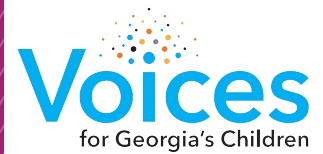


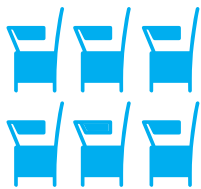
# Georgia Network for Educational & Therapeutic Supports (GNETS)



## GNETS: AN OVERVIEW

A network of programs **designed to provide comprehensive educational and therapeutic support services** to students with severe emotional and behavioral disorders. These students receive services either in their neighborhood school or in a separate GNETS facility. GNETS, originally the Georgia Psychoeducational Network, was **created by the Georgia General Assembly in 1972** after a three year pilot project in Athens. The network of programs **grew to 24 by 1976**, and was renamed GNETS in 2007.

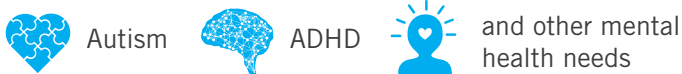
### STUDENTS IN GNETS



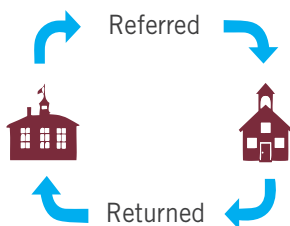
More than **3,000 students** are served by GNETS.

Students are referred to GNETS by their local school system through the IEP process.

GNETS programs serve students with behavioral disabilities like:



### EXIT CRITERIA



Students return to their school when they meet exit criteria developed on entry.

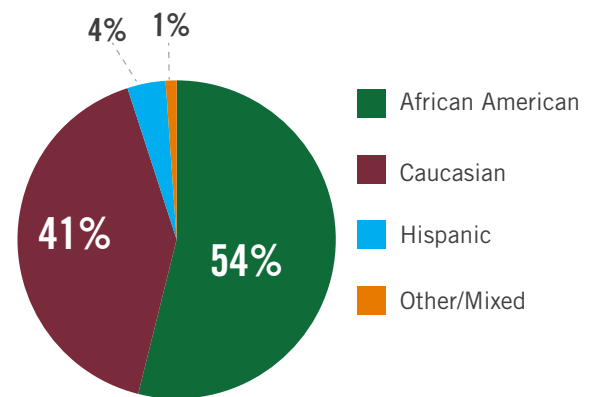
**However**, exit criteria can be vague and standards can be set higher than would be for general students.

**For example**

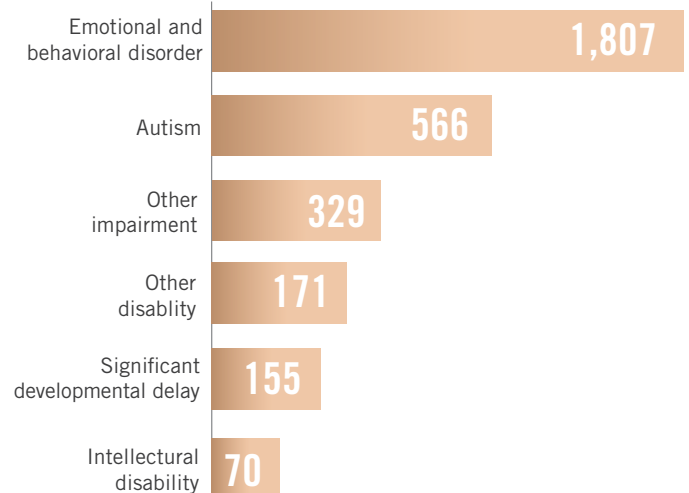


Criteria for some GNETS students require that they maintain physical self-control **100% of the time.**

