

From Retributive to Restorative: An Alternative Approach to Justice in Schools*

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Abstract

School districts historically approached conflict-resolution from the perspective that suspending disruptive students was necessary to protect their classmates, even if this caused harm to perceived offenders. Restorative practices (RP) – focused on reparation and shared ownership of disciplinary justice – are designed to address undesirable behavior without imparting harm. We study Chicago Public Schools' adoption of RP and identify decreased suspensions and arrests, driven by effects for Black students. We find null effects on test-score value added, ruling out average declines larger than 0.025SD. We estimate a 15% decrease in out-of-school arrests, consistent with RP substantively changing student behavior.

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I Introduction

Classroom management and discipline represent one of the hardest parts of school officials' jobs (Evertson and Weinstein, 2006; Kauffman et al., 2011). Over the last five decades, educational authorities have increasingly turned to using exclusionary discipline in the hopes of minimizing disruption and with the goal of maintaining a safe and secure environment conducive for learning. In school year (SY) 2011-2012, approximately 3.5 million public school students were suspended from school, losing nearly 18 million days of instruction (Losen et al., 2015), with the rate of school suspensions more than doubling for Black and Latine children since 1974 (Losen and Martinez, 2020).¹

The desire to prevent negative spillover effects from disruptive students has led many districts to approach conflict resolution from the perspective that suspending disruptive students is necessary to maintain order and promote accountability. Being in a stricter school, however, can lead to long-term negative consequences such as decreased educational attainment, increased misconduct, and increased likelihood of engaging with the criminal legal system (Fabelo et al., 2011; Shollenberger, 2015; Wolf and Kupchik, 2017; Bacher-Hicks, Billings and Deming, 2019). While educators are increasingly aware of the potential harms of suspensions, they seek concrete responses to undesirable behavior, particularly in a context where 80% of schools report having incidents of violence, theft, or other crimes (Griffith and Tyner, 2019; Wang et al., 2020). Indeed, over two-thirds of parents and teachers have historically offered support for the removal of students exhibiting misconduct from school premises to promote accountability (Public Agenda Foundation, 2004). In recent years, a small but growing movement within education has sought a solution that aims to constructively promote desirable behavior without relying on the threat of punitive discipline.

In our study, we investigate one such alternative: restorative justice (RJ) practices (RP), which emphasize community building and restitution or restoration, as an alternative to the traditional punitive approach (Losen, Hewitt and Toldson, 2014). RJ as a philosophy emphasizes the reparation of harm between victims and offenders, engaging various stakeholders in the community through open dialogue and shared ownership of disciplinary justice with the goal of restoring (or transforming) relationships and fostering long-term reparative approaches to conflict resolution (McCold and Wachtel, 1998; Fulkerson, 2001; Karp and Breslin, 2001; McGarrell, 2001; Hopkins, 2003; Riestenberg, 2003; Mirsky, 2007; Baker, 2008; McCold, 2008; Lewis, 2009; González, 2012; Angel et al., 2014; Anyon et al., 2014; Teasley, 2014; González, 2015; Wadhwa, 2015; Winn, 2016; Augustine et al., 2018;

¹For brevity, we will refer to school years by the year in which the spring term occurs (*e.g.*, school year 2013-2014 is SY14), following CPS convention. We also refer to Black or African American children as Black children and Latine/a/o or Hispanic children as Latine children.

Gregory et al., 2018; Acosta et al., 2019; Shem-Tov, Raphael and Skog, 2024; Minow, 2022).

We examine the impacts of RP by leveraging the rollout of RP programs across 73 high schools within the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) system beginning in SY14. Collectively, the 239 high schools in our study sample (including those that did not implement RP and that operated for only part of our study period) serve over 100,000 students annually. To expand access to RP programming in schools, CPS provided training to school staff that emphasized less punitive and more reparative strategies when engaging with students (for example, developing restorative mindsets and language in school staff, creating and implementing restorative protocols and processes in response to disciplinary incidents, and strengthening student-teacher relationships). Using a difference-in-differences-style research design (based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020)), we examine how student educational and behavioral outcomes, school climate perceptions, and criminal legal system engagement respond to RP exposure.²

We find that RP decreased out-of-school suspensions by 18% for high school students. We do not find evidence of corresponding increases in in-school suspensions, suggesting that students are receiving more in-school instruction time in response to policy adoption. There are two potential explanations for these findings. First, the effects may be mechanical because school administrators and teachers were instructed to reduce the frequency of suspensions. Alternatively, RP may be having a productive impact on teacher and/or student behavior. Teachers may change how they interact with students, better respond to students’ individual needs, and avoid escalation. Students may resolve conflicts more effectively, understand their roles in conflicts, and feel more understood by adults and their peers.

To distinguish between these alternative explanations for the measured declines in suspensions, we use person-level arrest data from the Chicago Police Department. We identify a 19% overall decline in child arrests, with significant decreases both during school hours and on school grounds (35%) and outside of school (15%). While falling in-school arrests may be driven by changes in how school staff respond to misconduct, the decline in out-of-school arrests offers the strongest evidence of genuine changes in underlying student conduct. Additionally, in accordance with the theory that RP may shift school culture, we find suggestive evidence of improved student perceptions of school climate based on student survey responses related to classroom behavior of peers, psychological sense of school membership, student-teacher trust, and school safety.³

A common concern is that reduced punitiveness may lead to increased classroom disrupt-

²In additional analyses, we examine outcomes at the elementary-school level.

³We interpret estimated school climate impacts with caution given visual evidence that climate perceptions in RP-adopting schools may have begun to improve prior to adoption.

tion. There is mixed evidence on this question. On the one hand, Hinze-Pifer and Sartain (2018) and Craig and Martin (2023) find evidence indicating improved student outcomes following restrictions on exclusionary discipline in Chicago and New York.⁴ By contrast, Pope and Zuo (2020) highlight the deficiencies of simply restricting teachers from using exclusionary discipline without providing alternative tools to address misconduct. They find suspension reduction policies in Los Angeles decreased suspension rates, but also led to declines in academic performance and increased absences and teacher turnover. In our setting, we do not identify significant changes in learning outcomes following the introduction of RP. We can rule out math (reading) test score value-added declines larger than 0.013 (0.033) standard deviations based on 95% confidence intervals.

Evidence of improvements in students' perceptions of classroom behavior also points against increases in classroom disruption. To more rigorously test for classroom disruption, we employ a random forest algorithm to classify students based on their classmates' predicted suspension rates under the status quo disciplinary system, which we show in turn predicts suspension rate declines in response to the introduction of RP. Focusing on students who are themselves at low risk of suspension and therefore less likely to experience any suspension-related change in instructional time, we find no evidence of differential test score declines in schools with above-median predicted suspension rates. Although we lack the precision needed to confidently rule out meaningful differences in test score impacts as a function of peers' predicted suspension rates, our findings taken as a whole provide suggestive evidence that disruption effects are not of first-order concern in the study setting.

Finally, we investigate treatment effect heterogeneity with a focus on student race/ethnicity and gender, two of the strongest observable predictors of baseline exposure to suspensions and arrests. We find that Black students benefit most consistently from the introduction of RP. Black males in particular, who are suspended for four times as many days as White male students and arrested six times more frequently at baseline, experience the largest declines in out-of-school suspension days and arrests as well as significant attendance gains (above and beyond the increase associated with reduced suspension days).

Taken together, our findings suggest that RP has the potential to improve student perceptions of school climate and reduce behavioral incidents inside and outside of school without harming academic performance, potentially improving the daily experiences of all students, regardless of their predicted exposure to exclusionary discipline absent RP. Our work builds on recent experimental evidence that has highlighted the promise of employing RJ in the U.S. juvenile justice system (Shem-Tov, Raphael and Skog, 2024; see Strang

⁴In each setting, districts attempted to transform school cultures while reducing reliance on more punitive forms of student discipline.

et al., 2013, for a summary of earlier work on RJ in the criminal legal system context more broadly) as well as less clear-cut evidence from educational settings. Most closely related to our study is Augustine et al. (2018), which evaluates the effects of RP adoption based on a randomized trial in which 22 of 44 schools in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania (concentrated at the elementary level) were randomly assigned to receive RP programming. The authors find that RP programming led to suspension reductions, with mixed findings related to school climate, no measured changes in arrests or violent offenses, and suggestive evidence of reductions in academic achievement.⁵

The rest of the paper proceeds as follows. In Section II, we describe a conceptual framework related to how RP may influence outcomes in schools. In Section III, we describe the policy setting. In Section IV, we discuss the data we use to estimate impacts. In Section V, we explain our research design and outline the value-added framework used to estimate impacts on test scores. In Section VI, we discuss our findings. In Section VII, we discuss possible disruption effects as a mechanism. In Section VIII, we present treatment effect heterogeneity by student characteristics. In Section IX, we conclude.

II Conceptual Framework: Shaping Student Behavior in Schools

Consider a setting in which a student exhibits undesirable behavior (“the one who harmed,” or the “offender”) towards another individual (“the one who was harmed,” or “victim”) and school officials must decide how best to respond. In doing so, school officials aim to hold the offender accountable and ensure that they learn appropriate behavior for the future, while helping the victim to feel safe and to feel that justice has been served.

Exclusionary disciplinary responses, such as suspensions, temporarily remove the offender from the school setting and so may increase the victim’s immediate feeling of safety and provide a reprieve from interacting with the offender. They also ideally give the offender time to reflect, provide a signal regarding appropriate behavior, and may make the victim feel that the offender now understands the harm caused. However, isolation and deterrence alone may be insufficient to generate behavioral change (and some offenders may view time away from school positively). Moreover, victims often report that to feel justice has been served, they need offenders to take accountability for their actions. Simply removing the offender from school may fail to satisfy this objective. Exclusionary responses may also prove counterproductive to school officials’ long-term goals by increasing children’s exposure to

⁵CPS’ RP trainings were notably more intensive than those offered in the context of Augustine et al. (2018), which may contribute to differences in findings across the two contexts. In another study, Acosta et al. (2019), seven of thirteen middle schools in Maine were randomly assigned to RP programming; the authors do not identify any significant impacts on student perceptions of the school environment or their own self-reported experiences. In contrast, a large number of pre-post evaluations find promising associations between RP participation and a range of outcomes (see, for instance, McMorris and Eggert, 2013).

negative influences outside of school, which may perpetuate long-term harm through negative impacts on educational attainment or criminal legal system involvement (Fabelo et al., 2011; Shollenberger, 2015; Wolf and Kupchik, 2017; Bacher-Hicks, Billings and Deming, 2019). Such responses may also negatively affect parents’ relationship with their children or their ability to work.⁶

To achieve justice and accountability without generating the potential harms related to exclusion, school staff have turned to “restorative justice” (RJ). RJ is an approach that involves repairing harms between victims and offenders and restoring relationships, or transforming them in cases where there was not a pre-existing relationship. In RJ, the different stakeholders are engaged through open dialogue with the goal of increased perspective taking and shared ownership of disciplinary justice. The concept originated in the criminal legal system, and increasingly, school districts across the U.S. have been adopting the RJ approach to purposively shift away from the punitiveness of past policies.

RJ is typically referred to as restorative practices (RP) in the school context because it can constitute a range of practices, including restorative conversations, peer juries, and peace circles. RP can involve a conference between the offender and the victim, or between groups of victims or offenders who went through similar experiences. Each agent has to agree to whatever the process is; a victim will not be forced to participate if they feel doing so will re-traumatize them or if they do not want to discuss their experiences. The precise structure of RJ is intentionally flexible and will vary based on the setting and situation.⁷

Concretely, consider a situation of conflict mediation after one student assaults another student in response to a perceived slight. This incident may be addressed through restorative conversations with each student followed by a peace circle that involves the victim, the offender, and any bystanders. This process would allow the student(s) to explain the situation from their perspectives and to identify root causes and harms caused by the incident (for the offender) as well as reflect on their immediate reactions, emotional response, and sense of what is needed for the harm to be repaired (for the victim). The goal would then be to repair the harm done by determining logical consequences that are fair, sensible, and directly tied to the the problematic behavior. For this example, such consequences could include a

⁶If there are bystanders involved in the incident, school officials may separately seek to make sure they feel safe and that they are deterred from exhibiting the undesirable behavior in the future. While suspensions may achieve these objectives, they are not designed to promote bystanders’ agency and involvement in the event that future behavioral incidents arise. Indeed, prior research suggests that punitive approaches may foster a culture of abdication of responsibility or perpetuate victimization among bystanders (Twemlow, Fonagy and Sacco, 2004; Wilson-Simmons et al., 2006).

⁷A wide range of studies examine differences in approaches, settings, and outcomes (cf. McCold and Wachtel, 1998; Fulkerson, 2001; Karp and Breslin, 2001; McGarrell, 2001; Hopkins, 2003; Riestenberg, 2003; Mirsky, 2007; Baker, 2008; McCold, 2008; Lewis, 2009; González, 2012; Angel et al., 2014; Teasley, 2014; Winn, 2016; Augustine et al., 2018; Gregory et al., 2018; Acosta et al., 2019; Shem-Tov, Raphael and Skog, 2024).

meaningful apology, attendance at conflict-resolution or anger-management workshops, role playing, or a written assignment that describes how the situation could have been handled more positively.⁸ This emphasis on logical consequences that can serve to promote learning and self-reflection, as opposed to employing one-size-fits-all punitive disciplinary responses, is a unifying theme of RP regardless of the precise behaviors being addressed.

In theory, a restorative approach to shaping student behavior thus provides schools with an option that allows them to hold students accountable for their actions without using exclusionary discipline and without disrupting learning within school. Whether RP achieves these objectives in practice is ultimately an empirical question.

III Policy Setting: Chicago Public Schools

We study the impacts of RP in the context of CPS, one of the largest school districts in the U.S., which serves over 340,000 students across more than 600 schools. The population of CPS is racially and economically diverse. Of the students attending CPS in SY21, 36% identified as Black, 47% as Latine, and 11% as White, and over 63% were eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches (Chicago Public Schools, 2020).⁹ Like many other large school districts in the 1980s and 1990s, CPS implemented policies mandating the use of suspensions and expulsions in response to student misconduct. These policies came under scrutiny at the federal, state, and local levels due to high suspension rates, especially among students of color and among students from the most vulnerable backgrounds (Stevens et al., 2015; Sartain, Allensworth and Porter, 2015). In response, CPS explored alternative approaches designed to improve student safety and learning. This included the ‘Culture of Calm Initiative’, which was launched in SY10. Specific program components varied across schools but included mentorship, job programs, socioemotional learning, and elements of RJ (Levenstein, Spote and Allensworth, 2011; Zagar et al., 2013; Hinze-Pifer and Sartain, 2018).

In SY13, CPS implemented a number of changes to their student code of conduct, including removing the automatic 10 day suspension for certain student behaviors, and adding recommendations for non-exclusionary disciplinary practices for all schools (Stevens et al., 2015). Then in SY14, CPS announced a disciplinary policy reform plan called the Suspensions and Expulsion Reduction Plan (SERP), aimed at decreasing the number of out-of-school suspensions and expanding resources and training on school discipline to school staff across the district. This spurred various policy changes through the student code of conduct which included restrictions on the tiers of infractions that could result in suspensions as well as regulations related to suspension lengths and district administrator approval

⁸Bystanders might be asked to reflect on their roles in the incident and how they might help prevent such a situation from arising in the future.

⁹CPS administrative files classify students as belonging to only one racial/ethnic group (e.g. Black, Latine).

requirements. These efforts are specifically expected to reduce inequities in suspension rates by race/ethnicity and other student characteristics and are associated with improved student outcomes (Sartain, Allensworth and Porter, 2015; Hinze-Pifer and Sartain, 2018; Lai, 2018).

III.A Rollout of Restorative Practices Programs at CPS

In SY14, CPS’s Office of Social and Emotional Learning (OSEL) began to roll out district-wide RP programs. This initiative was meant to give teachers clear guidance on alternative tools to suspension and to improve the school environment. CPS received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to introduce RP starting in 22 high schools and 34 elementary schools. By SY19, they expanded their RP programs to reach 279 schools, including 73 high schools. CPS offered different RP programs, including RP Coaching, RP Leadership, and RP Peer Council.¹⁰ Each program was based on fundamental RP principles: community building, social and emotional learning, accountability, healing and reparation of harm, and restorative systems and mindsets.

The most intensive of these programs was RP Coaching. The prescribed model involved having a trained expert meeting with and coaching administrators and designated individuals from an existing “School Climate Team” to demonstrate and implement RP within their school. From the school-based School Climate Team, one to two RP Leads were chosen and made responsible for training other staff and serving as a champion for RP throughout the building. The other School Climate Team members who participated in RP trainings reflected the organizational composition of the school community.¹¹ The RP coaches were initially drawn from 15 different vendors with specialists who had expertise in restorative justice and how to adapt to different and dynamic school situations.¹² Coaches came to schools and met with teachers, administrators, and other designated school staff a few times each week throughout the academic year. This flexible model was designed to allow for varied implementation, to serve as ongoing professional development, and to meet schools’ evolving needs and abilities in developing a menu of restorative practices most appropriate for their specific context. Once the DOJ funding ended in SY16, CPS reduced the number of vendors from which they drew, reduced the frequency of in-school engagement to once weekly, and slowed RP rollout to new schools.

The second program was RP Leadership, which entailed a lighter touch intervention in schools. While RP Leadership shared the same objectives as RP Coaching, trainings

¹⁰Table A1 presents summary statistics on the number of high schools by first RP type by school year. Some schools implemented a combination of multiple RP types in the same year.

¹¹This could include a principal, staff responsible for discipline, teachers covering various grades and subjects, non-teaching staff such as security officers and cafeteria workers, and family/student representatives.

¹²Typically, existing staff handled professional development, but most had no RP expertise, so bringing in outside experts was necessary.

involved a smaller number of school administrators for a much shorter amount of time. The third program, RP Peer Council, was a student-led process in which a small group of trained and designated students worked with referred students (who were involved in misconduct incidents or conflicts) to understand the impact of their actions on other individuals and school culture. Our evaluation focuses on understanding the impact of RP in CPS high schools as a whole, although we also briefly examine heterogeneity by program intensity.

Schools were selected to receive RP programs based on a variety of factors including a school’s interest, a school’s out-of-school suspension rate, a school’s suspension rate for “priority” student groups, a school’s climate indicators on the “My Voice My School” (MVMS) survey (now known as the CPS 5Essentials survey), school size, and input from those directly working with the schools (network specialists).¹³ Staff within CPS’ OSEL were responsible for establishing these criteria used to prioritize schools for RP programming and for ultimately deciding which schools would be allocated programming in a given year. In conversations with the research team, OSEL staff emphasized that the stated criteria were intended to identify those schools which could benefit most from RP programming.

IV Data Sources and Sample

Our analyses draw on four primary sources of data.

Restorative Practices Programming Data. To identify the timing of treatment for students enrolled in a given school, we use programming data provided to us by CPS’s OSEL. These data include records on which schools first received RP training in each school-year between SY14 and SY19 as well as the type of training received.

Student Administrative Data. We use CPS’s student-level administrative data from SY09 to SY19 for information on student-level outcomes and demographics. The outcome variables include records of in-school and out-of-school suspensions, attendance records, course grades (which we use to construct GPA), and reading and math test score measures. The demographic information includes data on student race, gender, a proxy for economic disadvantage (eligibility for free or reduced-price lunch), unhoused status, engagement with special education (IEP) or a 504 plan which indicates a physical and/or cognitive disability, and English learner status for those enrolled in CPS. Additionally, the data set includes information on student-level enrollment history, which we link to the OSEL programming data files to construct a student-level measure of treatment exposure.¹⁴ We describe these data in more detail in Data Appendix C.

¹³“Priority” student groups have historically included students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) and Black students since these are the student groups suspended at the highest rates.

¹⁴CPS maintains a general student database in which each student is identified by a unique student ID. The distinct CPS administrative files are linked together by this ID.

School Climate Data. Since SY11, CPS has annually administered the “My Voice, My School” (MVMS) survey to students in grades six to twelve to understand their experiences in the school environment. The survey comprises 21 constructs, and we create a climate index using data from student responses to the following eight constructs that may be directly affected by the introduction of RP: emotional health, student classroom behavior, academic personalism, psychological sense of school membership, personal safety, school-wide future orientation, school safety, and student-teacher trust (UChicago Impact, 2021).

Police Arrest Data. We draw on data from the Chicago Police Department (CPD) both to examine whether RP had a material effect on child behavior outside of the school context and to have a measure of particularly severe perceived misconduct (i.e., that resulted in arrest). These data include individual-level arrest records from July 1, 2008 through September 2, 2019. The arrest data include information on the type (violent or non-violent offense), the location, and the time of arrest. We separately investigate the impact of RP by arrest type and by arrest timing/location (which we use to classify arrests as “in-school” versus “out-of-school”). The CPD and CPS data files are joined using probabilistic matching over a child’s name, date of birth, gender, and home address.

IV.A Study Sample

Our benchmark analyses include observations from students enrolled in any CPS traditional (district-run), contract, or charter high school between SY09 and SY19 for at least one day. We focus our main analyses on high school students for two primary reasons. First, high school students are more likely than elementary school students to be arrested, both in school and out of school. For example, in SY13, 2% (6%) of high school students were arrested in (outside) CPS schools, compared to 0.4% (0.8%) of elementary school students in grades 3-8. Ex-ante, the low baseline arrest rate in elementary schools is expected to limit our power to detect potential impacts on this margin and so to distinguish student behavioral responses from teacher-side responses to the introduction of RP. Second, student survey data on school climate, which permits us to investigate potential mechanisms driving estimated impacts on student outcomes, has limited elementary-school coverage.

Table 1 presents average characteristics for students enrolled in the 184 CPS high schools in our sample in operation in the school year prior to the roll-out of RP (SY13), separately for schools that did and did not receive any RP programming at some point between SY14 and SY19.¹⁵ This table shows that high schools that received RP training differed from never

¹⁵Tables A2 and A3 present average baseline (SY13) characteristics by demographic group and based on alternative sample partitions. Table A4 presents average characteristics for students enrolled in CPS elementary schools in our sample in SY13, separately for students in schools that did and did not receive any RP programming at some point between SY14 and SY19.

treated high schools in several ways at baseline. Treated high schools were significantly larger, with about twice as many students enrolled. Students in treated high schools had more absent days, more negative perceptions of their school climates, and lower test score value added (GPA and test score levels are also lower but estimated differences are imprecise).¹⁶ Finally, treated high schools were more likely to use suspensions as disciplinary tools. Though differences are not statistically significant at conventional levels, students who enrolled in subsequently treated schools had on average 38% more in-school suspension days (0.47 versus 0.34) and 24% more out-of-school suspension days (1.03 versus 0.83) than those enrolled in never-treated schools. These important differences in student attributes by future school treatment status are consistent with the prioritization of RP programming described above.

V Empirical Strategy

Since schools that received RP programming differ on various dimensions when compared to schools that did not, we employ a difference-in-differences-style research design that relies on a weaker conditional exogeneity assumption requiring that expected *changes* over time in outcomes absent treatment are independent of RP programming assignment.

To identify impacts from RP exposure, we rely on variation in exposure induced by the rollout of RP over time and across schools. Since student enrollment choices may respond endogenously to RP exposure, we identify student-level treatment exposure based on the first high school that each student was enrolled in within the CPS system, as well as the year and grade level in which that student enrolled in CPS.¹⁷ To guide thinking, if student i was enrolled in high school g from SY10 to SY12, and then moved to high school g' , the student's treatment exposure remains a function of the timing of RP rollout in school g . The analysis includes one observation per year per student for every student who was enrolled for at least one day in any CPS high school in the corresponding year.^{18,19}

Our identification assumption is that students enrolling in schools that did and did not adopt RP over a given period would have exhibited parallel trends in relevant outcomes in the absence of the rollout of the RP treatment. An extensive recent literature has highlighted

¹⁶To ensure that our attendance measure is not mechanically correlated with our out-of-school suspension (OSS) days measure, we subtract OSS days from the total number of absences. In-school suspension is not considered an absence because the student is still in a supervised setting inside the school. The test score value-added measure is described in Section V.A.

¹⁷Since enrollment records are unavailable prior to SY09, we assign students enrolled in CPS prior to SY09 to schools based on their SY09 enrollment record.

¹⁸We exclude the following observations: students who have progressed to grade levels not offered by their initial schools, students past their expected school exit year, and any observations beyond our event study window (-5 to +5 years since treatment for all outcomes other than school climate, -3 to +4 years since treatment for our school climate outcome given a lack of available MVMS survey data at the start and end of our sample period) from students assigned to treatment schools.

¹⁹We follow an analogous approach when analyzing outcomes for students in elementary schools.

that estimators derived from standard two-way fixed effects models in settings with staggered rollout of treatment are unbiased only if treatment effects are homogeneous across time and group (Callaway and Sant’Anna, 2020; de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille, 2020; Sun and Abraham, 2020). In our setting, there are several reasons why this homogeneity requirement is unlikely to be satisfied. First, RP impacts may be a function of cumulative exposure if behavioral changes take time to manifest. Second, teachers’ disciplinary practices, and school climate more generally, may evolve over time as the core principles of RP become more ingrained. Third, the quality and refinement of RP programming over time may generate treatment effect heterogeneity as a function of the timing of its introduction. Since standard two-way fixed effects models rely on already-treated groups when constructing counterfactuals, this anticipated treatment effect heterogeneity (which is ultimately borne out in the data) introduces bias if changes in outcomes in already-treated groups are themselves partly driven by the dynamic effects of the treatment. As shown in Sun and Abraham (2020), even event study models that separately estimate the effects of treatment as a function of treatment timing will be biased in the presence of such treatment effect heterogeneity. The fact that a sizable share of CPS high schools is ultimately treated indicates that accounting for treatment effect heterogeneity is particularly important in our study setting.

To test our identifying assumptions and estimate the causal effect of RP, we rely on an estimator derived in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020), which is designed to produce unbiased estimates of the average effect of treatment on the treated (both averaged across post-treatment periods and separately by treatment timing) when treatment effect heterogeneity is present. In our setting, this estimator uses only students first enrolled in not-yet-treated schools to predict counterfactual outcomes.

To formally characterize the de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) estimator in the context of our study setting, we define $D_{i,g,t}$ as an indicator for RP exposure of student i with assigned school g in school year t .²⁰ RP programming was introduced across grade levels within adopting schools, and we classify each school as exposed to the RP treatment in all years after its introduction. While we cannot measure the degree to which schools continued implementing RP with fidelity in subsequent years, conversations with OSEL staff and RP coaches indicate that a substantial majority of schools did continue implementing RP throughout the study period.²¹ Following the notation from the authors’ derivation, we

²⁰ “Assigned school” is the school in which a student first enrolls (regardless of whether they later transfer).

Note that students are not themselves assigned to schools as CPS has a district-wide school choice system.

²¹ Though highly imperfect due to substantial variability across schools in reporting practices, school-level data on the use of RP actions in response to misconduct incidents also suggests that fade out was limited. Among schools with available data that adopted RP prior to SY19, the average school-level share of misconduct records including an RP action code was 20% in the year in which RP was adopted and was 30% by SY19; approximately one-third of RP-adopting schools decreased their reported use of RP

define $N_{g,t}$ as the number of students assigned to school g in school year t and we define $N_{d,d',t} = \sum_{g:D_{g,t}=d, D_{g,t-1}=d'} N_{g,t}$ as the total number of students assigned to schools in school year t that had treatment value d' in school year $t - 1$ and treatment value d in school year t (the treatment value is one if the school had introduced RP and otherwise equals zero). $Y_{g,t}$ is the average value of outcome Y in school year t for students assigned to school g . Then, the instantaneous effect of RP in year t is equal to the difference between (1) a weighted average of the school-specific changes in outcomes between school year $t - 1$ and t in schools first treated in school year t and (2) a weighted average of the school-specific changes in outcomes between $t - 1$ and t in schools untreated through school year t . In the first (second) weighted average, the weight for school g is the share of all students in schools first treated in (untreated through) school year t assigned to school g . Formally:

$$(1) \quad DID_t = \sum_{g:D_{g,t}=1, D_{g,t-1}=0} \frac{N_{g,t}}{N_{1,0,t}} (Y_{g,t} - Y_{g,t-1}) - \sum_{g:D_{g,t}=D_{g,t-1}=0} \frac{N_{g,t}}{N_{0,0,t}} (Y_{g,t} - Y_{g,t-1})$$

As shown in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020), we can then take a weighted average of DID_t across all school years from $t = 2$ to $t = T$ (where T is the final school year in the study sample) to produce an unbiased estimator of the average treatment effect in the first post-treatment school year of all schools that become treated during the sample period. The weight corresponding to each year t is the share of all students observed in the year that their assigned school is first treated (N_S) who were observed in year t . Formally:

$$(2) \quad DID_M = \sum_{t=2}^T \left(\frac{N_{1,0,t}}{N_S} DID_t \right)$$

Finally, we employ this same approach to construct treatment effect estimates specific to the number of school years since initial treatment exposure and, alternatively, as a function of the number of school years until initial exposure. Since the parallel trends assumption must be evaluated for each outcome of interest, we present these placebo and dynamic estimates in event study plots for all outcomes subsequently analyzed in our main tables.

