



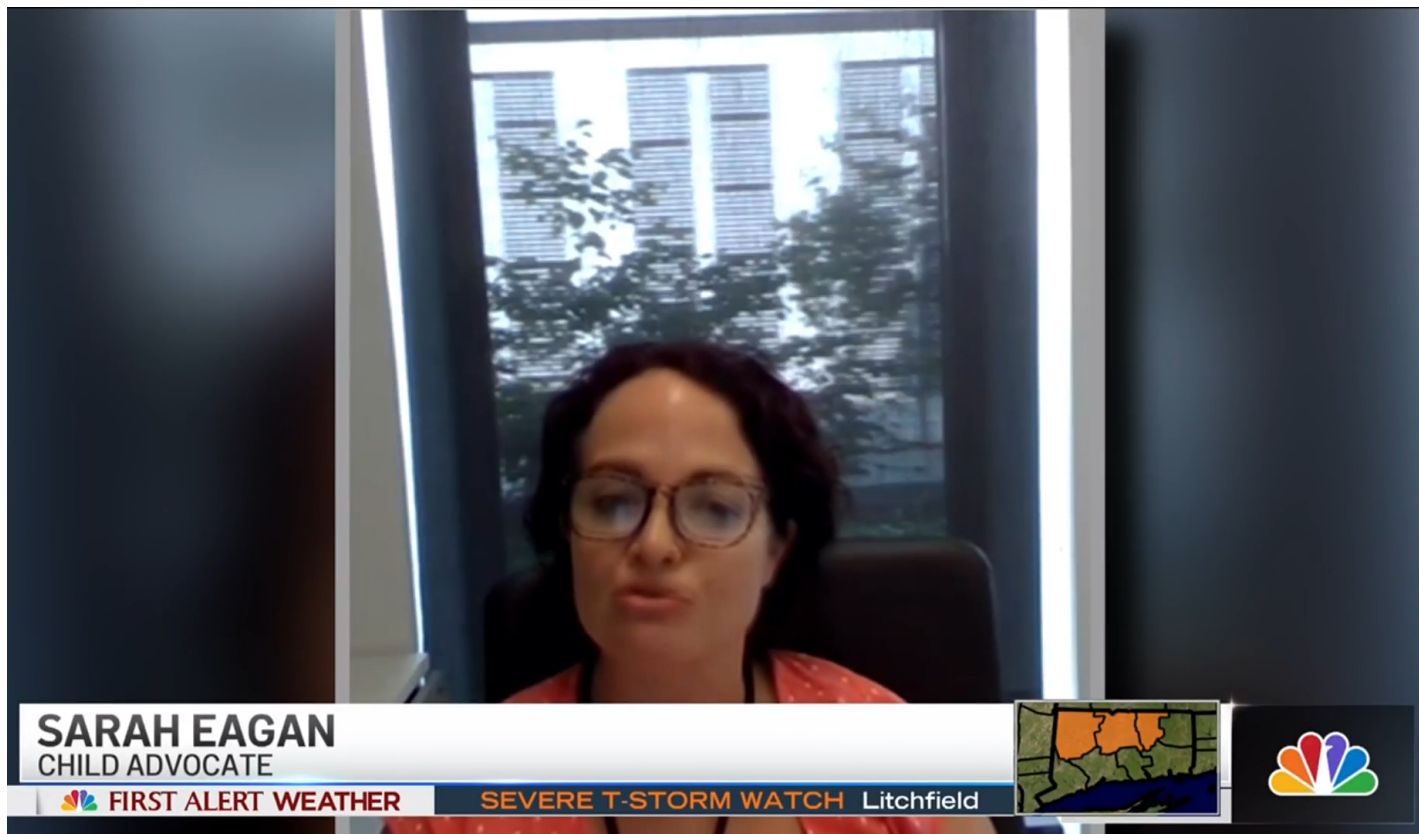
30°

TRENDING Omicron Variant COVID-19 Booster Shots in CT NBC CT's The...

EDUCATION

Data Shows Higher Numbers of Kids With Disabilities and Kids of Color Get Referred To Police

By Christine Stuart • Published September 15, 2021 • Updated on September 15, 2021 at 6:15 pm



U.S. Dept. of Education data shows school policing disproportionately impacts students of

color and students with special needs.

In more than two dozen high schools throughout the state, students with disabilities and students of color made up nearly half of the referrals to police for in-school behavior.

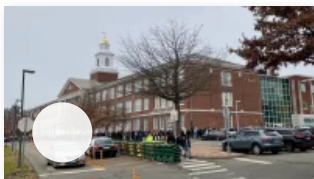
We have 2018 data analyzed by the Center for Public Integrity.

Our redesigned local news and weather app is live! Download it for [iOS](#) or [Android](#) — and sign up for alerts.

“The data shows that children of color and children with special needs are the ones being hit the most and it shouldn’t be that way,” Sen. Doug McCrory says.

McCrory is the co-chair of the legislature’s Education Committee.

Local



3 HOURS AGO

Hamden High School Reopens With Increased Security Wednesday After Multiple Threats



4 HOURS AGO

Motorcyclist Has Life-Threatening Injuries After Crash in Torrington

“I’ve been in the school system and I’ve been a principal and I’m not even that surprised that a lot of them are special needs students,” McCrory says.

The Center for Public Integrity analyzed U.S. Department of Education data from all 50 states and found that school policing disproportionately affects students with disabilities and students of color.

