



MSDE Public Website of State Performance Plan Results

Local School System Results for Special Education

Maryland: 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.

Results

	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
State Baseline:	5.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Target:	-	3.81%	3.81%	3.54%	3.54%	3.54%	3.27%
State Results:	-	5.7%	4.98%	5.78%	-	-	-
State Total# of Students:	-	31771	31159	32195	-	-	-
State Indicator Measurement:	-	1794	1551	1861	-	-	-

Narrative Description of Indicator

Maryland defines the dropout rate as the percentage of students dropping out of school in grades 9 through 12 in a single year. The number and percentage of students includes those who leave school for any reason, except death, before graduation or completion of a Maryland approved educational program and who are not known to enroll in another school or state approved program during the current school year. The year is defined as July through June and includes students dropping out over the summer and students dropping out of evening high school and other alternative programs.

The dropout rate is computed by dividing the number of dropouts by the total number of students in grades 9 through 12 served by schools. Students who re-enter school during the same year in which they dropped out. Maryland uses this measurement for all students.

Maryland did not meet the target set by the Maryland Board of Education. Students with disabilities had a dropout rate of 5.78% (n = 1,861 divided by 32,195). This was an increase of 0.83% percentage points from the FFY 2006 rate of 4.95%. Nondisabled peers increased a 0.24% decrease in the dropout rate.

Specific progress was made in the following areas:

- Nine of 24 (37.5%) local school system's dropout rates were below the State target of 3.54%.
- The local school system participating in the MSCP has experienced a decrease. In FFY 2006 the local school system's dropout rate was greater than 10% for youth with IEPs. For FFY 2007 the system's dropout rate decreased by 0.5 percentage points.
- One local school system had a dropout rate of 13.16%. Although this dropout rate is extremely high, FFY 2007 marks the third straight year of decrease in the system's dropout rate.

MSDE will continue to place emphasis on appropriate transition planning. Transition planning provides students with purpose for staying in school. It also provides them with connection to school staff. Research demonstrates that the lack of connection with school staff is one of the predominant reasons given for dropping out.