



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 28, 2025
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Building Administrators, Special Education Directors, Child Study Team Members, Teachers
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

Release of the 2025 Local Special Education Profiles and Determinations

Special Education Data Reporting

In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as specified in Section 616(b)(2)(C)(ii)(1), each state is required to report annually to the public on the evaluation of each local education agency (LEA) aligned to the State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR). These reports encompass local data alongside state targets for SPP indicators for 2023-2024, also known as Federal Fiscal Year 2023 (FFY2023). In addition to the local data, the IDEA Part B regulations, Section 300.600(a)(2), require states to make annual determinations regarding the performance of each LEA, using the following categories: meets requirements, needs assistance, needs intervention, and needs substantial intervention (IDEA Section 300.603(b)(1)).

Several enhancements were made to the reports this year, including:

- Transforming the static, multi-page excel document into a dynamic data dashboard;
- Organizing indicators by topic, to highlight their applicability and meaning for special education services and programs under the IDEA;
- Providing updated indicator one-pagers and e-learning videos to support data literacy;
- Ensuring consistency in terminology between the Local Profiles and the School Performance Reports; and
- Releasing county and state-level reports for transparency and comparable opportunities.

These reports serve as a tool for evaluating performance compared to state targets and evaluating strengths or gaps in outcomes, including patterns and shifts in data over time. Key metrics, such as placement in the least restrictive environment, disproportionality, and post-secondary outcomes, may be used to highlight strengths in services while also identifying areas to be considered when developing improvement plans.

Accessing the Local Data

Local reports can be found on the following dashboards:

- [2025 Local Special Education Profiles](#)
- [2025 Local Special Education Determinations](#)

To access prior year reports, please visit the [Office of Special Education Data and Resources website](#).

Training and Support

LEAs may access various supports and resources, including the opportunity to participate in the [2025-2025 Data360 Action Learning Group](#), and attend office hours, which are [available upon request](#) on Wednesdays between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.

District leaders may also request professional development and [technical assistance](#), access support through office hours provided by OSE specialists, and utilize resource documents for strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and continuous improvement.

Contact Information

For additional questions, please contact the Office of Special Education at OSEdata@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
SPAN Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group