

# State Performance Plan Indicator 8: Parent Involvement

Percent of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities.



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## Indicator 8 Fast Facts

- Data for this indicator is collected by an anonymous survey measuring parent involvement in Individualized Education Program (IEP) development.
- Copies of the parent survey are provided to districts by SUNY Potsdam Institute for Applied Research (PIAR).
- Families complete a survey for each child with an IEP.
- Preschool and school age students are included in the survey.
- Parents can complete the survey on paper or online.
- Online survey is compatible with mobile devices.
- Districts must report every 6 years, New York City (NYC) Public Schools reports annually.
- Districts must meet 90% of their response rate target.
- For more information, see PIAR's [SPP 8 FAQ](#).

## What are the requirements of State Performance Plan Indicator 8?

To meet the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA), the New York State Education Department (NYSED) is required to annually report to the United States Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs the percent of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities enrolled in New York State public schools in the provision of a free appropriate public education. NYSED values each school district's efforts to partner with parents, including involvement at Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) meetings, Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings, and other school activities and events.

## Who are the students included in this indicator?

The eligible population for Indicator 8 includes preschool and school-age students with disabilities who are provided special education services in a district-operated program or under contract with other service providers. Each year, one-sixth of the districts in the State, plus NYC Public Schools, are required to collect and submit data to NYSED. School districts have a choice to either report data on all eligible students or to submit data on a randomly selected sample of a minimum number of students using the sampling guidelines provided by NYSED. However, in order to meet the required minimum number, the majority of districts distribute surveys to the families of all eligible students.

## What is the process for collecting Indicator 8 data?

NYSED has a contract with PIAR to administer the parent survey. Surveys are disseminated annually between September and August. Districts are responsible for distributing the surveys and working with PIAR to ensure they are completed. The survey is available online in English and paper-based surveys are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, Yiddish, Bangla, Korean, Haitian Creole, Italian, Arabic, Polish, French, and Urdu.



NYSED recommends that a variety of strategies be used to ensure success. **For all strategies, ensuring that parent responses are confidential should be a priority.**

- Provide a computer in a confidential setting to allow parents to complete the survey online;
- Distribute surveys at school meetings, such as open houses, conferences, and CSE and CPSE annual meetings;
- Enlist the assistance of parent advocates;
- Provide a reader to assist literacy challenged parents;
- Provide translators if the survey is not available in the language of the parent; and
- Distribute the survey by mail.

## How is the Indicator 8 survey results data calculated?

The number of surveys with an overall positive parental involvement rating (parents indicated that they "agree", "strongly agree" or "very strongly agree" with at least 51% of the questions)	÷	All surveys returned with at least 7 of the 13 questions answered	X 100 =	# of respondent parents who reported that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for children with disabilities
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## How are districts notified of their results?

Districts are notified of their parent survey results in an email with an attached report from PIAR. The following information is included in the report:

- The number and percent of responses for each answer type ("very strongly agree" through "very strongly disagree").
- A summary analysis of the survey response rate and the positive parental response rate.

*If a district's survey response rate was less than the required minimum sample, NYSED may notify the district that it must administer the survey again.*

## How should districts use the data from their results?

The SPP Indicator 8 survey question response analysis provides the district with their response rate, and feedback from parents regarding efforts to partner with parents, the roles of teachers and administrators in promoting parent involvement in their child's special education services and the impact of special education services. Districts can use this information to strengthen activities which promote increased parent involvement to improve services and results for students with disabilities.