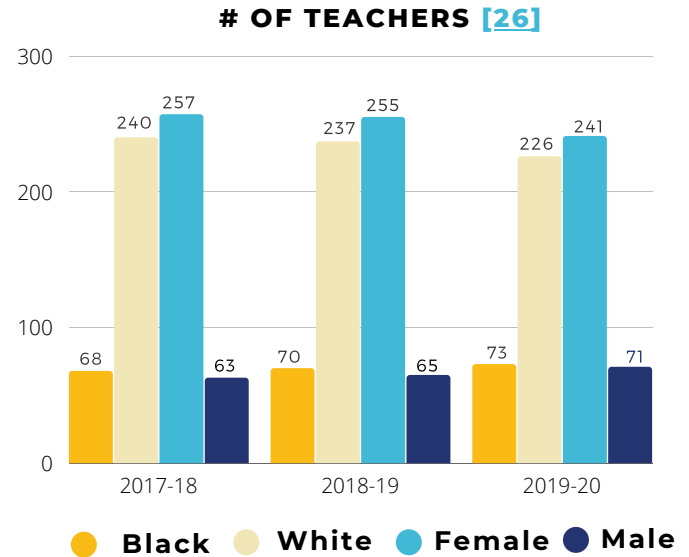
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Decatur County has over 300 teachers and over 200 are females and white. There is a 3 to 1 ratio of white teachers to Black with about 70 Black teachers. and about 70 male teachers. The majority of teachers are full time. Females teachers outnumber males 3 to 1. The retention rate for most of their teachers are more than 10 years. Meaning that the majority of teachers have been in the field for over a decade. Over 60% of teachers gained a Masters' degrees, with a large number of teachers with a Doctorate degree. One of the highest rates of Doctoral degrees in the 27 counties.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	309	302	297
# Full Time Teachers	315	317	311
# Part Time Teachers	5	3	1
Retention ≤ 10 Years	123	124	119
Retention > 10 Years	197	196	193
Teachers Education > B.A.	189	188	183

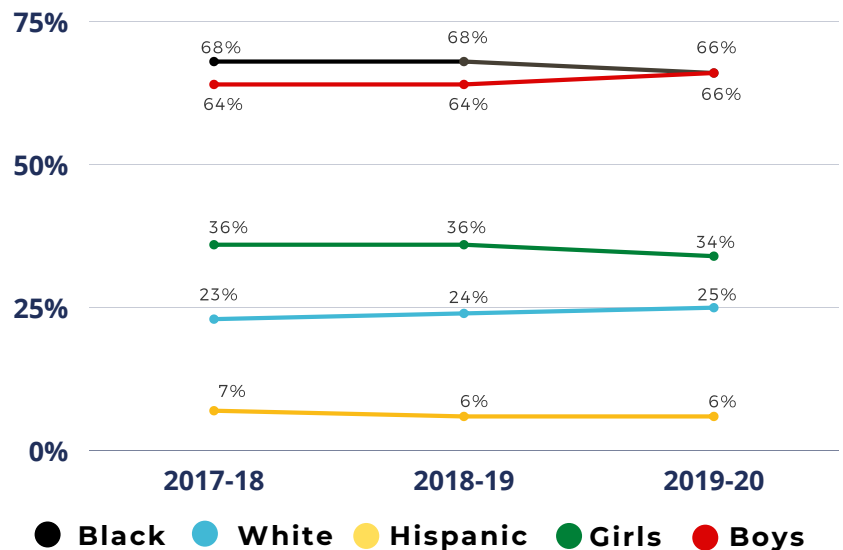


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 1973 in 2017-18 to 1273 in 2019-20, a decrease of 36% (700). In 2020, Black students were 50% of the student population but were 66% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race, and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Decatur County had a low rate of expulsion with an average less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 10% and out of school suspension rate was 7%.

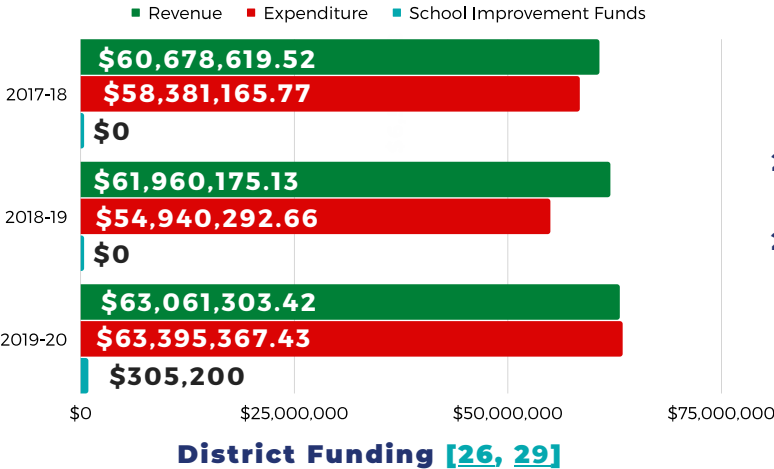
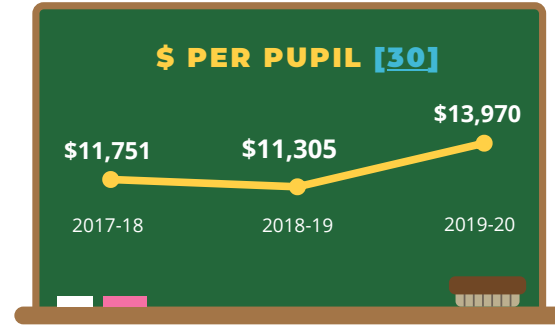
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	1,973	1,508	1,273
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	12%	10%	9%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	7%	7%	7%
Expulsion Rate	0.1%	0%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

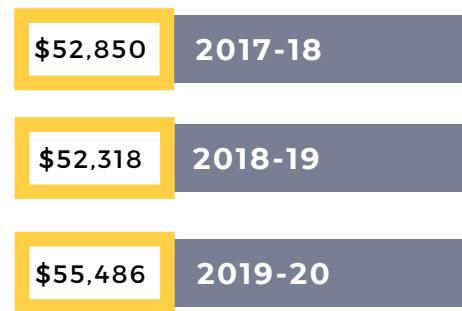
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Decatur County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$11,751 to \$13,970 which represents a 18.9% (\$2,218) increase. Decatur County reported a shortfall of -\$334,064.01 during the 2019-20 academic year, but surpluses of \$2,297,453.75 and \$7,019,882.47 for the other two years reported. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a slight decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. From 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 5% (\$2,636). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 3, which is higher than the state of Georgia and one of the highest in the 27 counties. Decatur County received \$305,000 in school improvement federal funding for the 2019-20 school year.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Decatur County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 55.4%, while 66% are unserved by broadband internet access. There has been an increase in the number of students taking online classes each year from 2017-18, 2018-2019 and the 2019-20 school year. There were three teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019-2020 school year.



68.6%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

55.4%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	310	339	646	# of Students Online
	40	48	863	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	282	323	606	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	3	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

DOOLY

county

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	13,390
Black Alone, %	50.2%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	42.1%
Median Household Income	\$37,340
Persons in Poverty	28.2%
Owner occupied housing rate	69.6%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	77.7%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	12.1%



District Letter Grade [11]

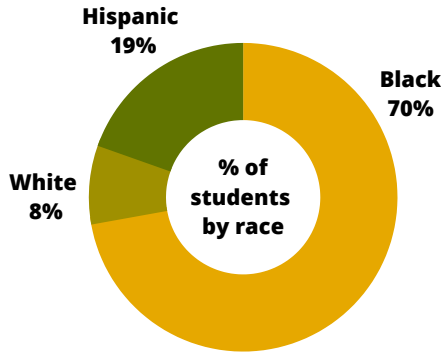
F	2017
F	2018
F	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

1,145

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

40%



DOOLY COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Dooly County High
Dooly County Prep Academy

Middle Schools

Dooly County

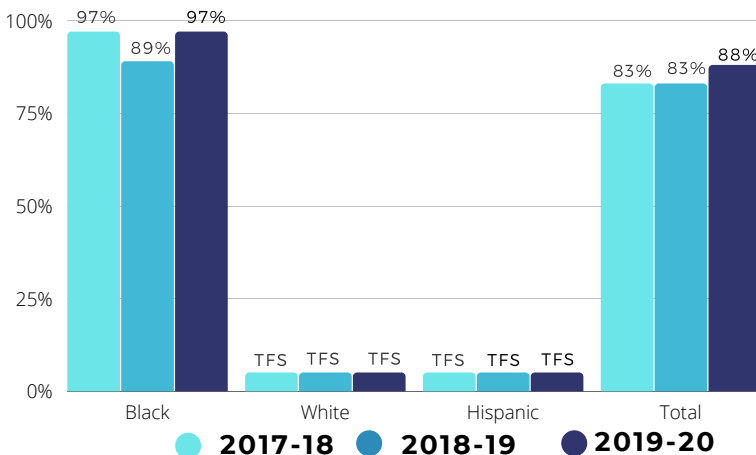
Elementary Schools

Dooly County Elementary

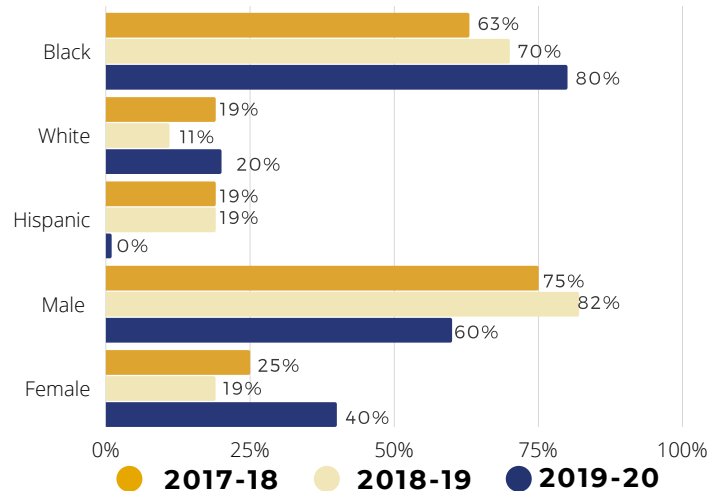
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Dooly County's overall performance is higher than 1% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 20% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 74% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 2% of districts. By 3rd grade, 29.9% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 28.9% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 83.3%, which is higher than 20% of districts; and 47.5% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 40%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



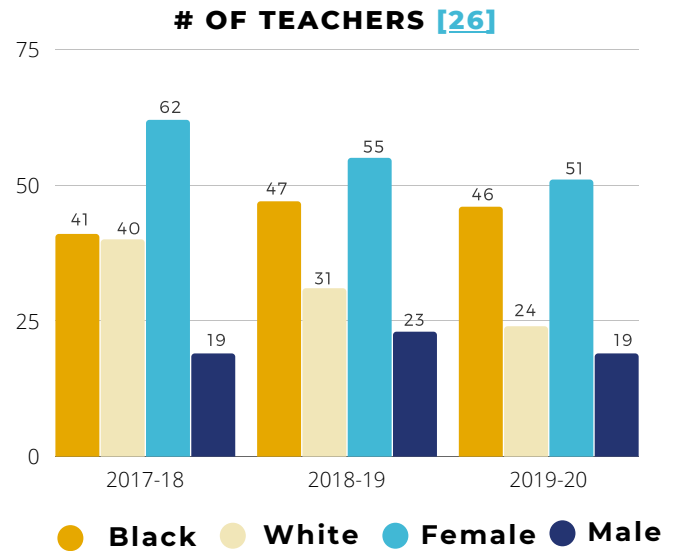
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Dooly County has less than 75 teachers with the majority being Black. Their number of white teachers have significantly decreased over the three years reported from 40 to 24, while the number of Black teachers consistently remained in the lower to higher 40's. The majority of teachers are full time and female. Male teacher make up less than a third of teachers. More than half of the teachers hold a Master's degree or higher.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	77	74	70
# Full Time Teachers	71	72	68
# Part Time Teachers	10	6	2
Retention ≤ 10 Years	24	25	24
Retention > 10 Years	57	53	46
Teachers Education > B.A.	53	48	40

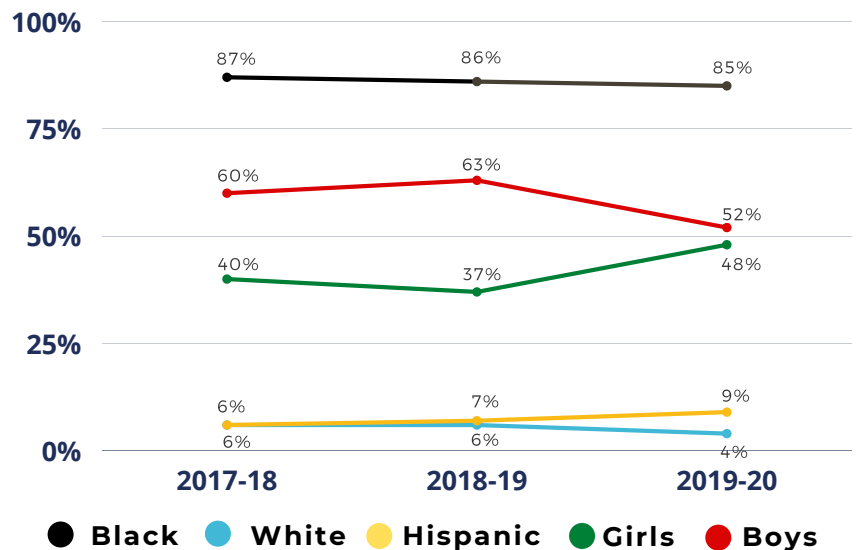


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 879 in 2017-18 to 167 in 2019-20, a decrease of 81% (709), the highest in the 27 counties. In 2020, Black students were 70% of the student population but were 85% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race, and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Dooly County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 16% for two years, and had an average of 10% for out of school suspension rate.

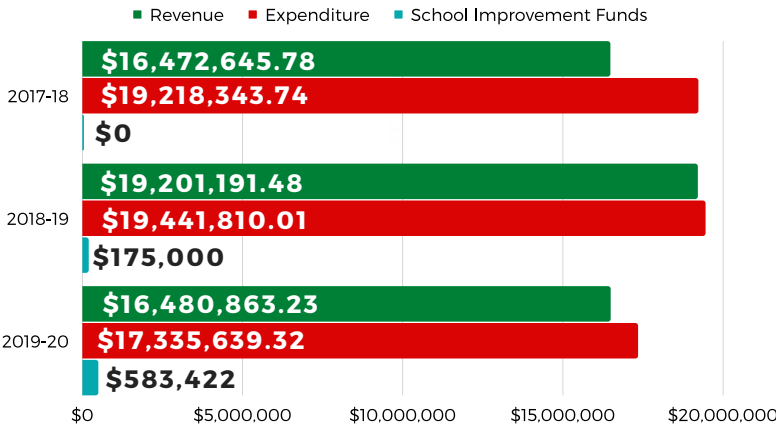
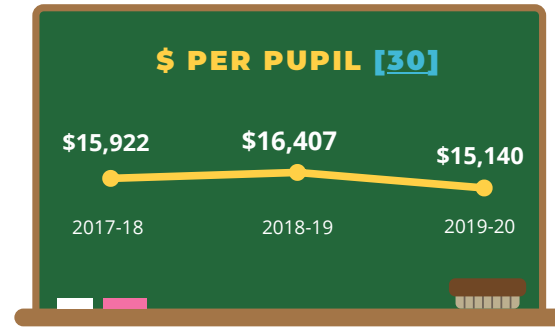
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	876	722	167
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	16%	16%	4%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	13%	10%	6%
Expulsion Rate	0.1%	0.1%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

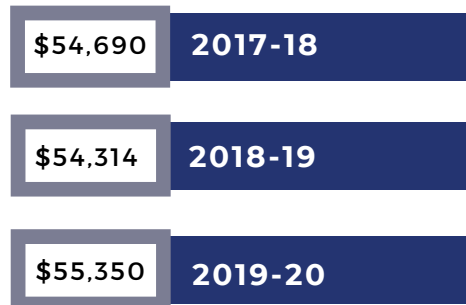
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Dooly County's total expenditures decreased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$15,922 to \$15,140 which represents a -4.9% (\$782) decrease. Dooly County reported a shortfall for three consecutive years. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a slight decrease between 2017-18 (\$54,690) to the 2018-19 (\$54,314) school year. From 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 1.2% (\$660), one of the lowest increases in the 27 counties. This county also had Financial Efficiency Star Ratings of 1.5 and 1, which is slightly higher than the state of Georgia. Dooly County received \$175,000 (2018-19) and \$583,422 (2019-20) in school improvement federal funding over two years.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

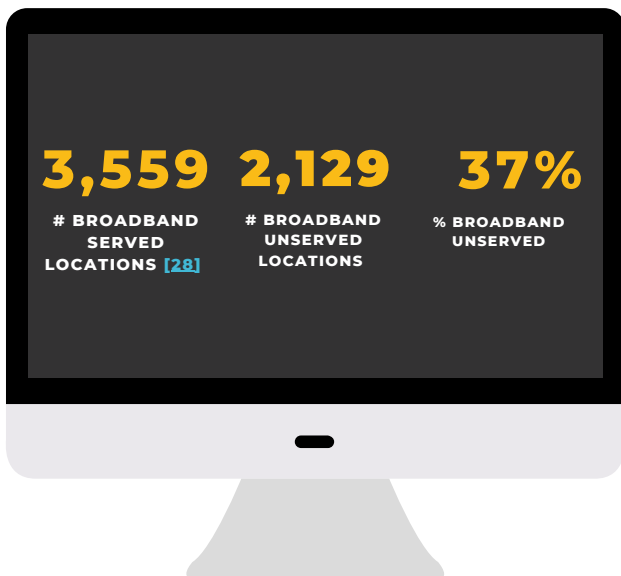


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Dooly County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 59.2%, while 37% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year the rate decreased. There were five teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019-2020 school year.



76.2%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

59.2%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	211	217	77	# of Students Online
	211	217	77	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	0	0	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	5	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

DOUGHERTY

county

DOUGHERTY

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	87,956
Black Alone, %	71%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	24.3%
Median Household Income	\$39,584
Persons in Poverty	27.6%
Owner occupied housing rate	46%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	83.4%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	21.4%



District Letter Grade [11]

D	2017
D	2018
D	2019

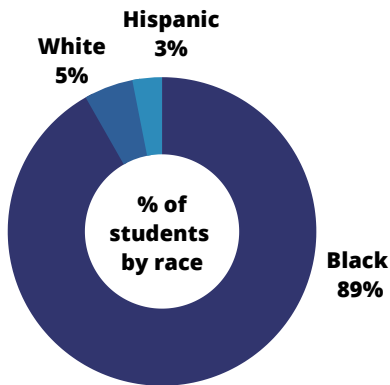
DOUGHERTY COUNTY SCHOOLS

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

13,627

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

56%



High Schools

Dougherty Comprehensive High School
 Monroe High School
 Westover High School

Middle Schools

Albany Middle School
 Merry Acres Middle School
 Radium Springs Middle School
 Robert A. Cross Middle Magnet

Elementary Schools

Alice Coachman Elementary School
 International Elementary

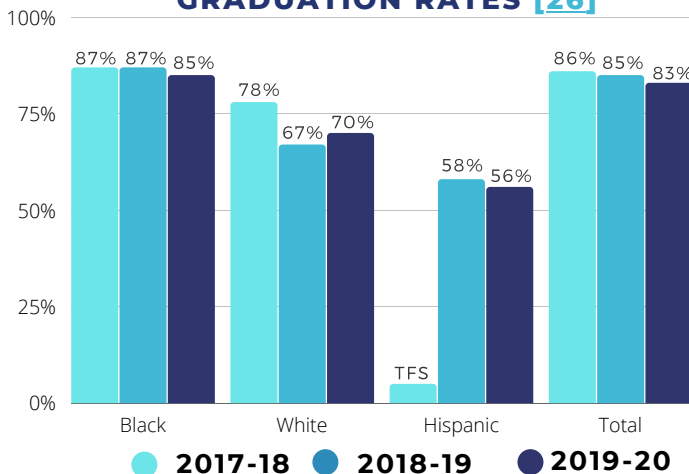
Elementary Schools

Lake Park Elementary
 Lamar Reese Magnet School of the Arts
 Lincoln Elementary Magnet School
 Live Oak Elementary School
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School
 Morningside Elementary School
 Northside Elementary School
 Radium Springs Elementary School
 Robert H. Harvey Elementary School
 Sherwood Acres Elementary School
 Turner Elementary School
 West Town Elementary School

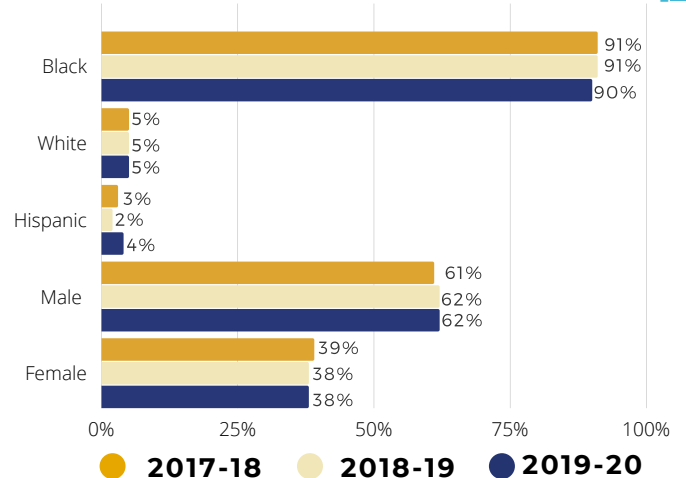
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Dougherty County's overall performance is higher than 16% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 44% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 50% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 30% of districts. By 3rd grade, 30.6% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 40.9% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 85.1%, which is higher than 29% of districts; and 50.4% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 56%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



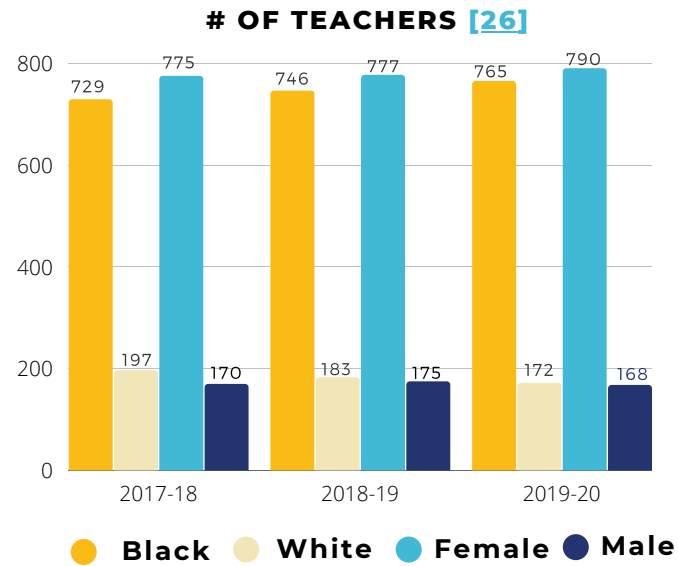
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Dougherty County has a large population of over 900 teachers where the majority of the teachers are Black, female, and full-time. For the three-year period, Black teachers outnumbered white teachers and female teachers outnumbered male teachers. For 2019-20, female and Black teachers exceeded white and male teachers almost 3 to 1. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over half of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	906	909	938
# Full Time Teachers	916	934	934
# Part Time Teachers	29	18	24
Retention ≤ 10 Years	416	441	460
Retention > 10 Years	589	511	498
Teachers Education > B.A.	587	573	550

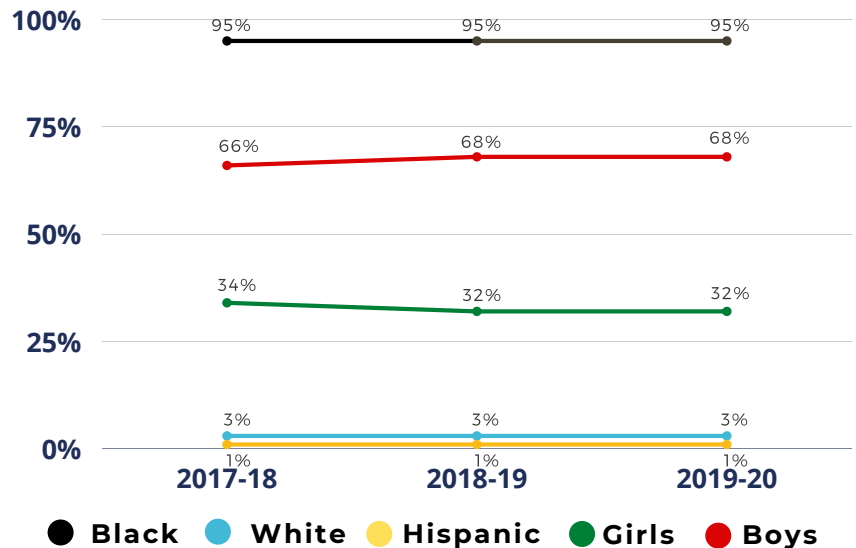


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 4808 in 2017-18 to 3381 in 2019-20, a decrease of 30% (1427). In 2020, Black students were 89% of the student population but were 95% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race, and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Dougherty County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. Dougherty County had one of the lowest in-school suspension rates in the 27 counties, at an average of 5%. This county had an average of 9% for out of school suspension rate.

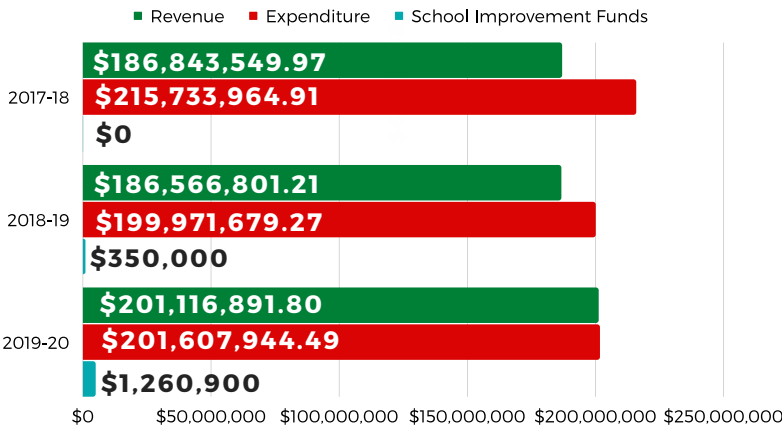
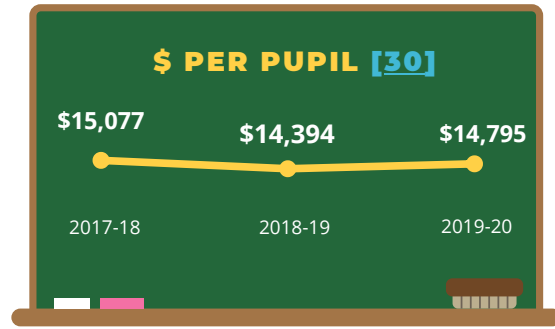
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	4,808	3,949	3,381
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	5%	5%	4%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	9%	9%	8%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

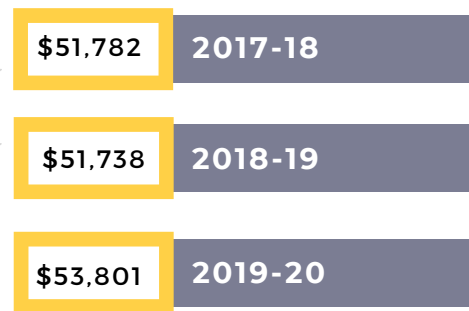
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Dougherty County's total expenditures decreased. During these same two academic years, Dougherty County's total revenues increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$15,077 to \$14,794 which represents a -1.9% (\$282) decrease. Per pupil funding revenues went from \$13,085 to \$14,759 which represents a 13.0% (\$1,701) decrease. Dougherty County reported total expenditures of approximately \$200,000,000.00 for the three years reported. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a slight decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. From 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 4% (\$2,019). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Dougherty County received \$350,000 (2018-19) and \$1,260,900 (2019-20) in school improvement federal funding over two years, the highest in the 27 counties.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

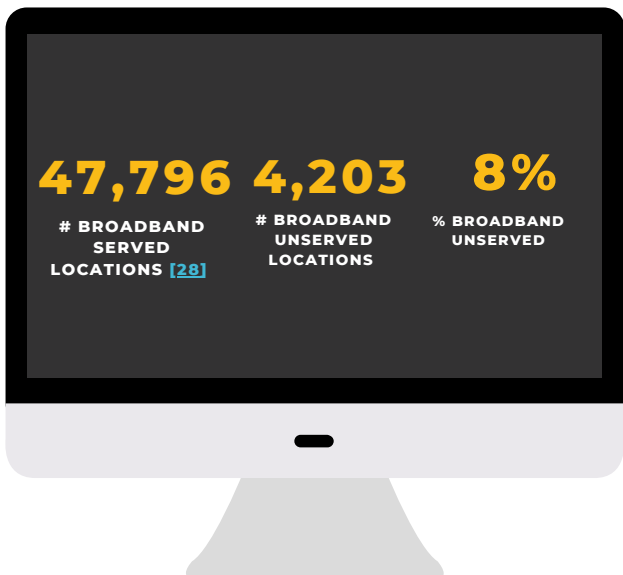


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Dougherty County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 73.4%, while 8% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year the rate increased. There were 19 teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019- 2020 school year.



