

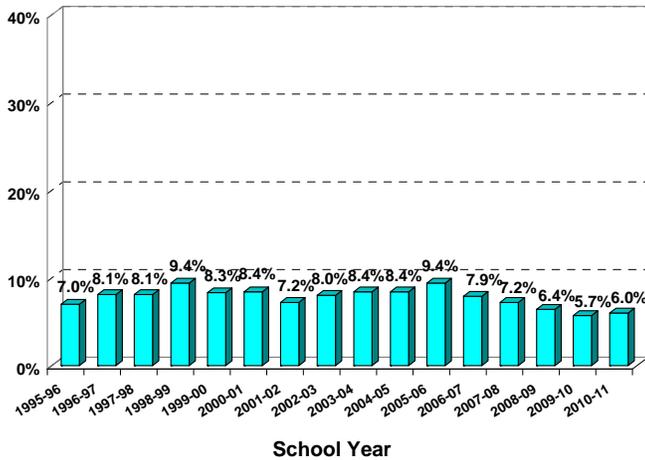
Q and A

Boston Public Schools 2010-2011: Student Dropout Rates

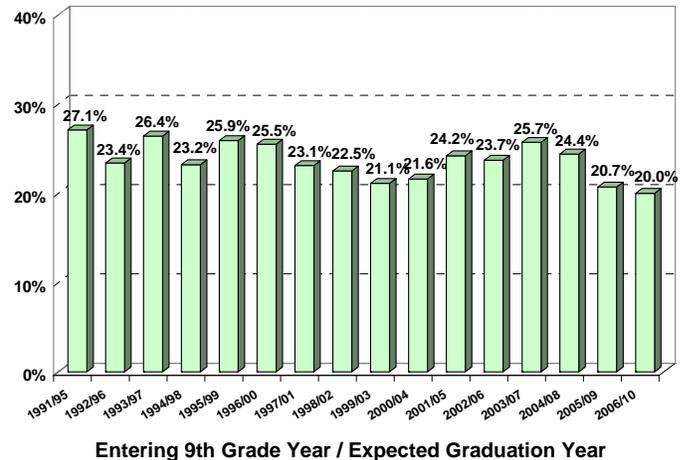
This document presents answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about student dropout in the Boston Public Schools. As defined by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MA DESE) and the National Center for Education Statistics, a student is considered to be a dropout at the end of the school year if he or she is not in school, has not graduated, and has not transferred to another school system*. Please see the attached “Understanding Annual High School Dropout Calculations” for details on the methodology.

How Have Systemwide Dropout Rates Varied Over Time?

Annual Dropout Rates* Systemwide: Grades 9-12



Ninth Grade Cohort Dropout Rates Systemwide



- The annual rate analysis answers the question, “How many students in grades 9-12 drop out in one year?”
- The grades 9–12 annual dropout rate in 2010-2011 (6.0%) represents an 0.3 percentage point increase from the previous year.

- The cohort rate analysis answers the question, “Of the students who entered BPS as 9th graders, what proportion dropped out over the next **five** years?”
- The 9th grade cohort dropout rate decreased to its lowest point ever at 20.0% for the 2006/2010 cohort.
- Although the 9th grade cohort dropout rate has fluctuated from year to year, data for the past three years suggest a downward trend.

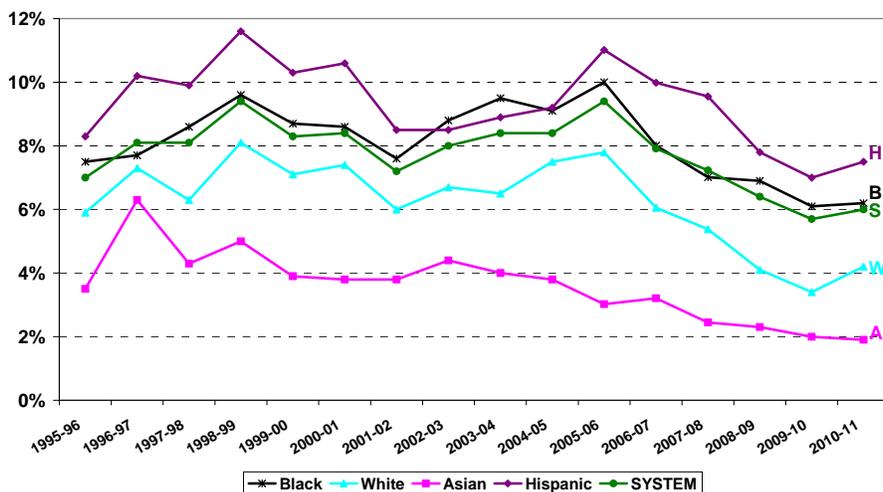
Note: Final annual dropout rates are reported in this document. These final dropout rates differ from the June rates shown in the School Report Cards because they account for changes in student status between June and the following October. This is done to conform with MA DESE guidelines. It should be noted that from SY2003-04 onward, the student status reported in the next school year October 1 Student Information Management System (SIMS) is used for the adjustment rather than identified by school personnel via a survey as done in previous years. Also, beginning with SY2006-07, BPS Student Discharge Codes have been changed to align with the enrollment status codes used by the MA DESE.

