



**** Update with 2009-10 Data and Five-Year Trends****

How Many Schools Have Not Made Adequate Yearly Progress?

Key Findings

Recently, much attention has focused on the number of schools in the nation failing to make adequate yearly progress (AYP) in raising student achievement under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The Obama Administration has projected a dramatic increase in this number as 2014—the year when 100% of students are expected to score proficient on state tests—draws nearer. Testifying before Congress this March, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan warned that “we did an analysis which shows that next year the number of schools not meeting their goals under NCLB could double to over 80 percent—even if we assume that all schools will gain as much as the top quartile in the state. So let me repeat that: four out of five schools in America may not meet their goals under NCLB by next year” (Duncan, 2011). President Obama reiterated this warning in a March 14 speech on education (Obama, 2011).

The Center on Education Policy (CEP), an independent nonprofit organization, has been monitoring national AYP data going back to 2005. This spring, we updated the four-year trends described in our December 2010 AYP report by adding a fifth year of data on the estimated number of schools in the nation and each state that did not make AYP in 2010, based on tests administered in 2009-10.¹ These data were collected from what we believe are the most reliable sources available at the time of our research. Here are our main findings:

¹AYP determinations are typically reported in the summer of a given year and are based on the results of tests administered in the school year that ended in the spring of that year. For example, AYP determinations for 2010 are based on test results from school year 2009-10.

- An estimated 38% of the nation's public schools did not make AYP in 2010. This marks an increase from 33% in 2009 and is the highest percentage since NCLB took effect.
- In 12 states and the District of Columbia, at least half of the public schools did not make AYP in 2010. In a majority of the states (39 and D.C.), at least one-fourth of the schools did not make AYP.
- The percentage of public schools not making AYP in 2010 varied greatly by state, from about 5% in Texas to about 91% in D.C.

Sources and Methods for Arriving at Estimates

Each year schools and districts must annually meet state-set targets for the percentages of students scoring proficient on state tests and other performance indicators in order to make adequate yearly progress as defined by NCLB. Schools that fall short for two consecutive years or more must undergo a series of interventions outlined in the No Child Left Behind Act.

The performance targets and the tests used to measure student achievement vary greatly among states. For that reason, AYP results are not comparable between states, and a state with a high percentage of schools failing to make AYP should not be assumed to have a weak educational system. (A more detailed explanation of how AYP is determined and why interstate comparisons are not valid can be found in the 2010 CEP report, *How Many Schools and Districts Have Not Made Adequate Yearly Progress? Four-Year Trends.*)

The findings presented in this report are preliminary estimates of the percentages of schools not making AYP rather than definitive tallies. States do not always publish or provide easy access to the number of schools not making AYP. We gathered the AYP data for 2010 for this report from state department of education Web sites or direct communication with state education agency personnel. (The appendix shows the specific data sources for each state.) The data in this report for the earlier comparison years of 2006 through 2009 are from the State Consolidated Performance Reports that states must submit to the U.S. Department of Education.

Another reason why the 2010 numbers in this report are preliminary estimates is that the AYP status of schools may change during the months after a state's initial release of AYP data, due to appeals from schools districts, waivers, and other factors. Official AYP numbers for 2010 based on the State Consolidated Performance Reports are not yet available; CEP will release a final version of this report in fall 2011, when the U.S. Department of Education publishes those numbers.

Most of the numbers in this report represent the percentage of schools that did not make AYP out of all the public schools for which states reported AYP results for 2010. This latter number is smaller than the total number of schools in a state because states may exempt certain schools from AYP determinations, such as new or short-term schools, schools that do not serve any of the grades tested by NCLB, or others with unusual circumstances. A few states, however, report only the *number* of schools making or not making AYP rather than the percentage. In those cases, which are noted in the appendix table, we had to calculate a percentage by dividing the state-reported number of schools not making AYP by the total of *all* schools in the state, taken from the Common Core of Data of the National Center for Education Statistics (U.S. Department of Education, 2010).

We calculated the percentage of schools in the nation that did not make AYP by adding the number of schools in each state that did not make AYP according to the sources used and dividing that sum by the total number of schools in the nation for which we had AYP data. Some states reported only the *percentage* of schools not making AYP rather than the number. To arrive at a number for these states for our national calculations, we multiplied the total number of all schools in that state from the Common Core of Data by the state-reported percentage of schools that did not make AYP.