84.3%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

73.4%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	794	707	768	# of Students Online
	794	707	768	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	0	0	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	19	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

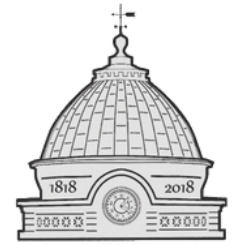
EARLY

county

EARLY

COUNTY

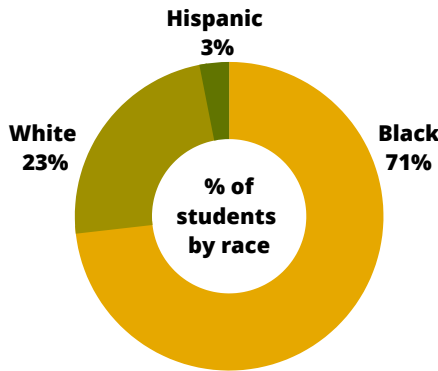
Population (July 2019) [25]	10,190
Black Alone, %	51.7%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	44.2%
Median Household Income	\$30,640
Persons in Poverty	27.3%
Owner occupied housing rate	64%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	80.4%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	15.1%



District Letter Grade [11]

D	2017
D	2018
D	2019

Student District Attendance 2019-2020 [30]
1,854
College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
56%



EARLY COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Early County High

Middle Schools

Early County Middle

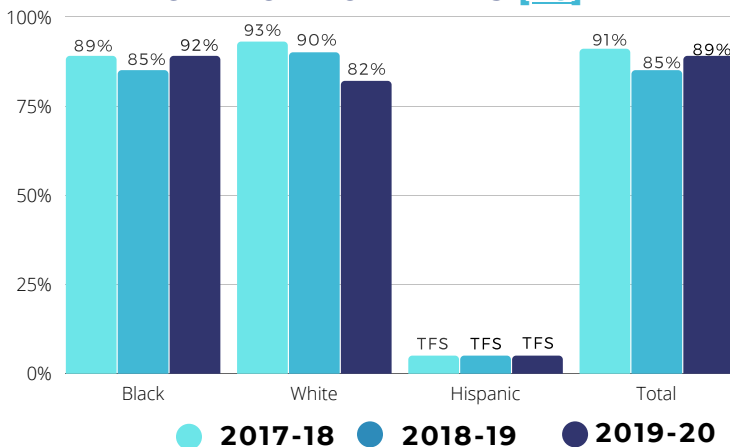
Elementary Schools

Early County Elementary

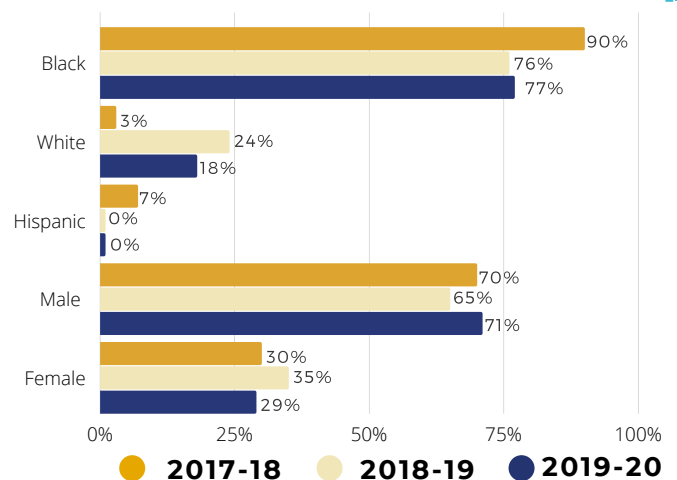
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Early County's overall performance is higher than 10% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 53% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 13% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 5% of districts. By 3rd grade, 30.4% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 52.8% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 84.9%, which is higher than 27% of districts; and 66.5% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 56%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



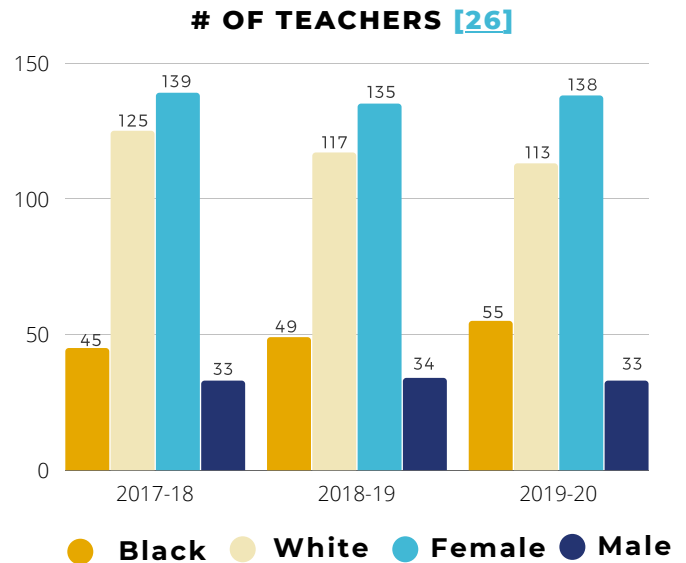
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Early County has less than 175 teachers and over half of teachers is white. Over the three years reported, there are about 50 Black teachers and even less male. The majority of teachers are full time and female. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over half of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

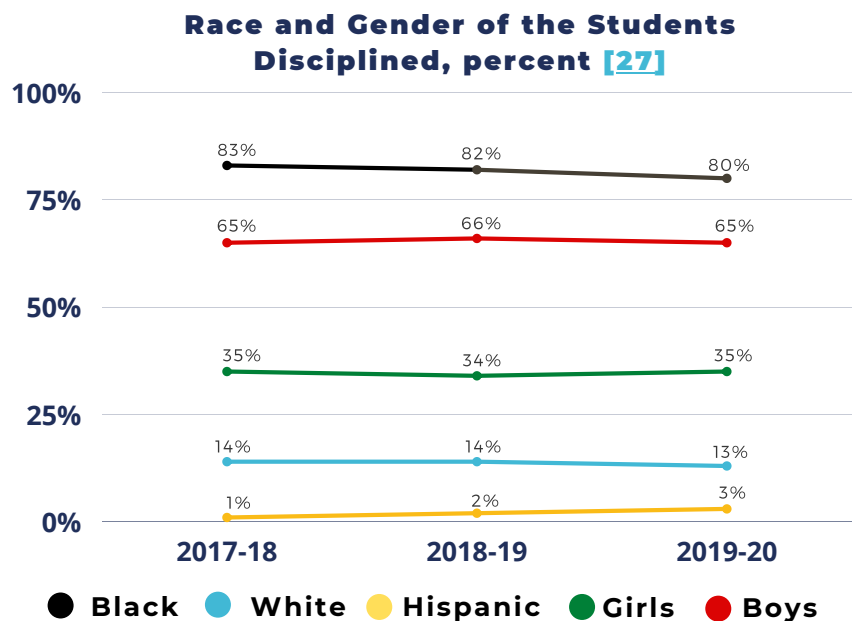
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	163	161	165
# Full Time Teachers	170	166	169
# Part Time Teachers	2	4	2
Retention ≤ 10 Years	61	64	59
Retention > 10 Years	111	105	112
Teachers Education > B.A.	103	101	100



RATES OF DISCIPLINE

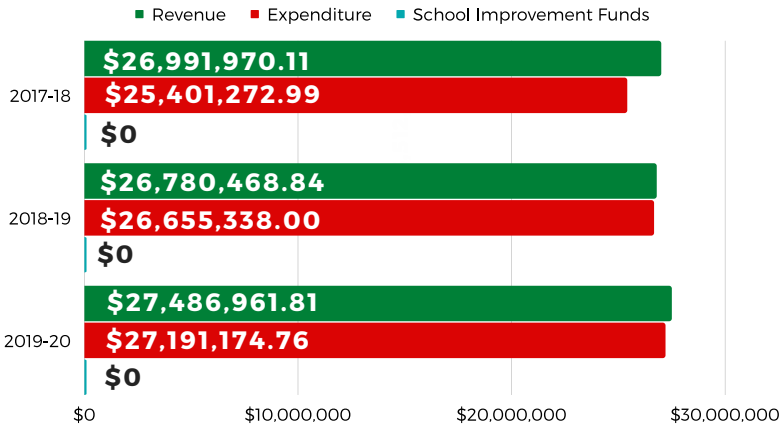
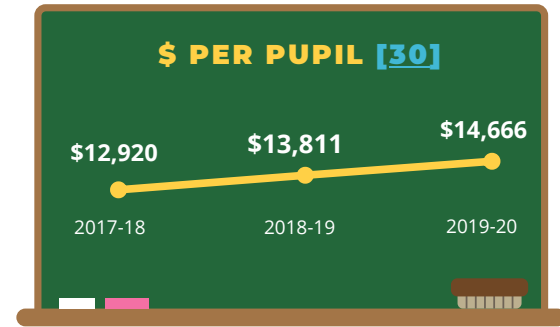
Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 1,415 in 2017-18 to 956 in 2019-20, a decrease of 32% (459). In 2020, Black students were 71% of the student population but were 80% of the students disciplined, and Hispanic students were the least disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Early County had a low rate of expulsion of less than 0.5%. Early County had one of the highest in-school suspension rates in the 27 counties, at an average of 17%. This county had an average of 8% for out of school suspension rate.

	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	1,415	1,371	956
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	16%	19%	16%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	8%	8%	7%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%



FUNDING

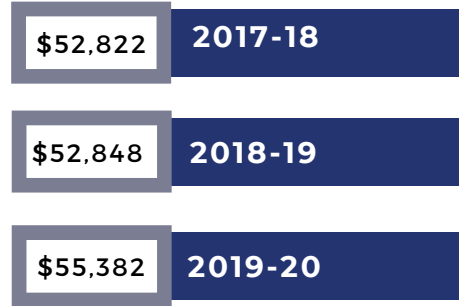
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Early County's total expenditures increased. During these same two academic years, Early County's total revenues increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$12,920 to \$14,666 which represents a 13.5% (\$1,746) increase. Total revenues and total expenditures remained in the \$25M to \$27M range. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 4.8% (\$2,560). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Early County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



District Funding [26, 29]

DIGITAL ACCESS

Early County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 49.1%, while 45% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to the next year. However, in the 2019-20 school year the rate increased. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



61.3%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

49.1%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	6	2	8	# of Students Online
	6	2	8	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	0	0	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

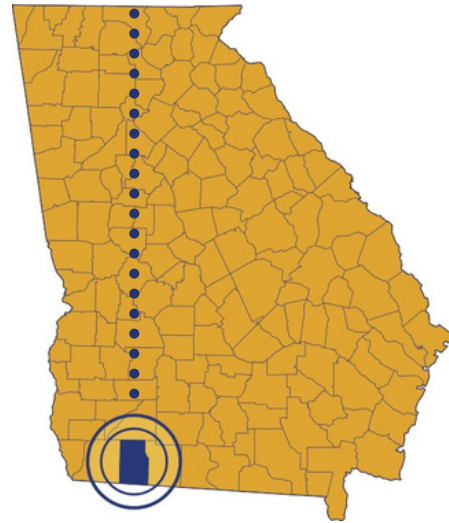
GRADY

county

GRADY

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	24,633
Black Alone, %	29.8%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	57.4%
Median Household Income	\$43,531
Persons in Poverty	21.7%
Owner occupied housing rate	64.3%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	80.1%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	13.9%



District Letter Grade [11]

D	2017
F	2018
D	2019

GRADY COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Cairo High School

Middle Schools

Washington Middle School

Elementary Schools

Eastside Elementary School

Northside Elementary School

Shiver Elementary School

Southside Elementary School

Whigham Elementary School

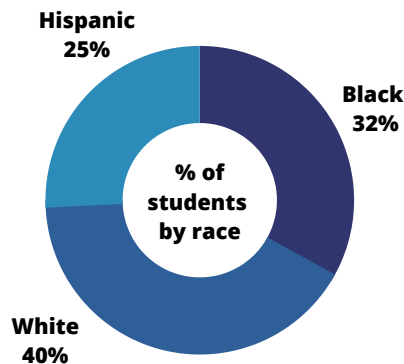
Student District Enrollment

2020 [30]

4,581

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

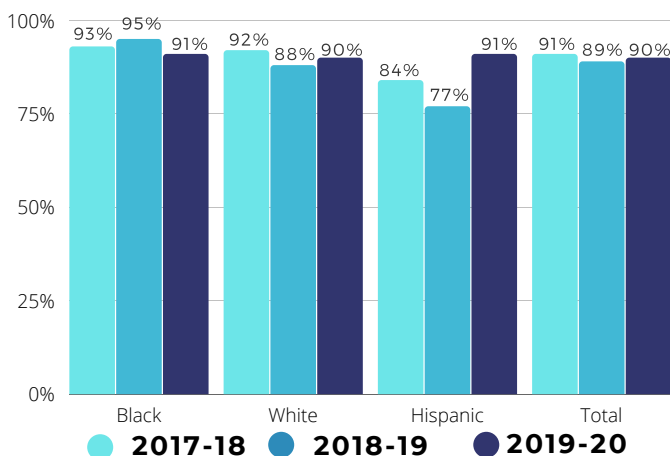
51%



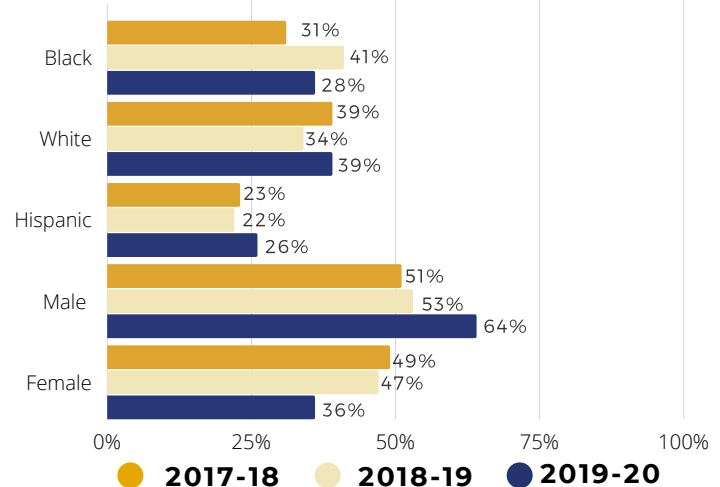
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Grady County's overall performance is higher than 11% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 22% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 4% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 12% of districts. By 3rd grade, 44.5% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 43.6% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 88.8%, which is higher than 55% of districts; and 44.3% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 51%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



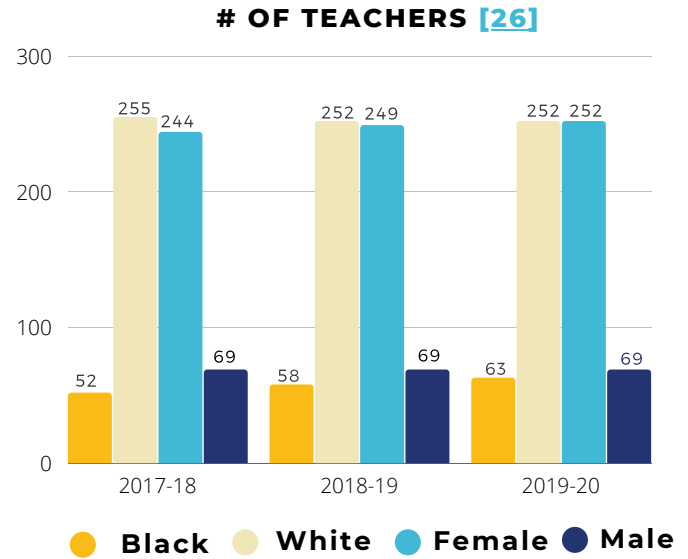
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Grady County has approximately 300 teachers and over 250 of that number are white. The majority of teachers are full time, white, and female. Female teachers outnumber males 3 to 1. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over half of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

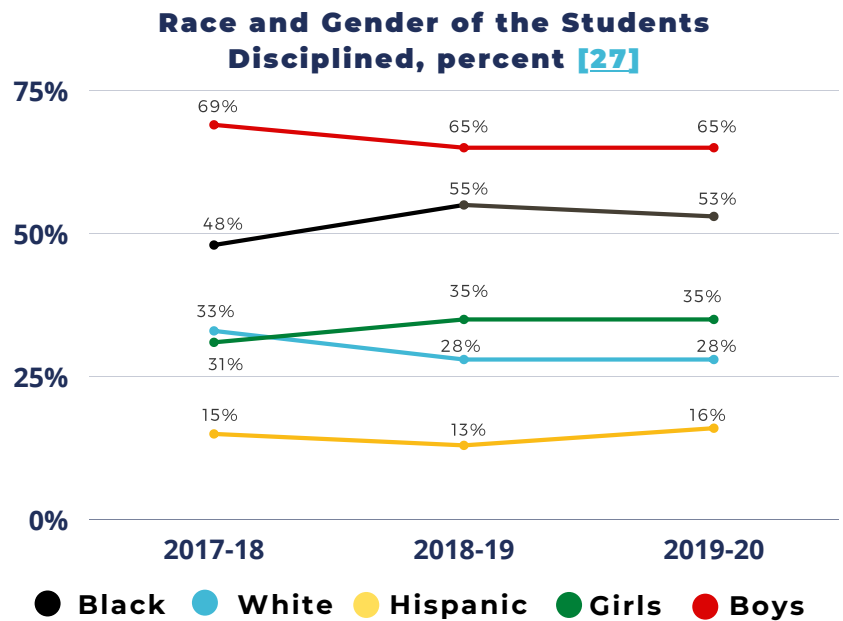
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	302	292	297
# Full Time Teachers	307	313	319
# Part Time Teachers	6	5	2
Retention ≤ 10 Years	121	133	144
Retention > 10 Years	192	185	177
Teachers Education > B.A.	181	180	180



RATES OF DISCIPLINE

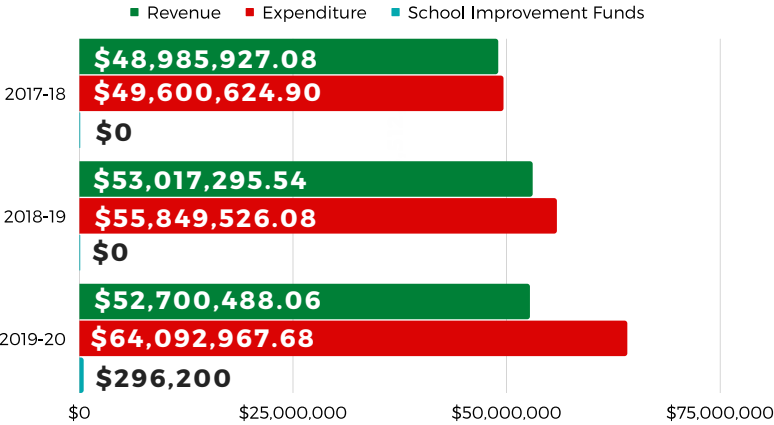
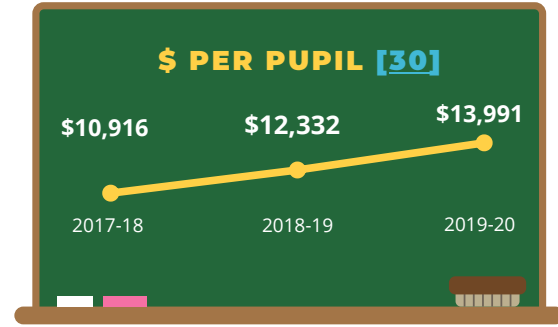
Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Overall, the number of incidents has decreased from 1,953 in 2017-18 to 1,648 in 2019-20, a decrease of 16% (305). In 2020, Black students were 32% of the student population but were 53% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Grady County had a low rate of expulsion, averaging less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 13% and out of school suspension rate was 7%.

	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	1,953	2,424	1,648
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	12%	15%	11%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	7%	8%	5%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%



FUNDING

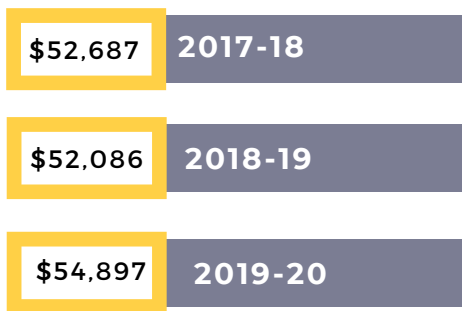
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Grady County's total expenditures increased. During these same two academic years, Grady County's total revenues increased, but only slightly in comparison to the expenditure increase. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$10,916 to \$13,991 which represents a 28.2% (\$3,075) increase. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a slight decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. From 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 4.2% (\$2,210). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 3.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Grady County received \$296,200 in school improvement federal funding for the 2019-20 school year.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

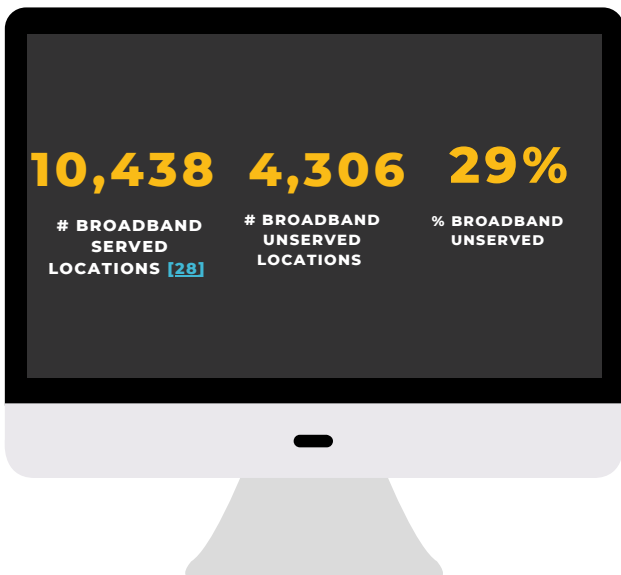


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Grady County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 70.3%, while 29% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes in 2017-18, 2018-2019 and in 2019-2020. There were nine teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019-2020 school year.



79.3%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

70.3%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
142	119	102	# of Students Online	
142	119	102	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
0	0	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	9	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

LEE

county

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	29,992
Black Alone, %	23.2%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	69.7%
Median Household Income	\$69,280
Persons in Poverty	9.3%
Owner occupied housing rate	72.8%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	90.9%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	25.4%



District Letter Grade [11]

B	2017
B	2018
B	2019

LEE COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Lee County High School
Lee County 9th Grade Campus

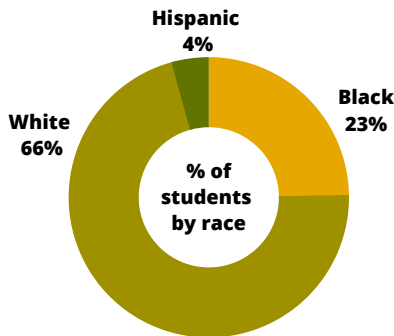
Middle Schools

Lee County Middle School East
Lee County Middle School West

Elementary Schools

Kinchafoonee Primary School
Lee County Elementary School
Lee County Primary School
Twin Oaks Elementary School

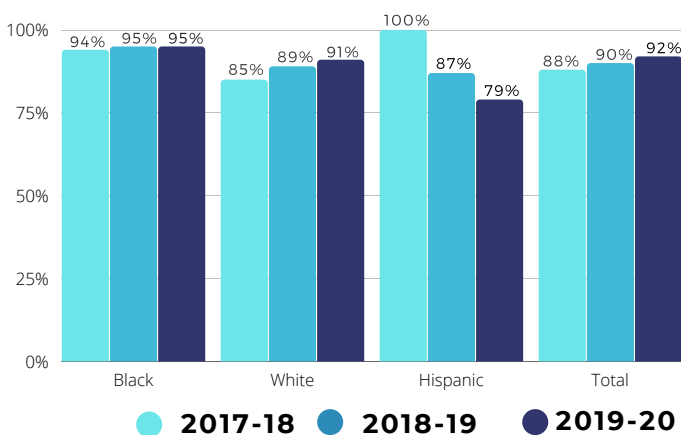
Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
6,435
College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
64%



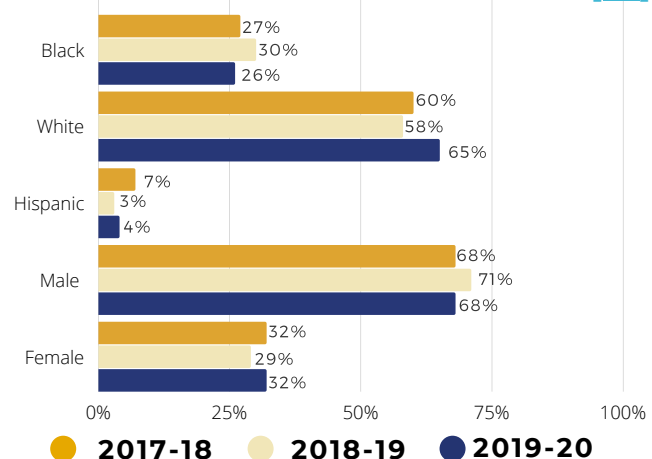
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Lee County's overall performance is higher than 92% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 66% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 70% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 69% of districts. By 3rd grade, 62.4% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 74.2% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 90.0%, which is higher than 63% of districts; and 74.7% percent of graduates were deemed college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 64%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



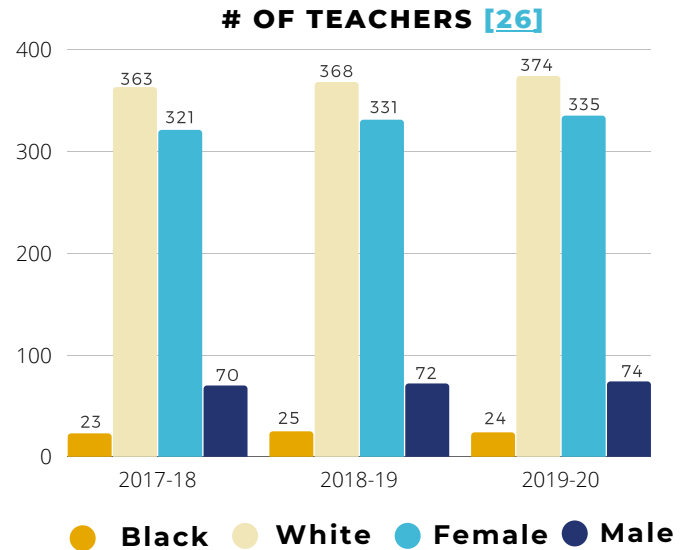
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Lee County has almost 400 teachers and over 90% are white. Black teachers compose less than 1% of the teachers over the three years reported. The majority of teachers are female and full-time. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Almost 70% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	383	393	398
# Full Time Teachers	379	391	389
# Part Time Teachers	12	12	22
Retention ≤ 10 Years	135	160	145
Retention > 10 Years	256	243	264
Teachers Education > B.A.	267	269	276

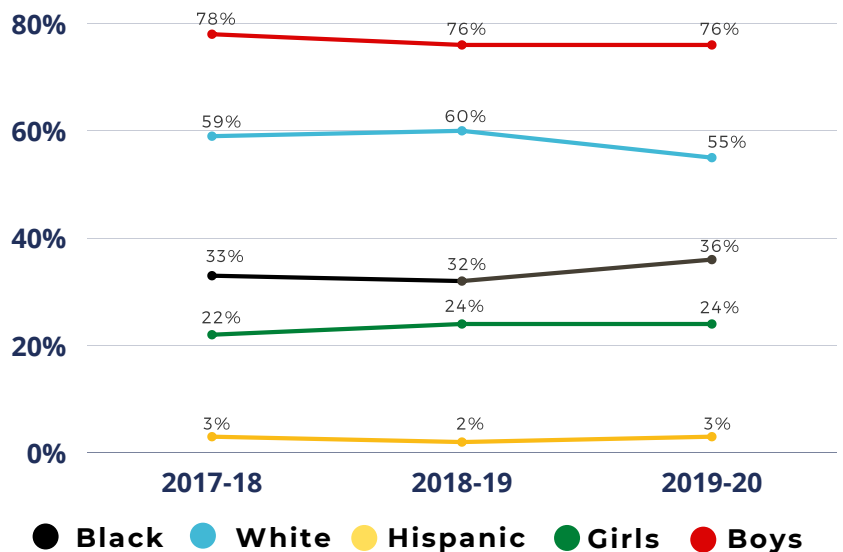


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 2,245 in 2017-18 to 1,672 in 2019-20, a decrease of 26% (573). In 2020, Black students were 23% of the student population but were 36% of the students disciplined. White boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Lee County had a low rate of expulsion, averaging less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 8%. The average out of school suspension rate was 4% which was one of the lowest in the 27 counties.

