



Understanding Michigan's New Four-Year Cohort Graduation and Dropout Rates

The release of graduation rates for the class of 2007 marks the first time that Michigan has used a four-year cohort graduation rate. In order to comply with the *No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001*, Michigan is moving to an accountability system in which a graduation rate includes only "on-time" graduates who earn regular diplomas within four years of entering high school. This new calculation meets the guidelines provided by the National Governors Association (NGA) Graduation Counts Compact for calculation of such rates. As more and more states implement the NGA standard, state-to-state comparisons will become more meaningful.

The change to this more accurate formula for the calculation of 2007 graduation rates is possible because school districts have been tracking the enrollment of individual students since those students first enrolled in the 9th grade in the 2003-2004 school year and reporting that data to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI). The gathering of this information at a statewide level allows CEPI to help districts adjust enrollments to reflect transfers in and out of the district, as well as students who exit from the public education system itself, over the course of four years. Use of a more accurate formula will mean that some schools and districts in Michigan will see a change in their graduation rates.

The Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

How is the 2007 four-year cohort graduation rate determined?

The 2007 four-year cohort graduation rate is calculated by tracking individual students who enrolled for the first time in 9th grade in the 2003-2004 school year. These students are assigned to the 2007 cohort. Using the cohort method allows the state to more accurately track student movement over time. It accounts for students who leave school during one year and return in another, and it can account for students who are retained in a grade but stay in school and graduate later than their classmates.

The total number of students who were identified as first-time 9th graders in fall 2003 formed the initial 2007 cohort. Students who transferred into the state, district, or building at any time during the four-year cohort period were added to the initial group. For students who moved within the public schools, student records were updated to reflect the correct district and building location. These students were considered "transfers out" of the district/building they left and "transfers in" to the district/building they entered. Students who exited the public school system entirely (out of state, to non-public school, or home school) or became deceased at any time during the four-year cohort period are considered "exempt" and removed from the cohort.

To calculate the 2007 four-year cohort graduation rate, all students are placed into one of four categories:

Table 1

	Michigan Cohort Status Categories	Category Definitions
1	On-track graduated	Completed high school with a regular diploma in four years or less
2	Other completer	Earned a General Educational Development (GED) certificate, other certificate, or reached special education maximum age

	Michigan Cohort Status Categories	Category Definitions
3	Off-track (graduated & continuing)	Completed high school with a regular diploma in more than four years, or did not complete high school in four years and are still continuing in school
4	Dropout	Left high school permanently at any time during the four-year cohort period, or whose whereabouts are unknown

Michigan Department of Education (MDE) applied for and received limited flexibility from the U.S. Department of Education to allow five years as the "standard number of years" for graduation when calculating adequate yearly progress (AYP) for certain students. This extension of the graduation cohort calculation for AYP is allowed on a case-by-case basis for students with disabilities (students with an individualized education program [IEP]), students who are English-language learners recently arrived in Michigan, and students who have missed school for serious medical reasons. Students in the 2007 cohort receiving this one-year extension were moved into the 2008 cohort and are not reflected in the 2007 cohort status categories.

Calculating the four-year cohort graduation rate

A student is counted toward the graduation rate of the final building or district that the student attended during the four-year cohort period. "On-track graduated" is counted as the numerator and divided by the total count of all status categories. The total of the status categories is the 2007 Cohort Total. Students who transferred in are included as students with one of the four statuses for that building/district and students who transferred out have been included in another public entity's rates, if the students have been located.

$$\frac{\text{On-Track Graduated}}{\text{2007 Cohort Total}}$$

(For historical comparison purposes, see Appendix A for an example of an estimated one year graduation rate calculation that was used in the past before longitudinal cohort data were available. Please note that this is not actual data.)

