

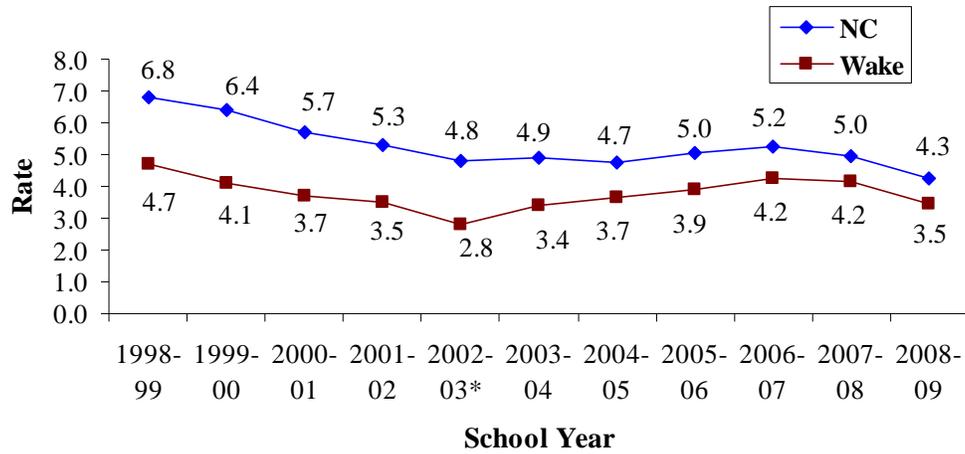
2008-09 WCPSS Dropout Rate

On March 4th, 2010, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction released its annual statewide Dropout Report covering the 2008-09 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 federal No Child Left Behind 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:

- Posting the lowest dropout rate since 2003-04, the WCPSS dropout rate in 2008-09 for grades 9-12 was 3.47%. The rate in 2007-08 was 4.17%. The state's rate also showed a decrease-- from 4.97% to 4.27%.
- Other large school districts in North Carolina, including Durham (4.26), Forsyth (4.76), and Mecklenburg (4.99), had higher dropout rates in 2008-09 than did WCPSS, while Guilford (3.13) remained lower. Of those districts, only WCPSS and Guilford have had a rate below the state average in each of the past eleven years.
- For the first time since 2000-01, the dropout rates for each race/ethnic group declined as compared to the previous year. The largest percentage point declines were for Hispanic/Latino students (1.4 points), Black students (1.1), and Multi-racial students (1.0). The rate for Black students is the lowest since 2003-04; for White students and for Multi-racial students, the lowest since before 1999-00. Note that the Asian and Multi-racial 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 racial subgroups. No data are reported for Native American students due to very low numbers in that group.
- WCPSS dropout rates also declined in 2008-09 among limited English proficient students (0.8 percentage points), students with disabilities (1.2), and students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch (1.4). This represented the second consecutive year of declining rates for limited English proficient students and students eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.



