

District Processing Documentation for the Completion Rate, Class of 2008

Introduction

This document provides the steps used by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to build the Grade 9 completion rate cohort and compute the longitudinal rates used in agency publications and for state and federal accountability. For more detailed information on the longitudinal rates, the dropout definition, and the annual dropout rates, please see: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/research/abs2.htm#Dropout>.

Definition

A completion rate is the percentage of students from a class of ninth graders who complete their high school education by their anticipated graduation date. The definitions of completers for state and federal accountability are as follows:

State standard accountability procedures:

Completion I rate

$$\frac{\text{graduates} + \text{continuers}}{\text{graduates} + \text{continuers} + \text{GED recipients} + \text{dropouts}}$$

State alternative education accountability procedures:

Completion II rate

$$\frac{\text{graduates} + \text{continuers} + \text{GED recipients}}{\text{graduates} + \text{continuers} + \text{GED recipients} + \text{dropouts}}$$

Federal accountability:

Graduation rate

$$\frac{\text{graduates}}{\text{graduates} + \text{continuers} + \text{GED recipients} + \text{dropouts}}$$

For further information on state accountability, please see: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/perfreport/account/>.

For further information on federal accountability, please see: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/index.html>.

Processing

Completion rate processing for the class of 2008 is comprised of three steps: 1) establishing the cohort, including gathering member characteristics; 2) assigning final statuses to cohort members; and 3) calculating completion rates at campus and district levels.

How is the completion cohort established?

The class of 2008 completion cohort is based on five years of data:

Cohort year	School year	On grade-level grade
Year 1	2004-05	9
Year 2	2005-06	10
Year 3	2006-07	11
Year 4	2007-08	12
Year 5	2008-09	n/a

Year 1: 2004-05

The 2008 cohort is based on first-time ninth graders from the 2004-05 PEIMS Submission 3 attendance data. A student who first attended ninth grade for any length of time at any time during the school year becomes part of the cohort. A student who was reported through PEIMS Submission 3 to have first attended grade 9 in a prior school year belongs to an earlier cohort.

Program participation and student characteristic information such as gifted and talented participation or special education participation is added to each student record. See Attachment A for the sources of this information. In addition, 2004-05 other leaver, dropout, and graduate information for these students is added to the student's record.

Year 2: 2005-06

Now that the base cohort group is determined, PEIMS attendance records from the 2005-06 school year are gathered for these students. In year 2, students can be in any grade level. In addition, a student who is retained in grade remains in the cohort; the student is not transferred to another cohort. For example, a student who was in grade 9 in the first year of the cohort and was still in grade 9 in the second year of the cohort is still in the class of 2008 cohort. Students who attended the same district in 2005-06 as they did in 2004-05 remain in the district's cohort, regardless of grade level. Program participation and student characteristic information is added to each student record. Other leaver, dropout, and graduate information from 2005-06 is added to the student records.

Year 3: 2006-07

Attendance records from the 2006-07 school year are added to the students' records. Again, students already in the cohort can be in any grade level. Program participation and student characteristic information is added to each student's record. Other leaver, dropout, and graduate information from 2006-07 is added to the student records.

Year 4: 2007-08

Attendance records from the 2007-08 school year are added to the students' records. Again, students already in the cohort can be in any grade level. Program participation and student characteristic information is added to each student's record. Other leaver, dropout, and graduate information from 2007-08 is added to the student records.

Year 5: 2008-09

PEIMS enrollment records for the fall after the cohort's expected graduation date, in this case fall 2008, are used to determine if students are continuing in high school. Students reported as enrolled in the school-start window in 2008-09 are flagged as continuers. Migrant students who return by the January 2009 PEIMS resubmission date are also flagged as continuers.

GED assignment

Students listed in the agency's GED database as having received a GED on or before August 31, 2008 are identified.

Transfers in

Students can be added to a district's cohort in one of two ways: 1) A student identified as part of the Grade 9 2004-05 cohort is added to a district's cohort when the student moves from one Texas public school district to another. The student is removed from the sending district's cohort. 2) A student who is new to Texas public schools and enrolls in a district "on-grade" with the expected grade of the cohort is added to the district's cohort. For example, a student who enrolls in Grade 10 in 2005-06 when on-grade members of the cohort are in Grade 10 is added to the district's cohort.