AYP Results for the Nation and the States

An estimated 38% of the nation's public schools did not make adequate yearly progress in 2010. Among individual states, this percentage ranged from about 5% in Texas to about 91% in the

District of Columbia. (The estimated percentages for each state are shown in table 1 in the next section, as well as in the appendix table.) To discern any patterns, we grouped states into quartiles according to their percentages of schools not making AYP. We also looked more closely at the states with the largest enrollments. Here's what we found:

- A large majority of the states (39 and D.C.) reported that 25% or more of their public schools did not make AYP in 2010.
- In 12 states plus D.C., 50% or more of the state's public schools did not make AYP in 2009-10. These states were, from highest to lowest, D.C., Florida, New Mexico, New Hampshire, Missouri, California, Arkansas, Massachusetts, Maine, Delaware, Nevada, Illinois, and Minnesota.
- No clear pattern was evident in the four largest states, which together enroll more than one-third of the nation's students. The estimated percentages of schools that fell short of AYP in these states were 86% in Florida, 61% in California, 37% in New York and 5% in Texas.

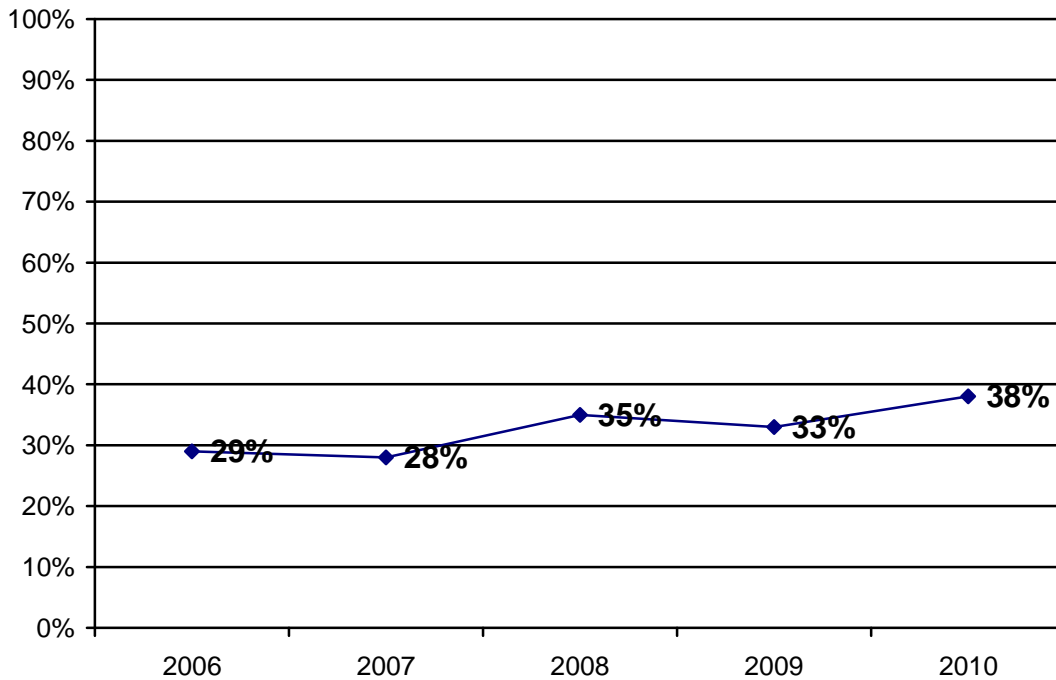
As noted in earlier CEP reports, these variations among states may be less a result of differences in educational quality than of differences in test difficulty, cut scores defining proficiency on state tests, annual targets for the percentage of students scoring proficient, student demographics, and other factors. States in which a high percentage of schools did not make AYP may have harder tests, higher cut scores, or higher annual targets. These variations make it inadvisable to draw conclusions about student performance or educational quality based on AYP status. Additionally, these figures are estimates; official numbers will not become publicly available until later this year.

Five-Year Trends in AYP Results

To see the effects of the AYP requirements over time, we added our estimates for 2010 to the four-year AYP trend data presented in our December 2010 report (CEP, 2010). **Figure 1** shows

the five-year trend in the percentage of the nation's schools that did not make AYP, out of the total number of U.S. schools for which states reported AYP results each year. Between 2006 and 2010, this national percentage increased from 29% to 38%—the highest percentage ever.

Figure 1. Percentage of schools that did not make AYP, 2006 through 2010



As figure 1 shows, the national percentage of schools not making AYP showed a modest overall increase between 2006 and 2010, although the percentage actually declined slightly in two of the interim years. To reach the point where 80% or more of the nation's schools are not making AYP would require a more than doubling of the current percentage in a very short time.

