

# Frequently Asked Questions District Data Profiles



## What are the *District Data Profiles*?

According to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004, states are required to report local educational agency (LEA) performance on the indicators in the *State Performance Report (SPP)* and *Annual Performance Report (APR)* annually. *District Data Profiles* accomplish this task for Oklahoma.

## What information or data is supposed to be included?

The *District Data Profiles* for Oklahoma report the status of an LEA's performance on Indicators 1-15 and Indicator 20. These indicators include measurable and rigorous annual compliance and performance targets. All measurable and rigorous annual compliance targets have been established by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) at 100% or 0%, depending on the indicator. Broad stakeholder input was obtained in the development of Oklahoma's measurable and rigorous annual performance targets. LEA percentages for each indicator are compared to the targets determined.

## Where does this data come from?

LEAs self report data through the *School District Reporting Site, Special Education – Child Count* twice a year. This data is collected through *Child Count* in the fall and *Data/APR* in the spring. Information from monitoring, written formal complaints, and due process hearings is also used.

## Who sees the *District Data Profile*?

In addition to the profiles being sent to the LEAs, IDEA 2004 requires that the reports are made available to the public through "broad dissemination," such as on the State Educational Agency Web site. The OSEP has identified a broad audience for the reports which include "parents, policymakers, advocates, school board members, service providers, and others."

## What about confidentiality and anonymity for small LEAs?

All *District Data Profiles* report information as percentages of students and not as individual students. For profiles posted on the Web for public reporting purposes, where the group size is ten or less, the percentage will not be reported but denoted with asterisks (the results will be included on the copy of the *District Data Profile* the LEA receives).

## Can the *District Data Profiles* be amended or changed?

LEAs have many opportunities to maintain and verify the accuracy of their data. The Oklahoma State Department of Education, Special Education Services (OSDE-SES) offers training each year regarding entering data into the *School*

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*District Reporting Site, Special Education – Child Count.* A superintendent must “certify” the accuracy of reports after each data-entry period.

The data system has been developed with many data checks. The OSDE-SES reviews data submissions for errors after each major data-entry period. In addition, the OSDE-SES staff is always available for LEAs requesting technical assistance to complete their data requests.

Finally, a draft/preliminary copy of the *District Data Profile* is sent to LEAs for review before the final Web publication of the profiles is posted.

### **Are District Data Profiles used for other purposes?**

*District Data Profiles* are used during focused monitoring compliance reviews, desk audit compliance reviews, LEA determinations, and reporting to the USDE.

### **Reporting Requirements in IDEA 2004, from: SEC. 616. MONITORING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT.**

#### **(C) PUBLIC REPORTING AND PRIVACY—**

(i) IN GENERAL—The State shall use the targets established in the plan and priority areas described in subsection (a)(3) to analyze the performance of each local educational agency in the State in implementing this part.

#### **(ii) REPORT—**

(I) PUBLIC REPORT—The State shall report annually to the public on the performance of each local educational agency located in the State on the targets in the State’s performance plan. The State shall make the State’s performance plan available through public means, including by posting on the website of the State educational agency, distribution to the media, and distribution through public agencies.

(II) STATE PERFORMANCE REPORT—The State shall report annually to the Secretary on the performance of the State under the State’s performance plan.

(iii) PRIVACY—The State shall not report to the public or the Secretary any information on performance that would result in the disclosure of personally identifiable information about individual children or where the available data is insufficient to yield statistically reliable information.

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