

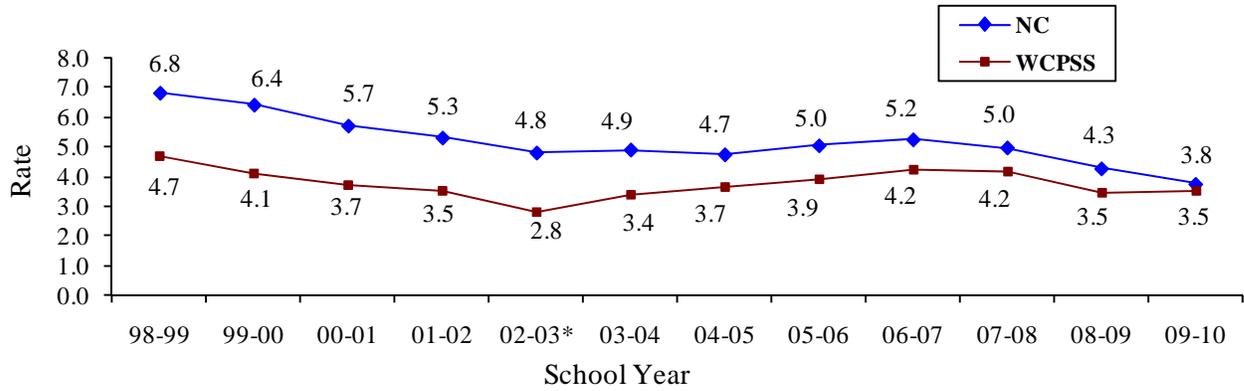
2009-10 WCPSS DROPOUT RATE

On March 3rd, 2011, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI) released its annual statewide Dropout Report covering the 2009-10 school year. The charts below show the dropout rate for WCPSS compared to the state as a whole, to other large school districts in North Carolina, and by the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) subgroups. Note that rates are rounded to one decimal place in the charts with normal rounding rules applied, but in the text, two decimal places are used. These analyses reveal the following:

- The WCPSS dropout rate in 2009-10 for grades 9-12 was 3.53%, compared to 3.47% in 2008-09. The state's rate showed a decrease in 2009-10—from 4.27% to 3.75%.
- Other large school districts in North Carolina, including Durham (4.32), Forsyth (4.07), and Mecklenburg (4.15), had higher dropout rates in 2009-10 than did WCPSS, while Guilford (2.81) remained lower. Of those districts, only WCPSS and Guilford have had a rate below the state average in each of the past twelve years.
- For only the second time in the past eleven years, the WCPSS dropout rate for Hispanic/Latino students fell below seven percent to 6.86%, marking the fourth consecutive drop for this group. Black/African-American students had their lowest dropout rate (5.64%) since 2003-04. While Hispanic/Latino students' rate declined by 0.5 percentage points, Asian students increased by 0.6 percentage points, the first such increase since 2004-05. The rate for White students stayed virtually the same, but the rate for Multiracial students ticked higher by about a quarter of a percentage point. Note that the Asian and Multiracial student groups constitute less than five percent of the total dropout group; therefore, their rates may fluctuate more from year to year than rates for the other ethnic subgroups. A separate rate is not reported for Native American students due to very low numbers in that group.
- Among other NCLB subgroups, limited English proficient (LEP) students dropped out at the highest rate (10.3%), while 7.9% of students with disabilities (SWD) and 5.3% of students qualified for free or reduced-price lunch (ED) did so. WCPSS dropout rates increased in 2009-10 for each of these groups: LEP (up by 1.3 percentage points), SWD (1.4), and ED (0.2).



