

## How the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) 1% Participation Rate Is Calculated

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) limits the total number of students with the most significant cognitive disabilities who are assessed Statewide with an alternate assessment aligned with alternate achievement standards in the State to 1.0 percent of the total number of students in the State who are assessed in that subject. A State may not prohibit a local educational agency (LEA) from assessing more than 1.0 percent of its assessed students in any subject with an alternate assessment; however, any LEA that exceeds the 1.0 percent State-level cap on participation on an alternate assessment must submit information to the State justifying the need to exceed the cap.

Based on school year data, LEAs identified as assessing more than 1.0 percent of its students in English language arts, mathematics, and/or science with the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) are required to complete a justification form. LEAs exceeding 1.0 percent must conduct analyses, including data, to identify root causes for the high percentage of students taking the NYSAA. The information gleaned from the analyses should be used to identify factors contributing to the LEA exceeding the 1.0 percent threshold. These analyses should be maintained by the LEA for review by NYSED upon request.

The New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) participation rate is calculated by dividing the number of students participating in the NYSAA by the total number of students participating in the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA), Grades 3-8 New York State Testing Program (NYSTP) and New York State Regents exams.

### Numerator:

- Students participating in the NYSAA in grades 3-8 are included in the numerator in the year that they participate in the NYSAA.
- Students participating in the NYSAA at the secondary-level are included in the numerator based on accountability cohort, regardless of the year that they took the secondary NYSAA.

### Denominator:

- Students participating in the NYSAA in grades 3-8 in the year that they participate in the NYSAA.
- Students participating in the New York State Testing Program (NYSTP), with and without accommodations, in grades 3-8 in the year that they participate in the NYSTP.
- Students participating in the NYSAA at the secondary-level based on accountability cohort, regardless of the year that they took the secondary NYSAA.
- Students participating in Regents exams based on accountability cohort, regardless of the year that they took the Regents exam.

The accountability cohort for ungraded, NYSAA-eligible students is determined by the school year in which a student turns 17 years of age. Ungraded students in the 2017 cohort turned 17 during the 2017-18 school year and those students who took a NYSAA secondary exam are included for the NYSAA calculations in the 2020-21 school year. The accountability cohort for graded high school students is determined by the school year in which a student enters ninth grade. Participation is included for an accountability cohort four years after a student enters the cohort. Graded students in the 2017 cohort entered grade 9 in the 2017-18 school year.

The chart below provides additional information on cohort years and when NYSAA participation is included in the NYSAA 1% calculations.

School Year	Cohort Year	Year Participation Included
2014-2015	2014	2017-2018
2015-2016	2015	2018-2019
2016-2017	2016	2019-2020
2017-2018	2017	2020-2021
2018-2019	2018	2021-2022
2019-2020	2019	2022-2023
2020-2021	2020	2023-2024