

SPECIAL EDUCATION REPORT TO THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

July 2009



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Table of Contents

Part 1- Students Served	2
Special Education Child Count and Student Enrollment	2
Student Enrollment Longitudinal Data Grades Pre-Kindergarten through 12	3
Proportion of All Students Enrolled in Public Schools Who are Special Education	3
National Enrollment Prevalence of Children Served Under IDEA, Part B, During the 2005-2006 School Year.	4
Student Identification by Disability	5
Disabilities by Percentage of Total Number of Students with Disabilities	5
Part 2 - Funding	6
State Special Education Appropriation for 2008-2009 School Year	6
State Entitlement for 2007-2008 School Year	6
Growth in Reimbursement of Disproportionate Costs	7
Total \$ Amount for Disproportionate Reimbursement by Year.....	7
Number of School Districts Receiving Reimbursement for Disproportionate Costs.....	7
Instructional Block Grants and Related Services Block Grants	8
Instructional Block Grant per Student Allocation	8
Related Services Block Grant per Student Allocation	8
Expenditures of State, Federal, and Local Funds Comparison by Year	9
Comparison by School Years 1990 - 2008.....	9
Percentages of State, Federal and Local Funds Covering Total Costs of Special Education	11
The General Fund	12
Comparison Between State Share of Expenditures for Special Education Students and State Share of Budget for All Students	12
Per Student Expenditure Comparisons at the District Level	12
Year-to-Year Variability of District Special Education Expenditures	13
Special Education Expenditures per Student FY 2008	14
Medicaid	14
FY'08 Medicaid Payments to Schools	15
Part 3 - Accountability	17
Montana's State Performance Plan	17
Indicator 1 – Graduation Rates.....	18
Indicator 2 – Dropout Rates.....	18
Indicator 3 – Statewide Assessments.....	19
Indicator 4 – Suspension and Expulsion Rates.....	22
Indicator 5 – Education Environment.....	23
Indicator 6 – Preschool Settings.....	24

Indicator 7 – Preschool Outcomes	25
Indicator 8 – Parent Involvement.....	25
Indicator 9 – Disproportionate Representation.....	26
Indicator 10 – Disproportionate Representation - Disability Categories.....	27
Indicator 11 – Child Find.....	28
Indicator 12 – Part C to Part B Transition.....	29
Indicator 13 – Secondary Transition with IEP Goals.....	30
Indicator 14: Post-School Outcomes.....	31
Indicator 15: General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year from identification.....	31
Indicator 16: Percent of signed written complaints with reports issued that were resolved within 60-day timeline or a timeline extended for exceptional circumstances with respect to a particular complaint.	32
Indicator 17: Percent of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests that were fully adjudicated within the 45-day timeline or a timeline that is properly extended by the hearing officer at the request of either party.....	33
Indicator 18: Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements.....	33
Indicator 19: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.	34
Indicator 20: State-reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate.	34
Appendices:.....	35
Appendix A:	36
Appendix B:	38
Appendix C:	40
Appendix D:	42

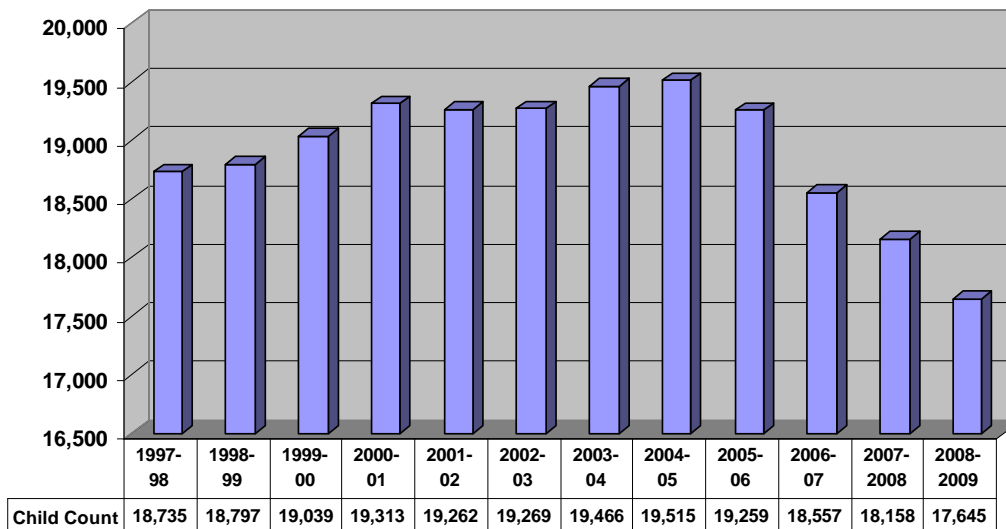
Part 1- Students Served

Special Education Child Count and Student Enrollment

Public schools must make available special education and related services to all IDEA-eligible (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) students with disabilities beginning at age three and through age 18. Services to students, ages 19, 20, and 21, are permissive. That means the decision to serve 19, 20 and 21-year-old students is determined by the policies of the school district board of trustees [20-5-101(3), Montana Code Annotated (MCA), and Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 10.16.3122].

Students with disabilities receive a wide range of services, including specially designed instruction, transition services, assistive technology, and related services such as speech-language therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Both the type and the extent of services a student receives are individually determined based on the educational needs of the student.

Special Education Child Count Longitudinal Data - Students Ages 3-21



This is a count of students with disabilities who have a valid Individualized Education Program (IEP) in accordance with IDEA and are receiving services indicated on the IEP on the first school day in December. The count includes students who are enrolled in public schools, publicly funded schools, residential treatment facilities that contract with the OPI to provide services to their students who are Montana residents, and students who are in private or home schools and are receiving services from a public school in accordance with a Services Plan.

Source: Child Count Data Files ([Opihlnntprd3/Share/SEDATA/BPE Report/July 2009](#) and [Share/SEDATA/Data Manager/Data ManagerInformation/Child Count](#))

Analysis of the December 1, 2008, Child Count data (term used for the collection of student special education data) shows there was a decrease of 513 students from the previous year with the most significant decreases occurring in the speech-language impairment and learning disabilities categories. Analysis of the data also showed a significant decrease in the count of students reported in the disability category of emotional disturbance. Factors affecting the decrease include implementation of positive behavioral supports in general education and the positive effects of the

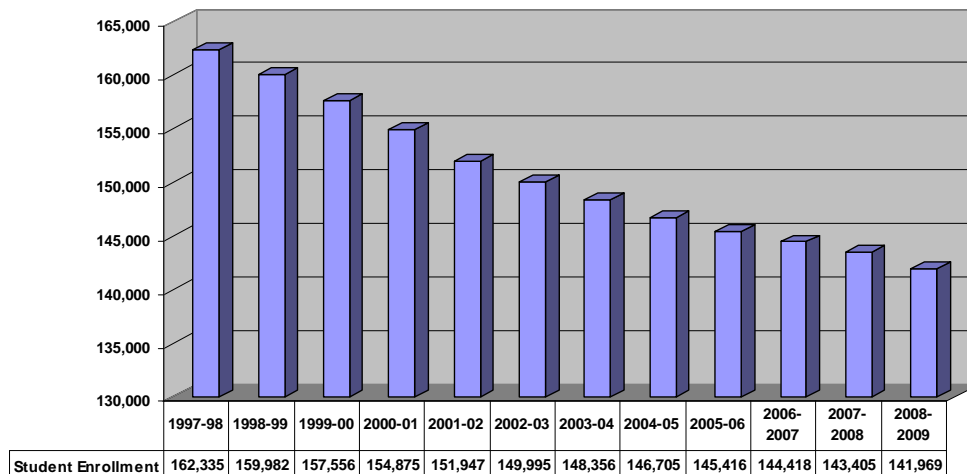
implementation of over 100 Comprehensive School and Community Treatment Services (CSCT) programs in schools across the state. Students are not required to be eligible for special education services to receive CSCT services.

The disability category showing the most significant increase (10.7%) is Autism. This is reflective of what is occurring nationwide. Factors affecting this are the increase in numbers of students previously identified as having Autism and moving into Montana, as well as an increase in knowledge of how to more effectively identify children who meet the criteria for Autism.

Montana's Child Count (term used for the collection of student special education data) grew steadily from 1996 through 2001. From 2001 to present, the count has leveled off.

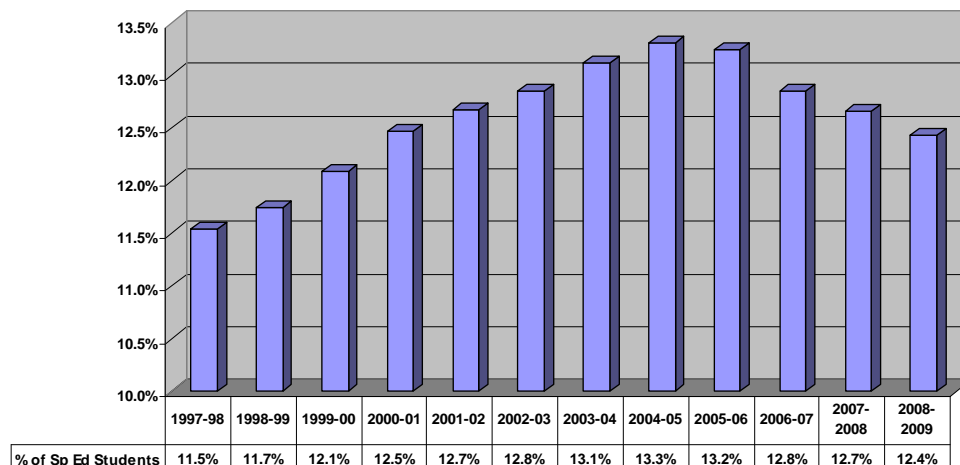
In contrast, Montana's public school enrollment has shown a steady decline since 1996. Because of declining enrollment at the same time special education Child Count has either grown, or in recent years remained steady, the proportion of students served by special education has increased.

Student Enrollment Longitudinal Data Grades Pre-Kindergarten through 12



Source: [Montana Public School Enrollment Data](#), (Published yearly by the OPI)

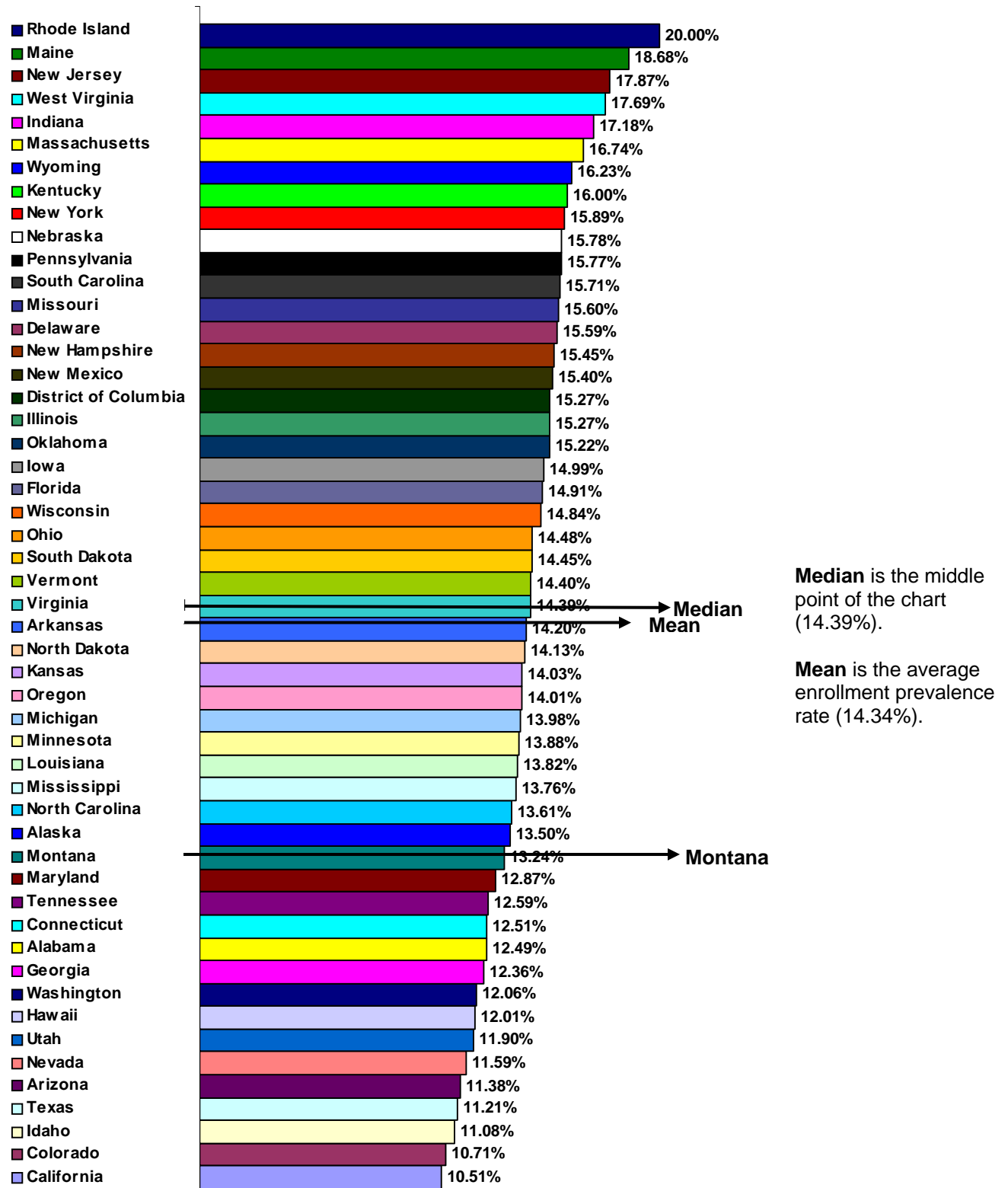
Proportion of All Students Enrolled in Public Schools Who are Special Education



NOTE: Percentage is calculated by dividing the special education student count for the year by the total student enrollment for the same year.

