



Exceptional Student Services (ESS) Special Education Professional Check-In

FFY24 Indicators 1 & 2 State Performance Plan and
Annual Performance Report

January 2026

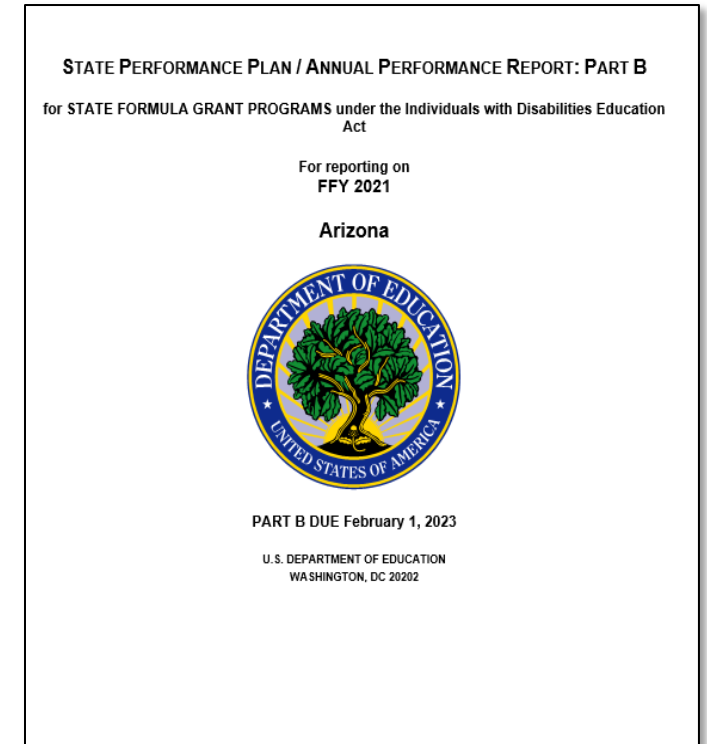
Agenda

- Introduction
- Enrollment vs Exiters
- Indicator 1: Graduation
 - By County
- Indicator 2: Drop Out
 - By County



Introduction to the SPP/APR