Understanding the 2007 four-year cohort graduation rate report

The 2007 four-year cohort graduation rate report contains buildings/districts that educate students in any high school grades (9th-12th) or ages (14+) (i.e., students who are eligible to graduate from high school). There are two calculation rules that may result in building rates not summing to district rates, and district rates not summing to state rates:

1. **Court Ordered Facilities:** Buildings that educate students who have been ordered by the court to attend are not included in the district's rate, only the building's rate.
2. **"Count Dates":** Michigan collects data on students twice a year on "count dates" (one day in September and one in February) for the purposes of calculating state school aid payments and required state and federal reporting. Students attending on count day are reported as continuing in the district during a fall or spring submission. Accommodations are made for students who do attend school but were absent on count day (e.g., if children have an excused absence on count day, they must return within 30 school days, if an unexcused absence occurs, students must return in 10 school days, etc.). In order to ensure that the graduation rate calculation aligns with the MDE's full academic year requirement outlined in the Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook, students must be in attendance in a building for at least two

consecutive count dates to be included in that building's calculation. Students must be in attendance at a district for at least one count date to be included in a district's calculations. Students who are enrolled but did not attend on the count dates within the district are only counted in the state rate.

Count Dates Present	Accountability
0	State rate only
1	District and State
2 or more	Building, District and State

Reading the graduation report

The graduation report includes data for the state, every district, and every building that graduates students and is divided into ten columns. The columns include:

Table 2

Column Name	Column Definitions
District/Building Name (Code)	This is the alphabetical listing, beginning with local education agencies (LEAs), then intermediate school districts (ISDs), and then public school academies (PSAs), of the districts and buildings included in the report. The district-level data are identified in shaded rows. The buildings that comprise the district appear below the district name. Building names appear in non-shaded rows with a slight indentation.
First Time 9th Grade in Fall 2003	Total number of students who were identified as first-time 9th graders in fall 2003, which was the group of students who initially formulated the 2007 cohort.
(+) Transfers In	Total number of students who transferred into the state, district, or building at any time during the four-year cohort period and remained there.
(-) Transfers Out & Exempt	Total number of students who transferred out of the district, building, or public school system (out of state, to non-public school, or home-school) at any time during the four-year cohort period and did not return. Deceased students are also exempt.
2007 Cohort	Total number of students in the 2007 cohort for the state, for each district, and for each building after adjustments were made for transfers in, transfers out, and exempt students.
On-Track Graduated	Total number of students in the 2007 cohort who completed high school with a regular diploma in four years or less.
Dropout (Reported & MER)	Total number of students who left high school permanently at any time during the four-year cohort period, or whose whereabouts are unknown (MER; missing expected records).
Off-Track (Graduated & Continuing)	Total number of students who completed high school with a regular diploma in more than four years, or did not complete high school in four years and are still continuing in school.
Other Completer (GED, etc.)	Total number of students who earned a GED, other certificate, or reached special education maximum age.
Graduation Rate	The percentage, calculated as On-Track Graduated over 2007 Cohort, of the total number of students in the 2007 cohort who completed high school with a regular diploma in four years or less.

The Four-Year Cohort Dropout Rate

How is the four-year cohort dropout rate determined?

There is no national standard for calculating four-year cohort dropout rates. Michigan has chosen to maintain consistency by using the cohort methodology recommended by NGA to calculate this rate as well.

The 2007 four-year cohort dropout rate is calculated by tracking individual students who enrolled for the first time in 9th grade in the 2003-2004 school year (assigned to the 2007 cohort) and left high school permanently at any time during the four-year cohort period prior to receiving a regular diploma, GED, or other completion certificate. (For historical comparison purposes, see Appendix B for an example of an estimated one year dropout rate calculation that was used in the past before longitudinal cohort data were available. Please note that this is not actual data).

A dropout rate is not equivalent to subtracting the graduation rate from 100% because that method would count students who are an "other completer" or "off-track continuing" as dropouts. Other completers are students who earned a GED, certificate, or reached special education maximum age. Students with an off-track continuing cohort status are those who did not complete high school in four years and are still continuing in school.

To calculate the 2007 four-year cohort dropout rate, all students are placed into the same four categories used to determine graduation rates: on-track graduated, other completer, off-track (graduated & continuing), and dropout. (Explanations of these categories are in Table 1.)