Montana ranks below the mean in the percentage of students served under IDEA according to the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education.

National Enrollment Prevalence of Children Served Under IDEA, Part B, During the 2005-2006 School Year.



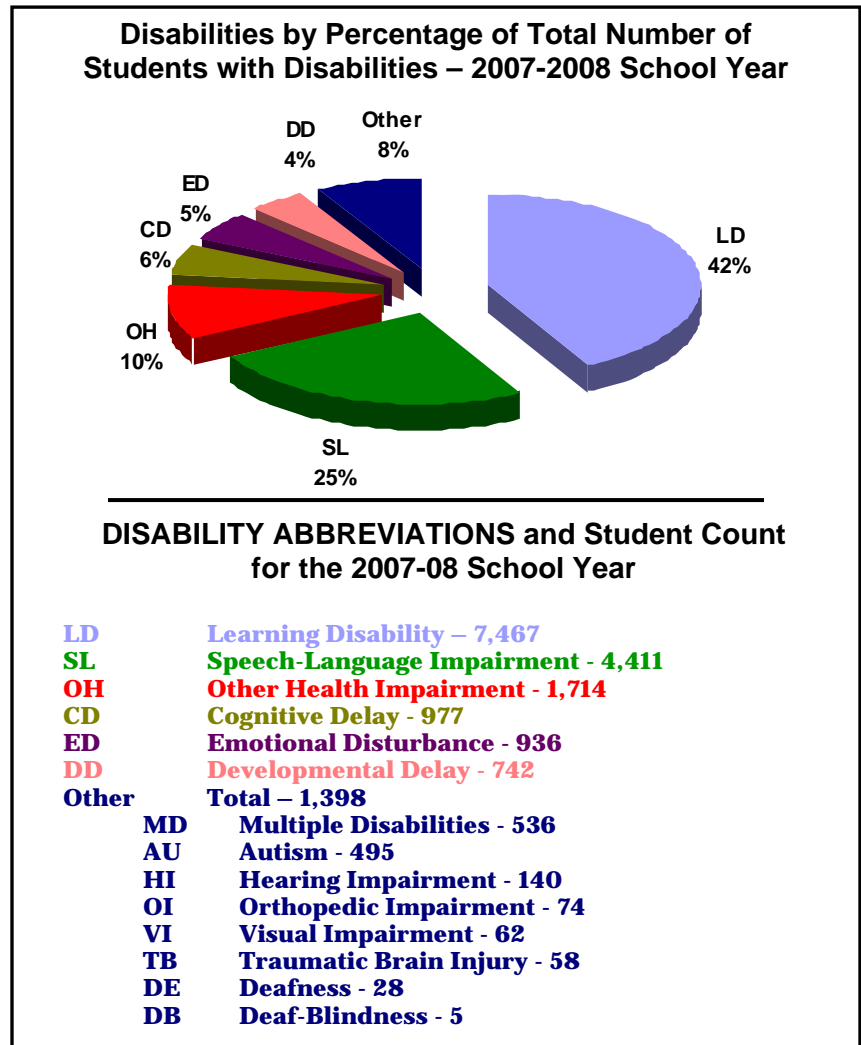
Source: Ideadata.org Part B Data & Notes/Trend Data Files/Tabel B1, Number and Percent of Population Served (Ages 3-21), by State 1998 through 2007.

Student Identification by Disability

The categories of Learning Disability and Speech-Language Impairment represent two-thirds of all students receiving special education services (LD=42%; SL=25%). The number of students identified under the category of Learning Disability decreased by 498. This decrease is the result of several large districts in Montana implementing general education interventions, including scientifically based instructional programs that reduced the number of students referred for special education.

A U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, policy letter issued in the early 1990s and subsequent federal regulations finalized in March of 1999 listing attention deficit disorder/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in the definition for Other Health Impairment (OH) have resulted in a dramatic increase in this disability category shortly after the change, but has leveled off in recent years. The number of students in Montana identified as OH grew from 177 students reported in FY '90 to 1,714 students reported in FY '09.

The number of students identified as having Autism (AU) has also increased substantially over the last 10 years. While Autism is considered a low-incidence disability category, the cost to address the needs of a child with Autism is high. In the first year that students were reported under Autism in Montana (FY '92) only two students were reported. Subsequent years have seen steady increase with the most recent count (FY '09) at 495 students reported.



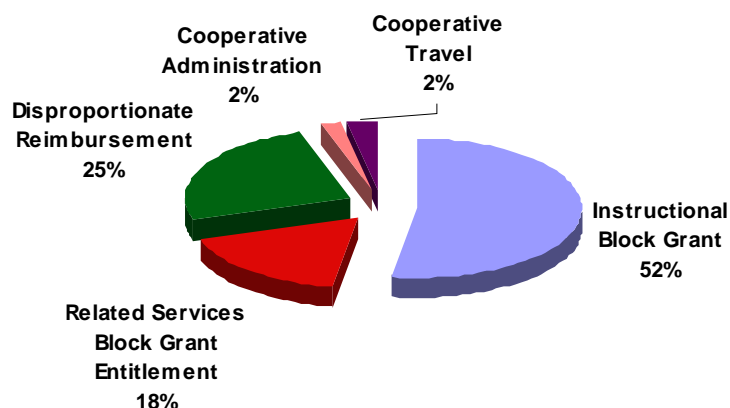
Source: Special Education Child Count conducted on December 1, 2008
 Opihlnntprd3\Access\Division\SpecialEducation\SQLCC\tblcc Child Count 2009.

An interesting effect of better identification of students with Autism shows that the total number of students identified with cognitive delay and those with Autism has remained fairly constant over the past several years with a small increase each year. The national concern that the incidence of Autism is increasing may be explained in Montana in part to better diagnostic tools available to educational professionals for an accurate identification of Autism.

Part 2 - Funding

State Special Education Appropriation for 2008-2009 School Year

Montana's special education funding structure distributes state appropriations in accordance with 20-9-321, MCA, based on a combination of school enrollment (not special education child count) and expenditures. Seventy percent of the appropriation is distributed through block grants (instructional block grants and related services block grants), which are based on enrollment. Twenty-five percent is distributed through reimbursement for disproportionate costs, which is based on expenditures. The remaining 5 percent is distributed to special education cooperatives to cover costs related to travel and administration. The following represents the breakouts for FY '09.



State Entitlement for 2007-2008 School Year

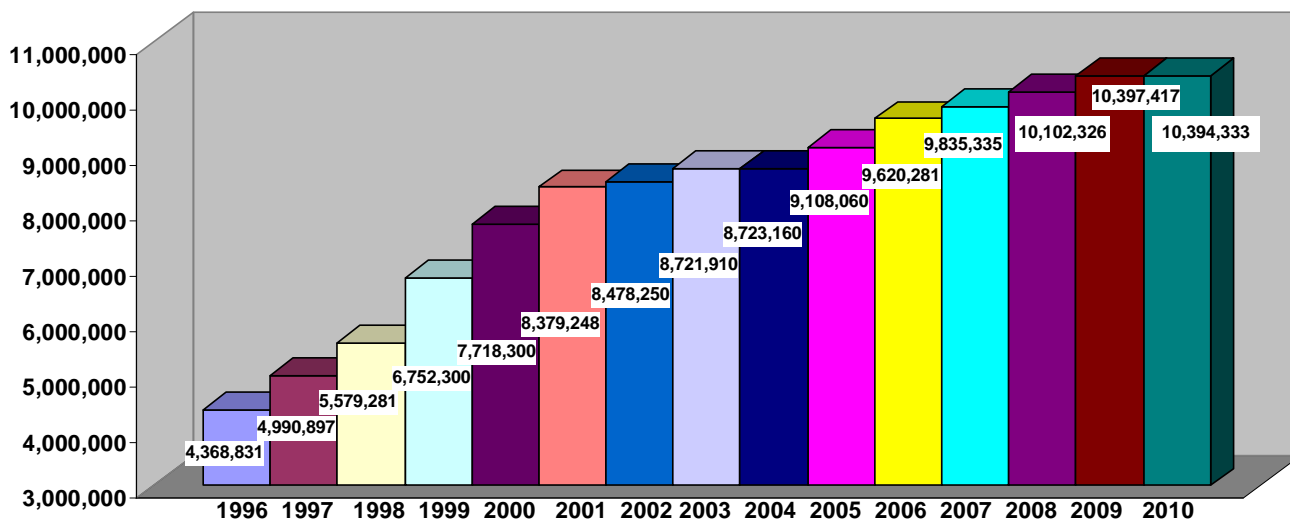
Instructional Block Grant	\$21,843,206
Related Services Block Grant	\$7,280,582
Disproportionate Reimbursement	\$10,394,333
Cooperative Administration	\$831,547
Cooperative Travel	\$1,247,320
TOTAL	\$41,596,988

NOTE: The total payment to schools is less than the total appropriation. A small amount of the appropriation is withheld to compensate for adjustments to ANB. Source: MAEFAIRS Qry Table SpecialEducation Dispro Cost and COOP SPED tables, created 06/2009

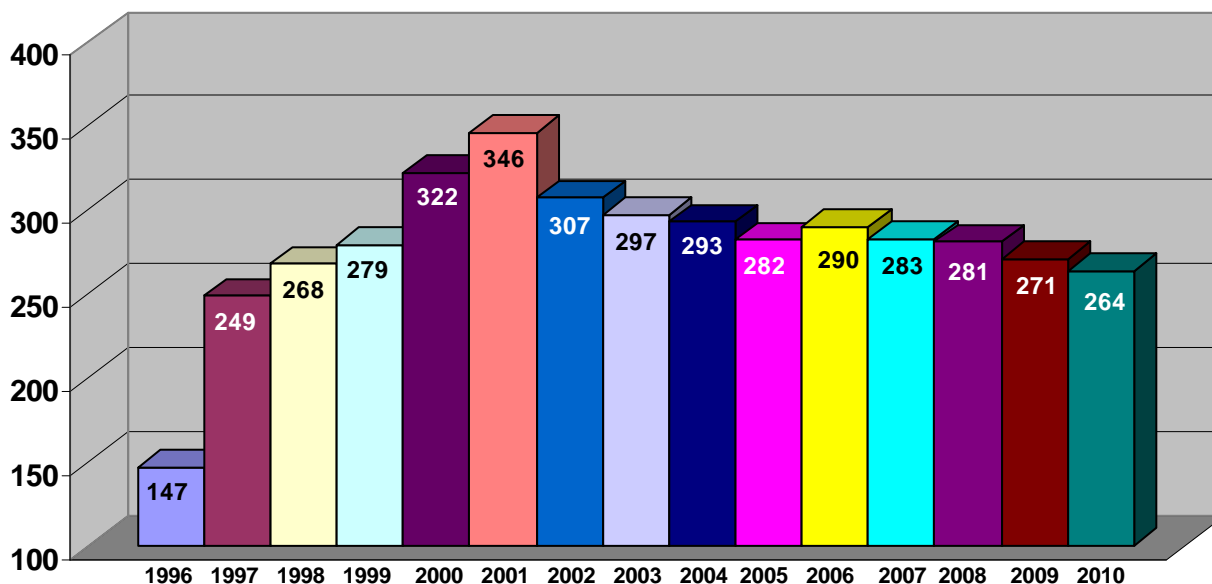
Growth in Reimbursement of Disproportionate Costs

The proportion of the total state appropriation distributed in the form of reimbursement for disproportionate costs grew both in total dollars and in the number of districts receiving reimbursement for disproportionate costs through FY '01. The funding for disproportionate reimbursement was revised in FY '02 to fix the proportion of funds distributed under reimbursement for disproportionate costs and shift funding back to instructional and related services block grants. Today, any increase in funds distributed for purposes of reimbursement of disproportionate costs is due to an increase in overall appropriations for special education.

Total \$ Amount for Disproportionate Reimbursement by Year



Number of School Districts Receiving Reimbursement for Disproportionate Costs

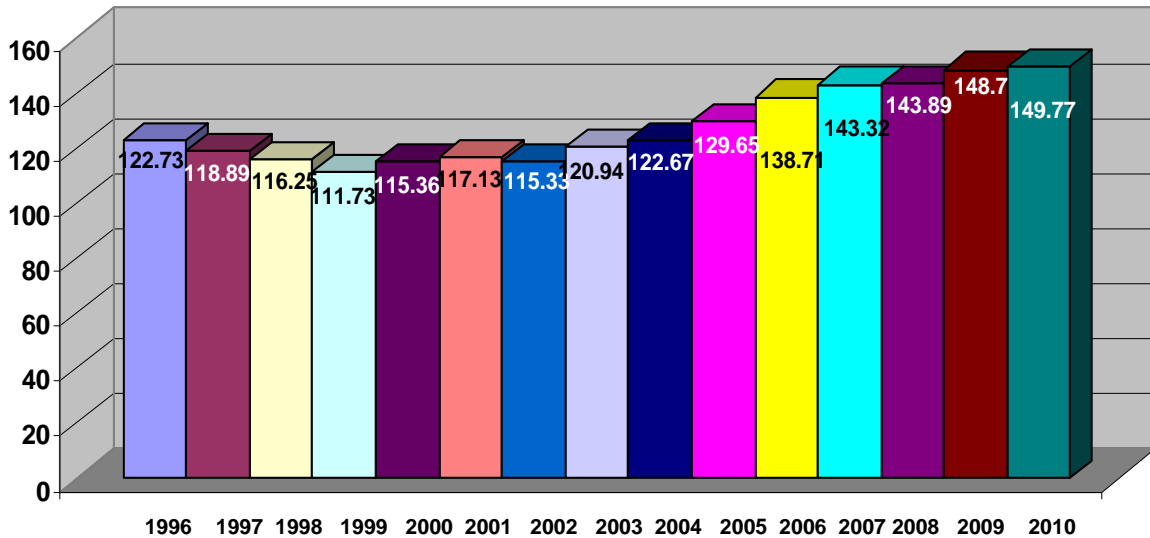


Source: MAEFAIRS Qry Table SpecialEducation Dispro Cost, created 06/2009

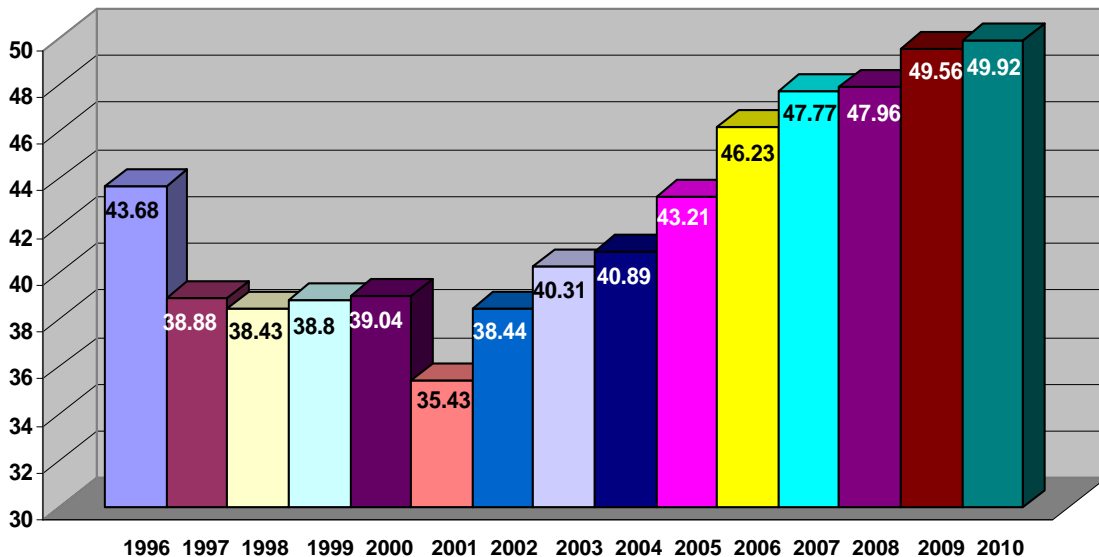
Instructional Block Grants and Related Services Block Grants

