

# Dropout Rate: Indicator 2

**Measurement:** Percent of youth with IEP's dropping out of high school.

## Calculation

### Step 1:

Number of special education enrolled from July 1 to June 30 of previous year (Not December 1 students)

Divided by

(The number of special education students enrolled from July 1 to June 30 + number of special education students that dropout)

### Step 2:

Then the number derived is deducted from 100 percent to get the percent of special education dropouts for current year.

### Example:

20 special education students enrolled for grades 9 – 12. 2 students dropout during the calendar year and do not return in fall enrollment.

20 divided by (20 +2) = .090

.90 \* 100 = 90%

100 – 90% = 10% of students dropout

## Collection Method

Information is collected through SIMS utilizing the enrollment tab and special education tab.

## Collection Dates

July 1 to June 30

## District Submission Date

This submission should include all students enrolled by last Friday in September according to SDCL. All status elements, enrollment information and special education elements for students should be updated by the submission deadline. Reporting deadline is October 15 (Please refer to Fall SIMS Newsletter for accurate date at <http://doe.sd.gov/ofm/sims.asp>.)

## Important Notes:

Always update dropout information for students. If a student dropouts and records are sent to a different district after 1 ½ years, enter student as know to continue. It may not help your district for past years dropout rate but will for graduation rate in future.

### Strategies to Analyze Dropout Rate Data:

Utilize Judy Sargent's special education workbook

Indicator 13 – Coordinated set of activities for transition aged students – Was the transition piece meaningful for the student?

Review information in the SIMS system to ensure enrollment and special education tab are correct.

Why did the students dropout? What can the district do to reduce the risk?

What factors lead to other students completing high school?

### Resources and Improvement Activities

- Transition Service Liaison Project Regional Personnel at [www.tslp.org](http://www.tslp.org)
- Special Education Programs at 605-773-3678 for assistance with dropout rates
- National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities at <http://www.ndpc-sd.org/>
  - Archived Webinars
  - Some articles published by NDPC:
    - [\*Positive behavior support: A potentially important strategy for dropout prevention\*](#) by: Sandra Covington-Smith, NDPC-SD, Robert P. Trussell, UTEP
    - *Engaging Students with School: The Essential Dimension of Dropout Prevention Programs.*
    - *The Impact of Policies and Procedures on Dropout and School Completion.*
    - [\*Building Effective Dropout Preventions Programs\*](#) by Dr. Loujeania W. Bost