The State Performance Plan (SPP) / Annual Performance Report (APR) comprise a required annual federal special education data collection overseen by the Office of Special Education Programs. They are outlined under a variety of sections in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). ESS reports on portions of this information to stakeholders throughout the year.



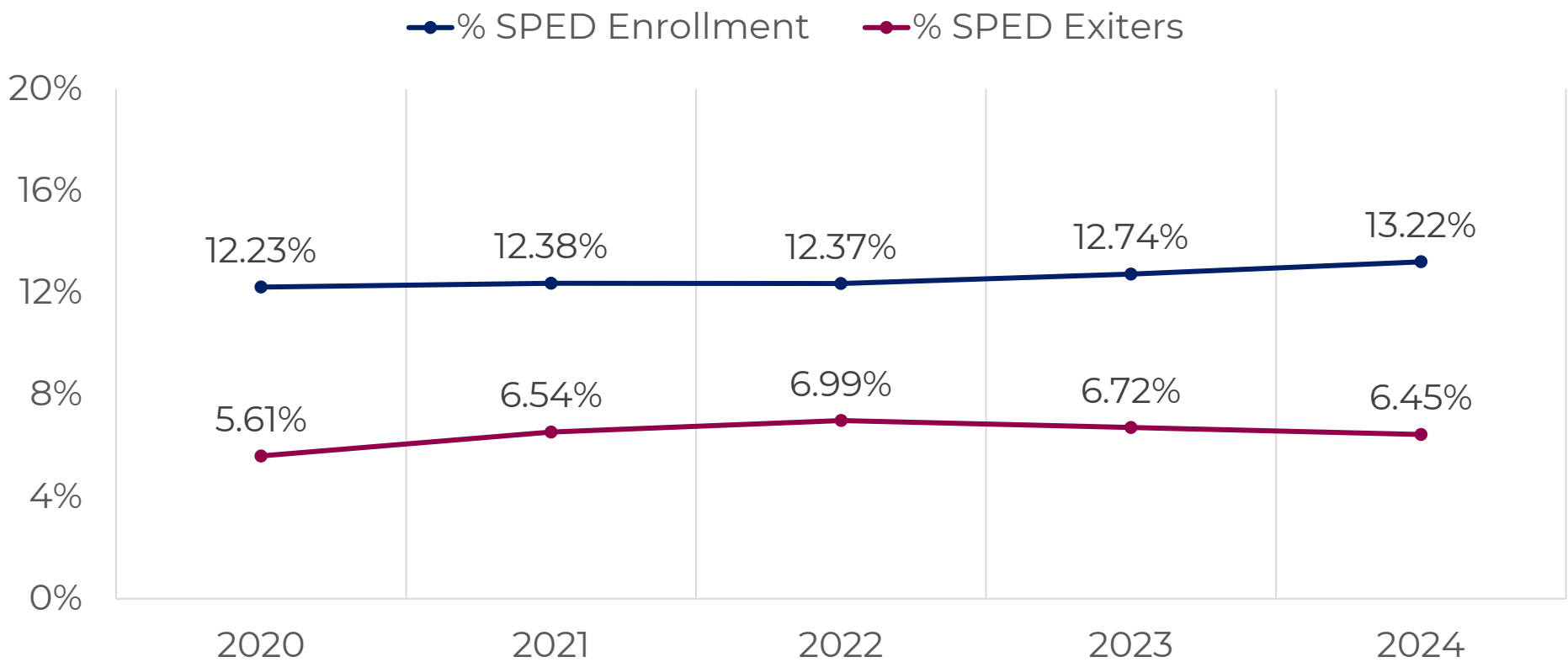
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)