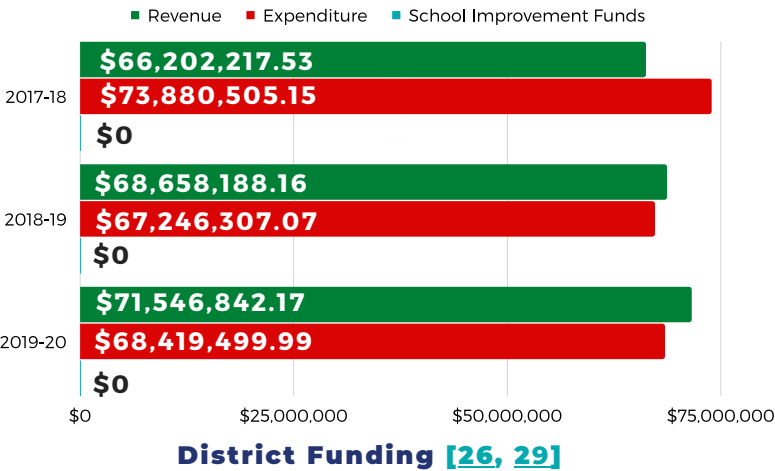
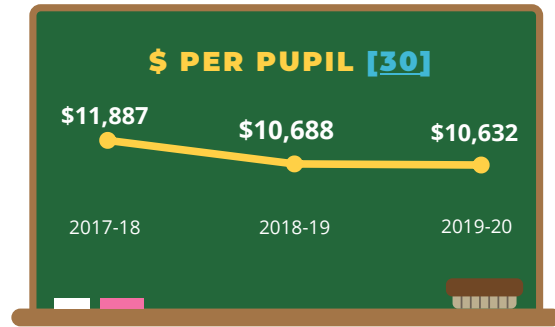
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	2,245	1,907	1,672
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	9%	8%	7%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	4%	4%	4%
Expulsion Rate	0.1%	0.1%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

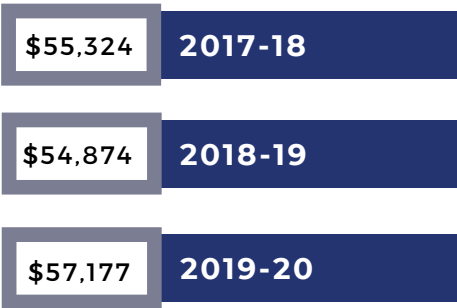
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Lee County's total expenditures decreased. During these same two academic years, Lee County's total revenues increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$11,887 to \$10,632 which represents a -10.6% (\$1,255) decrease. In 2018-19 and 2019-2020 Lee County reported a surplus of 1,411,811.09 and 3,127,342.18, respectively. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a slight decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year from \$55,324 to \$54,874. From 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 3.3% (\$1,853). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 4.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia and the highest in the 27 counties. Lee County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Lee County has been designated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs as a Broadband Ready Community. Lee County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 84%, while 23% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase in the number of students taking online classes in 2017-18, 2018-2019 and in 2019-2020. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



92.5%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

84%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
303	398	555	# of Students Online	
233	317	454	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
107	93	127	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

MACON

county

MACON

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	12,947
Black Alone, %	60.7%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	32.8%
Median Household Income	\$32,161
Persons in Poverty	29.4%
Owner occupied housing rate	64%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	73.6%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	8.8%



District Letter Grade [11]

F	2017
F	2018
D	2019

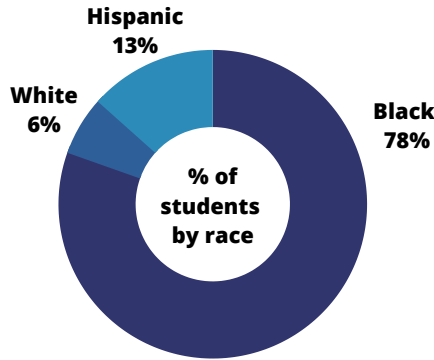


Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

1,124

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

51%



MACON COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Macon High School

Middle Schools

Macon County Middle School

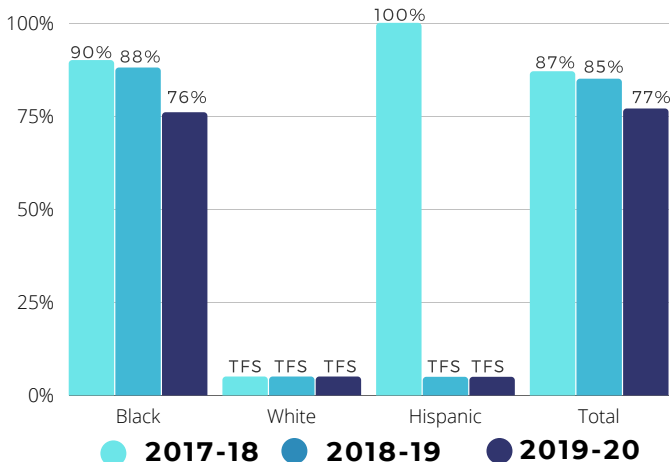
Elementary Schools

Macon County Elementary School

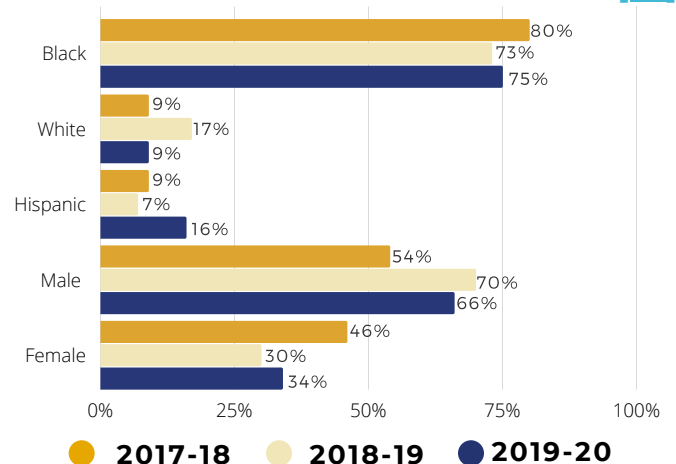
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Macon County's overall performance is higher than 20% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 50% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 82% of districts. By 3rd grade, 21% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 30.8% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 84.8%, which is higher than 26% of districts; and 34.9% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 51%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



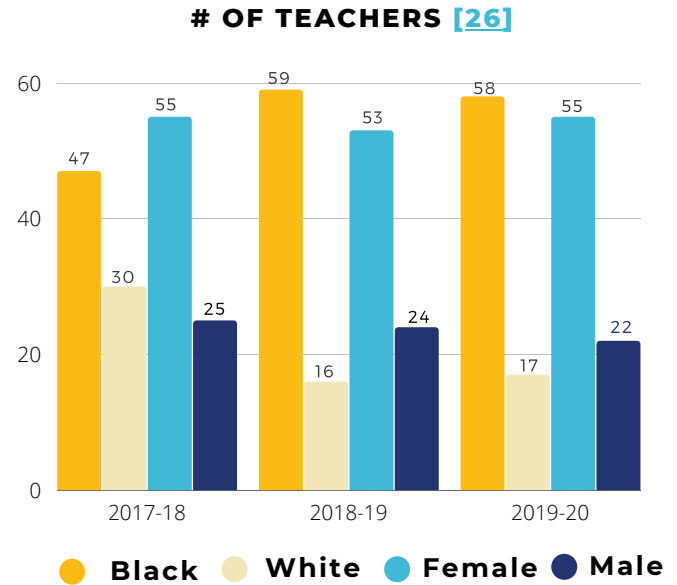
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Macon County is a small community with less than 75 teachers, with majority being Black teachers. The majority of teachers are full time and female. Female teachers outnumber male teachers 3 to 1. The retention rate for the majority of the teachers is 10 year or less, meaning most teachers are new to the profession. The majority of teachers earned a Bachelor's degree, which is the minimum for teacher certification.

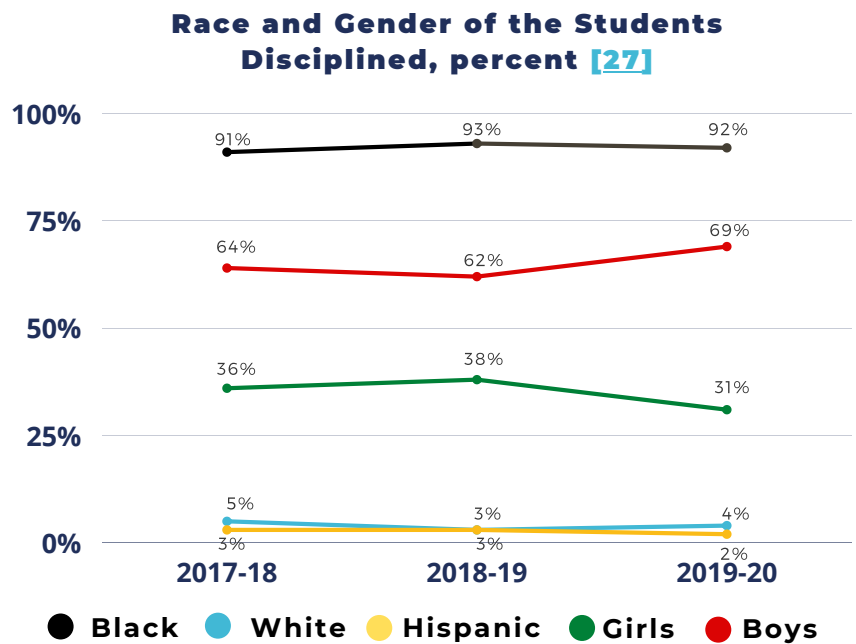
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	72	71	73
# Full Time Teachers	77	76	74
# Part Time Teachers	3	1	3
Retention ≤ 10 Years	45	44	50
Retention > 10 Years	35	33	27
Teachers Education > B.A.	42	35	37



RATES OF DISCIPLINE

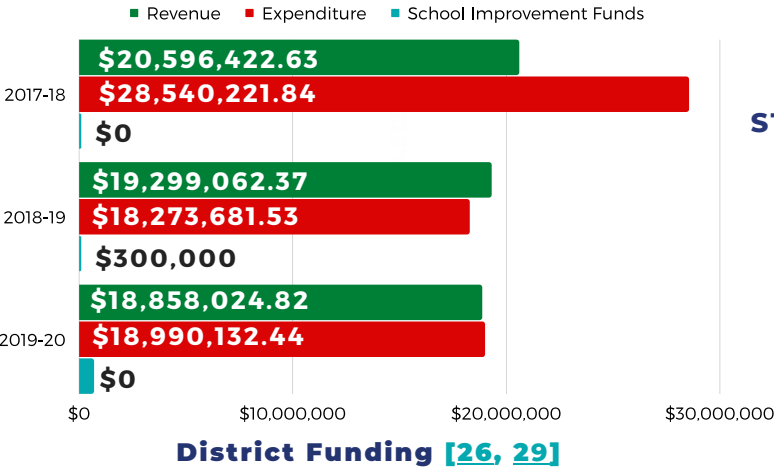
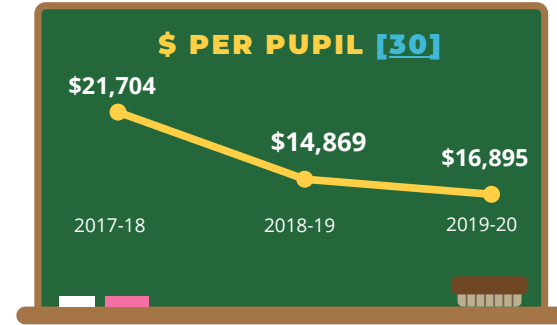
Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 1,566 in 2017-18 to 508 in 2019-20, a decrease of 68% (1,058). In 2020, Black students were 78% of the student population but were 92% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Macon County had a low rate of expulsion, averaging less than 0.5%. The county's average rate of in-school suspension was 19%, one of the highest in the 27 counties. The county's average rate of in-school suspension was 16%, the second highest in the 27 counties.

	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	1,566	1,057	508
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	26%	18%	12%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	22%	15%	10%
Expulsion Rate	0.3%	0.4%	0%



FUNDING

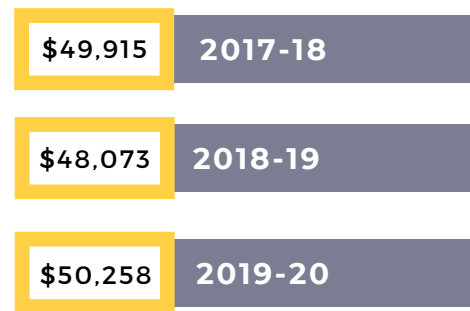
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Macon County's total expenditures decreased. During these same two academic years, Macon County's total revenues increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$21,704 to \$16,895 which represents a -22.2% (\$4,808) decrease. In 2018-19 Macon County reported a surplus of \$1,025,380.84. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. From 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased by < 1% (\$343). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 1, which is the same as the state of Georgia. Macon received \$300,000 in school improvement federal funding for the 2018-19 school year.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Macon County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 59.3%, while 41% are unserved by broadband internet access. Fewer students took online classes in 2018-2019 and in 2019-2020. There was one teacher with a computer science endorsement during the 2019-2020 school year.



75.7%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

59.3%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
274	219	206	# of Students Online	
266	80	50	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
8	192	203	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	1	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

MARION

county

MARION

COUNTY

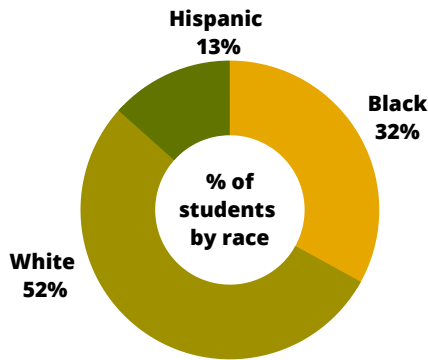
Population (July 2019) [25]	8,539
Black Alone, %	30.9%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	59.1%
Median Household Income	\$44,643
Persons in Poverty	21.1%
Owner occupied housing rate	78.4%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	77.8%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	13.4%



District Letter Grade [11]

C	2017
D	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
1,308
 College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
54%



MARION COUNTY SCHOOLS

Middle/High Schools

Marion County Middle/High School

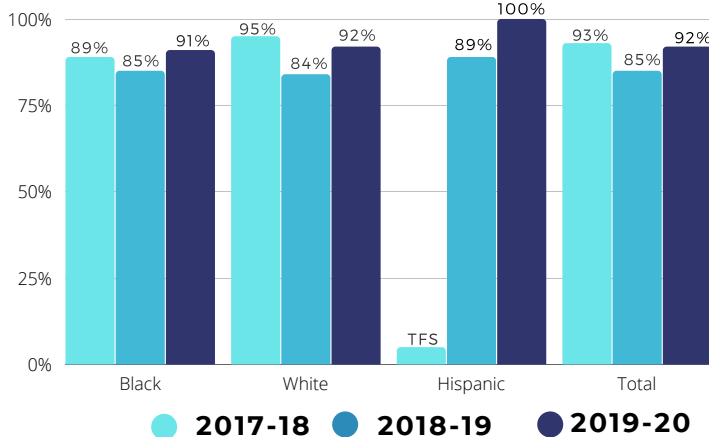
Elementary Schools

L.K. Moss Elementary School

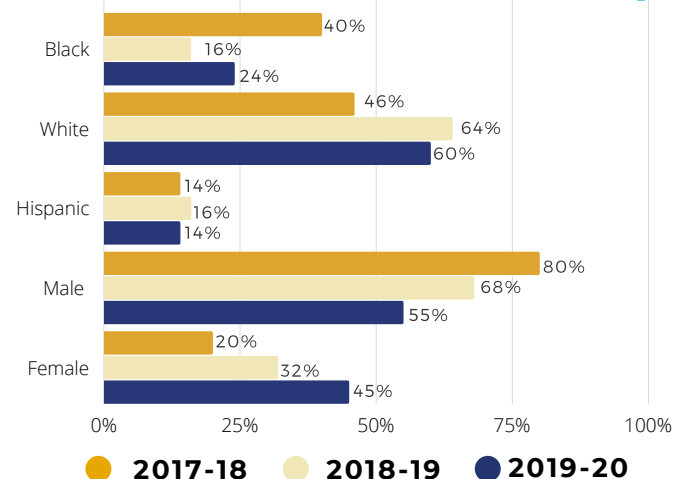
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Marion County's overall performance is higher than 28% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 18% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 28% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 44% of districts. By 3rd grade, 41.6% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 69.4% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 85.0%, which is higher than 28% of districts; and 59.3% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 54%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



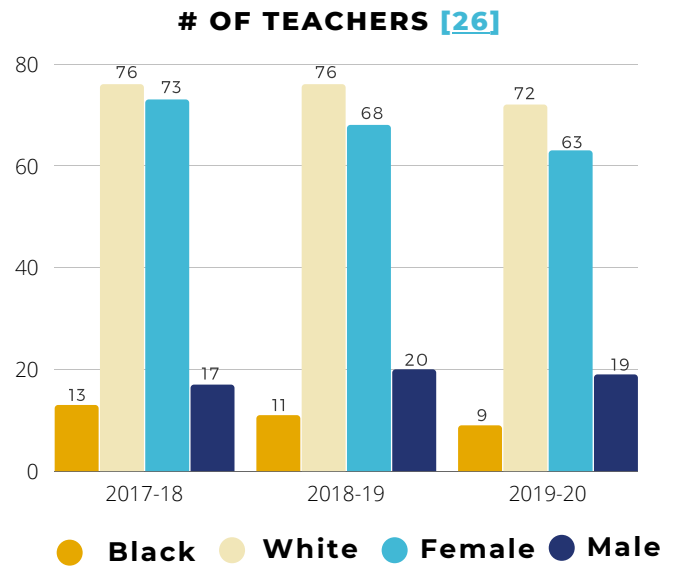
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Over the three-years reported, the number of teachers has decreased to 80. The majority of teachers were white and full-time females. In 2019-20, Marion County had nine Black teachers and 19 male teachers. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years around 70% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	90	88	80
# Full Time Teachers	86	85	77
# Part Time Teachers	4	3	5
Retention ≤ 10 Years	29	29	24
Retention > 10 Years	61	59	58
Teachers Education > B.A.	62	60	56

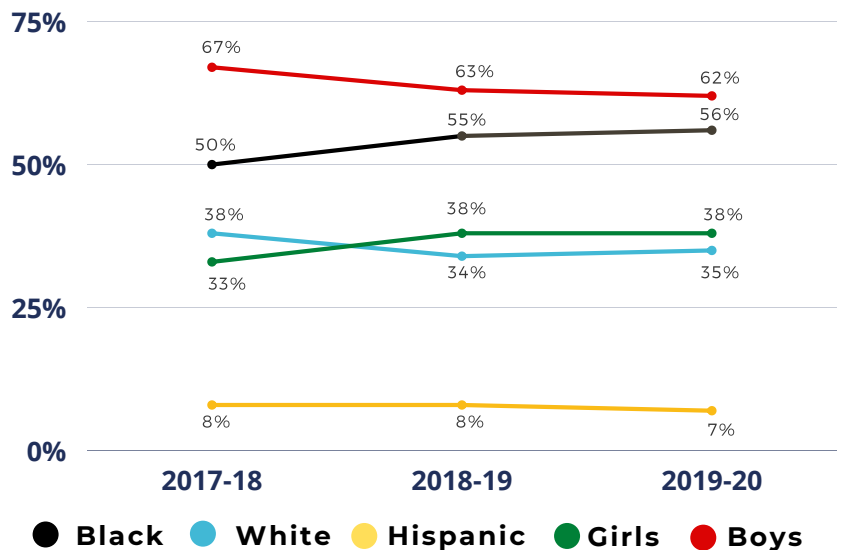


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 725 in 2017-18 to 515 in 2019-20, a decrease of 29% (210). In 2020, Black students were 32% of the student population but were 56% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Macon County had a low rate of expulsion, averaging less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 15% and out of school suspension rate was 5%.

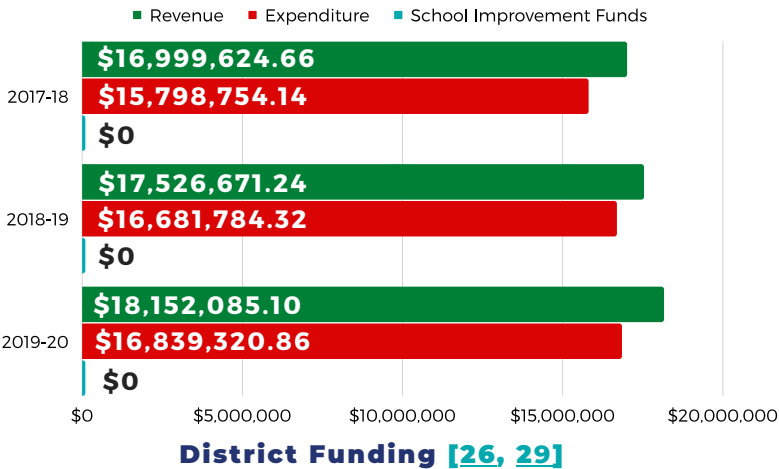
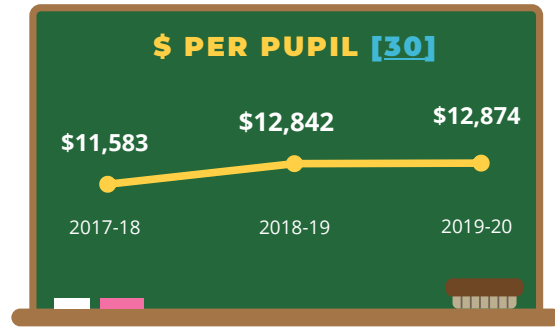
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	725	630	515
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	16%	16%	12%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	5%	5%	4%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0.1%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

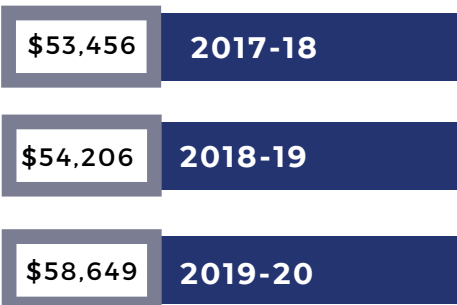
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Marion County's total expenditures increased. During these same two academic years, Marion County's total revenues increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$11,583 to \$12,874 which represents a 11.1% (\$1,291) increase. In 2018-19 Marion County reported a surplus of for all three years reported in the amounts of \$1,200,870.52, \$844,886.92, and \$1,312,764.24, respectively. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 9.7% (\$5,193). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 3, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Marion County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

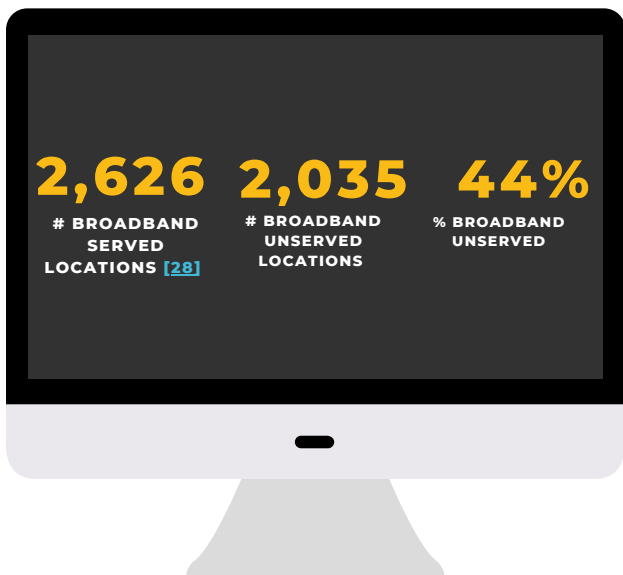


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Marion County has been designated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs as a Broadband Ready Community. Marion County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 55.9%, while 44% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, that number decreased in 2019-2020. There were three teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019- 2020 school year.



77.3%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

55.9%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
46	148	90	# of Students Online	
0	24	1	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
46	127	89	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	3	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

MILLER

county

MILLER

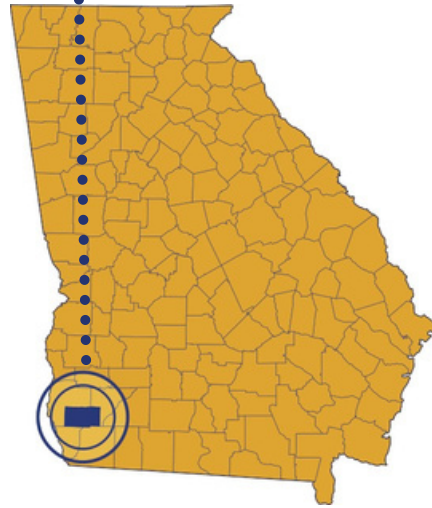
COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	5,718
Black Alone, %	28.3%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	67%
Median Household Income	\$44,542
Persons in Poverty	21.3%
Owner occupied housing rate	65.5%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	82.6%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	14%



District Letter Grade [11]

D	2017
F	2018
D	2018

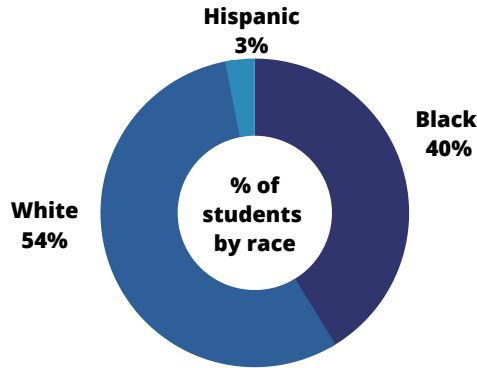


Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

826

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

64%



MILLER COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Miller High School

Middle Schools

Miller County Middle School

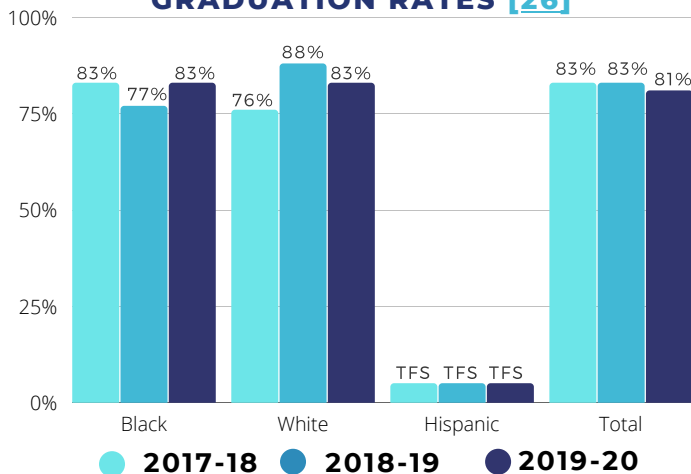
Elementary Schools

Miller County Elementary School

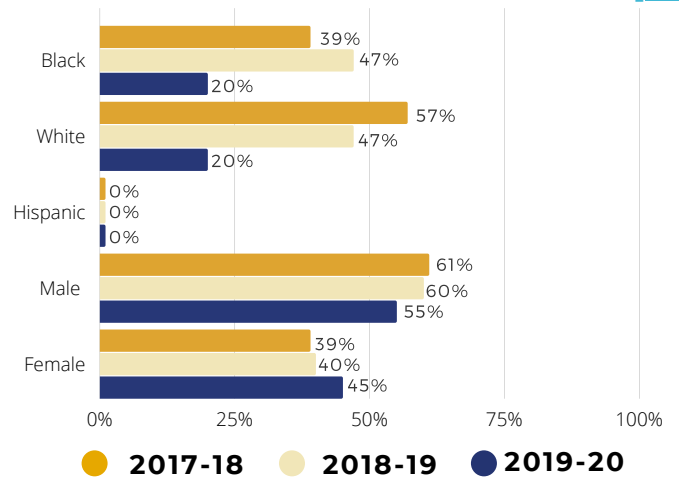
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Miller County's overall performance is higher than 36% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 21% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 96% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 9% of districts. By 3rd grade, 45.5% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 9% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 82.9%, which is higher than 18% of districts; and 59.3% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 64%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



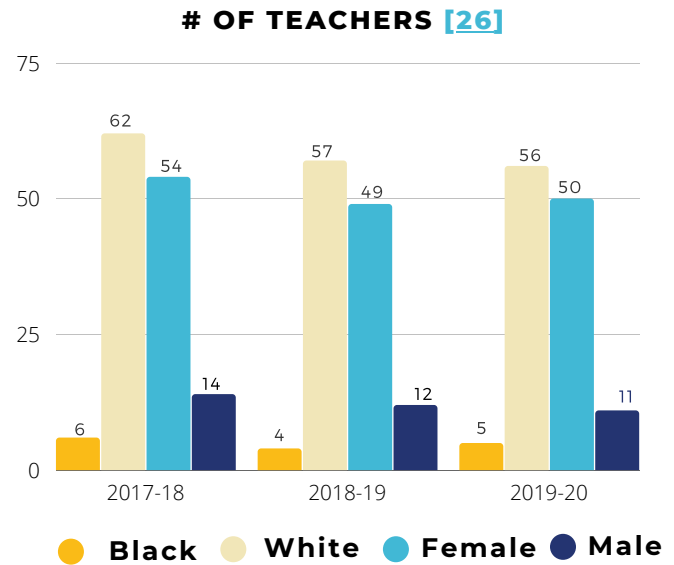
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Over the three-years reported, the number of teachers in Miller County has decreased to 59. The majority of teachers are white, and by 2019-20, there was only one Black teacher. The majority of teachers are employed full-time and female. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Around half of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	65	59	59
# Full Time Teachers	63	59	60
# Part Time Teachers	5	2	1
Retention ≤ 10 Years	29	23	23
Retention > 10 Years	39	38	38
Teachers Education > B.A.	33	29	30

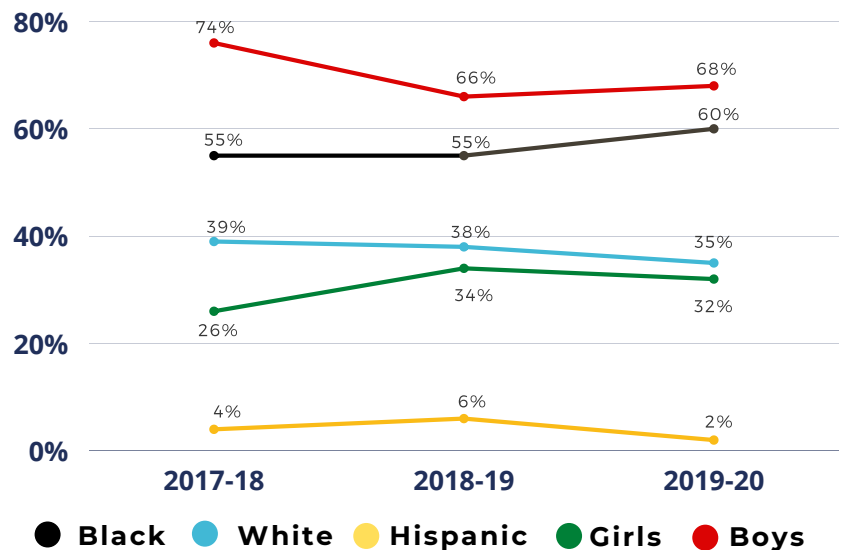


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Overall, disciplinary incidents have decreased from 569 in 2017-18 to 257 in 2019-20, a decrease of 55% (312). In 2020, Black students were 40% of the student population but were 60% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Miller County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 10% and out of school suspension rate was 5%.

