



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

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# Report to the North Carolina General Assembly

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

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**Date Due:** November 15, 2015  
Report # 77  
DPI Chronological Schedule, 2014-2015

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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.

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 2014–15 the SBE goal was 86.0; the statewide rate was 85.6, which did not meet this year's target. See below for the results from the 2014–15 school year by LEA.

**Report of the 2014–15 School Year on 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rates  
(Highlighted Cells Indicate the LEA Met or Exceeded the 2014–15 State’s Goal of 86%)**

<b>LEA Number</b>	<b>LEA Name</b>	<b>4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate</b>
010	Alamance-Burlington Schools	82.1
020	Alexander County Schools	87.0
030	Alleghany County Schools	86.4
040	Anson County Schools	84.7
050	Ashe County Schools	85.6
060	Avery County Schools	93.8
070	Beaufort County Schools	84.3
080	Bertie County Schools	84.6
090	Bladen County Schools	77.3
100	Brunswick County Schools	83.2
110	Buncombe County Schools	85.2
111	Asheville City Schools	85.4
120	Burke County Schools	90.2
130	Cabarrus County Schools	90.0
132	Kannapolis City Schools	85.3
140	Caldwell County Schools	90.6
150	Camden County Schools	89.2
160	Carteret County Public Schools	85.6
170	Caswell County Schools	75.1
180	Catawba County Schools	89.8
181	Hickory City Schools	83.9
182	Newton Conover City Schools	97.1
190	Chatham County Schools	87.3
200	Cherokee County Schools	92.9
210	Edenton-Chowan Schools	82.2
220	Clay County Schools	80.5
230	Cleveland County Schools	86.6
240	Columbus County Schools	84.8
241	Whiteville City Schools	84.7
250	Craven County Schools	85.4
260	Cumberland County Schools	81.7
270	Currituck County Schools	90.1
280	Dare County Schools	93.8
290	Davidson County Schools	82.1
291	Lexington City Schools	80.9
292	Thomasville City Schools	86.9
300	Davie County Schools	85.3
310	Duplin County Schools	83.4

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
320	Durham Public Schools	80.7
330	Edgecombe County Public School	81.5
340	Forsyth County Schools	85.4
350	Franklin County Schools	82.6
360	Gaston County Schools	86.3
370	Gates County Schools	86.2
380	Graham County Schools	88.4
390	Granville County Schools	83.8
400	Greene County Schools	86.5
410	Guilford County Schools	89.3
420	Halifax County Schools	73.6
421	Roanoke Rapids City Schools	82.6
422	Weldon City Schools	85.0
430	Harnett County Schools	81.5
440	Haywood County Schools	83.1
450	Henderson County Schools	90.5
460	Hertford County Schools	86.0
470	Hoke County Schools	75.1
480	Hyde County Schools	94.7
490	Iredell-Statesville Schools	86.5
491	Mooresville City Schools	89.7
500	Jackson County Schools	83.8
510	Johnston County Schools	88.8
520	Jones County Schools	89.9
530	Lee County Schools	89.1
540	Lenoir County Public Schools	79.9
550	Lincoln County Schools	90.3
560	Macon County Schools	88.3
570	Madison County Schools	83.4
580	Martin County Schools	75.5
590	McDowell County Schools	80.4
600	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools	88.3
610	Mitchell County Schools	82.7
620	Montgomery County Schools	87.3
630	Moore County Schools	87.4
640	Nash-Rocky Mount Schools	81.1
650	New Hanover County Schools	81.6
660	Northampton County Schools	84.7
670	Onslow County Schools	89.2
680	Orange County Schools	88.0

LEA Number	LEA Name	4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate
681	Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools	91.0
690	Pamlico County Schools	84.4
700	Pasquotank County Schools	83.9
710	Pender County Schools	90.2
720	Perquimans County Schools	90.6
730	Person County Schools	78.9
740	Pitt County Schools	80.8
750	Polk County Schools	89.7
760	Randolph County Schools	89.6
761	Asheboro City Schools	86.8
770	Richmond County Schools	81.0
780	Robeson County Schools	86.6
790	Rockingham County Schools	81.4
800	Rowan-Salisbury Schools	85.1
810	Rutherford County Schools	81.9
820	Sampson County Schools	80.9
821	Clinton City Schools	89.5
830	Scotland County Schools	81.8
840	Stanly County Schools	87.7
850	Stokes County Schools	90.3
860	Surry County Schools	89.6
861	Elkin City Schools	92.0
862	Mount Airy City Schools	92.4
870	Swain County Schools	84.3
880	Transylvania County Schools	84.5
890	Tyrrell County Schools	83.9
900	Union County Public Schools	93.2
910	Vance County Schools	77.5
920	Wake County Schools	86.1
930	Warren County Schools	72.0
940	Washington County Schools	88.4
950	Watauga County Schools	87.9
960	Wayne County Public Schools	85.1
970	Wilkes County Schools	87.6
980	Wilson County Schools	81.5
990	Yadkin County Schools	90.1
995	Yancey County Schools	92.4
<b>55</b>	<b>Number Meeting State Goal of 86%</b>	
<b>60</b>	<b>Number Not Meeting State Goal of 86%</b>	

### **Concluding Remarks**

Approximately 48% of the LEAs have met or exceeded the 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate goal of 86% established by the SBE under the RttT initiative.

For further information, please contact Dr. Rebecca Garland, Deputy State Superintendent, NCDPI, at [Rebecca.Garland@dpi.nc.gov](mailto: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/>