Student Attendance & Indiana's New Early Warning Dashboard

October 4, 2023

@EducateIN

TODAY'S AGENDA

- Attendance Level-Set
- Elevating Student Attendance
- We All Have a Role to Play

Attendance Level-Set

KEY DEFINITIONS

SCHOOL-FOCUSED → **STUDENT-FOCUSED**

Attendance rate -
The number of days a student attended school, divided by the total number of school days.

Student attendance (Indiana GPS) -
Percentage of students with at least a 94% attendance rate *(days attended)*

Chronic absenteeism -
Missing at least 10% of school days *(days missed)*

According to a recent New York Times Study, on an average day last school year, **nearly 10 percent of K-12 students nationwide** were not there, preliminary data suggests.

Source: Where Are the Students?

About **one quarter of U.S. students** qualified as chronically absent.

This number has been **rising since the pandemic**.

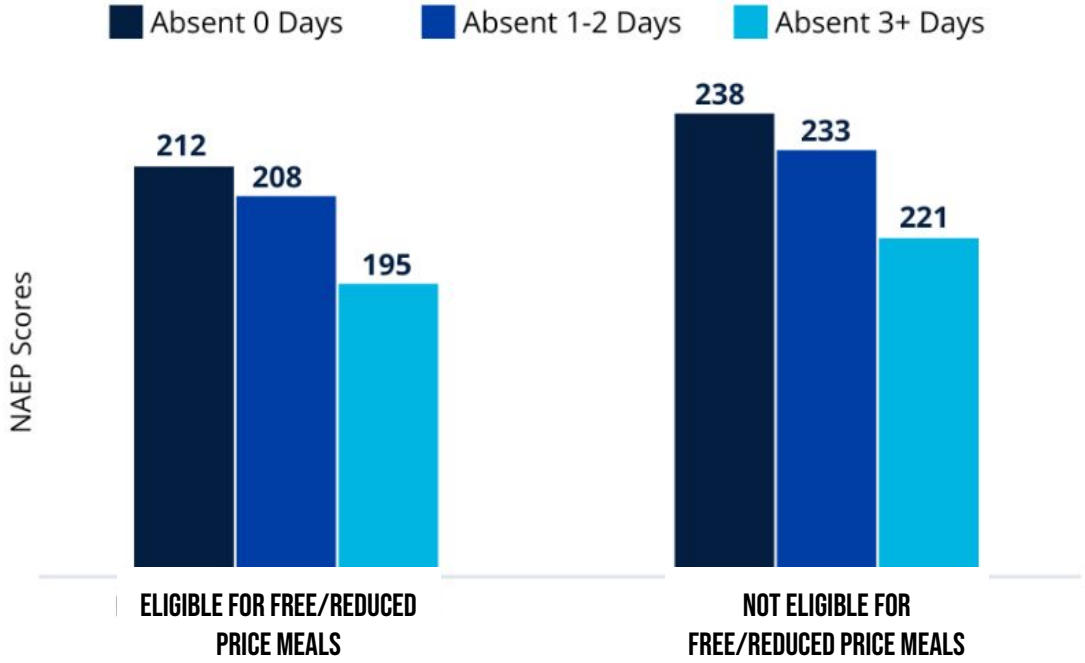
Note: Chronically absent means missing at least 10 percent of school days or about three and a half weeks.

Source: Where Are the Students? image: Flaticon.com

Data show that even after adjusting for socioeconomic status and race, U.S. children who skip more school get **significantly worse grades**.

Source: Where Are the Students? image: Flaticon.com

NAEP 4th Grade Reading Scores by Test-takers' Days Absent in the Prior Month, 2022



Source: NAEP Data Explorer via Alan Ginsburg
NAEP is reported on a scale of 0-500. Researchers consider 10-12 points equal to a year of learning.

FutureEd

Source: The 74

How many *school buses* could be filled with students if all of our chronically absent students came to school on the same day?

