



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. 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.

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 2012-13 school year by LEA.

Report of the 2012-13 School Year on 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rates
(Highlighted Cells Indicate the LEA Met or Exceeded the 2012-13 State's Goal of 82%)

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
010	Alamance-Burlington Schools	78.1
020	Alexander County Schools	85.2
030	Alleghany County Schools	89.8
040	Anson County Schools	77.4
050	Ashe County Schools	84.8
060	Avery County Schools	87.1
070	Beaufort County Schools	78.8
080	Bertie County Schools	78.2
090	Bladen County Schools	78.9
100	Brunswick County Schools	85.7
110	Buncombe County Schools	80.3
111	Asheville City Schools	81.6
120	Burke County Schools	88.0
130	Cabarrus County Schools	86.5
132	Kannapolis City Schools	84.9
140	Caldwell County Schools	89.4
150	Camden County Schools	84.7
160	Carteret County Public Schools	84.7
170	Caswell County Schools	78.8
180	Catawba County Schools	91.3
181	Hickory City Schools	82.8
182	Newton Conover City Schools	87.4
190	Chatham County Schools	85.3
200	Cherokee County Schools	91.7
210	Edenton-Chowan Schools	81.5
220	Clay County Schools	88.8
230	Cleveland County Schools	83.3
240	Columbus County Schools	84.8
241	Whiteville City Schools	80.1
250	Craven County Schools	86.0
260	Cumberland County Schools	81.7
270	Currituck County Schools	87.7
280	Dare County Schools	91.4
290	Davidson County Schools	85.2
291	Lexington City Schools	84.7
292	Thomasville City Schools	71.4
300	Davie County Schools	83.2
310	Duplin County Schools	79.9
320	Durham Public Schools	79.6

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
330	Edgecombe County Public School	77.4
340	Forsyth County Schools	82.1
350	Franklin County Schools	80.8
360	Gaston County Schools	81.2
370	Gates County Schools	91.4
380	Graham County Schools	86.5
390	Granville County Schools	77.1
400	Greene County Schools	87.3
410	Guilford County Schools	86.2
420	Halifax County Schools	74.8
421	Roanoke Rapids City Schools	84.4
422	Weldon City Schools	72.4
430	Harnett County Schools	77.1
440	Haywood County Schools	83.0
450	Henderson County Schools	88.0
460	Hertford County Schools	82.6
470	Hoke County Schools	70.5
480	Hyde County Schools	86.8
490	Iredell-Statesville Schools	88.1
491	Mooresville City Schools	93.4
500	Jackson County Schools	83.7
510	Johnston County Schools	82.5
520	Jones County Schools	81.0
530	Lee County Schools	86.2
540	Lenoir County Public Schools	77.9
550	Lincoln County Schools	86.4
560	Macon County Schools	86.1
570	Madison County Schools	85.9
580	Martin County Schools	76.3
590	McDowell County Schools	78.2
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	81.0
610	Mitchell County Schools	88.0
620	Montgomery County Schools	85.3
630	Moore County Schools	81.7
640	Nash-Rocky Mount Schools	79.4
650	New Hanover County Schools	82.4
660	Northampton County Schools	80.8
670	Onslow County Schools	87.2
680	Orange County Schools	82.5
681	Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools	92.6
690	Pamlico County Schools	92.9
700	Pasquotank County Schools	83.0

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
710	Pender County Schools	87.2
720	Perquimans County Schools	89.0
730	Person County Schools	77.5
740	Pitt County Schools	77.6
750	Polk County Schools	82.6
760	Randolph County Schools	88.9
761	Asheboro City Schools	86.3
770	Richmond County Schools	74.1
780	Robeson County Schools	85.1
790	Rockingham County Schools	76.3
800	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	82.9
810	Rutherford County Schools	77.7
820	Sampson County Schools	75.0
821	Clinton City Schools	84.1
830	Scotland County Schools	72.8
840	Stanly County Schools	82.3
850	Stokes County Schools	86.8
860	Surry County Schools	85.8
861	Elkin City Schools	94.1
862	Mount Airy City Schools	91.7
870	Swain County Schools	80.8
880	Transylvania County Schools	86.0
890	Tyrrell County Schools	87.3
900	Union County Public Schools	90.8
910	Vance County Schools	64.9
920	Wake County Schools	81.0
930	Warren County Schools	75.3
940	Washington County Schools	84.8
950	Watauga County Schools	87.6
960	Wayne County Public Schools	77.6
970	Wilkes County Schools	90.1
980	Wilson County Schools	79.7
990	Yadkin County Schools	82.9
995	Yancey County Schools	82.3
72	#Meeting State Goal of 82%	
43	#Not Meeting State Goal of 82%	

Concluding Remarks

Approximately 63% of the LEAs have met or exceeded the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate goal of 82% 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/effectiveness-model/>

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