Calculating the four-year cohort dropout rate

"Dropouts" is counted as the numerator and divided by the total count of all status categories. The total of the status categories is the 2007 Cohort Total:

$$\frac{\text{Dropouts}}{\text{2007 Cohort Total}}$$

Some schools in Michigan offer 9th, 9th-10th, and 9th-11th grade campuses, which do not graduate students, and thus, do not have a complete four-year cohort. The cohort total for the buildings that do not graduate students is determined by the number of students who were reported at the building for two or more count days who may have transferred out of the building but did not transfer out of the district by the time they were last reported. This total was only computed for buildings that did not report any graduates. To calculate which building is accountable for a student relative to dropout rates, here are some examples where the student attended for at least two count dates:

- If "**Student A**" dropped out while attending a 9th grade building, only this building would include that student in the dropout rate since the student did not attend any 10th-12th grade building.
- If "**Student B**" attended a 9th grade building and continued on to a 10th-12th grade building, but eventually dropped out, both buildings would include this student in the dropout rate.
- If "**Student C**" attended a 9th grade building and continued on to a 10th-12th grade building where the student was reported as off-track (graduated or continuing) or other completer, this student is not included in any building's dropout rate since this student did not dropout.

- If "**Student D**" transferred into the district to a 10th-12th grade building and dropped out, only the 10th-12th grade building would include this student in the dropout rate since the student did not attend any 9th grade building.
- If "**Student E**" attended a 9th grade building and continued on to a 10th-12th grade building, transferred to another district, and then dropped out, the previous district would not include this student in the dropout rate because this student is included in the new district's dropout rate.

Table 3

Dropout Rate Accountable Entity for Non-Graduating Buildings					
	Building	Cohort Status	Building	Cohort Status	Accountable Building
Student A	9th grade	Dropout	N/A	N/A	9th grade
Student B	9th grade	On-track or Off-track Continuing	10th-12th grade	Dropout	Both
Student C	9th grade	On-track or Off-track Continuing	10th-12th grade	Off-track (graduated or continuing) or Other Completer	N/A
Student D	N/A	N/A	10th-12th grade	Dropout	10th-12th grade
Student E	9th grade	On-track or Off-track Continuing	10th-12th grade in another district	Dropout	10th-12th grade in the other district

Understanding the 2007 four-year cohort dropout rate report

The 2007 four-year cohort dropout rate report contains districts/buildings that educate students in any high school grades (9th-12th) or ages (14+) (i.e., students who are eligible to drop out of high school). Like the graduation rate calculation, there are two calculation rules that may result in building rates not summing to district rates, and district rates not summing to state rates:

1. **Court Ordered Facilities:** Buildings that educate students who have been ordered by the court to attend are not included in the district's rate, only the building's rate.
2. **"Count Dates":** Michigan collects data on students twice a year on "count dates" (one day in September and one in February) for the purposes of calculating state school aid payments and required state and federal reporting. Students attending on count day are reported as continuing in the district during a fall or spring submission. Accommodations are made for students who do attend school but were absent on count day (e.g., if children have an excused absence on count day, they must return within 30 school days, if an unexcused absence occurs, students must return in 10 school days, etc.). In order to ensure that the dropout rate calculation aligns with the MDE's full academic year requirement outlined in the Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook, students must be in attendance in a building for at least two consecutive count dates to be included in that building's calculation. Students must be in attendance at a district for at least one count date to be included in a district's calculations. Students who are enrolled but did not attend on the count dates within the district are only counted in the state rate.

Count Dates Present	Accountability
0	State rate only
1	District and State
2 or more	Building, District and State

Reading the dropout report

The dropout report includes data for the state, every district, and every building that enrolls students sometime during the cohort period and is divided into six columns. The columns include:

Table 4

Column Name	Column Definitions
District/Building Name (Code)	This is the alphabetical listing, beginning with local education agencies (LEAs), then intermediate school districts (ISDs), and then public school academies (PSAs), of the districts and buildings included in the report. The district-level data are identified in shaded rows. The buildings that comprise the district appear below the district name. Building names appear in non-shaded rows with a slight indentation.
Grades and Settings	These are the grades <u>currently</u> being taught in the building as reported to CEPI in the School Code Master database. These grades do not necessarily match the grades taught to students in the 2007 cohort when they were in this building. Grade ranges are indicated by the number equivalent and the settings are categorized as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Alt. = alternative education b. Spec = special education c. AE = adult education
2007 Cohort Total	Total number of students in the 2007 cohort for the state, for each district, and for each building after adjustments were made for transfers in, transfers out, and exempt students.
Dropouts (Reported & MER)	Total number of students who left high school permanently at any time during the four-year cohort period, or whose whereabouts are unknown (MER; missing expected records).
# of High School Grades in School or District	Total number of years a building educated a cohort of students at the end of year 2007.
Dropout Rate	This is the percentage, calculated as Dropouts over 2007 Cohort Total, of the total number of students in the 2007 cohort who left high school permanently at any time during the four-year cohort period, or whose whereabouts are unknown (MER; missing expected records).