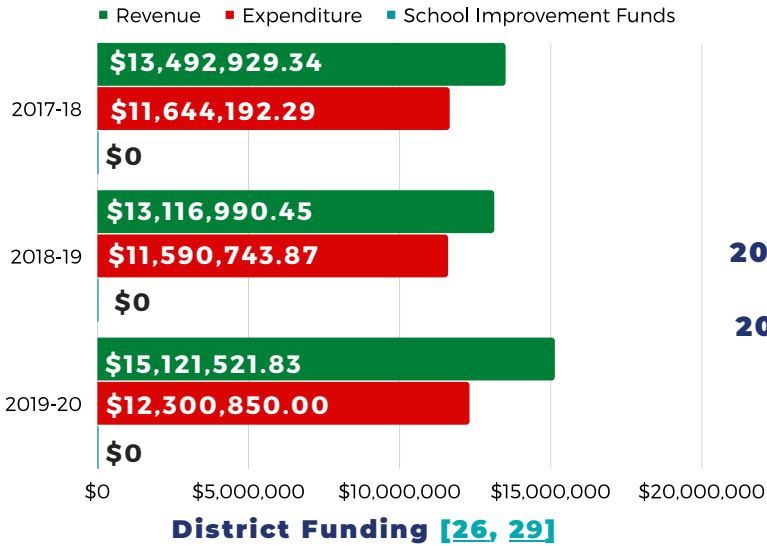
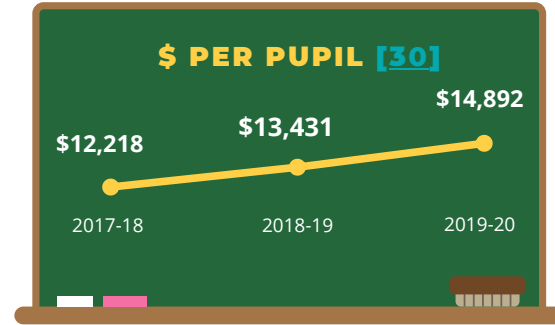
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	569	161	257
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	17%	5%	9%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	5%	5%	5%
Expulsion Rate	0.6%	0%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

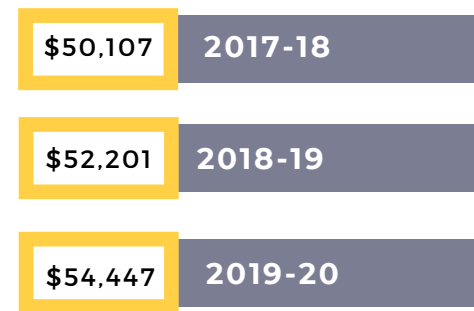
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Miller County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$12,218 to \$14,892 which represents a 21.9% (\$2,674) increase. Calhoun County had a funding surplus during all three years reported, with \$2,820,671.83 during the 2019-20 academic year. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 8.7% (\$4,340). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Miller County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

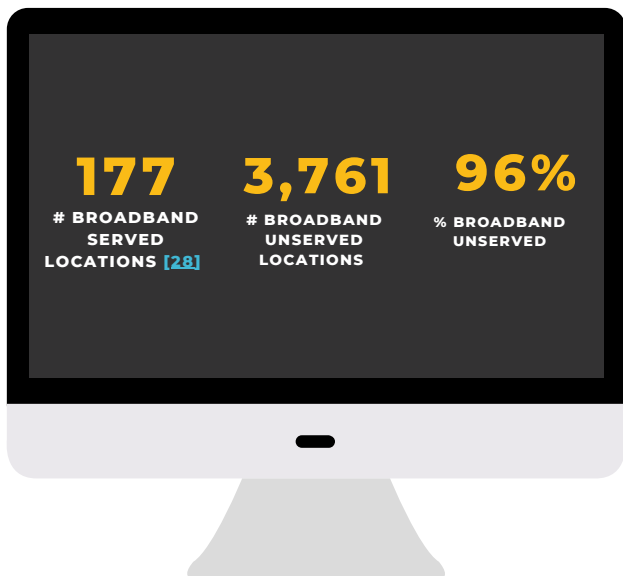


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Miller County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 48%, while 96% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, that number increased in 2019-2020. There was one teacher with a computer science endorsement during the 2019- 2020 school year.



62.2%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

48%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
548	123	493	# of Students Online	
63	66	47	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
507	84	461	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	1	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

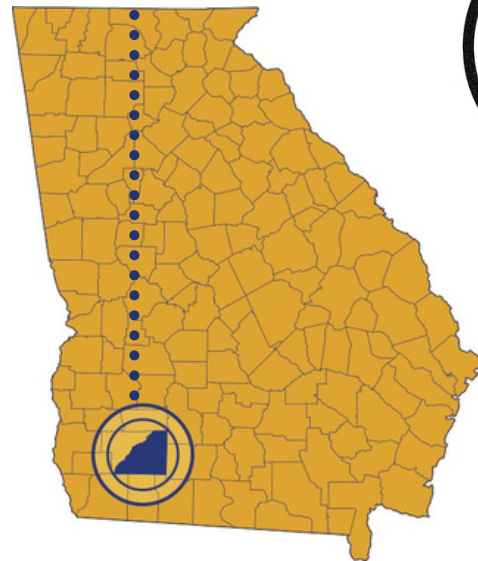
MITCHELL

county

MITCHELL

COUNTY

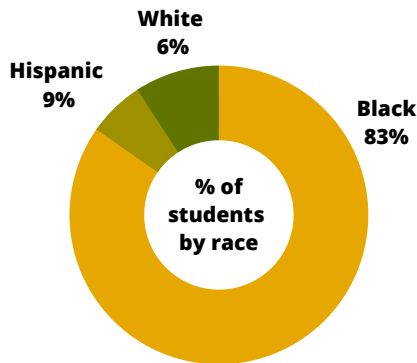
Population (July 2019) [25]	21,863
Black Alone, %	48%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	45.5%
Median Household Income	\$38,116
Persons in Poverty	30.7%
Owner occupied housing rate	62.2%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	77.2%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	9.7%



District Letter Grade [11]

C	2017
F	2018
F	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
1,277
 College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
64%



MITCHELL COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Mitchell County High School

Middle Schools

Mitchell County Middle School
 Eagle's Landing Academy

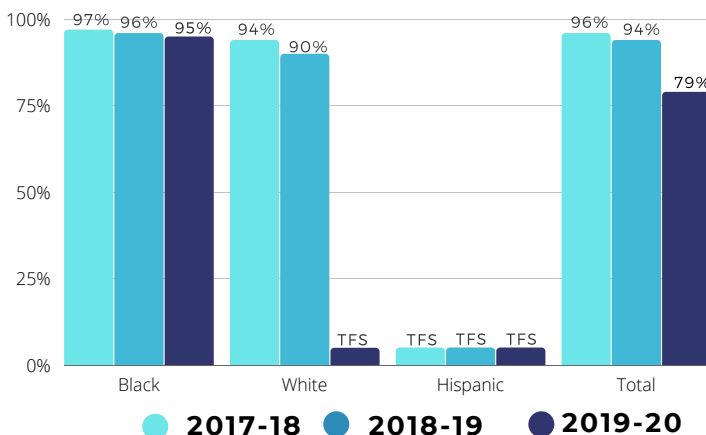
Elementary Schools

Mitchell County Elementary School
 Mitchell County Primary School

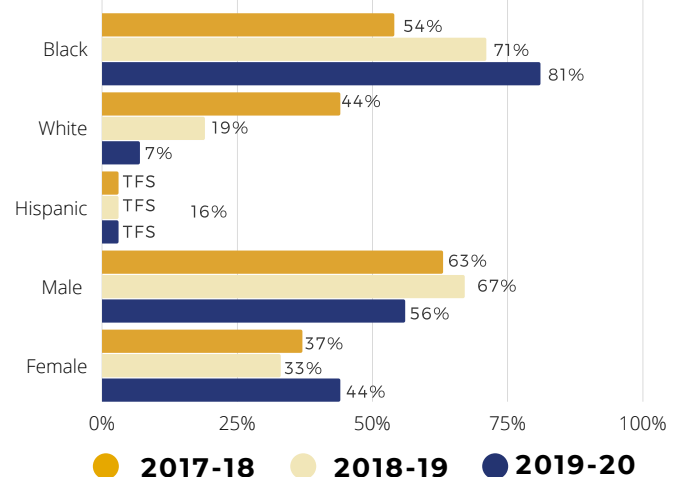
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Mitchell County's overall performance is higher than 3% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 10% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 5% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 36% of districts. By 3rd grade, 37.2% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 9% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 93.8%, which is higher than 84% of districts; and 50.3% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 64%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



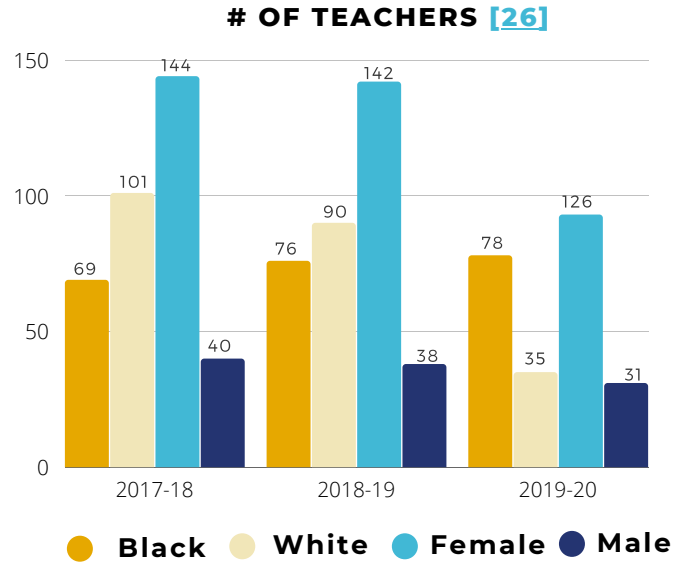
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Over the three-years reported, the number of teachers in Mitchell County has decreased from 176 to 118. The majority of teachers are white, full-time, and females. They number of Black teachers has increased over the three-year period and the number of male teachers has decreased. The female and white teachers dominated the classrooms in Mitchell County for the first two years and females still dominate. The retention rate for the majority of the teachers is 10 year or less, meaning most teachers are new to the profession. Over half of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	176	169	118
# Full Time Teachers	174	172	126
# Part Time Teachers	10	8	1
Retention ≤ 10 Years	90	83	70
Retention > 10 Years	61	59	58
Teachers Education > B.A.	94	97	57

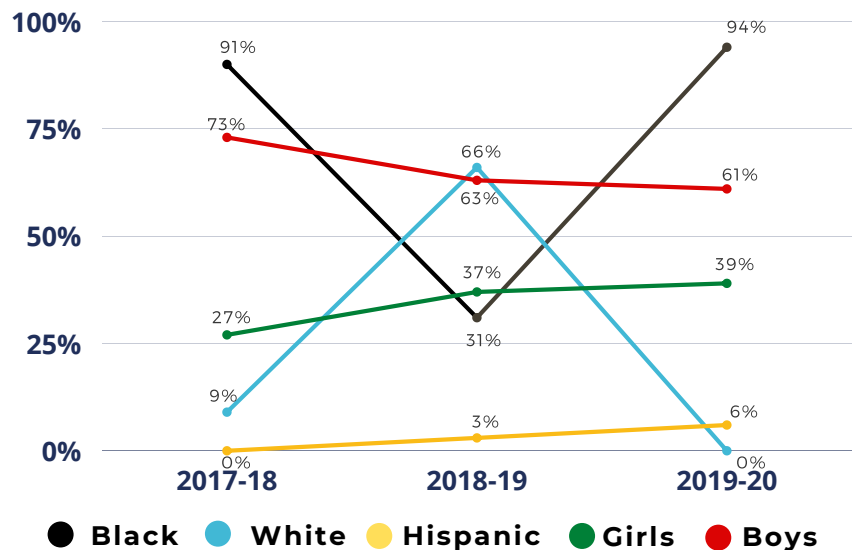


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Overall, disciplinary incidents have decreased from 11 in 2017-18 to 26 in 2019-20, which is more than double. In 2020, Black students were 83% of the student population but were 94% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Mitchell County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. Mitchell County's average rate of in-school suspension was 0.3% and out of school suspension rate was 0.4%, the lowest in all 27 counties.

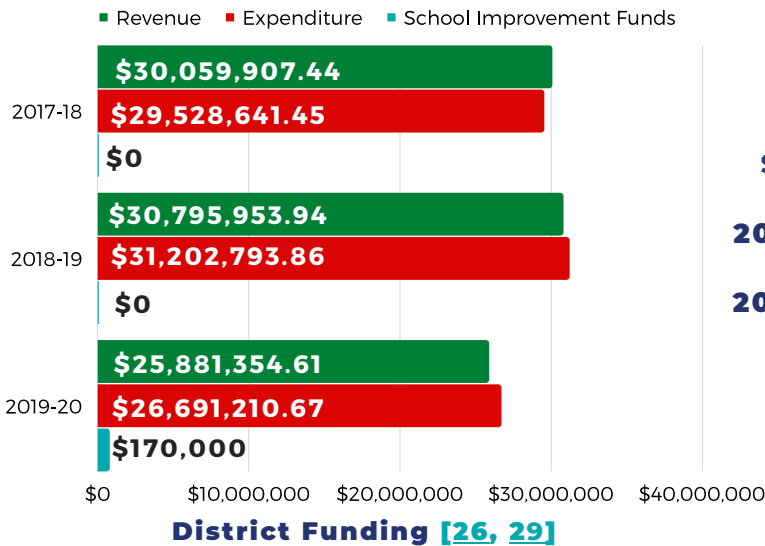
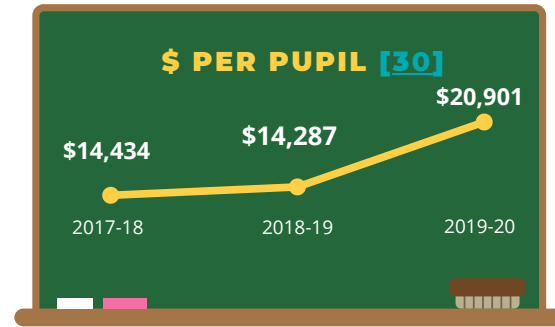
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	11	44	26
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	0%	1%	0%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	0.5%	0.6%	0%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0.2%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

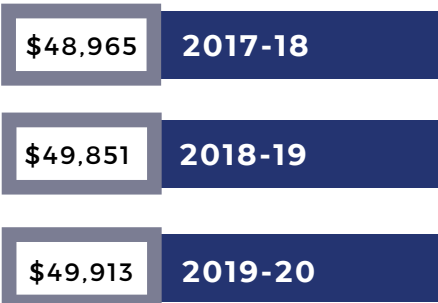
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Mitchell County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$13,434 to \$20,901 which represents a 55.6% (\$7,467) increase. Per pupil funding revenues for 2019-20 was \$20,267. Mitchell County had a funding surplus during 2017-18, but a shortfall for the two remaining years reported. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 2% (\$948). This county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 1.5, which is slightly higher than the state of Georgia. Mitchell County received \$170,000 in school improvement federal funding for the 2019-20 school year.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

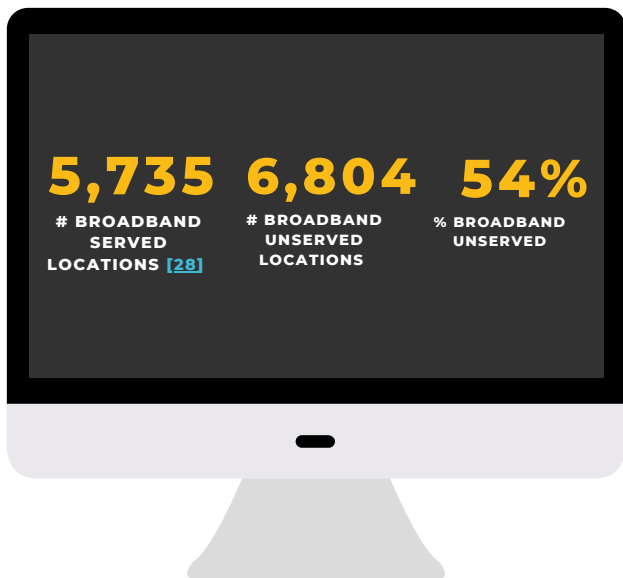


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Mitchell County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 68.5%, while 54% are unserved by broadband internet access. There were no students taking online classes in 2017-18 and 2018-2019. However, that number grew to five in 2019-2020. There was two teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019-2020 school year.



81.5%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

68.5%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	0	0	5	# of Students Online
	0	0	5	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	0	0	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	2	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

QUITMAN

county

QUITMAN

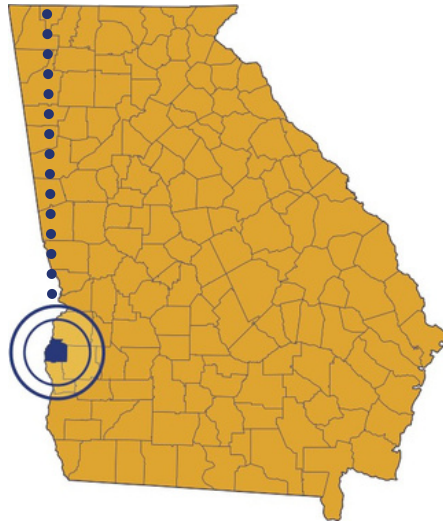
COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	2,299
Black Alone, %	48.5%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	47.6%
Median Household Income	\$26,667
Persons in Poverty	22.8%
Owner occupied housing rate	70.2%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	64.7%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	7.1%



District Letter Grade [11]

F	2017
F	2018
D	2019



QUITMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Quitman High School

Elementary Schools

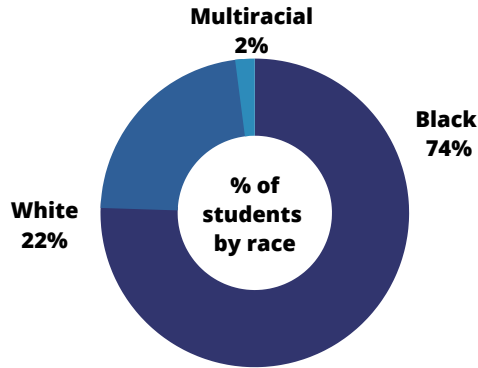
Quitman County Elementary School

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

286

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

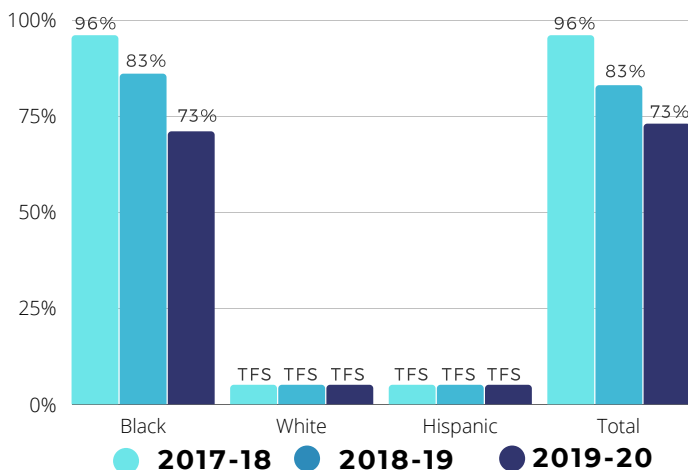
50%



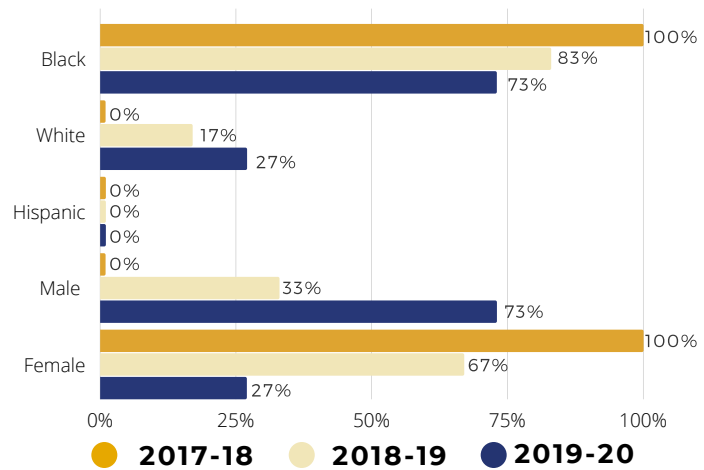
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Quitman County's overall performance is higher than 35% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 98% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 64% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 97% of districts. By 3rd grade, 11.1% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 52.2% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 82.8%, which is higher than 17% of districts; and 69.6% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 50%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



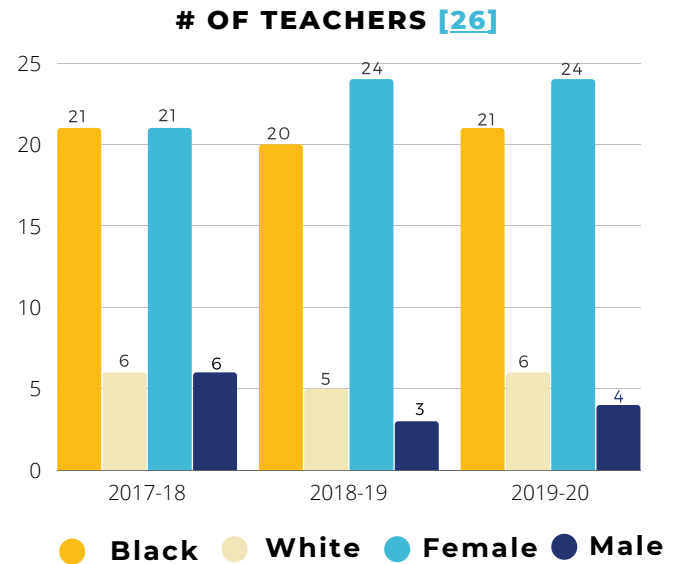
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Quitman County is a small community with less than 30 teachers who are majority full time, female, and Black. Over the three years reported, there was an average of four male teachers. The retention rate for teachers were split, fairly even, between new and seasoned professionals. For all three years, over 70% of teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	25	22	24
# Full Time Teachers	27	26	28
# Part Time Teachers	0	1	0
Retention ≥ 10 Years	14	12	14
Retention < 10 Years	13	15	14
Teachers Education < B.A.	19	16	17

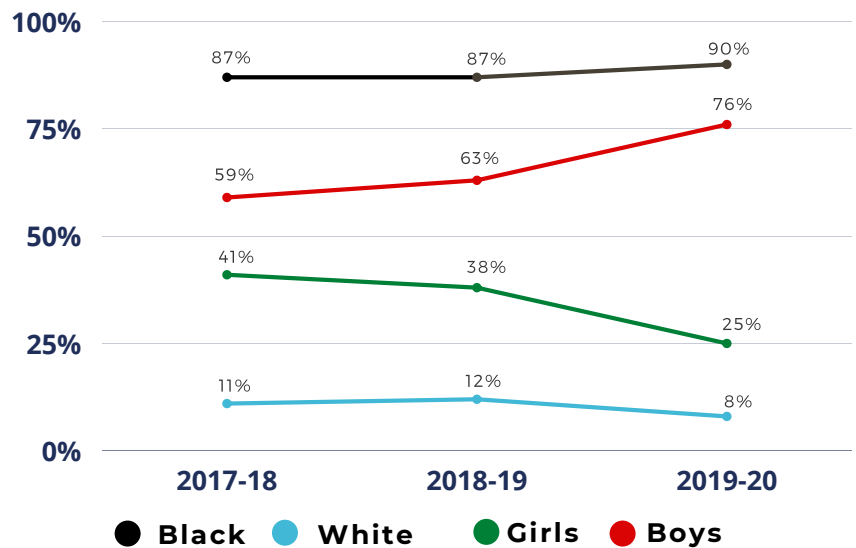


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 284 in 2017-18 to 77 in 2019-20, a decrease of 73% (207). In 2020, Black students were 74% of the student population but were 80% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Quitman County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. The county's average rate of in-school suspension was 18%, one of the highest in the 27 counties. Also, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 14%, one of the highest in the 27 counties.

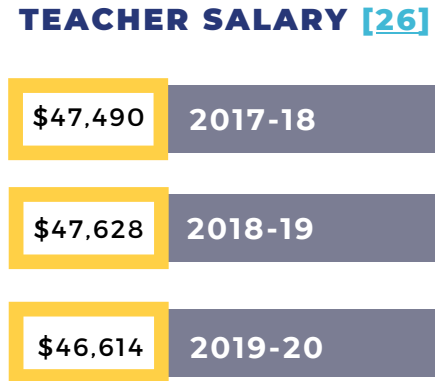
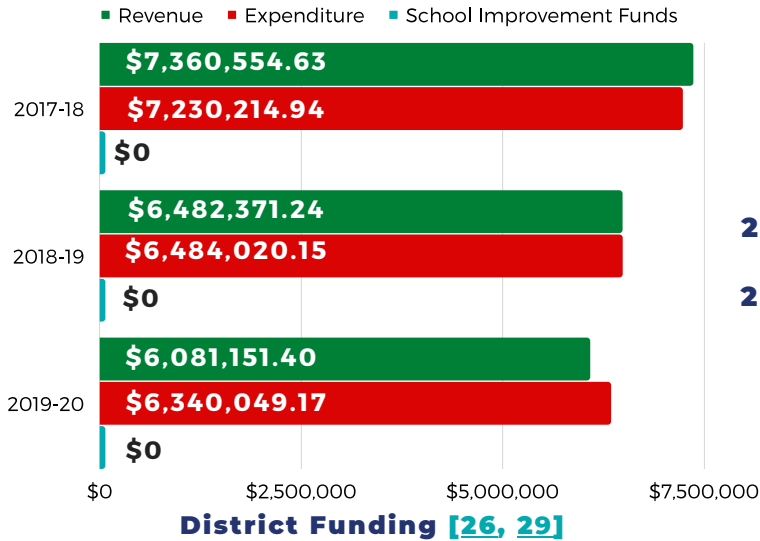
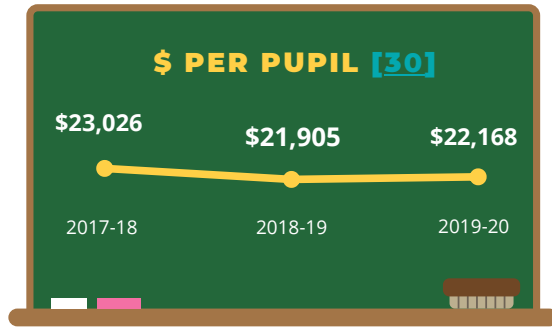
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	284	212	77
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	26%	19%	9%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	15%	18%	8%
Expulsion Rate	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Quitman County's total expenditures decreased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$23,026 to \$22,168 which represents a -3.7% (\$858) decrease. Per pupil funding revenues also decreased and for 2019-20 it was \$21,263. Quitman County had a funding surplus during 2017-18, but a shortfall for the two remaining years reported. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a slight increase between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. However, from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries decreased 1.8% (\$876), one of two counties to have a decrease. This county also had Financial Efficiency Star Ratings of 1.5 and 1, which is slightly higher than the state of Georgia. Quitman County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



DIGITAL ACCESS

Quitman County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 54.5%, while 68% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019 and in 2019-2020. There were no teachers with a computer science endorsements.