Table 1 provides the state-by-state percentages of schools that did not make AYP in 2006 through 2010, out of the total number of schools for which each state reported AYP results.

Table 1. Estimated percentage of schools by state that did not make AYP, 2006 through 2010

State	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
<i>United States</i>	29%	28%	35%	33%	38%
Alabama	11%	16%	16%	13%	25%
Alaska	38%	34%	41%	44%	40%
Arizona	33%	28%	27%	26%	29%
Arkansas	39%	38%	42%	46%	59%
California	34%	33%	48%	50%	61%
Colorado	25%	27%	43%	44%	38%
Connecticut	34%	32%	42%	41%	28%
D. C.	85%	75%	77%	75%	91%
Delaware	18%	29%	29%	34%	54%
Florida	71%	66%	76%	77%	86%
Georgia	21%	18%	20%	14%	29%
Hawaii	65%	35%	58%	64%	49%
Idaho	27%	73%	44%	34%	37%
Illinois	18%	24%	32%	41%	51%
Indiana	51%	48%	46%	50%	42%
Iowa	16%	7%	31%	30%	36%
Kansas	14%	12%	10%	12%	18%
Kentucky	34%	22%	28%	38%	44%
Louisiana	9%	12%	19%	9%	12%
Maine	21%	30%	34%	35%	56%
Maryland	23%	23%	17%	23%	30%
Massachusetts	41%	48%	63%	62%	57%
Michigan	14%	18%	27%	9%	14%
Minnesota	31%	38%	49%	54%	50%
Mississippi	16%	21%	14%	35%	25%
Missouri	29%	46%	57%	63%	64%
Montana	10%	10%	28%	27%	27%
Nebraska	18%	12%	20%	12%	26%
Nevada	47%	33%	40%	43%	51%
New Hampshire	40%	42%	62%	54%	71%
New Jersey	29%	26%	35%	35%	37%
New Mexico	54%	55%	68%	68%	77%
New York	29%	20%	16%	12%	38%
North Carolina	56%	55%	69%	29%	42%
North Dakota	9%	9%	37%	25%	27%
Ohio	39%	38%	36%	39%	39%
Oklahoma	11%	12%	7%	11%	41%
Oregon	32%	22%	37%	30%	29%
Pennsylvania	18%	22%	28%	22%	23%
Rhode Island	32%	21%	27%	19%	21%
South Carolina	62%	63%	80%	50%	48%
South Dakota	19%	18%	16%	21%	17%
Tennessee	17%	13%	20%	20%	22%
Texas	19%	9%	15%	5%	5%
Utah	12%	23%	19%	17%	21%
Vermont	24%	12%	37%	29%	31%
Virginia	23%	26%	25%	28%	40%
Washington	16%	35%	62%	58%	46%
West Virginia	14%	19%	19%	20%	22%
Wisconsin	4%	4%	7%	7%	6%
Wyoming	15%	6%	24%	27%	28%

Table reads: In 2006, 11% of the schools in Alabama that reported test data for NCLB purposes did not make AYP. This Alabama percentage increased to 16% in 2007 and 2008, dropped to 13% in 2009, and rose again to 25% in 2010.

Source: Center on Education Policy based on data collected from the state sources shown in the appendix.

Conclusion

Roughly 38% of the nation's schools failed to make AYP in 2010. This represents both an increase from 2006, the first year for which data are available, and the highest percentage of schools to ever fail to make AYP.

Some may be surprised that this percentage is not higher. Over the past five years, however, the national percentage of schools not making AYP has changed only modestly, with declines in two of those years. AYP determinations are complex, and factors like NCLB's "safe harbor" provision, states' implementation of growth models for calculating individual students' progress, and changes in state testing and accountability policies can affect results differently from year to year. A companion CEP paper, *State Policy Differences Greatly Impact AYP Numbers*, explains some of the factors that have contributed to recent decreases and increases in the number of schools not making AYP (CEP, 2011).

Still, the share of schools falling short of AYP could increase sharply in the next few years because many states have "backloaded" their achievement trajectories. This means that in order to make AYP, schools must meet annual achievement targets that rise more steeply the closer one gets to 2014 (CEP, 2008). But whether these steep rises in AYP targets will result in a sudden, huge jump in the number of schools falling short remains to be seen.