* Beginning in SY2006-07, students who died or were expelled are excluded from the population instead of being counted as other loss. Caution should be used when comparing data from 2006-07 and later with data from earlier years. Also, prior to SY2010-11, dropouts who subsequently enrolled in another school district or Charter school as reported in October SIMS were counted as dropouts. For SY2010-11, with the assistance of DESE, BPS dropouts who are found enrolled in another district or Charter school based on the statewide October 1, 2011 SIMS are counted as returned dropouts.

Q and A Boston Public Schools 2010-2011: Student Dropout Rates

How Have System Wide Dropout Rates Varied Over Time by Racial/Ethnic Group?

Annual Dropout Rate by Racial/Ethnic Group:
1995-96 through 2010-11



	Black	White	Asian	Hispanic	SYSTEM
1995-96	7.5%	5.9%	3.5%	8.3%	7.0%
1996-97	7.7%	7.3%	6.3%	10.2%	8.1%
1997-98	8.6%	6.3%	4.3%	9.9%	8.1%
1998-99	9.6%	8.1%	5.0%	11.6%	9.4%
1999-00	8.7%	7.1%	3.9%	10.3%	8.3%
2000-01	8.6%	7.4%	3.8%	10.6%	8.4%
2001-02	7.6%	6.0%	3.8%	8.5%	7.2%
2002-03	8.8%	6.7%	4.4%	8.5%	8.0%
2003-04	9.5%	6.5%	4.0%	8.9%	8.4%
2004-05	9.1%	7.5%	3.8%	9.2%	8.4%
2005-06	10.0%	7.8%	3.0%	11.0%	9.4%
2006-07	8.0%	6.1%	3.2%	10.0%	7.9%
2007-08	7.0%	5.4%	2.4%	9.6%	7.2%
2008-09	6.9%	4.1%	2.3%	7.8%	6.4%
2009-10	6.1%	3.4%	2.0%	7.0%	5.7%
2010-11	6.2%	4.2%	1.9%	7.5%	6.0%

- Since 1995-96, there have been year to year fluctuations in annual dropout rates in all racial/ethnic groups.
- Between 2009-10 and 2010-11, dropout rates for every group except Asian students increased by 0.1 to 0.8 percentage points, with the largest increase experienced by White students (0.8 points), followed by Hispanic students (0.5 points), and Black students (0.1 points), while Asian students saw a 0.1 point decrease.

How Do Dropout Rates Vary by Racial/Ethnic Group and Gender?

Annual Dropout Rates by Racial/Ethnic Group and Gender: Grades 9-12, 2010-2011

	Overall		Male		Female	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Black	6.2%	478	7.0%	281	5.2%	197
White	4.2%	101	5.4%	64	3.0%	37
Asian	1.9%	34	2.5%	23	1.2%	11
Hispanic	7.5%	531	8.7%	318	6.2%	213
TOTALS**	6.0%	1,165	7.1%	698	4.9%	467

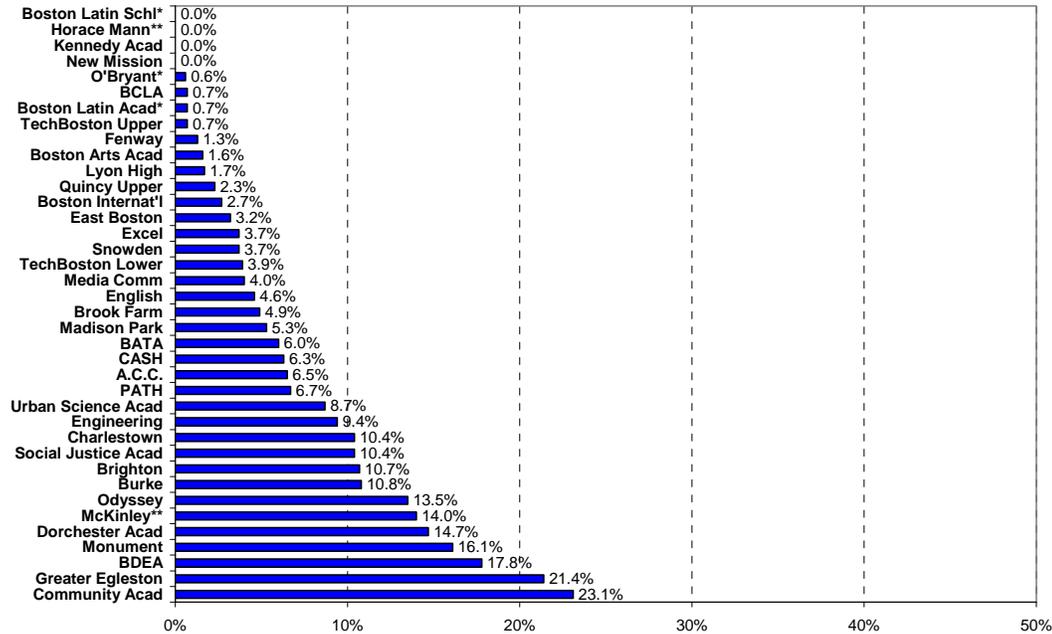
** Totals include 4 Native American and 17 Multiracial dropouts who are not shown separately by gender.