The charts in this presentation use the federal fiscal year (FFY). Federal reporting uses FFY when submitting and reporting on information. This classification is forward-facing compared to the standard fiscal year.

For example, school year 2023–2024 data will be labeled as FFY 2024.



5-Year Trend, Enrollment vs Exiters

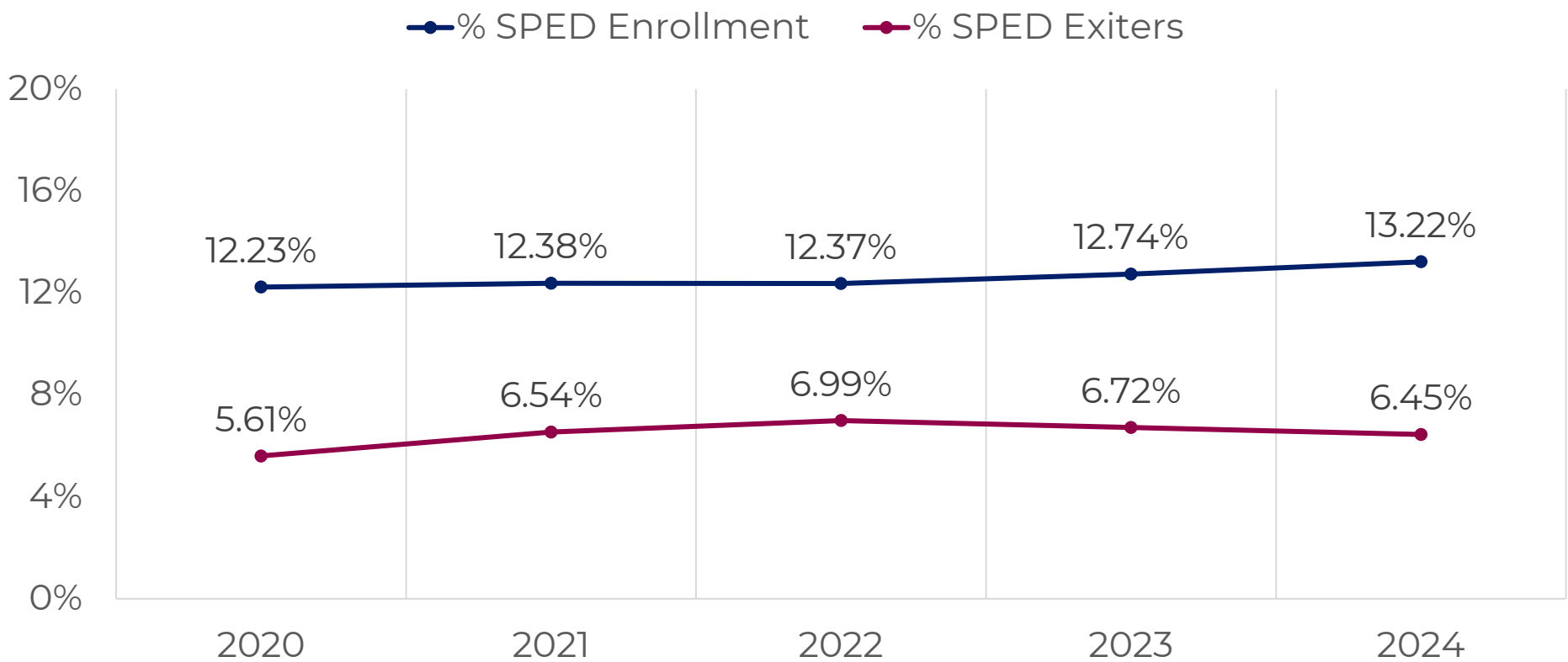


Over the past 5 years, the percentage of K-12 students enrolled in special education has increased while the percentage of SPED Exiters* has slowly declined since 2022.

FFY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
SPED Exiters*	7,713	8,909	9,632	9,482	9,319
