

Report to the  
Joint Legislative Education  
Oversight Committee on the

*Method for Computing Dropout Rates  
for the School-Based Management and  
Accountability Program (ABCs)*

*January 2000*



Public Schools of North Carolina  
State Board of Education . Department of Public Instruction  
Office of Instructional and Accountability Services

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**Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee Regarding the Method for Computing Dropout Rates for the School-Based Management and Accountability Program (ABCs)**

## **Executive Summary**

During its 1999 session, the North Carolina General Assembly established legislation that directed the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Office of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Correction, and the Community College System Office to study the method for computing dropout rates for the School Based Management and Accountability Program (ABCs). The State Board was directed to recommend whether the computational method to be used should include students who:

- i. transfer to a community college,
- ii. are placed by the courts in settings which provide educational opportunities,
- iii. are expelled from school,
- iv. do not return to school after a long-term suspension in accordance with a safe schools plan, and
- v. have been counted previously as dropouts

The agency has met with staff from the Office of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Corrections, and the Community College System Office in preparing this report. Due to the discontinuities caused by Hurricanes Floyd and Dennis and other problems that some school systems experienced, dropout data for the 1998-99 school year were delayed in coming and an extension was granted for the submission of this report. H. Martin Lancaster, President, of the North Carolina Community College System provided a letter in support of the SBE recent action regarding the classification of high school students who leave high school to attend a community college as dropouts and not transfers.

Staff of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction have reviewed the various methods for reporting the ABCs dropout rate in North Carolina, and recommend continuing the State Board of Education's decision to report dropout data for grades 9 -12 by school and to adjust for Safe School factors such as students who were expelled, students that were incarcerated or long term suspended. The staff also recommends continuing the policy of counting students who withdraw from high school to attend community college as dropouts.



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## **Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee Regarding the Method for Computing Dropout Rates for the School-Based Management and Accountability Program (ABCs)**

### **BACKGROUND**

During its 1999 session, the North Carolina General Assembly established legislation that directed the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Office of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Correction, and the Community College System Office to study the method for computing dropout rates for the School Based Management and Accountability Program (ABCs). The State Board was directed to recommend whether the computational method to be used should include students who:

- i. transfer to a community college,
- ii. are placed by the courts in settings which provide educational opportunities,
- iii. are expelled from school,
- iv. do not return to school after a long-term suspension in accordance with a safe schools plan, and
- v. have been counted previously as dropouts

As a part of this study the State Board of Education was directed to report, from data for the 1998-99 school year, the number of students in each of these categories.

Table 1

#### Legislative Dropout Rate Reporting Elements

Element	1997-98	1998-99	Source
Number of students that were transferred to a community college (COMMC)	NA	1621	LEA
Number of Students that were placed by the courts in settings which provide educational opportunities, ( $X_i$ ),	NA	NA	LEA
Number of students that were expelled from school, ( $X_E$ )	127	194	LEA
Number of students who did not return to school after a long-term suspension in accordance with a safe schools plan, ( $X_L$ )	654	833	LEA
Number of Students that have been counted previously as dropouts, ( $X_{PREV}$ )	1017	1068	LEA

### **DEFINITIONS**

A dropout for the purposes of this report is a student who:

- was enrolled in a school at some time during the reporting year
- was not enrolled on DAY 20 of the current school year
- has not graduated from high school or completed a state or district approved educational program; and
- does not meet any of the following reporting exclusions:
  - transferred to another public school district, private school, home school, or state/district approved educational program,
  - temporarily absent due to suspension or school approved illness, or
  - death.

The dropout rate is an event count of dropouts. Rates are based on incidences of students dropping out in a twelve-month period (from the first day of the academic year through the last day of summer vacation.)

There are three types of dropout rate determination methodologies that are currently used in the United States. These are:

- Event rates describe the proportion of students who leave school each year without completing a high school program. This annual measure of recent dropout occurrences provides important information about how effective educators are in keeping students enrolled in school.
- Status rates provide cumulative data on dropouts among all young adults within a specified age range. Status rates are higher than event rates because they include all dropouts ages 16 through 24, regardless of when they last attended school. Since status rates reveal the extent of the dropout problem in a population, these rates also can be used to estimate the need for further education and training designed to help dropouts participate fully in the economy and life of the nation.
- Cohort rates measure what happens to a group of students over a period of time. These rates are based on repeated measures of a cohort of students with shared experiences and reveal how many students starting in a specific grade drop out over time. Typically, data from longitudinal studies provide more background and contextual information on the students who drop out than are available through other methods.