Four-Year Graduation Cohort Determination

Determining First-time Ninth Graders

After identifying current 9th grade students from the most recent Single Record Student Database (SRSD) data, these students are then located for previous reporting in prior SRSD submissions. If these students are reported in grades lower than 9th grade or not located at all, then they are determined to be first-time 9th graders. Since the State of Michigan has no data on students before their arrival, students who transfer into the state and are reported by the Michigan school district as 9th graders are deemed first-time 9th graders regardless of their status in their previous residence.

Students who transfer into the state as 10th through 12th graders are placed in the appropriate cohort as if they are on track for completion in four years along with their classmates.

Calculating the Estimated Graduation Year/Cohort Year (EGY)

To calculate the EGY, grade and exit status are considered. Below is a chart of the exit status code definitions:

Table 5

Exit Status Code	Exit Status Definition	Cohort Status Category
01	Graduated from general education with a regular high school diploma	Graduated
02	Graduated from general education with a regular high school diploma and applied to a degree-granting college or university	Graduated
03	Graduated from an alternative program with a regular high school diploma	Graduated
04	Graduated from general education with a regular high school diploma and applied to a non-degree granting institution	Graduated
05	Completed general education with an equivalency certificate (GED)	Other Completer
06	Completed general education with other certificate	Other Completer
07	Dropped out of school	Dropout
08	Enrolled in another public school district in Michigan	If not located, Dropout; if located, Continuing in new district
09	Moved out of state	Exempt
10	Expelled from the school district (no further services)	Dropout
11	Enlisted in military or Job Corps prior to completion	Dropout
12	Deceased	Exempt
13	Incarcerated	Dropout
14	Enrolled in home school	Exempt
15	Enrolled in non-public school	Exempt
16	Unknown	Dropout
17	Placed in a recovery or rehabilitative program	Dropout
18	Left Adult Education	Dropout
19	Expected to continue in the same school district	On-track Continuing or Off-track Continuing, depending on EGY
20	Received Special Education certificate of completion and exited the K-12 system	Other Completer
21	Special Education- Reached maximum age and exited the K-12 system	Other Completer

Here are some examples of an EGY with an exit status code of 19:

- If "**Student A**" was reported in 8th grade in the End of Year (EOY) June 2003 submission, a cohort year is not calculated because that student has not reached high school yet. If that same

student is then reported in the fall 2003 submission as retained in 8th grade, a cohort year is still not determined. Likewise, if this student was reported in the EOY 2004 submission in 8th grade, a cohort year will still not be determined since the student has yet to reach high school. If that same student is then reported in fall 2004 as a first-time 9th grader, the student is assigned to a graduation cohort year of 2008 and is considered on-track.

- If "**Student B**" was reported in 8th grade in the EOY 2003 submission, a cohort year is not calculated because that student has not reached high school yet. If that student is then reported in the fall 2003 submission as retained in 8th grade, a cohort year is still not determined. If that same student is reported in the EOY 2004 submission as a first-time 9th grader, the student is assigned to a graduation cohort year of 2007. If the student is reported in 9th grade in the fall 2004 submission, the student is now off-track. Note that the student would have to be reported as a 10th grader in the fall 2004 submission to be considered on-track (See "**Student C**" example in the table below).
- If "**Student D**" was reported in 8th grade in the EOY 2003 submission, a cohort year is not calculated because that student had not reached high school yet. If that same student is then reported in the fall 2003 submission as a first-time 9th grader, the student is assigned to a graduation cohort year of 2007 and considered on-track. If the student is reported in the fall 2004 submission as retained in 9th grade, the cohort year remains 2007, but now the student is considered off-track.
- If "**Student E**" was reported in 8th grade in the EOY 2003 submission, a cohort year is not calculated because that student had not reached high school yet. If that same student is then reported in the fall 2003 submission as a first-time 9th grader, the student is assigned to a graduation cohort year of 2007 and considered on-track. If the student is reported in the fall 2004 submission in 10th grade, the cohort year remains 2007 and the student remains on-track.
- If "**Student F**" was reported in the EOY 2004 submission as a first-time 9th grader (transferred into Michigan from out of state, from home school, or from non-public school), the student is assigned a graduation cohort year of 2007 with the rest of the on-track 9th grade cohort members and is considered on-track. Note that all first-time transfer students are placed in the appropriate cohort for the on-track students reported with the same grade.
- If "**Student G**" was reported in 9th grade in the EOY 2003 submission, a cohort year is not assigned since the student is in the class of 2006 and reported in the 2005-2006 graduation rates.