How are completion rates calculated from the cohort?

At this point, all attendance, demographic, and GED data for the cohort members have been assembled, ranging from the first year they attended ninth grade to the fall semester after their anticipated graduation date. Statuses are assigned for each year a student has a record in the cohort. Yearly statuses are graduate, dropout, other leaver, GED, or continued in high school in the fall after the expected year of graduation.

What are the status definitions?

See the table below to determine how to set final statuses and whether a status is included in the completion calculation.

Status	Definition	Status included in final calculation of longitudinal rates?
Graduate	Student graduated by August 31, 2008	Yes
Continuer	Student was enrolled in the school-start window following the anticipated graduation date or by January 2009 if student is a migrant	Yes
Other leaver	Student left school for a reason other than graduation or dropping out and did not return to the district. See below for a list of leaver reasons for 2004-05 through 2007-08.	No
GED recipient	Student received a GED by August 31, 2008	Yes
Dropout	Student left for a dropout reason. See below for a list of dropout reasons for 2004-05 through 2007-08.	Yes
Underreported	Status of the student was not reported	No
Student identification error	Records not be matched because of a student identification error	No

Type of leaver	Year	LEAVER-REASON-CODEs
Other leaver	2004-05	03, 16, 19, 21, 22, 24, 30, 31, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 72, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83
	2005-06	03, 16, 24, 60, 66, 78, 81, 82, 83, 85, 86
	2006-07	03, 16, 24, 60, 66, 78, 81, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87
	2007-08	03, 16, 24, 60, 66, 78, 81, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87
Dropout	2004-05	02, 04, 08, 09, 10, 14, 15, 79, 84, 99
	2005-06	98
	2006-07	98
	2007-08	98

After the annual statuses are compiled, one final status per student is determined. If a student has only one status, the last status for a student is the student's final status. When a student has multiple statuses, the last status for a student is the student's final status, with the following two exceptions:

1. If a student has a status of graduate and any other status, the student's final status is graduate regardless of any other status.
2. If a student has a status of GED and dropout, the student's final status is GED.

Examples:

Student	School year	Yearly status	Final status	Explanation
A	2004-05	-	dropout	Student's last status was dropout, and student did not earn GED.
	2005-06	-		
	2006-07	other leaver		
	2007-08	-		
	2008-09	dropout		
	Earned GED?	no		

Student	School year	Yearly status	Final status	Explanation
B	2004-05	-	graduate	
	2005-06	-		

	2006-07	graduate		
	2007-08	dropout		
	2008-09	-		
	Earned GED?	yes		
C	2004-05	-	other leaver	Student's last status was other leaver. Student earned GED but GED is only used when other status is dropout.
	2005-06	dropout		
	2006-07	-		
	2007-08	other leaver		
	2008-09	-		
	Earned GED?	yes		

How are completion rates calculated for campuses and districts?

After again checking that cohort members are not represented in another cohort, student completion statuses are aggregated to campus and district levels, based on their final statuses and last campuses attended. Not all members of a campus or district's cohort are included in the calculation of the completion rate because the calculation of longitudinal rates includes only members of a cohort with a final status of graduate, continuer, GED recipient, or dropout. Students with these statuses represent the class of 2008. Students with final statuses of other leaver, underreported, and student identification error, although members of the cohort, are not part of the class.

For each final status, a longitudinal rate is calculated. The graduation rate, for example, reflects the total number of students from a class of ninth graders who graduated divided by the total number in the class. Longitudinal rates are only calculated for campuses and districts serving grades 9-12 for the five years of the cohort calculation, from 2004-05 through 2008-09 for the class of 2008.

Completion I and II rates are calculated by combining final statuses. The completion I rate equals the total number of students from a class of ninth graders with a final status of graduate or continuer divided by the total number in the class. The completion II rate equals the total number of students from a class of ninth graders with a final status of graduate, continuer, or GED recipient divided by the total number in the class. Rates are also calculated for population subsets such as ethnicity, gender, and program participation. Student characteristics and program participation are assigned based on the year of a student's final year in the cohort. For example, a student who graduated in the fourth year of the cohort and who was in the gifted and talented program in Grades 9, 10, and 11 but not in Grade 12 is not included in the gifted and talented longitudinal rates.

