



Public Schools of North Carolina
State Board of Education
Department of Public Instruction

Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
SL 2010-111, SB 1246

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M0517

**An Act to Direct the State Board of Education to Develop a Growth Model for
Establishing Short-Term Annual Goals for Improving the Four-Year Cohort
Graduation Rate and to Establish a Long-Term Goal of Increasing the Statewide
Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate**

Introduction

Senate Bill 1246, Session Law 2010-111 directed the State Board of Education to develop a growth model for establishing short-term annual goals for improving the four-year cohort graduation rate and to establish a long-term goal of increasing the statewide four-year cohort graduation rate to one hundred percent. The State Board of Education is also required to report annually on progress toward graduation benchmarks and include strategies and recommendations for achieving those benchmarks. In September 2006, the State Board of Education established the expectation that one hundred percent of the students in North Carolina should graduate from high school when the Board adopted its mission that *every public school student will graduate from high school, globally competitive for work and postsecondary education, and prepared for life in the 21st century.*

The first report to the General Assembly in response to this legislation was submitted in November 2010. In that report, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) described the State Board of Education's approach to improving student outcomes and the cohort graduation rate. Included in the report were descriptions of the Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort (ACRE) which called for new academic content standards, new assessments, and a new accountability model. These were implemented in the 2012–13 school year, and the new accountability model includes improvement in cohort graduation rates as one of its indicators.

As required in Senate Bill 1246/Session Law, the State Board of Education sets yearly goals for increasing the Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate with the intention of reaching 90% by 2018. For 2016–17 the SBE goal was 89.0; the statewide rate was 86.5, which did not meet this year's target. See the following table for the results from the 2016–17 school year by local education agency (LEA).

**Report of the 2016–17 School Year on 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rates
(Highlighted Cells Indicate the LEA Met or Exceeded the
2016–17 State’s Goal of 89.0%)**

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
010	Alamance-Burlington Schools	82.4
020	Alexander County Schools	86.2
030	Alleghany County Schools	86.3
040	Anson County Schools	79.9
050	Ashe County Schools	87.8
060	Avery County Schools	95.5
070	Beaufort County Schools	80.6
080	Bertie County Schools	84.8
090	Bladen County Schools	87.5
100	Brunswick County Schools	83.8
110	Buncombe County Schools	88.3
111	Asheville City Schools	88.0
120	Burke County Schools	86.3
130	Cabarrus County Schools	90.0
132	Kannapolis City Schools	85.9
140	Caldwell County Schools	89.5
150	Camden County Schools	85.4
160	Carteret County Public Schools	86.2
170	Caswell County Schools	76.1
180	Catawba County Schools	91.5
181	Hickory City Schools	85.0
182	Newton Conover City Schools	96.8
190	Chatham County Schools	87.7
200	Cherokee County Schools	92.5
210	Edenton-Chowan Schools	84.1
220	Clay County Schools	89.3
230	Cleveland County Schools	89.7
240	Columbus County Schools	84.6
241	Whiteville City Schools	88.6
250	Craven County Schools	85.1
260	Cumberland County Schools	82.1
270	Currituck County Schools	90.9
280	Dare County Schools	94.5
290	Davidson County Schools	88.0
291	Lexington City Schools	81.3
292	Thomasville City Schools	77.4
300	Davie County Schools	87.3
310	Duplin County Schools	81.3

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
320	Durham Public Schools	81.4
330	Edgecombe County Public School	80.7
340	Forsyth County Schools	86.5
350	Franklin County Schools	85.3
360	Gaston County Schools	88.3
370	Gates County Schools	89.3
380	Graham County Schools	93.2
390	Granville County Schools	84.3
400	Greene County Schools	94.5
410	Guilford County Schools	89.8
420	Halifax County Schools	74.3
421	Roanoke Rapids City Schools	84.2
422	Weldon City Schools	85.9
430	Harnett County Schools	81.5
440	Haywood County Schools	85.8
450	Henderson County Schools	92.9
460	Hertford County Schools	82.4
470	Hoke County Schools	78.8
480	Hyde County Schools	94.6
490	Iredell-Statesville Schools	87.4
491	Mooresville City Schools	93.3
500	Jackson County Schools	86.7
510	Johnston County Schools	92.2
520	Jones County Schools	97.4
530	Lee County Schools	90.1
540	Lenoir County Public Schools	81.7
550	Lincoln County Schools	90.8
560	Macon County Schools	91.7
570	Madison County Schools	88.0
580	Martin County Schools	82.1
590	McDowell County Schools	85.3
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	89.4
610	Mitchell County Schools	87.6
620	Montgomery County Schools	89.8
630	Moore County Schools	91.0
640	Nash-Rocky Mount Schools	84.3
650	New Hanover County Schools	83.4
660	Northampton County Schools	76.2
670	Onslow County Schools	89.5
680	Orange County Schools	89.1
681	Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools	89.6
690	Pamlico County Schools	94.1

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
700	Pasquotank County Schools	86.3
710	Pender County Schools	89.3
720	Perquimans County Schools	90.8
730	Person County Schools	78.8
740	Pitt County Schools	86.2
750	Polk County Schools	88.5
760	Randolph County Schools	89.4
761	Asheboro City Schools	91.8
770	Richmond County Schools	76.7
780	Robeson County Schools	87.0
790	Rockingham County Schools	85.4
800	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	83.0
810	Rutherford County Schools	85.0
820	Sampson County Schools	79.8
821	Clinton City Schools	87.4
830	Scotland County Schools	82.8
840	Stanly County Schools	87.8
850	Stokes County Schools	87.0
860	Surry County Schools	90.6
861	Elkin City Schools	94.1
862	Mount Airy City Schools	88.4
870	Swain County Schools	83.1
880	Transylvania County Schools	86.4
890	Tyrrell County Schools	92.3
900	Union County Public Schools	92.5
910	Vance County Schools	81.9
920	Wake County Schools	88.5
930	Warren County Schools	79.3
940	Washington County Schools	80.4
950	Watauga County Schools	91.2
960	Wayne County Public Schools	84.3
970	Wilkes County Schools	88.9
980	Wilson County Schools	75.9
990	Yadkin County Schools	88.6
995	Yancey County Schools	91.0
39	Number Meeting State Goal of 89.0%	
76	Number Not Meeting State Goal of 89.0%	

Concluding Remarks

Approximately 34% of the LEAs have met or exceeded the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate goal of 89.0% established by the State Board of Education under the Race to the Top (RttT) initiative.

For further information, please contact Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin, Deputy State Superintendent, NCDPI, at Maria.Pitre-Martin@dpi.nc.gov.

Other Pertinent Website References

K–12 Standards, Curriculum and Instruction:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/>

Cohort Graduation Rates:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/accountability/reporting/cohortgradrate>

District and School Transformation:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/schooltransformation/>

Educator Effectiveness: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/effectiveness-model/>