**NC and WCPSS Dropout Rates: 1999-2010,
Grades 9-12**



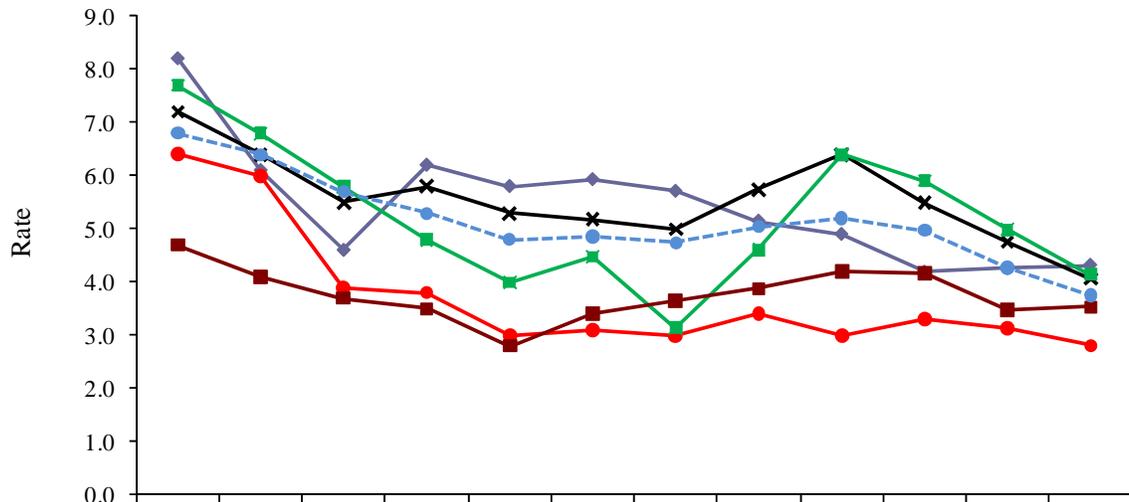
* The 2002-03 WCPSS dropout rate is higher than the rate reported by DPI because additional dropouts were discovered after the official data submission to DPI.

**WCPSS Dropout Rates and Counts,
Grades 9-12**

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Rate	4.2%	4.2%	3.5%	3.5%
Count	1,647	1,689	1,430	1,494

Note: Dropout counts are unduplicated within a single school year. For example, a student who drops out more than once within a school year is counted only once as a dropout for that year. Students who drop out in more than one school year are counted as dropouts for each of those years.

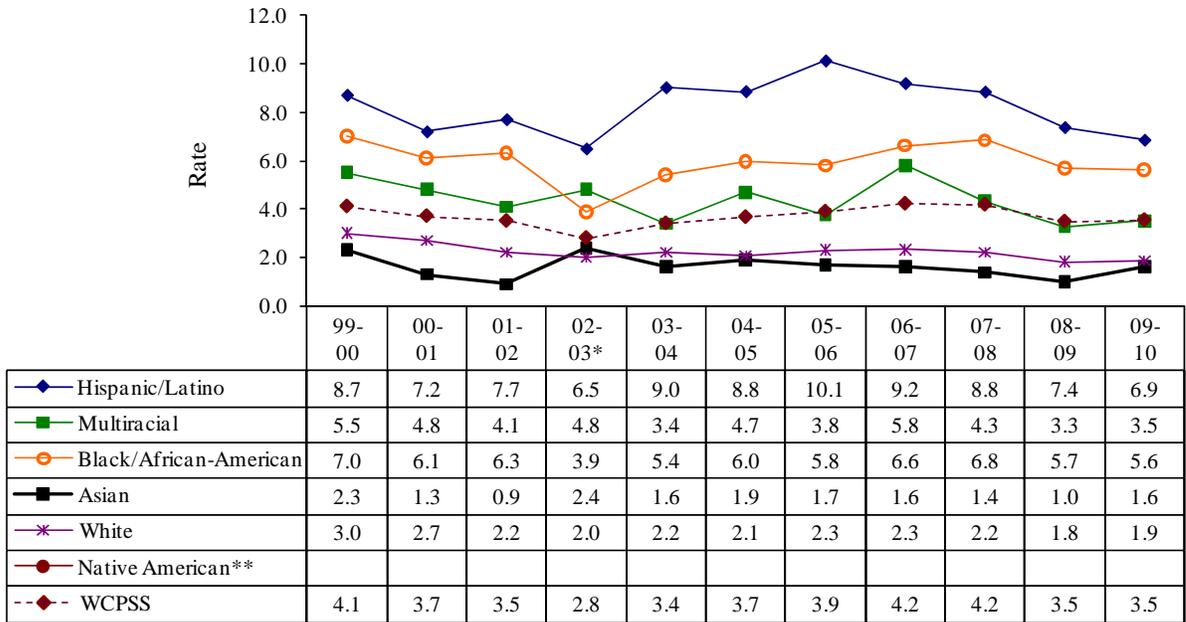
**Dropout Rates for Selected NC School Districts: 1999-2010
Grades 9-12**