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Based in Washington, D.C., and founded in January 1995 by Jack Jennings, the Center on Education Policy is a national independent advocate for public education and for more effective public schools. The Center works to help Americans better understand the role of public education in a democracy and the need to improve the academic quality of public schools. We do not represent any special interests. Instead, we help citizens make sense of the conflicting opinions and perceptions about public education and create the conditions that will lead to better public schools.

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Appendix

Estimated percentage and number of schools in each state that did not make AYP based on test results for 2010

State	% did not make AYP	# schools not making AYP	Total # of schools	Source
<i>U.S. total</i>	38%	34,573	91,161	
Alabama	25%	342	1,375	http://www.alsde.edu/Accountability/2010Reports/Press/2010AYPNewsRelease.pdf?lstSchoolYear=8&lstReport=2010Reports%2FPress%2F2010AYPNewsRelease.pdf
Alaska	40%	203	505	http://www.eed.state.ak.us/news/releases/2010/News_Release_2010AYP.pdf
Arizona	29%	567	1,954	http://www.ade.state.az.us/pio/Press-Releases/2010/pr07-28-10.pdf
Arkansas	59%	629	1,075	http://arkansased.org/about/pdf/releases/ayp_release_110110.pdf
California	61%	6061	9,863	Personal communication with Jenny Singh, Education Research and Evaluation Consultant, Assessment and Accountability Division, California Department of Education on March 28, 2011
Colorado	38%	672	1,769	http://www.cde.state.co.us/FedPrograms/dl/danda_aypres_2010ayppressrelease.pdf
Connecticut	28%	281	1,004	http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/pressroom/ayp_2010_newsrelease.pdf
Delaware	54%	103	192	http://www.doe.k12.de.us/news/2010/0730.shtml
D. C.	91%	118	130	http://www.nclb.osse.dc.gov/schools.asp
Florida	86%	2,952	3,424	http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/pdf/0910/SchoolGradesPressPacket.pdf
Georgia	29%	627	2,163	http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/pea_communications.aspx?ViewMode=1&obj=1958
Hawaii	49%	141	286	http://lilinode.k12.hi.us/STATE/COMM/DOEPRESS.NSF/a1d7af052e94dd120a2561f7000a037c/3781014477961db70a25779e006048f0/\$FILE/2010-2011%20AYP%20Summary%20Table%20FINAL.pdf
Idaho	37%	247	660	http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/assessment/FederalReq/docs/AYPResultsSchoolandDistrict_FinalSY0910_ver09_03_2010.xls
Illinois	51%	1,999	3,912	http://www.isbe.state.il.us/news/2010/oct29.htm
Indiana	42%	755	1,817	http://www.doe.in.gov/ayp/docs/2010/AYP_by_the_number_s.pdf
Iowa	36%	512	1,428	Personal communication with Tom Deeter, Assessment Consultant, Iowa Department of Education March 30, 2011
Kansas	18%	255	1,380	http://media.trb.com/media/acrobat/2010-09/199651780-14122919.pdf
Kentucky	44%	511	1,151	http://www.russell.kyschools.us/Parents/Parent%20Resources/Misc/KDE%202009-2010%20Test%20Score%20Press%20Release.pdf
Louisiana	12%	147	1,236	Personal communication with Jennifer Baird, Education Program Consultant, Division of Assessments and Accountability, Louisiana Department of Education March 30, 2011
Maine	56%	345	621	Personal communication with Rochelle Tome, ESEA/NCLB Federal Program Director, Maine Department of Education November 30, 2010