**NC and WCPSS Dropout Rates
Grades 9-12
1999-2009**



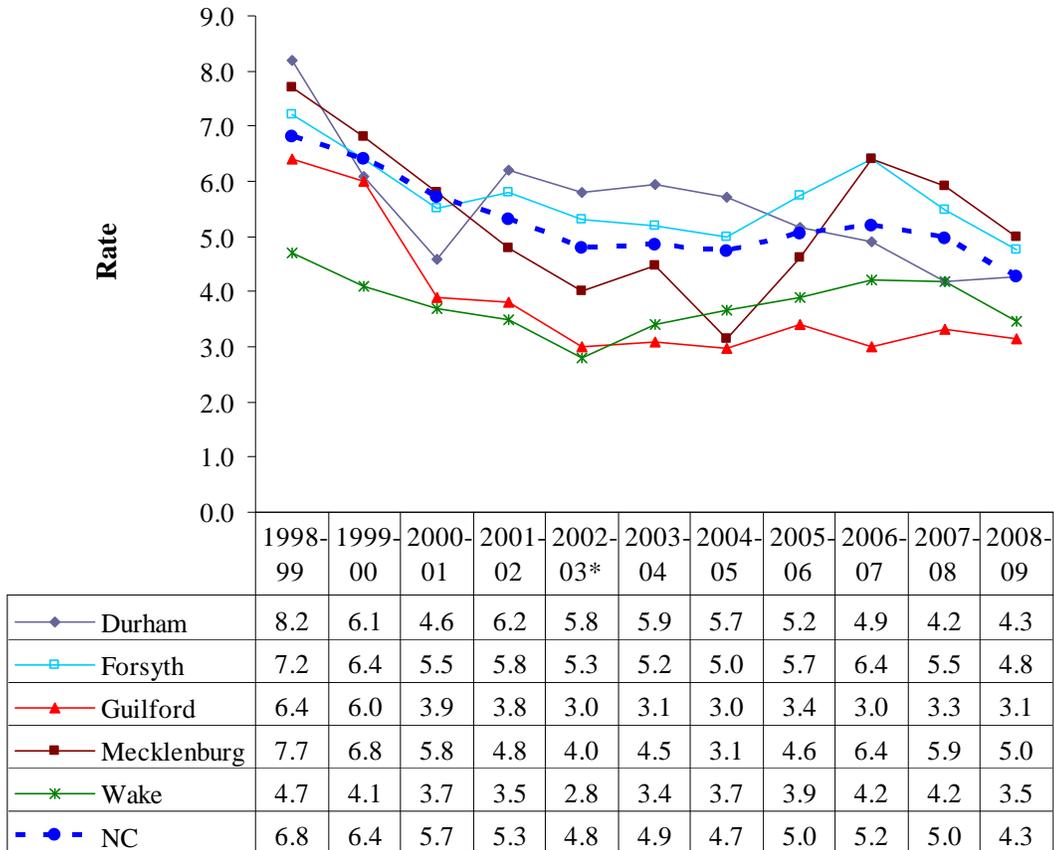
*-The 2002-03 WCPSS dropout rate is higher than the rate DPI reports because additional dropouts were discovered after the official data submission to DPI.

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

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Rate	4.2%	4.2%	3.5%
Count	1647	1689	1430

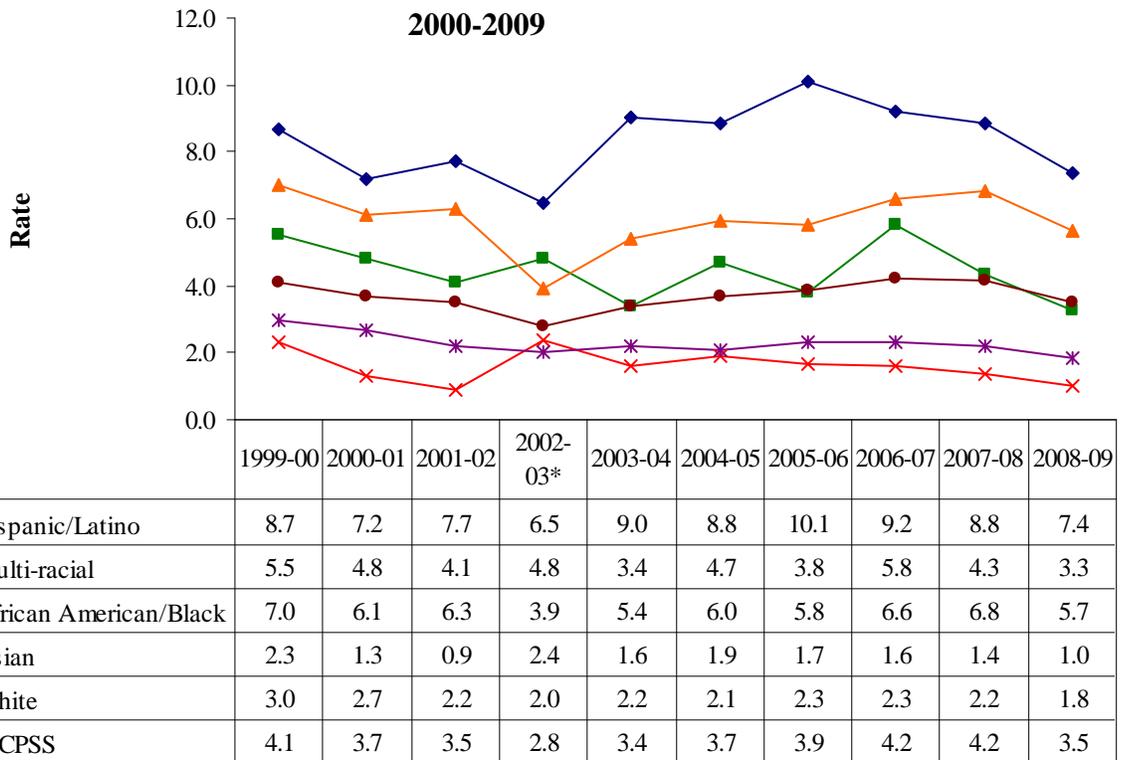
Note: Dropout counts are unduplicated within a single school year. For example, a student who drops out more than once within a school year is counted only once as a dropout for that year. Students who drop out in more than one school year are counted as a dropout for each of those years.