North Carolina, as well as other states, uses the event rate method for reporting dropouts although individual LEAs may report other rates as well to their boards. The SBE has expressed interest in using the cohort method for reporting the statewide dropout rate. This is a technically challenging methodology for reporting state level data but it may be possible and feasible when the state moves to the new student data management system (NCWISE) and it becomes available to all North Carolina schools.

## NORTH CAROLINA DROPOUT REPORTING METHODS

The State Board of Education was directed to report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1999 regarding its recommendations as to the computation of the dropout rate for the ABC's accountability program. The Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee has delayed this report until January, 2000.

For non-ABCs purposes, North Carolina has traditionally used two methods of reporting the dropout rates for grades 7 through 12 for each of its 117 school systems (LEAs). The federal/duplicated rate is based on an event count of all students (regardless of the number of times the students dropped out during previous reporting years) who dropped out of school in a given year.

North Carolina also reports the state/unduplicated dropout rate that is based on the event count of all first time dropouts in a LEA for a given year. The primary difference between the two methods is that the state method for reporting student dropouts adjusts for previously reported student dropouts and the federal method does not.

At its August 1998 meeting the State Board adopted several changes as to how the dropout rates should be reported. They adopted the federal guidelines that specify that the unduplicated counts of dropouts for grades 7-12 be reported and that students who withdraw from high school to attend community college programs be counted as dropouts rather than transfers, as they had been previously.

The ABCs dropout rate is different from the State Dropout rate in that it subtracts the total number of expulsions, the total number of long term suspensions, and the total number of students incarcerated in adult facilities, in grades 9-12 from the total number of dropouts in grades 9-12. The ABCs rate also is for each high school as opposed to a rate for each LEA. These adjustments are in concert with SBE requirements and the ABCs model.

For the 1997-98 school year the differences in reporting methods produced the following results:

Table 2

### North Carolina Dropout Rates. Grades 9-12, 1997-98 School Year

Unduplicated State Rate	Duplicated Federal Rate	ABCs Adjusted Rate
5.07%	5.34%	4.90%

For a detailed description of the formulas used to determine these dropout rates, see Appendix.



## TIMELINE

**1985** – The North Carolina General Assembly established the state dropout prevention fund as a part of the Basic Education Program. The general assembly's intent was to increase the number and range of services available to at-risk students. It was the policy of the State Board that dropout prevention and students' at-risk services be part of the educational program of every LEA. The Board established the goal of reducing the dropout rate in North Carolina by one half from 1985 to 1993.

To facilitate accomplishment of this goal the board adopted a performance indicator in guidelines for implementation of the School Improvement and Accountability Act and a standard in state accreditation required all local education agencies to set a goal for the reduction of their dropout rates.

**1998** - The State Board adopted several changes as to how the dropout rates will be reported. They adopted the federal guidelines that specify that the unduplicated counts of dropouts for grades 7-12 will be reported. They further specified that students who withdraw from high school to attend community college programs be counted as dropouts rather than transfers as they had been previously. This is a change from previous practice that may have significant effects on the dropout rate in various LEAs where large numbers of high school students have transferred to the community college.

**1998.** After reviewing the recommendations of the Compliance Commission regarding the components of the High School Accountability Model, the State Board of Education also endorsed the following statement:

"It is the intention of the State Board of Education that dropouts be part of the composite score for rewards and sanctions of the High School ABCs as soon as possible, but not later than the 2000-2001 school year, since the Board is firmly committed to reducing dropout rates within the schools. The ABCs dropout rate will be based on the use of the new guidelines for reporting dropouts (grades 9-12) and including some adjustment for enforcing the Safe Schools Act and addressing chronic behavior problems."

Table 3 shows the timeline for data availability and report publication for the next three academic years. Of note is that there is a year lag in the reporting cycle for dropouts which creates a phase lag in the ABCs reporting cycle. As an example, the ABCs dropout rate for 1997-98, by school, was reported for the first time this year in "A Report Card for the ABCs of Public Education, Volume II, Subgroup Statistics and Supplemental Data, 1998-99" but the dropout data were from the 1997-98 school year.