SPED	137,600	136,277	137,748	141,012	144,502
% SPED Exiters*	5.61%	6.54%	6.99%	6.72%	6.45%

*SPED Exiters are students with disabilities ages 14–21 who exited high school by graduating, dropping out or reaching maximum age. There are three other exit categories that are not included in this calculation; transferred to regular education, died and moved known to be continuing.

5-Year Trend, Enrollment vs Exiters (cont.)



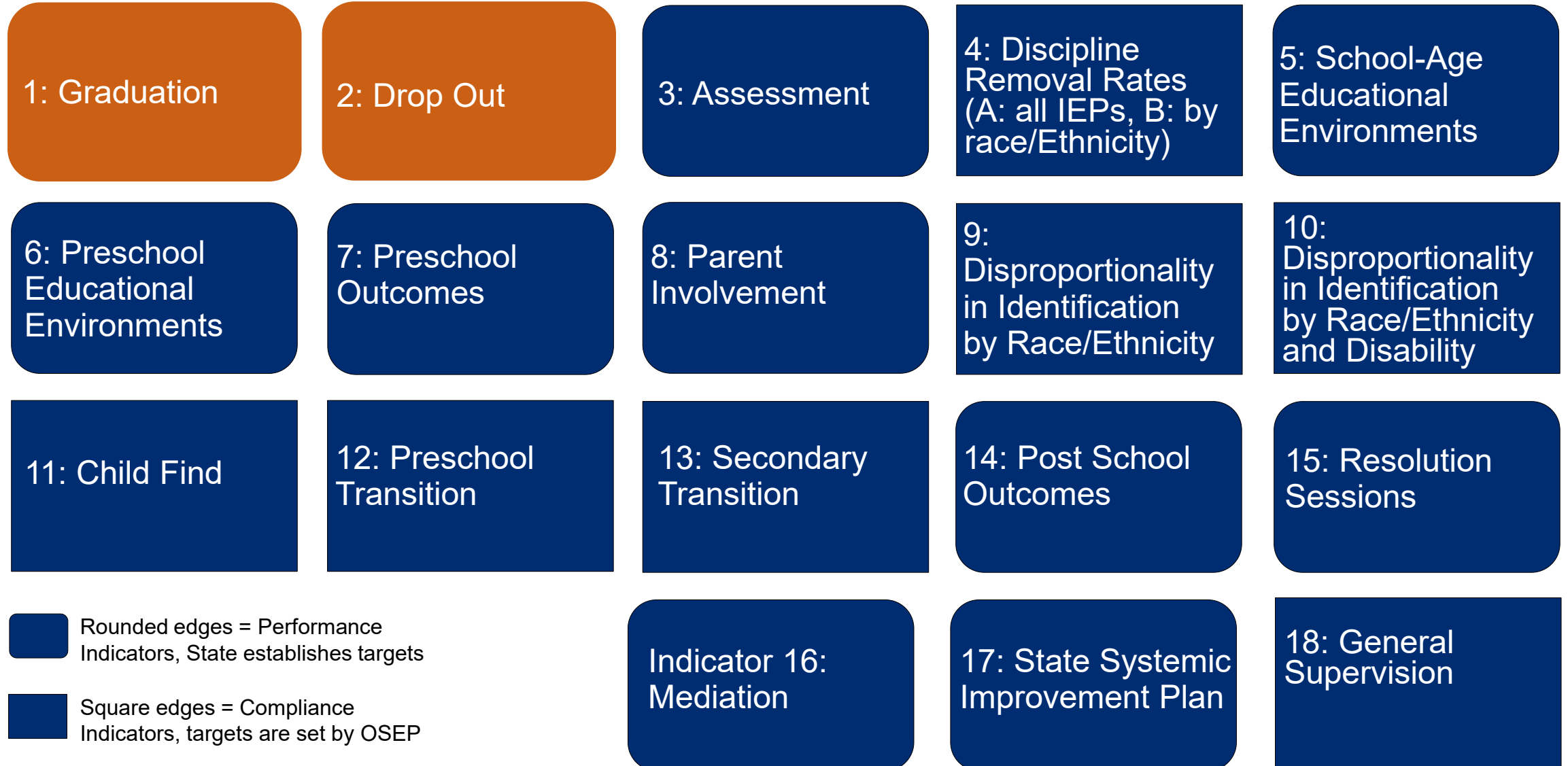
One of the reasons why SPED Exiters* may be declining is that over the past three years, transferred to regular education has been increasing.