With the 25 percent limit on the proportion of funds distributed in the form of reimbursement for disproportionate costs, the block grant rates (per student expenditure) are no longer declining and are instead increasing along with increases in state appropriations. This will benefit both schools and special education cooperatives. State special education cooperatives are significantly affected since they are not eligible for reimbursement for disproportionate costs and the related services block grant is the primary source of funding. This shift is supporting the structure of the funding model's emphasis on block grant distribution of funds.

Instructional Block Grant per Student Allocation



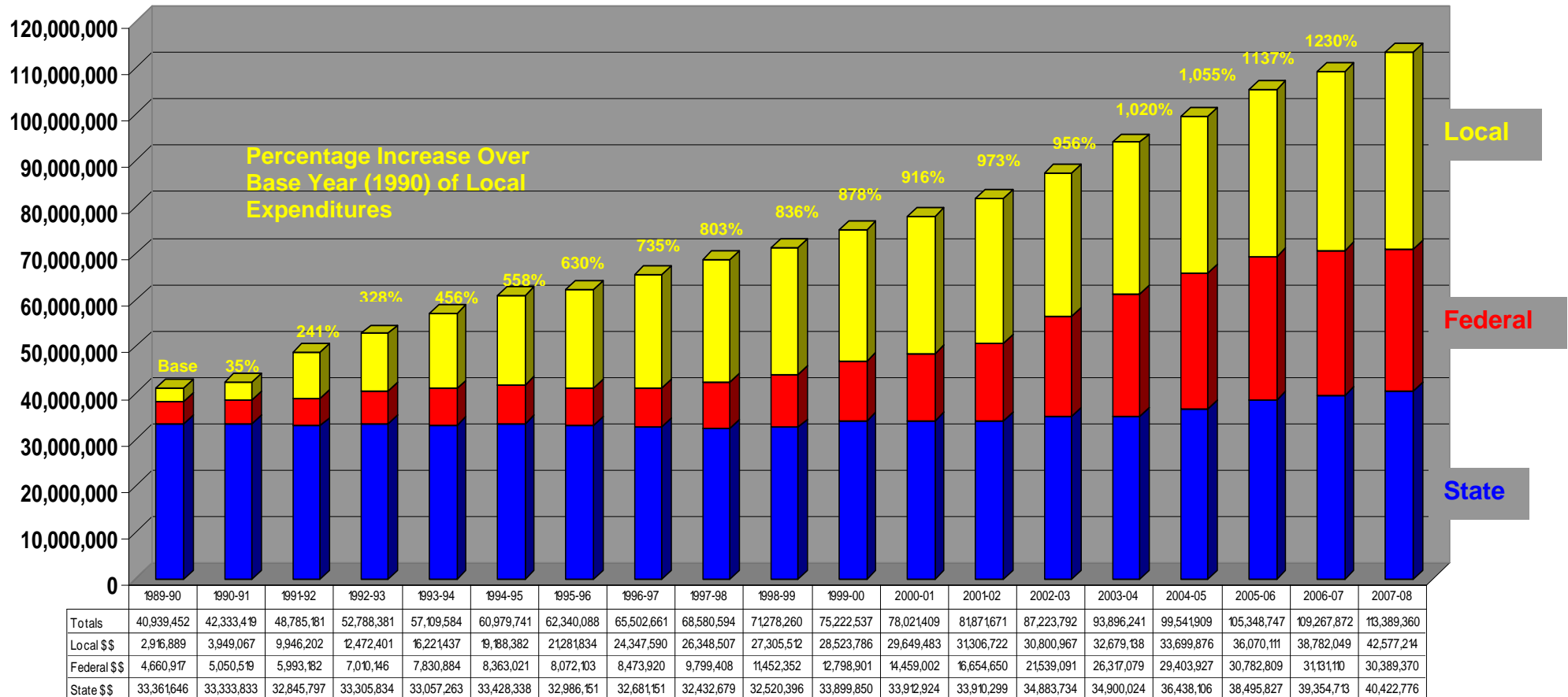
Related Services Block Grant per Student Allocation



Source: Source: GF Budget Spreadsheet, 06/2009

Expenditures of State, Federal, and Local Funds Comparison by Year

Comparison by School Years 1990 - 2008



NOTE: This table may differ from previously released versions. Amounts are changed to reflect adjustments to trustees' financial summaries submitted by school districts.

Source: State - Special education payment amount provided by OPI accounting, which does not include reversion; Federal - Expenditures provided by OPI accounting (SABHRS year-end report); Local - Expenditures from board of trustees' financial summaries for special education allowable costs are reduced by the state payment amount to come up with the local amount.

Federal

The growth in expenditures for special education has become an issue of national significance. On a national level, attention has been focused on the proportion of federal support for special education. The most recent information (November 2005) we have on the federal share of special education costs (national average) is 18.6 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure (Senate Democratic Appropriations Committee). Although this is a greater proportion of the national average per pupil expenditure than in the past, the proportion remains less than one-half the 40 percent level promised by Congress when the special education laws were first passed in the mid 1970s. If Congress were to fund special education at 40 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure, the level of funding would cover between 50 and 60 percent of Montana's special education allowable costs. This is due to relatively lower costs for special education in Montana, and the way the national average per pupil expenditure is calculated.

In Montana, approximately \$113.4 million were spent on special education in FY '08. This is a significant increase from FY '90 when approximately \$41 million of state, federal and local funds were spent on special education. Much of this increase can be attributed to inflation and an increase in the number of students served by special education. In FY '08, approximately \$30.4 million of the \$113.4 million Montana spent on special education came from federal revenue sources (approximately 27 percent).

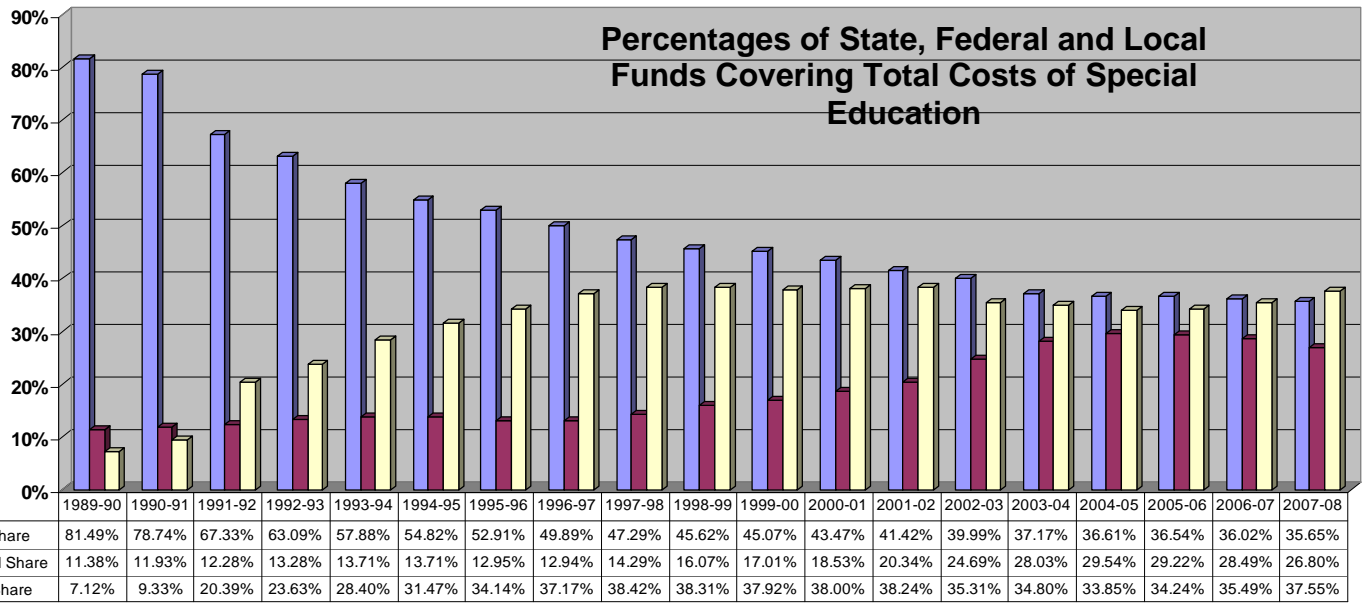
State

State appropriations for special education have fallen far short of the growth in costs. During a period of increased costs, coupled with flat state funding throughout the 1990s, the state share of the total costs of special education has slipped from approximately 81.5 percent in FY '90 to approximately 36 percent in FY '08.

Local

The greatest share of funding for increased costs of special education has come from the local general fund budgets. Local school districts have absorbed the increase in costs of special education by increasing their contribution from approximately \$3 million in FY '90 to approximately \$42.6 million for FY '08. This represents an increase of over 1,100 percent in local district contribution for special education. In FY '03, for the first time since FY '90, the local expenditures for special education funding decreased. This likely occurred because state funding increased slightly (3 percent) and federal funding increased by 29 percent. However, in FY '04, state funding leveled off and local expenditures again saw an increase. In FY '05 and FY '06, state funding increased; however, local expenditures also increased with FY '08, comprising approximately 38 percent of the special education costs in Montana.

For purposes of this discussion, "local funds" means special education expenditures from the district general fund that are above the amount specifically earmarked for special education. The revenue source for these "local funds" includes both state base aid, guaranteed tax base and local revenues. These "local funds" are generally perceived as local because they are drawn out of the general fund budget and would have otherwise been available for general education. This shift in the allocation of local funds has been a serious concern for schools and parents and has, for a number of years, created an atmosphere of competition for dollars.



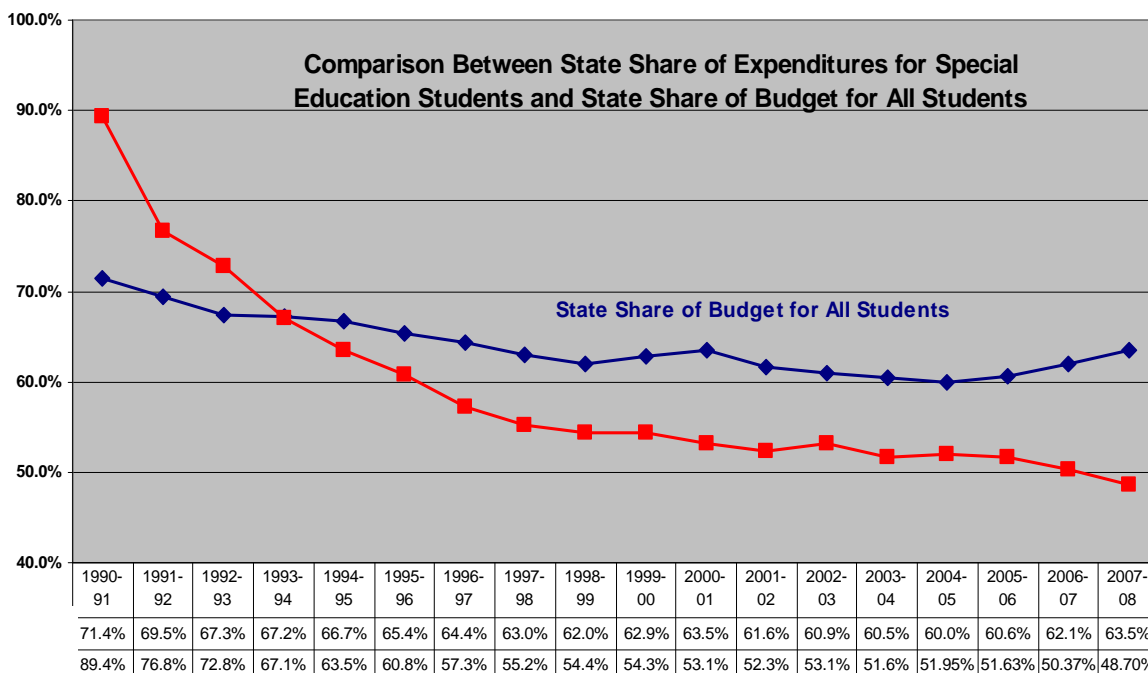
Source: State - Special education payment amount provided by OPI accounting

Over the years, the relative proportion of state, federal, and "local" funds covering the costs of special education has changed dramatically. State funding has remained relatively constant. Since FY '90, local districts have provided sizable increases in their contributions from "local funds." Beginning in FY 2000, federal funds have also increased substantially. As a result, by FY '06 the proportion of special education expenditures from state, federal and "local" funds is nearly equal.