TABLE 3

Three Year Timetable of ABCs Dropout Reporting

School Year/Guidelines	Dropout Data Available	Action/Year in ABCs
1997-98 School Year (old guidelines with adjustments)	October/November 1998	Reported in ABCs of 1998-99 School Year
1998-99 School Year (new guidelines with adjustments)	October/November 1999	Reported in ABCs of 1999-2000 School Year
1999-2000 School Year (new guidelines with adjustments)	October/November 2000	Included in Composite Score of 2000-2001 School Year



## **SUMMARY OF MEETINGS**

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) operationally defined the formula for determining the dropout rate to be used in the ABCs based on the SBE approved adjustments to the rate and applied that formula using 1997-98 statewide dropout data. The results are presented in, "A Report Card for the ABCs of Public Education, Volume II, Subgroup Statistics and Supplemental Data, 1998-99"

The General Assembly directed that the State Board of Education consult with the Office of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Correction, and the Community College System. These meetings have been held in the offices of Lou Fabrizio, Director, Division of Accountability Services. The purpose of these meetings was to ascertain the effect that a change of dropout reporting methods would have on the agencies concerned, and to identify points of potential impact that this change might have.

Three meetings were held and were spread out over a three-week period. The first meeting, on November 16, 1999, was with Dr. Jane Young, Director of Education Services, North Carolina Department of Correction, Division of Prisons. She reported on the many educational programs that her agency has undertaken to serve the needs of incarcerated students. And while she pointed out that many of the students that were in her service had been dropouts she did not think that a change in how dropouts were to be reported would have any effect in her division. She did however express her support for any efforts that could be made to keep students in school and prevent them from dropping out.

The second meeting, on November 29, 1999 was held with Dr. Randy Whitfield and Dr. Donny Hunter, Community College System. It was clear from the outset that the Community College System is in support of the change in reporting high school students who withdraw from high school to attend community college as dropouts and not transfers. They reported that their past experience with dropouts attending their institutions was not a favorable one. They opined that this experience suggested that some students in the past had been "pushed out" to a community college. Based on their experience in this area they suggested that this procedure is counterindicated. A letter from H. Martin Lancaster, President, of the North Carolina Community College System in support of the SBE action is appended.

On December 9, 1999 a meeting with Carl Hampton, Chief of Education, Office of Juvenile Justice was held. Mr. Hampton was in agreement with the position of Dr. Jane Young and could not posit an instance where the ABCs dropout rate or changes in the way dropouts were reported would have an effect on his agency. He was in support however of any program that would reduce the dropout rate as he also noted a relationship between dropouts and the students in his charge.

## **REPORT SUMMARY**

Staff of North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has reviewed the various methods for reporting the ABCs dropout rate in North Carolina, and recommend continuing the State Board of Education's decision to report dropout data for grades 9 -12 by school and to adjust for Safe School factors such as students who were expelled, students that were incarcerated or long term suspended. The staff also recommends continuing the policy of counting high school students who withdraw from high school to attend a community college, as dropouts.



## APPENDIX

### Definition of ABCs Dropout Rate

To meet the SBE requirements for reporting dropout rates in the ABCs, the following information (data points) are used:

- LEA code
- School code
- Total Number of Dropouts in grades 9-12, ( $X_T$ )
- Total Number of Previously reported dropouts , ( $X_{prev.}$ )
- Total Number of Expulsions in grades 9-12, ( $X_E$ )
- Total Number of Long Term Suspensions in grades 9-12, ( $X_L$ )
- Total Number of Students Incarcerated in Adult Facility in grades 9-12, ( $X_I$ )
- 20<sup>th</sup> Day '97-98 Membership in grades 9-12, ( $N_{98}$ )
- Initial Enrollees in Membership Day 20 in grades 9-12, ( $N_I$ )
- 20<sup>th</sup> Day '98-99 Membership in grades 9-12, ( $N_{99}$ )

