

Data Sources for Best Practices Dashboard Metrics

Section 22f of the State School Aid Act, 2014 PA 196, appropriates funding for the FY 2014-2015 school year to local school districts and public school academies meeting 7 out of 9 best practices. One of the best practices is to provide a dashboard or report card with required financial information. The Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) has worked with the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and the Office of Retirement Services (ORS) to populate the data displays required under section 22f using existing data collections. Districts have not been required to submit any additional data to meet this requirement. Note that the site houses dashboard data at the state, district and school levels for many metrics. The site also provides a mechanism to obtain a direct link to the district's dashboard page. This URL can be used to direct users from the district's web site to the district's dashboard on MI School Data.

The purpose of this document is to clarify the sources of data used to populate the Best Practices metrics. Note that certain data elements (minimum, average, maximum teacher, principal and superintendent salaries) for the district may be unavailable in the current state data collections. In those cases where data is currently unavailable for a district, the district must provide those data in the form and manner determined by MDE. Following are the required data elements to meet the dashboard/report card requirement.

(i) Graduation and dropout rates

This metric shows the percentage of students who graduated using the four-year on-time cohort method. The data were collected in the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) with audit confirmation through the Graduation and Dropout (GAD) application. Users can drill through to the dynamic inquiry where the graduation rate and dropout data are displayed. The most recent data available for this metric is the graduation rate for the class of 2014. This metric is available at the state, district and school levels.

(ii) Average class size in grades kindergarten to 3

The average class size is derived from data reported to CEPI for staff and students. Staff data is taken from the Fall Collection of the Registry of Educational Personnel (REP). Student data is taken from the Fall Collection of the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS) using audited counts of student enrollment. Both staff and student data are reported on a full time equivalent (FTE) basis for this calculation. In cases where a staff assignment spans more than grades K-3, the teachers' FTE was proportionally allocated to the K-3 portion of the assignment. Ungraded students are not counted in this calculation. Teacher's assignments are counted in the school and district as reported in REP. Teachers reported with an assignment in a school outside of the district that reported the teacher are counted in the school where they provide instruction. The FTE student data includes instruction provided as "shared time" in a nonpublic school setting. Similarly, teachers' non-public school assignments are included.

The most recent data available for this metric is for the 2013-14 school year. This metric is available at the state and district levels.

(iii) College readiness as measured by Michigan merit examination test scores

The percentage of 11th graders who met or exceeded the College Readiness benchmarks in the

ACT portion of the Michigan Merit Examination (MME). The benchmarks are set by ACT as follows:

ACT English – 18 or above

ACT Reading – 21 or above

ACT Mathematics – 22 or above

ACT Science – 24 or above

The most recent data available for this metric is for the assessment given in the spring of 2014, during the 2013-14 school year. Data for spring 2015 will be added in the summer of 2015.

This metric is available at the state, district and school levels.

(iv) Elementary and middle school MEAP scores

These data are the percentage of students in grades 3 through 8 who scored at the proficient level or above on the MEAP test in both math and reading. The most recent data available for this metric is for the assessment given in the fall of 2013, during the 2013-14 school year. This metric is available at the state, district and school levels.

(v) Teacher, principal, and superintendent salary information including at least minimum, average, and maximum pay levels

Salary data was provided by ORS, using salary credited for retirement through the Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPSERS). Salary data was limited to Function Codes 1110 and 1120 for Superintendents, function code 1150 for Principals and function code 1240 for teachers. The most recent data available for this metric is for the 2013-14 school year. This metric is available at the state and district levels.

(vi) General fund balance

These data are taken from the Balance Sheet file submitted through the Financial Information Database (FID). The most recent data available for this metric is for the 2013-14 school year. This metric is available at the district level. A statewide summary is not available for this metric.

(vii) Total number of days of instruction provided

These data were submitted on form DS-4168—Actual Day/Hours Report. The most recent data available for this metric is for the 2013-14 school year. This metric is available at the district level. A statewide summary is not available for this metric.