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State Performance Plan Indicator 6: Preschool Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)



Percent of children with IEPs aged 3, 4, and aged 5 who are enrolled in a preschool program attending a: A. Regular early childhood program and receiving the majority of special education and related services in the regular early childhood program; B. Separate special education class, separate school or residential facility; and C. Receiving special education and related services in the home.

Who are the students included in this indicator?

Preschool students with disabilities who have individualized education programs (IEP) aged 3, 4, and aged 5 who are enrolled in a preschool program.

What is the data source?

School districts annually report data to the New York State Education Department that indicates the setting that students with disabilities who have IEPs are in when attending school. Data is reported for all children in New York State (NYS) who meet the age/grade requirements and sampling is not allowed for this indicator. The reported data is as of a specific date in time and reflects students' educational environment as of the first Wednesday in October.

How are results calculated?

Percent of children with IEPs aged 3, 4, and aged 5 enrolled in a preschool program attending a:

A. Regular early childhood program and receiving the majority of special education and related services in the regular early childhood program	A. Percent = [(# of children ages 3, 4, and 5 with IEPs attending a regular early childhood program and receiving the majority of special education and related services in the regular early childhood program) divided by the (total # of children ages 3, 4, and 5 with IEPs)] times 100.
B. Separate special education class, separate school or residential facility.	B. Percent = [(# of children ages 3, 4, and 5 with IEPs attending a separate special education class, separate school or residential facility) divided by the (total # of children ages 3, 4, and 5 with IEPs)] times 100.
C. Receiving special education and related services in the home	C. Percent = [(# of children ages 3, 4, and 5 with IEPs receiving special education and related services in the home) divided by the (total # of children ages 3, 4, and 5 with IEPs)] times 100.

What action is NYS taking to improve LRE for preschool students with disabilities?

1. Joint guidance was issued titled "[School District Responsibilities for Preschool Inclusion in Publicly Funded Prekindergarten Programs](#)" containing federal and NYS expectations that school districts ensure resident preschool students with disabilities have equal access to enroll and attend the district's public prekindergarten programs in accordance with the provision of a free and appropriate public education in the LRE.
2. The Office of Special Education has been having conversations with targeted school districts about their reported preschool LRE data and preschool program offerings.
3. Technical Assistance and Professional Development is provided to school districts and approved preschool program providers by the [Office of Special Education Educational Partnership](#), a coordinated and cohesive network of support focused on enhancing services and supports for students with disabilities from early childhood and school-age education to engagement in post-school opportunities.