	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	1	4	19	# of Students Online
	1	1	8	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	0	3	16	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

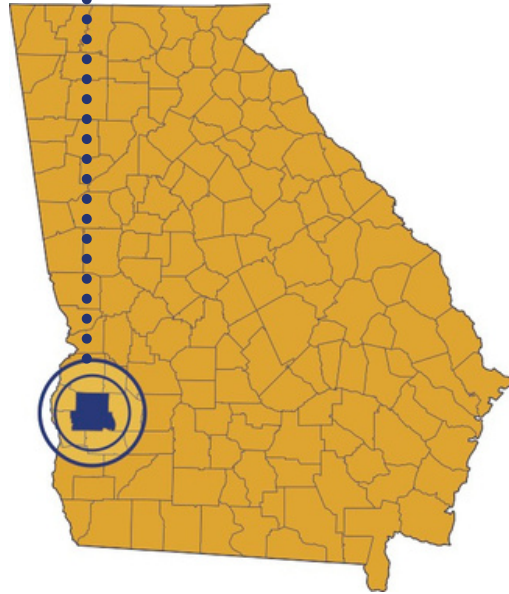
RANDOLPH

county

RANDOLPH COUNTY

COUNTY

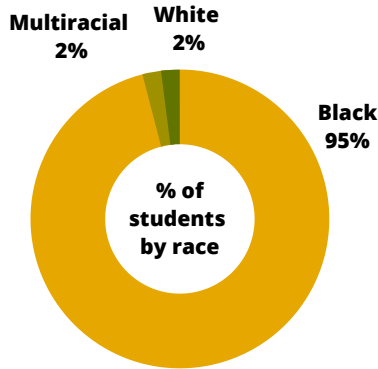
Population (July 2019) [25]	6,778
Black Alone, %	61.5%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	35.1%
Median Household Income	\$31,699
Persons in Poverty	25.3%
Owner occupied housing rate	57.2%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	74.5%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	10.3%



District Letter Grade [11]

F	2017
D	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
722
College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
44%



RANDOLPH COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Randolph Clay High School

Middle Schools

Randolph Clay Middle School

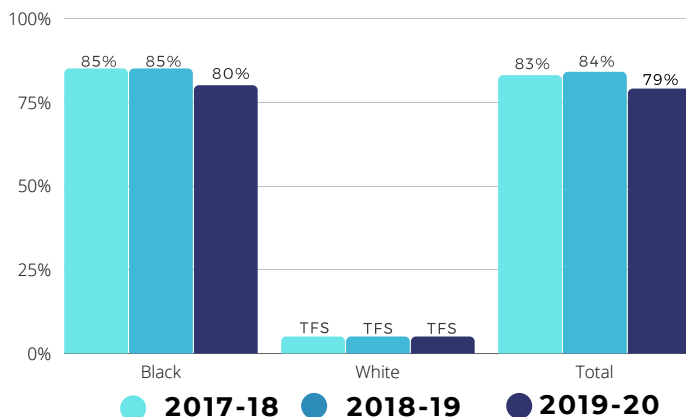
Elementary Schools

Randolph County Elementary School

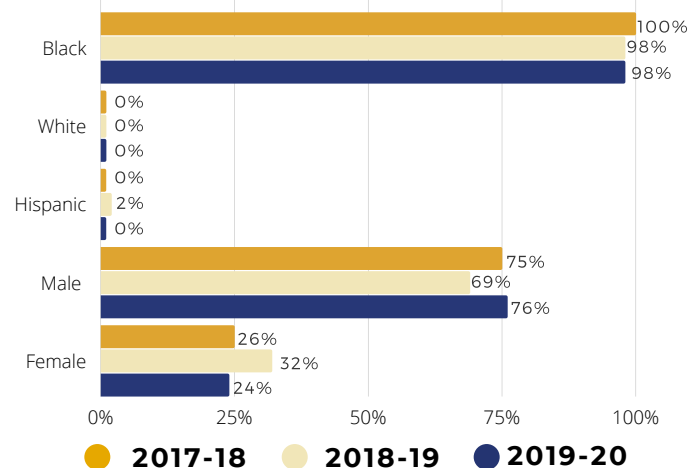
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

“Randolph County's overall performance is higher than 8% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 13% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 28% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 46% of districts. By 3rd grade, 41.3% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 26.1% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 84.1%, which is higher than 23% of districts; and 52.8% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 44%.” [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



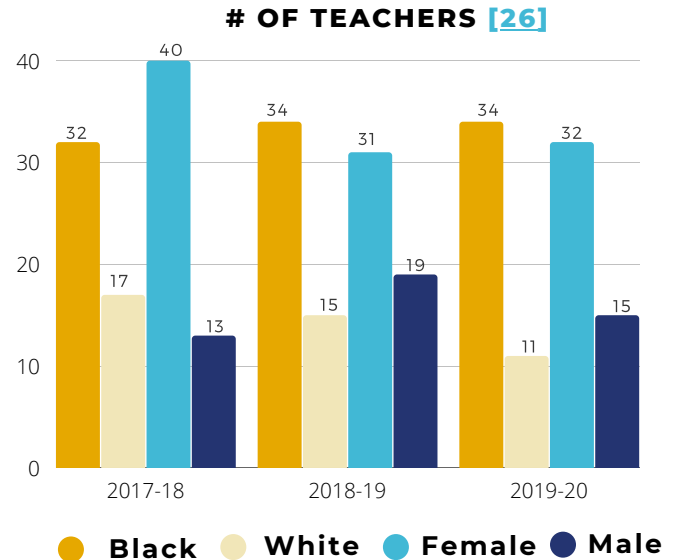
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Randolph County is a rural community that averaged 48 teachers over the three years reported. The majority of teachers were Black, female, and full-time. Female teachers outnumber males 2 to 1. The retention rate for teachers where split, fairly even, between new and seasoned professionals. For all three years, over 60% of teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	52	49	45
# Full Time Teachers	53	50	46
# Part Time Teachers	0	0	1
Retention ≤ 10 Years	29	25	25
Retention > 10 Years	24	25	22
Teachers Education > B.A.	35	31	29

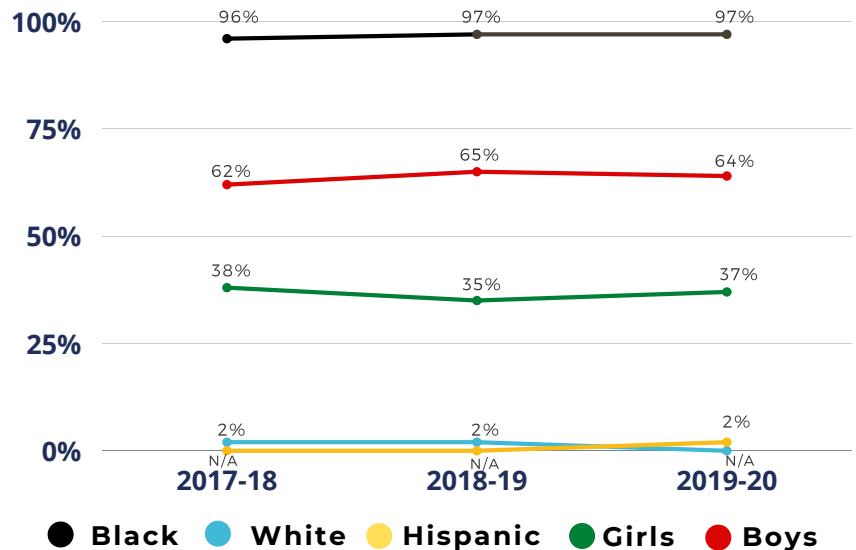


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 1,364 in 2017-18 to 465 in 2019-20, a decrease of 66% (899). In 2020, Black students were 95% of the student population but were 97% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Randolph County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 16%. The county's average rate of out of school suspension rate was 18%, the highest in the 27 counties.

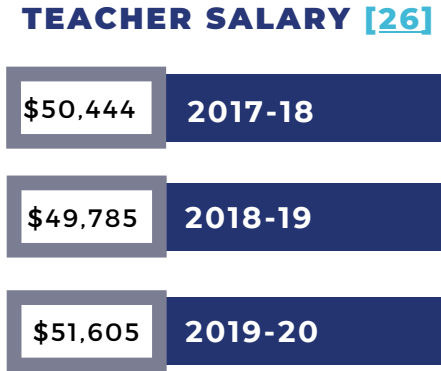
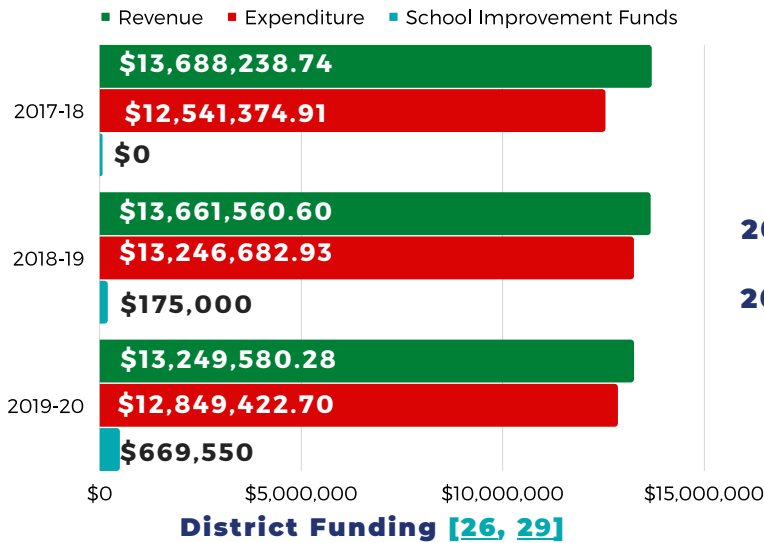
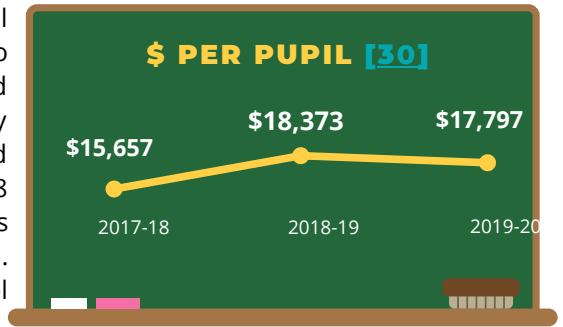
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	1,364	618	465
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	20%	14%	13%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	0%	0.2%	0%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0.2%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Randolph County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$15,657 to \$17,797 which represents a 13.7% (\$2,140) decrease. Per pupil funding revenues had a slight decline for 2018-19 to 2019-20 from \$18,948 to \$18,351. Randolph County had a funding surplus for all three years reported. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. However, from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 2.3% (\$1,161). Randolph county has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 1, which is the same as the state of Georgia. Randolph County received \$175,000 (2018-19) and \$669,550 (2019-20) in school improvement federal funding over two years.



DIGITAL ACCESS

Randolph County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 70.9%, while 32% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, in 2019-2020, that number increased. There were no teachers with a computer science endorsements.



81.7%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

70.9%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
102	92	150	# of Students Online	
101	83	144	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
1	9	21	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

SCHLEY

county

SCHLEY

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	5,257
Black Alone, %	20.3%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	72.1%
Median Household Income	\$44,448
Persons in Poverty	15.9%
Owner occupied housing rate	71.5%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	87.6%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	13.3%



District Letter Grade [11]

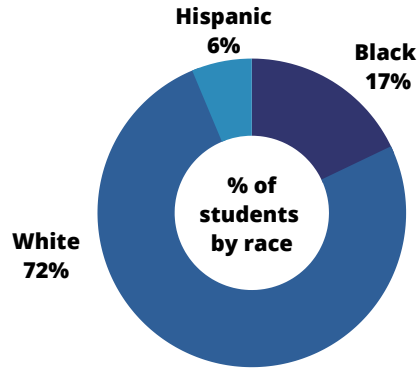
B	2017
C	2018
B	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

1,225

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

75%



SCHLEY COUNTY SCHOOLS

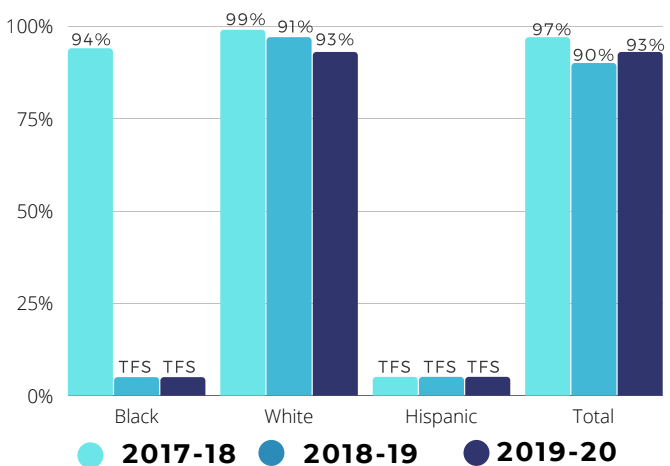
Middle/High Schools
Schley Middle/High School

Elementary Schools
Schley County Elementary School

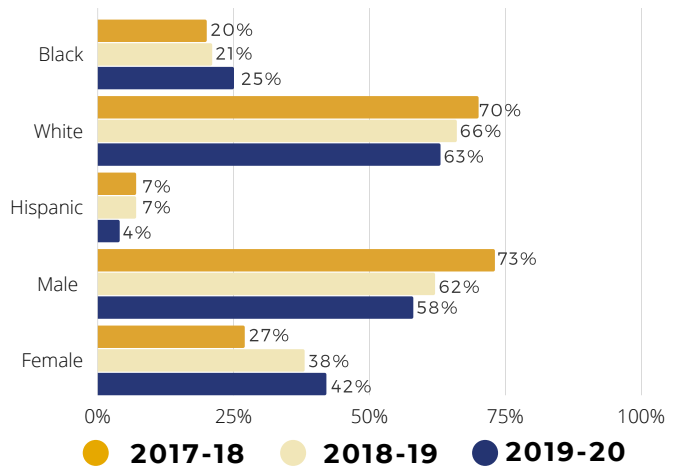
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Schley County's overall performance is higher than 83% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 51% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 30% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 9% of districts. By 3rd grade, 62.8% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 67% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 90.4%, which is higher than 66% of districts; and 89.4% of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 75%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



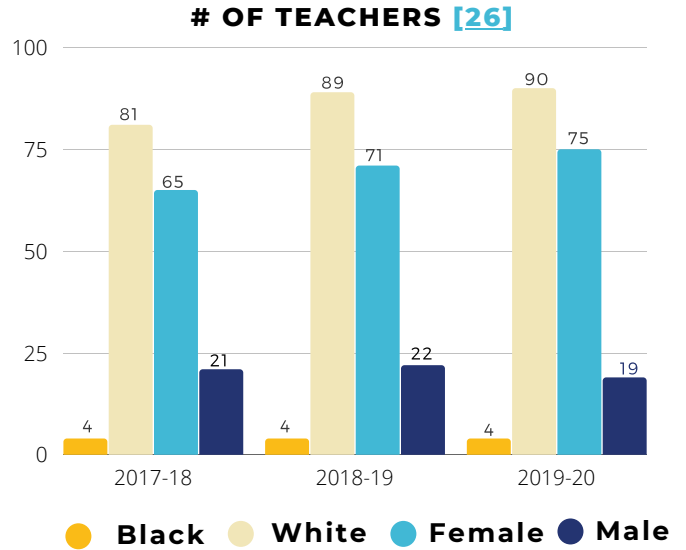
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Schley County has less than 100 teachers and about 96% are white. Over the three year period, only four Black teachers were in the county. The majority of teachers are female and full-time, and less than 20% are male. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years around 70% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	83	92	94
# Full Time Teachers	79	83	85
# Part Time Teachers	7	10	9
Retention ≤ 10 Years	26	31	28
Retention > 10 Years	60	62	66
Teachers Education > B.A.	61	63	70

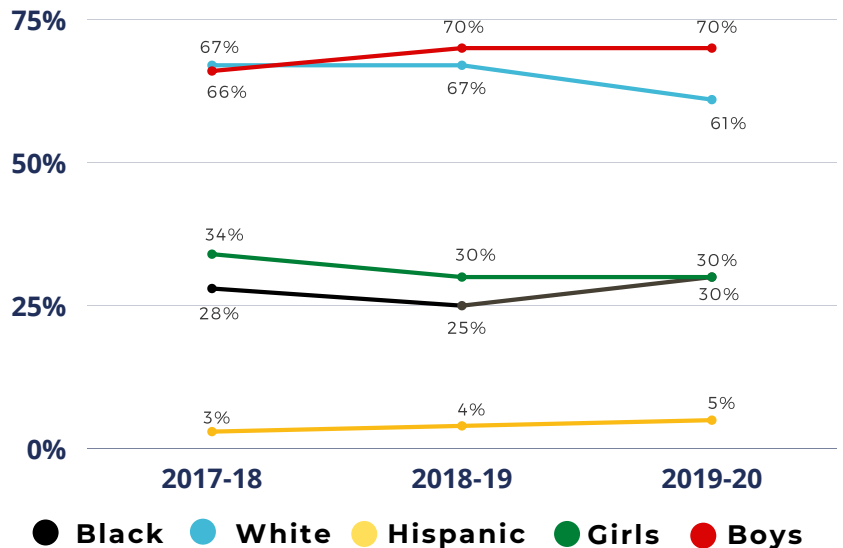


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Overall, disciplinary incidents have decreased from 431 in 2017-18 to 315 in 2019-20, a decrease of 27% (116). In 2020, Black students were 17% of the student population but were 30% of the students disciplined. White boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Schley County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 10% and out of school suspension rate was 4%.

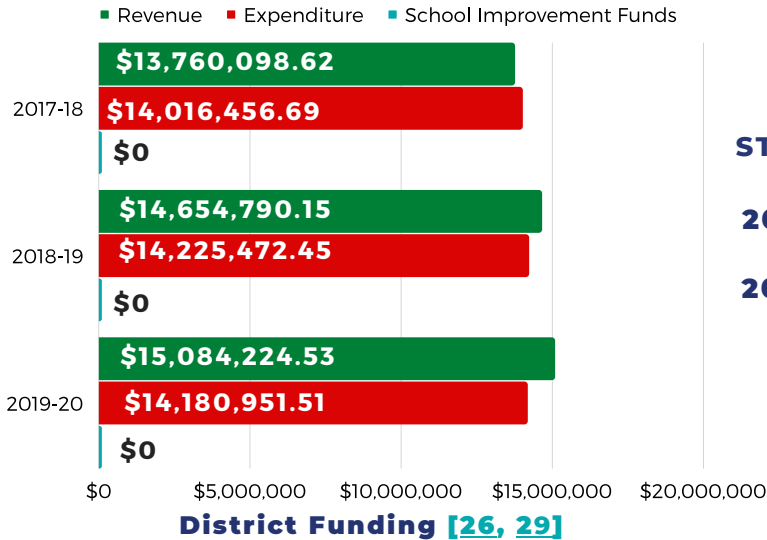
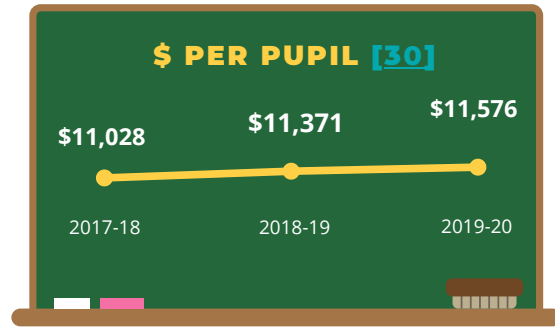
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	431	446	315
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	10%	10%	9%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	4%	4%	3%
Expulsion Rate	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

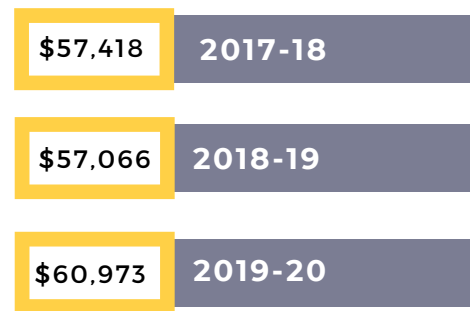
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Schley County's total expenditures had a slight increase. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$11,028 to \$11,576 which represents a 5.0% (\$548) increase. Per pupil funding revenues increased over the three years. Schley County had a funding surplus in the 2018-19 and 2019-20 academic years in the amount of \$429,317.70 and \$903,273.02, respectively. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. However, from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 6.2% (\$3,555). Schley county also had Financial Efficiency Star Ratings of 3.5 and 4, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Schley County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

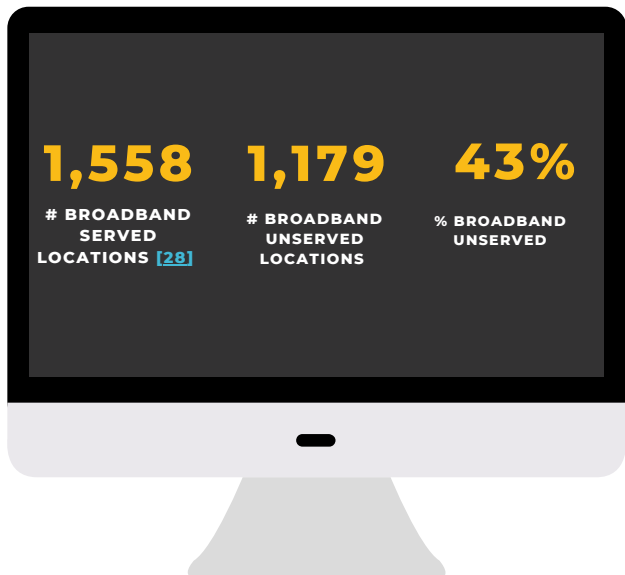


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Schley County has been designated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs as a Broadband Ready Community. Schley County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 72.5%, while 43% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, in 2019-2020, that number increased. There were no teachers with a computer science endorsements.



84.9%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

72.5%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
194	180	184	# of Students Online	
194	74	27	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
0	115	172	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

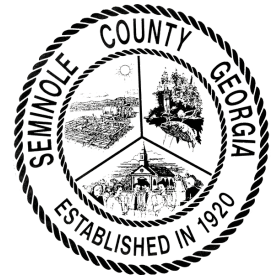
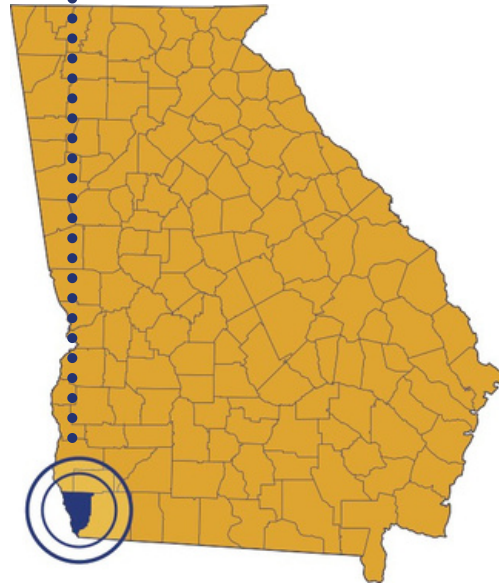
SEMINOLE

county

SEMINOLE

COUNTY

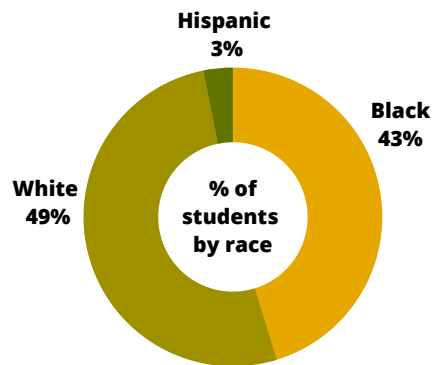
Population (July 2019) [25]	8,090
Black Alone, %	33.1%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	61.4%
Median Household Income	\$33,357
Persons in Poverty	22.6%
Owner occupied housing rate	65.3%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	74.9%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	62.7%



District Letter Grade [11]

C	2017
C	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
1,280
College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
60%



SEMINOLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Middle/High Schools

Seminole County Middle/High School

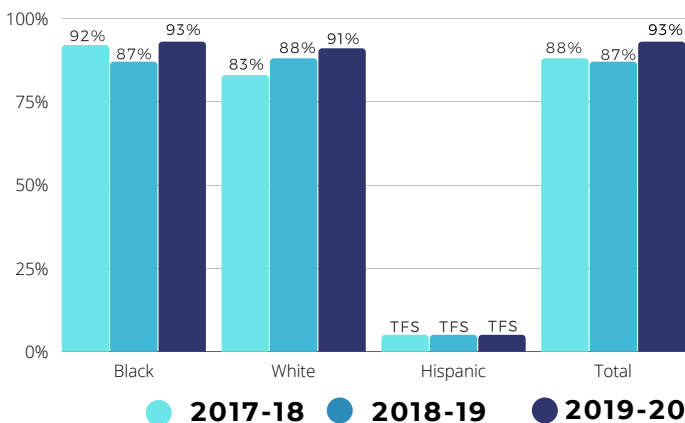
Elementary Schools

Seminole County Elementary School

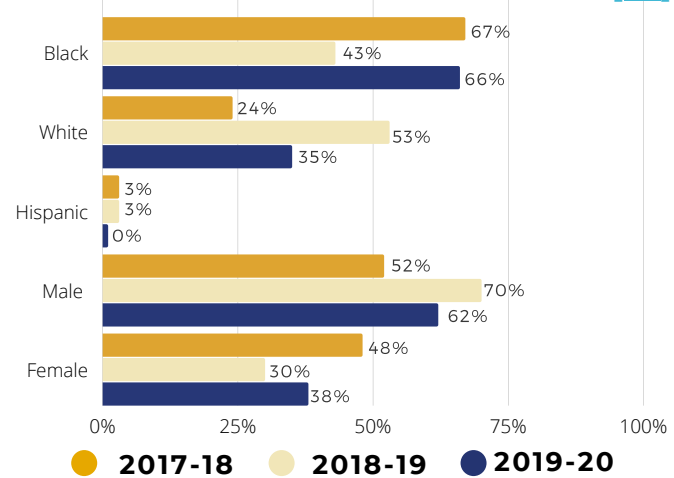
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Seminole County's overall performance is higher than 10% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 3% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 31% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 27% of districts. By 3rd grade, 43% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 76.9% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 86.5%, which is higher than 35% of districts; and 77.9% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 60%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



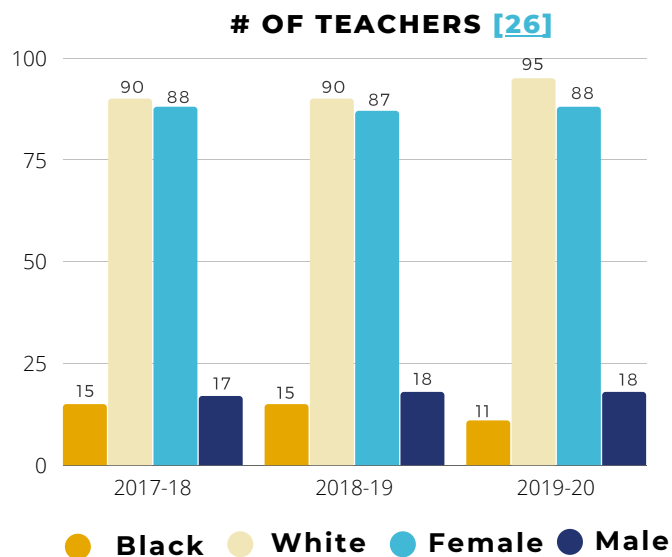
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Seminole County is a small community with around 100 teachers and about 95% are white. The number of Black teachers has decreased over the three year reporting period and ended with approximately 11 Black teachers. The majority of teachers are female and full time, with less than 20% male. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years around 70% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	102	104	106
# Full Time Teachers	103	103	105
# Part Time Teachers	2	2	1
Retention ≤ 10 Years	33	29	26
Retention > 10 Years	24	25	22
Teachers Education > B.A.	72	76	80

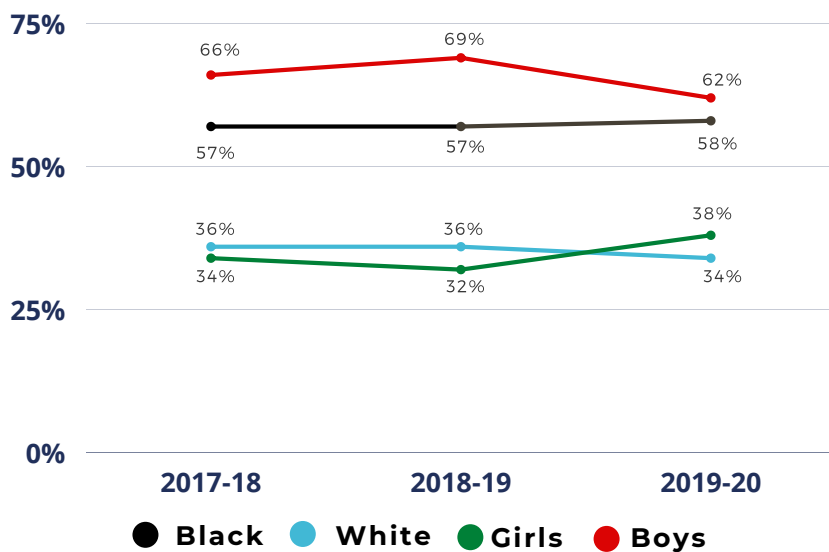


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 1,133 in 2017-18 to 688 in 2019-20, a decrease of 39% (445). In 2020, Black students were 43% of the student population but were 58% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Seminole County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 19%, one of the highest of the 27 counties. In addition, the average out of school suspension rate was 4%.

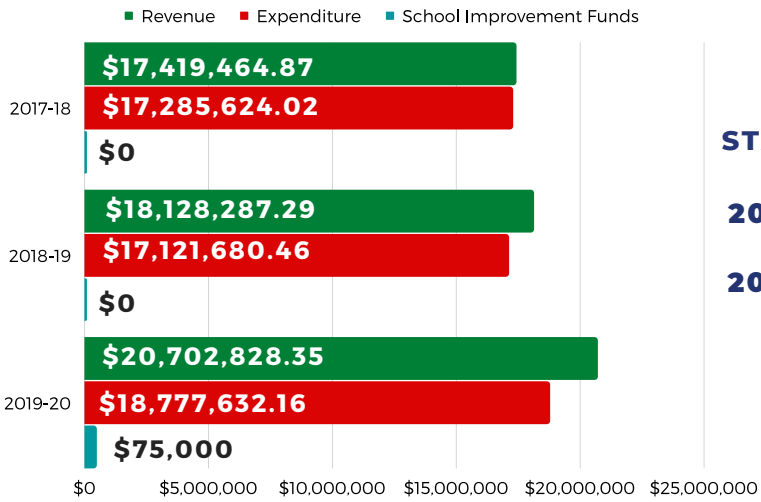
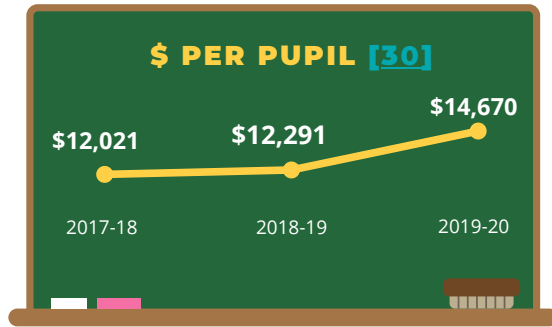
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	1,133	1,050	688
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	19%	20%	18%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	5%	5%	3%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

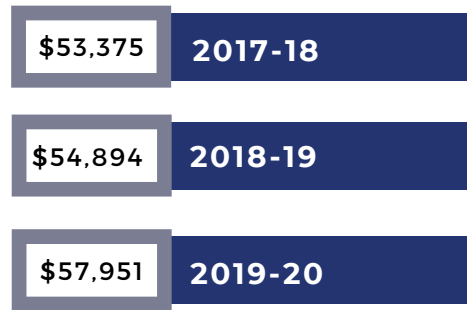
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Seminole County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$12,021 to \$14,670 which represents a 22.0% (\$2,649) increase. Per pupil funding revenues increased over the three years. Seminole County had a funding surplus all three years, with 2019-20 in the amount of \$1,925,196.19. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 8.6% (\$4,576), one of the largest increases in the 27 counties. Seminole County also had Financial Efficiency Star Ratings of 3 and 2.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Seminole County received \$75,000 in school improvement federal funding for the 2019-20 school year.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Seminole County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 62.7%, while 31% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, in 2019-2020, that number increased. There were no teachers with a computer science endorsements.