The General Fund

Another way to consider the impact of state funding of special education is to compare the percentage of state support for the school district general fund budget with the percentage of special education expenditures from earmarked state special education funds.

The percentage of special education expenditures in the general fund, coming from earmarked funds for special education, has slipped from approximately 89 percent in FY '91 to approximately 49 percent in FY '08. In the meantime, the state support of the general fund budget for all students has slipped from approximately 71 percent in FY '91 to approximately 63.5 percent in FY '08. At one time, the state share of special education general fund expenditures was 18 percent higher than the state share of the general fund budget for general education. By FY '08, the state share of special education expenditures was 14.5 percent lower than the state share of the general fund budget for general education.



Source: State - Special education payment amount provided by OPI accounting

This chart is provided for the purpose of illustration. The comparison is between special education expenditures for special education students and general fund budgets for all students.

The portion of the budget for all students that is not state share is comprised of local revenues (property taxes, non-levy revenues, and reappropriated monies). The portion of the expenditures for special education students refers only to earmarked state appropriations.

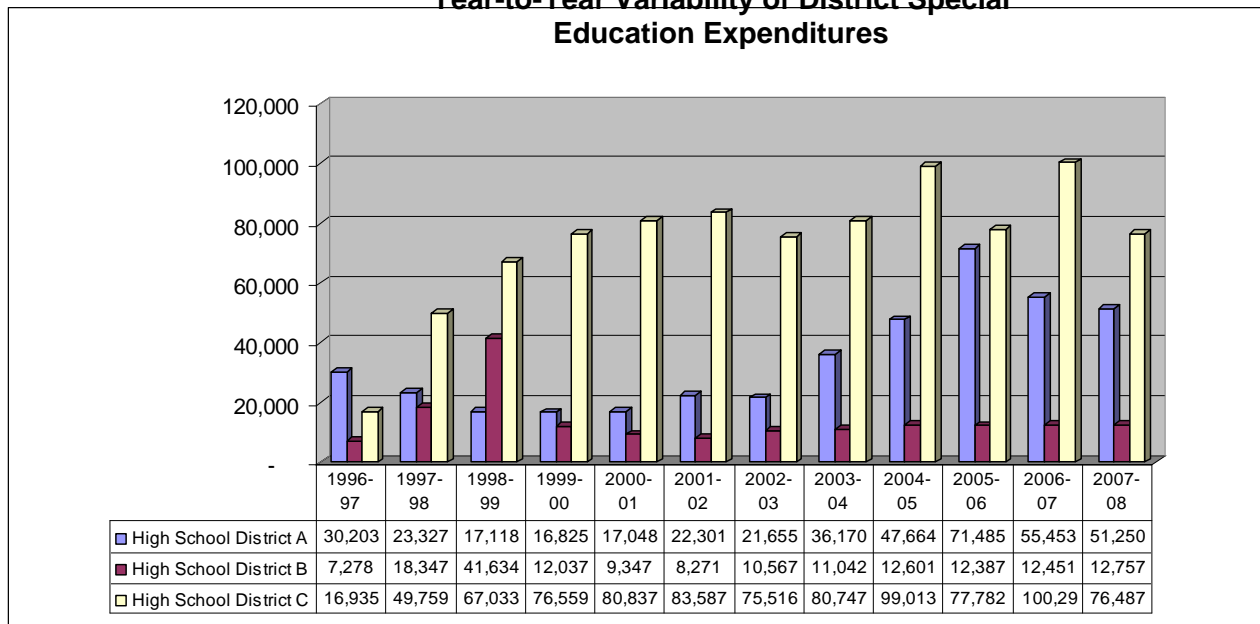
Per Student Expenditure Comparisons at the District Level

The need for public school districts to redirect "local funds" to cover the cost of special education presents a significant challenge to districts. However, another dimension of the challenge public schools face when they budget for special education is the relatively unpredictable nature of special education costs, particularly for small districts.

Significant variation in special education expenditures exists between districts of similar size. Furthermore, significant variation in special education expenditures exists from year-to-year within

the same district. The reasons for this variability are many. Differences in salary for personnel, proportion of students identified as eligible for special education, concentrations of group homes in a community, and the costs of serving students with significant educational needs who enroll and later disenroll are some of the primary factors contributing to the variability.

Year-to-Year Variability of District Special Education Expenditures



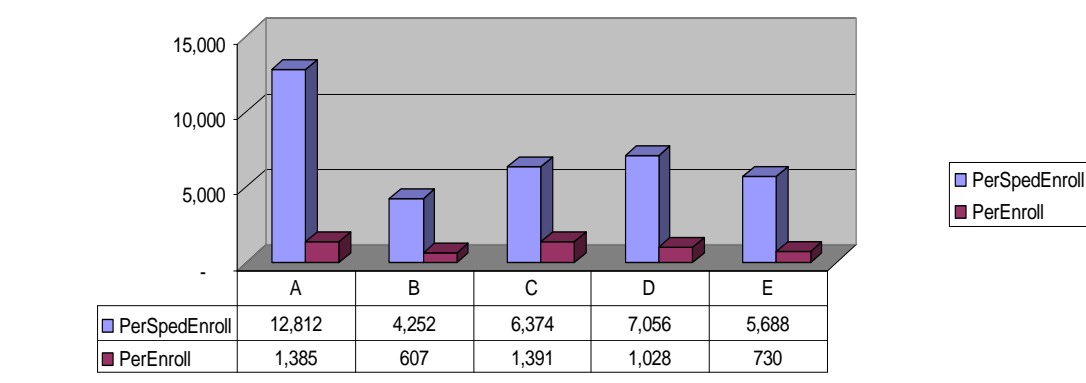
Source: Copy or SpedRequestrJimODec18.xls G://Legis07/Legis07/Sped

The three high school districts were selected for only purposes of illustration, but are good examples of year-to-year variability in expenditures that some districts face when they try to budget for special education. The FY '07 enrollment in the three districts were all below 60 students.

House Bill 2 includes language that allows the Office of Public Instruction to distribute funds from the appropriation for in-state treatment to public school districts for the purpose of providing for educational costs of children with significant behavioral or physical needs. This fund can help to mitigate some of the cost variability. However, in FY '07 the OPI received approximately \$2.5 million in requests for approximately \$.5 million in available funds.

In addition to year-to-year variability, significant differences exist between public school districts in the amount they spend on a per student basis. Variations between districts in expenditures on a per special education student basis is often caused by differences between districts in the number of students with significant needs, differences in salary due to level of education and experience of staff, and differences in programs and service delivery models.

Special Education Expenditures per Student FY 2008



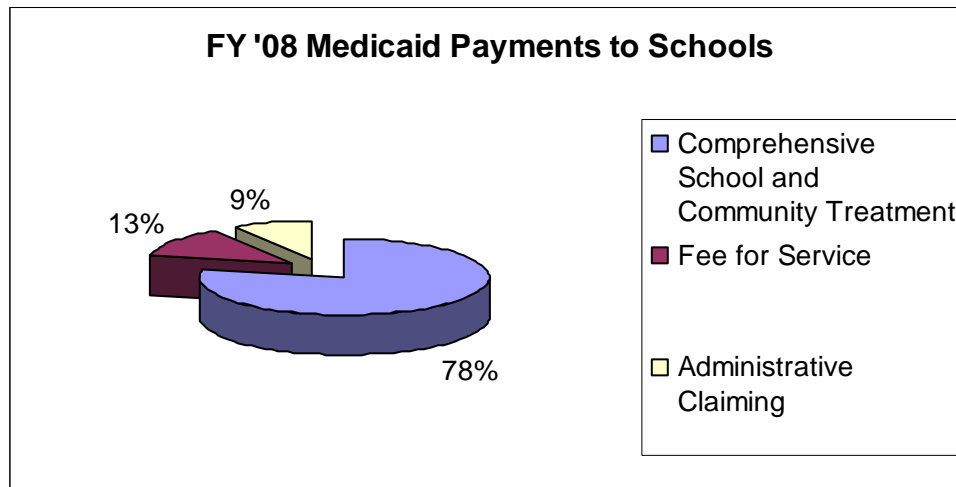
Source: State - Special education payment amount provided by OPI accounting. This graph represents federal and non-federal SPED expenditures excluding tuition payments for district residents placed in another district per Special Education Enrolled Student and Per Enrolled Student, Miscellaneous Program Fund, Impact Aid Fund, and Major Capital Outlay.

The first three districts are the same districts used as an example of the variability in special education expenditures from year to year. Districts D and E are large districts with enrollments in excess of 3,500 students. The above districts were selected for purposes of illustration of the variability between districts and are not typical. However, the selected districts serve as a good example of the difference between districts in their special education expenditures per special education student and the difference between districts in their special education expenditures per enrolled student. For example, in FY '08 District A spent approximately \$6,400 more than District C per special education student. On a per-enrolled student basis, District C spent approximately \$784 more than District B.

Medicaid

The Office of Public Instruction (OPI) and the Health Resources Division of the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) have collaborated on a number of projects that have increased reimbursement to districts for certain special education costs. Additionally, the collaboration has led to an expansion in school-based Mental Health Services. The collaborative efforts were intended to expand Medicaid support of certain medical services provided by schools (e.g., school psychology, transportation, personal care attendants), establish a program for administrative claiming, and reinstate a school-based mental health program known as Comprehensive School and Community Treatment (CSCT).

Revenue to school districts has increased markedly as a result of the multiagency collaborative. Districts only receive the federal share of the Medicaid payment. A certification of match process is used to pay the state share of the Medicaid payment. Therefore, all increases in revenue to districts have come without any increase in cost to the state's general fund.



Source: DPHHS, Health Resources Division

There are three programs that provide Medicaid reimbursement to districts: 1) Fee for service provides reimbursement for special education-related services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy (FY '08 payments to districts totaled \$1,836,876); 2) Administrative claiming compensates school districts for some of the costs associated with administration of school-based health services such as helping to identify and assist families in accessing Medicaid services and seeking appropriate providers and care (FY '08 payments to districts totaled \$1,261,663); and 3) CSCT services (FY '08 payments to districts totaled \$11,189,039). (Source for data on payments: DPHHS, Health Resources Division)

While fee for service and administrative claiming generally provided reimbursement for services already being provided by districts, the CSCT program was an expansion of services. The expansion re-established a school-based mental health program to help schools meet the growing need of serving children with serious emotional disturbance. The CSCT is a comprehensive planned course of treatment provided by Community Mental Health Centers in school and community settings. The CSCT services include: behavioral intervention, crisis intervention, treatment plan coordination, aftercare coordination and individual, group, and family therapy. Individualized treatment plans tailored to the needs of each student are developed by licensed mental health professionals in coordination with school staff.

Serious behavioral problems can significantly interfere with a student's education and the education of others. Community Mental Health Centers working in close cooperation with public school districts increase the likelihood that education and mental health programs are better coordinated. Because mental health professionals are present throughout the school day, they are available to intervene and redirect inappropriate behaviors and to teach appropriate behaviors and social skills at each opportunity. This "real-time" intervention in the "natural setting" promises to have a major impact on improving the effectiveness of children's mental health services and the quality of the educational environment for all children.

In FY '08, 2,188 children received CSCT services from 277 teams of therapists located in approximately 70 cities. (Source for data: DPHHS, Health Resources Division)

Nearly all Medicaid reimbursements to districts for CSCT services are directly paid under contract to Community Mental Health Centers. Districts spend their Medicaid reimbursement from administrative claiming and fee-for-service on a wide variety of educational services.

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Part 3 - Accountability

Montana's State Performance Plan

The *Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004* requires states to submit a State Performance Plan (Part B – SPP) outlining efforts to implement the requirements and purposes of Part B of the Act, and describes how the state will improve such implementation [20 U.S.C. 1416(b)(1)].

The primary focus of the Performance Plan is based on three key monitoring priorities for the Office of Special Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education:

1. Provision of a **free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE)**;
2. the state exercise of **general supervisory authority**; and
3. **disproportionate representation** of racial/ethnic groups in special education and related services.

Within each of the three monitoring priorities, performance indicators established by the United States Secretary of Education quantify and prioritize outcome indicators for special education. The state uses these 20 performance indicators to establish measurable and rigorous targets with which to assess performance of both local educational agencies and the state over the next six years.

Statistical Methods Used

To ensure statistically sound data when evaluating the school district's or state's progress in meeting its established performance target, a minimum (N) and/or confidence intervals are applied to reduce the effect of small sample sizes on the determination of performance. Results based on small sample sizes have a wider margin of error than those based on large sample sizes. In other words, the larger the sample size, the greater the likelihood that the data are representative of the population and not due to random factors unrelated to student characteristics or educational programs, known as measurement or sampling error. The use of the minimum N and confidence intervals is intended to improve the validity and reliability of target determinations by reducing the risk of falsely identifying the state as having failed to meet the target, based on measurement/sampling error.

CSPD Regional Performance

Performance data for each CSPD region are provided below. This includes performance indicators the state is required to publicly report. District performance reports can be accessed using the following link <http://data.opi.mt.gov/SppDistrictPublicReporting/>. Assignment of a specific school district to a CSPD region is based on the counties within the border of the CSPD region.

Indicator 1 – Graduation Rates

The graduation rate for students with disabilities is a status graduation rate in that it utilizes a cohort method to measure the proportion of students who, at some point in time, completed high school. For further information as to the formula used in defining the cohort used in the calculation, please refer to Montana’s State Performance Plan at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/SpecEd/index.html>.