Across analyses, our benchmark models also include the following student-level covariates: age fixed effects, cohort fixed effects,²² gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects (Asian, Black, Latine, White, or other races), and indicators for unhoused status, English

actions. To the extent that a subset of schools transitioned away from RP, or RP was partially adopted in “untreated” schools due to the arrival of previously-trained staff, our treatment effect estimates will represent lower bounds on the true causal impact of persistent RP exposure.

²²A cohort refers to a set of years and grade levels corresponding to the same set of students in the absence of entry/exit or grade retention (e.g., one cohort includes SY11 9th graders, SY12 10th graders, etc.).

Learner status, having an IEP or a 504 plan, cognitive or physical disability, and free or reduced-price lunch eligibility.²³ In practice, the inclusion of these covariates improves the precision of estimates in some instances, but does not alter the pattern of findings (we reproduce all main exhibits without controls in the appendix).²⁴ Given treatment is assigned at the school level, we cluster standard errors (which we construct via bootstrap) at the level of the school in which each student first enrolled. The event study plots for high-school student outcomes, presented in Figures 1-3 and A1-A2, provide support for the parallel trends assumption for key outcomes.²⁵ In subsequent analyses, we take the following weighted average of instantaneous and dynamic estimates to produce a single estimate of the causal effect of treatment on the treated for each outcome:

$$(3) \quad \hat{\delta}_{0:k} = \sum_{l=0}^k \omega_{k,l} DID_{M,l}$$

Here, $DID_{M,l}$ is defined analogously to DID_M and captures the weighted average effect of treatment l periods after initial treatment exposure. $\omega_{k,l}$, the weight assigned to the treatment effect l periods after initial treatment exposure, is defined as $\frac{N_l^1}{\sum_{l=0}^k N_l^1}$, where N_l^1 is the number of students in the sample l school years after initial treatment exposure by the end of the study period (year T , corresponding to SY19).²⁶

V.A Value-Added Approach

Section V characterizes our benchmark specification, in which each outcome is measured in levels. We next turn to a value-added approach to estimate test score impacts. This approach controls for lagged student test scores using a two-step procedure and offers two key benefits. First, given that lagged test scores are strong predictors of contemporaneous test scores, the value-added approach is expected to improve estimate precision.²⁷ Second, we find evidence of selection into test-taking in response to RP adoption, which may bias estimated impacts on test score levels given that students with missing scores have lower predicted scores based on observable characteristics. The value-added approach likely mit-

²³In specifications that employ absent days as the outcome of interest, we also include yearly total “member days” as a control. Member days represents the sum of the number of days that a student was present in school and the number of days that the student was absent from school.

²⁴To incorporate covariates, we allow differences in counterfactual outcomes across periods to vary linearly based on changes in group-level average covariate values.

²⁵Corresponding plots with controls excluded are presented in Figures A3-A7, while the event study plots for elementary-school students are presented in Figures A8-A13.

²⁶For all outcomes other than school climate, k is set to 5 to avoid small cell sizes; k is set to 4 for the school climate outcome because data are available for one fewer year after the introduction of RP.

²⁷Lagged values are less predictive for other key outcomes, such as suspension days and arrests, given the sparseness of these measures.

igates selection bias because the association between student-level lagged test score gains and contemporaneous test score missingness is weaker than the association between lagged test scores and contemporaneous test score missingness.²⁸ Though typical concerns related to endogenous sorting across classrooms are not relevant given our study design, the value-added approach does provide additional reassurance that cross-school sorting does not bias estimated impacts (see Section VI for additional discussion).

In step one of the value-added approach, we construct test score residuals by estimating regression models of the following form:

$$(4) \quad A_{ist}^* = \alpha_{st} + \beta X_{ist} + \epsilon_{ist}$$

Here, A_{ist}^* represents the normalized (math or reading) test score of student i in school s in school year t . α_{st} represent school-by-year fixed effects. X_{ist} includes the same student-level covariates included in our benchmark regression models. In addition, X_{ist} includes grade-level indicators, lagged cubic polynomials in math and reading, and interactions between lagged test score regressors and grade-level indicators.²⁹ After estimating the regression model, we construct a residualized measure (separately for math and reading), $\nu_{ist} = \hat{\epsilon}_{ist} + \hat{\alpha}_{st}$. This measure, which captures the contribution of school s in school year t to test scores as well as the idiosyncratic component of student i 's test score performance, serves as the dependent variable in the models we estimate in step two (where we use the same difference-in-differences-style estimator as described in Section V).

VI Main Results

We seek to understand how school behavioral policies may shape child behavior and perceptions. Specifically, we analyze the shift from more punitive practices to more restorative practices in response to perceived student misconduct and examine how children's behavioral outcomes, educational outcomes, and perceptions of school climate changed.

Changing school-based behavioral outcomes. First, we examine the impact of the introduction of restorative practices on suspensions and attendance. Figure 1 shows an event study plot that is indicative of growing declines in out-of-school suspensions in the years after initial treatment exposure. Aggregating instantaneous and dynamic estimates, we identify a significant decrease in out-of-school suspensions of 0.17 days, or 18% (Table 2, column 1). This serves as evidence of a “first stage” – RP changed the behavior of teachers

²⁸The effect of RP adoption on value-added missingness (which requires only a missing contemporaneous *or* lagged score) is also more muted than the effect of RP adoption on contemporaneous test score missingness (though estimates are not statistically distinguishable).

²⁹The inclusion of school-by-year fixed effects mirrors the inclusion of teacher fixed effects in Chetty, Friedman and Rockoff (2014) when the authors estimate β coefficients on student and classmate characteristics.

and/or students. By contrast, estimated impacts on in-school suspensions and days absent are negative but statistically indistinguishable from zero (Figure 1; Table 2, columns 3, 4, and 5).³⁰ The nature of in-school suspension days may also have changed in response to RP exposure, with OSEL staff noting that RP training encouraged more productive uses of in-school suspension time (for instance, encouraging deescalation practices rather than having students pass the time in silence).³¹ In any case, these findings suggest that students are receiving more in-school instruction time, on average, in response to RP adoption.

Changing criminal legal system involvement. We are interested in understanding whether being exposed to RP affects conflict resolution regardless of location and separate from structured or guided intervention. To do so, we draw on arrest data from the Chicago Police Department (CPD). Given prior evidence that student arrests are associated with worse long-term outcomes (Kirk and Sampson, 2013), a rigorous investigation of the nature of changes in juvenile arrests is also critical in elucidating the full extent of RP impacts.

In Figure 1, Panel D, we show an event-study plot for number of arrests, which exhibits a relatively flat pre-trend followed by a decline in arrests that increases in magnitude with time since the introduction of RP. The estimated aggregate impact is an average decrease of 0.024 arrests, which represents a 19% decline relative to the baseline mean (Figure 1; Table 3, column 1 of Panel A). In column 1 of Panel B of Table 3, we replace the arrest count dependent variable with an indicator for any arrest. We estimate a 13.2% decline in the likelihood of any arrest, relative to the baseline mean. This pair of estimates is consistent with relatively uniform percentagewise decreases in arrest counts across the baseline arrest count distribution (over half of those with any arrest at baseline were arrested exactly once).³²

While the estimated decline in arrests in response to the introduction of RP is consistent with improved student behavior, school staff are tasked with referring students to law enforcement when they need an external disciplinary authority to intervene on matters that occur at school. Consequently, decreases in juvenile arrests could still reflect the fact that adults in schools that adopt RP are encouraged to employ alternatives to traditional punitive approaches (including requests for law enforcement involvement) when possible. To distinguish between alternative explanations for the aggregate decline in student arrests, we next examine impacts on in-school arrests (defined initially based on whether the arrest takes place at the school location and between 7am and 6:59pm) versus out-of-school ar-

³⁰While we can rule out absent day increases greater than 2.2% based on the 95% confidence interval, we can only rule out increases in in-school suspension days greater than 25.5%.

³¹RP adoption may also have impacted in-school suspension duration (full- or part-day); unfortunately, only the total number of in-school suspension days is recorded in administrative records.

³²The remaining columns of Panel B of Table 3 present estimates for the binary versions of the arrest measures introduced below. Across outcomes, we find a similar ratio of count-based to binary outcome-based percentagewise effects.

rests (all other arrests). Since police officers serving outside of schools are not under the same authority as teachers and operate independently from school policies and practices, changes in out-of-school arrests can better capture genuine changes in student behaviors and approaches to conflict resolution.

In Table 3, columns 2 and 3 of Panel A, we provide evidence that aggregate arrest declines reflect decreases in in-school and, separately, out-of-school arrests (by 34.2% and 15.0%, respectively). These findings provide evidence in support of the hypothesis that student behavior is responding to the introduction of RP. However, if out-of-school arrests occur disproportionately during school hours and outside of the school location on days when students are absent or suspended, it remains possible that we could identify a decline in out-of-school arrests even in the absence of any behavioral change (through an incapacitation-type channel). To probe this possibility, in Table A5 we separately examine arrests outside of school hours.³³ We find that such arrests decline by 14%, providing further support for hypothesized changes in student behavior.³⁴

A broader question is whether a restorative justice approach to conflict can decrease violence. To explore this question, we examined changes in arrests separately for violent and non-violent offenses. We see declines in arrests for both types of offenses: a 15.9% reduction in the number of arrests for violent offenses and a 19.7% reduction in the number of arrests for non-violent offenses (Table 3, columns 4 and 5 of Panel A), suggesting that the introduction of RP also led to a decrease in violence.

Changing school climate. We saw that the introduction of RP resulted in a decrease in out-of-school suspensions (Table 2, columns 1 and 2). The declines in out-of-school arrests suggest that this effect is not simply the mechanical result of teachers being under explicit instruction not to suspend students. As such, estimated RP impacts likely reflect some combination of changes in adult behavior (for instance, how they interact with and understand students) and student behavior (for example, how students respond to conflict or to feeling more understood by adults in school and their peers). Consistent with this hypothesis, we find suggestive evidence of improvements in student-reported measures of school climate (Table 4). Specifically, we identify a significant 0.042 standard deviation improvement in perceived school climate, though the negative placebo estimate from the third year before RP adoption does raise some concern regarding the validity of the parallel trends assumption for this outcome (see Figure 2). The climate index impact we identify is driven by particularly large increases in students' perceptions of their peers' classroom behavior, in

³³Given that only 0.2% of all arrests take place in school between 5pm and 6:59pm, our preferred measure defines the school day as 7am-4:59pm; we present results that alternatively use this cutoff and a more conservative 6:59pm cutoff. Corresponding event studies are presented in Figure A14.

³⁴Arrests during school hours and off school grounds decline by a comparable 17% (Table A5, column 5).

their psychological sense of school membership, and school safety (Table A6). We do not, however, see corresponding changes in our placebo measures – student perceptions of parent supportiveness or human and social resources available in the community – which we would not expect to be affected by a school-based introduction of RP.

Examining student learning. Turning to academic outcomes, the estimated impact of RP adoption on student GPA is negative but not statistically significant at conventional levels. We estimate a 0.024 point decline in GPA and can only reject GPA declines larger than 0.07 points, or roughly 0.07 SD (Table 4, column 2). Given the school-level nature of the treatment we analyze, it is worth emphasizing that any nonzero impact of RP adoption on GPA would require a shift in the entire school-level GPA distribution.³⁵

We next use the value-added framework described in Section V.A to analyze the impacts of RP adoption on student test scores. Despite evidence of improvements in student behavior and in school climate perceptions, we do not see any corresponding evidence of increased reading or math test score growth (Table 4, columns 3 and 4). Estimated impacts on test score gains in reading and math are small in magnitude and inconsistent in sign (-0.002 SD and 0.016 SD, respectively). Based on 95% confidence intervals, we can rule out reading (math) value added declines that are larger in magnitude than 0.033 SD (0.014 SD).

A common concern is that reducing suspensions of students who engage in undesirable behaviors keeps these students in the classroom and they may then disrupt the learning of their peers. While we do not identify any improvements in academic performance in response to the introduction of RP, the shift away from punitive, incapacitation-focused disciplinary responses also does not seem to have been detrimental to the learning outcomes of the broader student body, on average. This basic conclusion is reinforced by student self-reports indicative of improved student classroom behavior (Table A6). Nonetheless, in Section VII, we directly test for the presence of disruption effects. We then investigate treatment effect heterogeneity by student characteristics to further unpack our average findings.

Additional sensitivity analyses. We investigate the sensitivity of results to a range of alternative empirical approaches and specifications. We confirm that results remain robust across these alternative modelling choices.

Standard difference-in-differences empirical approach. Instead of using the de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) estimator, we employ a standard difference-in-differences design. The results remain qualitatively similar to the effects estimated in our benchmark specifications, with the large estimated decline in absent days driven by the differential pre-trends apparent for this outcome (Tables A7-A8, Panel B; Figures A15-A16).

³⁵This analysis excludes students enrolled in charter schools, which are not required to submit GPA records to CPS’ Central Office.

Excluding charter and contract schools. For our main specifications, we include all observations for students who were enrolled in district-run, charter, or contract schools in a given school year. Since charter and contract schools have some autonomy to establish their own Student Codes of Conduct and are not bound by the same administrative reporting obligations as district-run schools, we check the sensitivity of our results to excluding all observations for students who ever attended a charter or contract school in a given school year. The results remain largely unchanged (Tables A7-A8, Panel C).

Excluding controls. We verify that results are not sensitive to the exclusion of covariates by reproducing all main tables and figures with covariates excluded. We find qualitatively similar results (Tables A9 through A14; Figures A3 through A7).

Additional threats to validity. We investigate whether changes in enrollment or attrition patterns threaten the interpretation of findings.

Enrollment. Figure A17 demonstrates that schools that adopted RP were experiencing relative declines in enrollment prior to adoption and continued to experience differential enrollment declines in the post-adoption period. While the event studies we present for each key outcome we analyze provide direct support for our parallel trends-style identification assumption, here we present supplementary empirical tests to buttress the causal interpretation of findings. First, we examine whether the characteristics of students enrolling in RP-adopting schools vary with event timing (Table A15; Figure A18). We find little evidence that student demographics or predicted out-of-school suspension days are changing as a function of event time. Second, we re-estimate models for all of our benchmark (non-test score) outcomes that are measured in levels while controlling for lagged values (see Table A16). If falling enrollment leads to more positive selection in schools that adopt RP, then controlling for lagged outcomes may substantially attenuate estimated RP impacts. In practice, this does not appear to be the case. Third, we estimate RP impacts with school-by-cohort (as opposed to school) as the grouping variable so that student composition is held fixed in the absence of CPS exit (we include only students who enroll in CPS by grade 9). Since cohorts enrolled entirely after RP adoption no longer contribute to treatment effect estimation, we expect estimates may both attenuate and lose precision due to sample size reductions and in the presence of treatment effects that grow over time. In practice, however, we arrive at qualitatively similar conclusions (see Table A17). While the estimated impact on out-of-school suspension days falls by nearly 60%, estimated impacts on arrests and school climate perceptions closely mirror benchmark estimates in terms of magnitude (and precision increases marginally).³⁶

³⁶The fact that impacts on arrests and school climate perceptions are unchanged also provides some reassurance that associated impacts are not mechanically related to benchmark suspension rate declines.

Attrition. We next test explicitly for differential attrition in order to understand the potential for selection bias on this margin (recall that a student who is not enrolled in any CPS school in a given year is absent from our study sample). In our setting, attrition may arise from student transfers to private schools, movement to districts outside of CPS, or student dropout. In regression analyses that parallel our benchmark models but employ an attrition indicator as the dependent variable, we find little evidence of differential attrition. As shown in Figure A19, we estimate a small decline in attrition that is not statistically distinguishable from zero; we can rule out differential declines in attrition greater than 1.8 percentage points based on 95% confidence intervals.³⁷

Elementary school results. RP was also introduced across elementary schools in CPS. In our main analyses, we focus on high school student outcomes because of low arrest rates and limited school climate data at the elementary school level, but it is still interesting to understand how RP influences outcomes among younger children. In Table 5, we present impacts for RP exposure among elementary school students. In column 1, we identify a significant (12%) decline in out-of-school suspension days though this estimate should be interpreted cautiously given the positive placebo estimates presented in Figure A8. We estimate a null effect on in-school suspension days in column 2, with a 95% confidence interval that includes an increase of up to 0.017 days (a 31% increase given the rarity of in-school suspensions at the elementary level). The null estimate on absent days in column 3 allows us to rule out an increase in absent days greater than 0.11 (1.3%). Turning to academic outcomes in columns 4-6, point estimates are inconsistent in sign and 95% confidence intervals allow us to rule out declines in GPA greater than 0.020 points (out of 4) and declines in reading (math) test score value added greater than 0.007 (0.008) SDs. Despite the low incidence of arrest among elementary school students, in column 7, we identify a significant (17%) decline in arrests that closely mirrors our estimate for the high school sample (in percentage terms). Partitioning arrests based on location and timing, we identify a significant 21% decline in out-of-school arrests along with an insignificant 16% decline in in-school arrests (Tables A18-A19).³⁸

VII Mechanisms: Disruption Effects

A key concern among those who advocate for more punitive disciplinary practices is that those students suspended under the status-quo system but less likely to be suspended after RP adoption will disrupt the learning of their peers. Then, null average impacts on academic

³⁷Examining behavioral outcomes, we find little evidence of differential selection into attrition by school RP adoption. Panels C-D of Figure A19 show that attriters in schools that do and do not implement RP are more likely by a similar magnitude to be suspended and arrested in their first year in a CPS high school than their non-attriting peers (the availability of first year data is not affected by subsequent attrition).

³⁸In Table A19 and Figure A20, we present results for alternative out-of-school arrest measures.

outcomes could mask offsetting effects whereby students at risk of suspension benefit directly through increased engagement and an increase in instructional time, while those who were suspended at low rates at baseline (and so mechanically stand to benefit less on this margin) may be harmed academically. To test this hypothesis, we exploit variation in student-level exposure to potentially disruptive peers.

Employing a random forest algorithm, we first use data from SY13 and earlier to predict high school OSS days based on a rich set of eighth grade characteristics (race/ethnicity, gender, number of arrests, attendance, GPA, and OSS days) as well as characteristics measured contemporaneously in high school (free or reduced-price lunch eligibility, English learner status, and unhoused status).³⁹ By predicting baseline OSS days (as opposed to the effect of RP on OSS days), we rely on the testable hypothesis that RP-induced suspension declines will be largest where predicted baseline OSS days are highest.⁴⁰

To classify students (both prior and subsequent to SY13) based on classmates’ predicted baseline OSS days, we construct predicted OSS-day averages at the school-by-cohort level. We then split school-by-cohort cells into above- and below-median groups within a given cohort. We refer to these groups as “above-median” and “below-median” for brevity. Finally, we re-estimate our benchmark regression models separately for students in above- versus below-median predicted suspension day cells. The results, presented in Table 6, column 1, validate the use of predicted OSS days to generate heterogeneity in RP-induced OSS day declines. Students in above-median cells experienced a 0.29 day decline in OSS days in response to adoption (75% larger than our full sample estimate) compared to students in below-median cohort-by-school cells, who experienced a 0.096 day decline in OSS days (this difference is significant at the 10% level). In columns 2 and 3, we present estimated test score impacts for students in above- and below-median cells. Point estimates are negative for below-median students and positive for above-median students, though estimated impacts are not statistically distinguishable across the two subgroups.

³⁹Relying only on pre-period data ensures that predictions are not influenced by the effects that RP may itself have on the link between student characteristics and high school student outcomes. For observations corresponding to SY14 and later, we use the random forest algorithm results (based on pre-period data) and student characteristics to predict OSS days.

⁴⁰The random forest approach allows for arbitrary interactions between included covariates and relaxes the parametric assumptions imposed in standard linear regression models. Here, each tree in the forest is “grown” using a predetermined fraction of the available predictor variables, and the data used to “grow” each tree is sampled with replacement from the original data set. This bootstrap aggregation (“bagging”) strategy aims to reduce the tendency for any given tree to have high variance on its own (i.e., to learn a prediction model that generalizes poorly). See Breiman (2001) for further details on the bagging involved in the random forest algorithm. The random forest was implemented via the algorithm developed in the open-source `H2O.ai` platform. All hyperparameters were kept at their default values in the `H2O.ai` implementation: the number of trees is set to 50, the maximum depth of a tree to 20, and the number of features for each tree to split on equals the number of predictors divided by 3.

To test for disruption effects, we next limit the sample to students with below-median predicted OSS days (with median values again constructed within cohort), who are unlikely to be suspended under either disciplinary regime. Indeed, we show in Table 6, column 4 that these students experience small and statistically insignificant changes in OSS days in response to RP adoption (point estimates for students in below- and above-median predicted suspension day cells are -0.059 and 0.020, respectively).⁴¹ We then test directly for disruption effects by examining whether those with high predicted classmate suspension rates experience larger test score declines in response to RP adoption. As shown in columns 5 and 6 of Table 6, we do not find evidence of heterogeneous test score impacts consistent with disruption effects. For students with below-median predicted classmate OSS days, we identify an insignificant 0.034 SD decline in reading test score value added and an insignificant 0.020 SD decline in math test score value added. For students with above-median predicted classmate OSS days, we identify an insignificant 0.045 SD decrease in reading test score value added and an insignificant 0.011 SD increase in math test score value added. p -values on the test of equality of reading and math estimates across subgroups are 0.814 and 0.576, respectively.⁴² Although we cannot reject meaningful differences in test score impacts across subgroups (95% confidence intervals exclude only differential test score declines greater than 0.08SD and 0.11SD in math and reading), the pattern of findings also does not provide evidence in support of the disruption hypothesis.⁴³

VIII Treatment Effect Heterogeneity

To understand the distributional implications of the average impacts we estimate, we consider treatment effect heterogeneity with an emphasis on differential impacts by student race/ethnicity and gender. For each source of heterogeneity analyzed, we conduct subsample-specific analyses and contrast treatment effect estimates (i.e., to investigate heterogeneity by race and gender, we separately estimate benchmark regression models using the subsample

⁴¹An alternative approach would be to compare all students in below- versus above-median predicted OSS day cells while conditioning on own predicted OSS days. In practice, however, we find that students in above-median predicted OSS day cells experience larger declines in OSS days in response to RP adoption, conditional on own predicted OSS days. This finding may be explained by the fact that students who are themselves at risk of suspension are more likely to be suspended when surrounded by other high-suspension propensity students due to peer effects.

⁴²Table A20 presents baseline outcomes for students in above-median versus below-median cells. Figures A21 and A22 present event studies for estimated out-of-school suspension days and test score outcomes by classmates' predicted suspension rates.

⁴³An alternative (less direct) approach to estimating disruption effects is to assume that estimated test score impacts for low predicted OSS day-students provide an upper bound on the magnitude of disruption effects (since test score impacts should in theory capture disruption as well as any loss of learning due to time dedicated to RP). Under this assumption, we can rule out disruption-induced losses in test-score value added greater than 0.05SD in math and 0.07SD in reading based on 95% confidence intervals from regressions that estimate RP impacts in the pooled sample of students with low predicted OSS days.

of Black males, Black females, etc.).

Heterogeneity by race/ethnicity and gender. Student race/ethnicity and gender are key predictors of baseline exposure to punitive disciplinary practices, and we find evidence of stark heterogeneity in RP responses as a function of these same characteristics. We begin by examining changes in OSS days in response to RP adoption, and we find that the aggregate reductions in OSS days we estimate are driven by Black male and female students, who experience declines of 0.384 and 0.325 suspension days, respectively (these estimated impacts are shown in column 1 of Table 7; the p -values on tests of equality of effects for Black males versus all other males and for Black females versus all other females are 0.004 and 0.01, respectively).⁴⁴ In Table 7 (column 3), we show that Black students similarly drive overall reductions in arrests, with estimated declines of 0.073 and 0.017 arrests for Black male and female students, respectively (the p -values on tests of equality are 0.008 for Black males and 0.12 for Black females). While Black students are most frequently suspended and arrested at baseline, these large absolute declines suggest that they may differentially benefit from the introduction of restorative practices on other dimensions as well. Indeed, we see a significant decline in absent days among Black males (1.66 days, or 7.9%), above and beyond the identified reduction in OSS days and distinguishable from the estimated absent day impact for all non-Black males (p -value of 0.03).

Turning to school climate and academic outcomes, we cannot reject that treatment effects are equal across within-gender racial/ethnic groups (or across gender). Importantly, we do not find evidence that any subgroups are harmed by RP adoption. Estimated school climate impacts are positive across subgroups. Estimated test score impacts for White students are relatively imprecise (consistent with their small sample share), and we cannot reject reading value added declines up to 0.13 SD (0.07 SD) for White females (males) and math value added declines up to 0.04 SD (0.07 SD) for White females (males). In contrast, we can reject test score declines larger than 0.03 SD for Black and Latine females and males with only one exception (and we can reject value added declines greater than 0.01 SD for Black males in both reading and math).

One explanation for the differential arrest, suspension, and absent day declines experienced by Black male students (and the differential decline in out of school suspension days for Black females) is that they may be concentrated in those schools that employ RP most effectively. However, when we estimate the impact of RP on within-school disparities between Black students and non-Black students in OSS days, arrests and test scores, we find

⁴⁴See Figures A23-A28 for event studies for each outcome and subgroup. Interestingly, the suspension day declines for Black students exceed the estimated decline (shown in Table 6) for students explicitly identified as being at high risk of suspension at baseline. This may reflect the salience of race as a driver of teacher responses to RP or may reflect Black student behavior being particularly responsive to RP.

that declines in OSS days and arrests mirror overall estimates (findings for test scores are quite imprecise and so difficult to interpret).⁴⁵ Given that treatment effect heterogeneity on the basis of race and gender persists within schools, our findings are consistent with RP implementation being relatively homogeneous across schools and with Black students simply benefiting most in terms of reduced exposure to punitive discipline.

Heterogeneity by English learner status, grade level, and disability. We find significant differences in treatment effects across subgroups only for OSS days (larger declines among native English speakers and for 9th and 10th graders) and arrests (larger declines for 9th and 10th graders and those classified as disabled).⁴⁶ The patterns we document may reflect the challenges in translating RP to those not fluent in the instructional medium (English), the greater scope to adopt new practices and norms at lower grade levels, and/or the higher baseline OSS days and arrests among students at lower grade levels and among those classified as having a disability.

Heterogeneity by RP Program Type RP implementation can vary widely, which can make it hard to replicate and scale successful models. To understand what specific set of practices was most effective, we explore differential impacts for the different models (as described in Section III): RP Coaching, RP Leadership, and RP Peer Council.⁴⁷ In Tables A27 and A28, we present RP program-specific estimates and test the null hypothesis that RP Coaching estimates are equal to RP Leadership estimates. While point estimates are consistent with the less-intensive RP Leadership program having failed to contribute to the OSS and arrest declines we document, associated estimates are imprecise and we cannot reject the null that RP Coaching and RP Leadership treatment effects are equal.

IX Conclusion

School officials grapple with how to optimally create a safe learning environment. Schools tend to be risk-averse, and the inherently “safe” option is to remove students for any breaches of what is considered to be appropriate conduct. On the other hand, by enforcing

⁴⁵Results available upon request.

⁴⁶See Tables A21-A26. Reading test score treatment effects are also larger for those classified as disabled (the p -value on the test of equal effects for disabled and non-disabled students is 0.075), and effects on ISS days differ by English learner status (driven by increases for English learners).

