

Graduation Gap Special Report

Indicator Definitions and Sources:

Graduation Gap: The graduation gap indicator is a reflection of the 9th grade school district annual enrollment in 2000-2001 versus the graduation reports by school district in 2003-2004. The "gap" is the number of students failing to graduate in four school years. Data on student transfers is not collected by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and not taken into account. Transfers represent a small percentage of students and do not dramatically impact state-level results demonstrated in this report, although they could contribute significantly to the gap in individual districts .

SOURCE: PDE school district annual enrollment (2000-2001 through 2003-2004) and school district graduation report (2003-2004).

Graduation Gap and Student Characteristics: This table adds to the information provided in the graduation gap table. Additional characteristics include 2000-2004 Free and Reduced-Priced Lunch participation, 2003-2004 Limited English Proficiency and 2003-2004 Students with Disabilities.

SOURCE: All data comes from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Free and Reduced-Price Lunch is PDE October 2003 report to U.S. Department of Agriculture. Limited English Proficiency data is PDE data included in the Governor's 2005-06 budget proposal. Students with Disabilities is PENN DATA system revised December 2003 report to U.S. Department of Education.

Youth Population: Is the population of Pennsylvania ages 12-21 with accompanying age and county breakouts.

SOURCE: U.S. Census of Population and Housing, 2000 Census.

Population by Age and Poverty: Is the percentage of young people ages 12-21 living in Pennsylvania in low-income households. For 2005, a family of 4 is living below 100% of the federal poverty income guidelines (FPIG) if income is below \$19,350. A family of 4 is living below 200% FPIG if income is below \$38,700.

SOURCE: U.S. Census of Population and Housing, 2000 Census. Age by ratio of income in 1999 to poverty level. Universe: Population for whom poverty status is collected.

Foster Care: Is the number of children living in out of home foster care placement on a one day count receiving public children and youth services. Placements rates reflect the number of children versus the related child age population by county. Rates based in less than 10 incidences should be used with extreme caution.

SOURCE: Foster care data is from Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare; U.S. Census of Population and Housing, 2000 Census.

Juvenile Justice: Is the number of Pennsylvania youth who had a juvenile court disposition in 2003 by county. The rate reflects the number of juvenile court dispositions in 2003 versus the related child age population by county and age. Rates based in less than 10 incidences should be used with extreme caution.

SOURCE: Juvenile court disposition data is obtained from the Pennsylvania Juvenile Court Judges Commission's 2003 Annual Report; U.S. Census of Population and Housing, 2000 Census.

Teen Parents: Is the number of mothers under age 20 in Pennsylvania. County data is not currently available.

SOURCE: 2004 KIDS COUNT Data Book: State Profiles of Child Well-Being, Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Limited English Proficiency and Disabilities: See Graduation Gap and Student Characteristics Table for more information on source.