

DEFINITIONS AND DATA SOURCES

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Source(s)</i>
Advanced Placement Tests (AP Tests)	Advanced Placement (AP) tests are part of a College Board program available to high school students. Scores on these tests can be used by students to earn credit or advanced standing in college. Usually a minimum score of 3 is needed to achieve this goal.	Office of Shared Accountability
Algebra Completion Rate	The Algebra completion rate is the percentage of students successfully completing Algebra 1 or a higher-level mathematics course by the end of Grade 8 for middle schools and by the end of Grade 9 for high schools.	Office of Shared Accountability
Alternate Maryland School Assessment (ALT-MSA)	The Alternate Maryland School Assessment (ALT-MSA) is the Maryland assessment in which students with disabilities participate if through the IEP process it has been determined they cannot participate in the Maryland State Assessment (MSA) even with accommodations. The ALT-MSA assesses and reports student mastery of individually selected indicators and objectives from the reading, mathematics, and science content standards or appropriate access skills.	<i>MSDE Maryland Report Card</i> at http://www.mdreportcard.org/
Attendance Rate	The attendance rate is calculated by dividing the aggregate number of students in attendance by the aggregate number of students in membership from the first day of school to March 15. The attendance rate is reported for the previous school year.	<i>MSDE Maryland Report Card</i> at http://www.mdreportcard.org/
Attendance Area	Geographical boundaries of the home school.	Division of Long-range Planning
Cluster	The geographic grouping of schools within a defined attendance area that includes a high school and the elementary and middle schools which send students to that high school.	Regulation FAA-RA, <i>Long-Range Educational Facilities Planning</i>
Community Superintendent	The administrative head of a cluster of schools. Each community superintendent has administrative responsibility for four or more high school clusters.	Office of School Performance
Downcounty Consortium	The Downcounty Consortium (DCC) is comprised of Montgomery Blair, Albert Einstein, John F. Kennedy, Northwood, and Wheaton high schools, and provides students the choice of attending one of these high schools.	Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services (DCCAPS)
Dropout Rate	The dropout rate is the number of dropouts divided by the total number of students in Grades 9–12 served by the school. A drop out is any student who leaves school for any reason, except death, before graduation or completion of a Maryland approved educational program and is not known to have enrolled in another school or Maryland approved educational program. <i>Note.</i> The Class of 2010 is the last year for which this definition will apply.	<i>MSDE Maryland Report Card</i> at http://www.mdreportcard.org/

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Enrollment	The number of students enrolled in school as of September 30, 2010. Disaggregated figures are a percentage of the total enrollment.	Office of Shared Accountability
ESOL	The percentage of students participating in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes, as of October 31, 2010, compared with the official enrollment as of September 30, 2010. This percentage may differ from the ESOL percentage reported in the requested FY 2011 Capital Budget, due to different "as of" reporting dates.	Division of ESOL/Bilingual Programs
FARMS	The percentage of students receiving Free and Reduced-price Meals System (FARMS) services as of October 31, 2010, compared with the official enrollment as of September 30, 2010. This percentage may differ from the FARMS percentage reported in the requested FY 2011 Capital Budget due to "as of" reporting dates.	Division of Food & Nutrition Services
Feeder School	A school that sends its students to another school for the next grade level (e.g., a middle school that feeds a high school by sending its eighth graders to the high school for ninth grade.) Most schools "feed" 100 percent of their students to the same school. Those in which the population goes on to more than one school are shown in the profiles of each school.	Division of Long-range Planning
Geometry Completion Rate	The Geometry completion rate is the percentage of students successfully completing Geometry or a higher level mathematics course by the end of Grade 9 and Grade 10 for high schools.	Office of Shared Accountability
Graduation Rate	The percentage of students who received a Maryland high school diploma during the reported school year. This is an estimated cohort rate. It is calculated by dividing the number of high school graduates by the sum of the dropouts for Grade 9 through 12, respectively, in consecutive years, plus the number of high school graduates. <i>Note.</i> The class of 2010 is the last year for which this definition will apply.	<i>MSDE Maryland Report Card at http://www.mdreportcard.org/</i>
Home School	The school to which a student is assigned based on the student's grade level and the geographical boundary of the school.	Division of Long-range Planning
Honors/AP/IB/ College-Level Enrollment	Honors/Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and college-level courses provide rigorous and challenging studies for students who are capable of or motivated to pursue rigorous and challenging instruction. These courses are detailed in the MCPS High School Course Bulletin. The Honors/AP/IB, and college-level enrollment rate is the number of students enrolled in at least one Honors/AP/IB, or college-level course, divided by the total number of students. <i>Note.</i> Dual enrollment courses are excluded from the data.	MCPS High School Course Bulletin