- Overall, more males than females dropped out.
- The dropout rate is lowest among Asian female students and highest among male Hispanics.
- Gender differences are most pronounced among Hispanic students.

Q and A Boston Public Schools 2010-2011: Student Dropout Rates

How do Dropout Rates Differ Across Schools?

Annual Dropout Rate by School: Grades 9-12, 2010-11



* Examination School ** Special Needs School. Note: Students who dropped out are attributed to the last school to which they were assigned.

- Dropout rates vary substantially across schools.
- Dropout rates range from a low of 0% to a high of 23.1%.
- School enrollments in grades 9-12 ranged from 42 to nearly 1,600.

How do Dropout Rates Vary Across Neighborhoods?

- Dropout rates vary substantially according to where students live.
- The percentage of dropouts varies from a low of 2.5% in West Roxbury to a high of 8.0% in Uphams Corner.
- There is also considerable variation in the number of students from each neighborhood who attend Boston Public Schools.

Annual Dropout Rate by Neighborhood (Zip Code):
Grades 9-12, 2010-2011

	Percent	Number	Students in Neighborhood
Allston	4.0%	11	275
Back Bay/Kenmore*	4.7%	18	387
Boston Central**	4.9%	12	245
Brighton	4.4%	25	569
Charlestown	6.0%	21	349
Codman Square	6.3%	165	2620
East Boston	3.8%	60	1570
Fields Corner	7.7%	97	1259
Grove Hall	7.7%	126	1626
Hyde Park	5.2%	69	1328
Jamaica Plain	5.3%	45	850
Mattapan	6.3%	88	1405
Roslindale	4.2%	47	1129
Roxbury	7.4%	101	1371
Roxbury Crossing	6.6%	34	515
South Boston	7.7%	58	756
South End	5.0%	31	615
Uphams Corner	8.0%	139	1740
West Roxbury	2.5%	16	636

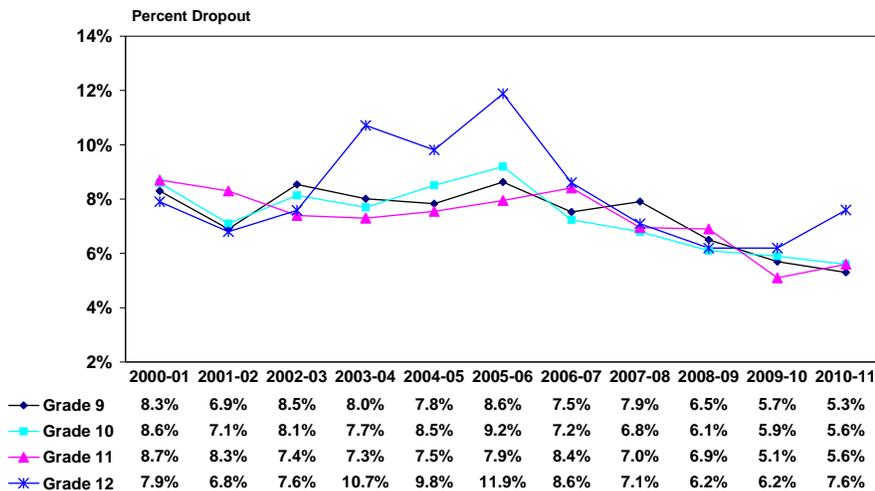
* 02115, 02116, 02215, 02199

** 02108 through 02111, 02113, 02114, 02210 (Downtown, West End, North End, Chinatown)

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How do Dropout Rates Vary Across Grade Levels?

Annual Dropout Rates by Grade Level: 2000-01 to 2010-11



- Dropout rates across grade levels have fluctuated over the years, but a steady downward trend is seen since SY2007-08 for grades 9 and 10.
- The 2010-11 dropout rates for grades 9 and 10 were the lowest over this 11-year period.
- Compared to 2009-10, the dropout rates for grades 9 and 10 decreased by 0.4 and 0.3 points respectively, while the rates for grades 11 and 12 increased by 0.5 and 1.4 points respectively.

How do Dropout Rates Differ Between Competency Determination (CD) Earners and Students Without a CD?

- Students who have not yet earned a CD are more likely to drop out than students who have fully or partially met the CD requirements.
- Among those who dropped out, about a third of 11th graders had already attained or partially attained a CD, and about 45% of 12 graders had done so.
- These trends are a reversal from two years ago when a majority of 12th graders (57%) who dropped out had already earned a CD. At the time, students only had to pass ELA and Math to meet CD.