FFY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Transferred to Regular Education	1,000	894	1,115	1,331	1,605

*SPED Exiters are students with disabilities ages 14–21 who exited high school by graduating, dropping out or reaching maximum age. There are three other exit categories that are not included in this calculation; transferred to regular education, died and moved known to be continuing.

State Performance Plan Indicators

Summarized Descriptions of
IDEA Part B Indicators



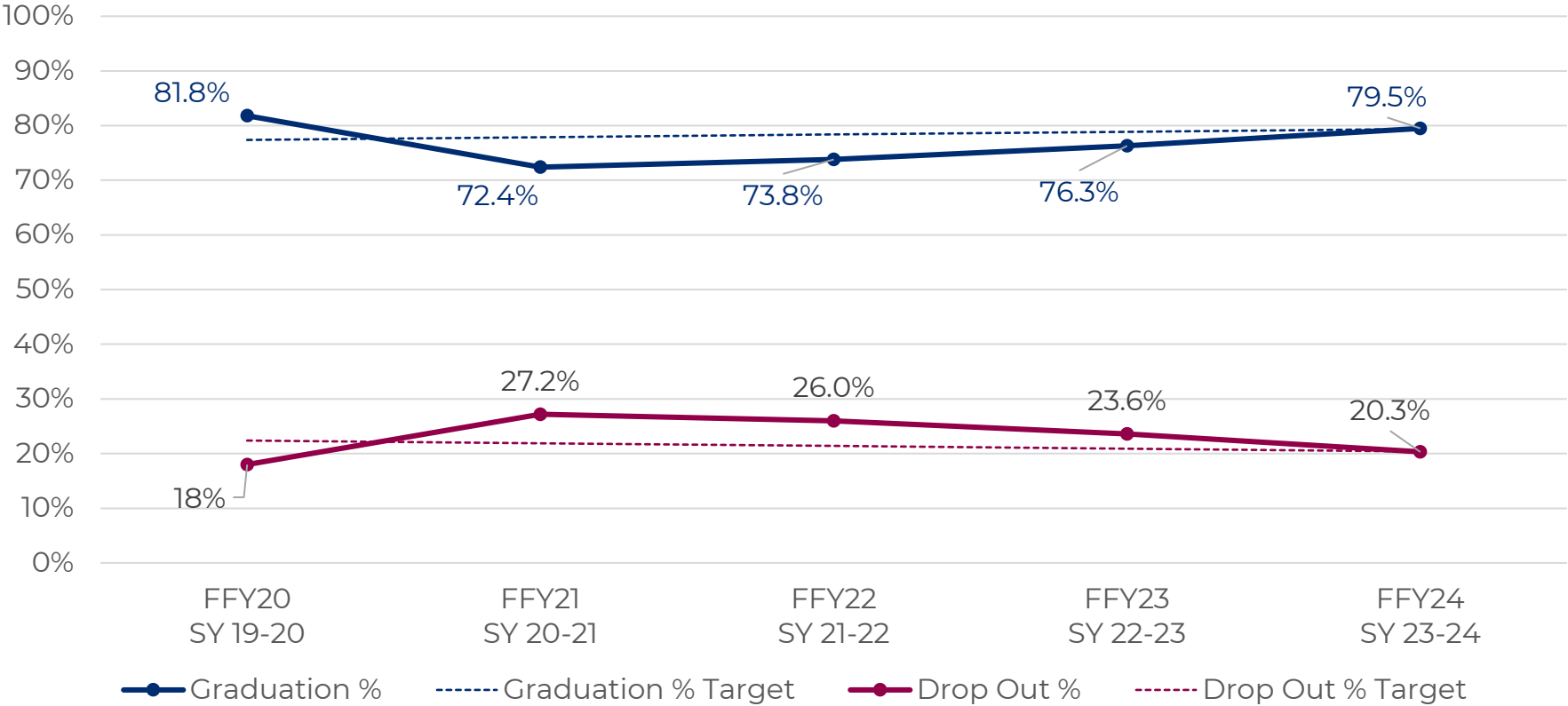
Indicators 1 & 2 Introduction

- Indicator 1: Percent of youths with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) exiting special education due to graduating with a regular high school diploma (20 U.S.C. 1416 (a)(3)(A)).
- Indicator 2: Percent of youths with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) exiting special education due to dropping out (20 U.S.C. 1416 (a)(3)(A)).
- Data Source: Same data as used for reporting to the Department of Education under section 618 of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The most recent indicator 1 and 2 data shown in this presentation will be from the 2023–2024 school year. These results will be used for the SPP/APR due February 1, 2026.

Indicators 1 & 2 Calculation

- Indicator 1: States must report a percentage using the number of youths with IEPs (ages 14–21) who exited special education **due to graduating with a regular high school diploma** in the numerator and the number of all youths with IEPs who exited special education (ages 14–21) in the denominator.
- Indicator 2: States must report a percentage using the number of youths with IEPs (ages 14–21) who exited special education **due to dropping out** in the numerator and the number of all youths with IEPs who exited special education (ages 14–21) in the denominator.