Table 6

Academic Year Change Examples										
	SRSD EOY 2003		SRSD Fall 2003			SRSD EOY 2004		SRSD Fall 2004		
	Grade	Cohort Year	Grade	Cohort Year	Cohort Status	Grade	Cohort Year	Grade	Cohort Year	Cohort Status
Student A	8	N/A	8	N/A	N/A	8	N/A	9	2008	On-track
Student B	8	N/A	8	N/A	N/A	9	2007	9	2007	Off-track
Student C	8	N/A	8	N/A	N/A	9	2007	10	2007	On-track
Student D	8	N/A	9	2007	On-track	9	2007	9	2007	Off-track
Student E	8	N/A	9	2007	On-track	9	2007	10	2007	On-track

Student F	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	9	2007	10	2007	On-track
Student G	9	N/A	10	N/A	N/A	10	N/A	11	N/A	N/A

The initially calculated EGY of a first-time 9th grader is that student's Cohort Year (the year in which the student must graduate to be considered an on-track four-year graduate). If, in later submission cycles, the EGY is calculated to a later year than their cohort year, the student is then considered off-track (see Appendix C for individual student level history examples). To assign the estimated graduation year/cohort year based on exit status during the cohort period, here are some examples that illustrate the initial assignment of estimated graduation year/cohort year based on exit status:

- If a student's exit status is 19 and the student is in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12, the student is classified as continuing in school.
- If a student's exit status is 1, 2, 3, or 4 and the school year ending year (e.g., the 2006-2007 school year has an ending year of 2007) is used to submit the exit status, the exit date of the student must be before the fall count date of the next school year (e.g., 2007/08) to be included in the 2007 graduation year. If the exit date is submitted after the fall count date, then the EGY for the student is recalculated to 2008.
- If a student's exit status is not 1, 2, 3, or 4 and the student's grade is 9, 10, 11, or 12, the grade will be used to determine EGY.
- If a student's exit status is not 1, 2, 3, or 4 and the student is not in grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 (rather, in an ungraded setting), the calculated age-to-grade conversion formula, used by the Michigan Department of Education for assessment purposes, determines EGY.

Calculating the Cohort Status

The most recently reported exit status by the accountable entity is used to designate a student as graduated, completed, continuing in school, dropout, or exempt. Six categories of students are considered when determining cohort status:

1. On-track graduated- completed high school with a regular diploma in four years or less
2. Other completer- earned a GED, certificate, or reached special education maximum age
3. Off-track graduated- completed high school with a regular diploma in more than four years
4. Off-track continuing- did not complete high school in four years and are still continuing in school
5. Dropout- left high school permanently at any time during the four-year cohort period, or whose whereabouts are unknown
6. Exempt- transferred out of the public school system (out of state, to non-public school, or home-school) or are deceased

Table 7

Status	Corresponding Exit Status	EGY/Cohort Year Condition
On-track graduated	1, 2, 3, or 4	EGY is less than or equal to the cohort year
Other completer	5, 6, 20, or 21	N/A
Off-track graduated	1, 2, 3, or 4	EGY is greater than the cohort year
Off-track continuing	19	EGY is greater than the cohort year
Dropout (Reported & MER)	7, 8*, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, or 19*	N/A

Status	Corresponding Exit Status	EGY/Cohort Year Condition
Exempt (transfer out)	9, 12, 14, or 15 or Residency codes: 4, 7, 8, or 15 (home schooled or non-public student)	N/A

* If exit status codes 08 or 19 are used, these usually do not count as a dropout. These are only given a dropout status if the student record is not reported by the new district (08) or by the same district (19) in the subsequent collection. These indicate the student has a missing expected record (MER) and the whereabouts of the student are unknown.