2010-11 Dropout Rates and % of Dropouts by CD Attainment Status

Grade	CD Status	Total Enrollment	# of Dropouts	Dropout Rate	% of All Dropouts
11 (Class of 2012)	Met CD*	1,931	32	1.7%	13.1%
	Partially Met CD**	1,369	51	3.7%	20.8%
	Did Not Meet CD	1,097	162	14.8%	66.1%
12 (Class of 2011)	Met CD*	2,221	65	2.9%	16.8%
	Partially Met CD**	1,945	111	5.7%	28.6%
	Did Not Meet CD	963	212	22.0%	54.6%

* Earned a scaled score of at least 240 (*Proficient or Advanced*) on both the grade 10 MCAS ELA and Mathematics tests, also earned a minimum of 220 (*Needs Improvement*) on one of the high school Science and Technology/Engineering (STE) tests through the spring 2011 administration.

** Earned a scaled score between 220 and 238 (*Needs Improvement*) on the grade 10 MCAS ELA and/or Mathematics test, and earned at least 220 on one of the high school STE tests through the spring 2011 administration. These students needed to complete an Educational Proficiency Plan (EPP) in ELA and/or Math.

How do Dropout Rates Vary Among Special Populations?

2010-11 Dropout Rates and % of Dropouts for Special Populations

	Total Enrollment	# of Dropouts	Dropout Rate	% of All Dropouts
Special Education	3,583	277	7.7%	23.8%
Non-Special Education	15,706	888	5.7%	76.2%
LEP	3,452	175	5.1%	15.0%
Non LEP	15,837	990	6.3%	85.0%
Low-Income	13,186	669	5.1%	57.4%
Non Low-Income	6,103	496	8.1%	42.6%

Annual Dropout Rates for Special Populations: 2006-07 to 2010-11

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Special Education	9.8%	8.9%	9.2%	5.1%	7.7%
Non-Special Education	7.5%	6.9%	5.8%	5.9%	5.7%
LEP	10.4%	7.4%	6.2%	5.1%	5.1%
Non LEP	7.5%	7.2%	6.5%	5.9%	6.3%
Low-Income	5.1%	5.4%	4.9%	4.6%	5.1%
Non Low-Income	12.0%	10.3%	9.2%	8.2%	8.1%

- The SY2010-11 dropout rate for students with disabilities (SPED) is higher than for students without disabilities, while the rate for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students is somewhat lower than for Non LEP students.
- Low-Income status appears not to be associated with a student's decision to drop out. High school students living in non low-income families are more likely to drop out of school than their peers from low-income families.
- Compared to SY2009-10, dropout rates in SY2010-11 for SPED and Low-Income students increased slightly.
- While the low-income student group saw no change in its dropout rate since SY2006-07, all other groups showed a notable decrease over the 5-year period.

**Boston Public Schools
Annual Dropout Rate by School: Grades 9-12**

	2009-10		2010-11***	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
A.C.C.	4.9%	[11/223]	6.5%	[15/231]
BATA	22.1%	[90/408]	6.0%	[19/315]
BCLA	1.2%	[5/419]	0.7%	[3/437]
BDEA	11.8%	[58/491]	17.8%	[100/561]
Boston Arts Acad	4.1%	[17/416]	1.6%	[6/379]
Boston Internat'l	8.5%	[19/224]	2.7%	[6/224]
Boston Latin Acad*	0.2%	[2/1162]	0.7%	[8/1123]
Boston Latin Schl*	0.2%	[3/1606]	0.0%	[0/1591]
Brighton	9.3%	[123/1319]	10.7%	[147/1369]
Brook Farm	6.7%	[24/358]	4.9%	[17/346]
Burke	13.9%	[118/851]	10.8%	[75/696]
CASH	7.8%	[34/434]	6.3%	[26/415]
Charlestown	8.5%	[85/995]	10.4%	[111/1063]
Community Acad	16.7%	[18/108]	23.1%	[27/117]
Dorchester Acad	12.0%	[58/484]	14.7%	[75/510]
East Boston	2.4%	[33/1397]	3.2%	[44/1364]
Engineering	7.3%	[26/356]	9.4%	[32/341]
English	2.9%	[22/753]	4.6%	[34/741]
Excel	7.8%	[32/409]	3.7%	[16/428]
Fenway	1.7%	[5/293]	1.3%	[4/301]
Greater Egleston	14.0%	[26/186]	21.4%	[45/210]
Horace Mann**	0.0%	[0/33]	0.0%	[0/42]
Kennedy Acad	0.5%	[1/215]	0.0%	[0/211]
Lyon High	0.0%	[0/25]	1.7%	[1/60]
Madison Park	7.0%	[97/1383]	5.3%	[68/1295]
McKinley**	8.3%	[26/314]	14.0%	[43/307]
Media Comm	2.2%	[8/362]	4.0%	[15/377]
Monument	8.3%	[29/351]	16.1%	[63/392]
New Mission	2.3%	[6/260]	0.0%	[0/249]
O'Bryant*	0.7%	[7/993]	0.6%	[6/1006]
Odyssey	8.3%	[31/373]	13.5%	[47/348]
PATH	7.0%	[24/341]	6.7%	[22/328]
Quincy Upper	1.4%	[3/213]	2.3%	[5/218]
Snowden	4.5%	[18/402]	3.7%	[15/403]
Social Justice Acad	11.6%	[40/346]	10.4%	[30/288]
TechBoston Lower	0.9%	[1/114]	3.9%	[5/128]
TechBoston Upper	0.7%	[2/275]	0.7%	[2/302]
Urban Science Acad	2.2%	[7/323]	8.7%	[31/357]