“I’m not surprised by the data but it is glaring to see it in black and white like that,” Child Advocate Sarah Eagan says.

Eagan says the legislature hasn’t really contemplated this type of data collection.

“The data is really glaring in that it is Black and brown children with disabilities, not just kids with disabilities,” Eagan says.

In Connecticut, New Britain High School tops the list with the highest number of students referred by schools to police. It referred 81 students that year. Thirty-nine of the referrals were students with disabilities, 62 of them were Hispanic, six were white and five were Black.

CT School Districts With Most Police Referrals

In more than two dozen high schools throughout the state, students with disabilities made up nearly half of the referrals to police for in-school behavior.

Search in table		Page 1 of 4 >			
District name	School name	Referral Rate - Total	Referral Rate - Disabled	Referrals - Total	F
NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT	Chamberlain Elementary School	0	0	0	

NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT	Gaffney Elementary School	0	0	0
NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT	Jefferson Elementary School	4	0	2
NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT	Northend Elementary School	0	0	0
NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT	New Britain High School	36	70	81
NEW BRITAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT	Smalley Elementary School	0	0	0

South Windsor High School had the second-highest number of student referrals to police at 68. Of the 68 referrals, 33 were white students, six were Hispanic, 13 were Black and 36 had disabilities.

Danbury High School had the third-highest number of student referrals to police but only about a third had disabilities and more than half were students of color.

None of the school districts returned calls for comment.

“A lot of this stuff should be handled by a school administration and honestly I feel like they abdicated their duty and just washed their hands of it,” McCrory says.

What happens when a student is arrested?

“Kids as young as seven or eight years old can end up in handcuffs and that can be incredibly traumatic,” Deborah Dorfman, executive director of Disability Rights

Connecticut, says.

She says it's important to have school-based mental health services.

“Schools and school districts throughout the United States push out kids with disabilities, especially kids with disabilities who are Black and brown,” Dorfman says.

This article tagged under:

EDUCATION • POLICE

1 Year Of AMC+ For \$1.99/Month

Get a full year of the good stuff on AMC+ for just \$1.99/month. Terms apply.

AMC+ | Sponsored

Tracking Possible Light Snow for Wednesday

NBC Connecticut First Alert meteorologists are tracking possible snow for Wednesday. While this won't be a large storm, it could leave a coating o...

NBC Connecticut

SPONSORED • BLOOD SUGAR FORMULA

Blood Sugar Above 100? Try This Tonight

SPONSORED • HEALTHYGEM

20 Hydrogen Peroxide Uses We Wish We Knew Sooner

SPONSORED • CAPITAL ONE SHOPPING

The genius shopping trick every Amazon Prime Memb...

SPONSORED • STUDENT SEA

Always Put a Plastic Bottle on Your Tires when Parke...

SPONSORED • MONEYWISE.COM

Car Experts Rank The 30 Worst Cars Of All Time

SPONSORED • GRIZLY.COM

8 Out Of 10 Americans Fail This Military Quiz. Can You...

SPONSORED • GUNDRY MD BIO COMPLETE ...

Top Heart Surgeon: This Simple Trick Helps Empty...

SPONSORED • BEDTIMEZ

Cat Gives Birth, Vets Notice The Kittens Don't Look...

SPONSORED • MONEYWISE.COM

Costco Won't Sell These 24 Items Anymore

SPONSORED • HARVARD PILGRIM HEALTH ...

How poor sleep habits and...

BORDER PATROL

13 Passengers in Pickup Truck Hurt From Crash After Border Patrol Pursuit in Calif.

FIRST ALERT WEATHER

FIRST ALERT: Accumulating Snow Possible Wednesday

Weather Forecast

HARTFORD, CT

30°

Cloudy

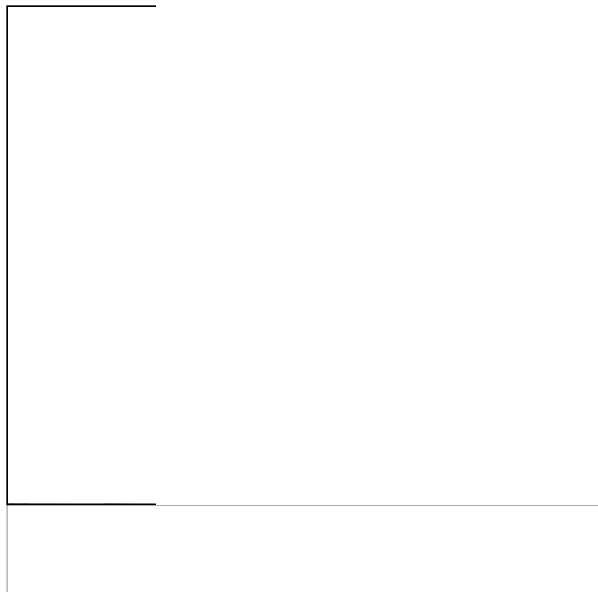
0% Precip

TONIGHT

27°

TOMORROW

37°



**New trad
financial**

An Edwar
partner th



SUBMIT TIPS FOR INVESTIGATIONS

NEWSLETTERS

CONTACT US

Sponsored

WVIT Public Inspection File

FCC Applications

Privacy Policy

Do Not Sell My Personal Information

WVIT Employment Information

Terms of Service

Advertise with us

Send Feedback

CA Notice

AdChoices

Copyright © 2021 NBCUniversal Media, LLC. All rights reserved