



NJDOE News

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For Release: June 4, 2007

DOE Announces Final AYP

The district and school "In Need of Improvement" status of seven school districts and 77 schools has changed because of final *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* calculations for the 2005-2006 testing period, New Jersey Department of Education officials announced today.

The federal *NCLB* requires that before the start of each school year, each state education department must release the list of schools and districts designated as being "in need of improvement" because they did not make adequate yearly progress (AYP) on the state tests administered in the spring. In order to meet this deadline, New Jersey DOE uses preliminary calculations of students' scores to calculate the schools' and districts' status.

During the fall and winter, the results are re-calculated to include the scores of the alternate proficiency assessments (APAs) administered to students with the most severe disabilities (which are not multiple choice tests and must be scored by hand), other NCLB factors (such as attendance and drop-out rates) and appeals of designations by districts or schools. These recalculations produce the final status list.

Two districts - Bayonne and Hamilton (Mercer) - that were identified as districts in need of improvement (DINI) under the preliminary calculations were found to have made AYP under the final analysis and were removed from the DINI list.

Two other districts - West Orange and South Orange/Maplewood - made AYP under the preliminary calculations, but the final analysis showed that a subgroup of students in each district missed AYP in language arts and literacy, and both districts were placed on the "early warning" list.

Eighteen schools that were initially thought to have missed making AYP and were placed on the preliminary "early warning" list did make it in the final analysis and have been removed from the schools in need of improvement SINI list. Two additional schools in need of improvement were removed in the final calculations.

Thirty-nine schools that were in various stages of status on the SINI list and had been thought to have missed AYP did make it in the final analysis. Twenty-one schools are in "early warning" status and 18 schools remain on the SINI list but in either "hold" status or in a lower level of sanctions.

Eighteen schools that were thought to have made AYP last year did not make it in the final analysis and are either on the "early warning" list or in a higher level of SINI sanctions.

Because two districts came off the DINI list and two other districts went on it, today's announcement means that the total number of New Jersey school districts and charter schools designated as being "in need of improvement" based on their 2006 test scores remains at 60.

Under the final analysis, the number of schools that did not make AYP last year dropped from 643 (as announced in the preliminary results) to 627, and the number of schools on the SINI list (which does not include schools in "early warning" status) dropped to 555 from 574.

Click [here](#) for a list of district status changes.

Click [here](#) for a list of school status changes.

Background:

Under *NCLB*, schools are labeled as "in need of improvement" when they miss one of more of 40 criteria on standardized tests for more than two years in a row. Districts are identified as "in need of improvement" if any of their subgroups of students miss AYP in a subject area in all grade spans for two years in a row.

AYP results are based on year-to-year comparisons of schools' scores in the HSPA (High School Proficiency Assessment) administered to 11th grade students, GEPA (Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment) and NJASK3/7 (New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge), administered to students in grades 3-7.

In order to achieve AYP, a school or district's students must meet both the proficiency targets and a 95 percent participation rate in math and language arts for each of ten subgroups, which include the total school population, students with disabilities, limited English proficiency (LEP) students, economically disadvantaged students and white, Hispanic, African American, Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Native American students.

Schools and districts that receive Title I funding and are on the SINI and DINI lists face federal sanctions. As the schools and districts miss AYP in subsequent years, the sanctions become more stringent. Schools and districts that do not make AYP in their first year are deemed as "Early Warning" schools by the DOE but face no sanctions. For more information about sanction years, please click here:

<http://www.nj.gov/education/title1/accountability/ayp/0708/dini/dimpchart.shtml>

For more information, please contact the Department of Education Public Information Office at (609) 292-1126.