⁴⁷We assign schools to the first RP program type received. If schools received multiple RP programs in the same initial year, we assign them to the most intensive of the RP programs in which they participated (i.e., schools were assigned to RP Coaching if they began participating in RP Coaching and RP Leadership in the same school year). While schools that implemented RP Leadership did not subsequently implement RP Coaching, interpretation of RP Peer Council treatment effects is complicated by the fact that several schools implementing RP Peer Council subsequently implemented RP Coaching. In any case, conclusions are unchanged if we instead test RP Coaching estimates against estimates from the pooled sample of schools first implementing RP Leadership or RP Peer Council.

a retributive system, schools may be inadvertently cultivating a less tolerant society and exacerbating already stark disparities for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The lack of clarity regarding the costs and benefits of a more or less punitive system necessitates a rigorous evaluation of different school policies and practices that are implemented with the intention of improving behavior and increasing safety of the school.

We study the causal impact of the rollout of restorative practices in Chicago Public Schools. Exploiting cross-school variation in the timing of the introduction of RP, we show that RP adoption reduced the number of out-of-school suspension days by 18% and reduced the number of student arrests by 19%, with declines in arrests for both violent and non-violent offenses. We identify sizable declines in out-of-school arrests and find suggestive evidence of improvements in perceived school climate, indicating that RP adoption is not simply altering how teachers and school administrators respond to behavioral challenges. Turning to treatment effect heterogeneity, we find that absolute declines in out-of-school suspensions and arrests are largest among Black students, who face the highest suspension and arrest rates and have the most negative perceptions of school climate at baseline. Some practitioners may be concerned that RP benefits students who would otherwise be exposed to punitive discipline while harming their classmates by engendering more permissive behavioral norms. We can rule out average test score value-added declines larger than 0.025SD, and our results taken as a whole provide some evidence that this tradeoff is not of first-order concern in the study setting.

Teachers (and schools) have been found to have important, and varying, effects on behavioral outcomes, beyond test scores, for which we know there are meaningful returns (Jackson, 2018; Petek and Pope, 2021; Rose, Schellenberg and Shem-Tov, 2022). By sending signals to children about optimal ways to behave and how society should ideally work (Parsons, 1959; Dreeben, 1967; Bowles and Gintis, 1976), school disciplinary policies are similarly expected to reach beyond the creation of conditions for learning in the short term. In particular, exposure to a reparative or restorative approach to addressing behavior may help children to develop the skills (including those related to conflict resolution) needed to more constructively approach challenging situations in life. In future work, we seek to understand how RP exposure shapes students' long-run educational and labor market trajectories as well as their criminal legal system involvement in adulthood.

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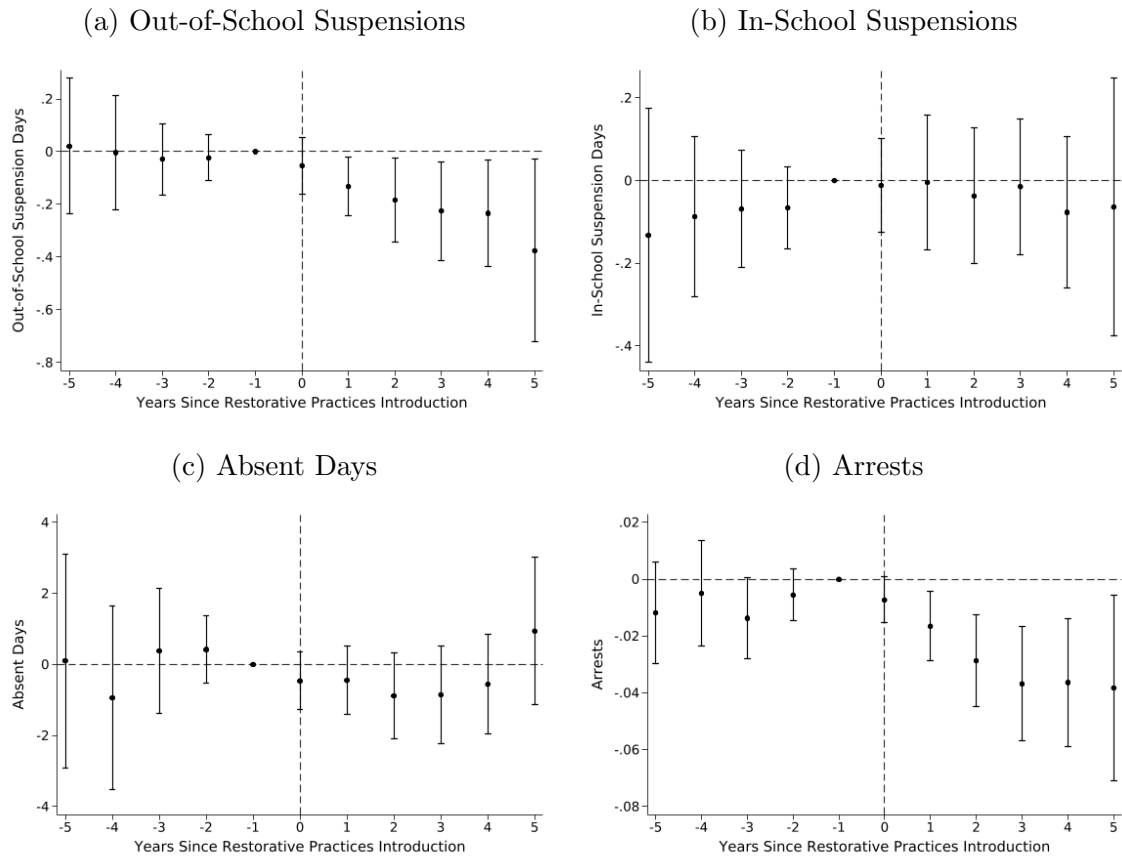
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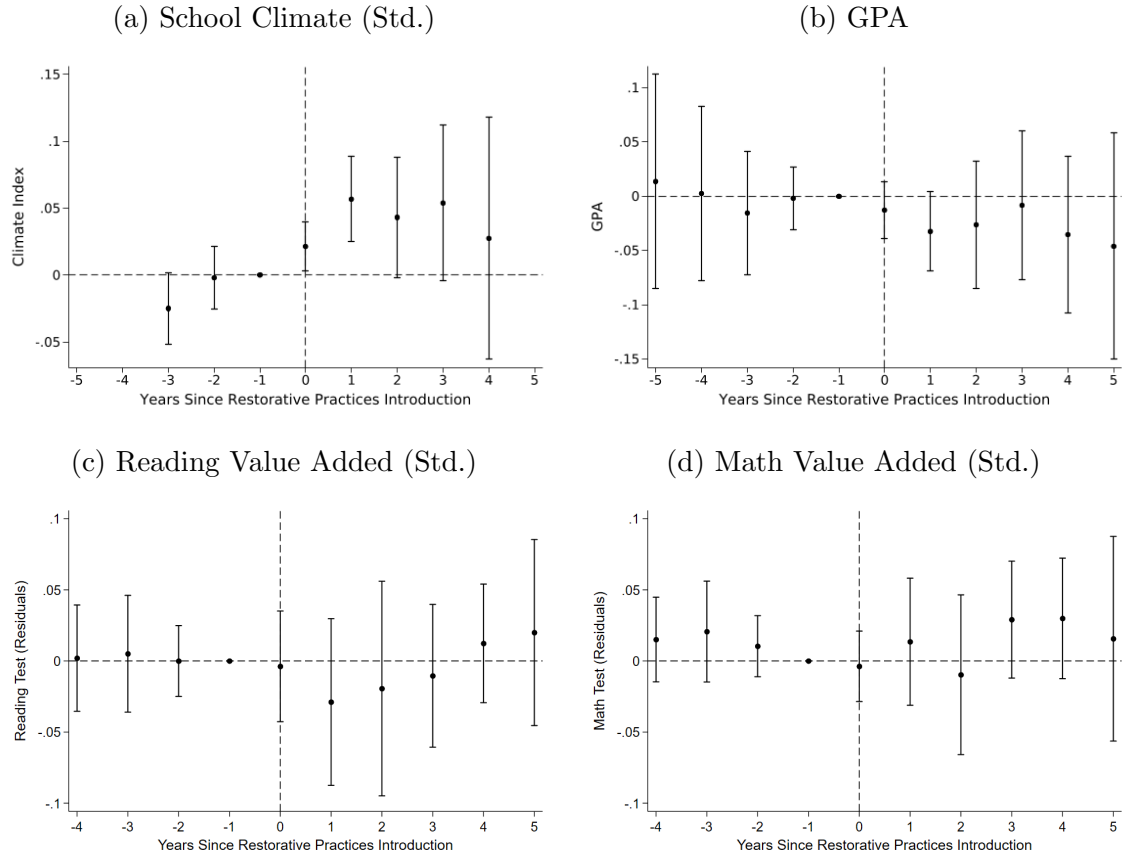
X Main Figures

Figure 1: High School Event Studies: Behavioral Outcomes



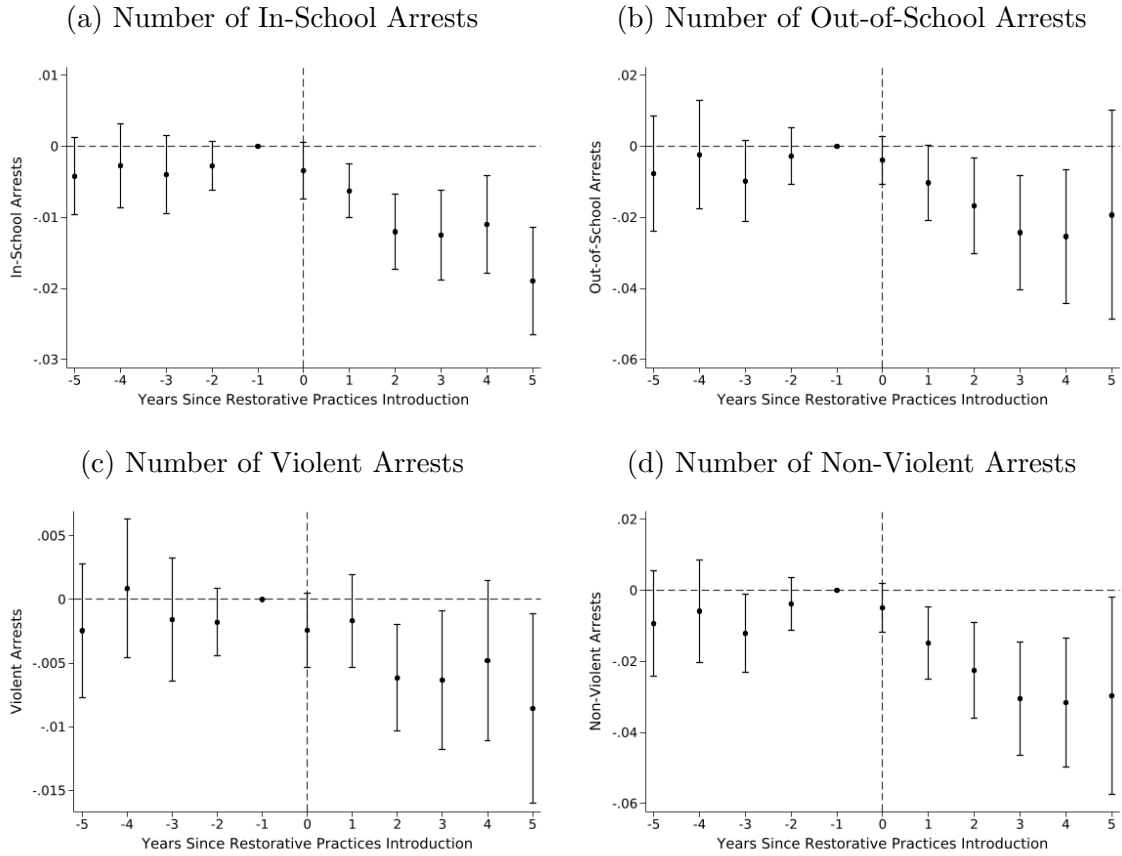
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and absent days) and policing outcomes (overall arrests) over time in high schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Suspension and absence data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. The absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Regressions for the absent days outcome include student member days in the corresponding school year as a control. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure 2: High School Event Studies: School Climate and Learning



Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students’ perceptions of school climate and academic outcomes (GPA, reading value added, and math value added) over time in high schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Data for the school climate index begin two years after and ends one year before the data for the other outcome variables. Its graph therefore reflects one fewer estimated dynamic effect and two fewer placebo effects. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. Value added cannot be constructed for SY09; value-added graphs therefore reflect one fewer estimated placebo effect. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure 3: High School Event Studies: Policing Outcomes



Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' arrest outcomes (out-of-school vs. in-school, and violent vs. non-violent) over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

XI Main Tables

Table 1: Baseline Characteristics: Chicago Public Schools High School Students

Variable	Treated (1)	Non-Treated (2)	Difference (3)
Total Enrollment	1003.69 (774.87)	448.92 (398.71)	554.78** (102.64)
Out-of-School Suspension Days	1.03 (3.20)	0.83 (2.80)	0.20 (0.18)
In-School Suspension Days	0.47 (1.67)	0.34 (1.53)	0.14 (0.12)
Absent Days	21.07 (20.88)	15.06 (17.97)	6.02** (1.52)
Number of Arrests	0.14 (0.62)	0.12 (0.63)	0.01 (0.03)
Ever Arrested	0.08 (0.27)	0.06 (0.24)	0.01 (0.01)
GPA	2.41 (0.97)	2.63 (0.97)	-0.22+ (0.11)
Math Scores (Std.)	-0.09 (0.92)	0.12 (1.08)	-0.21 (0.15)
Reading Scores (Std.)	-0.08 (0.94)	0.10 (1.06)	-0.18 (0.16)
Math Value Added	-0.06 (0.56)	0.08 (0.60)	-0.14** (0.04)
Reading Value Added	-0.04 (0.63)	0.05 (0.65)	-0.09* (0.04)
School Climate Index (Std.)	-0.07 (0.62)	0.10 (0.65)	-0.17** (0.05)
English Learner	0.07 (0.25)	0.05 (0.22)	0.02 (0.01)
Students in Temporary Living Situations	0.06 (0.24)	0.06 (0.24)	0.00 (0.01)
Individualized Education Plan	0.14 (0.34)	0.13 (0.34)	0.00 (0.01)
Economically Disadvantaged	0.84 (0.37)	0.81 (0.39)	0.02 (0.04)
Gender: Female	0.51 (0.50)	0.52 (0.50)	-0.01 (0.01)
Race/Ethnicity: Black	0.41 (0.49)	0.50 (0.50)	-0.09 (0.08)
Race/Ethnicity: White	0.10 (0.30)	0.08 (0.27)	0.02 (0.03)
Race/Ethnicity: Latine	0.44 (0.50)	0.38 (0.49)	0.06 (0.06)
Disability: Cognitive	0.13 (0.33)	0.12 (0.33)	0.00 (0.01)
Disability: None	0.84 (0.37)	0.84 (0.37)	0.00 (0.01)
Disability: Physical	0.01 (0.10)	0.01 (0.10)	0.00 (0.00)
Disability: 504	0.03 (0.16)	0.03 (0.17)	0.00 (0.00)
Observations	58,784	44,214	

Notes: This table presents student-level means in subsequently treated high schools (column 1) and non-treated high schools (column 2), with means constructed in SY13 (prior to the introduction of RP). The associated differences (column 3) are derived from student-level regressions of the given outcome on a treatment indicator variable, with the standard errors clustered at the school level. Absent Days is defined as the total number of days absent, minus the total number of out-of-school suspension days that a student had in the school year, regardless of school. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. The School Climate Index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The School Climate Index is standardized by school year and grade. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Standard errors are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1 percent level, * at the 5 percent level, and + at the 10 percent level.

Table 2: High School Restorative Practices: In-School Behavioral Outcomes

	Out-of-School Suspension		In-School Suspension		Absent Days
	Days (1)	Binary (2)	Days (3)	Binary (4)	(5)
RP	-0.167*	-0.024*	-0.028	-0.003	-0.540
	(0.068)	(0.010)	(0.068)	(0.019)	(0.484)
Baseline Mean	0.940	0.177	0.413	0.132	18.401
Observations	1,356,512	1,356,512	1,356,512	1,356,512	1,356,512

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. In columns 1 and 3, the out-of-school suspension (OSS) days and in-school suspension (ISS) days outcomes are the total number of OSS or ISS days that the student received in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school. In columns 2 and 4, the OSS and ISS binary outcomes indicate whether a student ever received either of these types of suspensions in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. In column 5, the absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Regressions for the absent days outcome include student member days in the corresponding school year as a control. Data were collected by Chicago Public Schools. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table 3: High School Restorative Practices: Policing Outcomes

	Arrests (Overall) (1)	In-School Arrests (2)	Out-of-School Arrests (3)	Violent Arrests (4)	Non-Violent Arrests (5)
<i>Panel A: Arrest Outcomes (Counts)</i>					
RP	-0.024** (0.007)	-0.009** (0.002)	-0.015** (0.006)	-0.004* (0.002)	-0.020** (0.005)
Baseline Mean	0.128	0.026	0.102	0.027	0.101
Observations	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959
<i>Panel B: Binary Arrest Outcomes</i>					
RP	-0.009** (0.003)	-0.006** (0.002)	-0.006** (0.002)	-0.003+ (0.001)	-0.009** (0.002)
Baseline Mean	0.071	0.022	0.057	0.023	0.058
Observations	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. The main arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests (in Panel A) or an indicator for any arrest (in Panel B) experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table 4: High School Restorative Practices: School Climate and Learning Outcomes

	School Climate (Std.) (1)	GPA (2)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (3)	Math Value Added (Std.) (4)
RP	0.042* (0.017)	-0.024 (0.021)	-0.002 (0.016)	0.016 (0.015)
Baseline Mean	0.000	2.473	0.000	0.000
Observations	751,792	851,492	421,783	421,864

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table 5: Elementary School Restorative Practices: In-School Behavioral, Learning, and Policing Outcomes

	OSS Days (1)	ISS Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	GPA (4)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (5)	Math Value Added (Std.) (6)	Arrests (Count) (7)	Arrests (Binary) (8)
RP	-0.050** (0.019)	0.007 (0.005)	-0.077 (0.095)	-0.001 (0.010)	0.007 (0.007)	0.008 (0.008)	-0.003* (0.0014)	-0.0022** (0.0006)
Baseline Mean	0.401	0.054	8.497	2.970	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.011
Observations	2,536,517	2,536,517	2,536,517	2,128,882	1,807,421	1,808,004	2,546,569	2,546,569

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. In columns 1 and 2, the out-of-school suspension (OSS) days and in-school suspension (ISS) days outcomes are the total number of OSS or ISS days that the student received in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school. Suspension data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. In column 3, the absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. The column 7 arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. The column 8 arrest outcome is an indicator for any arrest experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Regressions for the absent days outcome include student member days in the corresponding school year as a control. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table 6: High School Restorative Practices: Treatment Heterogeneity by Predicted Peer Group Suspension Days

	<i>All Students</i>			<i>Low Predicted OSS Days Students</i>		
	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (2)	Math Value Added (Std.) (3)	Out-of-School Suspension Days (4)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (5)	Math Value Added (Std.) (6)
<i>Below-Median Predicted OSS</i>	-0.096 (0.066)	-0.029 (0.027)	-0.007 (0.025)	-0.059 (0.053)	-0.034 (0.026)	-0.020 (0.026)
Observations	567,772	182,971	182,920	476,808	155,331	155,281
<i>Above-Median Predicted OSS</i>	-0.290** (0.103)	0.018 (0.018)	0.035+ (0.021)	0.020 (0.078)	-0.045 (0.035)	0.011 (0.042)
Observations	658,618	192,518	192,532	168,621	51,722	51,725
Test (Above-Median = Below-Median): <i>p</i> -value	0.090	0.166	0.246	0.378	0.814	0.576
Control for Own Predicted Suspension				✓	✓	✓

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Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. We present results for students belonging to school-by-cohort cells that are above- versus below-median in predicted suspension days within a given cohort. Low predicted OSS days students are those with below-median predicted suspension days within a given cohort. Predictions for out-of-school suspension days for each student are constructed using a random forest algorithm as described in the text in Section VII. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table 7: High School Restorative Practices: Race-by-Gender Treatment Heterogeneity

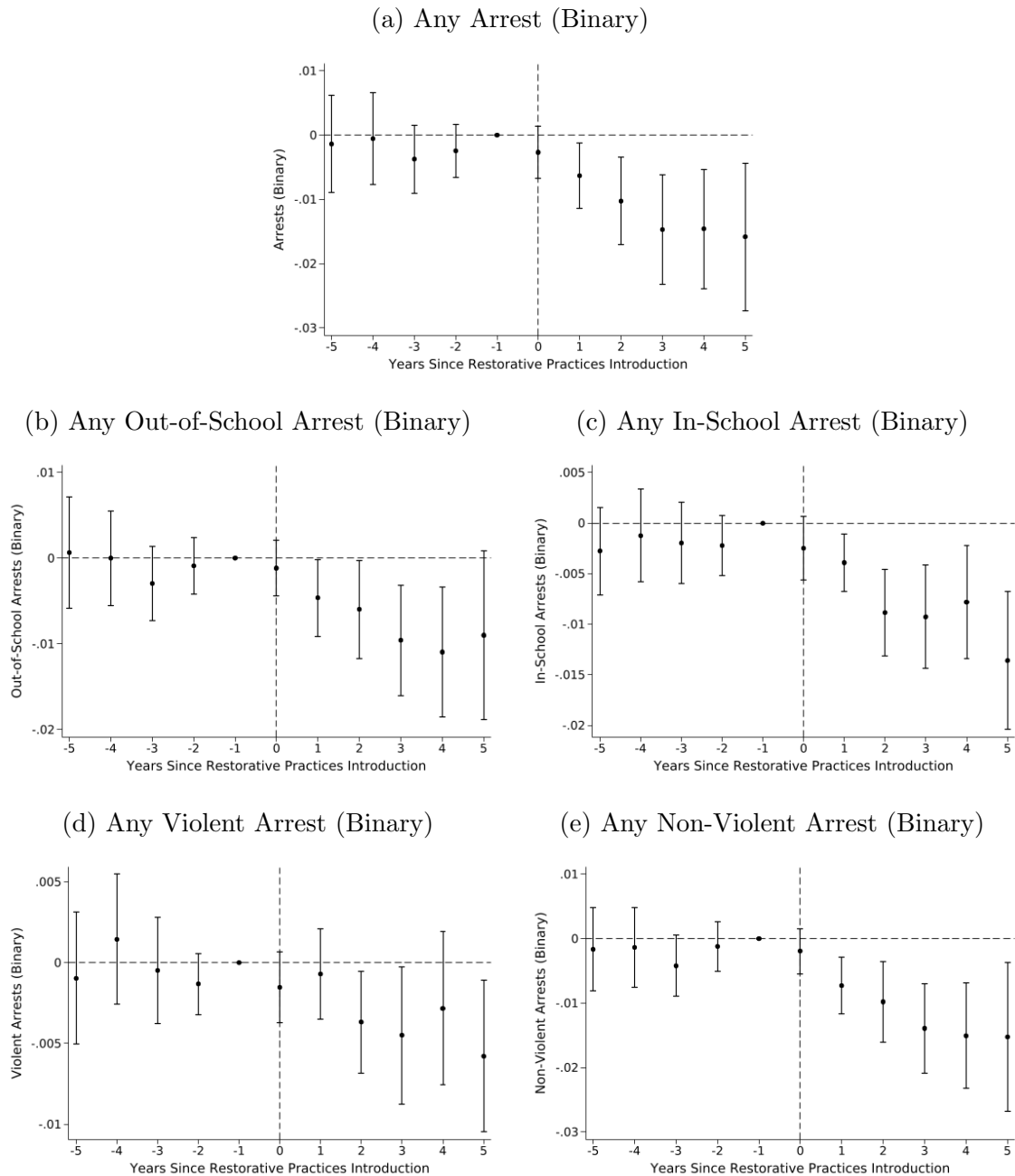
	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	Absent Days (2)	Number of Arrests (3)	School Climate (Std.) (4)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (5)	Math Value Added (Std.) (6)
Overall Male	-0.147+ (0.082)	-0.660 (0.421)	-0.038** (0.012)	0.039* (0.017)	0.014 (0.016)	0.031+ (0.018)
Overall Female	-0.156** (0.057)	-0.548 (0.458)	-0.010** (0.004)	0.044* (0.018)	-0.001 (0.019)	0.007 (0.013)
Test (M = F): p -value	0.865	0.746	0.015	0.730	0.577	0.817
Black Male	-0.384** (0.118)	-1.655** (0.572)	-0.073** (0.021)	0.041 (0.027)	0.019 (0.015)	0.032+ (0.018)
Test (BM = NBM): p -value	0.004	0.031	0.008	0.660	0.817	0.987
Black Female	-0.325** (0.110)	-0.658 (0.597)	-0.017* (0.007)	0.061* (0.029)	0.010 (0.020)	0.013 (0.015)
Test (BF = NBF): p -value	0.010	0.591	0.119	0.550	0.242	0.623
Latine Male	0.003 (0.066)	-0.051 (0.632)	-0.022* (0.009)	0.017 (0.020)	0.017 (0.019)	0.032 (0.023)
Test (LM = NLM): p -value	0.014	0.099	0.070	0.495	0.783	0.933
Latine Female	-0.053 (0.035)	-0.284 (0.669)	-0.004 (0.002)	0.048* (0.020)	-0.006 (0.021)	0.010 (0.020)
Test (LF = NLF): p -value	0.023	0.560	0.132	0.943	0.889	0.623
White Male	-0.042 (0.072)	-0.620 (0.829)	0.002 (0.014)	0.041 (0.029)	0.012 (0.039)	0.012 (0.042)
Test (WM = NWM): p -value	0.241	0.903	0.084	0.880	0.836	0.573
White Female	-0.075+ (0.039)	-0.869 (0.802)	-0.008+ (0.004)	0.007 (0.031)	-0.033 (0.050)	0.012 (0.026)
Test (WF = NWF): p -value	0.255	0.674	0.637	0.215	0.374	0.867

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. For each race/ethnicity-by-gender group, we present p -values from the test of the null hypothesis that the estimate for that group equals the estimate for all other students of the same gender (i.e., Test (BF=NBF) is the test of the null hypothesis that the treatment effect for Black females equals the treatment effect for non-Black females). Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Appendices

A Appendix Figures

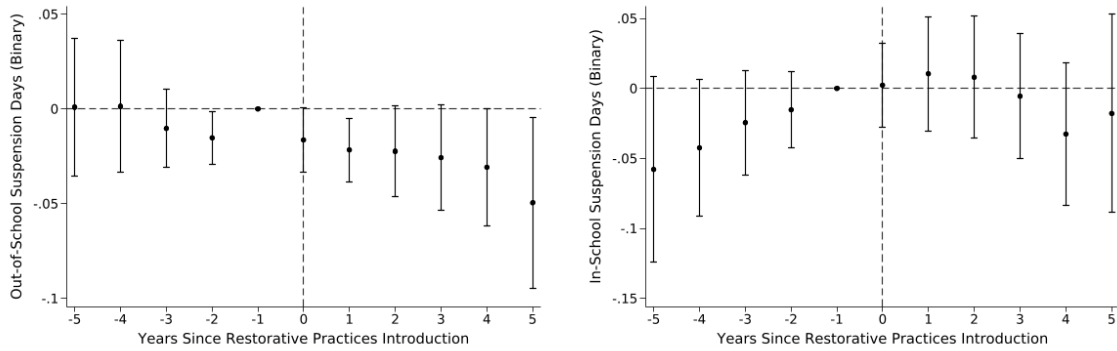
Figure A1: High School Event Studies: Binary Policing Outcomes



Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' binary arrest outcomes over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

