



MI School Data: Grades 3-8 and High School Assessments Disclosure Avoidance

Last Updated: September 25, 2018

To protect the privacy of Michigan's students and comply with the [Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act](#), CEPI and the Michigan Department of Education have applied more robust disclosure avoidance rules to the Grades 3-8 and High School Assessments reports on MI School Data. These rules were updated after consultation with the U.S. Department of Education to ensure appropriate compliance with FERPA while maintaining reporting transparency. FERPA generally prohibits the improper disclosure of personally identifiable information derived from education records, which includes: "Information that alone or in combination is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances to identify the student with reasonable certainty."

Statewide data are not suppressed. Rules are applied to ISD, district and building-level reports. Assessment results are displayed as both student counts and percentages, with different rules applied accordingly.

- Student counts may be suppressed with an asterisk or displayed only as a "less than" amount based on the total number of students in a category.
- Percentages may be suppressed with an asterisk or displayed only as a "less than" or "greater than" percentage based on the total number of students assessed.

Within the M-STEP data on the Grades 3-8 and High School Assessment reports on MI School Data, there are Performance Level columns (Advanced, Proficient, Partially Proficient, Not Proficient) and Proficiency columns ("Students Proficient" – aggregate of Advanced and Proficient, and "Partially or Not Proficient" – aggregate of Partially Proficient and Not Proficient). Complementary columns contain data that are related, such as the columns Advanced and Proficient, or Partially and Not Proficient.

The rules applied to student count values are:

- If Number Assessed is less than 10, the entire row of data for the selected subgroup is suppressed.
- If Number Assessed is 10 or more:
 - The Performance Level columns are suppressed if the number is less than 3. In this case, the complementary column is also suppressed with an asterisk or "less than" 3 symbol.
 - If the number value in a Proficiency column is less than 3, all other number columns in the subgroup row are suppressed with an asterisk or "less than" 3 symbol, except Number Assessed, Mean Scaled Score and Standard Deviation.

The rules applied to the percentage values of the data are:

- If Number Assessed is less than 10, the entire row of data for the selected subgroup is suppressed.
- If Number Assessed is 10 or more, the table below is used to determine how percentages are displayed.
 - If a Performance Level column is suppressed based on the rules in the table, the complementary column is also suppressed with an asterisk or using the Top/Bottom coding for percentages from the table below.
 - If the percentage value in a Proficiency column is suppressed, all other columns in the subgroup row are suppressed with an asterisk or using the Top/Bottom coding for percentages from the table below, except Number Assessed, Mean Scaled Score and Standard Deviation.

Number of Students Assessed	Top/Bottom Coding for Percentages
1-9	Suppressed with *
10-15	≤50%, ≥50%
16-30	≤20%, ≥80%
31-60	≤10%, ≥90%
61-300	≤5%, ≥95%
301-3,000	≤1%, ≥99%
3,001 or more	≤0.1%, ≥99.9%

Please see the [MI School Data Grades 3-8 and High School Assessments Suppression Rules](#) to view the M-STEP rules in greater detail. Please also see documentation for [MI-ACCESS](#) and [SAT](#) suppression rules included in this report.