Determining Accountable School and District

To determine accountability for a particular entity (building or district) at a specific point in time, several factors are considered. A building or district must be considered a qualifying school in order to be held accountable for a student. A qualifying school is a school that receives a Michigan High School Report Card, and excludes intermediate school district (ISD) schools, Career and Technical Education (CTE) entities, and Michigan Math/Science Center buildings. If these conditions are met, the building and district are held accountable. Additionally:

- If an entity is the only one to report a student for a given SRSD collection cycle, then that is the accountable entity.
- If multiple entities report a student in a collection, the entity reporting the greater proportion of full-time equated (FTE) membership is accountable.
- If the entity reports an exit status for a student other than 08 or 19 (see table 5 above for exit status definitions), this is considered a terminating exit status and the process assigns accountability to the entity that reported the terminating exit status.
- If accountability still cannot be determined from multiple records, the entity that last had accountability retains accountability.
- Accountability status determined from the previous fall and/or spring school year count days is maintained for End of Year (EOY) and the final fall SRSD submissions unless the EOY submission is a terminal exit status.

Data validation and appeals process

CEPI provided the Graduation/Dropout Review and Comment Application (GAD) for district staff members to review and request changes to graduation and dropout information on individual students. During the spring of 2008, districts' authorized users accessed the GAD to view their cohort members and could request: 1) changes to their exit statuses; 2) individual 5th-year extensions; and 3) linking of multiple students' unique identification codes (UICs).

Intermediate school district (ISD) auditors, Michigan Department of Education (MDE) staff members, and CEPI staff members approved or denied these requested changes based on evidence provided by districts. Exit status changes potentially resulted in cohort status changes for districts. One-year extension requests approved for certain students moved students from the 2007 cohort into the 2008 cohort. Districts submitting UIC linking requests were able to identify and correct instances in which multiple identifiers (UICs) had been assigned to a single student at some point during the 16 SRSD data collection cycles.

Table 8

Requests	Submitted	Approved	Approved by
Exit Record Change Requests	8,688	7,130	ISD auditors
UIC Linking Requests	962	854	CEPI
Special Education Extension Requests	805*	448	MDE
Severe Medical Emergency Extension Requests	88	66	MDE
Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Extension Requests	51	42	MDE

* Includes duplicate requests

Reading the subgroup report

Subgroups are divided into 3 categories, and are not mutually exclusive. These categories are:

1. Gender- males and females
2. Race- divided into American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN), Asian American, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (H/PI), White, Hispanic or Latino, and Multiracial
3. Program eligibility- divided into economically disadvantaged, limited English proficiency (LEP), migrant, and special education

The 2007 four-year cohort subgroup rate report includes data for the state, every district, and every building that graduates students and is divided into ten columns. The columns include:

Table 9

Column Name	Column Definitions
District Name	This is the alphabetical listing, beginning with the state, and followed by districts included in the report.
Building Name	This is the alphabetical listing of the buildings that make up the district.
Subgroup*	Divided into 3 categories of gender, race, and program eligibility.
2007 Cohort Total**	Total number of students in the 2007 cohort for the state, for each district, and for each building after adjustments were made for transfers in, transfers out, and exempt students.
On-Track Graduated	Total number of students in the 2007 cohort who completed high school with a regular diploma in four years or less.
Dropout (Reported & MER)	Total number of students who left high school permanently at any time during the four-year cohort period, or whose whereabouts are unknown (MER; missing expected records).
Off-Track Graduated	Total number of students who completed high school with a regular diploma in more than four years
Off-Track Continuing	Total number of students who did not complete high school in four years and are still continuing in school.
Other Completer	Total number of students who earned a GED, other certificate, or reached special education maximum age.
Graduation Rate	The percentage, calculated as On-Track Graduated over 2007 Cohort, of the total number of students in the 2007 cohort who completed high school with a regular diploma in four years or less.

* Subgroup determination for program eligibility is derived from the prior SRSD count date submission

** < 10 in a cell indicates that there were more than 0 and less than 10 students in the cohort or in a status at the building for two count days or the district for one count day.