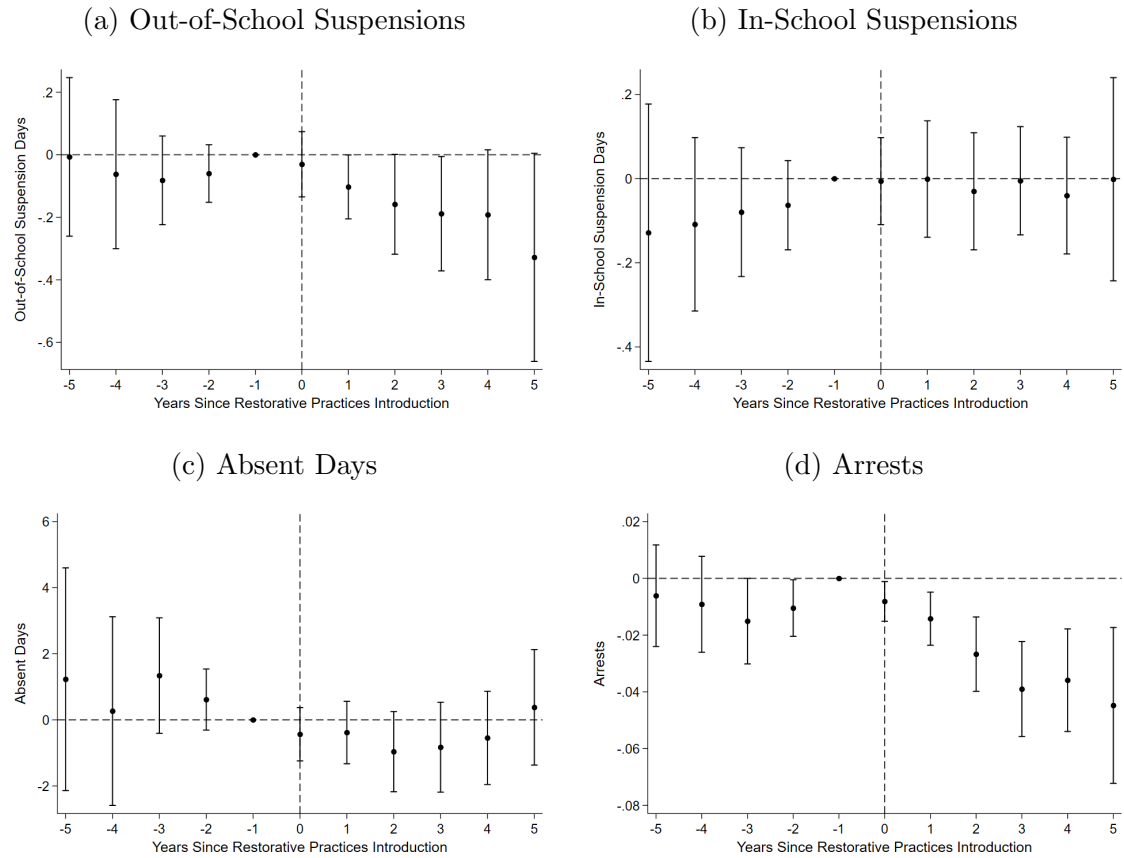
Figure A2: High School Event Studies: Binary Suspension Outcomes

(a) Any Out-of-School Suspension (Binary) (b) Any In-School Suspension (Binary)



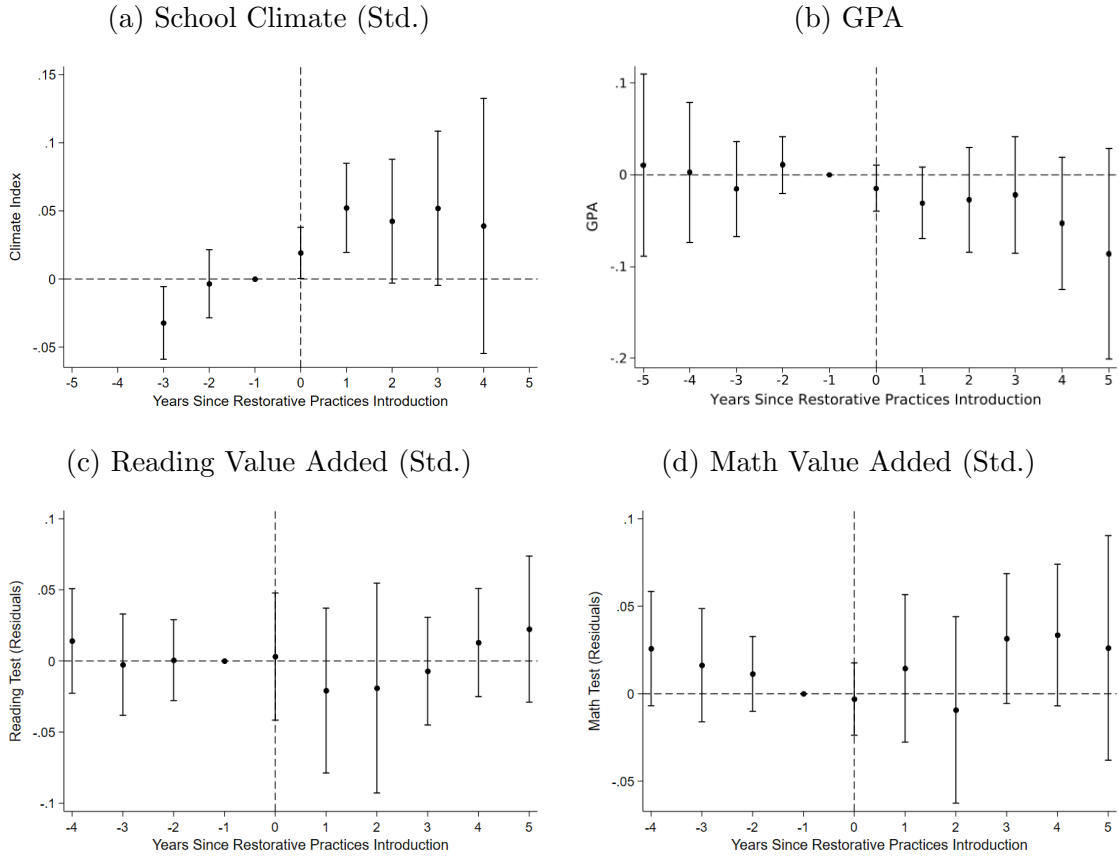
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' binary suspension outcomes (any out-of-school suspension, any in-school suspension) over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A3: High School Event Studies Excluding Controls: Behavioral Outcomes



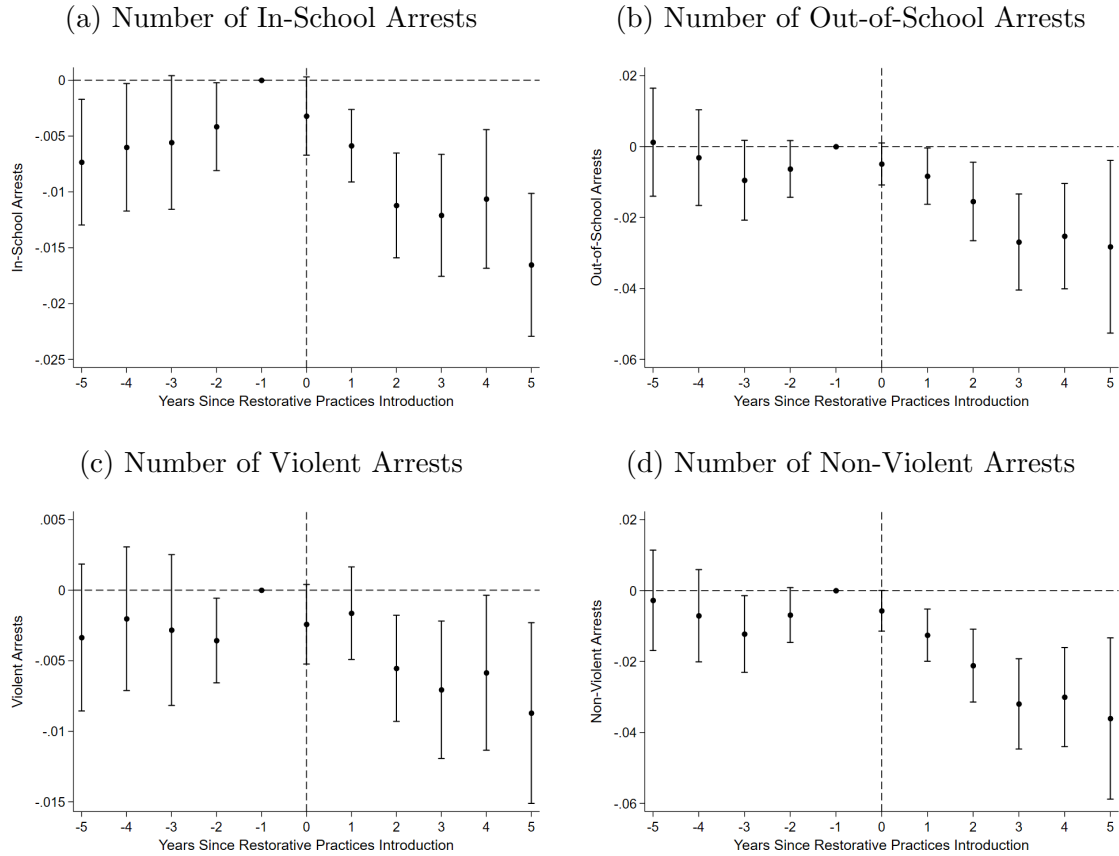
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and absent days) and policing outcomes (overall arrests) over time in high schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Suspension and absence data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. The absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A4: High School Event Studies Excluding Controls: School Climate and Learning



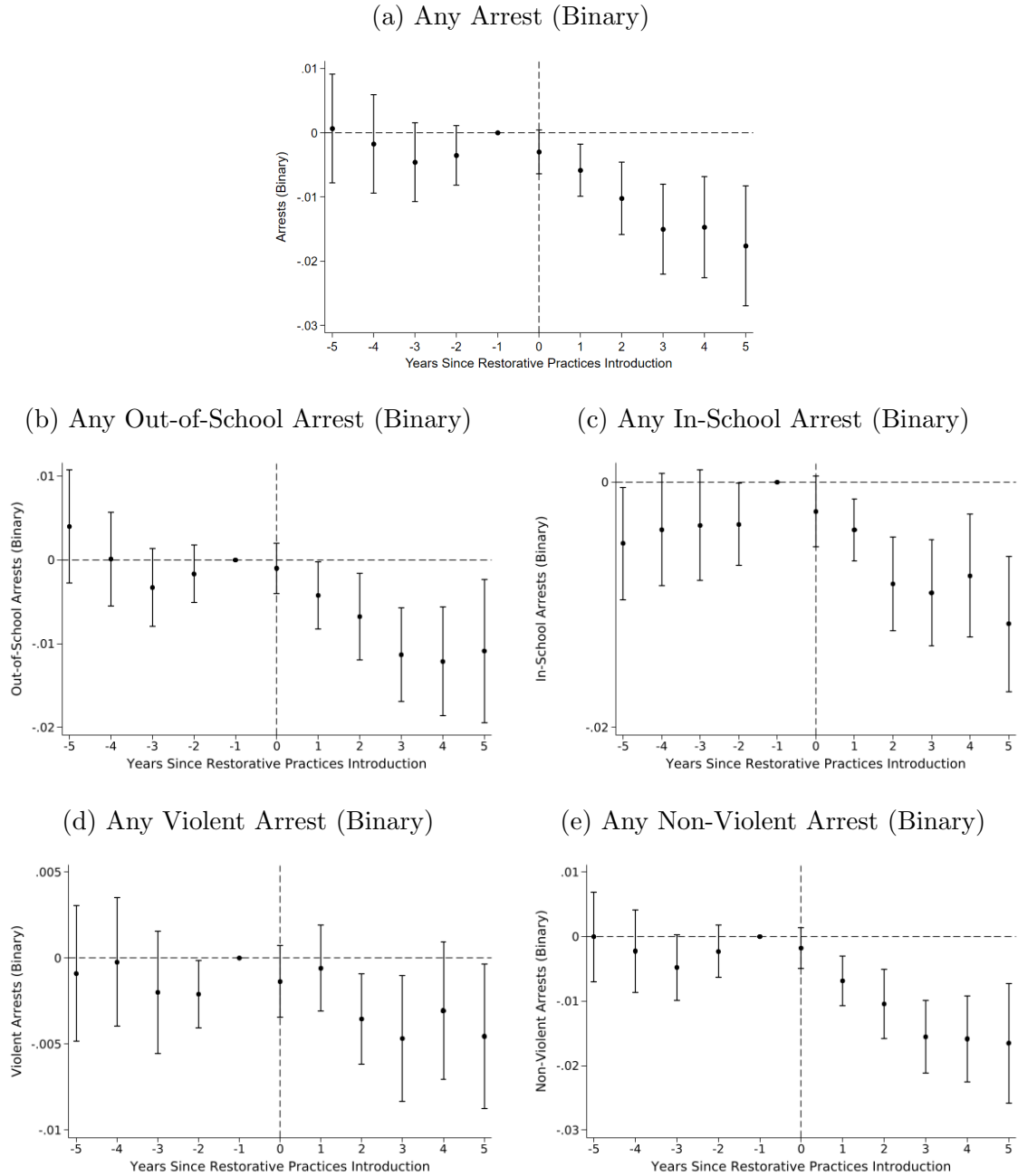
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students’ perceptions of school climate and academic outcomes (GPA, reading value added, and math value added) over time in high schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Data for the school climate index begin two years after and ends one year before the data for the other outcome variables. Its graph therefore reflects one fewer estimated dynamic effect and two fewer placebo effects. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. Value added cannot be constructed for SY09; value-added graphs therefore reflect one fewer estimated placebo effect. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A5: High School Event Studies Excluding Controls: Policing Outcomes



Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' arrest outcomes (out-of-school vs. in-school, and violent vs. non-violent) over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

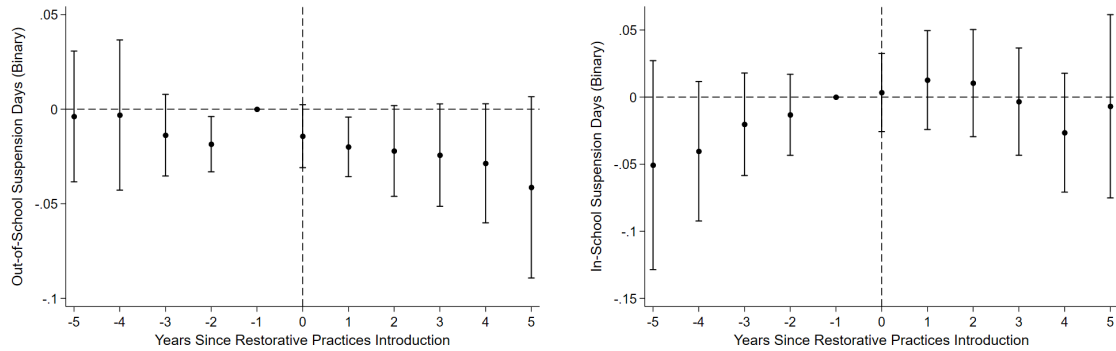
Figure A6: High School Event Studies Excluding Controls: Binary Policing Outcomes



Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' binary arrest outcomes (any arrest, any out-of-school vs. in-school, and any violent vs. non-violent) over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A7: High School Event Studies Excluding Controls: Binary Suspension Outcomes

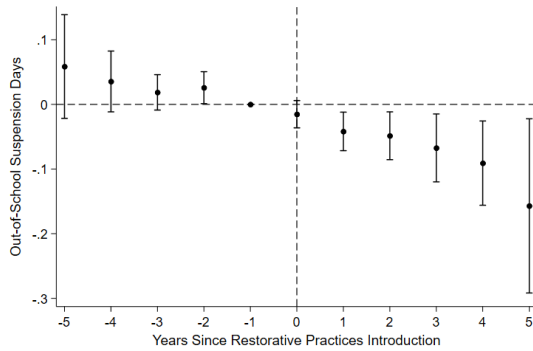
(a) Any Out-of-School Suspension (Binary) (b) Any In-School Suspension (Binary)



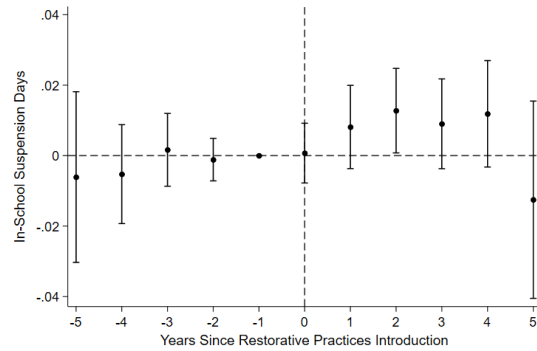
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' binary suspension outcomes (any out-of-school suspension, any in-school suspension) over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A8: Elementary School Event Studies: Behavioral Outcomes

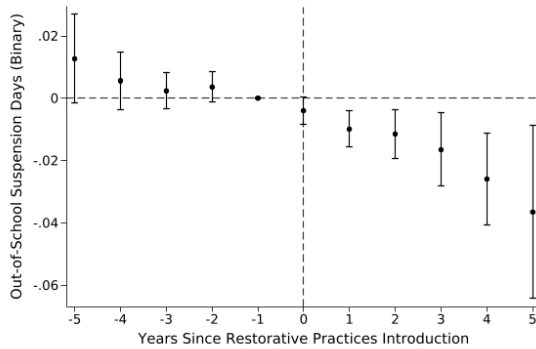
(a) Out-of-School Suspension Days



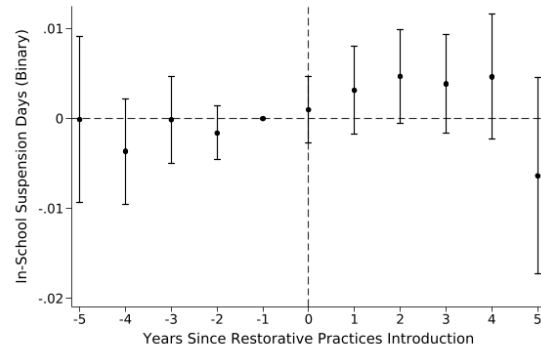
(b) In-School Suspension Days



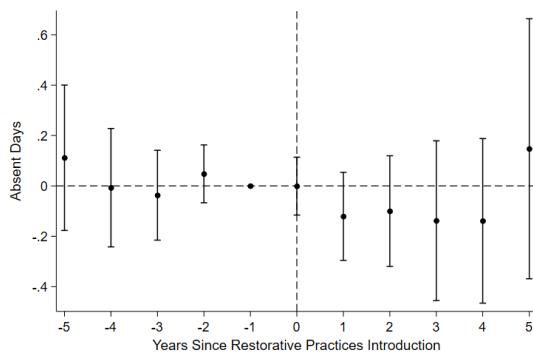
(c) Any Out-of-School Suspension



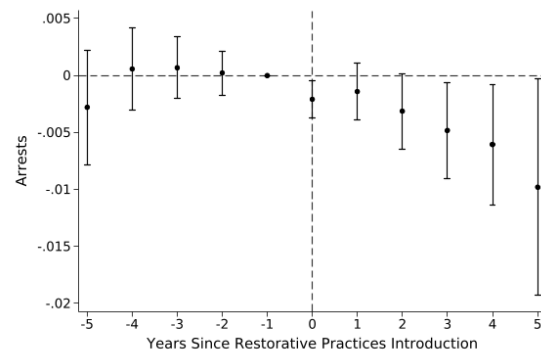
(d) Any In-School Suspension



(e) Absent Days

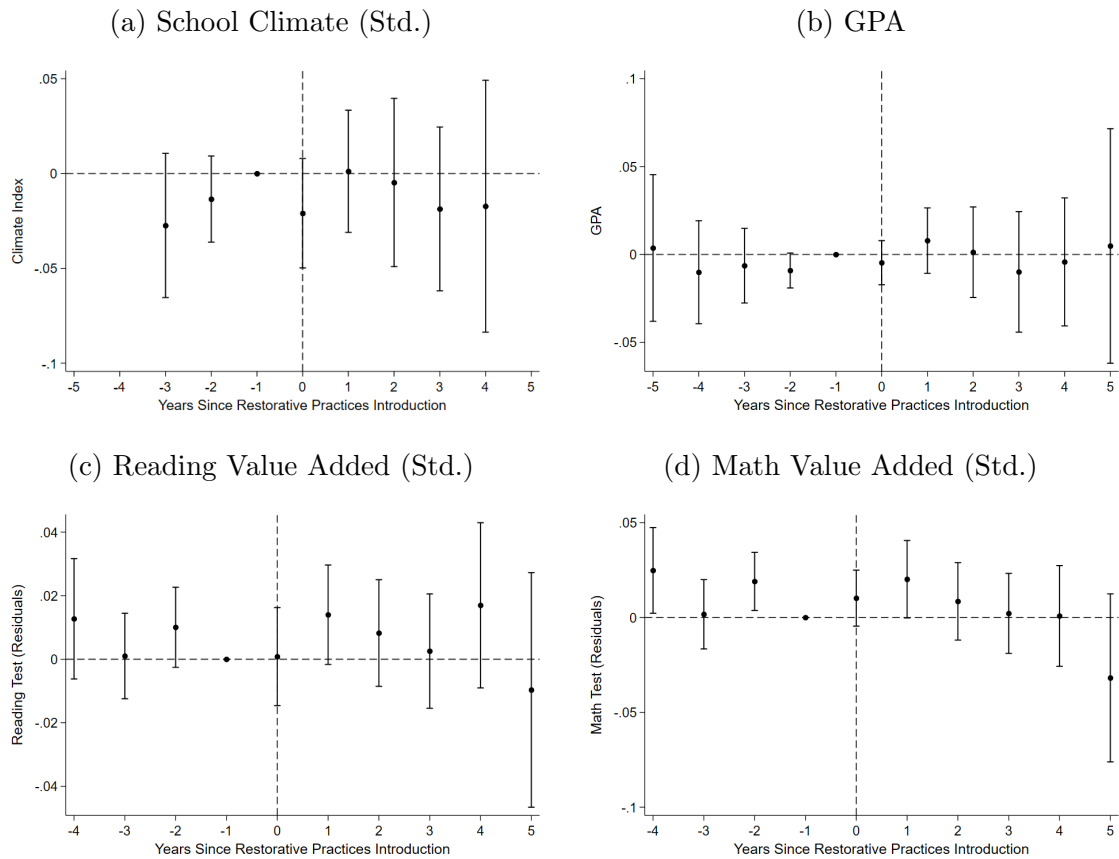


(f) Arrests



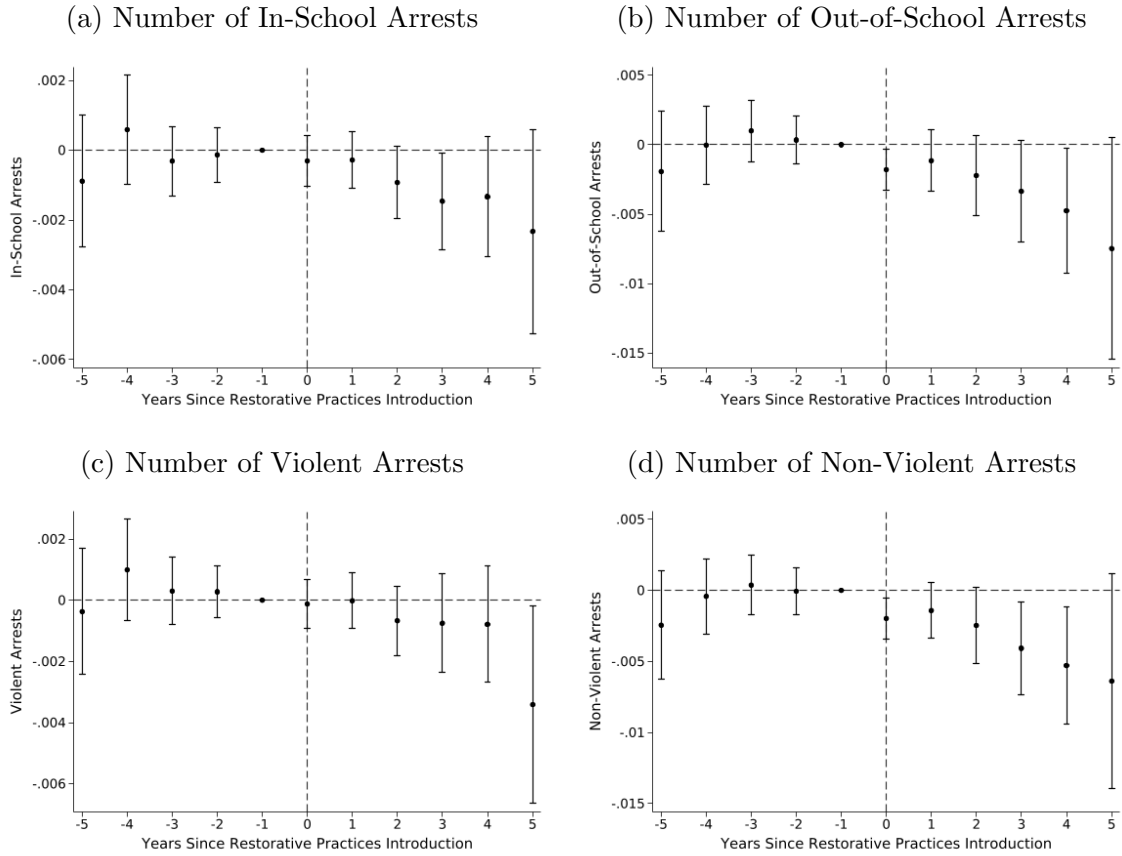
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and absent days) and policing outcomes (overall arrests) over time in elementary schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. Suspension and absence data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. The absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Regressions for the absent days outcome include student member days in the corresponding school year as a control. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A9: Elementary School Event Studies: School Climate and Learning



Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' perceptions of school climate and academic outcomes (GPA, reading value added, and math value added) over time in elementary schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Data for the school climate index begin two years after and ends one year before the data for the other outcome variables. Its graph therefore reflects one fewer estimated dynamic effect and two fewer placebo effects. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. Value added cannot be constructed for SY09; value-added graphs therefore reflect one fewer estimated placebo effect. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

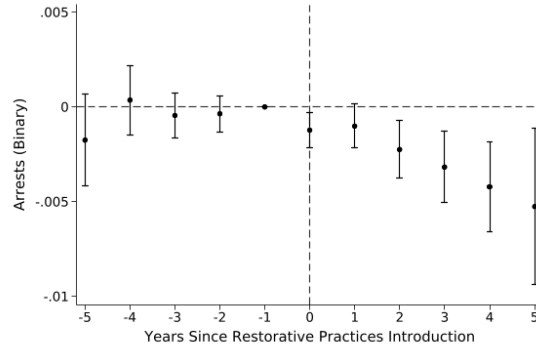
Figure A10: Elementary School Event Studies: Policing Outcomes



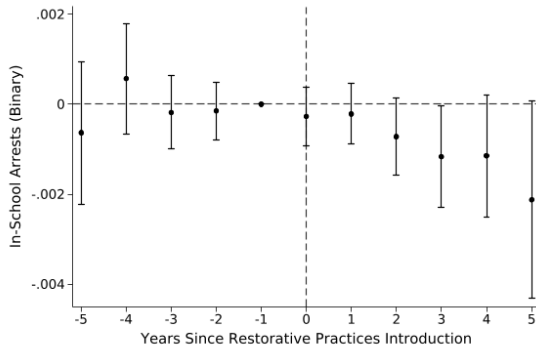
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' arrest outcomes (out-of-school vs. in-school, and violent vs. non-violent) over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A11: Elementary School Event Studies: Binary Policing Outcomes

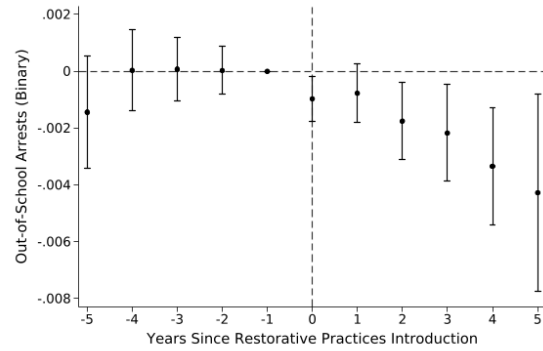
(a) Any Arrest (Binary)



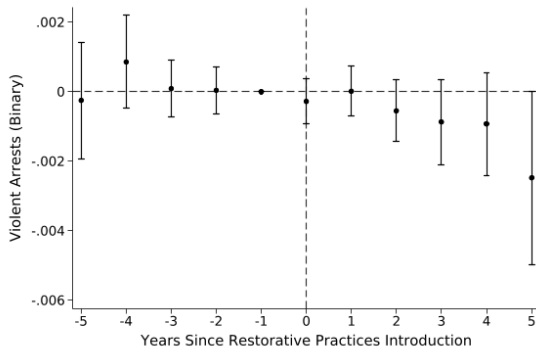
(b) Any In-School Arrest (Binary)