	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03*	03-04	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10
—◆— Durham	8.2	6.1	4.6	6.2	5.8	5.9	5.7	5.2	4.9	4.2	4.3	4.3
—×— Forsyth	7.2	6.4	5.5	5.8	5.3	5.2	5.0	5.7	6.4	5.5	4.8	4.1
—●— Guilford	6.4	6.0	3.9	3.8	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.4	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.8
—■— Mecklenburg	7.7	6.8	5.8	4.8	4.0	4.5	3.1	4.6	6.4	5.9	5.0	4.2
—■— WCPSS	4.7	4.1	3.7	3.5	2.8	3.4	3.7	3.9	4.2	4.2	3.5	3.5
—●— NC	6.8	6.4	5.7	5.3	4.8	4.9	4.7	5.0	5.2	5.0	4.3	3.8

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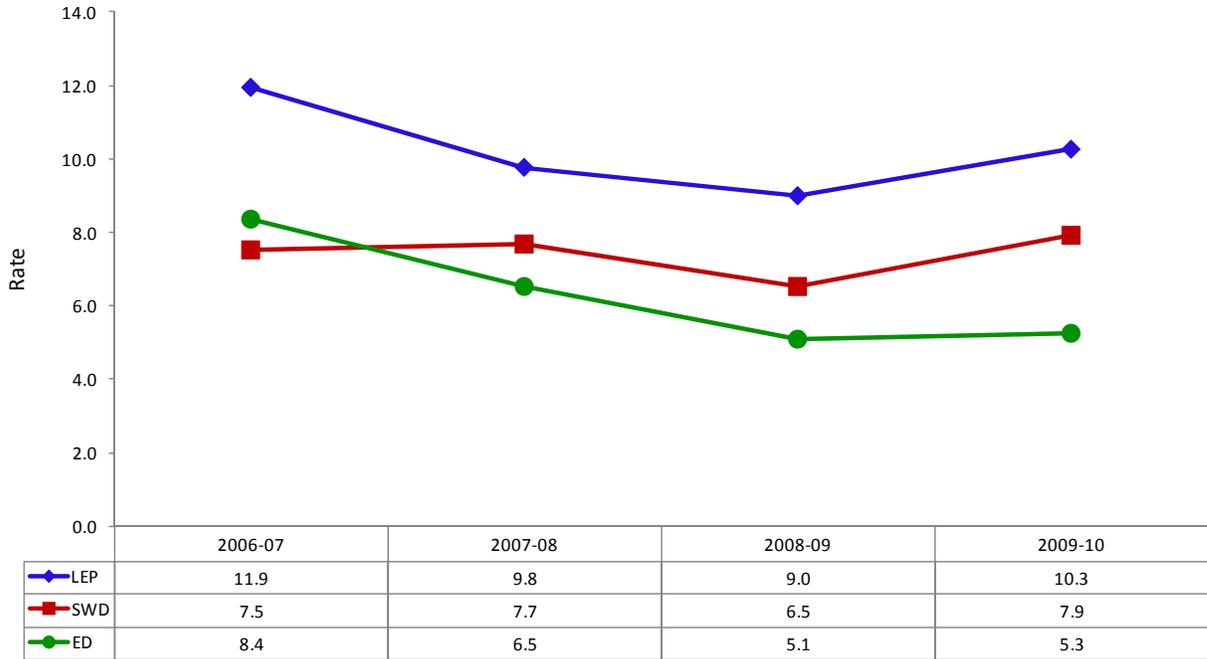
**Dropout Rates by Ethnic Groups: 2000-10,
Grades 9-12**



* The 2002-03 WCPSS dropout rate is higher than the rate reported by DPI because additional dropouts were discovered after the official data submission to DPI.

**Rates are not shown for Native American students due to very low numbers in the group.

**Dropout rates by NCLB Subgroups: 2007-2010,
Grades 9-12**



Note: LEP = limited English proficient students
 SWD = students with disabilities
 ED = students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch