



Overview

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) provides annual *Student Course Participation and Achievement Reports (Course Reports)* at the district and school levels. As required by statute (C.R.S. 22-11-503.5), these reports support local efforts to:

- Consider the degree to which students (and disaggregated groups of students) have opportunities to participate in rigorous courses that would allow them to meet the Colorado Academic Standards; and
- Investigate the relationship between the courses students take and their subsequent performance on state assessments.

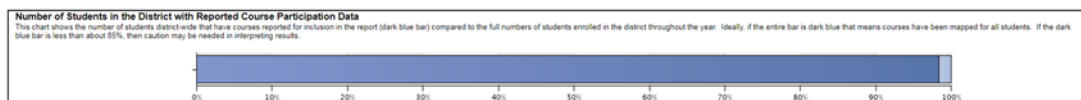
The most current publicly available *Course Reports* include data for the 2015-16 school year. The reports provide data for the following content areas: English language arts (ELA), mathematics, science, and social studies. They include a snapshot of student enrollment by student characteristics, and student participation in courses by course name¹ and level of rigor (i.e., enriched/advanced, general, basic/remedial). Student performance data is not available in the report this year because of concerns around the representativeness of the data due to low participation rates in state assessments. The publicly available Course Reports only show data for groups of 16 or more students, consistent with student data privacy protection policies.

Cautions and Limitations

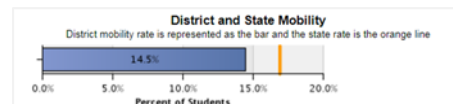
Before reviewing the *Course Reports*, users should determine if there is reason to have confidence in the data presented. There are several charts provided in the reports that can help with this. Consider the following scenarios:

- **Data provided at an aggregate level.** In this case, then CDE would not have been able to link each local course to a course code. If the *Student Course Participation* chart shows only one course title per subject area, then this may be an indication that the data should not be used.
- **Information only provided for some groups of students or courses.** The *Percent of Students with Course Participation Data* chart identifies for how many students (out of the total enrolled) course participation data is available. In this case, data should only be used for some courses.

Subject Area	Course Level	Graphic for Number of Students	Total
English	Basic/Remedial	[Bar]	214
	Enriched or Advanced	[Bar]	375
	General	[Bar]	47,329
English (Secondary)	Basic/Remedial	[Bar]	77
	Enriched or Advanced	[Bar]	2,382
	General	[Bar]	147
	Remedial	[Bar]	15,138
			89



- **High mobility rate.** The *District and State Mobility* chart provides information about the district mobility rate (i.e., the number of “mobile” students as a percent of the students enrolled²). Course participation



¹ The course names included in these reports use the School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED) is a voluntary, common classification system that provides a basic structure for classifying course content, see: <http://nces.ed.gov/forum/SCED.asp>.

² For a more detailed definition of mobility rate see <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdereval/mobility-stabilitycurrent>.

data for districts/schools with mobility rates greater than the state average should be interpreted with caution as students may no longer be in the school/district.

Data Reported by Section

CDE’s online *Course Reports* allows users to select the *grade*³ and *content area*. Grade level options include “all grades” or each individual grade level in the district or school. Content area options include English language arts (ELA), mathematics, science, and social studies with an option to choose the primary or secondary grade level for each content area. Selecting an individual content area and/or grade level for reports first will reduce processing time for large districts. The grade level and content area selections determine the data provided in subsequent tabs of the report. The online *Course Reports* include two tabs, 1) Student Enrollment and Characteristics Snapshot; and 2) Student Course Participation and Course Level Student Achievement (both reported by grade and content area). On the initial landing page, users may also select the district and year.

Student Enrollment and Characteristics Snapshot

The student enrollment and demographic characteristics data in the *Course Reports* provide context for analysis and interpretation of other reports. These data may also help users determine which disaggregated student group filters to apply. Data in this section are reported at the district level, even for school-level *Course Reports*. The student enrollment and demographic data include the following: pupil enrollment by grade level, race/ethnicity, and disaggregated group and the district mobility rate (with state rate as a comparison point). This section also includes the chart with the percent of students out of the total enrolled within the district for which course participation data are available (a tool for checking on data usability as described above). Selecting grade from the dropdown menu will allow you to see District Enrollment by Ethnicity and District Enrollment by Student Subgroup by grade.

Student Course Participation

The Student Course Participation section of the *Course Reports* presents data filtered by previously identified grade and content options. At the top of this section, users can additionally filter the data provided in this section by the following student groups: all students, minority, race (i.e., black, Hispanic, white, other), free and reduced lunch, gifted and talented, and English learner. The bar charts in this section allow users to visually identify the level of student enrollment in different courses and (with the use of filters) to see the degree to which students in disaggregated groups are enrolled in courses with different levels of rigor (i.e., *enriched/advanced*, *general* or *basic/remedial*). Any instance where there are fewer than 16 students in a course has been suppressed in accordance with CDE’s data privacy policy. On the bar charts, this will be displayed as N<16.

Subject Area	Course Level	Graphic for Number of Students	GT #	GT %	Non-GT #	Non-GT %	Total
English	Basic/Remedial		N < 16	0.0%	412	100.0%	412
	Enriched or Advanced		145	38.7%	230	61.3%	375
	General		3,389	7.1%	44,280	92.9%	47,669

Additional Resources:

- District Dashboard <http://www.schoolview.org/dish/dashboard.asp>
- School Dashboard <http://www.schoolview.org/dish/schooldashboard.asp>

For more information about the Course Reports, contact B Sanders (sanders_b@cde.state.co.us).

³ Grade is defined as student’s grade at time of course enrollment.