

Basic Information to Have About the State of Education in Your Community

General Information

- Number of schools by type (public, charter, private, etc.), district, and level
- Number and percentage of students in community; per district; per school; per grade; trend over time
- Number and percentage of students by race/ethnicity: in community; per district; per school; per grade; trends over time
- Percentage of students qualifying for free- or reduced-price lunch by school; trend over time
- *(If readily available)* Number and percentage of students by family structure, nativity status, parents' highest level of education, language most spoken in the home

Likely source of information: Local school district

School Readiness

- Percentage of students considered "school ready" at kindergarten entry; trend over time
- How school readiness is assessed

Possible sources of information: Local school district or individual schools *Note that while many schools, school districts, communities, and states assess school readiness in kindergarten, many do not.*

Early-grade Reading

- Percentage of fourth grade students reading at or above the proficient level according to your state's reading assessment; trend over time

Likely sources of information: Typically found online at the state department of education web site or on local school district web sites; if not found on line, contact them by phone

Middle School Success

- Percentage of 8th graders scoring at or above the proficient level in mathematics according to your state's mathematics assessment; trends over time

Likely sources of information: Typically found online at the state department of education web site or on local school district web sites; if not found on line, contact them by phone

High School Graduation

- Definition of and formula for calculating truancy used by local school district(s); used by state
- Truancy data by district/school/grade; trend over time
- Truancy data by race and sex by district/school/grade; trend over time
- Definition of and formula for calculating graduation rate used by local school district(s); used by state
- Graduation data by community/district/school; trend over time
- Graduation data by race and sex by community/district/school; trend over time
- Number of dropouts by district/school/class; trend over time
- Number of dropouts by race and sex by district/school/class; trend over time

Existing Education-related Initiatives

1. Any **middle school early-risk identification** initiatives? If so:
 - a. Which district(s)/school(s)
 - b. What's being done
 - c. How many served
 - d. Success rate

2. Any **academic support** initiatives? If so:
 - a. Which district(s)/school(s)
 - b. What's being done
 - c. How many served
 - d. Success rate

3. Any **parent support** initiatives? If so:
 - a. Which district(s)/school(s)
 - b. What's being done
 - c. How many served
 - d. Success rate

4. Any **teacher training initiatives focusing on student engagement**? If so:
 - a. Which district(s)/school(s)
 - b. What's being done
 - c. How many trained
 - d. Success rate

Any other major education-related initiatives?

Likely sources of information: Conversations with community education leaders.