Attachment A

The table below shows the cohort build steps using PEIMS data elements.

Year	Step	PEIMS Record	PEIMS Data Element
2004-05	1. Build Cohort	400	E0017 Grade Level Code
		101	E0005 Ethnicity Code E0004 Sex Code E0984 Migrant Indicator Code E0017 Grade Level Code E1027 Campus ID of Accountability
	2. Add corresponding student characteristics and program participation.	110	E0790 LEP Indicator Code E0785 Economic Disadvantage Code E0919 At-Risk Indicator Code E0894 Title I Part A Indicator Code E0032 Bilingual Indicator Code E0800 ESL Indicator Code E0031 Career and Technology Ed Indicator Code E0797 Immigrant Indicator Code
		400	E0212 District ID E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present E0034 Gifted Talented Indicator Code
		405	E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present
3. Add official leaver, dropout, and graduate records	203	E1001 Leaver Reason Code	
2005-06	1. Update Cohort	400	E0017 Grade Level Code
		101	E0005 Ethnicity Code E0004 Sex Code E0984 Migrant Indicator Code E0017 Grade Level Code E1027 Campus ID of Accountability
	2. Add corresponding student characteristics and program participation.	110	E0785 Economic Disadvantage Code E0919 At-Risk Indicator Code E0894 Title I Part A Indicator Code E0032 Bilingual Indicator Code E0800 ESL Indicator Code E0031 Career and Technology Ed Indicator Code E0797 Immigrant Indicator Code
		400	E0212 District ID E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present E0034 Gifted Talented Indicator Code E0790 LEP Indicator Code
		405	E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present
3. Add official leaver, dropout, and graduate records	203	E1001 Leaver Reason Code	
2006-07	1. Update Cohort	400	E0017 Grade Level Code
		101	E0005 Ethnicity Code E0004 Sex Code E0984 Migrant Indicator Code E0017 Grade Level Code E1027 Campus ID of Accountability
	2. Add corresponding student characteristics and program participation.	110	E0785 Economic Disadvantage Code E0919 At-Risk Indicator Code E0894 Title I Part A Indicator Code E0032 Bilingual Indicator Code E0800 ESL Indicator Code E0031 Career and Technology Ed Indicator Code E0797 Immigrant Indicator Code
		400	E0212 District ID E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present E0034 Gifted Talented Indicator Code E0790 LEP Indicator Code
		405	E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present
3. Add official leaver, dropout, and graduate records	203	E1001 Leaver Reason Code	

Year	Step	PEIMS Record	PEIMS Data Element
		405	E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present
	3. Add official leaver, dropout, and graduate records	203	E1001 Leaver Reason Code
2007-08	1. Update Cohort	400	E0017 Grade Level Code
	2. Add corresponding student characteristics and program participation.	101	E0005 Ethnicity Code
			E0004 Sex Code
			E0984 Migrant Indicator Code
			E0017 Grade Level Code
		110	E1027 Campus ID of Accountability
			E0785 Economic Disadvantage Code
			E0919 At-Risk Indicator Code
			E0894 Title I Part A Indicator Code
			E0032 Bilingual Indicator Code
			E0800 ESL Indicator Code
			E0031 Career and Technology Ed Indicator Code
			E0797 Immigrant Indicator Code
		400	E0212 District ID
			E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present
			E0034 Gifted Talented Indicator Code
			E0790 LEP Indicator Code
		405	E0940 Total Elig Spec Ed Mainstream Days Present
	3. Add official leaver, dropout, and graduate records	203	E1001 Leaver Reason Code
Fall 2008	1. Add enrollment, student characteristic, and program participation.	101	E0005 Ethnicity Code
			E0004 Sex Code
			E0984 Migrant Indicator Code
			E0017 Grade Level Code
			E1002 Student Attribution Code
		110	E0782 Campus ID of Enrollment
			E0785 Economic Disadvantage Code
			E0919 At-Risk Indicator Code
			E0894 Title I Part A Indicator Code
			E0032 Bilingual Indicator Code
			E0800 ESL Indicator Code
			E0031 Career and Technology Ed Indicator Code
			E0797 Immigrant Indicator Code