### RACIAL MAKEUP

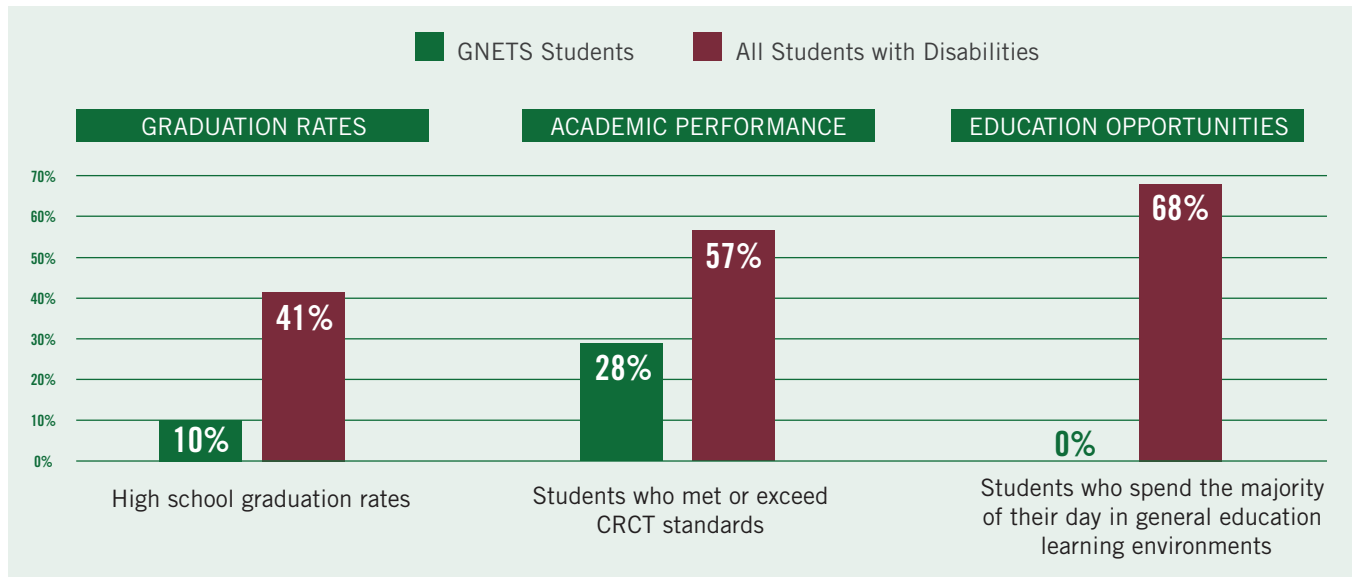


### DISABILITIES OF STUDENTS IN GNETS



## GNETS OUTCOMES

The Georgia Department of Audits conducted a performance audit of GNETS in 2010 and found the following outcomes. There is no current data available to demonstrate improvement from the 2010 findings



## COST OF EDUCATION



**\$14,000**

Average cost **per GNETS student.**



**\$9,938**

Average cost **per general education student**

## DISTANCE FROM COMMUNITY



The maximum distance some school districts have set for their students to travel to GNETS programs is significantly longer than the typical commute of their neighborhood peers.

## FY 18 GOVERNANCE AND FUNDING

**\$65 million**  
state dollars

**\$73 million**  
GNET funding

**\$8 million**  
federal dollars

**Georgia Department of Education**

Division of Special Education Supports  
(Office of Innovative Instruction)

**Oversight & Funding**

Fiscal agents (RESAs or LEAs) who oversee the 24 programs across the state

## Glossary of Related Terms

### EBD - EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL DISORDERS

- An inability to build or maintain satisfactory interpersonal relationships.
- An inability to learn which cannot be adequately explained by intellectual, sensory, or health factors.
- A consistent or chronic inappropriate type of behavior or feelings under normal conditions.
- A displayed pervasive mood of unhappiness or depression.
- A displayed tendency to develop physical symptoms, pains, or unreasonable fears associated with personal or school problems.

### IEP – INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM

- A written plan detailing a student's present level of academic achievement, measurable annual goals, duration of special education services, student placement, etc.
- IEPs are developed by teams of personnel familiar with the student.

### OTHER TERMS

- **EPSDT** – Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment
- **RESA** – Regional Educational Service Agency

