Improving Child Well-Being in New Mexico

**Education**

**INDICATOR: High School Students Not Graduating on Time**

2016 indicator ranking

47th

Percent of high school students not graduating on time

28%

Number of high school students not graduating on time

7,950

Trends in high school students not graduating on time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>NM</th>
<th>US</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010-11</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012-13</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHAT IT WOULD TAKE TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES**

To move up 1+ rankings to 46th

It would take a 4% drop in students in this situation

Which means 280 fewer students in this situation

To move up 5+ rankings to 42nd

It would take a 14% drop in students in this situation

Which means 1,100 fewer students in this situation

To move up to the top ranking

It would take a 74% drop in students in this situation

Which means 5,900 fewer students in this situation

**WHAT NEW MEXICO CAN DO**

- Identify students who require additional learning time and provide free summer school, after-school, and online learning opportunities.
- Provide relevant learning opportunities through service learning, technical education, internships, and dual credit programs to better prepare students for career or college.
- Support dropout prevention and recovery programs, evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs, and community schools, and provide more school counselors.
- Provide support for vulnerable students who are at risk for dropping out.
- Reduce zero-tolerance policies and penalties in order to keep more students in school.
- Implement systems to identify and address chronic absenteeism.

*Members of a freshman class not graduating in four years; this measure not the same as the percentage of students who drop out.

**Ranking improvement estimates are based on point-in-time data reported in 2016; changes in other states’ outcomes can also influence New Mexico’s future rankings.

Sources: Rankings from: KIDS COUNT Data Book, Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2016 (because states can tie in indicator rankings it may take more than 1 or 5 rankings in order to move up); Data from: U.S. Dept. of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Common Core of Data (CCD), 2007-2013; NM PED Enrollment by Grade, 2010