The ABCs dropout numerator is:

$$X = X_T - (X_E + X_L + X_I)$$

The Unduplicated /State Rate dropout numerator is:

$$X_{state} = X_T - X_{prev}$$

The Duplicated/Federal Rate dropout numerator is:

$$X_{federal} = X_T$$

The dropout membership (N) used in determining all three rates is:

$$N = [N_{98} - N_I + N_{99}] / 2$$

The ABCs dropout rate, expressed as a percentage, is:

$$P = 100 * (X / N + X)$$

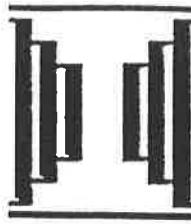
The Unduplicated /State Rate, expressed as a percentage, is:

$$P = 100 * (X_{state} / N + X_{state})$$

The Duplicated/Federal Rate, expressed as a percentage, is:

$$P = 100 * (X_{federal} / N + X_{federal})$$





## NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

December 13, 1999

H. MARTIN LANCASTER  
PRESIDENT

ALAMANCE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ANSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ASHEVILLE-BUNCOMBE  
TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BEAUFORT COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BLADIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CALDWELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
& TECHNICAL INSTITUTE  
CAPE FEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CARTERET COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CATAWBA VALLEY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CENTRAL CAROLINA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CENTRAL PIEDMONT  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CLEVELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COASTAL CAROLINA  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COLLEGE OF THE ALBEMARLE  
CRAVEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DAVIDSON COUNTY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DURHAM TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
EDGECOMBE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
FAYETTEVILLE TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
DRYSDALE TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
GASTON COLLEGE  
GUILFORD TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
HALIFAX COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
HAYWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JAMES SPRINT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
JOHNSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
LENORE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MARTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MARYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MCDOWELL TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MITCHELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
MONTGOMERY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
NASH COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PAMlico COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PITT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
RANDOLPH COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
RICHMOND COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ROANOKE-CHOWAN  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ROBESON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ROCKINGHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ROWAN-CABARRUS  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SAMSON COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SANDHILL COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
STANLY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
SURREY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
VANCE-GRANVILLE  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
WAKE TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
WAYNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
WESTERN PIEDMONT  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
WILSON TECHNICAL  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CENTER FOR APPLIED  
TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Phillip J. Kirk, Jr.  
Chairman  
State Board of Education  
PO Box 2508  
Raleigh, NC 27602-2508

Dear Phil:

I write this letter to urge you and your colleagues on the State Board of Education to maintain your current policy classifying students who leave high school early and enroll in community colleges as high-school drop-outs.

Section 10 of House Bill 517 requires the State Board to study the methods of counting drop-out rates for the School-Based Management and Accountability Program. The bill specifically directs the State Board to recommend whether drop-out rate computations should include students who "transfer" from high schools to community colleges. As you know, the policy now in effect does count those students as drop-outs.

The State Board established that policy in August of 1998. For 10 years prior to that action, students who left high school early to attend community colleges did not have to be included in the drop-out rate. During those 10 years, the number of 16 and 17 year-olds who left public schools to enroll in community colleges rose astronomically. Many of these students failed to complete any community college program, yet they never showed up as high school drop-outs. Statistics during those 10 years and common sense supported your 1998 policy change.

I understand that some people consider the current policy unfair to public schools. I also understand the opinion that public schools should get some credit for encouraging students to continue their education elsewhere rather than simply going "out on the street." However, these well-intentioned people must understand that the earlier policy had the unintended consequence of discouraging many efforts to keep students in high school and replacing them with incentives to "transfer" the student to improve drop-out statistics. We believe that in some cases, the best interests of the students took second place behind the need to boost school performance.

The State Board of Community Colleges joins me in the strong belief that high-school age students should be in high school with their peers. The purpose of education goes beyond acquisition of specific skills and knowledge as laid out in the formal curriculum. While Adult High School and GED programs are excellent alternatives for adults beyond high-school age and for those few younger students for whom traditional schools are no longer an option, neither can replace the four-year high school experience. We must not send a signal that Adult High School and GED programs are another "track" for high-school age students. In effect, the policy

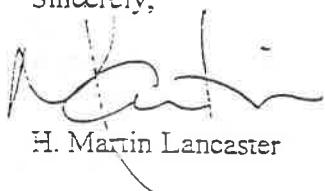
change of more than 10 years ago did just that. Returning to that failed policy would again open the door to a wholesale "dumping" of students out of the public schools.

I also have concerns about the credibility of the reported drop-out rate. Over the last 10 years, many students have ended their formal educations in North Carolina without high school diplomas or GEDs, yet they have never been reported as drop-outs. Some will argue that a better tracking system will solve this problem. That may be true in theory, but in practice, the open-ended nature of community college programs makes tracking these students difficult.