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance status (Table 1.3), and state performance status (Table 1.1 and Table 1.2) related to the State’s Performance Target for graduation rates. These evaluations are based on the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 1. 1 Montana Graduation Rates for Students with Disabilities

	Graduate Count for Special Education¹	Total Special Education School Leaver Cohort²	Completion Rates for Special Education
School Year	A	B	% = A / B
2007-2008	899	1216	73.9%

Table 1. 2 Montana Performance Target Status for FFY 2007

School Year	Completion Rate for Special Education	Confidence Interval - High	Confidence Interval - Low	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2007	State Performance Status
2007-2008	73.9%	76.3%	71.4%	70.0%	Met Target

Table 1. 3 Montana Graduation Rates for Students with Disabilities by CSPD Region, 2007-2008 School Year

	School Leaver Cohort Total	Graduate Count for Special Education	Completion Rate for Special Education	SPP Performance Target	Confidence Interval - High	Confidence Interval - Low	Performance Status
State of Montana	1216	899	73.9%	70.0%	76.3%	71.4%	Met Target
Region I	127	91	71.7%		79.9%	61.7%	Met Target
Region II	219	151	68.9%		75.8%	61.2%	Met Target
Region III	282	217	77.0%		82.1%	70.9%	Met Target
Region IV	253	188	74.3%		80.0%	67.6%	Met Target
Region V	335	252	75.2%		80.1%	69.5%	Met Target

Indicator 2 – Dropout Rates

The special education dropout rate calculation uses a status count in which the student's status at the end of the reporting year is used to determine whether the student is a dropout. This means students who were receiving special education and related services at the start of the reporting period (July 1), but were not so at the end of the reporting period (June 30) and did not exit special education through any other basis is considered a dropout. The dropout rate is calculated by dividing the number of special education dropouts, ages 14-21, by the number of students in special education. The special education dropout count and special education child count include all students with disabilities, ages 14-21, in public schools and state-operated programs.

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance status (Table 2.3), and state performance status (Table 2.1 and Table 2.2) related to the State's Performance Target for dropout rates. These evaluations are based on the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 2.1 Montana Dropout Rates for School Year 2007-2008

School Year	Special Education Dropout Count	Special Education Student Count, Ages 14-21 ¹	Special Education Dropout Rate
	A	B	% = A / B
2007-2008	280	6266	4.5%

Table 2.2 Montana Performance Target Status for FFY 2007

School Year	Special Education Dropout Rate	Confidence Interval - High	Confidence Interval - Low	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2007	State Performance Status
2007-2008	4.5%	5.0%	4.0%	5.6%	Met Target

Table 2.3 Montana Dropout Rates for Students with Disabilities by CSPD Region, 2007-2008 School Year

	Special Education Student Count, Ages 14-21	Special Education Dropout Count	Dropout Rate for Special Education	SPP Performance Target	Confidence Interval - High	Confidence Interval - Low	Performance Status
State of Montana	6266	280	4.5%	5.6%	5.0%	4.0%	Met Target
Region I	665	31	4.7%		18.3%	1.1%	Met Target
Region II	1007	58	5.8%		14.9%	2.1%	Met Target
Region III	1464	71	4.8%		12.6%	1.8%	Met Target
Region IV	1343	58	4.3%		13.0%	1.3%	Met Target
Region V	1787	62	3.5%		11.4%	1.0%	Met Target

Indicator 3 – Statewide Assessments

Indicator 3A – Meeting Montana's AYP Objectives for the Disability Subgroup

Adequate yearly progress (AYP) is measured using Montana's required 3rd-8th, and 10th grade criterion which referenced reading and math test scores, participation, attendance, and graduation rates. Each school's test scores are divided into 10 student groups based on race/ethnicity, economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, and limited English proficiency. If any of the 10 student groups does not meet any of six AYP measurements, then the entire school or district is labeled as not meeting the federal AYP requirements. Further information regarding adequate yearly progress can be found on the NCLB Report Card found at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/ReportCard/index.html>.

For purposes of the IDEA – Part B State Performance Plan, states are required to report on the number of districts with a minimum N of 30 for the disability subgroup meeting Montana's AYP objectives.

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance (Table 3.3), and state performance (Table 3.1 and Table 3.2) related to the State's Performance Target for school districts meeting the AYP objectives for the disability subgroup. These evaluations are based on the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 3.1 LEAs Meeting Montana's AYP Objectives for Disability Subgroup Overall

School Year	OVERALL (across Content Areas)		
	Number of LEAs with a disability subgroup meeting Montana's minimum N size	Number of LEAs meeting Montana's AYP objectives for progress for students with IEPs	Percent of LEAs meeting Montana's AYP objectives for progress for students with IEPs
2007-2008	70	31	44.3%
2006-2007	56	28	50.0%
2005-2006	57	23	40.4%

Table 3.2 Montana Performance Target Status for FFY 2007 – Indicator 3A AYP Objectives

School Year	Percent of Districts Meeting AYP Objectives	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	State Performance Status
2007-2008	44.3%	55.9%	33.2%	40.4%	Met Target

Table 3.3 Districts Meeting Montana's AYP Objectives for the Disability Subgroup

	Number of Districts Meeting Min N for Subgroup	Number of Districts Meeting AYP Objectives	Percent of Districts Meeting AYP Objectives	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	70	31	44.3%	55.9%	33.2%	40.4%	Met Target
Region I	11	4	36.4%	64.6%	15.2%		Met Target
Region II	8	4	50.0%	78.5%	21.5%		Met Target
Region III	14	5	35.7%	61.2%	16.3%		Met Target
Region IV	15	6	40.0%	64.3%	19.8%		Met Target
Region V	23	12	52.2%	70.8%	33.0%		Met Target

Indicator 3B – Participation Rates

Participation rates are calculated by dividing the number of special education students who participated in the Math assessment plus the number of special education students who participated in the Reading by the number of students in special education in all grades assessed times two. This count includes all students with disabilities participating in the regular assessment (CRT), with and without accommodations, and in the alternate assessment (CRT-Alt). Note: The state performance target for participation of students with disabilities in assessments for the State Performance Plan under IDEA is not the same as used for the AYP determination.

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance (Table 3.5), and state performance (Table 3.4) related to the State's Performance Target for participation rates of students with disabilities in state assessments. These evaluations are based on the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 3.4 Participation Rates of Students with Disabilities in State Assessments

School Year	Number of Students with Disabilities - All Grades Assessed	Number of Students with Disabilities - Participation Count	Participation Rate for Students with Disabilities	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	State Performance Status
2006-2007	19068	18254	95.7%	96.0%	95.4%	95.0%	Met Target

Table 3.5 Participation Rates of Students with Disabilities in State Assessments by CSPD Region

	Number of Students with Disabilities in Grades Assessed	Number of Students with Disabilities Participating in State Assessment	Percent of Students Participating in State Assessment	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	19068	18254	95.7%	96.0%	95.4%	95.0%	Met Target
Region I	2068	2000	96.7%	97.4%	95.8%		Met Target
Region II	2748	2628	95.6%	96.4%	94.8%		Met Target
Region III	4298	4063	94.5%	95.2%	93.8%		Met Target
Region IV	4254	4027	94.7%	95.3%	93.9%		Met Target
Region V	5700	5536	97.1%	97.5%	96.6%		Met Target

Indicator 3C – Proficiency Rates

Proficiency rates are calculated by dividing the number of special education students scoring Proficient or Advanced in the Math assessment plus the number of special education students scoring Proficient or Advanced in the Reading assessment by the number of students in all grades assessed times two. This count includes all students with disabilities who scored proficient or above in the regular assessment (CRT), with or without accommodations, and in the alternate assessment (CRT-Alt).

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance (Table 3.7), and state performance (Table 3.6) related to the State’s Performance Target for proficiency rates of students with disabilities on state assessments. These evaluations are based on the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 3.6 Proficiency Rates of Students with Disabilities on State Assessments

School Year	Number of Students with Disabilities - All Grades Assessed	Number of Students with Disabilities - Proficient or Above	Proficiency Rate for Students with Disabilities	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	State Performance Status
2006-2007	19068	6638	34.8%	35.5%	34.1%	32.0%	Met Target

Table 3.7 Proficiency Rates of Students with Disabilities on State Assessments by CSPD Region

CSPD Region	Number of Students with Disabilities - All Grades Assessed	Number of Students with Disabilities - Proficient or Above	Proficiency Rate for Students with Disabilities	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	State Performance Status
State of Montana	19068	6638	34.8%	35.5%	34.1%	32.0%	Met Target
Region I	2068	647	31.3%	35.0%	27.8%		Met Target
Region II	2748	851	31.0%	34.2%	28.0%		Met Target
Region III	4298	1510	35.1%	37.6%	32.8%		Met Target
Region IV	4254	1555	36.6%	39.0%	34.2%		Met Target
Region V	5700	2075	36.4%	38.5%	34.4%		Met Target

Indicator 4 – Suspension and Expulsion Rates

The OPI compares the long-term suspension and expulsion rates for students with disabilities to the long-term suspension and expulsion rates for nondisabled students in order to determine if there is a *significant discrepancy* occurring with respect to long-term suspension and expulsion rates for students with disabilities.

Long-term Suspension or Expulsion Definition

A suspension or expulsion that results in removal of a student, out-of-school, for greater than 10 school days or a student with multiple short-term (10 school days or less) out-of-school suspensions or expulsions that sum to greater than 10 school days during the school year.

Significant Discrepancy Definition

An LEA is determined to have a significant discrepancy if, given a minimum N of 10, an LEA demonstrates a statistical difference in long-term suspension and expulsion rates for students with disabilities when compared to the long-term suspension and expulsion rates for students without disabilities, within a 99 percent confidence interval.

The two tables below provide a comparison between the long-term suspension and expulsion rates of students with disabilities and the rates of students without disabilities used in the evaluation of significant discrepancy.

Table 4. 1 Montana Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion Rates for FFY 2007

School Year	Number of Special Education Students with Long-term Suspension or Expulsion ¹	Special Education Child Count ²	Special Education Long-term Suspension or Expulsion Rates	Number of Regular Education Students with Long-term Suspension or Expulsion ³	General Education Enrollment ⁴	Regular Education Long-term Suspension and Expulsion Rates
2007-2008	97	16089	0.6 %	339	126674	0.3 %

Table 4. 2 Montana Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion Rates By CSPD Region

	Number of Special Education Students with Long-term Suspension or Expulsion	Special Education Child Count	Special Education Long-term Suspension or Expulsion Rates	Number of Regular Education Students with Long-term Suspension or Expulsion	General Education Enrollment	Regular Education Long-term Suspension and Expulsion Rates
State of Montana	97	16089	0.6%	339	126674	0.3%
Region I	11	1785	0.6%	52	11499	0.5%
Region II	23	2501	0.9%	73	20185	0.4%
Region III	23	3540	0.6%	53	27024	0.2%
Region IV	24	3507	0.7%	72	30651	0.2%
Region V	16	4756	0.3%	89	37315	0.2%

The IDEA Part B State Performance Indicator and Performance Target address the percent of districts identified as having a significant discrepancy in the rate of long-term suspensions and expulsions for students with disabilities compared to the rate of long-term suspensions and expulsions of students without disabilities. This is a compliance indicator meaning that the state performance target for every year will be 0 percent of districts will be identified as having significant discrepancy.

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance (Table 4.4) and state performance (Table 4.3) related to the State's Performance Target for the percent of districts identified as having a significant discrepancy in the long-term suspension and expulsion rates of students with disabilities. These evaluations are based on the 2006-2007 school year.

Table 4. 3 State Performance on Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion Rates

School Year	Total Number of LEAs (a)	Number of LEAs identified with significant discrepancy (b)	Percent of LEAs identified with significant discrepancy % = (b/a) * 100	SPP Performance Target	State Performance Status
2007-2008	421	0	0%	0.0%	Met Target

Table 4. 4 CSPD Region Performance on Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion Rates

	Number of LEAs (a)	Number of LEAs reporting long-term suspension and expulsions for students with disabilities	Number of LEAs identified with significant discrepancy (b)	Percent of LEAs identified with significant discrepancy (b/a) * 100	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	421	46	0	0.0%	0.0%	Met Target
Region I	89	7	0	0.0%		Met Target
Region II	80	8	0	0.0%		Met Target
Region III	87	8	0	0.0%		Met Target
Region IV	91	13	0	0.0%		Met Target
Region V	81	10	0	0.0%		Met Target

Indicator 5 – Education Environment

The educational placement count of students with disabilities, ages 6-21, is part of the larger child count data collection that is conducted on December 1 of each year. The IDEA Part B State Performance Plan requires that we report annually on the percent of students with disabilities, ages 6-21, for the following educational placement categories:

- Regular Class: Removed from regular class less than 21 percent of the day.
- Full-time Special Education: Removed from regular class greater than 60 percent of the day.
- Combined Separate Facilities: A roll-up of public/private separate schools, residential placements, and home or hospital settings.

The educational environment rate is calculated by dividing the number of students, ages 6-21, in a particular educational environment by the number of students with disabilities, ages 6-21, in the district.

