



Office of Special Education and
Early Intervention Services

Dropout Rates

Michigan's State Performance Plan
Indicator 2



www.michigan.gov/ose-eis

Dropout Rates Matter for Students With Disabilities

- ☛ National data demonstrate that students with disabilities have an increased risk of dropping out, and high dropout rates are an indicator that barriers to learning exist.
- ☛ Students who drop out of high school experience higher rates of under- and unemployment and/or involvement with the corrections system than high school graduates.
- ☛ An understanding of the complexity of school failure through an ongoing analysis of those students who drop out and those who graduate is critical to student success.

Reporting Requirement: Dropout Rates

Indicator 2 is a results measure.

Indicator 2—Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out of high school compared to the percent of all youth in the state dropping out of high school.

Michigan Information on Dropout Rates

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) reports dropout rates in three different reports: the Michigan School Report Card, the Consolidated State Performance Report and the State Performance Plan (SPP)/Annual Performance Report (APR). Each of these reports uses a different calculation methodology based on reporting requirements. As a result, each report may contain a slightly different dropout rate.

Michigan's Commitment to Education

In March 2008, the MDE convened its third *Summit for Model High Schools* to model collaborative general and special education practices of high performing schools. This summit was attended by more than 300 school personnel from across the state.

The Michigan Dropout Prevention Leadership Summit was held in October 2008 for educators, parents, students, and community activists who gathered to learn more about the dropout crisis, why graduating more students from high school is critical for every part of our society and economy, and how collaboration on a local level can keep students in school.

Defining Dropout Rates

Data used to calculate graduation and dropout rates comes from the Single Record Student Database (SRSD), maintained by the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI). As students with disabilities leave their school district, school district personnel report the exit status of each student (e.g., graduated, dropped out, moved to a new district) in the SRSD.

Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) are considered *dropouts* according to the same criteria established for students without IEPs. A student with an IEP can leave school without graduating and not be considered a dropout if he or she fits the CEPI definitions of a 'Completer' or 'Transfer-Out' student.

The dropout rate for students with disabilities is calculated differently than the dropout rate for all youth in the state. Therefore, a comparison is not possible.

Michigan's Performance

Measurable and Rigorous Targets

Indicator Component	FFY 2006 Result	FFY 2007* Result	FFY 2007 Target	FFY 2007 Status
Percent of youth with IEPs dropping out.	28.9%	28.1%	10.0%	Target Not Met

Source: Single Record Student Database.

*Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2007=July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Michigan did not meet its dropout target of 10 percent or less for FFY 2007. Many statewide improvement activities are still in the early stages of development and implementation. Therefore, very few students have reached an age to demonstrate the positive impact of these efforts on reducing the dropout rate.

For More Information

National Dropout Prevention Center for Students With Disabilities (NDPC-SD)

www.ndpc-sd.org

Dropout Data for Students With Disabilities

www.micis.org

The National High School Center

www.betterhighschools.org

High Schools That Work

www.sreb.org/programs/hstw/hstwindex.asp

Michigan's State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR)

www.michigan.gov/ose-eis

Michigan Can Improve

- 📖 In FFY 2006, because of its demonstrated success, Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MiBLSi) began receiving resources to move their efforts into the secondary level. MiBLSi now serves 34 secondary buildings.
- 📖 The Reaching and Teaching Struggling Learners initiative created a cohort of 15 middle and high schools and applied a learning community model to support school building teams to improve their graduation and dropout rates.