74.9%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

62.7%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	29	33	22	# of Students Online
	2	2	0	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	27	31	22	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

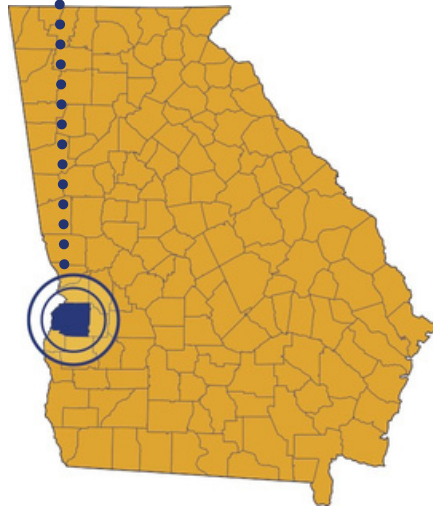
STEWART

county

STEWART

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	6,621
Black Alone, %	48.5%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	22.3%
Median Household Income	\$29,732
Persons in Poverty	34.7%
Owner occupied housing rate	73.5%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	76.7%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	61.6%



District Letter Grade [11]

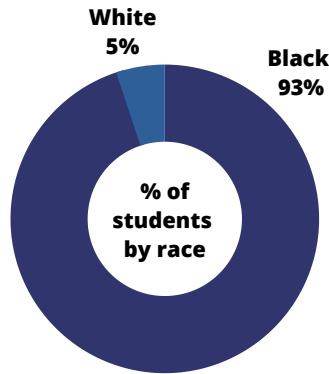
C	2017
C	2018
C	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

405

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

54%



STEWART COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools
Stewart High School

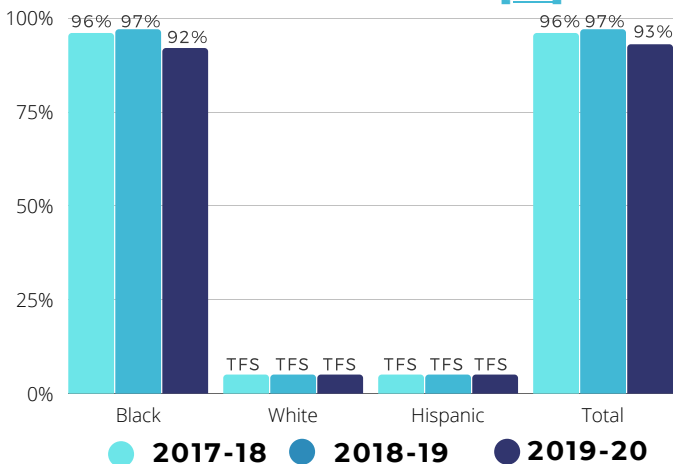
Middle Schools
Stewart County Middle School

Elementary Schools
Stewart County Elementary School

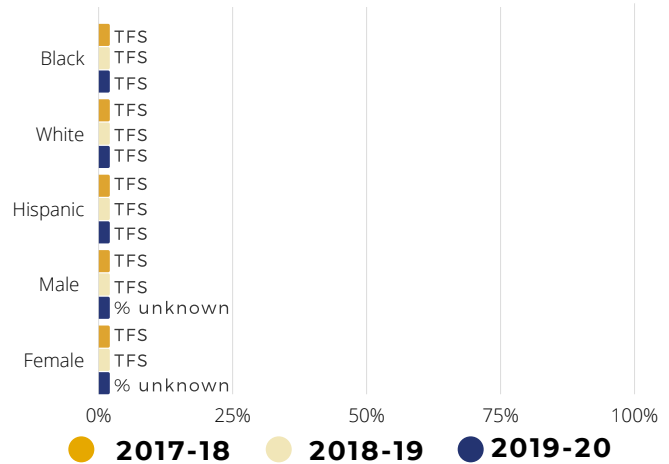
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Stewart County's overall performance is higher than 70% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 83% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 99% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 90% of districts. By 3rd grade, 29.7% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 59.4% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 96.9%, which is higher than 95% of districts; and 26.1% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 54%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



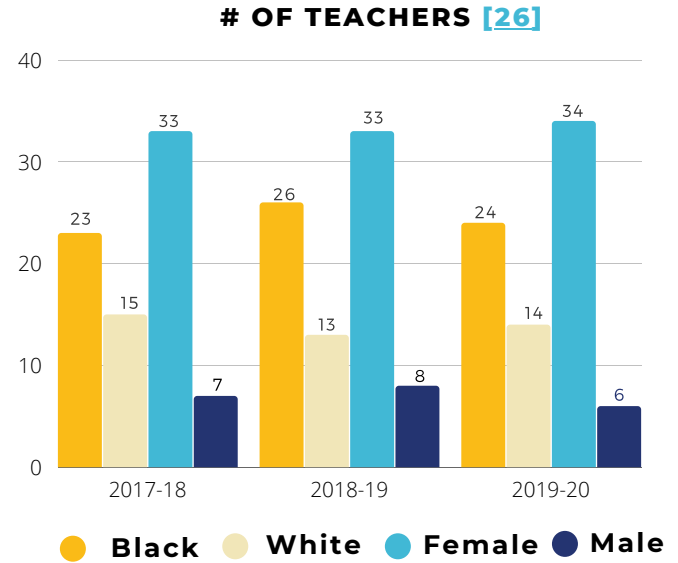
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Stewart County has had 37 teachers over the three-year period reported, with about 65% of teachers being Black. The majority of teachers are full-time and female, with an average of 7 male teachers over the three years. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years period, the County increased the number of teachers that earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

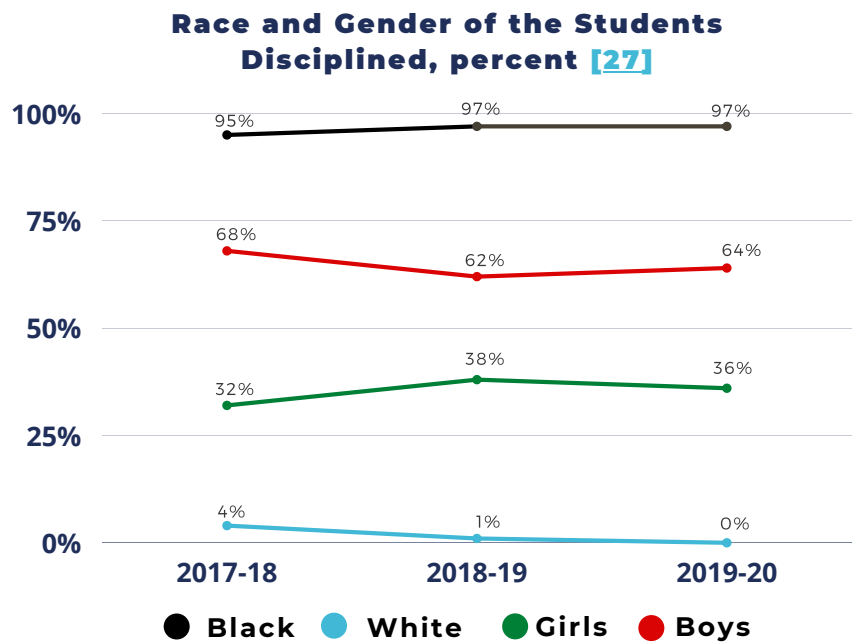
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	37	37	37
# Full Time Teachers	34	38	35
# Part Time Teachers	6	3	5
Retention ≥ 10 Years	16	18	19
Retention < 10 Years	24	23	21
Teachers Education < B.A.	18	28	26



RATES OF DISCIPLINE

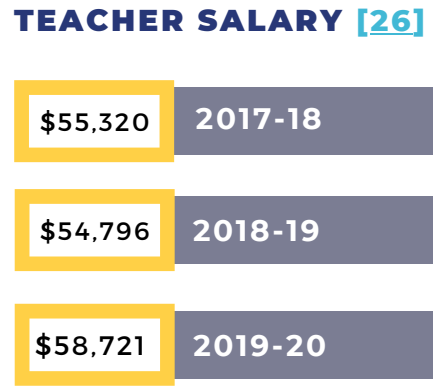
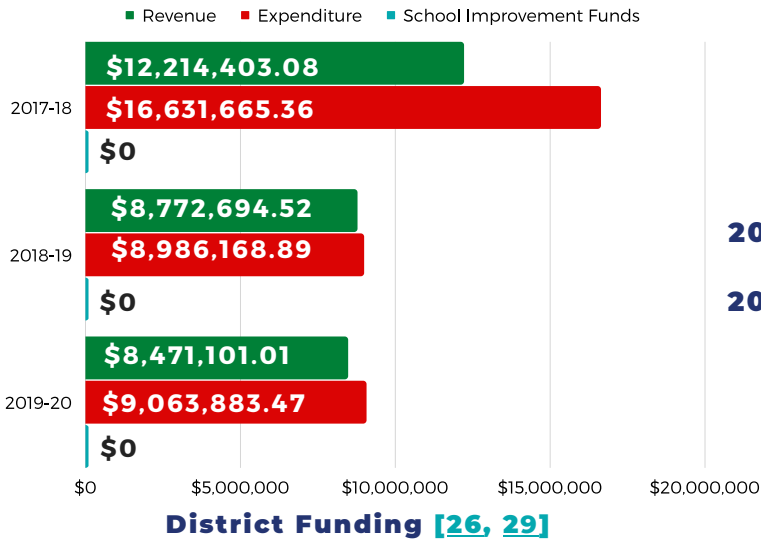
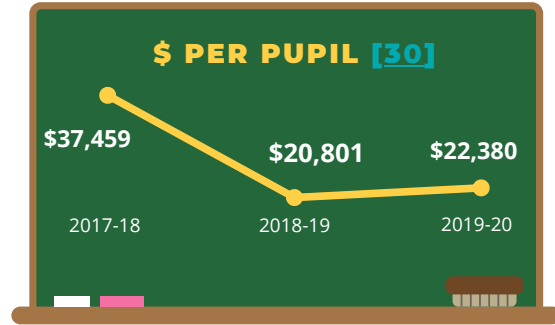
Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 232 in 2017-18 to 106 in 2019-20, a decrease of 54% (126). In 2020, Black students were 93% of the student population but were 97% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Stewart County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 11% and the average out of school suspension rate was 6%.

	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	232	198	106
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	17%	9%	7%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	6%	9%	3%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%



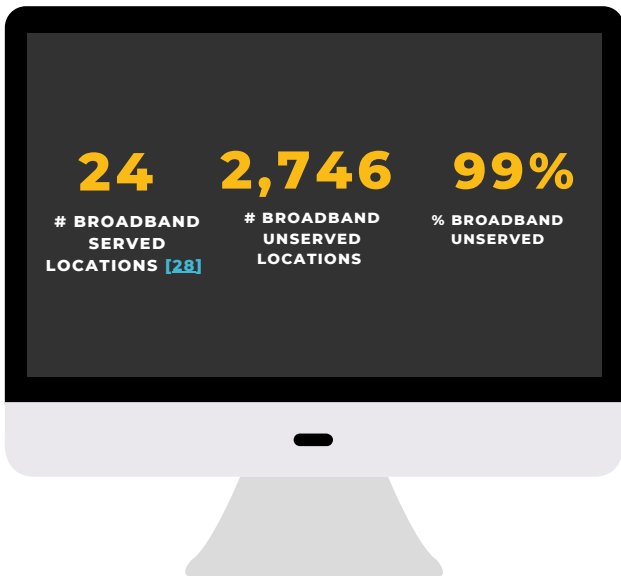
FUNDING

In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Stewart County's total expenditures substantially decreased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$37,459 to \$22,380 which represents a -40.3% (\$15,079) decrease. Per pupil funding revenues decreased over the three years. Stewart County had a funding shortfall all three years. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. However, from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 6.1% (\$3,401). Stewart county also had Financial Efficiency Star Ratings of 1.5 and 2, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Stewart County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



DIGITAL ACCESS

Stewart County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 61.6%, while 99% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019 and in 2019-2020. There were no teachers with a computer science endorsements.



	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
83	190	200	# of Students Online	
41	93	24	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
54	148	192	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

SUMTER

county

SUMTER

COUNTY

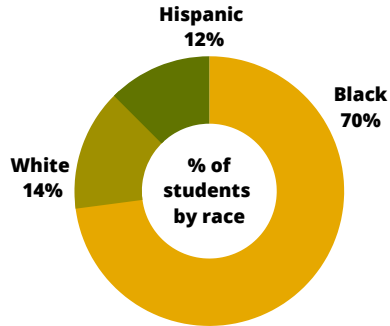
Population (July 2019) [25]	29,524
Black Alone, %	52.9%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	39%
Median Household Income	\$36,681
Persons in Poverty	26.7%
Owner occupied housing rate	55.5%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	81.4%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	18.3%



District Letter Grade [11]

F	2017
C	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
4,194
College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
69%



SUMTER COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Americus Sumter 9th Grade Academy
 Americus Sumter High School

Middle Schools

Sumter County Middle School
 Sumter County Intermediate School

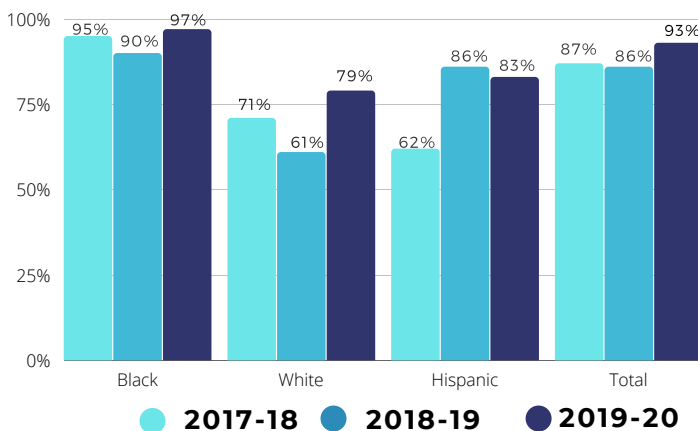
Elementary Schools

Sumter County Primary School
 Furlow Charter School
 Sumter County Elementary

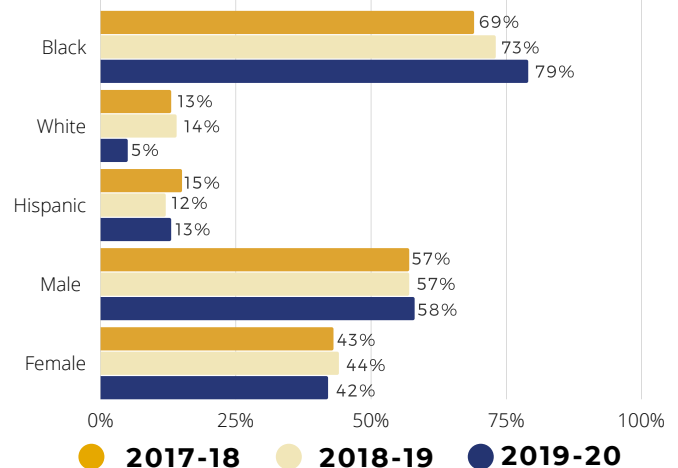
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Sumter County's overall performance is higher than 14% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 23% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 80% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 56% of districts. By 3rd grade, 25.3% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 44.9% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 86.0%, which is higher than 33% of districts; and 62.4% of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 69%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



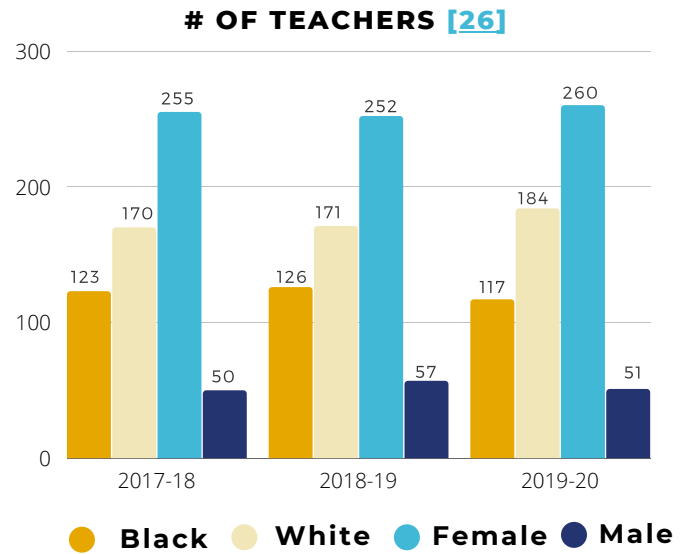
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Sumter County has around 300 teachers, where the majority are female and full-time. Around 40% of teachers were Black and averaged around 53 male teachers. The retention rate for teachers where split, fairly even, between new and seasoned professionals. Over the three years around 60% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	295	293	294
# Full Time Teachers	296	302	303
# Part Time Teachers	9	7	10
Retention ≤ 10 Years	134	142	155
Retention > 10 Years	171	167	156
Teachers Education > B.A.	196	188	184

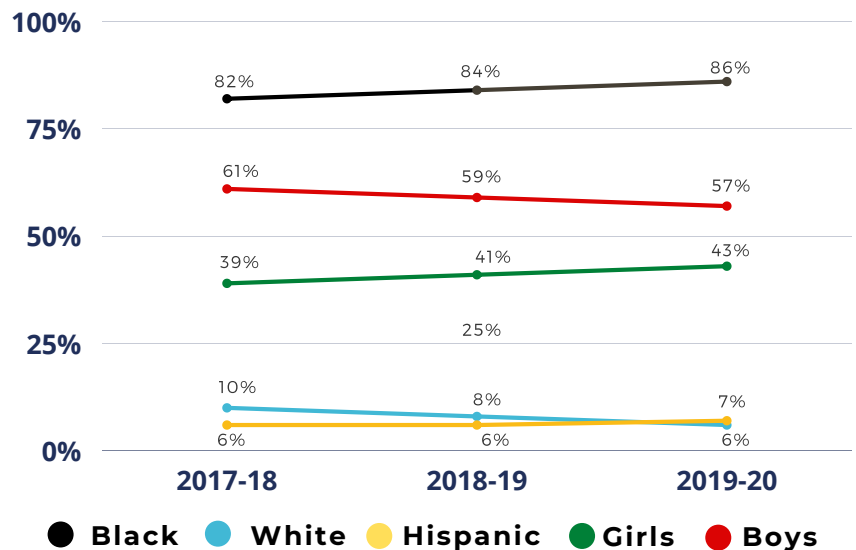


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 2,851 in 2017-18 to 2,464 in 2019-20, a decrease of 14% (387). In 2020, Black students were 70% of the student population but were 86% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, SumterCounty had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 8% and the average out of school suspension rate was 9%.

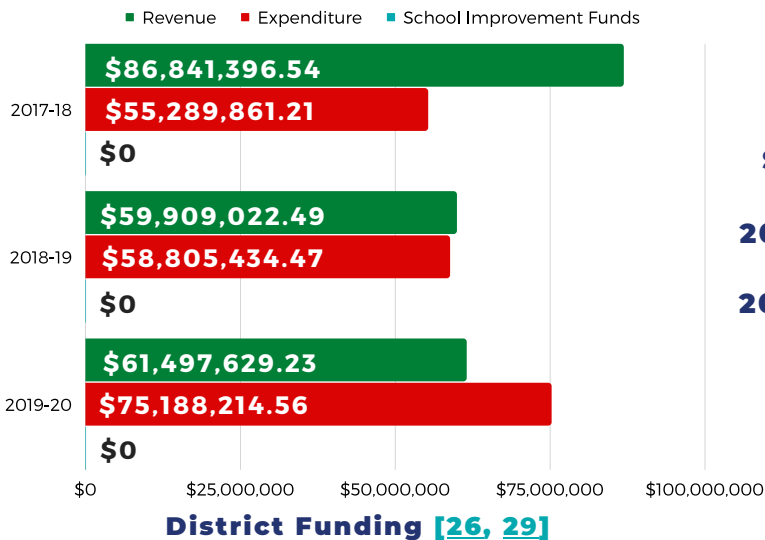
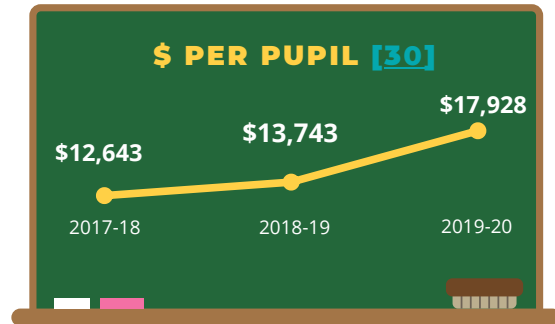
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	2,851	2,826	2,464
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	8%	9%	8%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	10%	10%	7%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0.1%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

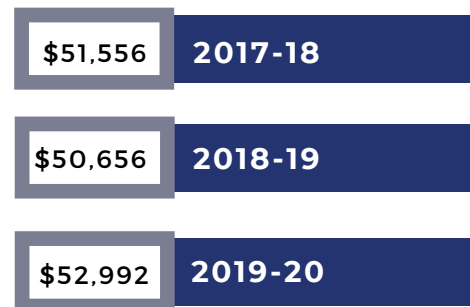
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Sumter County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$12,643 to \$17,928 which represents a 41.8% (\$5,284) increase. Per pupil funding revenues fluctuated over the three years. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. However, from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 2.8% (\$1,436). Sumter County also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Sumter County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

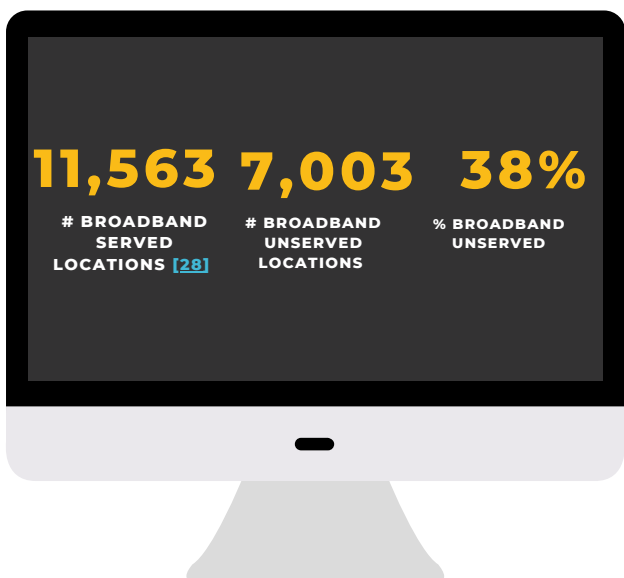


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Sumter County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 67.5%, while 38% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019 and in 2019-2020. There were four teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019-2020 school year.



84%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

67.5%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	214	216	373	# of Students Online
	36	62	40	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	178	155	333	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	4	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

TERRELL

county

TERRELL

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	8,531
Black Alone, %	60.1%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	35.7%
Median Household Income	\$34,768
Persons in Poverty	28.2%
Owner occupied housing rate	55%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	77.5%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	11.2%



District Letter Grade [11]

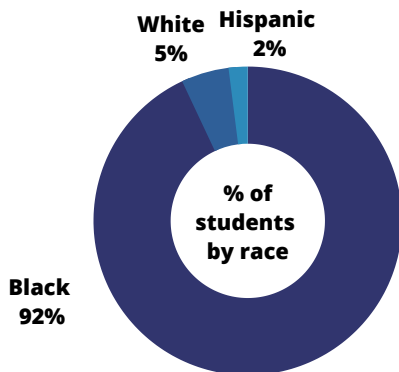
D	2017
D	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

1,167

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

45%



TERRELL COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Terrell High School

Middle Schools

Terrell Middle School

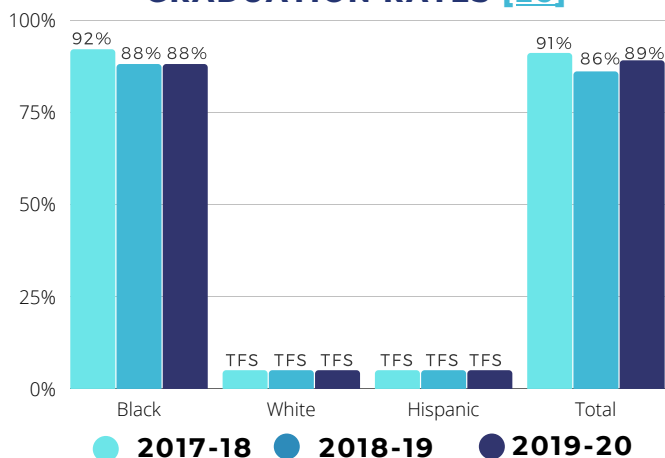
Elementary Schools

Cooper Carver Elementary School

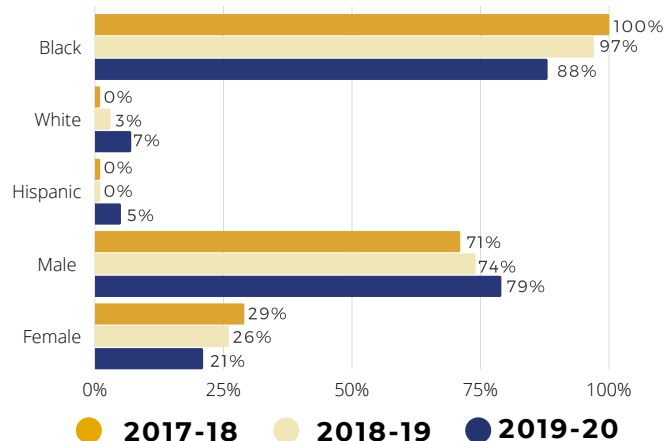
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Terrell County's overall performance is higher than 35% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 48% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 67% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 94% of districts. By 3rd grade, 32.3% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 54.3% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 85.6%, which is higher than 31% of districts; and 42.7% of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 45%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



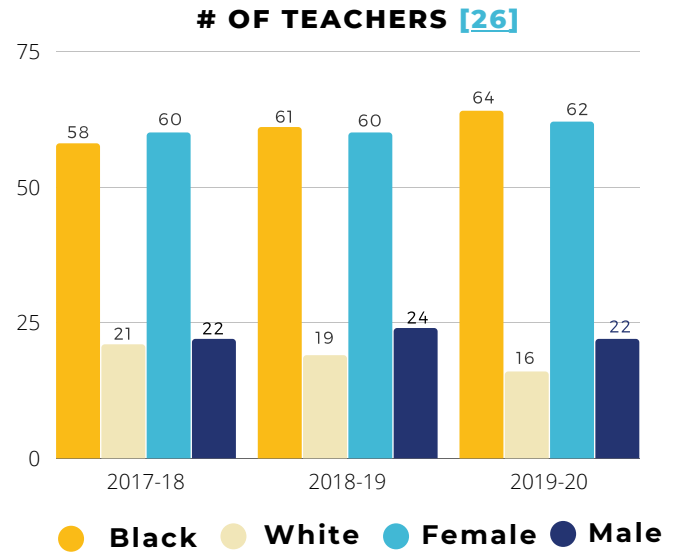
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Terrell County has had around 80 teachers over the three-year period. The majority of teachers are Black, full-time, and female. Around 35% of the teachers were male over the three years. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years, over 70% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

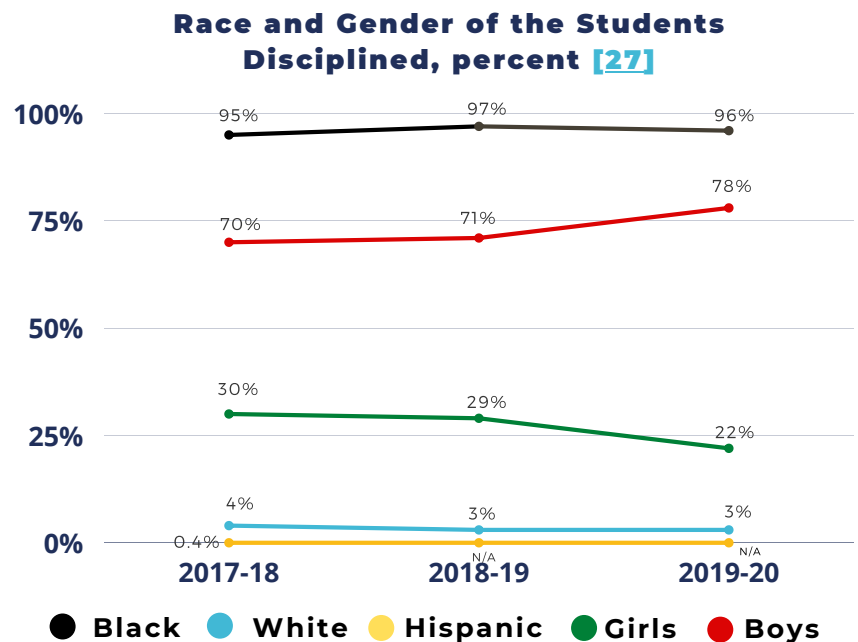
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	80	81	81
# Full Time Teachers	75	78	76
# Part Time Teachers	7	6	8
Retention ≤ 10 Years	28	34	38
Retention > 10 Years	54	50	46
Teachers Education > B.A.	58	61	63



RATES OF DISCIPLINE

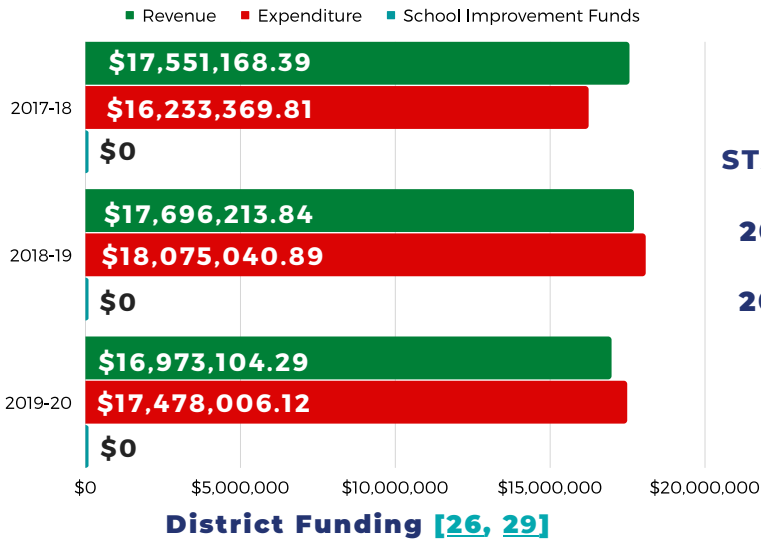
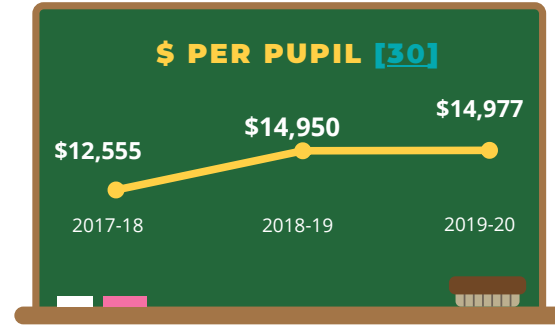
Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 372 in 2017-18 to 230 in 2019-20, a decrease of 38% (142). In 2020, Black students were 92% of the student population but were 96% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Terrell County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 10% and the average out of school suspension rate was 6%.

