

School disciplinary absences

Table 1: School disciplinary absences by region, 2020–24

Year	SDA Type	Central Queensland	Darling Downs South West	Far North Queensland	Metropolitan North	Metropolitan South	North Coast	North Queensland	South East	Total
2020	Short Suspension	5,751	5,938	5,000	8,345	13,367	8,029	4,712	12,842	63,984
	Long Suspension	162	212	251	219	538	271	251	557	2,461
	Exclusion	66	104	74	124	313	79	123	366	1,249
	Cancellation	109	97	79	99	114	121	55	106	780
2021	Short Suspension	7,165	7,355	6,187	9,732	15,916	9,956	5,468	15,821	77,600
	Long Suspension	263	333	242	282	539	319	274	840	3,092
	Exclusion	113	113	82	148	370	107	125	458	1,516
	Cancellation	150	114	79	115	170	79	72	108	887
2022	Short Suspension	6,785	7,219	5,445	9,631	14,080	9,174	5,080	15,038	72,452
	Long Suspension	236	364	225	291	477	307	256	967	3,123
	Exclusion	142	135	71	139	409	102	113	484	1,595
	Cancellation	169	117	105	102	140	76	53	94	856
2023	Short Suspension	7,362	7,502	5,452	10,043	15,002	10,093	5,428	15,411	76,293
	Long Suspension	278	321	264	352	504	287	267	742	3,015
	Exclusion	139	155	88	152	414	95	143	557	1,743
	Cancellation	143	127	134	124	118	78	70	73	867
2024	Short Suspension	5,702	5,735	4,965	9,882	13,296	8,903	4,924	14,815	68,222
	Long Suspension	190	271	258	292	378	245	234	601	2,469
	Exclusion	86	138	91	148	370	91	126	518	1,568
	Cancellation	135	151	110	136	125	69	104	99	929

Source: The data in this publication is sourced from Queensland Department of Education school disciplinary absences collections.

Notes:

- School disciplinary absence (SDA) data is a total of short suspensions (1–10 days), long suspensions (11–20 days), exclusions and cancellations.
- The number of SDAs is not the number of students who received an SDA as one student may be suspended several times in a school year. Each time a student is suspended it is recorded as an additional SDA. The data do not reflect the outcomes of appeal decisions.
- The reduction in 2022 SDA counts is partially due to a reduced number of school days in Term 1, owing to the COVID-19 related delay to the start of the school year and extreme weather events during mid Term 1.
- 2020 data was impacted by the COVID-19 health emergency. There were significantly fewer SDAs during the home-based learning period (the first five weeks of Term 2) compared to previous years.
- The Department of Education has eight integrated service-delivery regions across Queensland.
- For more information see the department's school discipline procedure at <https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/pp/student-discipline-procedure>

Table 2: Learning days lost due to suspensions, 2020–24

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Percentage of total student learning days lost to suspension	0.22%	0.32%	0.31%	0.34%	0.29%

Source: The data in this publication is sourced from Queensland Department of Education Semester 1 attendance collections.

Notes

- In 2020, the COVID-19 health emergency affected student attendance in Queensland Government schools. Comparisons between 2020 and other years should be interpreted with caution.

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For further information, please contact opendata@qed.qld.gov.au

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