If the State Board of Education considers reverting to the earlier policy of excluding from the drop-out rate those students who leave high school early for community college, then I would like an opportunity to appear before the Board to speak against the change. I am confident that statistics from the past decade will demonstrate that the change would not be in the best interest of students. We share your goal of providing all North Carolinians with the best education possible. For high-school age youngsters, the best place to reach that goal is in high school.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,



H. Martin Lancaster

c: Michael E. Ward, State Superintendent  
State Board of Education Members

**Table A**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 7-12 and 9-12**  
**for Public Schools of North Carolina**  
**(Duplicated Counts and Rates, Excluding Expelled Students Per G.S. 115C-12(27))**

LEA	Name	7-12 DROPOUTS		9-12 DROPOUTS	
		NUMBERS	RATES	NUMBERS	RATES
01A	LAKESIDE SCHOOL	2	6.56	2	9.30
010	ALAMANCE-BURLINGTON	418	4.75	407	7.09
020	ALEXANDER COUNTY	152	6.35	143	9.14
030	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	21	3.12	21	4.63
040	ANSON COUNTY	159	7.76	146	10.76
050	ASHE COUNTY	98	6.12	97	8.87
060	AVERY COUNTY	67	6.06	67	9.00
070	BEAUFORT COUNTY	148	4.38	136	6.19
080	BERTIE COUNTY	105	5.85	101	8.30
090	BLADEN COUNTY	81	3.21	80	4.81
100	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	211	4.74	201	6.97
110	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	522	4.61	505	6.84
111	ASHEVILLE CITY	88	4.58	88	6.62
120	BURKE COUNTY	414	6.68	402	10.09
130	CABARRUS COUNTY	310	3.78	307	5.74
132	KANNAPOLIS CITY	62	3.49	59	5.30
140	CALDWELL COUNTY	216	4.08	212	6.13
150	CAMDEN COUNTY	23	3.63	23	5.68
16A	CAPE LOOKOUT HIGH	31	24.12	31	24.12
160	CARTERET COUNTY	174	4.16	171	6.16
170	CASWELL COUNTY	76	4.73	76	7.30
180	CATAWBA COUNTY	294	4.21	287	6.30
181	HICKORY CITY	120	6.29	116	9.39
182	NEWTON-CONOVER	19	1.57	18	2.27
19B	WOODS CHARTER	2	2.21	2	3.20
190	CHATHAM COUNTY	129	4.38	129	6.90
200	CHEROKEE COUNTY	74	4.53	71	6.48
210	EDENTON/CHOWAN	31	2.56	31	3.90
220	CLAY COUNTY	23	3.53	23	5.17
230	CLEVELAND COUNTY	188	4.82	186	7.43
231	KINGS MOUNTAIN	105	5.53	99	8.05
232	SHELBY CITY	67	5.02	62	7.19
240	COLUMBUS COUNTY	159	4.51	142	6.21

**Table A**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 7-12 and 9-12**  
**for Public Schools of North Carolina**  
(Duplicated Counts and Rates, Excluding Expelled Students Per G.S. 115C-12(27))