	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	372	245	230
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	13%	7%	9%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	7%	8%	4%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%



FUNDING

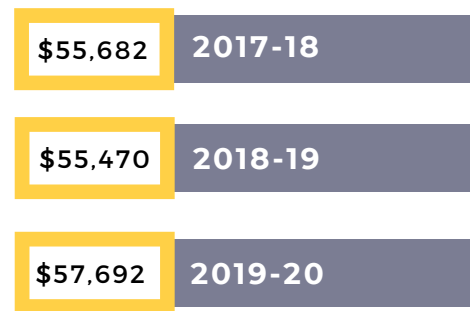
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Terrell County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$12,555 to \$14,977 which represents a 19.3% (\$2,422) increase. Per pupil funding revenues for 2019-20 was \$14,544. For two of the three years reported, Terrell had a shortfall. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a slight decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year from \$55,682 to \$55,470. However, from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 3.6% (\$2,010). Terrell county also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 2, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Terrell County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]



TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Terrell County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 72.1%, while 34% are unserved by broadband internet access. There were no students taking online classes in 2017-18 and 2018-2019. That number grew to one in 2019-2020. There are no teachers with computer science endorsements.



81.5%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

72.1%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	0	0	1	# of Students Online
	0	0	1	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	0	0	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

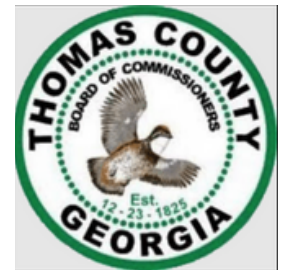
THOMAS

county

THOMAS

COUNTY

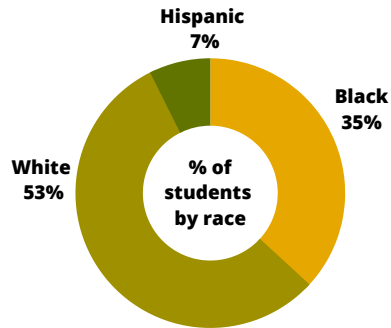
Population (July 2019) [25]	44,451
Black Alone, %	36.2%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	57.6%
Median Household Income	\$43,740
Persons in Poverty	18%
Owner occupied housing rate	61.2%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	84.9%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	24.7%



District Letter Grade [11]

C	2017
D	2018
C	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
5,523
College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
55%



THOMAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

- Bishop Hall Charter School
- Thomas County Central High School
- The Renaissance Center for Academic and Career Development

Middle Schools

- Thomas County Middle School

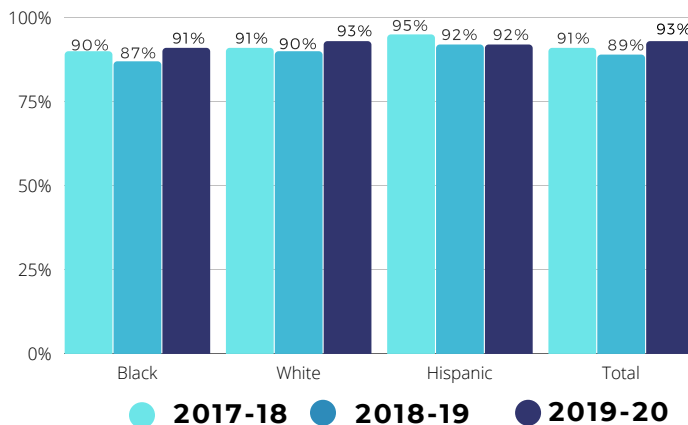
Elementary Schools

- Cross Creek Elementary School
- Garrison Pilcher Elementary School
- Hand in Hand Primary School

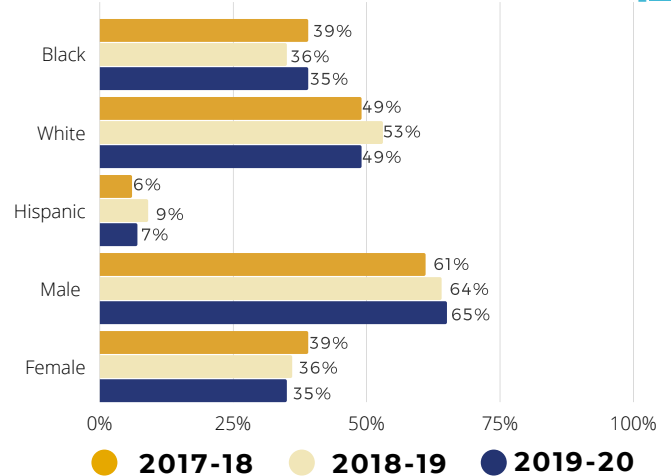
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Thomas County's overall performance is higher than 47% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 52% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 58% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 74% of districts. By 3rd grade, 41.6% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 55% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 89.3%, which is higher than 58% of districts; and 64.2% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 55%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



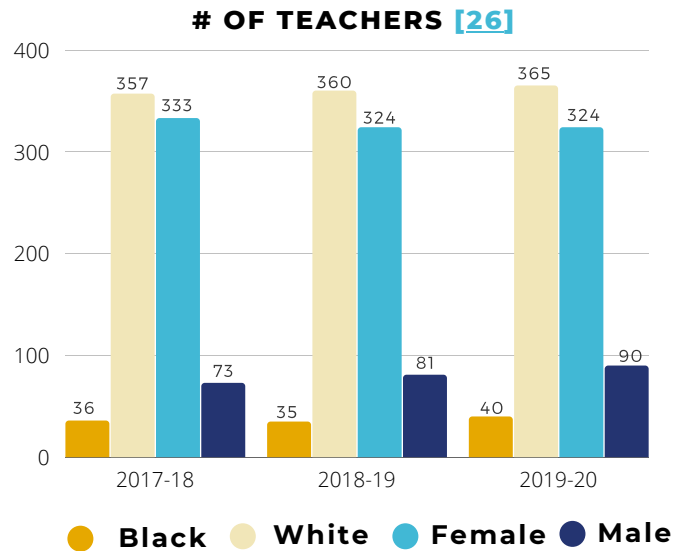
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Over the three-year period, Thomas County averaged 395 teachers. The majority of the teachers were white, female, and full-time. Less than 10% of teachers were Black and around 20% were male. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years around 60% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	385	391	410
# Full Time Teachers	395	387	395
# Part Time Teachers	11	21	20
Retention ≤ 10 Years	160	160	163
Retention > 10 Years	246	245	251
Teachers Education > B.A.	228	235	247

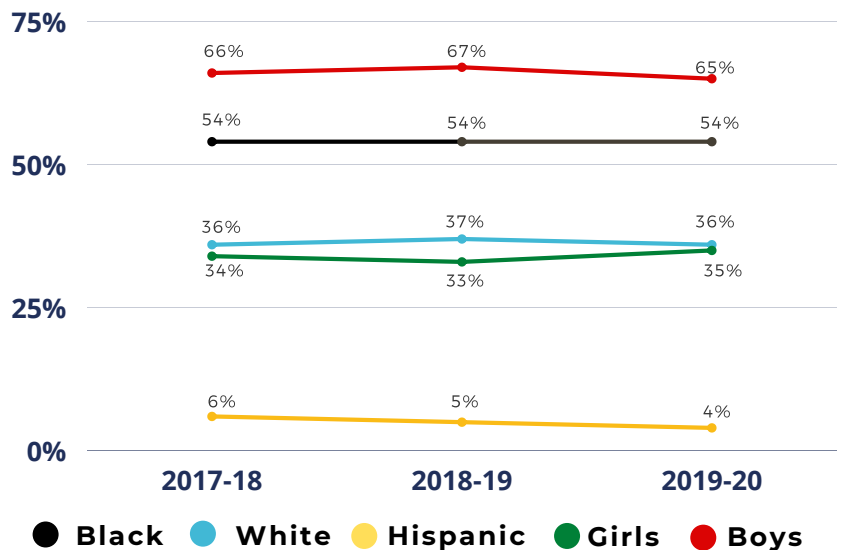


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 2,014 in 2017-18 to 1,632 in 2019-20, a decrease of 19% (382). In 2020, Black students were 35% of the student population but were 54% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Thomas County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 13% and the average out of school suspension rate was 5%.

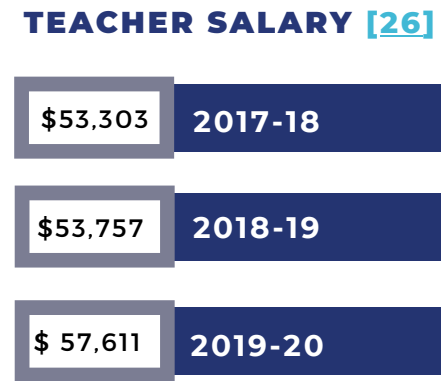
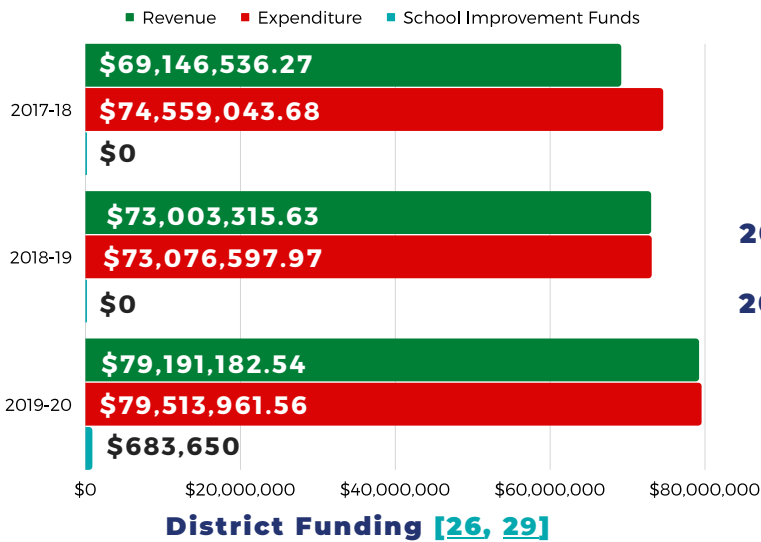
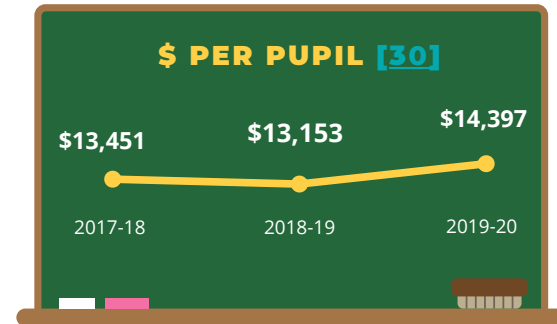
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	2,014	2,215	1,632
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	14%	15%	11%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	4%	6%	4%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



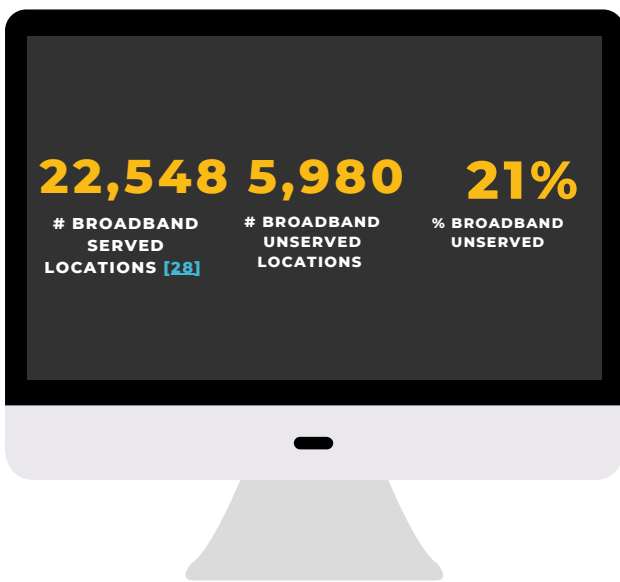
FUNDING

In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Thomas County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$13,451 to \$14,397 which represents a 7.0% (\$946) increase. Per pupil funding revenues for 2019-20 was \$14,338. For all three years reported, Thomas County had a shortfall. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 8.1% (\$4,308) from \$53,303 to \$57,611. Thomas County also had Financial Efficiency Star Ratings of 2.5 and 3, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Thomas County received \$683,650 in school improvement federal funding for the 2019-20 school year.



DIGITAL ACCESS

Thomas County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 79%, while 21% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a marked decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, that number increased in 2019-2020. There were six teachers with computer science endorsements during the 2019-2020 school year.



	HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]			HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]		
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# of Students Online	1457	134	193	87.1%	79%	
Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	1309	29	101			
Students w/ Online Software Instruction	151	115	136			
# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	0	0	6			

T U R N E R

county

TURNER

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	7,985
Black Alone, %	40%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	53.4%
Median Household Income	\$37,039
Persons in Poverty	28%
Owner occupied housing rate	69.1%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	81.2%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	11.7%



District Letter Grade [11]

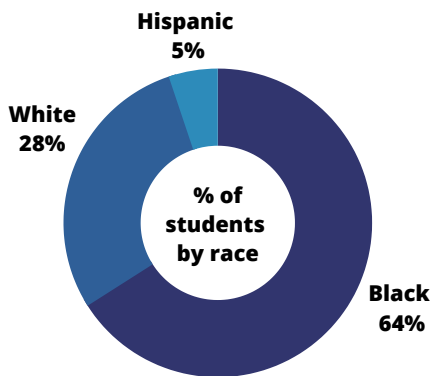
F	2017
F	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

1,127

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

55%



TURNER COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Turner County High School

Middle Schools

Turner County Middle School

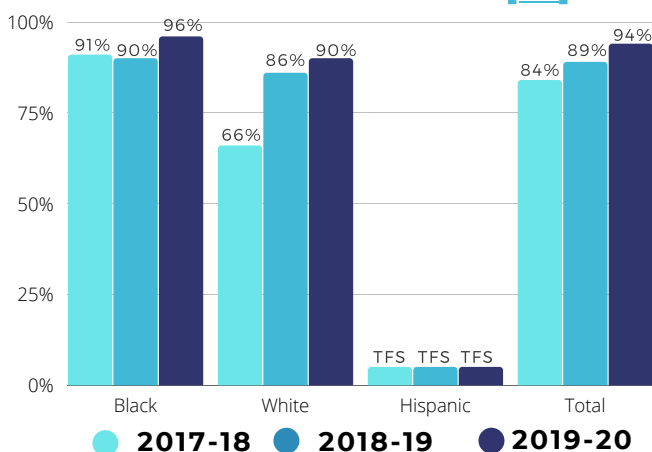
Elementary Schools

Turner County Elementary School

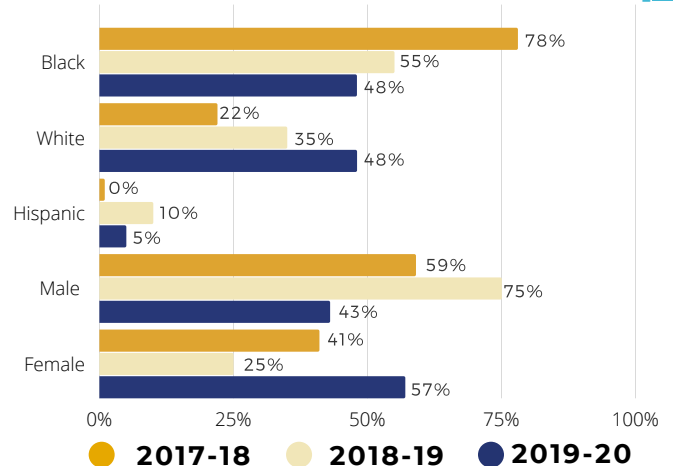
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Turner County's overall performance is higher than 11% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 4% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 35% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 1% of districts. By 3rd grade, 40.2% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 46.2% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 89.3%, which is higher than 58% of districts; and 45.4% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 55%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



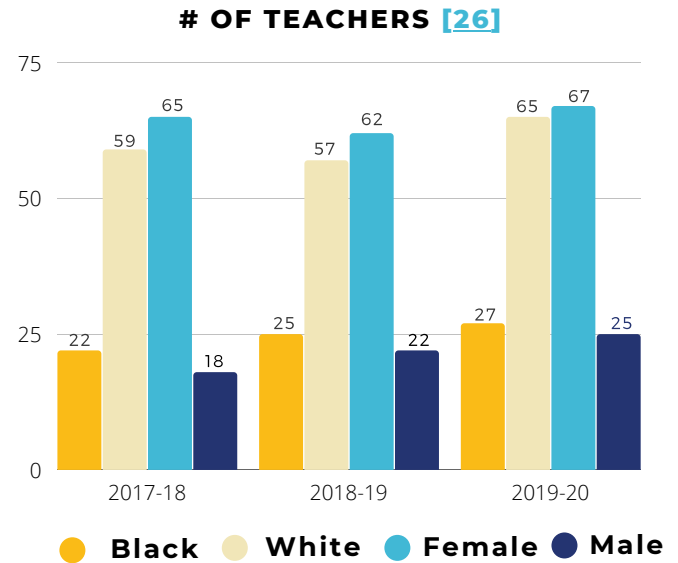
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Turner County is a small community with less than 100 teachers. The majority of the teachers are white, full-time and female. Around a quarter of the teacher were Black or male. The retention rate for teachers fluctuated over the three years and where split, fairly even, between new and seasoned professionals. Over the three years, around 60% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	79	80	85
# Full Time Teachers	83	84	91
# Part Time Teachers	0	0	1
Retention ≤ 10 Years	33	38	48
Retention > 10 Years	50	46	44
Teachers Education > B.A.	50	47	54

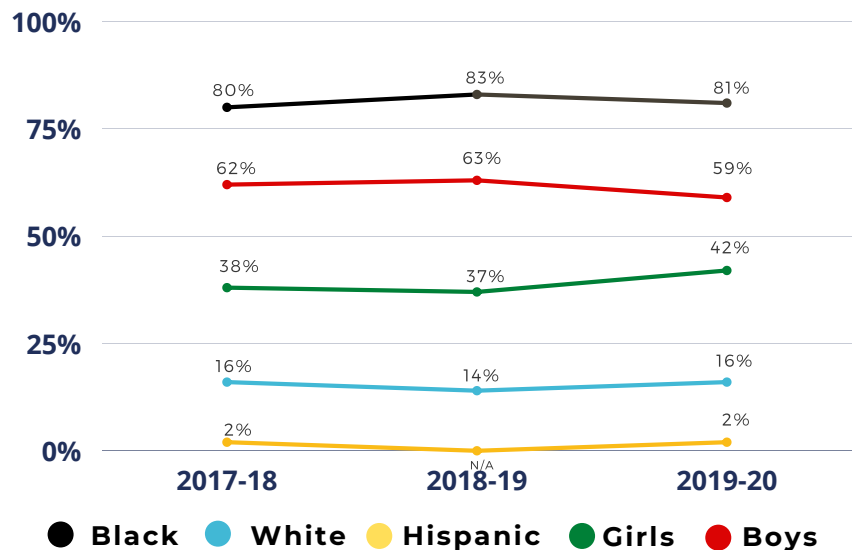


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 628 in 2017-18 to 572 in 2019-20, a decrease of 9% (56). In 2020, Black students were 64% of the student population but were 81% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Turner County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 13% and the average out of school suspension rate was 10%.

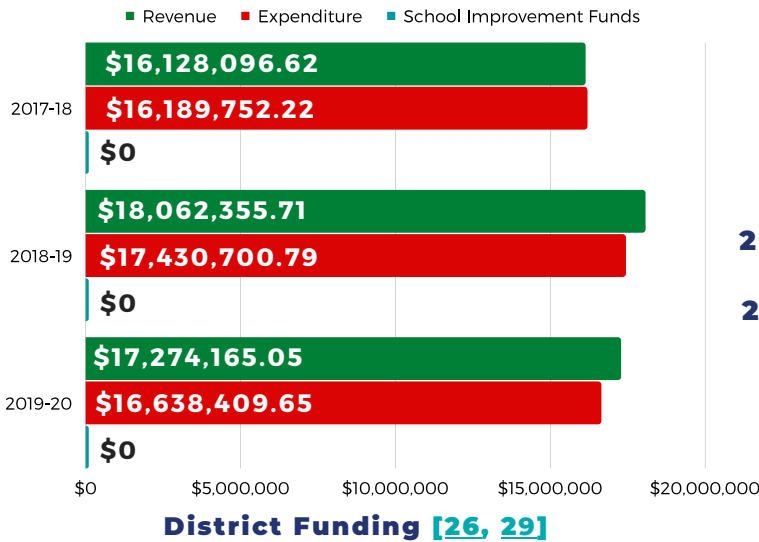
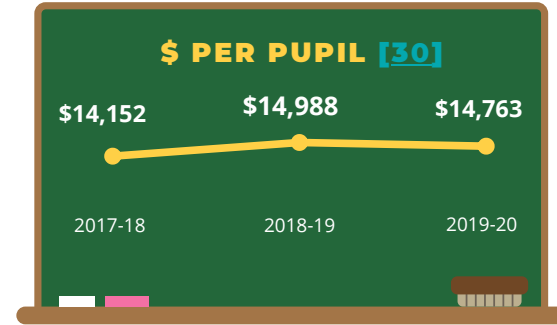
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	628	467	572
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	15%	10%	15%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	12%	11%	8%
Expulsion Rate	0%	0%	0.1%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

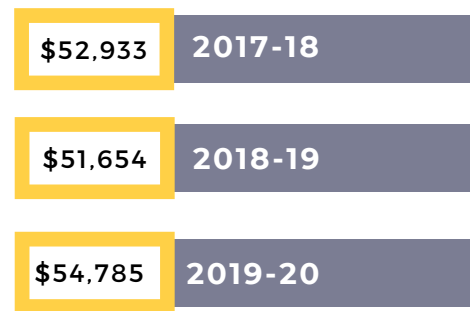
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Turner County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$14,152 to \$14,763 which represents a 4.3% (\$612) increase. Per pupil funding revenues for 2019-20 was \$15,328. For two of the three years reported, Turner County had a surplus. Teacher salaries fluctuated and had a decrease between 2017-18 to the 2018-19 school year. However, from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 3.5% (\$1,852). Turner County also had Financial Efficiency Star Ratings of 2 and 1.5, which is higher than the state of Georgia. Turner County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

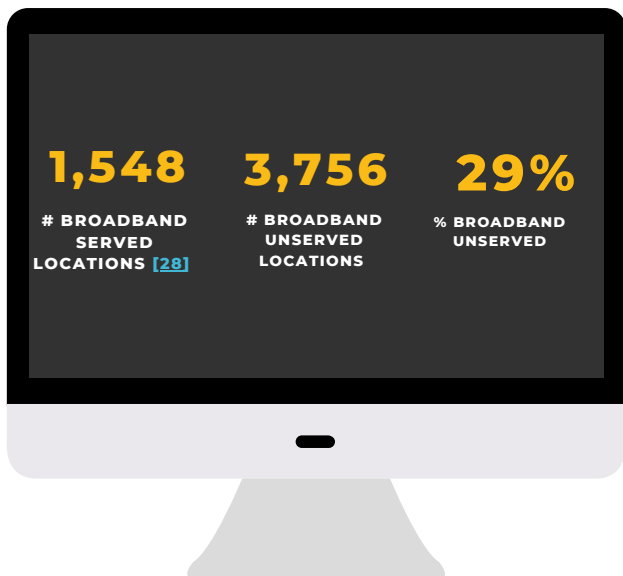


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Turner County has been designated by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs as a Broadband Ready Community. Its households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 62.9%, while 29% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019 and in 2019-2020. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



78.1%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

62.9%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
172	91	1	# of Students Online	
57	0	1	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online	
115	91	0	Students w/ Online Software Instruction	
0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements	

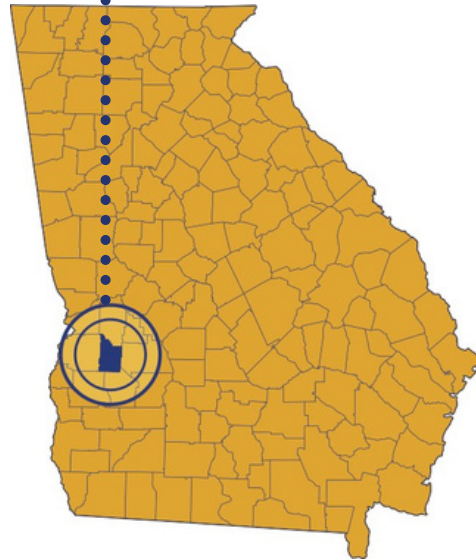
WEBSTER

county

WEBSTER

COUNTY

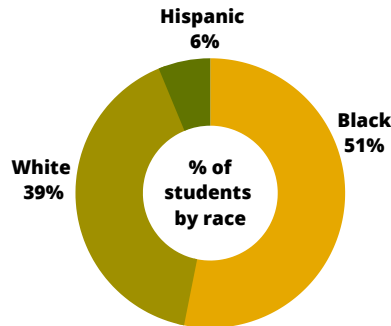
Population (July 2019) [25]	2,607
Black Alone, %	42.2%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	51.3%
Median Household Income	\$37,297
Persons in Poverty	18.4%
Owner occupied housing rate	83.9%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	79.3%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	14.7%



District Letter Grade [11]

D	2017
D	2018
C	2018

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]
278
College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]
65%



WEBSTER COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Webster County High School

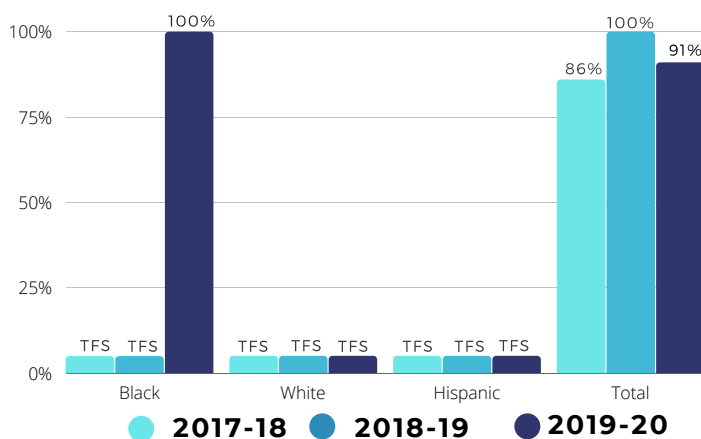
Elementary/Middle Schools

Webster Elementary/Middle School

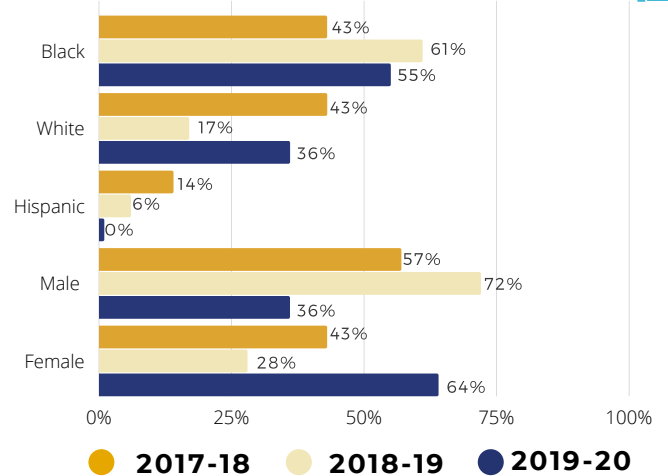
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Webster County's overall performance is higher than 49% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 11% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 99% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 58% of districts. By 3rd grade, 47.6% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 78.9% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 100.0%, which is higher than 99% of districts; and 88.9% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 65%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



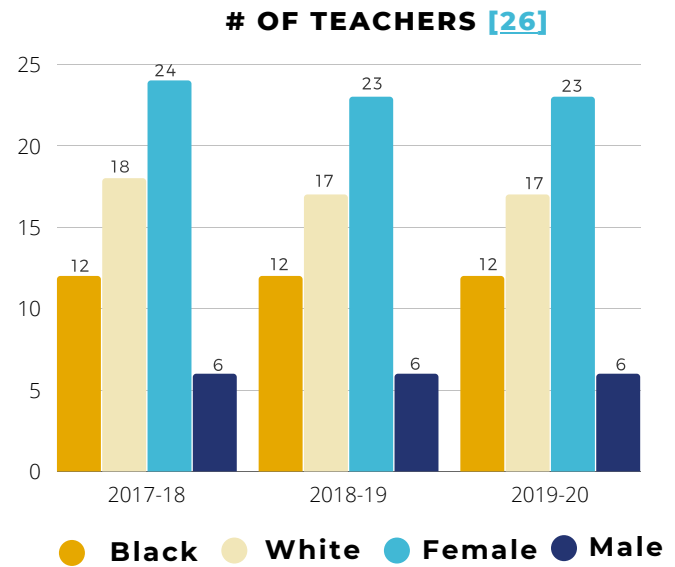
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Webster County is a very small community with less than 30 teachers. Around 40% of the teachers over the three years reported were Black and around 20% were male. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years, around 80% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	30	28	29
# Full Time Teachers	28	28	28
# Part Time Teachers	2	1	1
Retention ≤ 10 Years	6	7	5
Retention > 10 Years	24	22	24
Teachers Education > B.A.	25	23	23

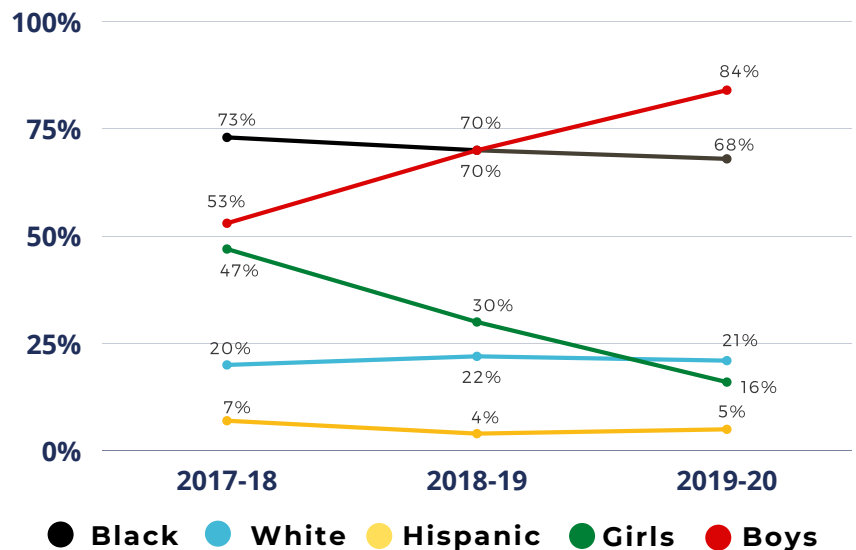


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 40 in 2017-18 to 22 in 2019-20, a decrease of 45% (18). In 2020, Black students were 51% of the student population but were 68% of the students disciplined. Black boys and girls comprised the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Webster County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 3%, which is one of the lowest in the 27 counties. In addition, the average out of school suspension rate was 7%.