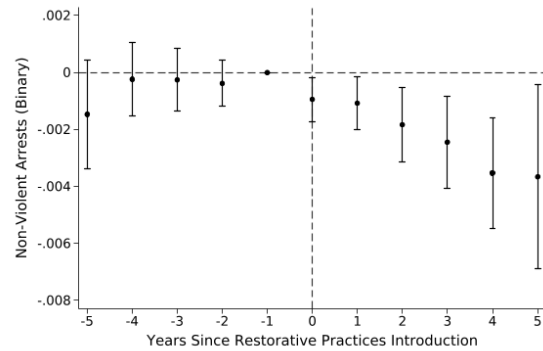
(c) Any Out-of-School Arrest (Binary)



(d) Any Violent Arrest (Binary)

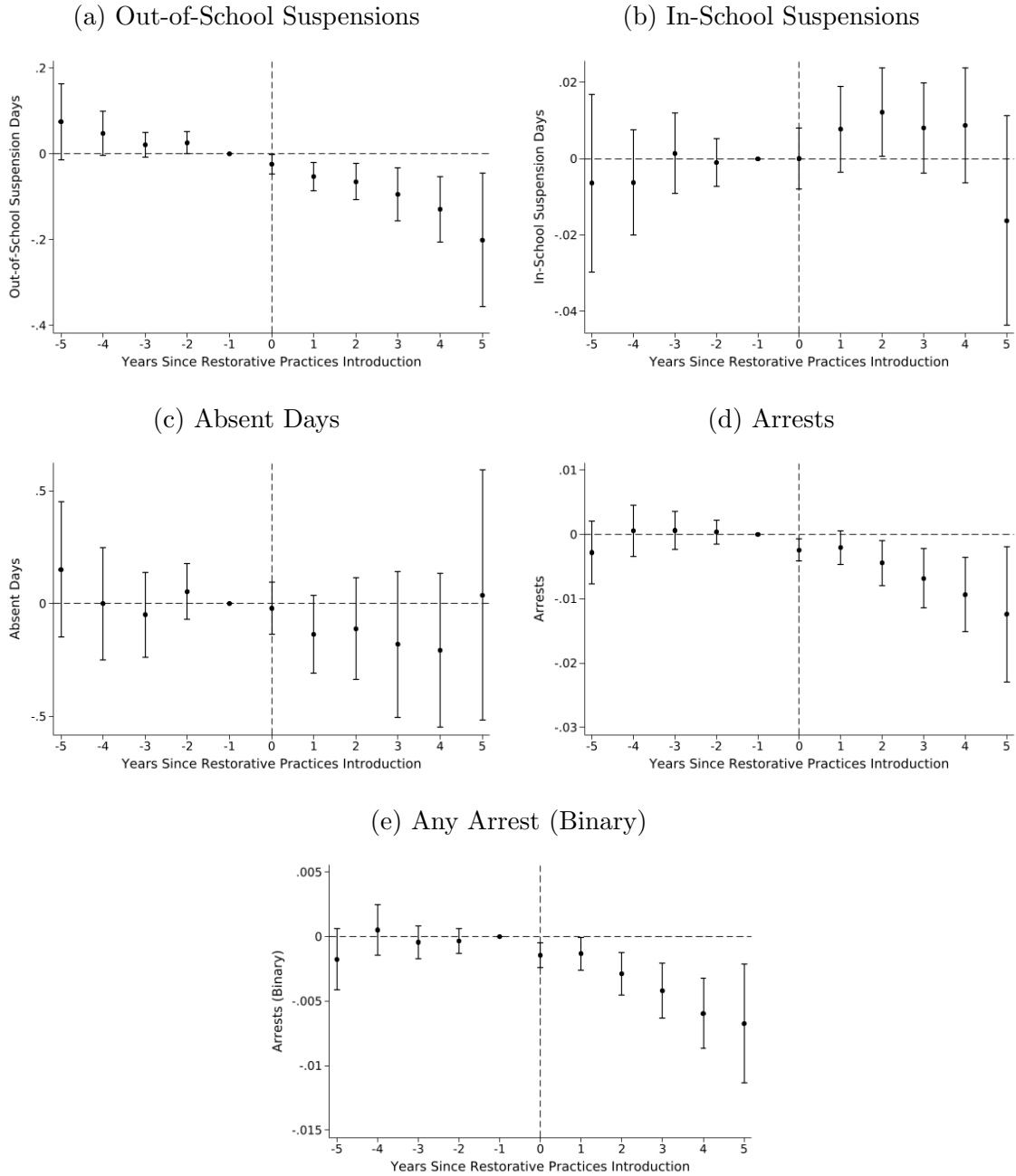


(e) Any Non-Violent Arrest (Binary)



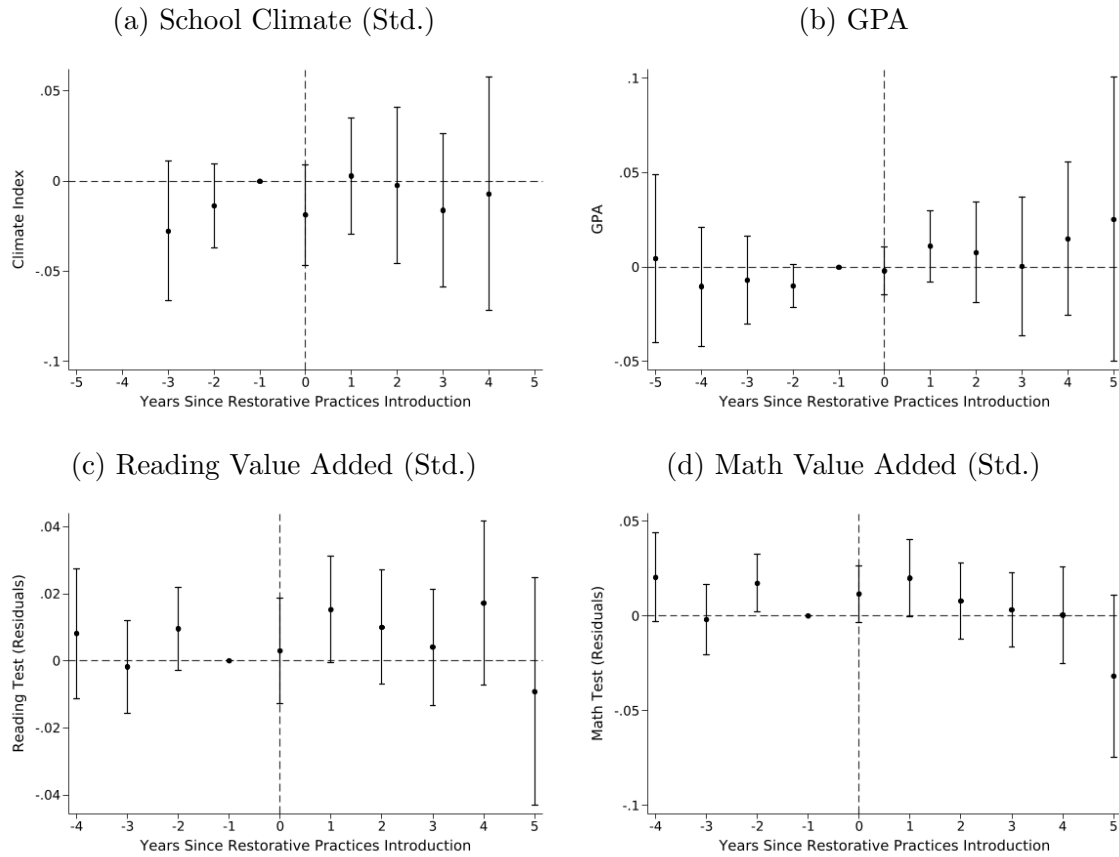
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' binary arrest outcomes (any out-of-school vs. in-school, and any violent vs. non-violent) over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A12: Elementary School Event Studies Excluding Controls: Behavioral Outcomes



Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and absent days) and policing outcomes (overall arrests) over time in elementary schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. Suspension and absence data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. The absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests (in (d)) or an indicator for any arrest (in (e)) experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

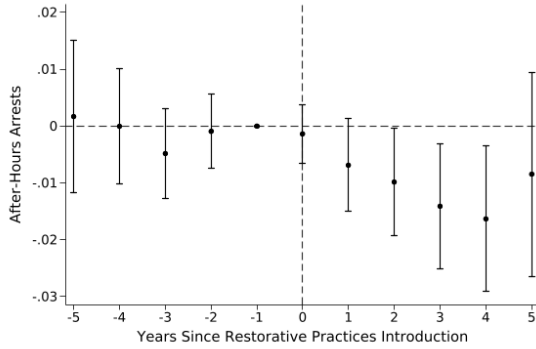
Figure A13: Elementary School Event Studies Excluding Controls: School Climate and Learning



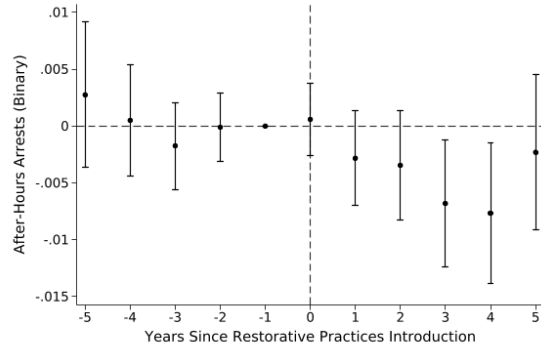
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students' perceptions of school climate and academic outcomes (GPA, reading value added, and math value added) over time in elementary schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Data for the school climate index begin two years after and ends one year before the data for the other outcome variables. Its graph therefore reflects one fewer estimated dynamic effect and two fewer placebo effects. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. Value added cannot be constructed for SY09; value-added graphs therefore reflect one fewer estimated placebo effect. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A14: High School Event Studies: Alternative Out-of-School Arrest Outcomes

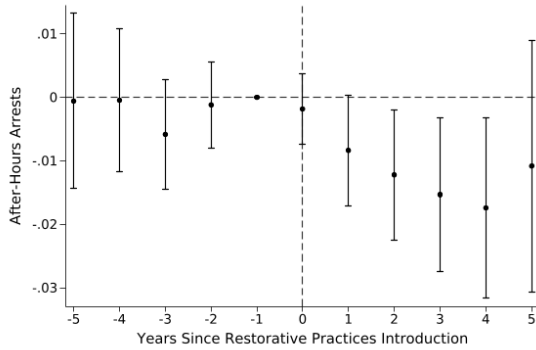
(a) Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am - 6:59pm on School Days



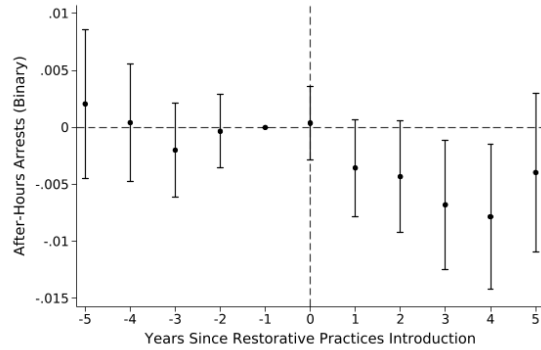
(b) Any Arrest, Excluding 7am - 6:59pm on School Days (Binary)



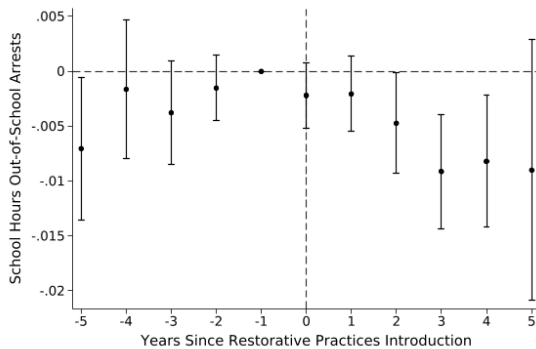
(c) Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am - 4:59pm on School Days



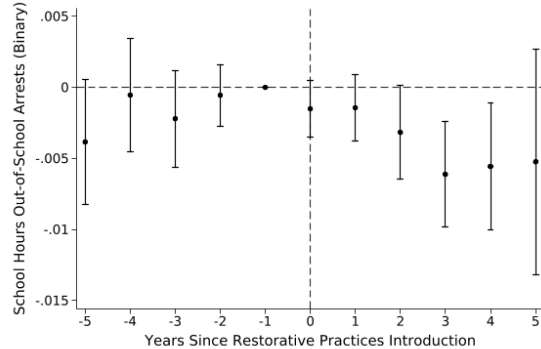
(d) Any Arrest, Excluding 7am - 4:59pm on School Days (Binary)



(e) Number of Arrests Outside School, 7am - 4:59pm on School Days

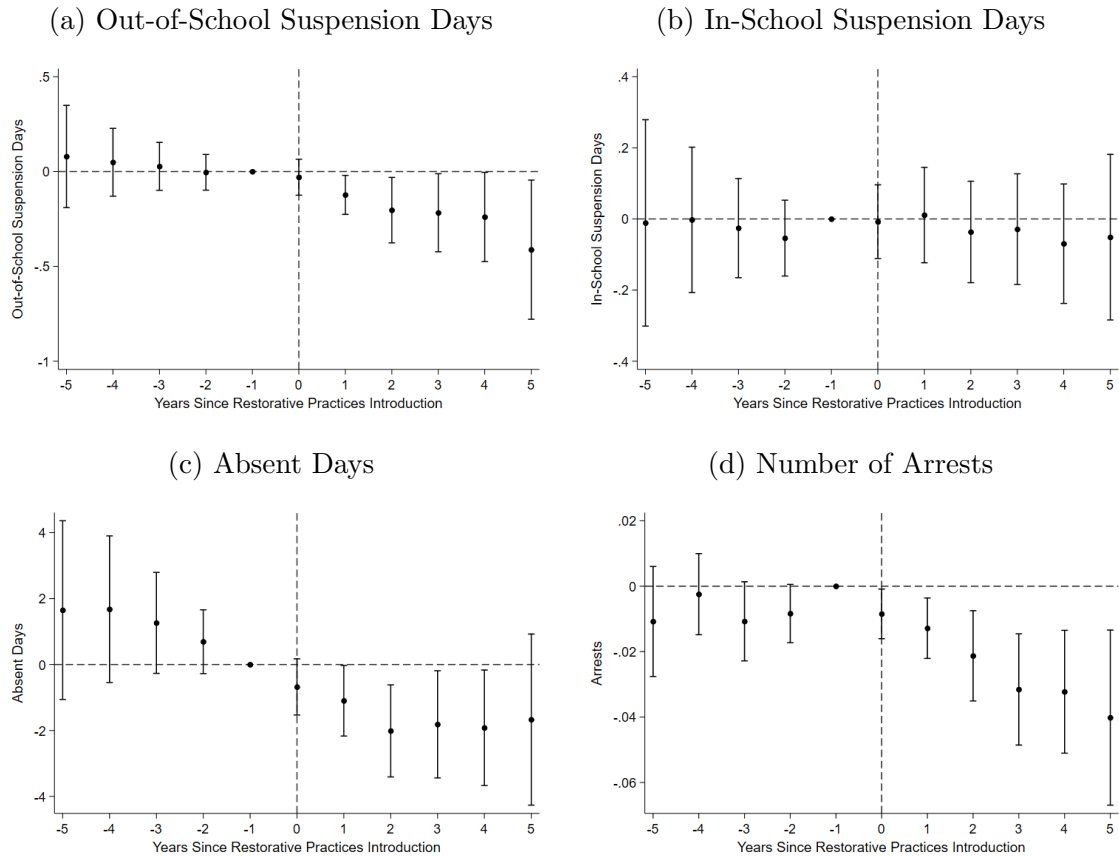


(f) Any Arrest Outside School, 7am - 4:59pm on School Days (Binary)



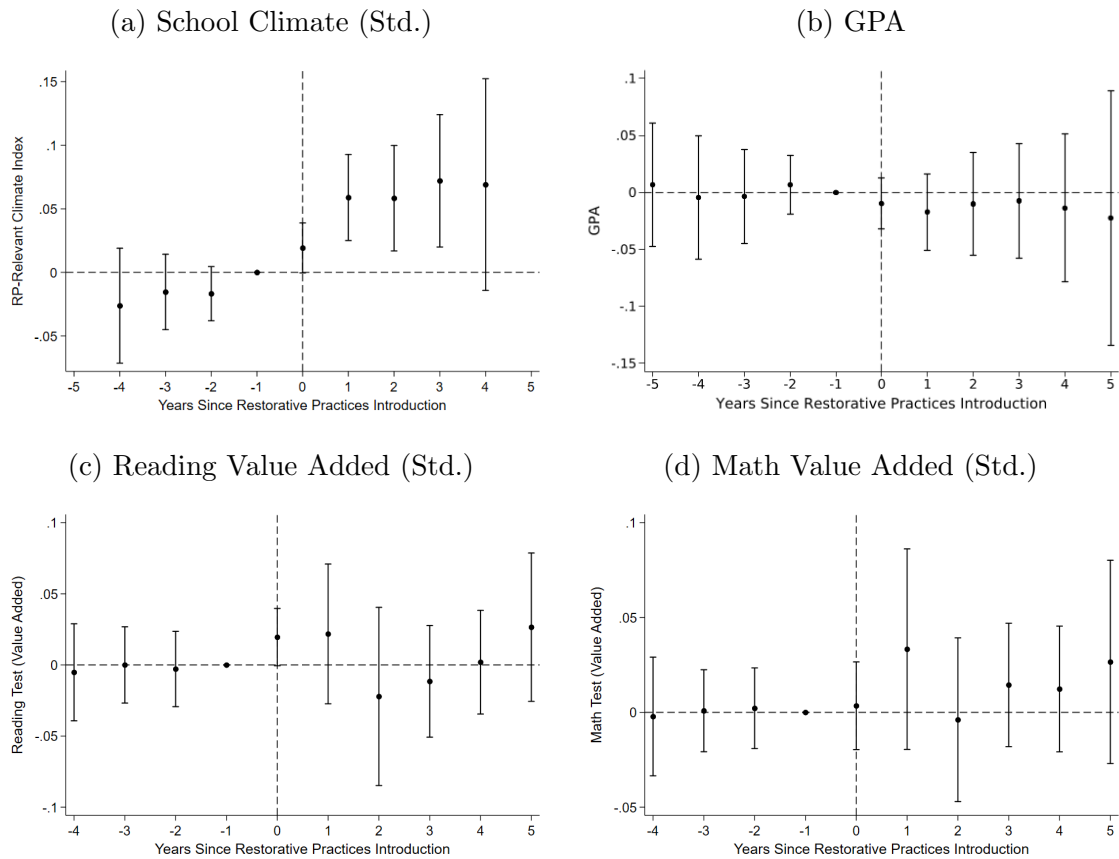
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on alternative out-of-school arrest outcomes. In (a)-(d), these outcomes include all arrests taking place on non-school days as well as arrests on school days outside of the referenced time window. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A15: High School Event Studies Using a Standard Difference-in-Differences (Two-Way Fixed Effects) Design: Behavioral and Policing Outcomes



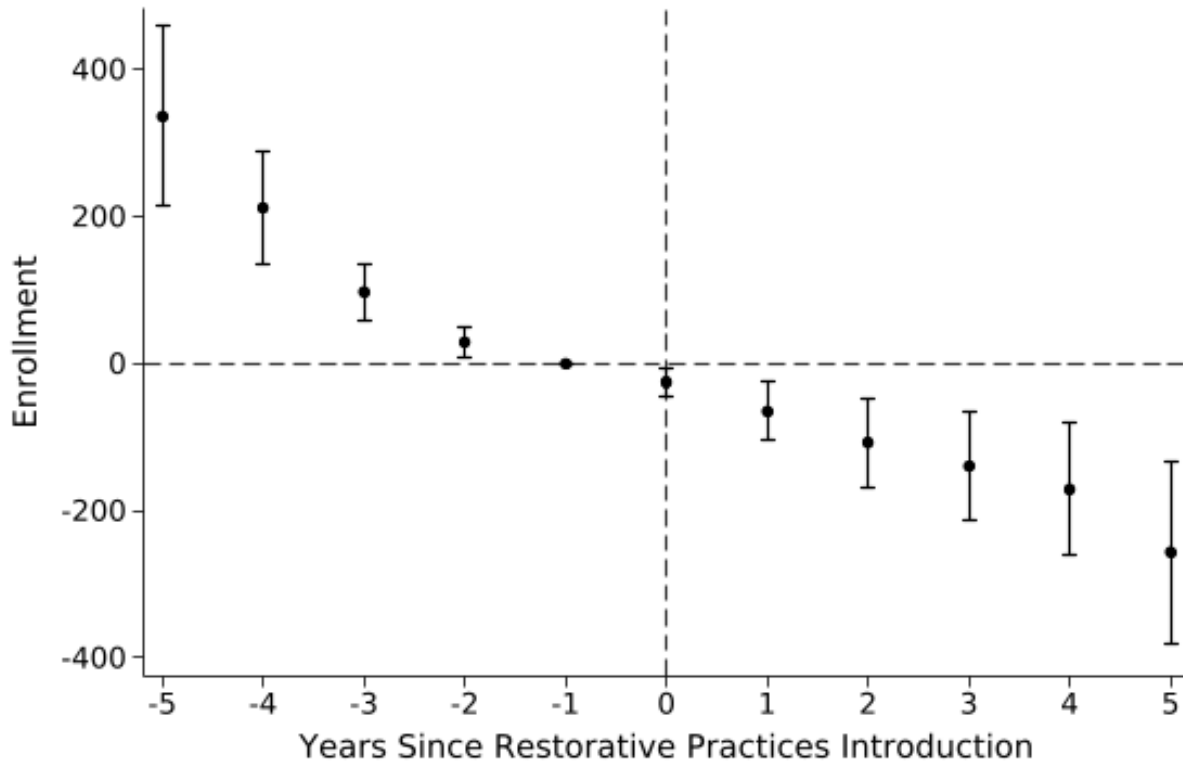
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions, in-school suspensions, and absent days) and policing outcomes (overall arrests) over time in high schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Suspension and absence data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. The absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Regressions for the absent days outcome include student member days in the corresponding school year as a control. Estimates are based on standard difference-in-differences models with entry school and school year fixed effects. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A16: High School Event Studies Using a Standard Difference-in-Differences (Two-Way Fixed Effects) Design: School Climate and Learning



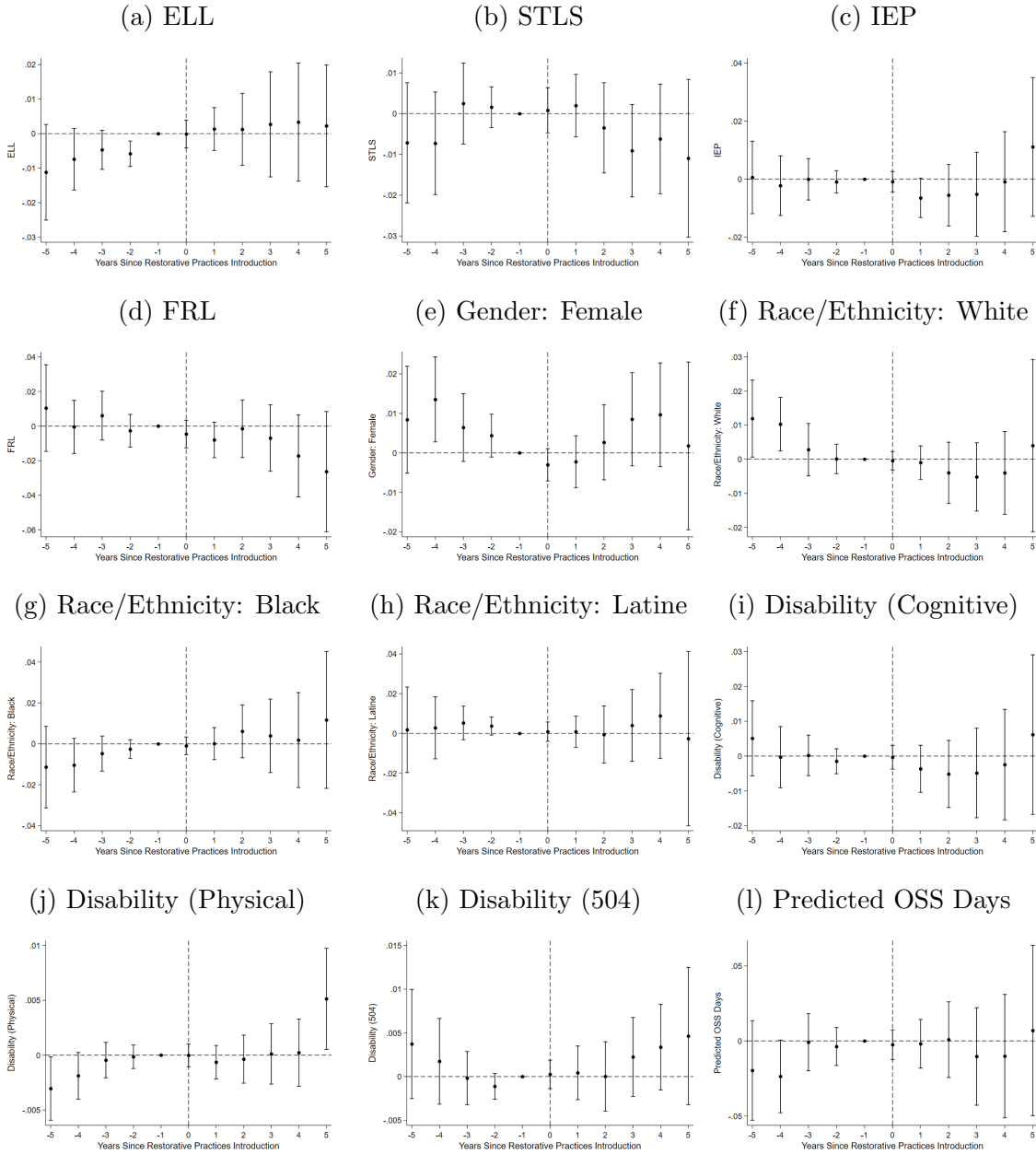
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on students’ perceptions of school climate and academic outcomes (GPA, reading value added, and math value added) over time in high schools. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Data for the school climate index begin two years after and ends one year before the data for the other outcome variables. Its graph therefore reflects one fewer estimated dynamic effect and two fewer placebo effects. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. Value added cannot be constructed for SY09; value-added graphs therefore reflect one fewer estimated placebo effect. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on standard difference-in-differences models with entry school and school year fixed effects. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A17: High School Event Studies: Enrollment



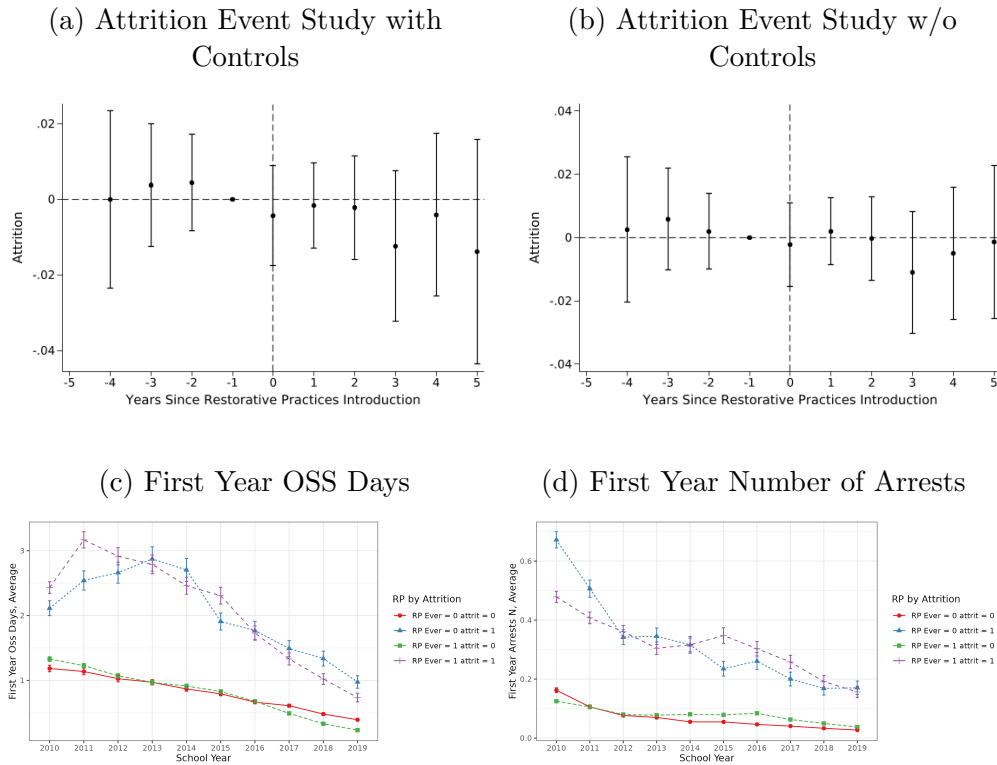
This figure shows the event study around the introduction of RP on annual high school (grades 9-12) enrollment. Observations are at the school-school year level. The sample covers all schools serving high school students for at least one year between SY09 and SY19. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A18: High School Event Studies: Characteristics as Outcomes