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Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)	Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) refers to the mandate in the <i>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act</i> (IDEA 2004), which states that children with disabilities are to be educated to the maximum extent appropriate with nondisabled peers. MCPS reports LRE settings based on the percent of time a student is educated inside the general education setting. LRE A = Inside General Education Settings 80% or More. LRE C = Inside General Education Settings Less Than 40%.	Office of Special Education and Student Services
Maryland High School Assessment	The Maryland High School Assessments (HSAs) are end-of-course tests that students take as they complete the appropriate high school level course. All students, including middle school students taking high school level courses, must take the High School Assessment after they complete the appropriate course. These courses currently include Algebra/Data Analysis, Biology, English, and Government.	<i>MSDE Maryland Report Card</i> at http://www.mdreportcard.org/
Maryland School Assessment	The Maryland School Assessment (MSA) measures student achievement in reading, mathematics, and science. Special Education at a Glance reports Grades 3–8 reading and mathematics and end of course English II and Algebra for high school students. Percentage proficient includes students at or above the proficient level (proficient + advanced).	<i>MSDE Maryland Report Card</i> at http://www.mdreportcard.org/
Middle School Magnet Consortium	The Middle School Magnet Consortium (MSMC) is comprised of Argyle, A. Mario Loiederman, and Parkland middle schools, and provides students in the consortium the choice of attending one of these middle schools. Students from outside the consortium also may apply to attend through a lottery process.	Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services
Mobility Rate	Mobility is calculated by dividing the sum of entrants and withdrawals by the average daily membership. Entrants are the number and percentage of students entering (transferring in or re-entering) school during the September to June school year after the first day of school. Withdrawals are the number and percentage of students withdrawing (transfers and terminations) for any reason during the September to June school year after the first day of school.	<i>MSDE Maryland Report Card</i> at http://www.mdreportcard.org/
Northeast Consortium	The Northeast Consortium (NEC) is comprised of James Hubert Blake, Paint Branch, and Springbrook high schools and provides students the choice of attending one of these high schools.	Division of Consortia Choice and Application Program Services

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Race/Ethnic Composition	<p>The number and percentage of students enrolled on September 30, 2010, based on the race/ethnic categories established by the U.S. Department of Education. These categories have changed for data reported beginning in the 2010–2011 school year. The abbreviations used in this publication reflect those set by MSDE. The new federal race codes and MSDE abbreviations follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Indian or Alaskan Native—AM • Asian—AS • Black or African American—BL • Hispanic/Latino—HI • Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander—PI • White—WH • Two or more (multiple) races—MU <p>Note that outcome data reported in this publication are for the 2009–2010 school year and are reported with the old race codes.</p>	Office of Shared Accountability
Receiving School	A school that receives students from another school after promotion (e.g., a high school that receives middle school students promoted from Grade 8 to Grade 9.) Receiving schools will be shown as part of each school’s profile.	Office of Shared Accountability
SAT	The SAT is a college entrance exam required by several hundred colleges across the United States as part of the admissions process. The possible scores on the Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing sections range from 200–800, with a total possible score of 2400.	Office of Shared Accountability
School Hours	The regular school day with a designated starting time and ending time as defined by the local school system.	Office of the Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Special School	A separate MCPS school/center providing services for children with special education needs. The intensity of student needs cannot be met in comprehensive schools. The special schools included are: Stephen Knolls School, Longview School, Regional Institute for Children and Adolescents (RICA), Rock Terrace School, and Carl Sandburg Learning Center.	Office of Special Education and Student Services
SPED	Special education (SPED) means specially designed instruction and related services, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability, including: (1) Instruction conducted in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals and institutions, and in other settings; and (2) Instruction in physical education.	<i>Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004 Regulations</i>
Suspension Rate	The unduplicated count of the number of students suspended divided by the June 30 total enrollment.	Office of Shared Accountability
TerraNova Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills Second Edition	The <i>TerraNova</i> Second Edition (TN/2) is a nationally normed assessment administered to MCPS Grade 2 students in the spring. The TN/2 assesses skills in reading, language, mathematics, language mechanics, and mathematics computation.	Office of Shared Accountability

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University System of Maryland Entrance Requirements	MSDE calculates the percent of students meeting the University System of Maryland entrance requirements. Requirements for admission to the University System of Maryland are set by the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland and, at a minimum, include a cumulative grade point equivalent to a C or better, accumulated course credits in English (4 credits), Social Studies (3 credits), biological and physical sciences (3 credits), mathematics (4 credits), language or advanced technology (2 credits), and a high school diploma.	<p><i>MSDE Maryland Report Card</i> at http://www.mdreportcard.org/</p> <p>University System of Maryland at http://www.usmd.edu/</p>