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance (Tables 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4), and state performance (Table 5.1) related to the State's Performance Targets for the educational placement of students with disabilities. These evaluations are based on the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 5.1 Montana Educational Placement

SPP Indicator Number	Education Environment	Special Education Setting Count	Educational Placement Percent	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	State Performance Status
Indicator 5A	Removed from Regular Class < 21% of the day	8258	51.0%	51.8%	50.2%	48.5%	Met Target
Indicator 5B	Removed from Regular Class > 60% of the day	1891	11.7%	12.2%	11.2%	12.5%	Met Target
Indicator 5C	Served in Separate Facilities	223	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	1.7%	Met Target

Table 5.2 State and CSPD Region Performance Status for Indicator 5A

	Special Education Setting Count	Students with Disabilities Total Count	Education Environment Rate	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	8258	16188	51.0%	51.8%	50.2%	48.5%	Met Target
Region I	854	1785	47.8%	51.2%	44.5%		Met Target
Region II	1252	2501	50.1%	52.8%	47.3%		Met Target
Region III	1652	3540	46.7%	49.1%	44.3%		Met Target
Region IV	2055	3507	58.6%	60.7%	56.5%		Met Target
Region V	2445	4756	51.4%	53.4%	49.4%		Met Target

Table 5.3 State and CSPD Region Performance Status for Indicator 5B

	Special Education Setting Count	Students with Disabilities Total Count	Education Environment Rate	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	1891	16188	11.7%	12.2%	11.2%	12.5%	Met Target
Region I	209	1785	11.7%	16.8%	8.0%		Met Target
Region II	294	2501	11.8%	15.9%	8.6%		Met Target
Region III	564	3540	15.9%	19.2%	13.1%		Met Target
Region IV	341	3507	9.7%	13.3%	7.0%		Met Target
Region V	483	4756	10.2%	13.2%	7.8%		Met Target

Table 5.4 State and CSPD Region Performance Status for Indicator 5C

	Special Education Setting Count	Students with Disabilities Total Count	Education Environment Rate	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	223	16188	1.4%	1.6%	1.2%	1.7%	Met Target
Region I	7	1785	0.4%	35.9%	0.0%		Met Target
Region II	12	2501	0.5%	25.0%	0.0%		Met Target
Region III	45	3540	1.3%	10.1%	0.1%		Met Target
Region IV	49	3507	1.4%	9.7%	0.2%		Met Target
Region V	33	4756	0.7%	11.6%	0.0%		Met Target

Indicator 6 – Preschool Settings

Data for this indicator was not reported in the 2009 Annual Performance Report due to revisions in Preschool Setting categories and definitions.

Indicator 7 – Preschool Outcomes

This Indicator is designed to follow a preschool student longitudinally while the student is participating in a preschool program. For purposes of this data collection all children who have an Individualized Education Program (IEP) **AND** are 3, 4, or 5 years of age participate in a preschool program. For reporting in the State Performance Plan and subsequent Annual Performance Reports, there are two sets of data that OPI will collect each year:

1. Entry-level data for preschool students with disabilities reported for the first time on Child Count (initial IEP).
2. Exit-level and progress data for preschool students with disabilities who have reported entry-level data six months prior to exiting.

Preschool outcome data is currently being collected through our annual child count and exiting data collections. However, due to the longitudinal design, baseline data and targets for this indicator will not be reported in the Annual Performance Report until February 1, 2010.

Indicator 8 – Parent Involvement

The OPI employs a sampling methodology to gather data for this indicator that is aligned with the five-year compliance monitoring cycle. Therefore, district performance for this indicator is only reported for districts monitored in the year in which data is being reported.

To report on this indicator, each of the survey respondents received a percent of maximum score based on their responses to the 26 items on the survey. A parent who has a percent of maximum score of 60 percent or above is identified as one who, on average, agrees with each item; as such, the family member is agreeing that the school facilitated their involvement.

The parent involvement rate is calculated by dividing the number of respondent parents who report the school facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities by the total number of respondent parents of children with disabilities.

The two tables below provide an evaluation of regional performance (Table 8.2), and state performance (Table 8.1) related to the State's Performance Targets for the educational placement of students with disabilities. These evaluations are based on the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 8. 1 Montana Parental Involvement Data

School Year	Number who reported school facilitated their involvement	Total number of Parent respondents	Percentage who reported school facilitated their involvement	Confidence Interval - High	Confidence Interval - Low	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2006	State Performance Status
2007-2008	334	539	62.0%	66.0%	57.8%	65.5%	Met Target

Table 8.2 Results of Parent Involvement Survey for the 2007-2008 School Year

	Total Number of Parent Respondents	Number who reported school facilitated their involvement	Percent who reported school facilitated their involvement	Confidence Interval - Upper Limit	Confidence Interval - Lower Limit	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	539	334	62.0%	66.0%	57.8%	65.5%	Met Target
Region I	14	6	42.9%	76.7%	14.6%		Met Target
Region II	62	37	59.7%	73.8%	43.7%		Met Target
Region III	57	33	57.9%	73.0%	41.1%		Met Target
Region IV	122	82	67.2%	76.4%	56.5%		Met Target
Region V	284	177	62.3%	69.1%	55.0%		Met Target

Indicator 9 – Disproportionate Representation

This indicator evaluates disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in special education and related services that is the result of inappropriate identification.

Measurement for this indicator, as reported in the Annual Performance Report, is the percent of districts identified as having a disproportionate representation due to inappropriate identification practices. This is a compliance indicator meaning that the target for each year of the State Performance Plan will be 0 percent of districts have been identified as having disproportionate representation due to inappropriate identification procedures.

Definition of Disproportionate Representation

An LEA is determined to have **disproportionate representation** (under or over) if, given a minimum N of 10 and within a 99 percent confidence interval, an LEA demonstrates a statistically significant difference in the proportion of students with disabilities of a specific racial/ethnic group receiving special education and related services compared to the proportion of students with disabilities in all other racial/ethnic groups receiving special education and related services in that LEA.

Once an LEA is flagged for disproportionate representation, the policies and procedures of that LEA are reviewed to determine if the disproportionate representation is due to inappropriate identification.

Table 9.1 Montana Disproportionate Representation

School Year	Number of LEAs Reviewed (a)	Number of LEAs Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification Procedures (b)	Percent of LEAs Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification Procedures % = (b/a) * 100	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2007	State Performance Status
2007-2008	427	0	0.0%	0.0%	Met Target

Table 9. 2 District Review of Disproportionate Representation by CSPD Region

	Number of School Districts	Number Districts Identified With Disproportionate Representation (a)	Number Districts Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification (b)	Percent of Districts Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification Procedures % = (b/a)*100	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	423	4	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region I	89	1	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region II	80	0	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region III	86	3	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region IV	87	0	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region V	81	0	0	0.0%	Met Target

Although there were several school districts identified as having disproportionate representation of racial/ethnic groups in special education, after a review of policies, practices, and procedures, there were no school districts identified as having disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups **due to inappropriate identification practices**. Therefore, all CSPD Regions have met this state performance target.

The table below provides information on the racial/ethnic group and type of disproportionate representation for the four school districts.

Table 9. 3 Districts Identified with Disproportionate Representation

CSPD Region	School District	Racial and Ethnic Group	Disproportionate Representation Status
Region I	District A	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Over-Representation
Region III	District B	American Indian/Alaskan Native	Over-Representation
Region III	District C	White, Non-Hispanic	Under-Representation
Region III	District D	White, Non-Hispanic	Under-Representation

Indicator 10 – Disproportionate Representation - Disability Categories

Evaluation of district performance for this indicator involves the same multiple measures employed for Indicator 9. Again, this indicator is a compliance indicator meaning that the target for each year of the State Performance Plan will be 0 percent of districts have been identified as having disproportionate representation in specific disability categories due to inappropriate identification procedures.

Table 10. 1 Montana Disproportionate Representation in Specific Disability Categories

School Year	Number of LEAs Reviewed (a)	Number of LEAs Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification Procedures (b)	Percent of LEAs Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification Procedures % = (b/a)*100	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2007	State Performance Status
2007-2008	423	0	0.0%	0.0%	Met Target

Table 10. 2 District Identified with Disproportionate Representation-Specific Disabilities

	Number of School Districts	Number Districts Identified With Disproportionate Representation (a)	Number Districts Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification (b)	Percent of Districts Identified with Disproportionate Representation Due to Inappropriate Identification Procedures % = (b/a) * 100	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	423	0	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region I	89	0	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region II	80	0	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region III	86	0	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region IV	87	0	0	0.0%	Met Target
Region V	81	0	0	0.0%	Met Target

There were no school districts identified as having disproportionate representation of racial and ethnic groups in specific disability categories **due to inappropriate identification practices**. Therefore, all CSPD Regions have met this state performance target.

Indicator 11 – Child Find

The OPI employs a sampling methodology to gather data for this indicator that is aligned with the five-year compliance monitoring cycle. Therefore, school district performance for this indicator is only reported for districts monitored in the year in which data is being reported. During the compliance monitoring process, the OPI reviews a sample of student records for students who have been initially evaluated for special education services. This review includes a comparison of the date of the school district’s receipt of written parent permission for evaluation to the date that the evaluation was completed to ensure that the evaluation was conducted in accord with the 60-day timeline.

The evaluation rate is calculated by dividing the number of reviewed IEPs for students whose eligibility was determined within the 60-day timeline by the total number of reviewed IEPs for students for whom parental consent to evaluate was received.

The table below presents the state’s performance data for this indicator that was reported in the Annual Performance Report submitted on February 1, 2009. This is a compliance indicator meaning that the performance target is 100 percent of children, with parental consent to evaluate, will be evaluated within 60 days unless there was an exception to the timeframe in accord with the provisions stated in Sec. 614(a)(1)(C)(ii).

Table 11. 1 Montana Performance Target Status

School Year	Number of Children for whom Parent Consent to Evaluate was Received	Number of Children whose Evaluations were Completed within 60 days	Percent of Children with Parent Consent Evaluated within 60 days	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2006	State Performance Status
2007-2008	146	133	91.1%	100.0%	Did Not Meet Target

The following table presents each region’s performance status for the 2007-2008 school year.

Table 11.2 CSPD Region Performance Target Status

	Number of Children for whom Parent Consent was Received	Number of Children whose Evaluations were Completed within 60 days	Percent of Children with Parent Consent Evaluated within 60 days	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	146	133	91.1%	100.0%	Did Not Meet Target
Region I	27	24	88.9%		Did Not Meet Target
Region II	14	13	92.9%		Did Not Meet Target
Region III	61	55	90.2%		Did Not Meet Target
Region IV	0	0	0.0%		NA
Region V	44	41	93.2%		Did Not Meet Target

Indicator 12 – Part C to Part B Transition

In collaboration with the lead agency for the IDEA Part C Early Intervention Program, the OPI collects data from specific school districts in order to evaluate performance for this indicator. Therefore, performance data reported are for those districts who received a referral for IDEA Part B eligibility determination from the IDEA Part C Early Intervention Program.

The OPI receives child-specific referral data from each Part C provider that includes the name of the LEA receiving the referral and the date of the referral. The OPI contacts each LEA to collect additional data, including the following: date of eligibility meeting, eligibility determination outcome, date of the initial IEP, and any reasons for delay if the initial IEP was not implemented by the child’s third birthday.

The indicator rate, the percent of children found eligible for Part B and who have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthday, is calculated by dividing the number of children found eligible and have an IEP developed and implemented by their third birthday by the number of children referred by Part C to Part B for eligibility determination.

This is a compliance indicator meaning that the state’s performance target will be 100 percent for each year of the State Performance Plan.

The table below presents state performance data for this indicator as reported in the Annual Performance Report submitted February 1, 2009.

Table 12.1 Montana Performance Target Status

School Year	Number of Children Referred By Part C to Part B for Eligibility Determination	Children found Eligible for Part B and Who Have an IEP Developed and Implemented by Their Third Birthday	Percent of Children Referred by Part C Prior to Age 3, Who Are Found Eligible for Part B, and Who Have An IEP Developed and Implemented By Their Third Birthdays	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2006	State Performance Status
2007-2008	167	93	71.5%	100.0%	Did Not Meet Target

The following table presents performance data by CSPD Region for this indicator.

Table 12. 2 CSPD Region Performance Target Status

	Number of Children Referred by Part C to Part B for Eligibility Determination	Number of Children found Eligible for Part B and Who Have an IEP Developed and Implemented by Their Third Birthday	Percent of Children Referred by Part C Prior to Age 3, Who Have An IEP Developed and Implemented by Their Third Birthday	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	130	93	71.5%	100.0%	Did Not Meet Target
Region I	6	4	66.7%		Did Not Meet Target
Region II	26	21	80.8%		Did Not Meet Target
Region III	34	19	55.9%		Did Not Meet Target
Region IV	33	26	78.8%		Did Not Meet Target
Region V	31	23	74.2%		Did Not Meet Target

Indicator 13 – Secondary Transition with IEP Goals

The OPI employs a sampling methodology to gather data for this indicator that is aligned with the five-year compliance monitoring cycle. Therefore, district performance for this indicator is only reported for districts monitored in the year in which data is being reported. The OPI reviews a sample of student records for students, ages 16 and older, to ensure their IEPs include coordinated, measurable, annual goals and transition services that will reasonably enable students to meet post-secondary goals.

The secondary transition IEP goals rate is calculated by dividing the number of reviewed IEPs for students, aged 16 and older, that include coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services by the total number of reviewed IEPs for students aged 16 and older.

The table below presents the state performance related to this indicator as reported in the Annual Performance Report submitted February 1, 2009. This is a compliance indicator and as such the state’s performance target will be 100 percent of IEPs for students, ages 16 and older, will have coordinated, measurable, annual IEP goals and transition services that will reasonably enable the student to meet the post-secondary goals for each year of the State Performance Plan.

Table 13. 1 Montana Performance Target Status

School Year	Number of IEPs Reviewed	Number of IEPs with Transition Goals	Percent of IEPs with Transition Goals	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2006	State Performance Status
2007-2008	87	54	62.1%	100.0%	Did Not Meet Target

The following table presents the evaluation of CSPD Regional performance related to this indicator.

Table 13. 2 CSPD Region Performance Target Status

	Number of IEPs Reviewed	Number of IEPs with Transition Goals	Percent of Secondary Transition with IEP Goals	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	87	54	62.1%	100.0%	Did Not Meet Target
Region I	10	9	90.0%		Did Not Meet Target
Region II	8	3	37.5%		Did Not Meet Target
Region III	49	25	51.0%		Did Not Meet Target
Region IV	0	0	0.0%		NA
Region V	20	17	85.0%		Did Not Meet Target

Indicator 14 – Post-School Outcomes

Montana utilized the Montana Post-School Survey modeled after the post-school survey developed by the National Post-School Outcomes Center. Each LEA is responsible for contacting students and conducting survey interviews. Survey data collection format will be at the discretion of the LEA and may include personal contact, phone interview, paper, or electronic completion.