LEA	Name	7-12 DROPOUTS		9-12 DROPOUTS	
		NUMBERS	RATES	NUMBERS	RATES
241	WHITEVILLE CITY	61	4.79	53	6.58
250	CRAVEN COUNTY	294	4.46	284	6.56
260	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	994	4.33	953	6.38
270	CURRITUCK COUNTY	79	5.29	79	8.14
280	DARE COUNTY	82	3.94	82	6.00
290	DAVIDSON COUNTY	329	3.86	317	5.74
291	LEXINGTON CITY	69	5.15	68	8.18
292	THOMASVILLE CITY	35	3.99	34	6.08
300	DAVIE COUNTY	95	4.02	90	5.86
310	DUPLIN COUNTY	148	4.01	129	5.59
320	DURHAM COUNTY	722	5.69	708	8.62
330	EDGECOMBE COUNTY	194	5.42	175	7.40
34A	LIFT ACADEMY	1	0.63	0	0.00
340	FORSYTH COUNTY	929	4.95	890	7.15
350	FRANKLIN COUNTY	159	4.94	145	7.25
360	GASTON COUNTY	816	5.91	787	8.86
370	GATES COUNTY	42	4.32	41	6.52
380	GRAHAM COUNTY	47	8.47	40	11.32
390	GRANVILLE COUNTY	137	4.11	125	6.16
400	GREENE COUNTY	45	3.28	45	5.12
410	GUILFORD COUNTY	1,152	4.26	1,109	6.34
420	HALIFAX COUNTY	98	3.58	98	5.31
421	ROANOKE RAPIDS CITY	42	3.05	42	4.82
422	WELDON CITY	16	3.28	15	4.64
430	HARNETT COUNTY	322	4.80	312	7.39
440	HAYWOOD COUNTY	152	4.40	152	6.71
450	HENDERSON COUNTY	235	4.42	224	6.36
460	HERTFORD COUNTY	78	3.92	78	5.77
470	HOKE COUNTY	129	4.97	127	7.60
480	HYDE COUNTY	18	5.12	14	6.02
490	IREDELL-STATESVILLE	437	6.14	424	9.10
491	MOORESVILLE CITY	75	4.31	70	6.19
500	JACKSON COUNTY	75	4.38	75	6.52

**Table A**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 7-12 and 9-12**  
**for Public Schools of North Carolina**  
(Duplicated Counts and Rates, Excluding Expelled Students Per G.S. 115C-12(27))

LEA	Name	7-12 DROPOUTS		9-12 DROPOUTS	
		NUMBERS	RATES	NUMBERS	RATES
510	JOHNSTON COUNTY	391	4.84	356	7.05
520	JONES COUNTY	28	4.22	28	6.30
530	LEE COUNTY	192	5.10	173	7.19
540	LENOIR COUNTY	266	5.61	247	8.05
550	LINCOLN COUNTY	236	4.94	236	7.42
560	MACON COUNTY	73	3.82	71	5.66
570	MADISON COUNTY	53	4.59	53	6.92
580	MARTIN COUNTY	99	4.38	95	6.29
590	MCDOWELL COUNTY	123	4.33	110	6.07
60C	KENNEDY CHARTER	8	24.24	7	30.43
600	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	2,401	5.50	2,202	7.72
610	MITCHELL COUNTY	21	1.92	21	2.95
620	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	98	4.93	92	7.10
630	MOORE COUNTY	155	3.20	153	4.78
640	NASH-ROCKY MOUNT	460	5.83	409	7.95
650	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	429	4.36	424	6.37
660	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	74	4.29	74	6.39
670	ONSLOW COUNTY	410	4.23	407	6.31
680	ORANGE COUNTY	94	3.51	94	5.45
681	CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO	62	1.54	62	2.35
690	PAMLICO COUNTY	37	3.90	36	5.38
700	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	148	5.21	145	7.89
710	PENDER COUNTY	101	3.60	101	5.47
720	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	65	6.94	63	10.06
730	PERSON COUNTY	118	4.62	116	6.98
740	PITT COUNTY	436	4.96	430	7.44
750	POLK COUNTY	15	1.55	15	2.50
760	RANDOLPH COUNTY	436	6.04	401	8.75
761	ASHEBORO CITY	108	6.12	99	8.91
770	RICHMOND COUNTY	172	4.85	150	6.69
780	ROBESON COUNTY	706	6.65	687	9.76
790	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	359	5.51	332	7.93
800	ROWAN-SALISBURY	401	4.40	380	6.43

**Table A**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 7-12 and 9-12**  
**for Public Schools of North Carolina**  
(Duplicated Counts and Rates, Excluding Expelled Students Per G.S. 115C-12(27))