Dropout rates, number of dropouts, and total populations are shown for each school.

Students who dropped out are attributed to the last school to which they were assigned.

* Examination School

** Special Needs School

*** Prior to SY2010-11, dropouts who subsequently enrolled in another school district or Charter school as reported in October SIMS were counted as dropouts. For SY2010-11, with the assistance of DESE, BPS dropouts who are found enrolled in another district or Charter school based on the statewide October 1, 2011 SIMS are counted as returned dropouts.

Boston Public Schools

Annual Dropout by Racial/Ethnic Group and Systemwide: 1985-1986 through 2010-2011: Grades 9-12*

	Black		White		Asian		Hispanic		Native American		Multiracial		Systemwide	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
2010-2011##	6.2%	[478/7757]	4.2%	[101/2408]	1.9%	[34/1827]	7.5%	[531/7087]	7.3%	[4/55]	11.0%	[17/155]	6.0%	[1165/19289]
2009-2010#	6.1%	[490/8026]	3.4%	[84/2505]	2.0%	[36/1828]	7.0%	[484/6884]	5.2%	[3/58]	11.2%	[19/169]	5.7%	[1116/19470]
2008-2009#	6.9%	[574/8315]	4.1%	[109/2654]	2.3%	[41/1808]	7.8%	[520/6628]	9.9%	[7/71]	8.2%	[13/159]	6.4%	[1264/19635]
2007-2008#	7.0%	[608/8668]	5.4%	[150/2790]	2.4%	[44/1799]	9.6%	[626/6552]	10.3%	[7/68]	8.8%	[12/137]	7.2%	[1447/20014]
2006-2007#	8.0%	[727/9075]	6.1%	[171/2825]	3.2%	[59/1838]	10.0%	[642/6427]	4.1%	[3/73]	8.1%	[8/99]	7.9%	[1610/20337]
2005-2006****	10.0%	[965/9648]	7.8%	[234/3003]	3.0%	[55/1821]	11.0%	[670/6081]	10.1%	[7/69]	9.3%	[5/54]	9.4%	[1936/20676]
2004-2005****	9.1%	[887/9789]	7.5%	[226/3029]	3.8%	[69/1806]	9.2%	[510/5551]	8.1%	[6/74]	--	[1/5]	8.4%	[1699/20254]
2003-2004***	9.5%	[932/9845]	6.5%	[197/3036]	4.0%	[75/1864]	8.9%	[463/5201]	9.7%	[7/72]	-	-	8.4%	[1674/20018]
2002-2003***	8.8%	[872/9932]	6.7%	[203/3033]	4.4%	[82/1855]	8.5%	[404/4774]	11.4%	[8/70]	-	-	8.0%	[1569/19664]
2001-2002***	7.6%	[756/9923]	6.0%	[185/3065]	3.8%	[73/1924]	8.5%	[395/4629]	9.1%	[7/77]	-	-	7.2%	[1416/19618]
2000-2001***	8.6%	[824/9625]	7.4%	[225/3059]	3.8%	[71/1883]	10.6%	[469/4416]	7.2%	[5/64]	-	-	8.4%	[1594/19052]
1999-2000***	8.7%	[839/9624]	7.1%	[221/3103]	3.9%	[72/1862]	10.3%	[451/4394]	8.2%	[5/61]	-	-	8.3%	[1588/19044]
1998-1999***	9.6%	[899/9337]	8.1%	[254/3153]	5.0%	[92/1840]	11.6%	[498/4288]	10.9%	[6/55]	-	-	9.4%	[1749/18673]
1997-1998***	8.6%	[781/9088]	6.3%	[194/3094]	4.3%	[76/1769]	9.9%	[416/4188]	13.5%	[7/52]	-	-	8.1%	[1474/18191]
1996-1997***	7.7%	[683/8890]	7.3%	[227/3096]	6.3%	[113/1794]	10.2%	[421/4140]	8.2%	[4/49]	-	-	8.1%	[1448/17969]
1995-1996***	7.5%	[649/8626]	5.9%	[182/3102]	3.5%	[62/1796]	8.3%	[325/3925]	13.0%	[7/54]	-	-	7.0%	[1225/17505]
1994-1995**	9.7%	[822/8501]	7.2%	[220/3055]	5.4%	[99/1837]	10.4%	[393/3773]	7.0%	[3/43]	-	-	8.9%	[1537/17209]
1993-1994**	8.1%	[682/8412]	8.6%	[274/3192]	4.3%	[81/1880]	10.3%	[382/3697]	22.4%	[11/49]	-	-	8.3%	[1430/17230]
1992-1993**	9.0%	[745/8319]	8.5%	[284/3328]	3.4%	[65/1888]	10.6%	[379/3567]	21.4%	[12/56]	-	-	8.7%	[1485/17158]
1991-1992**	9.5%	[787/8323]	8.5%	[281/3313]	7.4%	[140/1898]	13.1%	[451/3448]	11.8%	[6/51]	-	-	9.8%	[1655/17033]
1990-1991**	10.3%	[848/8199]	7.6%	[251/3292]	4.8%	[88/1816]	13.5%	[432/3211]	10.0%	[6/60]	-	-	9.8%	[1625/16578]
1989-1990**	10.3%	[833/8118]	9.2%	[319/3485]	5.6%	[98/1753]	13.8%	[409/2971]	15.3%	[9/59]	-	-	10.2%	[1668/16386]
1988-1989	11.2%	[929/8330]	10.7%	[406/3799]	4.7%	[76/1628]	14.7%	[412/2808]	10.0%	[7/70]	-	-	11.0%	[1830/16635]
1987-1988	13.5%	[1145/8502]	13.0%	[541/4156]	6.3%	[97/1545]	17.7%	[481/2713]	16.4%	[12/73]	-	-	13.4%	[2276/16989]
1986-1987	13.4%	[1167/8735]	14.3%	[659/4621]	8.0%	[123/1536]	18.0%	[482/2678]	17.6%	[13/74]	-	-	13.9%	[2444/17644]
1985-1986	14.4%	[1293/8963]	14.9%	[738/4944]	9.4%	[140/1496]	18.9%	[493/2605]	15.6%	[10/64]	-	-	14.8%	[2674/18072]