The indicator rate is defined as the percent of youth who had IEPs, are no longer in secondary school and who have been competitively employed, enrolled in some type of post-secondary school, or both, within one year of leaving high school. This rate is calculated by dividing the number of youth who had IEPs, are no longer in secondary school and reported they are competitively employed, enrolled in a post-secondary school or both, within one year of leaving high school by the number of youth assessed who had IEPs and are no longer in secondary school.

The tables below provide an evaluation of region and state performance related to the established performance target for this indicator as reported in the Annual Performance Report submitted on February 1, 2009.

Table 14.1 Montana Post-School Survey Results for the 2006-2007 School Year

Number of Youth with Disabilities Not In Secondary School Who Responded to Survey (a)	Number of Youth with Disabilities Employed And Enrolled (b)	Number of Youth with Disabilities Competitively Employed (c)	Number of Youth with Disabilities Enrolled in Postsecondary School (d)	Percent of Youth with Disabilities Competitively Employed and/or Enrolled % = [(b+c+d)/a]	Number of Youth with Disabilities NOT Employed and/or Enrolled (e)	Percent of Youth with Disabilities NOT Employed and/or Enrolled % = (e/a)
779	191	364	71	80.4%	153	19.6%

Table 14.2 Performance Status for the State and the CSPD Regions

	Number of Youth with Disabilities Not In Secondary School Who Responded to Survey	Number Competitively Employed and/or Enrolled	Percent Competitively Employed and/or Enrolled	SPP Performance Target	SPP Performance Status
State of Montana	779	626	80.4%	79.1%	Met Target
Region I	85	75	88.2%		Met Target
Region II	192	144	75.0%		Did Not Meet Target
Region III	164	132	80.5%		Met Target
Region IV	136	111	81.6%		Met Target
Region V	202	164	81.2%		Met Target

Indicator 15 – General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible, but in no case later than one year from identification.

The OPI has a comprehensive system of general supervision that includes a review of IDEA Part B applicants' policies and procedures to ensure consistency with IDEA Part B requirements. It also includes procedures for formal complaints and due process hearings and

mediation, an Early Assistance Program (EAP) to resolve issues prior to their becoming formal complaints or going to due process. It provides a compliance monitoring process based on a five-year cycle, and a focused intervention system based on selected performance indicators.

Each component of the general supervision system includes procedures for tracking data to ensure requirements and timelines are addressed in a timely manner. Analysis of data from the 2006-2007 school year shows that all timelines for due process hearings, mediations and formal complaints have been met 100 percent of the time.

Monitoring data for 2006-2007 was analyzed and reported in the Annual Performance Report.

Number of Findings of noncompliance identified in FFY 2006 (7/1/06 – 6/30/07)	Number of Findings from (a) for which correction was verified no later than one year from identification	Percent of Findings of Noncompliance Corrected within One Year Timeline	Spp Performance Target	State Performance Status
146	141	96.6%	100.0%	Did Not Meet Target

Indicator 16 – Percent of signed written complaints with reports issued that were resolved within 60-day timeline or a timeline extended for exceptional circumstances with respect to a particular complaint.

The Montana Office of Public Instructions received four signed, written complaints for FFY 2007. One complaint had a report issued within the timeline and three complaints were withdrawn or dismissed.

Table 16.1 below presents target data on signed, written complaints for FFY 2007 (2007-2008 School Year).

Table 16.1 Signed, Written Complaints for FFY 2007

Table 7, Section A	Signed, Written Complaints	Number
(1.1)	Complaints with reports issued	1
(b)	Reports within timeline	1
(c)	Reports within extended timelines	0
$\% = (b+c) / (1.1)$	Percent of Complaint Reports Issued Within Timeline	100.0%

For FFY 2007 (2007-2008 School Year), 100 percent of complaint reports were issued within the specific timeline. Therefore, Montana has **met** its performance target of 100 percent of signed written complaints will have a final report issued within 60 days or within the timeline extension given for exceptional circumstances with respect to a particular complaint.

Table 16.2 Montana Performance Target Status for FFY 2007

School Year	Percent of Complaint Reports Issued Within Timeline	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2007	State Performance Status
2007-2008	100.0%	100.0%	Met Target

Indicator 17 – Percent of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests that were fully adjudicated within the 45-day timeline or a timeline that is properly extended by the hearing officer at the request of either party.

The Montana OPI received one due process complaint which went to a hearing that was fully adjudicated within the timeline.

Table 17.1 below presents the target data for due process hearings fully adjudicated within the 45-day timeline or properly extended timeline for FFY 2006 (2006-2007 School Year).

Table 17.1 Percent of Hearings Full Adjudicated Within Timeline for FFY 2007

Table 7, Section C	Due Process Complaints	Number
(3.2)	Hearings (fully adjudicated)	1
(a)	Decisions within timeline	1
(b)	Decisions within extended timeline	0
$\% = (a+b) / (3.2)$	Percent of Hearings Fully Adjudicated Within Timeline	100.0%

For FFY 2007 (2007-2008 School Year), there was one Due Process Hearing that was fully adjudicated. Therefore, Montana has **met** its performance target of 100 percent of due process hearings will be fully adjudicated within the 45-day timeline or properly extended timeline.

Table 17.2 Montana Performance Target Status for FFY 2007

School Year	Percent of Hearings Fully Adjudicated Within Timeline	SPP Performance Target for FFY 2007	State Performance Status
2007-2008	100.0%	100.0%	Met Target

Indicator 18 – Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements.

The Montana Office of Public Instruction did not have any hearing requests that went to resolution sessions for FFY 2007. Guidance from OSEP indicates that states are not required to establish baseline or targets until the reporting period in which the number of resolution sessions reaches 10 or greater. Therefore, Montana does not need to establish a baseline or targets for this indicator at this time.

Table 18.1 below presents data for hearings requests that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements for FFY 2007 (2007-2008 School Year).

Table 18.1 Percent of Hearing Requests with Settlement Agreements for FFY 2007

Table 7, Section C	Resolution Sessions	Number
(3.1)	Resolution sessions	0
(a)	Written Settlement Agreements	0
$\% = (a) / (3.1)$	Percent of Hearing Requests with Settlement Agreements	0.0%

Indicator 19 – Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

For FFY 2007, the OPI had a total of one mediation request, not related to due process that resulted in a written agreement. Guidance from OSEP indicates that states are not required to establish baseline or targets until the reporting period in which the number of mediations reach 10 or greater. Therefore, Montana does not need to establish a baseline or targets for this indicator at this time.

Table 19.1 below presents the data on mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements for FFY 2007 (2007-2008 School Year).

Table 19.1 Percent of Mediations Resulting in Agreements for FFY 2007

Table 7, Section B	Mediation Requests	Number
(2.1)	Mediations	1
(a)(i)	Mediation, related to Due Process, with agreements	0
(b)(i)	Mediation, not related to Due Process, with agreements	1
$\% = [(a)(i) + (b)(i)] / (2.1)$	Percent of Mediations Held Resulting in Agreements	100.0%

Indicator 20 – State-reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate.

The OPI has consistently met designated timelines 100 percent of the time over the past five years. Data are reviewed and validation checks performed to ensure accuracy of the submitted data.

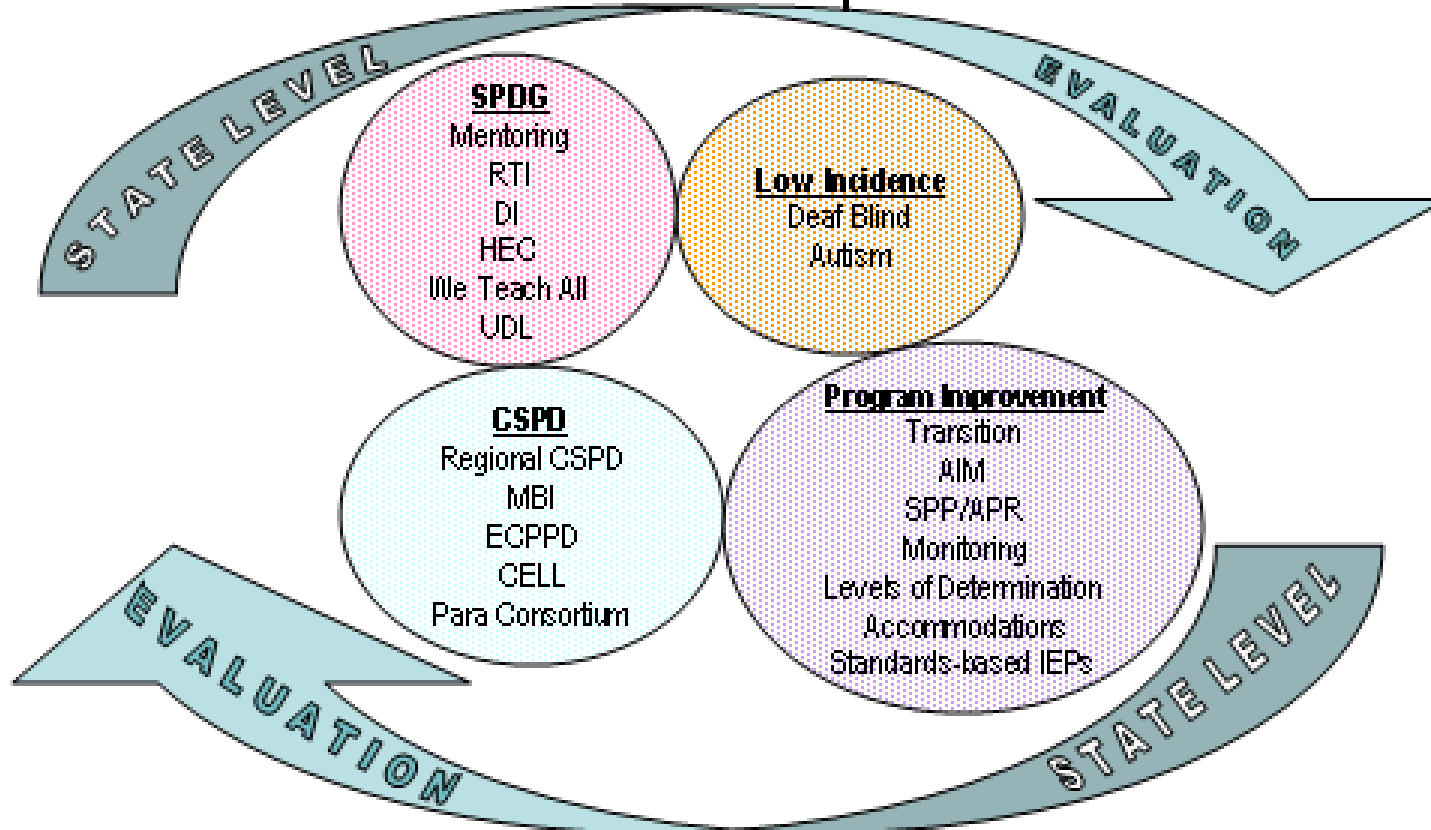
Table 20.1 Montana Performance Target Status for FFY 2007

Total Score	Indicator Percent	SPP Performance Target	State Performance Status
86	100.0%	100.0%	Met Target

Appendices:

- A. Professional Development Unit Flow Chart and Acronym Dictionary
- B. School Improvement/Monitoring Unit Flow Chart and Acronym Dictionary
- C. Part B/Data and Accountability Unit Flow Chart and Acronym Dictionary
- D. Part B/Data and Accountability Monthly Task List

OPI Special Education Professional Development Unit



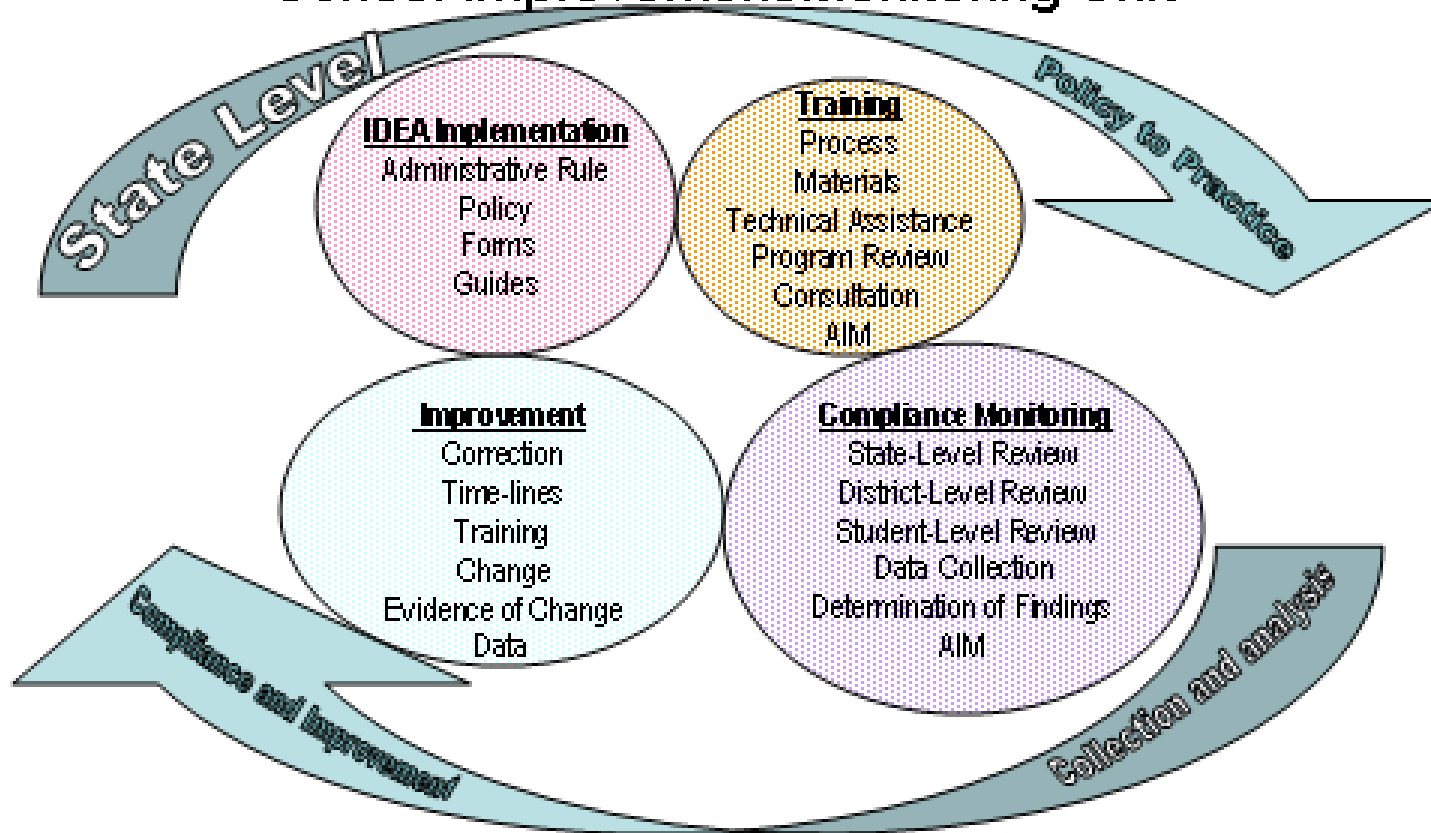
Montana Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, Superintendent opi.mt.gov