FFY20–24: Indicators 1 & 2



 **FFY24, Ind. 1**
Target = 79.3%
Actual = 79.5%
Surpassed target

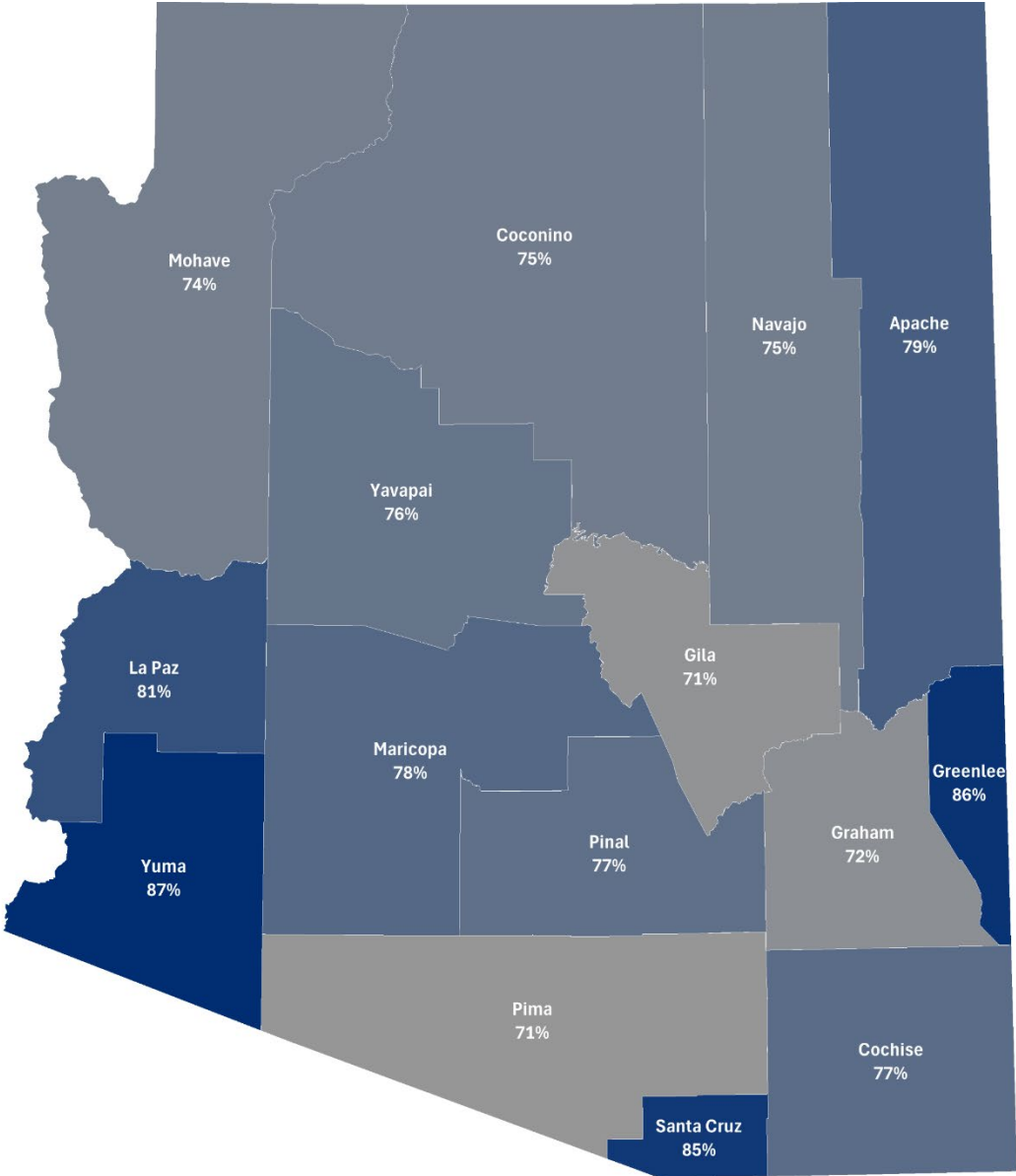
 **FFY24, Ind. 2**
Target = 20.3%
Actual = 20.3%
Met target

FFY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Indicator 1: Graduation	81.8%	72.4%	73.8%	76.3%	79.5%
Indicator 2: Drop Out	18%	27.2%	26.0%	23.6%	20.3%

FFY20–24: Graduation

County	Avg K–12 SPED Enrollment	Avg Grad %	Met State Target
Yuma	4,223	87%	★★★★★
Greenlee	217	86%	★★★★★
Santa Cruz	1,121	85%	★★★★★
La Paz	465	81%	★★★★
Apache	1,229	79%	★★★★
Maricopa	94,481	78%	★★★
Cochise	2,147	77%	★★★
Pinal	8,333	77%	★
Yavapai	3,440	76%	★
Coconino	2,550	75%	★
Navajo	2,348	75%	★
Mohave	3,633	74%	★
Graham	1,256	72%	—
Gila	1,062	71%	★
Pima	22,030	71%	—