* Transfers from BPS are excluded from these analyses. Dropout rates, number of dropouts, and total populations are shown for each group.

** New methods of counting and reporting dropouts were introduced in 1991-1992 to conform to new guidelines from the Massachusetts Department of Education (MA DOE) and the National Center for Educational Statistics. In order to present consistent historical data, the dropout data were recalculated back to 1989-1990 according to the new methods. The impact of the changes was relatively small (less than one percentage point), but the changes do mean that the data for years before 1989-1990 are not directly comparable with the data from more recent years. Note: Effective in 1993-1994, the discharge code '28' ("Special Services", such as commitment to DYS with participation in an approved educational program) is no longer considered a dropout discharge code.

*** For annual rate data from 1995-1996 on, BPS accounts for "returned dropouts" who re-enroll by the following October 1 or process a request to transfer out of the system. 1995-1996 and later data are therefore not directly comparable with data from earlier years.

**** Beginning from 2004-05, students who turn age of 22 are counted as "Other Loss" rather than dropouts. Also, as a result of the revised federal government's reporting categories on student race codes, "Multiracial" category is added. "Multiracial" refers to any student with multiple non-Hispanic race/ethnic codes. Dropout rate is not reported if a student group has fewer than 10 students.

Beginning with SY2006-07, death and expulsion are excluded from the population. Also, BPS Student Discharge Codes have been changed to align with the enrollment status codes used by the MA DESE's SIMS. Hence, caution should be made when comparing data from 2006-07 and later with data from earlier years.

Prior to SY2010-11, dropouts who subsequently enrolled in another school district or Charter schools as reported in October SIMS were counted as dropouts. For SY2010-11, with the assistance of DESE, BPS dropouts who are found enrolled in another district or Charter school based on the statewide October 1, 2011 SIMS are counted as returned dropouts.

