

Indicator 8: Parent Involvement

What is the purpose of indicator 8?

Results Indicator: 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.

Indicator Goal: The goal of Indicator 8 is to improve services and results for students with Individual Education Programs (IEPs) by facilitating positive parent involvement.

Connections to other indicator results: Positive parent involvement in the IEP process connects to all indicators (1 through 18) results.

How do I enter or access district data?

The SEA provides the online survey of the SD Parent Involvement Survey to all LEAs. LEAs who wish to print paper versions may request PDFs of their survey and envelope from the SEA. LEAs then collect data by distributing surveys throughout the school year to all parents in their LEA with children receiving special education services. The LEA data is entered when the surveys are either submitted online or mailed to the survey vendor.

LEAs can access their data and district reports from the previous school year at <https://doestars.sd.gov> in late July. To find the Indicator 8 reports, hover on Communities, click Special Ed, click Special Ed Reporting PDF, scroll down to Indicator 8, click on "District (School year) Indicator 8.pdf". The district reports list the current and historical Parent Involvement Scores and Response Rates for the LEA and SEA, as well as focused parent involvement scales and demographics of respondents (for districts with 10 or more respondents).

What is the submission timeline?

In August, the SEA provides the on-line survey link and resources to all LEAs. From August through May during the school year, LEAs distribute the on-line or paper survey to all parents with children receiving special education services in the LEA. Parent Survey submission is due May 31.

How is this indicator calculated?

Indicator 8 data is collected through the annual SD Parent Involvement Survey.

Parent Involvement Score = [(# of respondent parents who report schools facilitated parent involvement) divided by the (total # of respondent parents of children with disabilities)] times 100.

- Targets for the Parent Involvement Score are set by stakeholders and reported by the SEA, as required in the State Performance Plan.

Response Rate = [(# of respondent parents) divided by (# of parents to whom the surveys were distributed as determined through the previous school year Child Count)] times 100.

- Targets for the Response Rate are set by SEA based on historical LEA response rates. The SEA asks districts to achieve a Response Rate of 20.00% or higher to ensure representativeness of respondents.

How do I improve my results?

To improve the Parent Involvement Score, LEAs can examine district reports in July/August to identify questions or scales on which parents reported the lowest scores. LEAs can then develop targeted plans, such as LEA training on IEP processes, communication, parent rights, partnership, and resources, all towards the goal of improving the LEA's facilitation of positive parent involvement. LEAs can also utilize resources and flyers developed by the SEA. To assist LEA efforts, the SEA requires a District Reflection in August from LEAs with prior school year Parent Involvement Scores below a threshold set by the SEA.

To improve the Response Rate, LEAs can implement in-person collection methods, such as allowing parents time to complete the Parent Survey at the end of an in-person IEP meeting. Surveys can be completed online via a school laptop or tablet or the parent's phone, or via a paper version. The Parent Survey is available in English and Spanish, as well as a Karen paper version. The LEA can translate their Parent Survey themselves if further languages are needed. LEAs can also utilize flyers developed by the SEA. To assist LEA efforts, the SEA contacts LEAs in April with response rates below 20.00%, and the SEA requires a District Reflection in August from LEAs with prior school year Response Rates below 20.00%.

Frequently asked questions

Do parents of students in out of district placements get the Parent Survey?

Yes, provide the Parent Survey to parents of students in out of district placements because those students are included in the district child count.

If parents are separated, but both are actively involved, who do we give the Parent Survey to?

Yes, both parents can be given a Parent Survey to have the opportunity to respond (two separate surveys).

RESOURCES

Indicator 8 resources and flyers can be found at <https://doe.sd.gov/sped/SPP.aspx>, under the dropdown titled "Indicators," under the heading "Indicator 8."