State
Avg
77%



■ Represents one of the three largest counties who serve SPED students

★ Represents each year a county meets/exceeds state target

Data source: October 1 Child Count & SPED Exit

FFY20–24: Drop Out

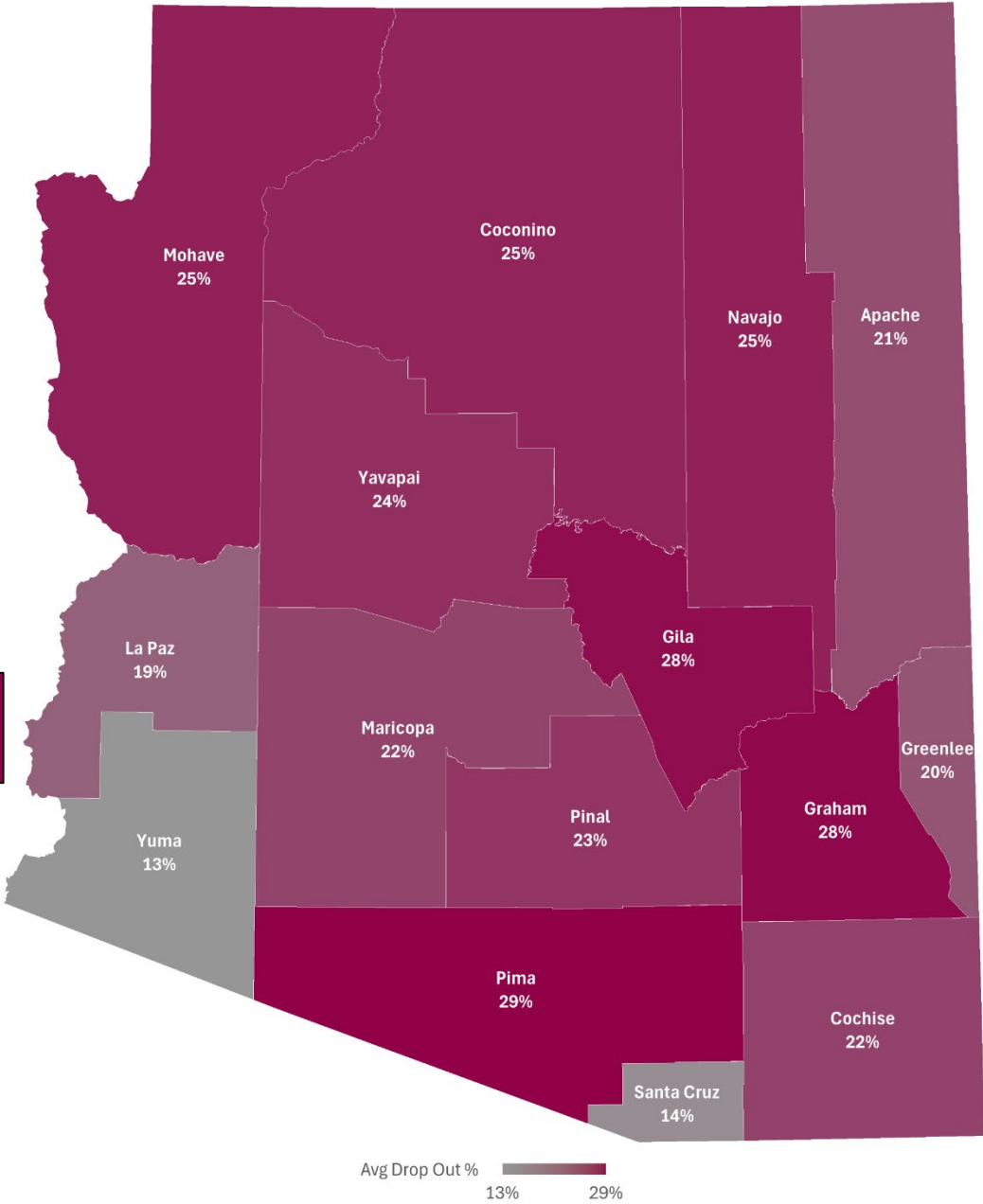
County	Avg K–12 SPED Enrollment	Avg Drop Out %	Met State Target
Yuma	4,223	13%	★★★★★★
Santa Cruz	1,121	14%	★★★★
La Paz	465	19%	★★★★
Greenlee	217	20%	★★
Apache	1,229	21%	★★★★
Maricopa	94,481	22%	★★
Cochise	2,147	22%	★★★★
Pinal	8,333	23%	★
Yavapai	3,440	24%	★
Coconino	2,550	25%	★
Navajo	2,348	25%	★
Mohave	3,633	25%	★
Gila	1,062	28%	★
Graham	1,256	28%	—
Pima	22,030	29%	—

■ Represents one of the three largest counties who serve SPED students

★ Represents each year a county meets/exceeds state target

Data source: October 1 Child Count & SPED Exit

State
Avg
23%





Q&As





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