This fact sheet uses the definitions and data for students with disabilities*, ages 3 through 21, including those who are English Learners (ELs)*, from Section 618, Part B, of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). IDEA Section 618, Part B, requires that each state submit data about children with disabilities, ages 3 through 21, who receive special education and related services.

*For the purpose of this fact sheet, the term “students” is used in place of “children” and “English Learners” ("ELs") is used in place of “limited English proficient (LEP)”.


In school year 2013–14:
- The national percentage of total students who were ELs was 8.8 percent.
- The national percentage of students with disabilities who were ELs was 9.2 percent.
- Eleven states reported percentages of students with disabilities who were also ELs higher than 9.2 percent, ranging from 9.4 percent to 30.3 percent.

Percentage of Students With Disabilities, Ages 6 to 21, Served Under IDEA Part B, by EL Status and Disability Type: SY 2013–14

**FACT**

In school year 2013–14, the overall proportion of students who were primarily identified as having a specific learning disability was lower for non-ELs (38.2 percent) than ELs (50.5 percent).


**FACT**

In school year 2013–14, more than half of the students with disabilities who were ELs received special education services in a regular classroom for 80 percent or more of the day.


FACT

In school year 2013–2014:

• The national average of students with disabilities who were ELs and graduated with a regular high school diploma was 48.2 percent.
• Thirty-six states had graduation rates higher than the national average for students with disabilities who were ELs. In nine states, graduation rates were 80 percent or higher for this population.


FACT

In school year 2013–14, students with disabilities who were ELs

• graduated with a regular high school diploma at a rate of 19.2 percentage points below students with disabilities who were non-ELs; and
• dropped out at a rate of 6.6 percentage points above students with disabilities who were non-ELs.

In school year 2013–14, students with disabilities who were non-ELs were given out-of-school suspension/expulsion totaling 10 days or less at a rate of 37.5 percent higher than ELs.

Footnotes

1 The maps include data from all 50 states, DC, and Puerto Rico; however, data totals elsewhere include the U.S. plus outlying areas and freely associated states. Numbers may also differ from data source due to rounding.

2 Other disability categories include deaf-blindness, developmental delay, hearing impairment, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, traumatic brain injury, and visual impairment combined.

3 Other environments include correctional facilities, homebound/hospital, parentally placed private schools, residential facilities, and separate schools.

4 Students with disabilities reported in the “graduated with a regular high school diploma” category represent students who exited an educational program through the receipt of a high school diploma identical to that for which students without disabilities are eligible. These students met the same standards for graduation as those for students without disabilities. As defined in 34 CFR 300.102(a)(3)(iv), “the term regular high school diploma does not include an alternative degree that is not fully aligned with the state’s academic standards, such as a certificate or GED.” The percentages of students who exited special education and school by graduating, as required under IDEA and included in this report, are not comparable to the graduation rates required for reporting in Consolidated State Performance Report (CSPR).

5 The percentages were calculated by dividing the number of students in that school year, ages 14 through 21, served under IDEA Part B, either EL or non-EL, and reported in one of the four exit categories named (i.e., dropped out, graduated with a regular high school diploma, reached maximum age, or received a certificate), by the total number of students, ages 14 through 21, served under IDEA Part B, EL or non-EL, in all four of the categories noted for permanent exit from school.

6 The same child may be reported under both “out-of-school” and “in-school” removal categories if a child has been subject to both types of removal in the same school year.

For additional information on students with disabilities, visit GRADS360’s state profile pages: https://osep.grads360.org/#program