These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP where the outcomes are student characteristics (in Panels (a)-(k)) or predicted out-of-school suspension days (in Panel (l)). Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. ELL is an indicator for English Language Learner, STLS is an indicator for Students in Temporary Living Situations, IEP is an indicator for Individualized Education Plan, and FRL is an indicator for Free of Reduced-Price Lunch. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

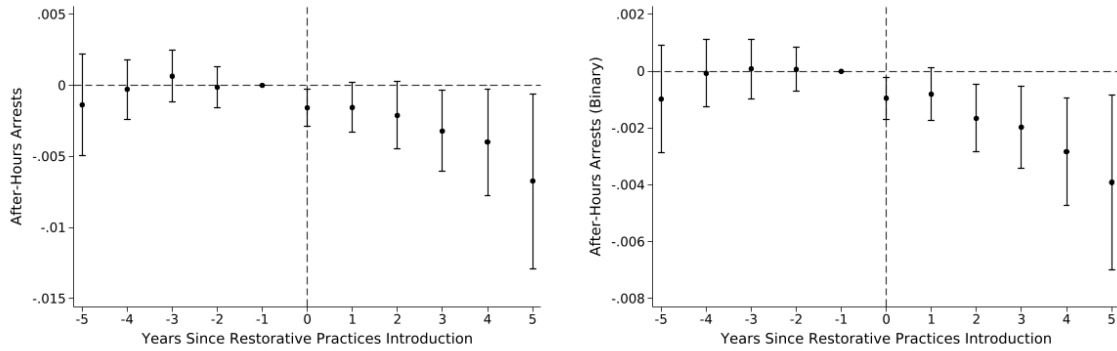
Figure A19: High School: Attrition Analysis



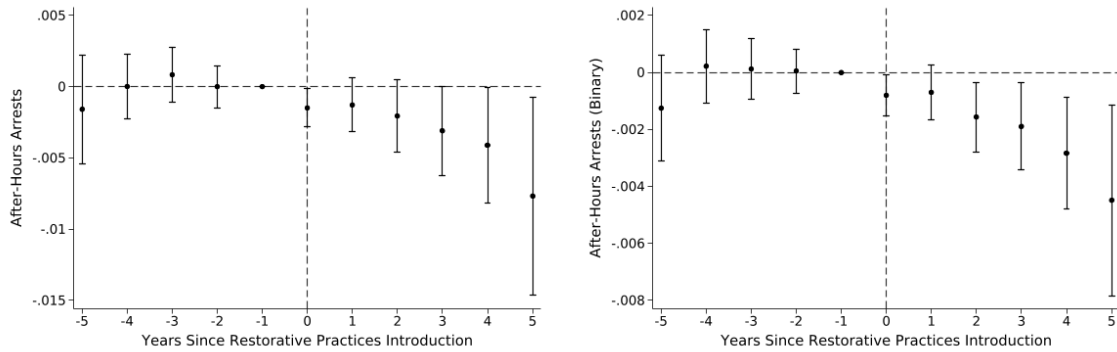
Notes: Panels A and B present the event studies for student attrition with and without controls. The sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. To produce these plots, an artificial panel was first constructed that includes one observation for each student in each grade level between nine and twelve under the assumption that students progressed one grade level each year. For the first student-grade observation that does not appear in our study sample due to student attrition, we code an attrition indicator variable equal to one. The attrition variable is set to missing in all subsequent years for that student. Panel A includes the following covariates: student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates in Panels A and B are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. In Panels C and D, the “attrit” variable for a student is coded as one if their attrition indicator ever equals one; the “RP Ever” variable for a student is coded as one if their initial high school ever adopted RP. Panels C and D present the average out-of-school suspension (OSS) days and number of arrests, respectively, in a student’s first high school year by school treatment status and attrition status. In each panel, bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A20: Elementary School Event Studies: Alternative Out-of-School Arrest Outcomes

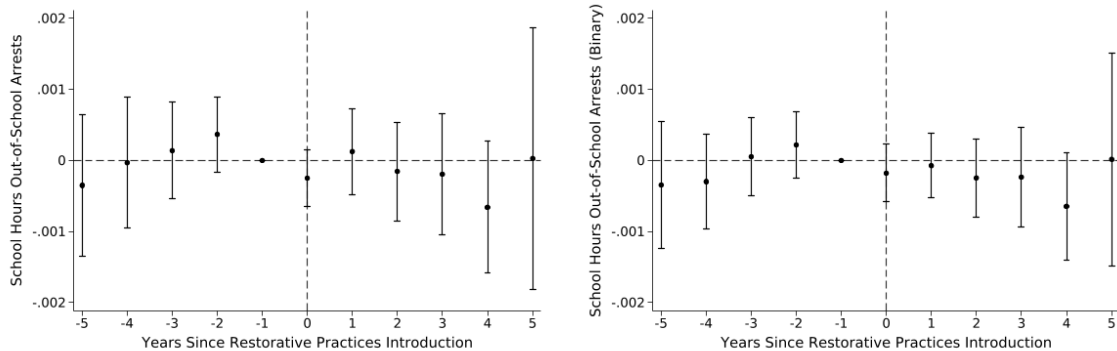
(a) Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am - 6:59pm on School Days (b) Any Arrest, Excluding 7am - 6:59pm on School Days (Binary)



(c) Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am - 4:59pm on School Days (d) Any Arrest, Excluding 7am - 4:59pm on School Days (Binary)



(e) Number of Arrests Outside School, 7am - 4:59pm on School Days (f) Any Arrest Outside School, 7am - 4:59pm on School Days (Binary)

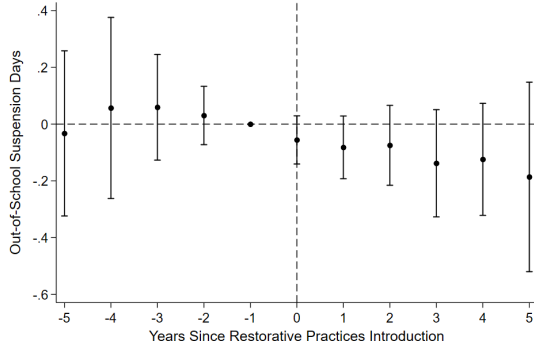


Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on alternative out-of-school arrest outcomes. In (a)-(d), these outcomes include all arrests taking place on non-school days as well as arrests on school days outside of the referenced time window. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

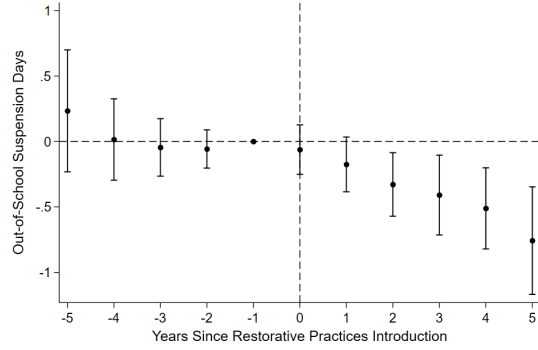
Figure A21: High School OSS Event Studies: Above- and Below-Median Predicted OSS

Panel A. All Students

(a) Below-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates

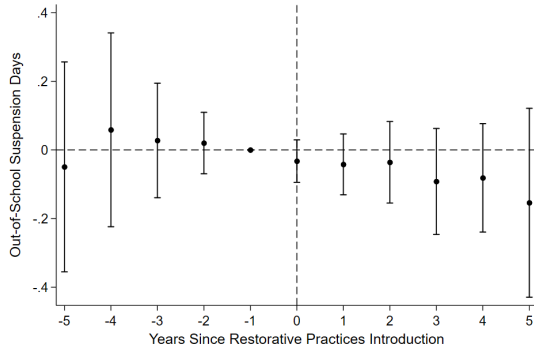


(b) Above-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates

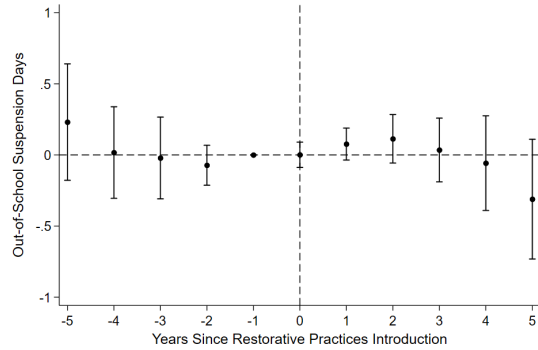


Panel B. Students Predicted to have Low-Suspension Propensity

(c) Below-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates



(d) Above-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates

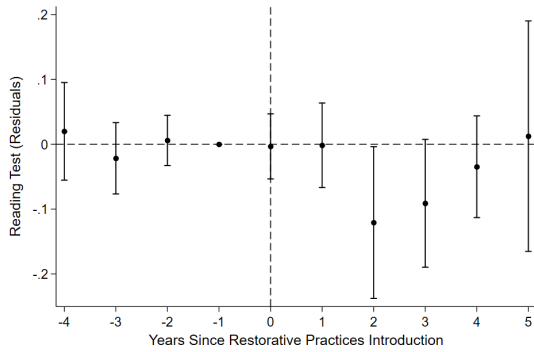


Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on out-of-school suspensions over time for all students and students with below-median predicted suspension days, by whether they belong to school-by-cohort cells that are above- versus below-median in predicted suspension days within a given cohort. Predictions for out-of-school suspension days for each student are constructed using a random forest algorithm as described in the text in Section VII. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

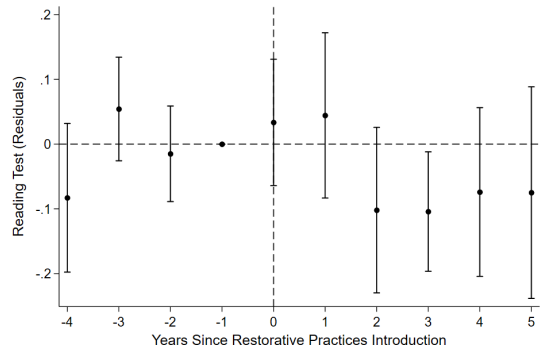
Figure A22: High School Event Studies for Learning Outcomes: Low Suspension Propensity Students

Panel A: Reading Value Added (Std.)

(a) Below-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates

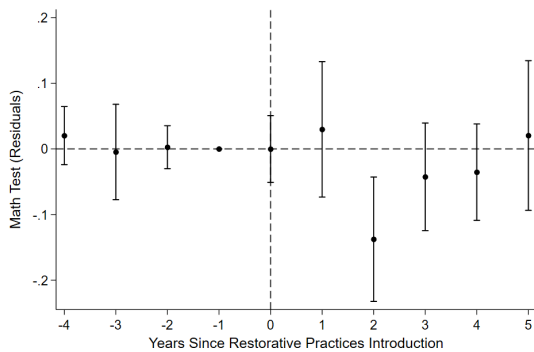


(b) Above-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates

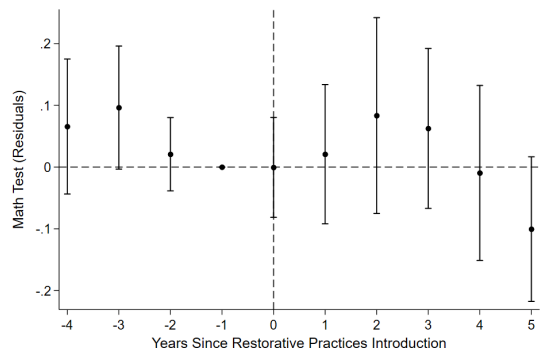


Panel B: Math Value Added (Std.)

(c) Below-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates

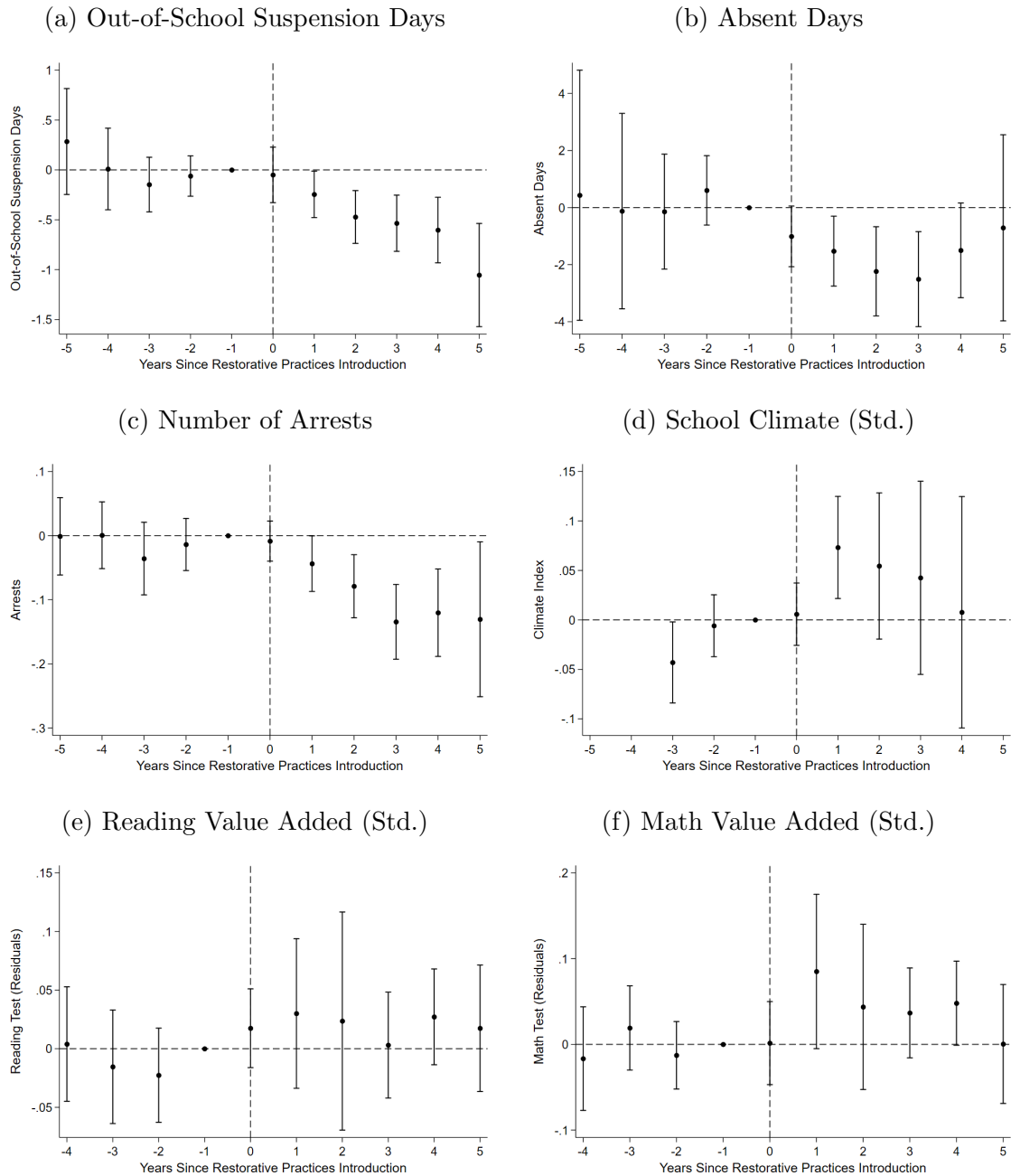


(d) Above-Median Predicted OSS for Classmates



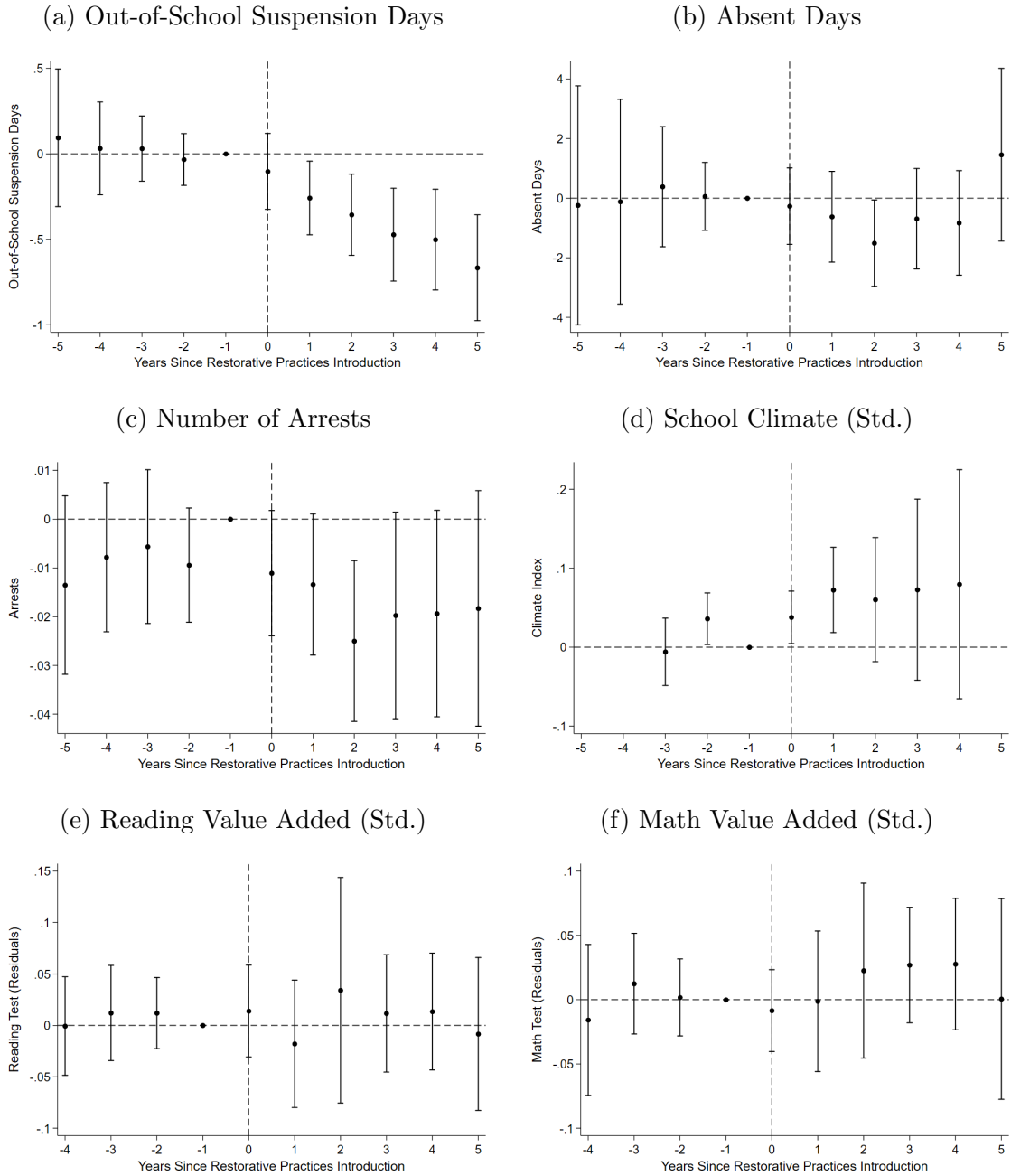
Notes: These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on reading value added and math value added over time for students with below-median predicted suspension days belonging to school-by-cohort cells that are above- versus below-median in predicted suspension days within a given cohort. Predictions for out-of-school suspension days for each student are constructed using a random forest algorithm as described in the text in Section VII. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A23: High School Event Studies: Black Males



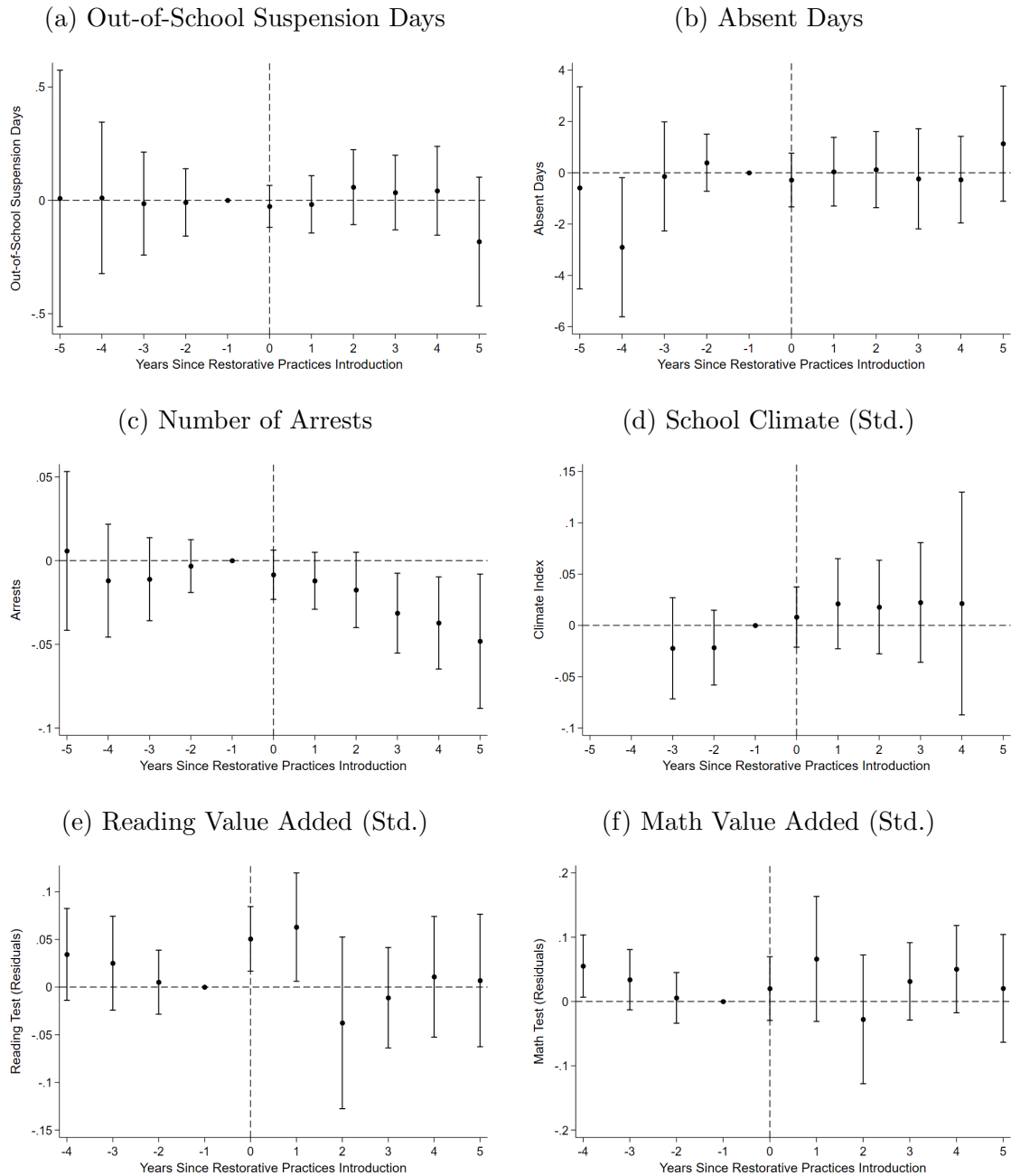
These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions and absent days), policing outcomes (overall arrests), perceptions of school climate, and academic outcomes (reading value added and math value added) among Black male students over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A24: High School Event Studies: Black Females



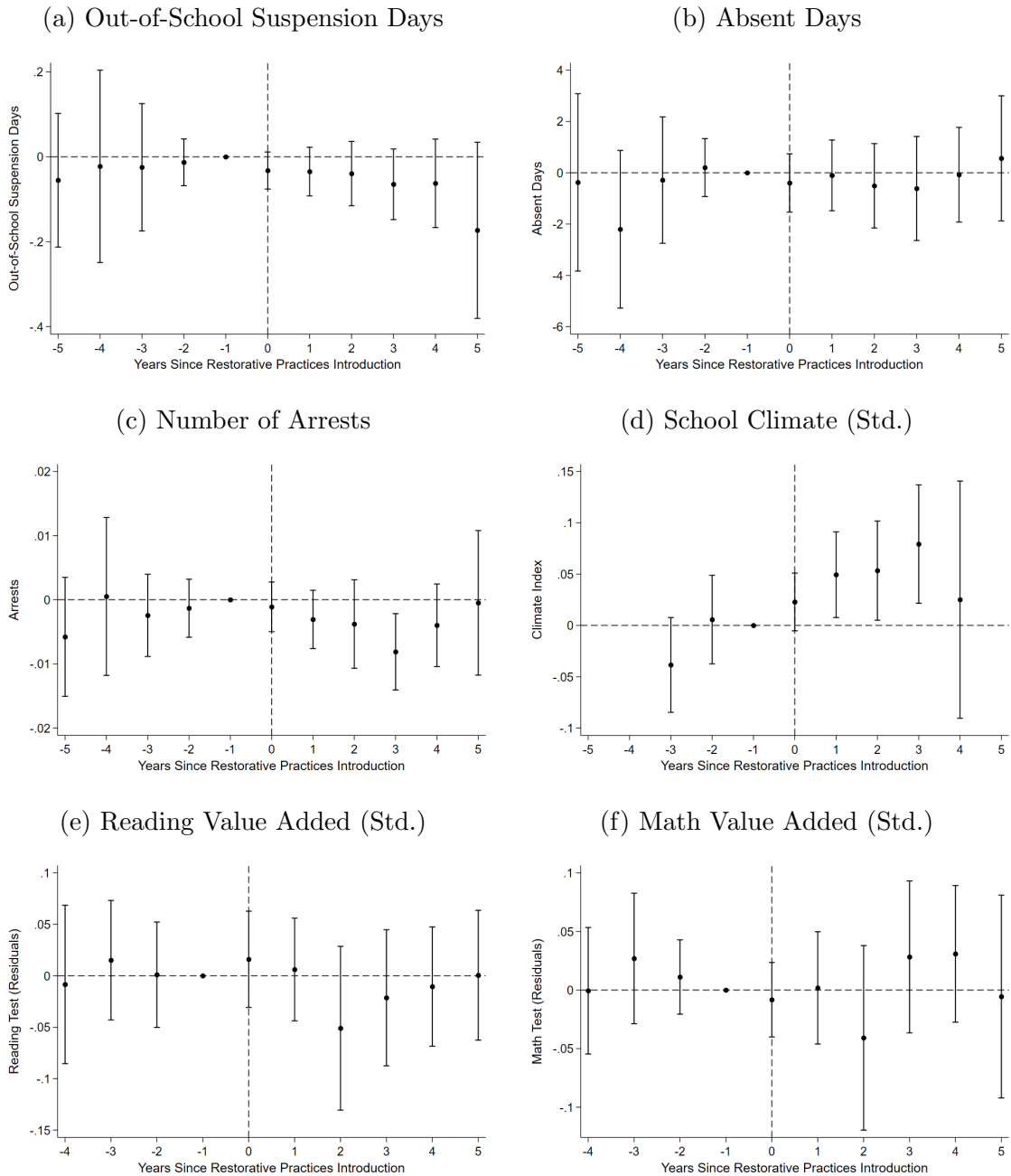
These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions and absent days), policing outcomes (overall arrests), perceptions of school climate, and academic outcomes (reading value added and math value added) among Black female students over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A25: High School Event Studies: Latine Males