Boston Public Schools

Dropout by Racial/Ethnic Group for 9th Grade Cohorts: 1979/83 through 2006/10

	Black		White		Asian		Hispanic		Native American		Multiracial		Systemwide	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
2006/10***	21.4%	[384/1796]	11.7%	[66/566]	6.9%	[28/407]	25.2%	[344/1367]	**	[3/9]	**	[10/30]	20.0%	[835/4175]
2005/09***	20.3%	[381/1874]	15.1%	[96/635]	8.2%	[34/415]	27.3%	[370/1356]	**	[4/15]	**	[6/14]	20.7%	[891/4309]
2004/08***	24.1%	[472/1959]	19.9%	[137/687]	11.8%	[47/398]	31.2%	[404/1295]	**	[2/14]			24.4%	[1062/4353]
2003/07***	27.9%	[561/2011]	21.5%	[145/673]	9.9%	[42/426]	29.8%	[365/1226]	**	[6/16]			25.7%	[1119/4352]
2002/06***	24.9%	[519/2087]	17.6%	[117/665]	7.3%	[28/384]	31.0%	[330/1063]	**	[3/12]			23.7%	[997/4211]
2001/05***	26.1%	[540/2067]	21.0%	[140/666]	9.5%	[39/409]	28.2%	[291/1031]	**	[3/20]			24.2%	[1013/4193]
2000/04***	23.8%	[459/1932]	17.6%	[114/646]	7.6%	[29/380]	25.0%	[245/979]	**	[6/15]			21.6%	[853/3952]
1999/03*	20.7%	[422/2036]	19.9%	[141/707]	10.7%	[42/394]	26.9%	[256/953]	**	[5/17]			21.1%	[866/4107]
1998/02*	23.3%	[451/1939]	20.9%	[139/665]	8.0%	[32/402]	28.4%	[260/914]	**	[3/13]			22.5%	[885/3933]
1997/01*	24.1%	[456/1889]	18.3%	[121/662]	10.7%	[40/374]	29.4%	[266/906]	**	[4/12]			23.1%	[887/3843]
1996/00*	25.2%	[460/1822]	22.2%	[142/641]	12.3%	[43/350]	33.4%	[303/907]	**	[4/9]			25.5%	[952/3729]
1995/99*	27.3%	[498/1821]	21.6%	[148/686]	14.6%	[55/378]	31.3%	[268/855]	**	[4/13]			25.9%	[973/3753]
1994/98*	23.9%	[417/1744]	21.0%	[139/661]	9.2%	[31/338]	29.1%	[239/821]	**	[3/9]			23.2%	[829/3573]
1993/97*	27.3%	[458/1678]	24.1%	[142/588]	12.0%	[39/324]	32.7%	[242/471]	**	[2/9]			26.4%	[883/3340]
1992/96*	25.9%	[415/1602]	20.8%	[144/692]	11.5%	[39/338]	25.7%	[189/736]	**	[6/14]			23.4%	[793/3382]
1991/95*	26.2%	[447/1703]	25.4%	[178/702]	12.3%	[41/334]	37.3%	[269/721]	**	[4/11]			27.1%	[939/3471]
1990/94*	26.6%	[422/1585]	27.2%	[182/670]	13.7%	[39/285]	33.8%	[230/680]	**	[7/12]			27.2%	[880/3232]
1989/93*	25.6%	[408/1593]	25.2%	[174/691]	13.3%	[44/332]	38.8%	[264/680]	**	[6/11]			27.1%	[896/3307]
1988/92*	28.9%	[490/1698]	27.7%	[220/794]	9.9%	[34/343]	36.4%	[220/604]	**	[8/15]			28.1%	[972/3454]
1987/91*	31.0%	[515/1663]	29.0%	[238/822]	15.2%	[53/348]	40.5%	[244/602]	**	[9/19]			30.7%	[1059/3454]
1986/90*	33.5%	[608/1814]	31.3%	[287/916]	17.4%	[58/333]	39.9%	[252/631]	**	[8/15]			32.7%	[1213/3709]
1985/89*	31.6%	[577/1825]	33.3%	[337/1013]	17.8%	[53/297]	44.2%	[275/622]	**	[4/14]			33.0%	[1246/3771]
1984/88*	35.6%	[699/1964]	37.9%	[447/1180]	20.7%	[63/305]	48.5%	[311/641]	**	[9/18]			37.2%	[1529/4108]
1983/87*	37.0%	[719/1942]	40.8%	[468/1147]	22.7%	[68/299]	53.8%	[314/584]	**	[9/16]			39.6%	[1578/3988]
1982/86*	38.8%	[819/2111]	40.6%	[516/1271]	24.3%	[72/296]	49.1%	[272/554]	**	[7/19]			39.7%	[1686/4251]
1981/85*	36.5%	[794/2175]	40.0%	[606/1514]	29.3%	[79/270]	49.9%	[254/509]	**	[10/19]			38.8%	[1743/4487]
1980/84*	35.2%	[834/2370]	38.4%	[628/1636]	21.6%	[54/250]	48.3%	[243/503]	**	[4/16]			36.9%	[1763/4775]
1979/83*	33.0%	[720/2179]	33.5%	[574/1712]	12.9%	[26/202]	42.5%	[214/504]	**	[4/7]			33.3%	[1538/4614]

* The beginning (9th grade) year (for September) is shown along with the expected year of graduation for the cohort. Dropout rates, number of dropouts, and total populations are shown for each group.