Professional Development Unit

Acronym Dictionary

SPDG	State Personnel Development Grant
RTI	Response to Intervention
DI	Differentiated Instruction
HEC	Higher Education Consortium
UDL	Universal Design for Learning
CSPD	Comprehensive System of Personnel Development
MBI	Montana Behavioral Initiative
ECPPD	Early Childhood Partnership of Professional Development
CELL	Center for Early Learning Literacy
AIM	Achievement in Montana
SPP/APR	State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report
IEP	Individualized Education Plan

OPI Special Education School Improvement/Monitoring Unit

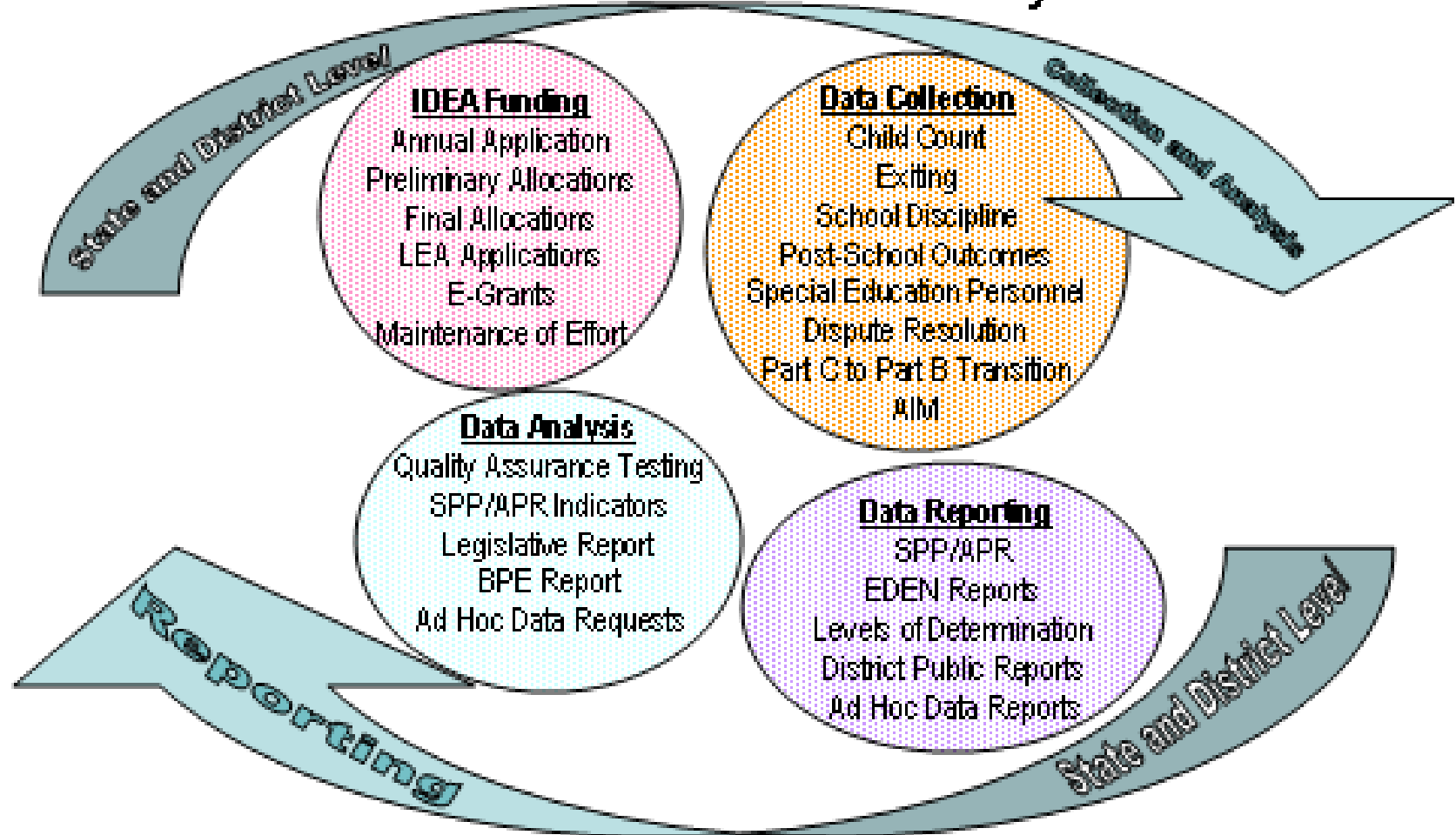


Montana Office of Public Instruction
Denise Juneau, Superintendent oipi.mt.gov

School Improvement/Monitoring Unit Acronym Dictionary

IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004
AIM	Achievement in Montana

OPI Special Education Part B/Data and Accountability Unit



Part B/Data and Accountability Unit

Acronym Dictionary

ADC	Annual Data Collection
AIM	Achievement In Montana—The statewide student data system which includes the Special Education module
APR	Annual Performance Report—The state's annual report to OSEP regarding the state's progress toward the targets in the State Performance Plan
EDEN	Education Data Exchange Network—The portal through which states submit data to the U.S. Department of Education
E-Grants	The OPI's electronic consolidated grant application for all federal grants that are subgranted to schools
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
LEA	Local Education Agency
MOE	Maintenance of Effort—The federal grant requirement that grant recipients maintain expenditures of state and local funds at the level of the previous year's expenditures
OSEP	Office of Special Education Programs—An office within the U.S. Department of Education that oversees the implementation of the IDEA
SPP	State Performance Plan
TA	Technical Assistance—Assistance provided to Montana schools to ensure the collection of valid and reliable data
UAT	User Acceptability Testing—Testing completed on the AIM system to ensure that programming changes meet the OPI requirements

Appendix D:

SPECIAL EDUCATION IDEA Part B/ Data and Accountability Unit CALENDAR OF DATES Updated June 2009

July

- ✓ Federal Part B grant letter is received
 - Final Allocation reports are prepared and posted on the Web site
 - Memo is sent to coops/districts announcing final awards are available
 - Any changes needed to E-grants sent to Linda Gardner
 - Review and approve Part-B project applications
- ✓ Validate Suspension/Expulsion Data
- ✓ Validate Exiting Data
- ✓ MOE program changes for coming year identified
- ✓ Preparation for Child Count collection
- ✓ Provide TA on Post-School Outcomes Survey (Indicator 14)
- ✓ Prepare form to collect Part C to Part B transition (Indicator 12)
- ✓ AIM UAT on June mid-year release
- ✓ Validate Preschool Outcome data (Indicator 7)
- ✓ Prepare LEA Levels of Determination
- ✓ Additional SPP/APR support as needed
 - Preschool Outcomes follow-up
- ✓ Begin working on Assessment validations

August

- ✓ Validate Suspension/Expulsion Data
- ✓ Validate Exiting Data (have ready by 8/30 for SPP/APR purposes)
- ✓ MOE program changes for coming year identified
- ✓ Preparation for Child Count collection
- ✓ Provide TA on Post-School Outcomes Survey (Indicator 14)
- ✓ Data collection for Part C to Part B transition (Indicator 12)
- ✓ LEA Levels of Determination published
- ✓ AIM Training begins
- ✓ AIM UAT on June mid-year release (should be in districts by mid-month)
- ✓ Validate Assessment Data for EDEN reporting
- ✓ Additional SPP/APR support as needed
 - Preschool Outcomes follow-up (Indicator 7)
- ✓ Data Training for school districts
- ✓ Begin analysis of Graduation Rates (Indicator 1)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Dropout Rates (Indicator 2)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Suspension and Expulsion (Indicator 4)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Preschool Outcomes (Indicator 7)
- ✓ OSEP Leadership Conference and National Accountability Conference

September

- ✓ Preliminary work done on ADC collection of special education personnel data

- ✓ Validate Suspension/Expulsion Data (due 9/30)
- ✓ Validate Exiting Data (due 9/30)
- ✓ SUBMIT Exiting and Discipline EDEN files by 9/30
- ✓ SUBMIT Assessment Data EDEN files by 9/30
- ✓ Preparation for Child Count collection (opens 9/28)
- ✓ AIM Training
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ Additional SPP/APR support as needed
- ✓ Dispute Resolution table compiled
- ✓ Data Training for school districts
- ✓ Part C to Part B transition follow-up (Indicator 12)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Assessment data (Indicator 3)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Child Find-60-Day Timeline (Indicator 11)
- ✓ Begin analysis of IEP Transition (Indicator 13)
- ✓ School Discipline application opens
 - Assign usernames and passwords

October

- ✓ MOE
 - Programming should be completed and tested by the first of the month
 - Mid-month, attend meeting on MOE with all divisions
 - Mid month, start MOE and special education reversion calculations
- ✓ ADC collection of special education personnel data takes place
- ✓ Validate Suspension/Expulsion Data (submit by 11/1)
- ✓ Validate Exiting Data (submit by 11/1)
- ✓ Child Count collection open (10/1-10/31)
- ✓ AIM Training for school district personnel
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ Additional SPP/APR support as needed
- ✓ Data Training for school districts
- ✓ Private School Child Count
- ✓ School discipline collection TA
- ✓ Preschool Outcomes data analysis (Indicator 7)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Parent Involvement Survey data (Indicator 8)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Part C to Part B transition data (Indicator 12)
- ✓ Post-School Outcomes Survey (Indicator 14)
 - Calculate Response Rates
 - Begin analysis

November

- ✓ SUBMIT Dispute Resolution EDEN file by 11/1
- ✓ Begin development of APR
- ✓ Coop Membership Reports prepared and sent out
- ✓ Certified Director report (from Kathleen Wanner)
- ✓ MOE
 - Finalize calculations (MOE and reversion)
 - Run preliminary MOE reports and post to Web
 - Notify districts that failed to maintain effort
 - Review applications for MOE exceptions

- ✓ ADC follow-up
- ✓ Child Count
 - Follow-up (closes 10/31)
 - Begin validations
- ✓ AIM Training
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ Additional SPP/APR support as needed
- ✓ Data Training for school districts
- ✓ School discipline collection TA
- ✓ Begin analysis of Dispute Resolution data
 - Complaints (Indicator 16)
 - Hearings (Indicator 17)
 - Resolution sessions (Indicator 18)
 - Mediations (Indicator 19)

December

- ✓ Validate Child Count Data (due 2/1)
- ✓ SPP/APR support (due 2/1)
- ✓ Validate Personnel Data
- ✓ Coop membership report follow-up
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ School discipline collection TA
- ✓ Begin analysis of Findings – (Indicator 15)
- ✓ Begin analysis of Timely, Valid, Reliable Data (Indicator 20)

January

- ✓ Validate Child Count Data
- ✓ SPP/APR support
- ✓ Validate Personnel Data
- ✓ Coop membership report follow-up
- ✓ AIM UAT on December release
- ✓ School discipline collection TA
- ✓ Finish analysis of Indicators for SPP/APR
- ✓ Complete APR and revisions to SPP

February

- ✓ SUBMIT Child Count EDEN file and SPP/APR
- ✓ Begin work on preliminary Allocations
- ✓ Begin work on Final MOE Reports
- ✓ Begin looking at changes for exiting
- ✓ Begin looking at changes for school discipline
- ✓ Validate Personnel Data
- ✓ AIM UAT on December release
- ✓ School discipline collection TA
- ✓ Complete Annual Application for Funds Under Part B of the IDEA
 - Post completed application for public comment

March

- ✓ Begin looking at changes for exiting
- ✓ Begin looking at changes for school discipline
- ✓ Final MOE reports are sent out and posted to the OPI Web site
- ✓ Prepare annual report to the Board of Public Education
- ✓ LEA Determinations
- ✓ Calculate Disproportionate Representation (Indicators 9 and 10)
- ✓ Calculate Significant Disproportionality
- ✓ Begin work on preliminary Allocations
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ School discipline collection TA

April

- ✓ Prepare for exiting
 - Work with programmer to get necessary changes made
 - Test program
- ✓ Prepare for school discipline
 - Work with programmer to get necessary changes made
 - Test program
- ✓ Prepare annual report to the Board of Public Education
- ✓ LEA Determinations
- ✓ Preliminary Allocations published
- ✓ School discipline collection TA
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ SPP/APR Opportunity for Clarification
- ✓ SUBMIT Annual Application for Funds Under the IDEA

May

- ✓ Exiting opens
- ✓ School Discipline application opens for submission
- ✓ School discipline application TA
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ E-Grants application opens
- ✓ Test District Public Report

June

- ✓ School Discipline and Exiting applications open (close 6/30)
- ✓ AIM UAT on patches
- ✓ School discipline application TA
- ✓ Exiting application TA
- ✓ District Public Report Posted to Web (6/1/)
- ✓ Begin work on Assessment validations
- ✓ Begin Child Count Preparation
 - Work with programmer to get necessary changes made
 - Test program
- ✓ OSEP Data Conference