State	% did not make AYP	# schools not making AYP	Total # of schools	Source
Maryland	30%	391	1,303*	http://www.msde.maryland.gov/NR/exeres/DC01120D-C383-4989-A652-DA9CDD3429DD_frameless.htm?Year=2010&Month=7%253E
Massachusetts	57%	982	1,723	Personal communication with Kenneth Klau, Division for Accountability, Partnerships and Assistance, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, April 15, 2011
Michigan	14%	518	3,706	http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-22709_22875-241637--,00.html
Minnesota ^r	50%	1,048	2,108	http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/About_MDE/News_Center/Press_Releases/018250
Mississippi	25%	222	905	http://board.mde.k12.ms.us/September_2010/Tab04-RM-MS%20Statewide%20Acct%20AYP%20Summary2010-Bkup%20L.pdf
Missouri	64%	1,407	2,213	http://dese.mo.gov/commissioner/statereportcard/src.pdf
Montana	27%	226	823	http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/AYP/2010/10AYPPressRelease.pdf
Nebraska	26%	287	1,102*	http://reportcard.education.ne.gov/Page/AccountabilityFederalSummary.aspx?Level=st
Nevada	51%	347	678	http://nde.doe.nv.gov/AYP/PR_2010_08-16_AYP.pdf
New Hampshire ^e	71%	327	458	http://www.education.nh.gov/news/ayp11.htm
New Jersey	37%	815	2,224	http://www.state.nj.us/education/title1/accountability/ayp/0910/
New Mexico	77%	634	827	http://www.ped.state.nm.us/ayp2010/Quick%20Facts%20010%20Post%20Appeals.pdf
New York	38%	1,670	4,447*	Personal communication with Kristen DeSalvatore, EDFacts Coordinator, Information and Reporting Services Office, NYS Education Department March 29, 2011
North Carolina	42%	1,062	2,518	http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/accountability/reporting/abc/2009-10/abcaypreport10.pdf
North Dakota	27%	122	460	http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/news/2010/pressrelease052810.pdf
Ohio	39%	1,425	3,663	http://www.ode.state.oh.us/gd/templates/pages/ode/odedetail.aspx?page=279
Oklahoma	41%	731	1,790	Personal communication with Michael D. Reid Director, Academic Performance Index Oklahoma Department of Education November 30, 2010
Oregon	29%	357	1,249	http://www.ode.state.or.us/news/announcements/announcement.aspx?=6020
Pennsylvania	23%	716	3,108	http://paayp.emetric.net/StateReport
Rhode Island	21%	62	292	http://www.eride.ri.gov/reportcard/10/documents/AYPSchoolClassificationsRelease2010.pdf
South Carolina	48%	521	1,089	http://www.ed.sc.gov/news/more.cfm?articleID=1607
South Dakota	17%	120	692*	Personal communication with Judy Merriman, Administrator: Data Management, South Dakota Dept. of Education April 1, 2011
Tennessee	22%	366	1,653	Personal communication with Janine R. Whited Information Systems Analyst, Tennessee Department of Education Office of Innovation, Improvement and Accountability, January 11, 2011
Texas	5%	368	7,609	http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/2010/summaries10.pdf
Utah	21%	201	958	http://u-pass.schools.utah.gov/u-passweb/pdfs/ayp/2010/99/2010AYPAISchoolsReport.pdf?ts=1301930618136
Vermont	31%	94	303	http://education.vermont.gov/new/pdfdoc/dept/press_releases/educ_pr_ayp_10_0511_packet_rev.pdf

State	% did not make AYP	# schools not making AYP	Total # of schools	Source
Virginia	40%	726	1,836	http://www.doe.virginia.gov/news/news_releases/2010/aug12.shtml
Washington	46%	968	2,104	http://www.k12.wa.us/Communications/pressreleases2010/StateTestResults.aspx
West Virginia	22%	156	694	http://wvde.state.wv.us/news/2134/
Wisconsin	6%	140	2,333	http://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/sifi/WAYP_main.asp
Wyoming [§]	28%	97	348	www.edu.wyoming.gov/Libraries/WDE_Press_Releases/AYP10.sflb.ashx

Table reads: In 2010, 342 Alabama schools, or 25% of the public schools for which the state reported AYP results, did not make AYP.

*These states did not provide a number of schools that did or did not make AYP but provided only the percentages of such schools. In these states, the total number in this column is the total number of schools in the state in school year 2008-09 according to the Common Core of Data of the National Center for Education Statistics (U.S. Department of Education, 2010). In the other states, the numbers in this column represent the total number of schools for which the state reported AYP results.

[^]This percentage does not include the 11 New Hampshire schools (out of the state's 469 schools) that received small-school designation and will receive separate AYP reports.

[¶]This percentage does not include the 183 Minnesota schools (out of the state's 2,291 schools) that had insufficient data.

[§]Due to a malfunction in the administration of the state standardized test in 2009-10, Wyoming was unable to recover valid achievement data for that year. Wyoming received a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education that allowed schools in the state to keep the same AYP status for 2009-10 that they had in the previous year, except for high schools, which had to meet the state's target for graduation rates.

Source: Center on Education Policy based on information collected from the state sources shown in the last column of the table.

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Center on Education Policy
1001 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 522
Washington, D.C. 20036
Ph: 202-822-8065
Fax: 202-822-6008
E-mail: cep-dc@cep-dc.org
Web: www.cep-dc.org