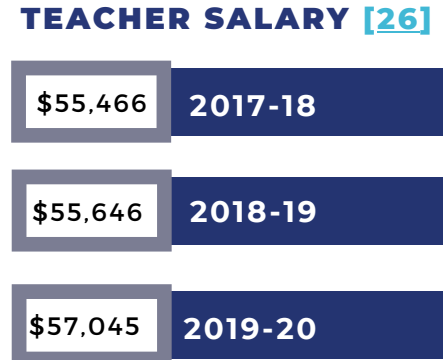
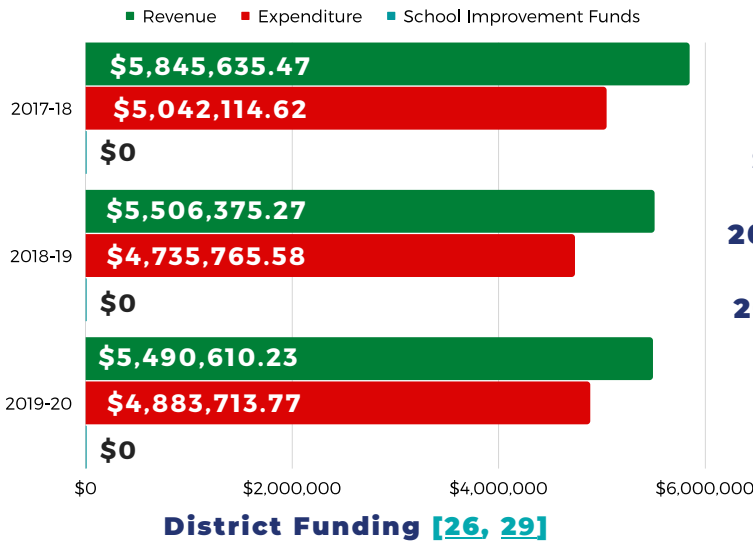
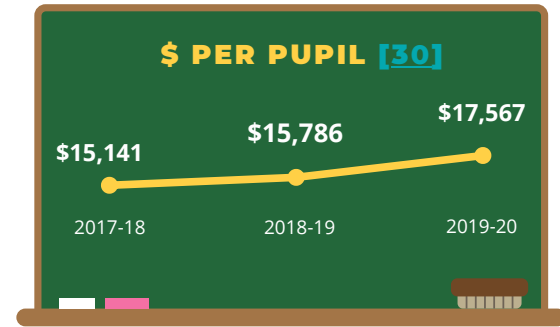
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	40	74	22
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	0.5%	8%	0%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	7%	8%	6%
Expulsion Rate	0.3%	0.6%	0%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



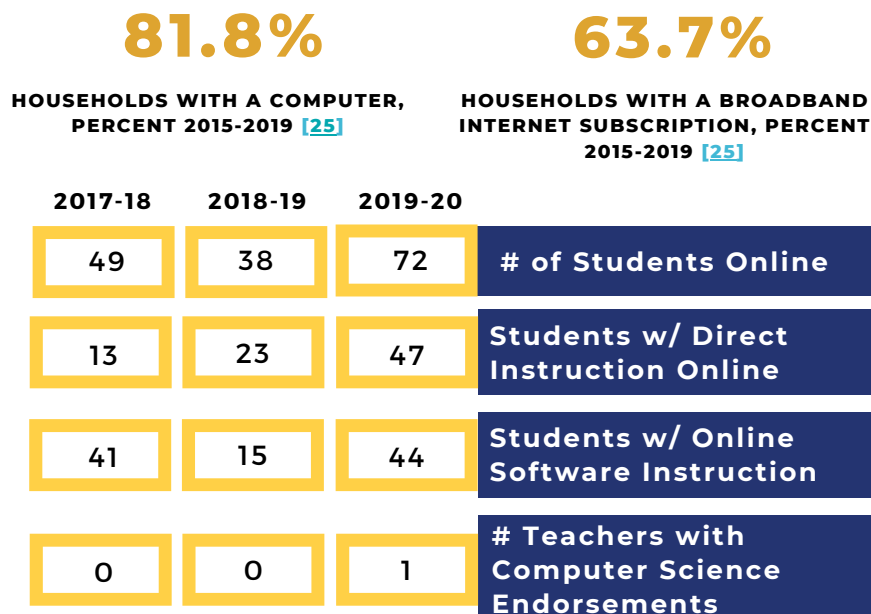
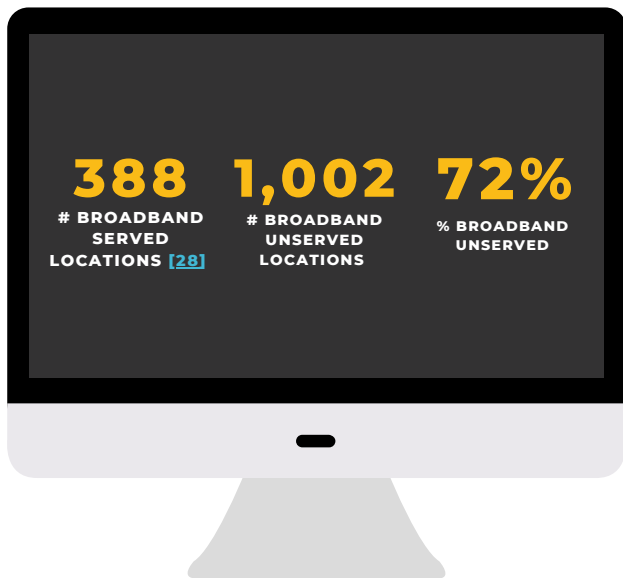
FUNDING

In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Webster County's total expenditures increased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$15,141 to \$17,567 which represents a 16.0% (\$2,426) increase. Per pupil funding revenues for 2019-20 was \$19,750. For all three years reported, Webster County had a surplus. Each year teacher salaries increased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries increased 2.8% (\$1,579) from \$55,466 to \$57,045. Webster County also has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 1.5, which is slightly higher than the state of Georgia. Webster County received no school improvement federal funding for the three years reported.



DIGITAL ACCESS

Webster County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 63.7%, while 72% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was a decrease in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, that number increased in 2019-2020. There one teacher with a computer science endorsement during the 2019-2020 school year.



W O R T H

county

WORTH

COUNTY

Population (July 2019) [25]	20,247
Black Alone, %	28%
White alone, not Hispanic, %	67.7%
Median Household Income	\$45,398
Persons in Poverty	20.3%
Owner occupied housing rate	65.4%
HS Graduate % age 25 years	82.9%
Bachelor's Degree % age 25 years	11%



District Letter Grade [11]

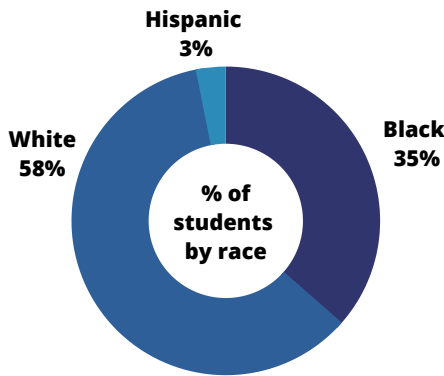
C	2017
C	2018
D	2019

Student District Enrollment 2020 [30]

3,035

College Enrollment Rate 2017 [11]

50%



WORTH COUNTY SCHOOLS

High Schools

Worth County Achievement Center
Worth County High School

Middle Schools

Worth County Middle School

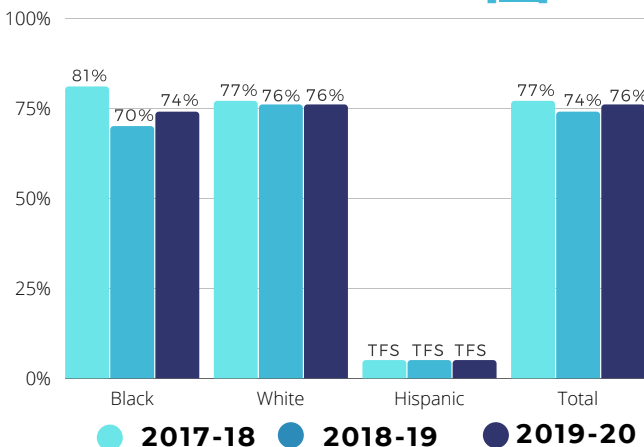
Elementary Schools

Worth County Elementary School
Worth County Primary School

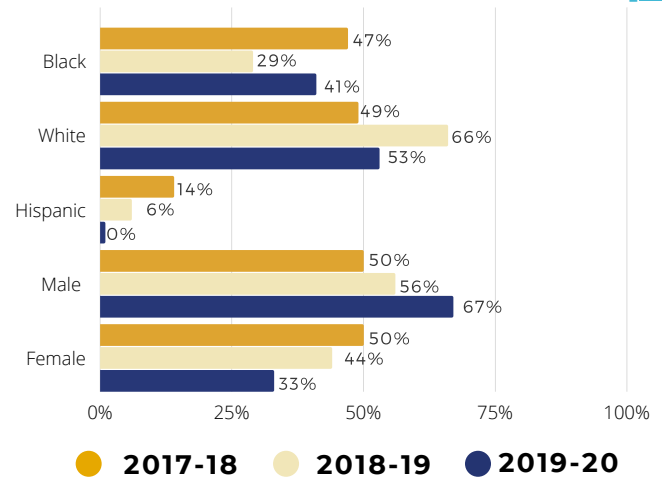
STUDENT PERFORMANCE

"Worth County's overall performance is higher than 21% of districts statewide. Its elementary students' academic growth is higher than 19% of districts. Its middle school students' academic growth is higher than 19% of districts. Its high school students' academic growth is higher than 13% of districts. By 3rd grade, 48.9% of its students are reading at or above the grade level target, while 58.2% of its 8th grade students are reading at or above the grade level target. Its four-year graduation rate is 74.4%, which is higher than 3% of districts; and 62.3% percent of graduates are college and career ready. The college enrollment rate for the year 2020 is 50%." [32]

GRADUATION RATES [26]



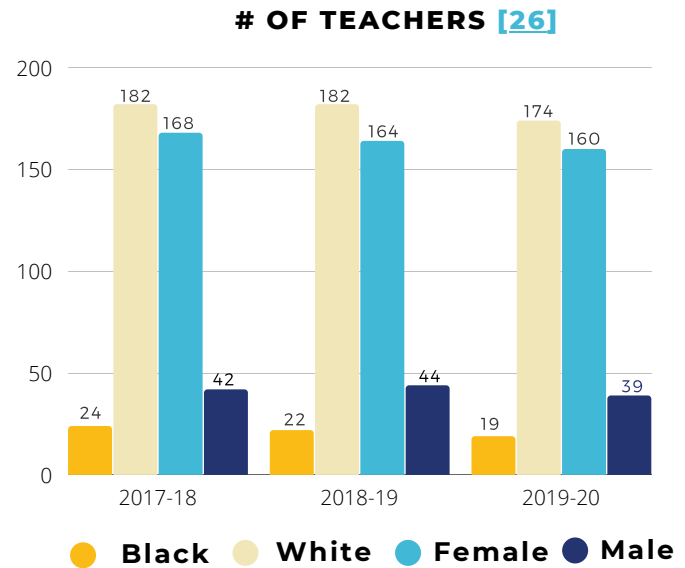
RACE & GENDER OF STUDENTS HELD BACK [26]



TEACHER DIVERSITY

Worth County is a rural community that consists of around 200 teachers. The majority of teachers are white, full-time, and female. Around 10% over the three-year period were Black and around 20% are male. The majority of teachers have a retention rate of 10 years or more, meaning they have been in the profession over 10 years. Over the three years, around 65% of the teachers earned degrees higher than a Bachelor's degree, this includes Master's, Specialist, and/or Doctoral Degrees.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
# Certified Teachers [26]	203	204	192
# Full Time Teachers	194	202	194
# Part Time Teachers	16	6	5
Retention ≤ 10 Years	80	75	71
Retention > 10 Years	130	133	128
Teachers Education > B.A.	134	134	125

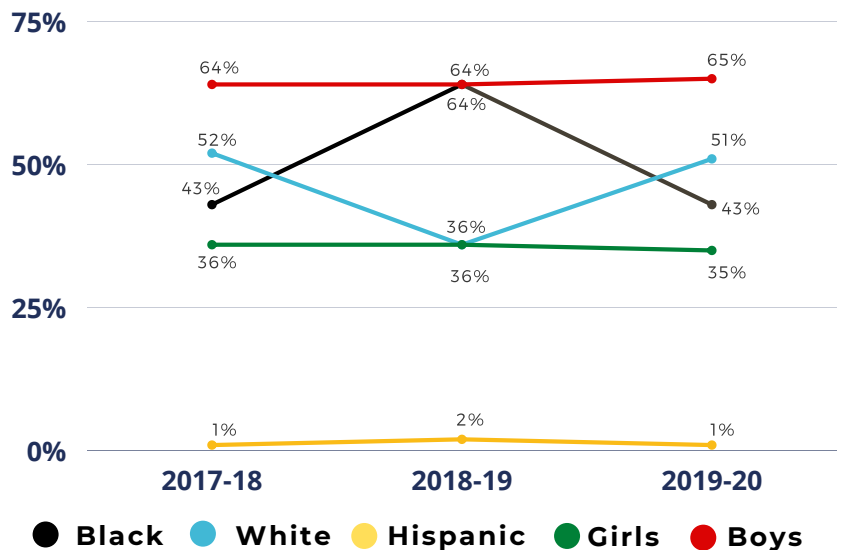


RATES OF DISCIPLINE

Disciplinary incidents fluctuated over the three-year period reported. Disciplinary incidents have decreased from 3,017 in 2017-18 to 2,280 in 2019-20, a decrease of 24% (737). In 2020, Black students were 35% of the student population but were 43% of the students disciplined. Over the three years reported, the number of Black boys and girls with incidents fluctuated with white students as the majority of disciplined students by gender and race. The majority of those disciplined were boys over the three-year period. Much like majority of counties, Webster County had a low rate of expulsion that averaged less than 0.5%. However, the county's average rate of in-school suspension was 17% and the average out of school suspension rate was 10%.

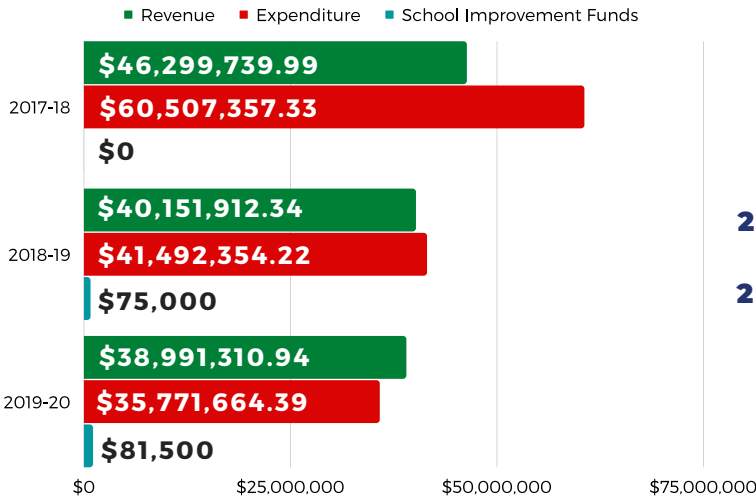
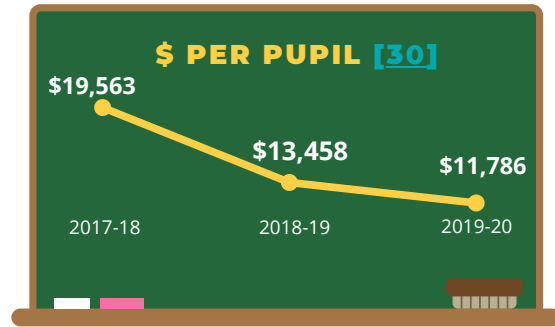
	'17-'18	'18-'19	'19-'20
# of Incidents	3,017	3,207	2,280
In-School Suspension (ISS) Rate	16%	20%	16%
Out of school Suspension (OSS) Rate	11%	11%	9%
Expulsion Rate	0.5%	0.5%	0.2%

Race and Gender of the Students Disciplined, percent [27]



FUNDING

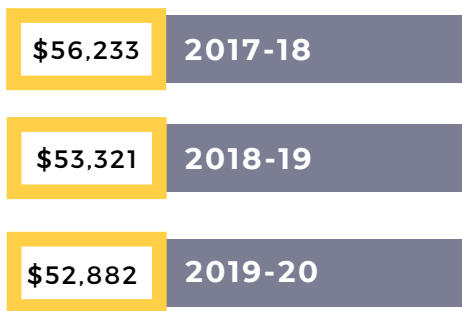
In reviewing the 2017-18 and 2019-20 academic years, Worth County's total expenditures decreased. Per pupil funding expenditures went from \$19,563 to \$11,786 which represents a -39.8% (\$7,776) decrease. Per pupil funding revenues for 2019-20 was \$12,847. Worth County reported a surplus in 2019-20 in the amount of \$3,219,646.55. Each year teacher salaries decreased; from 2017-18 to the 2019-20 school year the salaries decreased -6.0% (\$3,351). Worth county has a Financial Efficiency Star Rating of 4, which higher than the state of Georgia and one of the highest in the 27 counties. Worth County received \$75,000 (2018-19) and \$81,500 (2019-20) in school improvement federal funding over two years.



FINANCIAL EFFICIENCY STAR RATING [26]

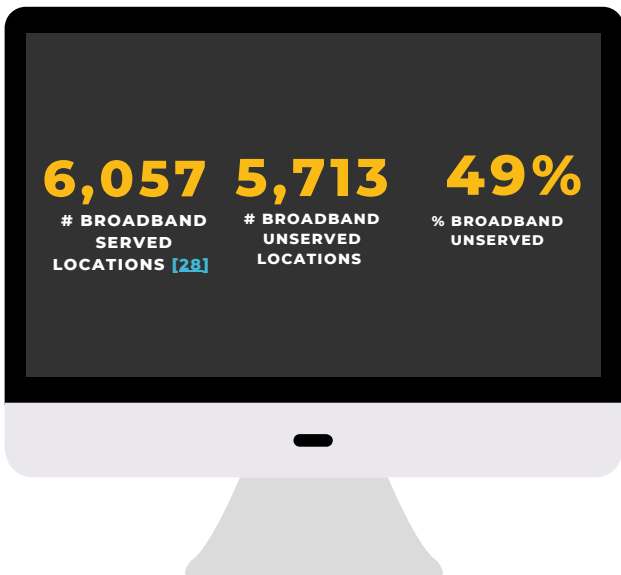


TEACHER SALARY [26]



DIGITAL ACCESS

Worth County households have broadband internet subscriptions at a rate of 69.9%, while 49% are unserved by broadband internet access. There was an increase in the number of students taking online classes from 2017-18 to 2018-2019. However, that number decreased in 2019-2020. There were no teachers with computer science endorsements.



82.1%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A COMPUTER, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

69.9%

HOUSEHOLDS WITH A BROADBAND INTERNET SUBSCRIPTION, PERCENT 2015-2019 [25]

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
	62	128	110	# of Students Online
	1	1	0	Students w/ Direct Instruction Online
	62	128	110	Students w/ Online Software Instruction
	0	0	0	# Teachers with Computer Science Endorsements

RECOMMENDATIONS

Police in schools. The over criminalization of Black and brown boys and girls in rural educational settings further exasperates the existing school-to-prison pipeline seen nationally. The small district enrollment sizes means that the impacts of high rates of discipline will have a big impact on small towns and families in the short- and long-term. Focusing on shifting dollars to social services instead of law enforcement can give students the services they need to thrive. Funds could be used for more counselors, hosting additional programming, and to provide basic needs and services to students instead of funding more school resource officers (SROs). Majority white schools typically rely less on SROs and fund a plethora of opportunities for students; these models should also be done in majority Black and brown schools as well.

Parents as Teachers. The global pandemic illuminated the need for parents to possess basic teaching and pedagogical skills. As such, public and private organizations could provide curriculum, unit study, or content "101" classes so that parents are better equipped to serve as educational partners beyond the pandemic. Viewing parents as ancillary undermines the value that they bring in supporting their children's education. Families in rural Georgia are less likely to have access to the resources needed to educate their children; therefore, empowering parents with the necessary skills affords them the opportunity to be informed advocates for their children. Organizations like the National Parents Union or the National Parents Leadership Institute are models whose practices can be replicated.

Research practices. Beyond the numbers, further research should explore the qualitative narratives of students and families and their experiences with education in rural Georgia. In doing so, the deployment of a research framework that considers the humanity of research subjects as more than just statistical analyses, will allow researchers and policy makers to better understand the pulse of rural education by interviewing, analyzing, and understanding the unique challenges that families living in rural Georgia face.

Homeschooling Options. Black families across the United States are navigating to homeschooling as a viable option. According to the U.S. Household Pulse Survey, 3.3% of Black families were reported as homeschooling between April 23-May 5, 2020. New data captured after a 16-week period between September 30-October 12, 2020, revealed a five-fold percent of Blacks homeschooling at 16.1%. If more and more Black and brown families are electing to homeschool, access to choice dollars should follow.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Early College. The role of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), many of which are found in the rural South, in preparing teachers is paramount. Early college programs on the campuses of HBCUs affords 9-12 grade students the opportunity to be exposed to higher education, cultural mentors, and academic experiences that may help remediate student performance challenges and prepare students for college and careers. It also affords students enrolled in teacher preparation programs with the opportunity to engage in student teaching apprenticeships while studying on the campus. These opportunities will help expose future teachers to rural schools, and will allow K-12 students to be exposed to Black and brown teachers.

Policy Implications. The recent launch of the Georgia Educational Freedom Act (House Bill 999), a proposed promise scholarship account of \$6,000 per school year for educational expenses, [\[33\]](#) allow parents to customize their children's education. Rural families are often unable to exercise choice options because fewer options exist, there are barriers to moving to high-performing districts, and/or a lack of transportation. As such, HB999 may provide some support, and further research should explore ways in which school districts can return surplus revenues back to taxpayers.

School choice options, where funds follow the students, allows parents to select traditional public, public charter, private, or hybrid homeschooling. This includes social entrepreneurs who wish to start their own schools.

Funding Models. Allow families to select how much and where their property taxes are directed. Families can choose which school districts (in or out-of-state) allows them the opportunity to split property tax dollars amongst various districts, depending on where their children are attending. Rural Georgia families living near neighboring states, like Alabama or Florida, might find better school options across state borders. For example, families living in Grady County school district might opt to send their children to neighboring Leon County in Florida; thus, they could elect to fund the school district there.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Access to the network. Fewer broadband providers means fewer choices for families living in rural Georgia to have access to the internet at home. High speed internet should be expanded to give access to families in rural homes. If schools could become weekend "internet cafes," this dual-purpose provision would allow families the opportunity to use school technology labs to complete homework. This not only helps students, but parents can use internet services to help with their work and careers, therefore aiding the economy.

Community as Classroom. The engagement of community in the education of children attending rural district schools may help students develop to their fullest potential. In rural Georgia partnerships with schools, agriculture and industry partners is a great way to afford students and teachers with the opportunity to explore internship, externships, and apprenticeships. Malcolm Gladwell defines capitalization rate as "the percentage of people in any given situation who have the ability to make the most of their potential."

[34]

Supplemental Educational Opportunities. To improve student performance, districts, schools, families, and communities may consider supplemental learning opportunities for students. This is especially important to remediate learning gaps and aid students who are behind grade level. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Implement Saturday school and year-round schooling.
- Employ high-dosage tutoring.
- Extend the school day.
- Promote cohort learning and learning communities.
- Adopt culturally relevant learning materials.
- Integrate skill-based learning.

GLOSSARY

School Progress Metrics [26]

- **Attendance** Attendance data is provided by school districts to the Georgia Department of Education via the October full-time equivalency (FTE) count and the Student Record data collection.
- **College Enrollment** The percentage of high school graduates who enroll in technical college, college, or university within 12 months of high school graduation in the most current year available.
- **Enrollment** This indicator is the number of students enrolled in the school during the October Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) count for the most current year available.
- **Financial Efficiency Star Rating** The FESR is based on a scale of one-half to five stars. The rating is based on the three-year average College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) score and the three-year average per pupil expenditure (PPE).
- **Four-Year Graduation Rate** The percentage of students who graduate high school in four years using the adjusted four-year cohort rate formula is displayed.
- **CCRPI Letter Grade** The A-F letter grade is based on the school's score on the College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI), which is calculated by the Georgia Department of Education. This score ranges from 0 to 110. A: 90.0 and higher; B: 80.0 - 89.9; C: 70.0 - 79.9; D: 60.0 - 69.9; E: Lower than 60.
- **Per Pupil Expenditures** Measure the amount of money spent per student in a school. The total dollar amount is divided by the total number of students enrolled in the school. Transportation, school meals, facilities, debt service, and non-K-12 expenditures are not included in this measure.
- **Race/Ethnicity** The percentage of students who are in certain subgroups in the most current year available. The racial/ethnic subgroups are: Asian/Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic, Multi-racial, Native American, and White.
- **Retained Students** Value or percent of students retained [held back] disaggregated by gender and race/ethnicity.
- **Reading at or above the Grade Level Target (3rd Grade)** This measures the percentage of Full Academic Year (FAY) students in grade 3 achieving Lexile measure equal to or greater than 650 on the reading portion of the English assessment, which is considered to be the grade level target.
- **Reading at or above the Grade Level Target (8th Grade)** This measures the percentage of Full Academic Year (FAY) students in grade 8 achieving Lexile measure equal to or greater than 1050 on the reading portion of the English assessment, which is considered to be the grade level target

Diversity Metrics [26]

- **Certified Personnel Category and Metrics** A graphical comparison of personnel categories by total number, average salary, certificate level, certificate status, full-time/part-time status, gender, race/ethnicity, and years experience.

Discipline Incident Metrics [27]

- **Total Incidents** Total number of discipline incidents in a school year.
- **Percent of Incidents Resulting in In School Suspension (ISS)** The percent of incidents resulting in ISS divided by the total number of incidents in that school year.
- **Percent of Incidents Resulting in Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)** The percent of incidents resulting in OSS divided by the total number of incidents in that school year.
- **Percent of Incidents Resulting in Expulsion** The percent of incidents resulting in expulsions divided by the total incidents in that school year

Funding Metrics [26]

- **Revenues** Revenues depict the number of dollars received by a system from local, state, and federal sources to teach and support the children of the school system. The amount is determined by taking the total dollars received at the system level from local, state, and federal sources.
- **Expenditures** The report includes the number of dollars spent to teach and support the children in the school system. The amount is determined by taking the total dollars expended at the system level.
- **Salaries and Benefits as Percentages of Revenues and of Expenditures** The report includes the dollar amount spent on salaries and benefits for teachers and paraprofessionals providing direct instruction. The amount is determined by taking the total dollars expended at the system level.
- **Financial Efficiency Star Rating (FESR)** Provides a comparison of district spending per student with overall academic performance. The FESR should be one measure that a user evaluates in conjunction with all other information provided for each school and district. The goal of the star rating is to provide a comparison of district spending per student with overall academic performance.
- **School Improvement Federal Funding** School Improvement Grants provide financial resources to local educational agencies (LEA) on behalf of Title I schools identified as Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) and Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools. This grant is awarded to support implementation of school improvement plans required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and Georgia's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) approved by the United States Department of Education.

Census Metrics [25]

- **Population** The Census Bureau's Population Estimates Program (PEP) produces estimates of the population for the United States, its states, counties, cities, and towns, as well as for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and its municipios (county-equivalents for Puerto Rico).
- **Race** The U.S. Census Bureau collects race data in accordance with guidelines provided by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and these data are based on self-identification.
- **Median Household Income** Income in the Past 12 Months - Income of Households: This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not.
- **Owner occupied housing unit rate 2015 -2019** A housing unit is owner-occupied if the owner or co-owner lives in the unit, even if it is mortgaged or not fully paid for.
- **Persons in Poverty, %** If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family and every individual in it is considered in poverty. The official poverty definition uses money income before taxes and does not include capital gains or noncash benefits (such as public housing, Medicaid, and food stamps).
- **High School Graduate or Higher, % of persons age 25 years+** High School Graduates include people whose highest degree was a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- **Bachelor's Degree or Higher, % of persons age 25 years+** Persons with a Bachelor's Degree or Higher are those who have received a bachelor's degree from a college or university, or a master's, professional, or doctorate degree.
- **Households with a computer, percent 2015-2019** Anyone in the household owned or used a computer and included four response categories for a desktop or laptop, a smartphone, a tablet or other portable wireless computer, or some other type of computer.
- **Households with a broadband internet subscription, percent 2015-2019** Any member of the household accesses the Internet. "Access" refers to whether or not someone in the household uses or connects to the Internet, regardless of whether or not they pay for the service.

Digital Access Metrics [29]

- **Unserved area** A census block in which broadband services are not available to 20% or more of the locations as determined by the Department of Community Affairs
- **Served area** A census block that is not designated by the Department of Community Affairs as an unserved area.

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