



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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**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 to be implemented in the 2012-13 school year. The new accountability model will include improvement in cohort graduation rates as one of the indicators in the model.

In the North Carolina RttT application, the goals for education reform and innovation focus on the following:

- Increasing overall student achievement;
- Raising the four-year cohort graduation rate; and
- Ensuring that students graduate from high school college ready.

In order to receive the RttT funds, the NCDPI was required to complete a detailed Scope of Work specifying how the initiatives described in the RttT application will be implemented. The Scope of Work templates describe what the state and each local education agency (LEA) will do in order to improve the targets established in the goals. As part of the NC Scope of Work, the SBE established Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate targets, working from a baseline of 74.2% in 2009-10 and increasing to 76% in 2010-11; 79% in 2011-12; 82% in 2012-13; and 85% in 2013-14 – therefore exceeding the targets outlined in Senate Bill 1246/Session Law 2010-111. By 2014 the State Board of Education will have refined its target dates to address the 90% and 100% cohort graduation expectation outlined in Senate Bill 1246/Session Law 2010-111. See below for the results from the 2011-12 school year by LEA.

Report of the 2011-12 School Year on 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rates
(Highlighted Cells Indicate the LEA Met or Exceeded the 2011-12 State's Goal of 79%)

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
010	Alamance-Burlington Schools	75.4
020	Alexander County Schools	85.0
030	Alleghany County Schools	85.6
040	Anson County Schools	73.8
050	Ashe County Schools	80.1
060	Avery County Schools	90.1
070	Beaufort County Schools	71.9
080	Bertie County Schools	71.8
090	Bladen County Schools	79.8
100	Brunswick County Schools	83.8
110	Buncombe County Schools	80.0
111	Asheville City Schools	85.9
120	Burke County Schools	84.9
130	Cabarrus County Schools	86.3
132	Kannapolis City Schools	82.8
140	Caldwell County Schools	84.6
150	Camden County Schools	85.5
160	Carteret County Public Schools	83.5
170	Caswell County Schools	77.6
180	Catawba County Schools	89.3
181	Hickory City Schools	82.2
182	Newton Conover City Schools	81.9
190	Chatham County Schools	81.4
200	Cherokee County Schools	88.9
210	Edenton-Chowan Schools	78.3
220	Clay County Schools	84.5
230	Cleveland County Schools	77.7
240	Columbus County Schools	81.2
241	Whiteville City Schools	82.7
250	Craven County Schools	85.6
260	Cumberland County Schools	80.7
270	Currituck County Schools	87.4
280	Dare County Schools	88.9
290	Davidson County Schools	82.5
291	Lexington City Schools	78.2
292	Thomasville City Schools	77.8
300	Davie County Schools	83.2
310	Duplin County Schools	80.8
320	Durham Public Schools	76.9
330	Edgecombe County Public School	79.8

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
340	Forsyth County Schools	80.9
350	Franklin County Schools	80.1
360	Gaston County Schools	77.8
370	Gates County Schools	85.7
380	Graham County Schools	93.6
390	Granville County Schools	72.6
400	Greene County Schools	84.3
410	Guilford County Schools	84.5
420	Halifax County Schools	75.5
421	Roanoke Rapids City Schools	80.0
422	Weldon City Schools	85.3
430	Harnett County Schools	74.5
440	Haywood County Schools	79.3
450	Henderson County Schools	84.9
460	Hertford County Schools	79.9
470	Hoke County Schools	73.7
480	Hyde County Schools	56.2
490	Iredell-Statesville Schools	87.1
491	Mooresville City Schools	90.3
500	Jackson County Schools	86.4
510	Johnston County Schools	82.4
520	Jones County Schools	80.6
530	Lee County Schools	84.0
540	Lenoir County Public Schools	78.1
550	Lincoln County Schools	86.4
560	Macon County Schools	84.5
570	Madison County Schools	82.4
580	Martin County Schools	74.3
590	McDowell County Schools	78.2
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	76.4
610	Mitchell County Schools	83.4
620	Montgomery County Schools	80.5
630	Moore County Schools	83.4
640	Nash-Rocky Mount Schools	76.7
650	New Hanover County Schools	80.4
660	Northampton County Schools	71.4
670	Onslow County Schools	86.5
680	Orange County Schools	85.4
681	Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools	90.0
690	Pamlico County Schools	87.8
700	Pasquotank County Schools	84.1
710	Pender County Schools	86.6
720	Perquimans County Schools	83.7

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
730	Person County Schools	68.4
740	Pitt County Schools	73.1
750	Polk County Schools	89.7
760	Randolph County Schools	83.8
761	Asheboro City Schools	85.1
770	Richmond County Schools	73.5
780	Robeson County Schools	82.6
790	Rockingham County Schools	76.0
800	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	81.1
810	Rutherford County Schools	73.3
820	Sampson County Schools	73.6
821	Clinton City Schools	81.9
830	Scotland County Schools	76.2
840	Stanly County Schools	81.2
850	Stokes County Schools	86.1
860	Surry County Schools	83.0
861	Elkin City Schools	89.4
862	Mount Airy City Schools	91.4
870	Swain County Schools	79.9
880	Transylvania County Schools	82.2
890	Tyrrell County Schools	78.3
900	Union County Public Schools	89.5
910	Vance County Schools	68.2
920	Wake County Schools	80.6
930	Warren County Schools	83.9
940	Washington County Schools	79.9
950	Watauga County Schools	85.4
960	Wayne County Public Schools	80.1
970	Wilkes County Schools	86.6
980	Wilson County Schools	72.6
990	Yadkin County Schools	82.2
995	Yancey County Schools	81.6

84 # Meeting State Goal of 79%
31 # Not Meeting State Goal of 79%

Concluding Remarks

Approximately 70% of the LEAs have met or exceeded the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate goal of 79% established by the SBE under the RttT initiative.

For further information, please contact Dr. Rebecca Garland, Chief Academic Officer, NCDPI, at Rebecca.Garland@dpi.nc.gov.

Other Pertinent Website References

Accountability and Curriculum Reform Effort: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/>

Cohort Graduation Rates:

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

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/graduate/statistics/>

District and School Transformation:

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

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

Race to the Top: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/rttt/>