LEA	Name	7-12 DROPOUTS		9-12 DROPOUTS	
		NUMBERS	RATES	NUMBERS	RATES
810	RUTHERFORD COUNTY	166	3.78	166	5.82
820	SAMPSON COUNTY	131	4.06	126	6.13
821	CLINTON CITY	44	3.82	44	5.68
83A	LAURINBURG CHARTER	22	21.57	22	21.57
830	SCOTLAND COUNTY	149	4.87	145	7.23
840	STANLY COUNTY	112	2.47	107	3.68
850	STOKES COUNTY	107	3.32	102	4.85
860	SURRY COUNTY	189	5.24	187	7.83
861	ELKIN CITY	12	2.56	10	3.06
862	MOUNT AIRY CITY	16	1.89	16	3.06
870	SWAIN COUNTY	44	5.46	44	7.98
880	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	79	4.17	75	5.83
890	TYRRELL COUNTY	11	2.85	10	3.87
900	UNION COUNTY	325	3.62	320	5.58
910	VANCE COUNTY	224	6.98	203	10.19
92C	BAKER CHARTER HIGH	20	40.00	20	40.00
920	WAKE COUNTY	1,224	3.07	1,203	4.68
930	WARREN COUNTY	72	4.85	70	7.35
940	WASHINGTON COUNTY	38	3.36	35	4.58
950	WATAUGA COUNTY	95	3.88	95	5.87
960	WAYNE COUNTY	355	4.02	342	5.95
97A	ELIZABETH GRINTON AC *	1	33.33	0	0.00
970	WILKES COUNTY	219	4.77	219	7.33
980	WILSON COUNTY	317	5.68	283	7.84
990	YADKIN COUNTY	85	3.34	80	4.93
995	YANCEY COUNTY	50	4.50	47	6.43
999	NORTH CAROLINA	25,578	4.60	24,466	6.78

\* Final verification of data has not occurred.

**Table B**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 9-12 by Selected Categories**

LEA	NAME	Total 9-12 Dropouts, Including Expulsions	Dropouts Who Were:			
			Enrolled in Community Colleges	Expelled From School	Long-term Suspended, Did Not Return	Previously Reported
01A	LAKESIDE SCHOOL	2				
010	ALAMANCE-BURLINGTON	407			13	10
020	ALEXANDER COUNTY	143			5	1
030	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	21	5			3
040	ANSON COUNTY	146	36		2	5
050	ASHE COUNTY	97	11		3	7
060	AVERY COUNTY	67				3
070	BEAUFORT COUNTY	138	2	2	9	4
080	BERTIE COUNTY	101	1		3	12
090	BLADEN COUNTY	80			2	5
100	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	201	47		5	5
110	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	505	1		38	28
111	ASHEVILLE CITY	88			3	11
120	BURKE COUNTY	412	133	10		13
130	CABARRUS COUNTY	307	35		19	19
132	KANNAPOLIS CITY	59			9	4
140	CALDWELL COUNTY	219	14	7	2	7
150	CAMDEN COUNTY	23	19			1
16A	CAPE LOOKOUT HIGH	31	9			
160	CARTERET COUNTY	173		2	3	8
170	CASWELL COUNTY	76	9			2
180	CATAWBA COUNTY	287			3	29
181	HICKORY CITY	118	1	2	1	3
182	NEWTON-CONOVER	18	3			
19B	WOODS CHARTER	2				
190	CHATHAM COUNTY	129	41		3	3
200	CHEROKEE COUNTY	72	2	1	1	3
210	EDENTON/CHOWAN	31	24			
220	CLAY COUNTY	24		1	2	2
230	CLEVELAND COUNTY	187	6	1	3	6
231	KINGS MOUNTAIN	99	19		1	2
232	SHELBY CITY	62				1
240	COLUMBUS COUNTY	142	17			
241	WHITEVILLE CITY	54	1	1		
250	CRAVEN COUNTY	285	46	1	3	9

**Table B**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 9-12 by Selected Categories**

LEA	NAME	Total 9-12 Dropouts, Including Expulsions	Dropouts Who Were:			
			Enrolled in Community Colleges	Expelled From School	Long-term Suspended, Did Not Return	Previously Reported
260	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	954	30	1	28	43
270	CURRITUCK COUNTY	79	30		3	5
280	DARE COUNTY	82	32			2
290	DAVIDSON COUNTY	317	23		1	16
291	LEXINGTON CITY	69	9	1	1	1
292	THOMASVILLE CITY	34				
300	DAVIE COUNTY	90				
310	DUPLIN COUNTY	129	39			2
320	DURHAM COUNTY	716		8	10	51
330	EDGECOMBE COUNTY	176	28	1	2	7
34A	LIFT ACADEMY	0				
340	FORSYTH COUNTY	902	8	12	18	38
350	FRANKLIN COUNTY	145	5		2	5
360	GASTON COUNTY	788	26	1	35	37
370	GATES COUNTY	41	20			1
380	GRAHAM COUNTY	41		1		
390	GRANVILLE COUNTY	125	2		14	5
400	GREENE COUNTY	45			8	3
410	GUILFORD COUNTY	1,109	53		71	30
420	HALIFAX COUNTY	98	5		4	
421	ROANOKE RAPIDS CITY	42			3	3
422	WELDON CITY	15	2			1
430	HARNETT COUNTY	312	2		8	9
440	HAYWOOD COUNTY	152	8		4	2
450	HENDERSON COUNTY	224	13		12	14
460	HERTFORD COUNTY	80		2		1
470	HOKE COUNTY	127	1		29	1
480	HYDE COUNTY	17		3	2	
490	IREDELL-STATESVILLE	428	9	4	1	32
491	MOORESVILLE CITY	72	20	2		1
500	JACKSON COUNTY	76		1		5
510	JOHNSTON COUNTY	356	31		29	5
520	JONES COUNTY	28				1
530	LEE COUNTY	173	25		8	5
540	LENOIR COUNTY	247			5	13

