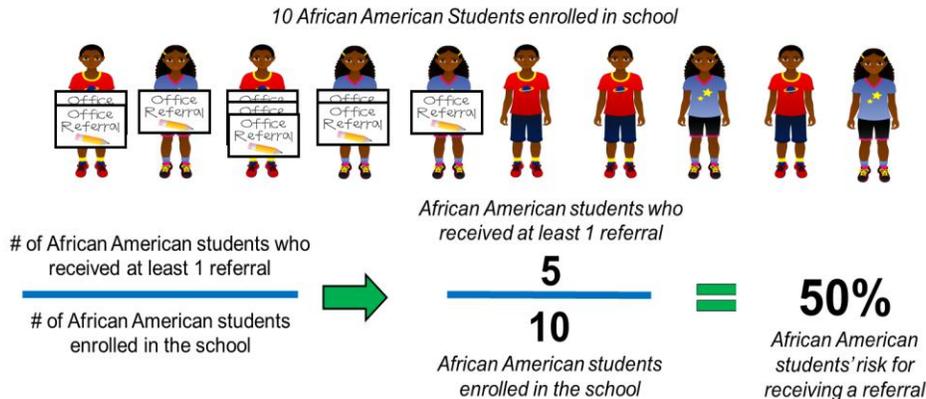# Defining Disproportionate Discipline
Understanding Common Measures

Risk ("Risk Index")

Percentage of students in a racial/ethnic group who have at least one referral.

Say: "____% of African American students received a referral." –or- "African American students have a ____% risk of receiving a referral."

Risk Ratio

Risk of one group compared to the risk of all other students; Best single measure to summarize a group's risk.

Say: "The risk for African American students was ____ percent higher than the risk for all other students." –or- "African American students had a ____ times higher risk than all other students."
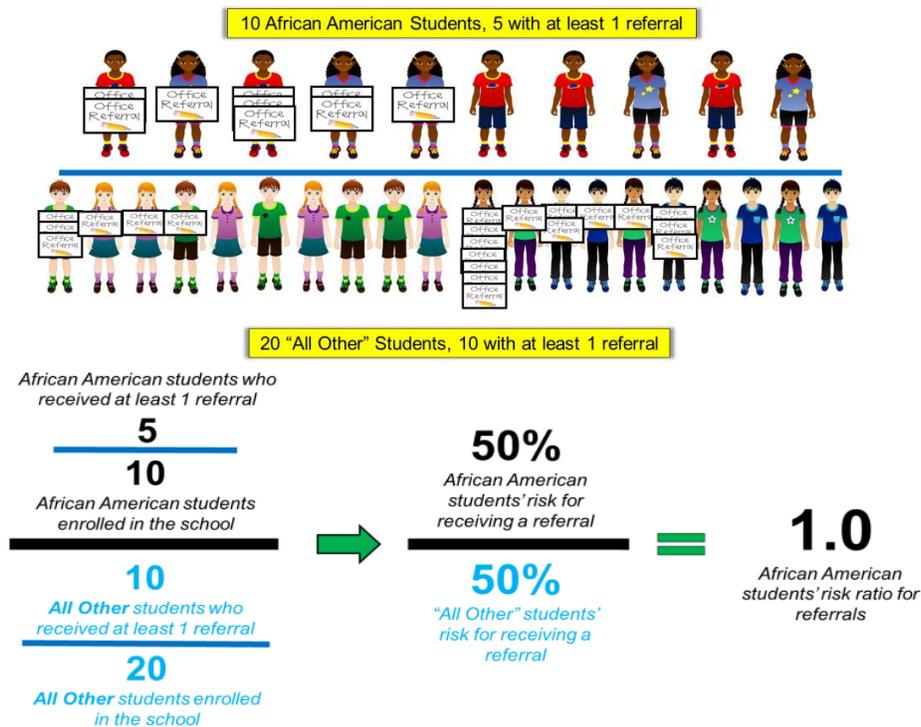
Risk Ratio Value	Level of Disproportionality	Risk Ratio Value	Level of Disproportionality
1.0	Equal Risk	2.50	Two and a Half Times Higher Risk
1.25	25% Higher Risk	3.00	Three Times Higher Risk
1.50	50% Higher Risk	> 3.00	Yikes.
2.00	Two Times Higher Risk	*Check for small n if your ratio exceeds 7.0*	

Student Composition

Percentage of students who received referrals who belong to a specific racial/ethnic group.

Say: "__% of students who received referrals were African American."

5 are African American

15 Students with at least 1 referral

# of African American students who received at least 1 referral		African American students who received at least 1 referral		
Total # of students who received at least 1 referral	→	$\dfrac{5}{15}$	=	**33%**
		Total # of students who received at least 1 referral		Of students who receive referrals are African American
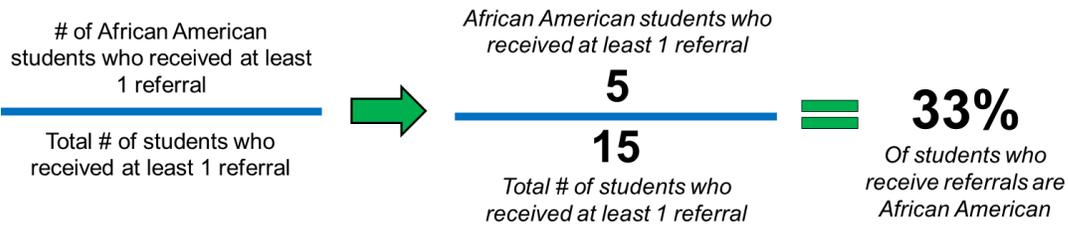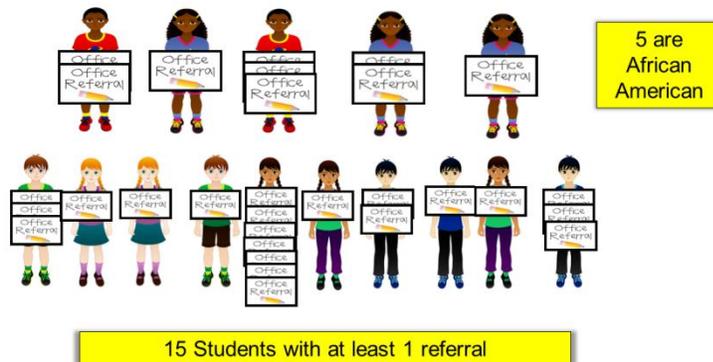
Referral Composition ("Comparison Reports")

Percentage of **referrals** generated by a specific racial/ethnic group; Impacted by students who receive multiple referrals

*Say: "___% of **referrals** were given to African American students."*

9 referrals from African American students

30 total referrals

Referrals from African American students

# of referrals from African American students		Referrals from African American students		
Total # of referrals	→	$\dfrac{9}{30}$	=	**30%**
		Total referrals		Of referrals were generated by African American students