Grades 9-12 Dropout Rates for Selected Districts



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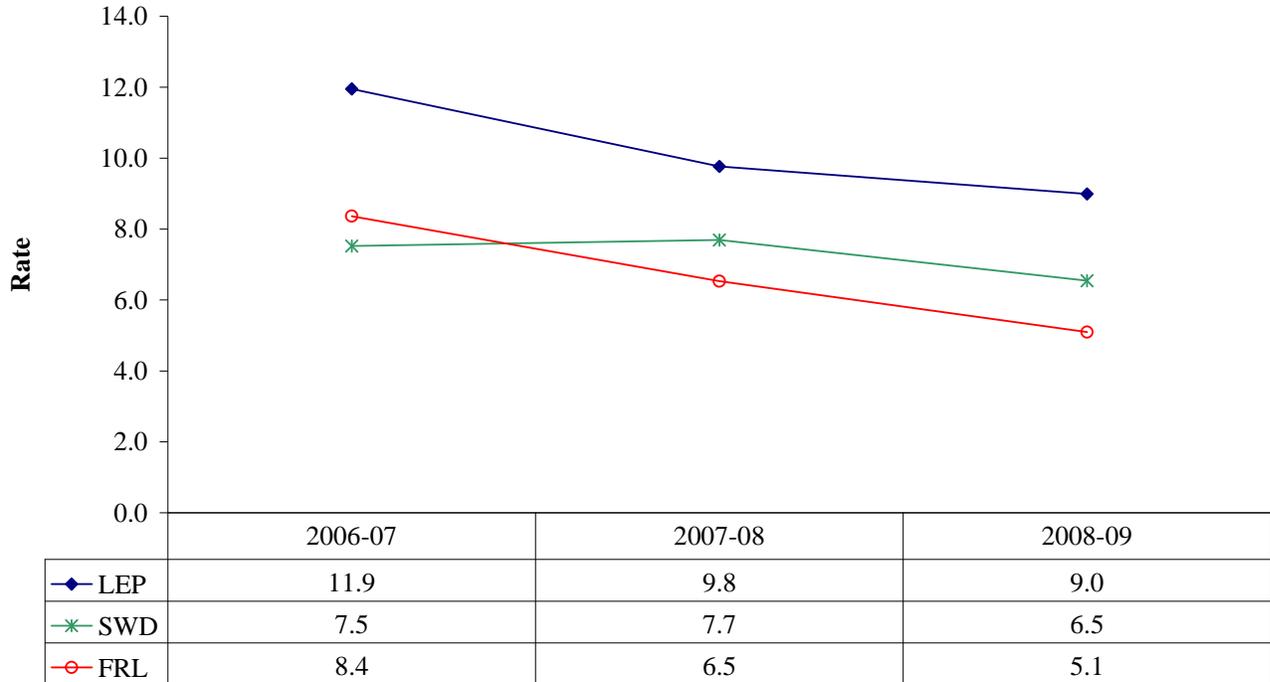
**Dropout Rates by Ethnic Group
Grades 9-12
2000-2009**



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

Note: Rates are not shown for Native American students because of insufficient data.

**Dropout Rates by NCLB Subgroup
Grades 9-12
2007-2009**



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