**Table B**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 9-12 by Selected Categories**

LEA	NAME	Total 9-12 Dropouts, Including Expulsions	Dropouts Who Were:			
			Enrolled in Community Colleges	Expelled From School	Long-term Suspended, Did Not Return	Previously Reported
550	LINCOLN COUNTY	237	14	1	9	23
560	MACON COUNTY	71				1
570	MADISON COUNTY	55		2		
580	MARTIN COUNTY	96		1	2	3
590	MCDOWELL COUNTY	110				13
60C	KENNEDY CHARTER	7	2			
600	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	2,293		91	24	84
610	MITCHELL COUNTY	21				1
620	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	92	4		2	6
630	MOORE COUNTY	154	1	1		10
640	NASH-ROCKY MOUNT	410	131	1	9	20
650	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	424	6		41	33
660	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	79	2	5		3
670	ONSLOW COUNTY	407	69		1	8
680	ORANGE COUNTY	94	16		7	6
681	CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO	62	7			
690	PAMLICO COUNTY	37		1	3	2
700	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	145	6		16	2
710	PENDER COUNTY	102		1	8	7
720	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	65		2		
730	PERSON COUNTY	116				6
740	PITT COUNTY	431	94	1	6	25
750	POLK COUNTY	15	8			1
760	RANDOLPH COUNTY	401	34		35	3
761	ASHEBORO CITY	99			8	4
770	RICHMOND COUNTY	150	4		1	1
780	ROBESON COUNTY	690	61	3	19	27
790	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	332			19	26
800	ROWAN-SALISBURY	384		4	13	20
810	RUTHERFORD COUNTY	167		1	8	5
820	SAMPSON COUNTY	128	39	2	6	
821	CLINTON CITY	44	25		2	2
83A	LAURINBURG CHARTER	22				
830	SCOTLAND COUNTY	146	33	1	13	8
840	STANLY COUNTY	107			8	4

**Table B**  
**1998-99 Dropout Data for Grades 9-12 by Selected Categories**

LEA	NAME	Total 9-12 Dropouts, Including Expulsions	Dropouts Who Were:			
			Enrolled in Community Colleges	Expelled From School	Long-term Suspended, Did Not Return	Previously Reported
850	STOKES COUNTY	102	3		4	5
860	SURRY COUNTY	187	22		5	20
861	ELKIN CITY	10				
862	MOUNT AIRY CITY	16	4			
870	SWAIN COUNTY	44			2	2
880	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	75	2		1	4
890	TYRRELL COUNTY	10	1			
900	UNION COUNTY	325		5	20	10
910	VANCE COUNTY	204	29	1	12	8
92C	BAKER CHARTER HIGH	20	2			
920	WAKE COUNTY	1,205		2	65	69
930	WARREN COUNTY	70	9		2	4
940	WASHINGTON COUNTY	36		1	2	1
950	WATAUGA COUNTY	96	37	1	3	1
960	WAYNE COUNTY	342	2		13	19
97A	ELIZABETH GRINTON AC*	0				
970	WILKES COUNTY	219	36			6
980	WILSON COUNTY	283			11	14
990	YADKIN COUNTY	81		1		2
995	YANCEY COUNTY	47	15		2	4
999	NORTH CAROLINA	24,660	1,621	194	833	1,068

\* Final verification of data has not occurred.