

Graduation Rates

Michigan's State Performance Plan
Indicator 1



www.michigan.gov/ose-eis

Graduation Rates Matter for Students With Disabilities

- ☞ High school graduation is one of the critical steps students take toward independence, meaningful work, and realizing their dreams.
- ☞ Students who earn a diploma consistently demonstrate greater earning power.
- ☞ Graduation rates are an indication of the degree to which educational services support student success.

Reporting Requirement: Graduation Rates

Indicator 1 is a results measure.

Indicator 1—Percent of youth with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) graduating from high school with a regular diploma compared to percent of all youth in the state graduating with a regular diploma.

Michigan Information on Graduation Rates

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

Michigan's Commitment to Education

In January 2007 the Michigan Legislature enacted a statute outlining the *Michigan Merit Curriculum* (MMC), a comprehensive set of graduation requirements intended to provide all Michigan students with the skills and knowledge needed for the jobs of the 21st Century. Beginning with the class of 2011, graduates are expected to meet these requirements. During the 2007-2008 school year, an MDE inter-office team produced and delivered guidance, resources, and training on the requirements of the MMC.

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.

Defining Graduation Rates

The Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE-EIS) continues to use a U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) approved method of calculating graduation, which provides a snapshot of the graduation rate for a particular year for students with disabilities through age 21. This includes all students who received a regular high school diploma, regardless of the number of years taken to earn that diploma.

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.

The graduation rate for students with disabilities is calculated differently than the graduation 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 disabilities graduating with a regular diploma.	69.0%	69.3%	80.0%	Target Not Met

To maintain consistency within the MDE, the current target is identical to Michigan's graduation target for all youth in the state.

Source: Single Record Student Database.

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

Michigan did not meet its graduation target of 80 percent for FFY 2007. Many statewide improvement activities are still in the early stages of development and implementation. Therefore, very few of the students benefiting from these efforts have reached graduation age.

For More Information

Graduation Data for Students With Disabilities

www.micis.org

Michigan's Graduation Requirements

www.michigan.gov/highschool

Education YES!

www.michigan.gov/edyes

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.