Appendix A

Example of an Estimated 1 Year Graduation Rate Calculation

This graduation rate was a four-year "estimated" rate derived by multiplying the four graduating class retention rates together. Class retention rates are determined by taking one graduation class (grade) at a time and dividing, for example, the fall 2006 enrollment by the fall 2005 enrollment, after all the transfers-in and transfers-out have been identified. Below is an example of a retention rate table:

Example Estimated 1 Year Calculation of Retention Rates					
	Class of 2009	Class of 2008	Class of 2007	Class of 2006	Total
Fall 2005 enrollment (+)	280	275	273	259	1,087
Net transfer (+)	-24	30	-10	-27	-31
Net retained in grade (+)	0	25	-25	0	0
Students located (-)	5	25	7	9	46
Expected fall 2006 enrollment	251	305	231	223	1,010
Fall 2006 enrollment	247	299	225		771
Graduates (-)	0	0	0	220	220
Unaccounted-for (Dropouts)	4	6	6	3	19
Class Retention Rate	247/251 = .984	299/305 = .980	225/231 = .974	220/223 = .987	991/1,010 = .981

The following is an example calculation of a graduation rate based on the above table:

Class of 2009 Class of 2008 Class of 2007 Class of 2006
Retention x Rate Retention x Rate Retention x Rate Retention x Rate

$$.984 \times .980 \times .974 \times .987 = .927 \times 100 = 92.7 \text{ percent}$$

Not actual data

Appendix B

Example of an Estimated 1 Year Dropout Rate Calculation

This dropout rate was the percentage of unaccounted-for students at the secondary level for a school year. It was derived by subtracting the secondary school's/facility's total retention rate from 100 percent. Below is an example of a retention rate table:

Example Estimated 1 Year Calculation of Dropout Rates					
	Class of 2009	Class of 2008	Class of 2007	Class of 2006	Total
Fall 2005 enrollment (+)	280	275	273	259	1,087
Net transfer (+)	-24	30	-10	-27	-31
Net retained in grade (+)	0	25	-25	0	0
Students located (-)	5	25	7	9	46
Expected fall 2006 enrollment	251	305	231	223	1,010
Fall 2006 enrollment	247	299	225		771
Graduates (-)	0	0	0	220	220
Unaccounted-for (Dropouts)	4	6	6	3	19
Class Retention Rate	247/251 = .984	299/305 = .980	225/231 = .974	220/223 = .987	991/1,010 = .981

The following is an example calculation of a dropout rate based on the above table:

The total retention rate would be $991/1,010 = .981 \times 100 = 98.1$ percent

$100 - 98.1 = 1.9$ percent

Not actual data

Appendix C

Individual Student Level History Examples

The following examples show the final cohort status of individual students based on their historical SRSD records. All example students end up counting toward the fictional Happy Valley Schools' rates.

On Track – Graduated: Pat Johnson

SRSD Cycle	District Name	Building Name	Grade	Expected Grad Year	Cohort Year	Exit Status	Exit Date
EOY 2007	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	12	2007	2007	01	6/1/2007
Spring 2007	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	12	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	12	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2003	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	

On Track – Graduated as transfer-in: Pat Johnson

SRSD Cycle	District Name	Building Name	Grade	Expected Grad Year	Cohort Year	Exit Status	Exit Date
EOY 2007	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	12	2007	2007	01	6/1/2007
Spring 2007	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	12	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	12	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2005	Old Community Schools	Old High School	11	2007	2007	08	8/25/2005
EOY 2005	Old Community Schools	Old High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2005	Old Community Schools	Old High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2004	Old Community Schools	Old High School	10	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2004	Old Community Schools	Old High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2004	Old Community Schools	Old High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2003	Old Community Schools	Old High School	09	2007	2007	19	

Off Track – Continuing (retained in 11th grade): Pat Johnson

SRSD Cycle	District Name	Building Name	Grade	Expected Grad Year	Cohort Year	Exit Status	Exit Date
Fall 2007	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	12	2008	2007	19	
EOY 2007	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2008	2007	19	
Spring 2007	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2008	2007	19	
Fall 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2008	2007	19	
EOY 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	11	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2003	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	

Dropped – Reported: Pat Johnson

SRSD Cycle	District Name	Building Name	Grade	Expected Grad Year	Cohort Year	Exit Status	Exit Date
Spring 2006	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2008	2007	07	12/14/2005
Fall 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2008	2007	19	
EOY 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2005	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	10	2007	2007	19	
EOY 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Spring 2004	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	
Fall 2003	Happy Valley Schools	Happy High School	09	2007	2007	19	