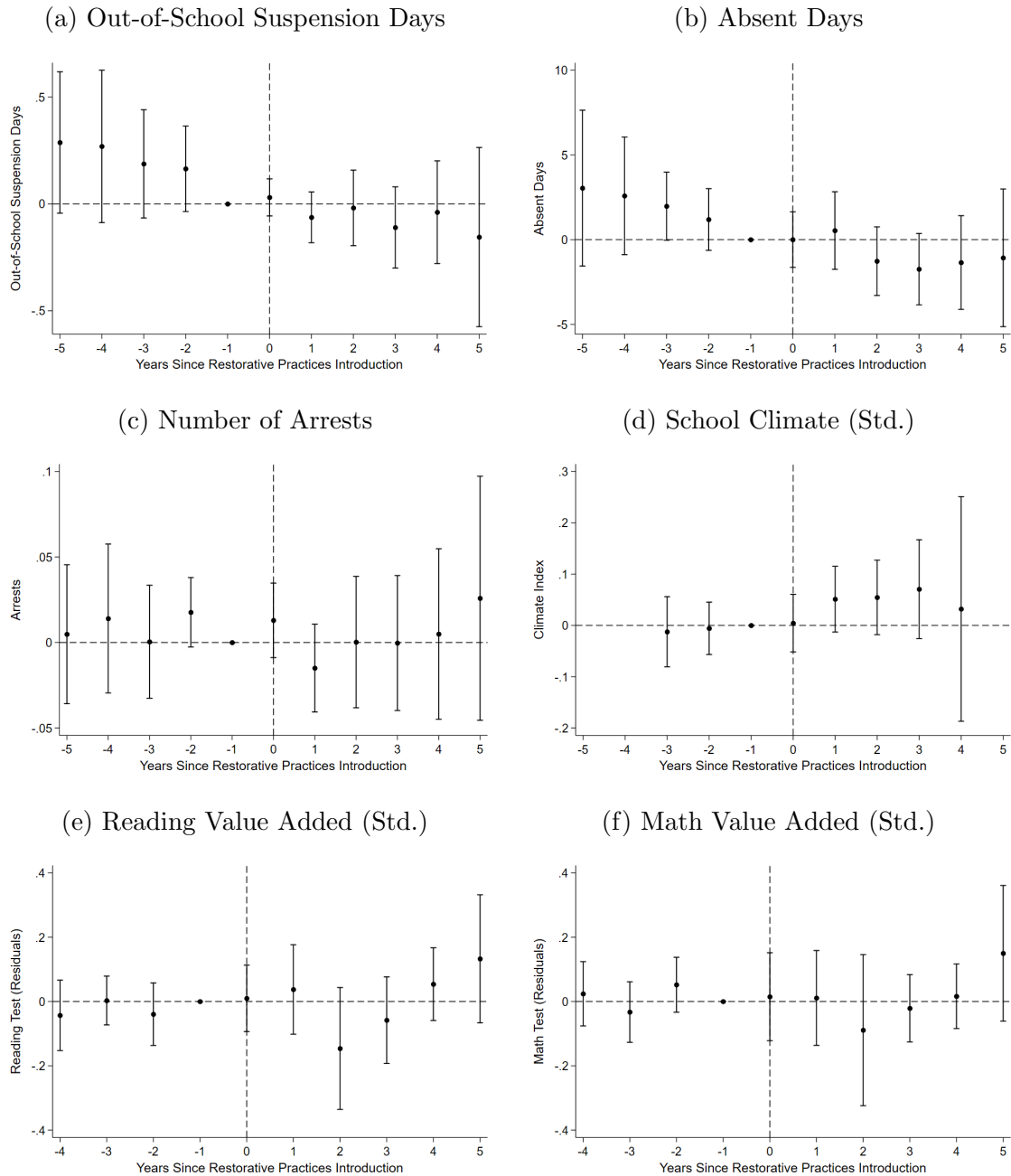
These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions and absent days), policing outcomes (overall arrests), perceptions of school climate, and academic outcomes (reading value added and math value added) among Latine male students over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A26: High School Event Studies: Latine Females



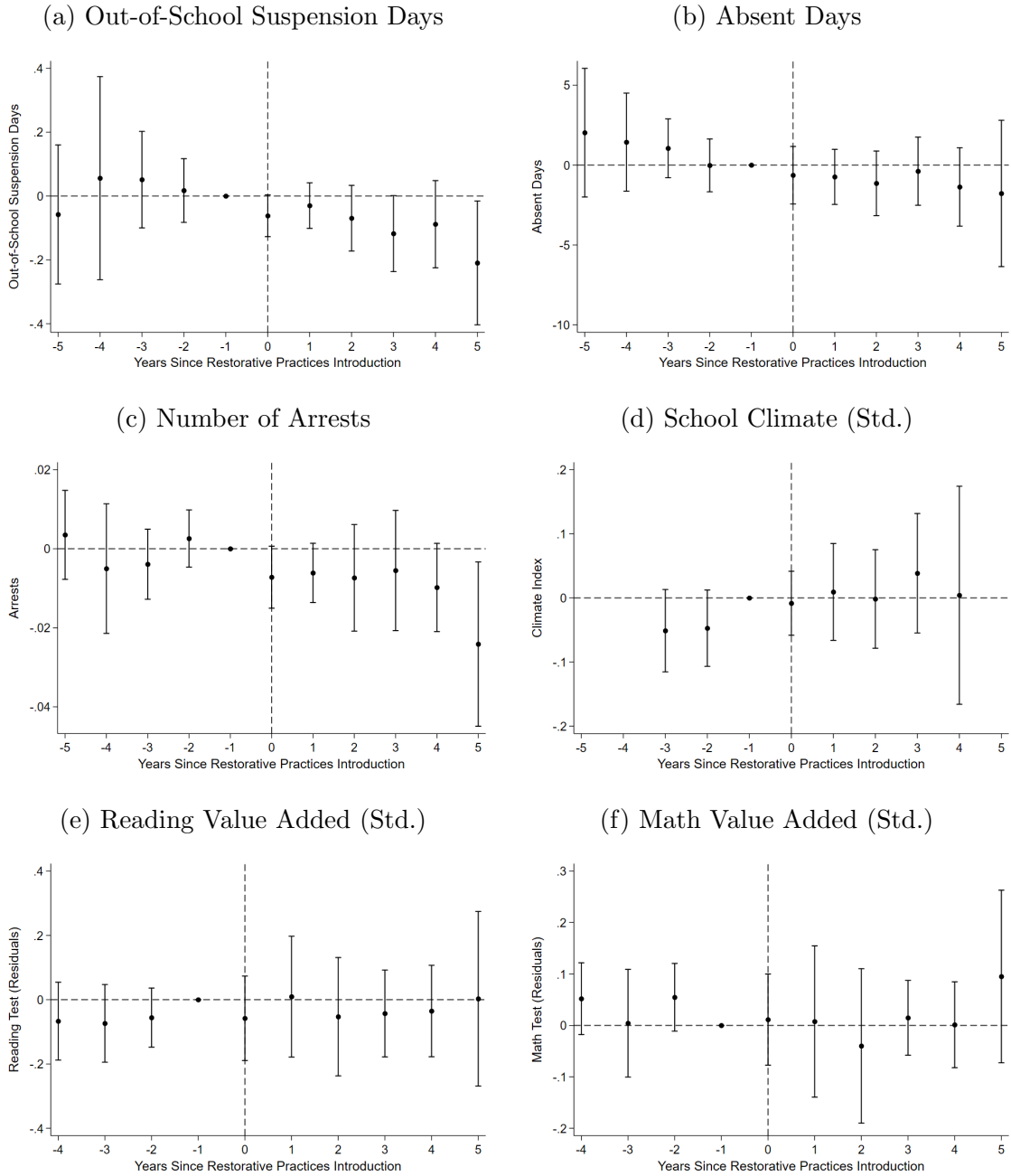
These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions and absent days), policing outcomes (overall arrests), perceptions of school climate, and academic outcomes (reading value added and math value added) among Latine female students over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A27: High School Event Studies: White Males



These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions and absent days), policing outcomes (overall arrests), perceptions of school climate, and academic outcomes (reading value added and math value added) among White male students over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

Figure A28: High School Event Studies: White Females



These figures show the event studies around the introduction of RP on in-school behavioral outcomes (out-of-school suspensions and absent days), policing outcomes (overall arrests), perceptions of school climate, and academic outcomes (reading value added and math value added) among White female students over time. Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Bars represent 95% confidence intervals based on standard errors clustered by school.

B Appendix Tables

Table A1: Number of High Schools by Initial Restorative Practices Program Type

RP Status	Total	District	Charter
Schools whose first RP received was Coaching	60	56	4
First RP Received was Coaching in SY14	18	18	0
First RP Received was Coaching in SY15	23	23	0
First RP Received was Coaching in SY16	5	5	0
First RP Received was Coaching in SY17	3	3	0
First RP Received was Coaching in SY18	7	4	3
First RP Received was Coaching in SY19	4	3	1
Schools whose first RP received was Leadership	4	4	0
First RP Received was Leadership in SY17	1	1	0
First RP Received was Leadership in SY18	3	3	0
Schools whose first RP received was Peer Council	8	8	0
First RP Received was Peer Council in SY14	4	4	0
First RP Received was Peer Council in SY19	4	4	0

Notes: This table presents summary statistics on the number of high schools by first RP type by school year. RP programming data covers SY14-SY19. If schools received multiple RP programs in the same initial year, this table only counts the most intensive of the RP programs in which they participated (with Coaching being the most intensive and Peer Council being the least).

Table A2: High School Student Baseline Characteristics by English Language Learner Status, Grade Level, and Disability Status

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	Absent Days (2)	Number of Arrests (3)	School Climate (Std.) (4)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (5)	Math Value Added (Std.) (6)
<i>Native English (NE)</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.965	18.452	0.132	0.001	0.003	0.006
Observations	96,850	96,850	99,508	65,214	57,810	57,868
<i>English Learners (EL)</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.561	17.603	0.060	-0.020	-0.068	-0.113
Observations	6,287	6,287	6,298	4,037	2,907	2,912
<i>Test (NE=EL): p-value</i>	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.032	0.000	0.000
<i>Grades 9 and 10 (G1)</i>						
Baseline Mean	1.140	16.807	0.154	0.000	0.000	0.000
Observations	56,654	56,654	58,988	39,663	41,586	41,646
<i>Grades 11 and 12 (G2)</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.696	20.343	0.095	0.000	0.000	0.000
Observations	46,483	46,483	46,818	29,588	19,131	19,134
<i>Test (G1=G2): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	-	-	-
<i>Any Disability (AD)</i>						
Baseline Mean	1.049	21.976	0.191	-0.019	0.006	-0.025
Observations	16,655	16,655	17,181	9,930	9,196	9,226
<i>504 Disability</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.728	19.982	0.062	0.036	0.106	0.069
Observations	2,827	2,827	2,901	1,960	1,864	1,865
<i>Physical Disability</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.885	24.140	0.180	0.056	0.119	0.070
Observations	1,089	1,089	1,153	553	523	526
<i>Cognitive Disability</i>						
Baseline Mean	1.134	22.234	0.220	-0.040	-0.030	-0.058
Observations	12,739	12,739	13,127	7,417	6,809	6,835
<i>No Disability (ND)</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.922	17.750	0.116	0.003	-0.001	0.004
Observations	86,221	86,221	88,241	59,308	51,521	51,554
<i>Test (AD=ND): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.321	0.000

Notes: This table displays the mean for each outcome variable in SY13 for students at any grade level between 9 and 12, disaggregated by English Language Learner (ELL) status, grade grouping, and disability status. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for additional variable definitions. For each source of heterogeneity, we present *p*-values from the test of the null hypothesis that the mean for one group equals the mean for its complement (i.e., Test (NE=EL) is the test of the null hypothesis that the average variable value for native English speakers equals the average value for English learners).

Table A3: High School Student Baseline Characteristics by Race and Gender

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	Absent Days (2)	Number of Arrests (3)	School Climate (Std.) (4)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (5)	Math Value Added (Std.) (6)
<i>Male</i>						
Baseline Mean	1.149	18.045	0.212	0.011	0.004	-0.005
Observations	50,148	50,148	51,548	32,647	28,922	28,955
<i>Female</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.746	18.805	0.047	-0.011	-0.004	0.005
Observations	52,728	52,728	53,874	36,591	31,795	31,825
<i>Test (M = F): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.123	0.033
<i>Black Male</i>						
Baseline Mean	1.880	21.010	0.384	-0.048	-0.024	-0.050
Observations	21,850	21,850	22,581	13,079	11,733	11,768
<i>Test (BM = NBM): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<i>Black Female</i>						
Baseline Mean	1.322	21.814	0.086	-0.107	-0.001	-0.007
Observations	23,998	23,998	24,550	15,754	13,865	13,891
<i>Test (BF = NBF): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.424	0.001
<i>Latine Male</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.670	16.465	0.089	0.025	-0.012	0.004
Observations	21,228	21,228	21,632	14,653	13,002	12,999
<i>Test (LM = NLM): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.019
<i>Latine Female</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.304	17.084	0.015	0.030	-0.048	-0.005
Observations	21,687	21,687	22,053	15,668	13,658	13,660
<i>Test (LF = NLF): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.005
<i>White Male</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.417	15.370	0.060	0.137	0.113	0.084
Observations	4,779	4,779	4,995	3,343	2,882	2,883
<i>Test (WM = NWM): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<i>White Female</i>						
Baseline Mean	0.180	15.650	0.014	0.163	0.135	0.070
Observations	4,899	4,899	5,098	3,573	3,059	3,058
<i>Test (WF = NWF): p-value</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Notes: This table displays the mean for each outcome variable in SY13 for students at any grade level between 9 and 12, disaggregated by race/ethnicity and gender. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for additional variable definitions. For each source of heterogeneity, we present *p*-values from the test of the null hypothesis that the mean for one group equals the mean for its complement (i.e., Test (BF=NBF) is the test of the null hypothesis that the average variable value for Black females equals the average value for non-Black females).

Table A4: Baseline Characteristics: Chicago Public Schools Elementary School Students

Variable	Treated (1)	Non-Treated (2)	Difference (3)
Total Enrollment	557.16 (308.12)	541.06 (319.29)	16.10 (27.18)
Out-of-School Suspension Days	0.44 (1.96)	0.38 (1.78)	0.06 (0.05)
In-School Suspension Days	0.06 (0.44)	0.05 (0.39)	0.01 (0.01)
Absent Days	8.81 (9.88)	8.32 (9.26)	0.49* (0.24)
Number of Arrests	0.02 (0.24)	0.02 (0.24)	0.00 (0.00)
Ever Arrested	0.01 (0.11)	0.01 (0.10)	0.00 (0.00)
GPA	2.94 (0.70)	3.00 (0.69)	-0.06 (0.04)
Math Scores (Std.)	-0.03 (1.00)	0.02 (1.00)	-0.05 (0.04)
Reading Scores (Std.)	-0.03 (1.00)	0.02 (1.00)	-0.06 (0.04)
Math Value Added	0.005 (0.50)	-0.003 (0.51)	0.008 (0.01)
Reading Value Added	-0.004 (0.54)	0.002 (0.54)	-0.006 (0.01)
School Climate Index (Std.)	-0.02 (0.65)	0.01 (0.66)	-0.02 (0.02)
English Learner	0.14 (0.35)	0.14 (0.34)	0.00 (0.01)
Students in Temporary Living Situations	0.04 (0.20)	0.04 (0.19)	0.01 (0.01)
Individualized Education Plan	0.15 (0.36)	0.14 (0.35)	0.01 (0.01)
Economically Disadvantaged	0.85 (0.36)	0.85 (0.36)	0.00 (0.02)
Gender: Female	0.49 (0.50)	0.49 (0.50)	0.00 (0.00)
Race/Ethnicity: Black	0.44 (0.50)	0.42 (0.49)	0.02 (0.04)
Race/Ethnicity: White	0.11 (0.31)	0.10 (0.30)	0.00 (0.02)
Race/Ethnicity: Latine	0.42 (0.49)	0.44 (0.50)	-0.01 (0.04)
Disability: Cognitive	0.15 (0.35)	0.14 (0.35)	0.01 (0.00)
Disability: None	0.79 (0.40)	0.80 (0.40)	-0.01 (0.01)
Disability: Physical	0.02 (0.13)	0.02 (0.12)	0.00 (0.00)
Disability: 504	0.04 (0.20)	0.05 (0.21)	0.00 (0.00)
Observations	67,348	100,037	

Notes: This table presents student-level means in subsequently treated elementary schools (column 1) and non-treated elementary schools (column 2), with means constructed in SY13 (prior to the introduction of RP) for the sample of students in grades 3-8. The associated differences (column 3) are derived from student-level regressions of the given outcome on a treatment indicator variable, with the standard errors clustered at the school level. Absent Days is defined as the total number of days absent, minus the total number of out-of-school suspension days that a student had in the school year, regardless of school. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. The School Climate Index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Standard errors are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1 percent level, * at the 5 percent level, and + at the 10 percent level.

Table A5: High School Restorative Practices: Alternative Out-of-School Arrest Outcomes

	Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am - 6:59pm (1)	Any Arrest, Excluding 7am - 6:59pm (Binary) (2)	Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am - 4:59pm (3)	Any Arrest, Excluding 7am - 4:59pm (Binary) (4)	Number of Arrests Not at School, Between 7am - 4:59pm (5)	Any Arrest Not at School, Between 7am - 4:59pm (Binary) (6)
RP	-0.0089* (0.0039)	-0.0035+ (0.0020)	-0.0102* (0.0042)	-0.0040* (0.0020)	-0.0051* (0.0020)	-0.0034* (0.0014)
Baseline Mean	0.0641	0.0409	0.0729	0.0454	0.0295	0.0223
Observations	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959

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Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. In columns 1-4, out-of-school arrest outcomes include all arrests taking place on non-school days as well as arrests on school days outside of the referenced time window. In columns 5-6, the arrest outcome includes arrests on school days and during school hours (7am-4:59pm) but outside of the school location. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A6: High School Student Perception Survey (“My Voice, My School”) Constructs

	RP	Observations
School Climate Index Components (Std.)		
Emotional Health	0.013 (0.016)	742,979
Student Classroom Behavior	0.054*(0.022)	744,023
Academic Personalism	0.028 (0.018)	723,840
Psychological Sense of School Membership	0.050**(0.019)	745,163
Safety	0.036+ (0.021)	714,731
School-Wide Future Orientation	0.047*(0.023)	714,173
School Safety	0.064*(0.026)	750,261
Student Teacher Trust	0.034+ (0.021)	738,723
Placebo Constructs (Std.)		
Human and Social Resources in Community	0.001 (0.019)	719,136
Parent Supportiveness	-0.009 (0.015)	736,676

Notes: This table displays constructs included in the student perception survey, “My Voice, My School.” All constructs are corrected to fit a positively valenced metric, where higher scores are better. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over five periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY11 and SY18. Each MVMS construct is standardized by year and grade. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A7: Robustness: Behavioral Outcomes (High School)

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	In-School Suspension Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	Number of Arrests (4)
<i>Panel A: Benchmark Estimates</i>				
RP	-0.167*	-0.028	-0.540	-0.024**
	(0.068)	(0.068)	(0.484)	(0.007)
Baseline Mean	0.940	0.413	18.401	0.128
Observations	1,356,512	1,356,512	1,356,512	1,380,959
<i>Panel B: Difference-in-Differences</i>				
RP	-0.154+	0.001	-2.133**	-0.012*
	(0.087)	(0.07)	(0.772)	(0.006)
Baseline Mean	0.940	0.413	18.401	0.128
Observations	1,126,004	1,126,004	1,126,004	1,173,658
<i>Panel C: Dropping Charter and Contract School Students</i>				
RP	-0.155*	-0.005	-0.213	-0.022**
	(0.076)	(0.091)	(0.534)	(0.008)
Baseline Mean	0.946	0.469	19.904	0.128
Observations	873,906	873,906	873,906	893,546

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Estimates in Panel B are based on standard difference-in-differences models with entry school and school year fixed effects. Estimates in Panels A and C are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020), and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Panel C restricts the sample to students who remained in traditional district-run schools in each school year and so excludes all observations for students who ever attended a charter school or contract school in that year. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

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Table A8: Robustness: School Climate and Learning (High School)

	School Climate (Std.)	GPA	Reading Value Added (Std.)	Math Value Added (Std.)
<i>Panel A: Benchmark Estimates</i>				
RP	0.042*	-0.024	-0.002	0.016
	(0.017)	(0.021)	(0.016)	(0.015)
Baseline Mean	0.000	2.473	0.000	0.000
Observations	751,792	851,492	421,783	421,864
<i>Panel B: Difference-in-Differences</i>				
RP	0.054**	-0.012	0.009	0.011
	(0.017)	(0.022)	(0.012)	(0.011)
Baseline Mean	0.000	2.473	0.000	0.000
Observations	578,657	865,184	465,351	465,501
<i>Panel C: Dropping Charter and Contract School Students</i>				
RP	0.032	-	-0.020	0.001
	(0.019)	-	(0.018)	(0.016)
Baseline Mean	-0.019	-	-0.005	-0.024
Observations	510,617	-	269,818	269,787

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Estimates in Panel B are based on standard difference-in-differences models with entry school and school year fixed effects. Estimates in Panels A and C are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020), and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Panel C restricts the sample to students who remained in traditional district-run schools in each school year and so excludes all observations for students who ever attended a charter school or contract school in that year. We omit the result with GPA as the outcome from Panel C as charter and contract school students are already excluded from the benchmark GPA regression sample. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A9: High School Restorative Practices: In-School Behavioral Outcomes (No Controls)

	Out-of-School Suspension		In-School Suspension		Absent Days
	Days (1)	Binary (2)	Days (3)	Binary (4)	
RP	-0.136*	-0.022*	-0.014	0.000	-0.559
	(0.067)	(0.010)	(0.055)	(0.017)	(0.478)
Baseline Mean	0.940	0.177	0.413	0.132	18.401
Observations	1,362,075	1,362,075	1,362,075	1,362,075	1,362,075

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. In columns 1 and 3, the out-of-school suspension (OSS) days and in-school suspension (ISS) days outcomes are the total number of OSS or ISS days that the student received in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school. In columns 2 and 4, the OSS and ISS binary outcomes indicate whether a student ever received either of these types of suspensions in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. In column 5, the absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Regressions for the absent days outcome include student member days in the corresponding school year as a control. Data were collected by Chicago Public Schools. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A10: High School Restorative Practices: Policing Outcomes (No Controls)

	Arrests (Overall) (1)	In-School Arrests (2)	Out-of-School Arrests (3)	Violent Arrests (4)	Non-Violent Arrests (5)
<i>Panel A: Arrest Outcomes (Counts)</i>					
RP	-0.024** (0.006)	-0.009** (0.002)	-0.016** (0.005)	-0.004** (0.002)	-0.020** (0.004)
Baseline Mean	0.128	0.026	0.102	0.027	0.101
Observations	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,388,033
<i>Panel B: Binary Arrest Outcomes</i>					
RP	-0.010** (0.002)	-0.006** (0.002)	-0.007** (0.002)	-0.003* (0.001)	-0.010** (0.002)
Baseline Mean	0.071	0.022	0.057	0.023	0.058
Observations	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,388,033

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. The main arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests (in Panel A) or an indicator for any arrest (in Panel B) experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours, and out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A11: High School Restorative Practices: School Climate and Learning Outcomes (No Controls)

	School Climate (Std.) (1)	GPA (2)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (3)	Math Value Added (Std.) (4)
RP	0.040* (0.017)	-0.031 (0.022)	0.002 (0.015)	0.018 (0.013)
Baseline Mean	0.000	2.473	0.000	0.000
Observations	752,767	853,583	421,783	421,864

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A12: Elementary School Restorative Practices: In-School Behavioral, Learning, and Policing Outcomes (No Controls)

	OSS Days (1)	ISS Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	GPA (4)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (5)	Math Value Added (Std.) (6)	Arrests (Count) (7)	Arrests (Binary) (8)
RP	-0.068** (0.022)	0.006 (0.005)	-0.106 (0.098)	0.006 (0.011)	0.008 (0.007)	0.009 (0.007)	-0.005** (0.002)	-0.003** (0.001)
Baseline Mean	0.401	0.054	8.497	2.970	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.011
Observations	2,540,376	2,540,376	2,540,376	2,129,867	1,807,421	1,808,004	2,551,398	2,551,398

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. In columns 1 and 2, the out-of-school suspension (OSS) days and in-school suspension (ISS) days outcomes are the total number of OSS or ISS days that the student received in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school. Suspension data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. In column 3, the absent days outcome is adjusted to equal total absent days minus out-of-school suspension days. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. The column 7 arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. The column 8 arrest outcome is an indicator for any arrest experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Regressions for the absent days outcome include student member days in the corresponding school year as a control. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A13: High School Restorative Practices: Treatment Heterogeneity by Predicted Peer Group Suspension Days (No Controls)

	<i>All Students</i>			<i>Low Predicted OSS Days Students</i>		
	Out-of-School Suspension Days	Reading Value Added (Std.)	Math Value Added (Std.)	Out-of-School Suspension Days	Reading Value Added (Std.)	Math Value Added (Std.)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
<i>Below-Median Predicted OSS</i>	-0.073 (0.045)	-0.013 (0.018)	-0.005 (0.022)	-0.054 (0.036)	-0.001 (0.019)	-0.005 (0.023)
Observations	569,846	182,971	182,920	478,882	155,331	155,281
<i>Above-Median Predicted OSS</i>	-0.271** (0.098)	0.016 (0.018)	0.035* (0.016)	0.009 (0.061)	-0.032 (0.027)	0.030 (0.038)
Observations	661,448	192,518	192,532	171,399	51,722	51,725
Control for Own Predicted Suspension				✓	✓	✓

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Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. We present results for students belonging to school-by-cohort cells that are above- versus below-median in predicted suspension days within a given cohort. Low predicted OSS days students are those with below-median predicted suspension days within a given cohort. Predictions for out-of-school suspension days for each student are constructed using a random forest algorithm as described in the text in Section VII. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A14: High School Restorative Practices: Race-by-Gender Treatment Heterogeneity (No Controls)

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	Absent Days (2)	Number of Arrests (3)	School Climate (Std.) (4)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (5)	Math Value Added (Std.) (6)
Overall Male	-0.132 (0.085)	-0.658 (0.474)	-0.039** (0.011)	0.033* (0.017)	0.011 (0.014)	0.029+ (0.016)
Overall Female	-0.126* (0.060)	-0.519 (0.447)	-0.009** (0.003)	0.048** (0.018)	-0.002 (0.017)	0.012 (0.013)
Black Male	-0.346** (0.110)	-1.715** (0.576)	-0.077** (0.021)	0.052* (0.026)	0.012 (0.015)	0.033* (0.016)
Black Female	-0.293** (0.109)	-0.849 (0.607)	-0.018** (0.007)	0.068* (0.028)	0.021 (0.019)	0.029* (0.013)
Latine Male	-0.006 (0.066)	-0.096 (0.638)	-0.019* (0.008)	0.022 (0.019)	0.013 (0.017)	0.029 (0.020)
Latine Female	-0.028 (0.033)	-0.434 (0.657)	-0.005* (0.002)	0.053* (0.021)	-0.003 (0.019)	0.010 (0.019)
White Male	-0.098+ (0.052)	-0.784 (0.740)	-0.013 (0.013)	0.018 (0.029)	0.003 (0.032)	-0.009 (0.038)
White Female	-0.081* (0.034)	-0.965 (0.787)	-0.007+ (0.004)	0.005 (0.034)	-0.034 (0.039)	0.008 (0.029)

Notes: This table shows results by student race/ethnicity and gender. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A15: Student Characteristics as Outcomes (High School)

<i>Panel A</i>	STLS (Unhoused) (1)	Individualized Education Plan (2)	Free or Reduced-Price Lunch (3)	Disability (504 Plan) (4)	Disability (Cognitive) (5)	Disability (Physical) (6)
RP	-0.0031 (0.0043)	-0.003 (0.0048)	-0.0083 (0.0062)	0.0013 (0.0016)	-0.0026 (0.0045)	0.0001 (0.0009)
Baseline Mean	0.06	0.13	0.80	0.03	0.12	0.01
Observations	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,388,033	1,383,914	1,383,914	1,383,914
<i>Panel B</i>	English Learner (7)	Gender: Female (8)	Race/ Ethnicity: White (9)	Race/ Ethnicity: Black (10)	Race/ Ethnicity: Latine (11)	Predicted OSS Days (12)
RP	0.0016 (0.0046)	0.0023 (0.0039)	-0.0023 (0.0037)	0.0025 (0.0061)	0.0022 (0.0064)	-0.0038 (0.0114)
Baseline Mean	0.06	0.51	0.10	0.45	0.42	1.18
Observations	1,388,033	1,383,914	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,380,959	1,388,033

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A16: Controls for Lagged Outcomes (High School)

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	In-School Suspension Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	Number of Arrests (4)	School Climate (Std.) (5)	GPA (6)
RP	-0.132+ (0.072)	-0.011 (0.067)	-0.554 (0.483)	-0.019** (0.007)	0.040** (0.016)	-0.042* (0.020)
Baseline Mean	0.940	0.413	18.401	0.128	0.000	2.473
Observations	1,201,794	1,201,794	1,201,794	1,222,942	561,474	725,845

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Each specification controls for the lagged value of the dependent variable as well as the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A17: High School-by-Cohort Grouping Models

	OSS Days (1)	ISS Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	Arrests (4)	School Climate (Std.) (5)	GPA (6)
RP	-0.069+ (0.041) [0.066]	-0.064 (0.050) [0.071]	0.098 (0.319) [0.419]	-0.025** (0.0059) [0.0062]	0.040** (0.013) [0.015]	0.020 (0.021) [0.018]
Baseline Mean	0.940	0.413	18.401	0.128	0.000	2.473
Observations	486,947	486,947	486,947	489,612	298,499	304,558

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over three periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09. The sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19 and includes only students who appeared in grade 9 CPS enrollment records. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) with school-by-cohort (as opposed to school) as the grouping variable. Robust standard errors clustered by school-cohort are reported in parentheses with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level. We also report standard errors clustered by school in brackets.