** The numbers of Native Americans and Multiracial are too small to permit reliable comparison of percentages.

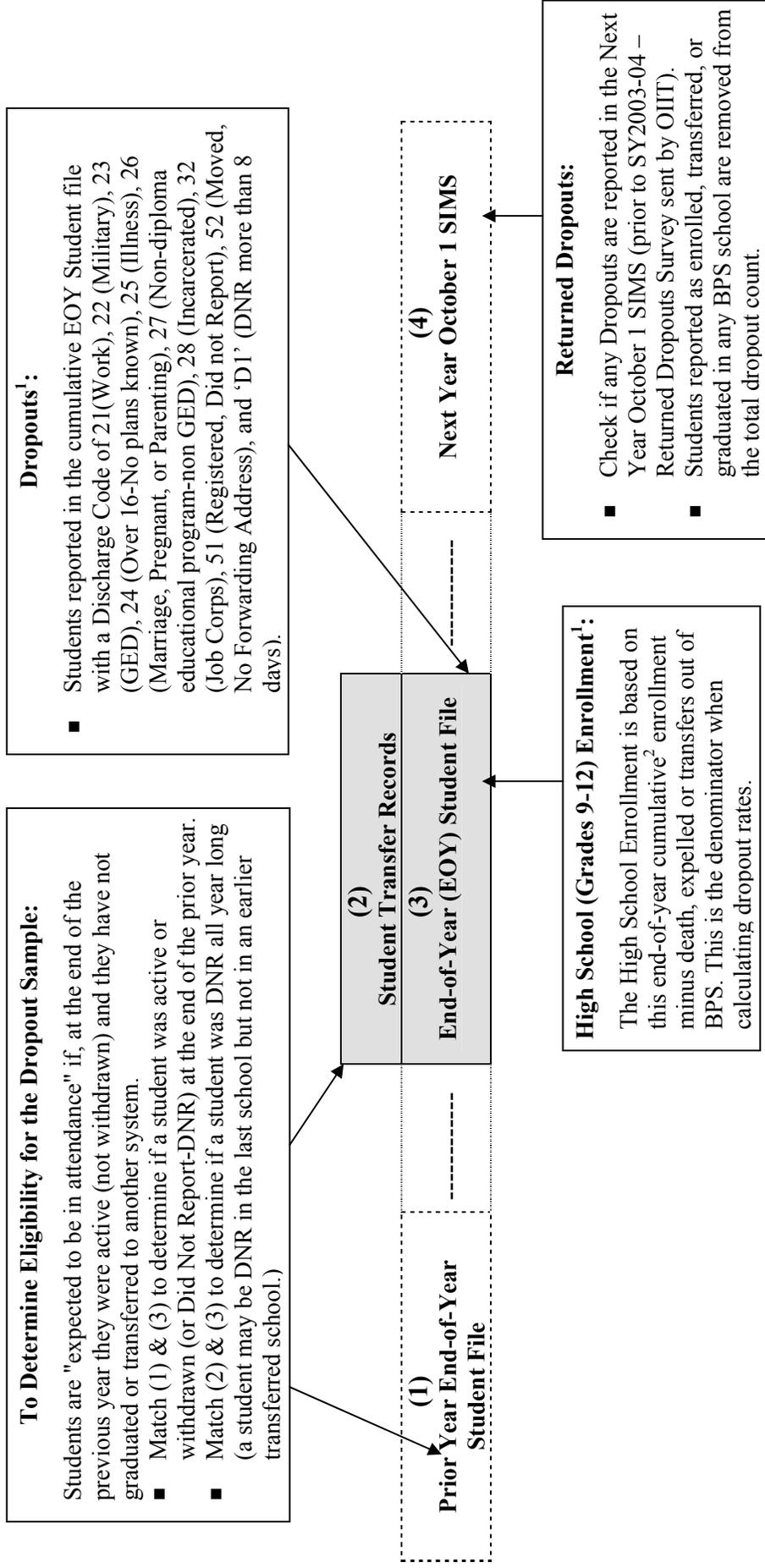
**** From 2004-05 and onward, students who turned 22 and with a discharge code of dropout are counted as "Other Loss" rather than dropouts. Also, as a result of the revised federal government's reporting categories on student race codes a new, "Multiracial" category, is added. "Multiracial" refers to any student with multiple non-Hispanic race/ethnic codes. Since the cohort dropout rate is reported by 9th grade race/ethnicity code, the "Multiracial" category was not used before SY2004-05.

Note: In 1991-1992 and again in 1995-1996 there were changes in the procedures for counting dropouts which were introduced to conform to guidelines from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the National Center for Educational Statistics. Because of the specifics of how cohorts are defined, these changes had a very small impact on cohort dropout rates. For practical purposes, the data across all years are essentially comparable.

Boston Public Schools Understanding Annual High School (Grades 9-12) Dropout Calculations

The dropout rate for any given year is impacted by four different student datasets (boxes 1 through 4 below). The picture below illustrates the process of calculating the dropout rate for any given school year (in the gray box).

$$\text{The final dropout rate} = [\text{All Dropouts} - \text{Returned Dropouts}] / [\text{Cumulative High School Enrollment} - (\text{Transfers out/Expelled/Death})]$$



¹ Students newly assigned to BPS who never attend are not counted as dropouts and are not included among enrolled students.

² All students who were assigned at any time during the school year.