Table A18: Elementary School Restorative Practices: Additional In-School Behavioral, School Climate and Policing Outcomes

	Out-of-School Suspensions (Binary) (1)	In-School Suspensions (Binary) (2)	School Climate (Std.) (3)	In-School Arrests (Count) (4)	In-School Arrests (Binary) (5)	Non-Violent Arrests (Count) (6)	Non-Violent Arrests (Binary) (7)	Violent Arrests (Count) (8)	Violent Arrests (Binary) (9)
RP	-0.010** (0.004)	0.003 (0.002)	-0.011 (0.015)	-0.0008 (0.0005)	-0.0006 (0.0004)	-0.0028* (0.0011)	-0.0018** (0.0005)	-0.0005 (0.0005)	-0.0005 (0.0004)
Baseline Mean	0.098	0.029	-0.002	0.005	0.004	0.012	0.007	0.006	0.005
Observations	2,536,517	2,536,517	740,741	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. In columns 1 and 2, the out-of-school suspension (OSS) and in-school suspension (ISS) binary outcomes indicate whether a student ever received either of these types of suspensions in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school. Suspension data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. In column 3, the school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. In-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened both inside the school location and during school hours (7am-6:59pm). See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeulle (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A19: Elementary School Restorative Practices: Alternative Out-of-School Arrest Outcomes

	Number of Out-of- School Arrests, Benchmark (1)	Any Out-of- School Arrest, Benchmark (Binary) (2)	Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am-6:59pm (3)	Any Arrest, Excluding 7am-6:59pm (Binary) (4)	Number of Arrests, Excluding 7am-4:59pm (5)	Any Arrest, Excluding 7am-4:59pm (Binary) (6)	Number of Arrests Not at School, Between 7am-4:59pm (7)	Any Arrest Not at School, Between 7am-4:59pm (Binary) (8)
RP	-0.0025* (0.0012)	-0.0016** (0.0006)	-0.0024* (0.0010)	-0.0015** (0.0005)	-0.0023* (0.0011)	-0.0015** (0.0005)	-0.0002 (0.0003)	-0.0002 (0.0002)
Baseline Mean	0.012	0.0077	0.0096	0.0062	0.0110	0.0068	0.0028	0.0021
Observations	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569	2,546,569

Notes: Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first elementary school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 3 to 8 between SY09 and SY19. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest data includes information on the type (violent or non-violent), the location, and the time of arrest. In the benchmark definition, out-of-school arrests are defined as incidents that happened either outside the school location or outside school hours (outside of 7am-6:59pm on school days). In columns 3-6, out-of-school arrest outcomes include all arrests taking place on non-school days as well as arrests on school days outside of the referenced time window. In columns 7-8, the arrest outcome includes arrests on school days and during school hours but outside of the school location. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A20: High School Baseline Outcomes by Predicted Out-of-School Suspension Days Cell (Below- vs. Above-Median)

Outcome	<i>Below-Median OSS Days</i>		<i>Above-Median OSS Days</i>		Difference (5)
	Baseline Mean (1)	Observations (2)	Baseline Mean (3)	Observations (4)	
Math Score (Std.)	0.228 (1.059)	37,467	-0.250 (0.863)	33,908	0.478** (0.132)
Reading Score (Std.)	0.185 (1.076)	37,451	-0.204 (0.863)	33,811	0.389** (0.141)
GPA	2.594 (0.979)	45,171	2.281 (0.957)	34,809	0.312** (0.079)
School Climate (Std.)	0.070 (0.634)	37,499	-0.084 (0.643)	31,706	0.154** (0.045)
Out-of-School Suspension Days	0.461 (1.954)	52,517	1.435 (3.768)	50,500	-0.974** (0.108)
In-School Suspension Days	0.179 (0.986)	52,517	0.654 (2.035)	50,500	-0.475** (0.083)
Number of Arrests	0.054 (0.383)	53,586	0.202 (0.789)	52,018	-0.147** (0.017)

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Notes: This table displays the mean for each outcome variable in SY13 for students at any grade level between 9 and 12, disaggregated by whether students belong to school-by-cohort cells that are above- versus below-median in predicted suspension days within a given cohort. Predictions for out-of-school suspension days for each student are constructed using a random forest algorithm as described in the text in Section VII. The associated differences (column 5) are derived from student-level regressions of the given outcome on an indicator for a student belonging to a below-median school-by-cohort cell, with the standard errors clustered at the school level. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade. GPA is calculated using semester final grades. The school climate index measures student socioemotional wellbeing levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments based on constructs from the My Voice My School (MVMS) survey. The school climate index is standardized by school year and grade. An out-of-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. An in-school suspension is defined as the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. Arrest data are collected by the Chicago Police Department. The arrest outcome is defined as the number of arrests experienced by students in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Standard errors are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A21: High School Restorative Practices: Behavioral and Policing Outcomes by English Learner Status

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	In-School Suspension Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	Number of Arrests (4)
<i>Native English (NE)</i>	-0.183* (0.073)	-0.033 (0.065)	-0.575 (0.479)	-0.026** (0.007)
Baseline Mean	0.965	0.424	18.452	0.132
Observations	1,263,729	1,263,729	1,263,729	1,288,130
<i>English Learners (EL)</i>	0.094 (0.099)	0.198* (0.096)	-0.115 (0.728)	-0.021+ (0.012)
Baseline Mean	0.561	0.236	17.603	0.060
Observations	91,658	91,658	91,658	91,692
Test (NE=EL): <i>p</i> -value	0.012	0.006	0.496	0.752

Notes: This table shows results by English Language Learner status. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). The baseline mean for each outcome reflects the SY13 mean value. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present *p*-values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for native English speakers equals the estimate for English language learners. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A22: High School Restorative Practices: School Climate and Learning Outcomes by English Learner Status

	School Climate (Std.)	GPA	Reading Value Added (Std.)	Math Value Added (Std.)
<i>Native English (NE)</i>	0.045** (0.017)	-0.021 (0.022)	-0.002 (0.016)	0.013 (0.014)
Baseline Mean	0.001	2.480	0.003	0.006
Observations	701,961	793,254	392,849	392,805
<i>English Learners (EL)</i>	0.012 (0.030)	-0.053 (0.042)	0.032 (0.023)	0.055 (0.037)
Baseline Mean	-0.020	2.380	-0.068	-0.113
Observations	49,124	57,335	27,887	27,894
Test (NE=EL): p -value	0.309	0.780	0.234	0.309

Notes: This table shows results by English Language Learner status. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), unhousehold indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). The baseline mean for each outcome reflects the SY13 mean value. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present p -values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for native English speakers equals the estimate for English language learners. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A23: High School Restorative Practices: Behavioral and Policing Outcomes by Grade Levels

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	In-School Suspension Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	Number of Arrests (4)
<i>Grades 9 and 10 (G1)</i>	-0.219* (0.087)	-0.027 (0.075)	-0.759+ (0.400)	-0.031** (0.009)
Baseline Mean	1.140	0.490	16.807	0.154
Observations	724,191	724,191	724,191	744,536
<i>Grades 11 and 12 (G2)</i>	-0.121* (0.055)	0.021 (0.047)	-0.264 (0.679)	-0.010* (0.005)
Baseline Mean	0.696	0.319	20.343	0.095
Observations	600,608	600,608	600,608	604,371
Test (G1=G2): <i>p</i> -value	0.062	0.373	0.374	0.011

Notes: This table shows results by grade level. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). The baseline mean for each outcome reflects the SY13 mean value. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present *p*-values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for students in grades 9-10 equals the estimate for students in grades 11-12. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A24: High School Restorative Practices: School Climate and Learning Outcomes by Grade Levels

	School Climate (Std.)	GPA	Reading Value Added (Std.)	Math Value Added (Std.)
<i>Grades 9 and 10 (G1)</i>	0.034 (0.020)	-0.007 (0.027)	-0.003 (0.019)	0.003 (0.018)
Baseline Mean	0.000	2.409	0.000	0.000
Observations	409,076	441,901	228,007	227,959
<i>Grades 11 and 12 (G2)</i>	0.048* (0.021)	-0.046+ (0.023)	0.007 (0.018)	0.034 (0.022)
Baseline Mean	0.000	2.546	0.000	0.000
Observations	325,810	398,334	126,565	126,576
Test (G1=G2): <i>p</i> -value	0.402	0.181	0.722	0.221

Notes: This table shows results by grade level. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). The baseline mean for each outcome reflects the SY13 mean value. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present *p*-values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for students in grades 9-10 equals the estimate for students in grades 11-12. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A25: High School Restorative Practices: Behavioral and Policing Outcomes by Disability Status

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	In-School Suspension Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	Number of Arrests (4)
<i>Any Disability (AD)</i>	-0.152* (0.071)	-0.016 (0.093)	-0.699 (0.466)	-0.050** (0.012)
Baseline Mean	1.049	0.628	21.976	0.191
Observations	249,606	249,606	249,606	256,787
<i>504 Disability</i>	-0.106 (0.089)	-0.021 (0.080)	-0.749 (0.888)	-0.013 (0.014)
Baseline Mean	0.728	0.298	19.982	0.062
Observations	59,912	59,912	59,912	60,764
<i>Physical Disability</i>	-0.124 (0.199)	0.007 (0.164)	-1.199 (1.828)	-0.048 (0.054)
Baseline Mean	0.885	0.389	24.140	0.180
Observations	18,518	18,518	18,518	19,450
<i>Cognitive Disability</i>	-0.127 (0.083)	-0.003 (0.113)	-1.211* (0.544)	-0.061** (0.014)
Baseline Mean	1.134	0.722	22.234	0.220
Observations	170,356	170,356	170,356	175,747
<i>No Disability (ND)</i>	-0.170* (0.071)	-0.037 (0.064)	-0.483 (0.490)	-0.018** (0.006)
Baseline Mean	0.922	0.372	17.750	0.116
Observations	1,105,898	1,105,898	1,105,898	1,123,012
Test (AD=ND): <i>p</i> -value	0.740	0.779	0.632	0.004

Notes: This table shows results by disability status. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). The baseline mean for each outcome reflects the SY13 mean value. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present *p*-values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for students with any disability equals the estimate for students with no disability. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A26: High School Restorative Practices: School Climate and Learning Outcomes by Disability Status

	School Climate (Std.)	GPA	Reading Value Added (Std.)	Math Value Added (Std.)
<i>Any Disability (AD)</i>	0.026 (0.020)	-0.051+ (0.030)	0.039+ (0.020)	0.018 (0.023)
Baseline Mean	-0.019	2.274	0.006	-0.025
Observations	122,473	142,795	70,778	70,798
<i>504 Disability</i>	0.058+ (0.032)	-0.013 (0.047)	-0.047 (0.035)	0.012 (0.033)
Baseline Mean	0.036	2.509	0.106	0.069
Observations	32,986	40,639	18,594	18,591
<i>Physical Disability</i>	0.072 (0.077)	-0.149* (0.075)	0.013 (0.068)	-0.074 (0.087)
Baseline Mean	0.056	2.430	0.119	0.070
Observations	7,182	11,162	4,097	4,098
<i>Cognitive Disability</i>	0.023 (0.025)	-0.054+ (0.032)	0.065** (0.020)	0.018 (0.022)
Baseline Mean	-0.040	2.204	-0.030	-0.058
Observations	81,161	89,795	46,402	46,424
<i>No Disability (ND)</i>	0.042** (0.016)	-0.018 (0.020)	-0.003 (0.020)	0.022 (0.015)
Baseline Mean	0.003	2.510	-0.001	0.004
Observations	628,888	708,099	351,018	350,961
Test (AD=ND): <i>p</i> -value	0.408	0.415	0.075	0.857

Notes: This table shows results by disability status. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). The baseline mean for each outcome reflects the SY13 mean value. Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present *p*-values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for students with any disability equals the estimate for students with no disability. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A27: High School Behavioral and Policing Outcomes by Implementation Type

	Out-of-School Suspension Days (1)	In-School Suspension Days (2)	Absent Days (3)	Number of Arrests (4)
<i>RP Coaching</i>	-0.177* (0.076)	-0.019 (0.075)	-0.561 (0.483)	-0.026** (0.007)
Baseline Mean	0.987	0.429	18.713	0.135
Observations	1,236,747	1,236,747	1,236,747	1,259,492
Test (Coaching=Other): <i>p</i> -value	0.251	0.671	0.714	0.298
<i>RP Leadership</i>	0.024 (0.170)	-0.023 (0.110)	0.970 (2.190)	0.000 (0.048)
Baseline Mean	0.831	0.364	15.428	0.106
Observations	251,770	251,770	251,770	256,423
Test (Leadership=Other): <i>p</i> -value	0.140	0.970	0.569	0.464
Test (Coaching=Leadership): <i>p</i> -value	0.131	0.964	0.532	0.441
<i>RP Peer Council</i>	-0.114 (0.129)	-0.085 (0.176)	-0.777 (1.361)	-0.015 (0.016)
Baseline Mean	0.904	0.370	16.412	0.114
Observations	331,002	331,002	331,002	336,292

Notes: This table shows results by the first type of restorative practices (RP) programming that was implemented in a student's high school. If schools received multiple RP programs in the same initial year, they are classified based on the most intensive of the RP programs in which they participated (with Coaching being the most intensive and Peer Council being the least). Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods. Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present *p*-values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for one RP program type equals the estimated RP impact excluding that program type (or, alternatively, that the estimate for RP Coaching equals the estimate for RP Leadership). Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

Table A28: High School Climate and Learning Outcomes by Implementation Type

	School Climate (Std.) (1)	GPA (2)	Reading Value Added (Std.) (3)	Math Value Added (Std.) (4)
<i>RP Coaching</i>	0.036+ (0.018)	-0.023 (0.026)	0.008 (0.017)	0.019 (0.018)
Baseline Mean	-0.016	2.432	-0.007	-0.002
Observations	671,492	738,499	390,170	390,130
Test (Coaching=Other): <i>p</i> -value	0.907	0.509	–	–
<i>RP Leadership</i>	0.029 (0.041)	-0.034 (0.050)	–	–
Baseline Mean	0.109	2.638	–	–
Observations	109,684	135,468	–	–
Test (Leadership=Other): <i>p</i> -value	0.848	0.884	–	–
Test (Coaching=Leadership): <i>p</i> -value	0.897	0.922	–	–
<i>RP Peer Council</i>	0.044 (0.048)	-0.069 (0.067)	–	–
Baseline Mean	0.071	2.584	–	–
Observations	171,884	186,064	–	–

Notes: This table shows results by the first type of restorative practices (RP) programming that was implemented in a student's high school. If schools received multiple RP programs in the same initial year, they are classified based on the most intensive of the RP programs in which they participated (with Coaching being the most intensive and Peer Council being the least). Observations are at the student-school year level, and we report the average effect of restorative practices over six periods (five periods for the school climate index). Student treatment assignment is determined by the first high school a student had been enrolled in since SY09, and the sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 between SY09 and SY19. Math and reading scores are standardized by test, school year, and grade; value added is then constructed based on the methodology described in the text in Section V.A. See Data Appendix C for detailed variable definitions. Each specification includes the following covariates: student age fixed effects, student cohort fixed effects (based on grade and school year of entry), ELL indicator, unhoused indicator, IEP indicator, free or reduced-price lunch indicator, gender fixed effects, race/ethnicity fixed effects, and disability status indicators (having a 504 plan, physical disability, or cognitive disability). Estimates are based on the methodology developed in de Chaisemartin and D'Haultfoeuille (2020) and described in the text. We present *p*-values from tests of the null hypothesis that the estimate for one RP program type equals the estimated RP impact excluding that program type (or, alternatively, that the estimate for RP Coaching equals the estimate for RP Leadership). Value-added estimates are only available for RP Coaching; estimates cannot be produced for RP Leadership or RP Peer Council due to limited adoption years for those programs in combination with missing value-added measures in 2016. Robust standard errors clustered by school are reported with ** denoting statistical significance at the 1% level, * at the 5% level, and + at the 10% level.

C Data Appendix

Data were made available through data-sharing agreements between the University of Chicago Education Lab and the Chicago Public Schools (education data) and the Chicago Police Department (policing data). In these data sharing agreements, there are strict confidentiality restrictions for how the researchers may and may not use the data, including the prohibition to share any identified or confidential information outside the research team. In addition, only the minimum necessary members of lab staff have access to the confidential juvenile arrest records. Finally, in keeping with the Illinois Juvenile Court Act, the use of juvenile arrest records was approved by the presiding judge of the Cook County Juvenile Court, for the use of juvenile records for this purpose.

C.A Variable Definitions

Suspensions (OSS and ISS). Suspension data are collected by Chicago Public Schools. The out-of-school suspension (OSS) days and in-school suspension (ISS) days outcomes are the total number of ISS or OSS days that the student received in the corresponding school year, regardless of the school.

An in-school suspension (ISS) is the removal of a student from their regular educational schedule for more than 60 minutes of the school day to an alternative supervised setting inside the school building. The student is meant to engage in structured activities that develop their academic, social, emotional, and/or behavioral skills. A student may receive an in-school suspension if it is an available consequence for the behavior they exhibited as categorized in the Student Code of Conduct (SCC). CPS categorizes student misconduct behaviors into six categories, ranging from Group 1 (Inappropriate Behaviors) to Group 6 (Illegal and Most Seriously Disruptive Behaviors). ISS is an available consequence for Group 2 (Disruptive Behaviors) - Group 6 (Illegal and Most Seriously Disruptive Behaviors) SCC violations.

An out-of-school suspension (OSS) is the removal of a student from class attendance or school attendance. By law, out-of-school suspensions may only be issued as a last resort consequence if all other appropriate and available responses have been exhausted, and suspensions longer than 3 days must receive approval from a designated CPS district employee. An out-of-school suspension may be issued if it is an available consequence for the behavior exhibited as categorized in the SCC. OSS is an available consequence for Group 3 (Seriously Disruptive Behaviors) - Group 6 (Illegal and Most Seriously Disruptive Behaviors) SCC violations. For grades three through twelve, out-of-school suspensions are now only permitted if a student's attendance endangers others, causes chronic/extreme interruption to others' participation in school, and prior interventions have been used. For students in kindergarten through grade two, central administration approval is required for any suspension.

If a student does not have any recorded in-school (out-of-school) suspensions in a given school year, we code in-school (out-of-school) suspension days as zero.

Absent Days. The absent days outcome is the total number of days absent minus the total number of OSS days that the student received in the corresponding year, regardless of school. Regressions that employ absent days as an outcome always include yearly total member days (defined by CPS as the number of days a student is enrolled in any CPS school) as a control.

School Climate Index. The school climate index measures student socioemotional well-being levels and perceptions regarding the supportiveness of school environments. The estimates are drawn from the My Voice, My School (MVMS) survey. MVMS was developed by the University of Chicago Consortium on School Research and was administered to all students in grades 6-12 beginning in SY11 (data were unavailable for SY19 at the time of analysis). The available data contains one Rasch score per survey construct (21 constructs in total) per student in each school year. The school climate index is created as the average of the following eight constructs (each standardized by grade and school year) that may be directly affected by the introduction of RP: Emotional Health, Student Classroom Behavior, Academic Personalism, Psychological Sense of School Membership, Safety, School-Wide Future Orientation, School Safety, Student-Teacher Trust.

GPA. Student grades can be recorded as: progress grades, semester final grades, or yearly final grades of semester classes. The yearly final grades do not always match the semester grades because they reflect a holistic assessment of the student’s performance over the entire year, not just over a semester. However, not all courses have associated yearly final grades, and many students do not receive any yearly final grades for multiple academic years. The GPA outcome, therefore, is calculated using only semester final grades. There are two kinds of courses: “for-credit” courses which are assigned a letter grade (A through F) and pass/fail courses (which a student either passes or fails). The GPA outcome is the mean of the numeric grades (equivalent to the letter grades) registered in the data for all for-credit courses. Numeric grades are calculated as follows: A is equivalent to 4; B, to 3; C, to 2; D, to 1; and F, to 0. The data do not differentiate an F grade from a pass/fail versus a for-credit course. In our analyses, all F grades are counted as if they were grades of for-credit courses and included in our GPA calculation. It is important to note that the GPA used in our analyses may not reflect the same GPA the students see on their transcripts due to differing procedures used to calculate GPAs within schools.

Standardized Tests. Standardized test scores are available for students in grades 3 to 11; tests are typically administered in April of the given school year. The CPS assessments used for elementary and high school grades changed during our study period from SY09-SY19. Below is a timeline and brief description of each test instrument used in our analysis. Math and reading scores are standardized by subject, school year, and grade within the study sample, where we center and scale the scores to have zero mean and unit variance. Note that only a single test instrument was used for each grade-level-by-school-year cell.

The canned command (`did_multiplygt`) used to produce estimates based on the methodology outlined in de Chaisemartin and D’Haultfoeuille (2020) returns an error when we attempt to estimate value-added treatment effects at the student level. This results from

the lack of value-added scores available in SY16 (see discussion of available test scores below). To circumvent this issue, we manually collapse the data to the school-by-year level and incorporate enrollment weights. This procedure is consistent with the collapsing undertaken in the first stage of the canned procedure. We confirm that we are able to reproduce the results for our main behavioral and academic outcomes when we follow the same collapsing and weighting procedure (in the instances in which estimates differ based on the canned versus manual procedure, differences never appear before the third decimal place).

Applicable Timeline for Grades 3-8: Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) was used in SY09-SY14, Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) MAP exam was used in SY15-SY19. ISAT was administered to CPS students in grades 3-8 as a mandatory assessment. Students were assessed on Reading and Math in grades 3-8, and additionally in Science in grades 4 and 7. The ISAT was replaced by the NWEA MAP exam after SY14, which was administered in grades 2-8. The NWEA was a district-required test during the SY15-SY19 period.

Applicable Timeline for Grade 9: EXPLORE was used in SY09-SY14 and the PSAT was used in SY17-SY19. EXPLORE was administered to CPS students in grade 9 as a mandatory assessment with valid scores available through SY14. In SY15, the ACT company (which provides testing services) made errors in the administration of EXPLORE leading scores to be invalidated. For SY15-SY16, the only available test scores for grade 9 students are derived from the PARCC exam, which is intended to assess students in English Language Arts/Literacy and Mathematics. We do not include PARCC scores in our analyses because PARCC was given to high school students based on their enrollment in specific courses and because PARCC has a higher rate of missingness (30-40%) as compared to the other mandatory assessments administered in prior and subsequent years. Beginning in SY17, the PSAT became a required assessment for students in grades 9 and 10. The test is designed specifically for students in grades 9-10.

Applicable Timeline for Grade 10: PLAN was used in SY09-SY14 and the PSAT was used in SY17-SY19. PLAN was administered to CPS students in grade 10 as a mandatory assessment with valid scores available through SY14. In SY15, the ACT company (which provides testing services) made errors in the administration of PLAN leading scores to be invalidated. For SY15-SY16, there are no available test scores for grade 10 students. Beginning in SY17, the PSAT became a required assessment for students in grades 9 and 10. The test is designed specifically for students in grades 9-10.

Applicable Timeline for Grade 11: Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) was used in SY09-SY14, ACT was used in SY15-SY16, and the SAT was used in SY17-SY19. PSAE, which includes the ACT, was administered to CPS students in grade 11 as a mandatory assessment through SY14. In SY15-SY16, only the ACT component was administered to grade 11 students. Beginning in SY17, the SAT replaced the ACT as the test instrument administered to all grade 11 students in CPS.

Arrests. The arrest data are derived from Chicago Police Department (CPD) arrest files, which include detailed information about each unique arrest that occurred between September 2, 2008 and September 2, 2019. The arrest outcome used in benchmark analyses is the number of times a student was arrested in a given year, regardless of the type of arrest or the location of the arrest. In-school arrests are classified as incidents happening both inside the school location and during school hours while out-of-school arrests are incidents happening either outside the school location or outside school hours. Arrest records with the following FBI National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) codes are categorized as violent arrests, while all other arrests are categorized as non-violent: 01A (Homicide, 1st 2nd Degree), 02 (Criminal Sexual Assault), 03 (Robbery), 04A (Aggravated Assault), 04B (Aggravated Battery), 08A (Simple Assault), 08B (Simple Battery). In additional specifications, we examine the likelihood of arrest by creating an indicator variable for whether or not an individual was arrested in a given academic year.

Demographics. CPS provided demographic information on each student for each school year from SY09-SY19, including information about student gender, race, disability status, English Language Learner status, whether students are classified as needing an individualized education plan (IEP) or a 504 plan, whether they are eligible for the free- or reduced-price lunch program, whether they are classified as unhoused. We measure student age as the student’s age by June 20 of the last calendar year of the school year (the last possible end date for a school year).

Variables related to disabilities. IEP plans and 504 plans are distinct categories, but both can offer formal assistance for students who need additional help in school at no cost to families (Understood, 2023). IEP plans serve as a blueprint for a student’s education experience at school and provide individualized special education and related services to meet a student’s needs. There are two criteria for being given an IEP plan: (1) the student must have at least one of 13 disabilities listed in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (e.g. learning disabilities, physical disabilities), and (2) the disability must affect the child’s educational performance or ability to learn and benefit from the curriculum such that the student could not make progress in school without specialized instruction. A 504 plan defines disability more broadly than IDEA so can be applied to students whose disabilities or barriers are not covered by an IEP. It is called “504” because it comes from Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a federal law aimed to protect people with disabilities. In order to qualify for a 504 plan, students must have (1) any disability (which is less restrictive than an IEP), and (2) this disability must interfere with a student’s ability to learn. For students with IEP plans (also referred to as special education plans), we observe the specific primary disability that a student is classified as having (with the primary disability determined by the student). In contrast, for students with 504 plans, we do not see information on specific disability classifications.

In benchmark models, we include indicators for physical disability (classified as blind, having a visual impairment, deaf/blind, deaf, hearing impaired, hard of hearing, having “[an]other health impairment,” physical handicap, partial sight, severe/profound disability, or traumatic brain injury), cognitive disability (classified as autistic, having a behavior disorder, developmental delay, emotional and behavioral disorder, having emotional disturbance, having an educable mental disability, a profound intellectual disability, having a learning dis-

ability, having a mental disability, a moderate learning disability, a severe learning disability, speech/language challenges, or a trainable mental disability), or having a 504 plan.

C.B Study Sample

Student treatment assignment for high school (elementary school) analyses is determined by the first high school (elementary school) a student had been enrolled in since SY09. The sample covers students in grades 9 to 12 (3 to 8) between SY09 and SY19. Observations are at the student-school year level, and we include a student-school year in the sample if the student was enrolled in any high school (elementary school) under the purview of CPS for at least one day in a given school year. To construct the sample and assign treatment, we rely on enrollment history records provided by CPS. The enrollment history data are prepared by CPS using data reported by each school and reflect the most accurate available information on a student's journey through CPS, including enrollment start and termination dates at each school in CPS. Though rare, there are occasional data errors related to the construction of unique student identifiers, which are used to track students across schools and school years. Our study sample excludes students who are classified as having progressed to grade levels not offered by their initial schools, students past their expected school exit year, and any observations beyond our event study window for students assigned to treatment schools. Specifically, we include students who appear in the data between five years before and five years after treatment for all outcomes other than the school climate index. Due to more limited data availability, specifications with the school climate index outcome are restricted to including students who appear in the data between three years before and four years after treatment.