image: Flaticon.com

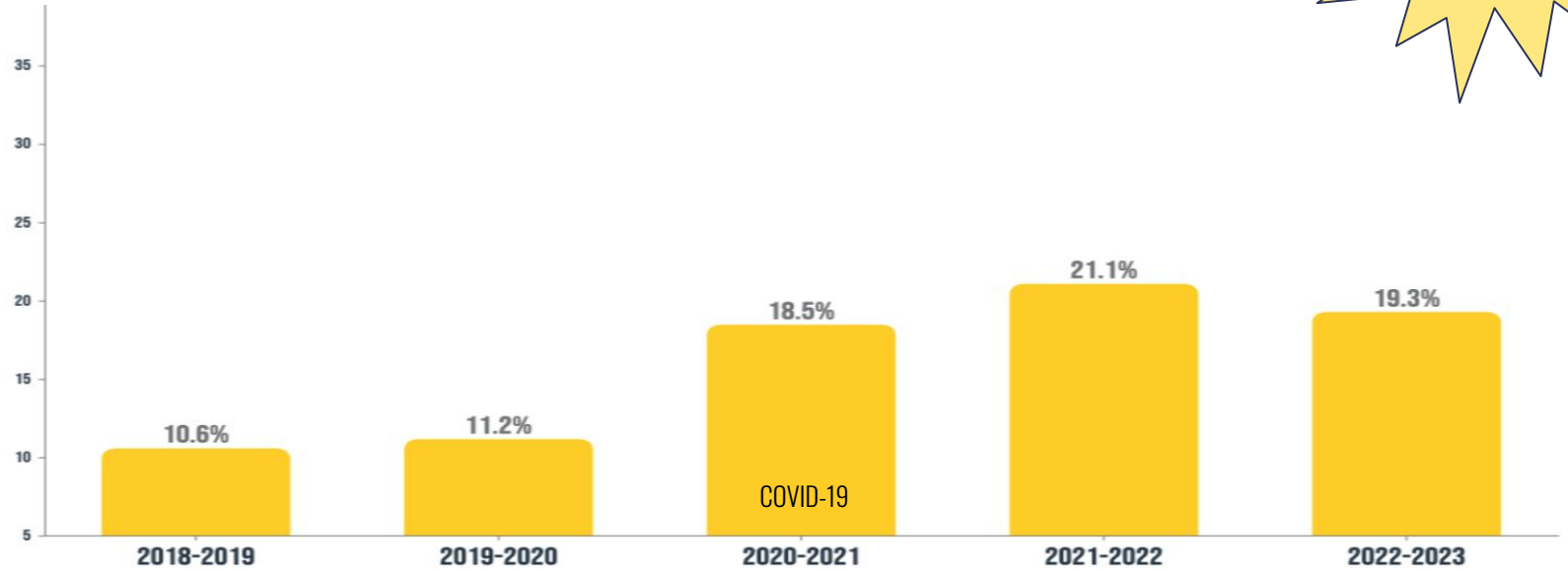
3,086

*Based on a bus capacity of 72 students

image: Flaticon.com

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: COMPARISON YEAR-TO-YEAR

INDIANA DATA



CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: BY SCHOOL (2022-2023)

INDIANA DATA

1,651 schools.....have *1 in 10 students* who are chronically absent

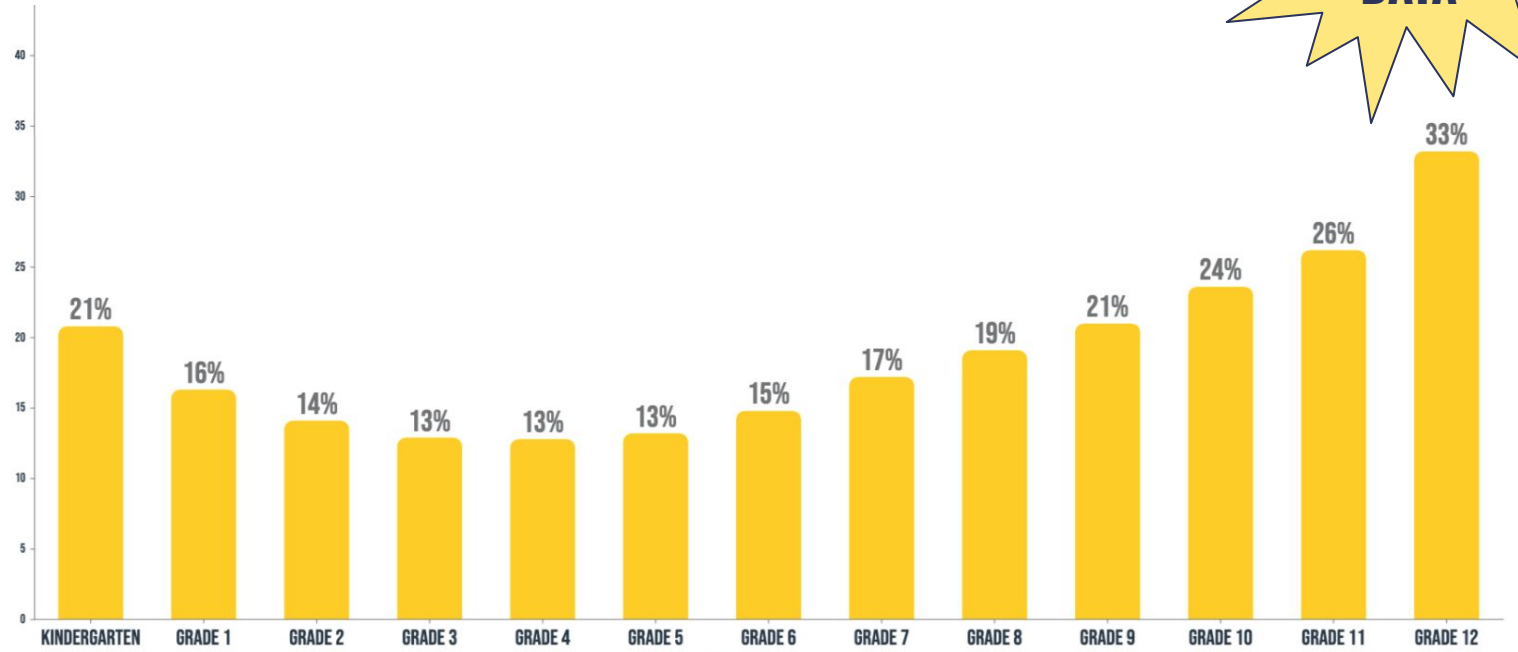
547 schools.....have *1 in 4 students* who are chronically absent

270 schools.....have *1 in 3 students* who are chronically absent

84 schools.....have *1 in 2 students* who are chronically absent

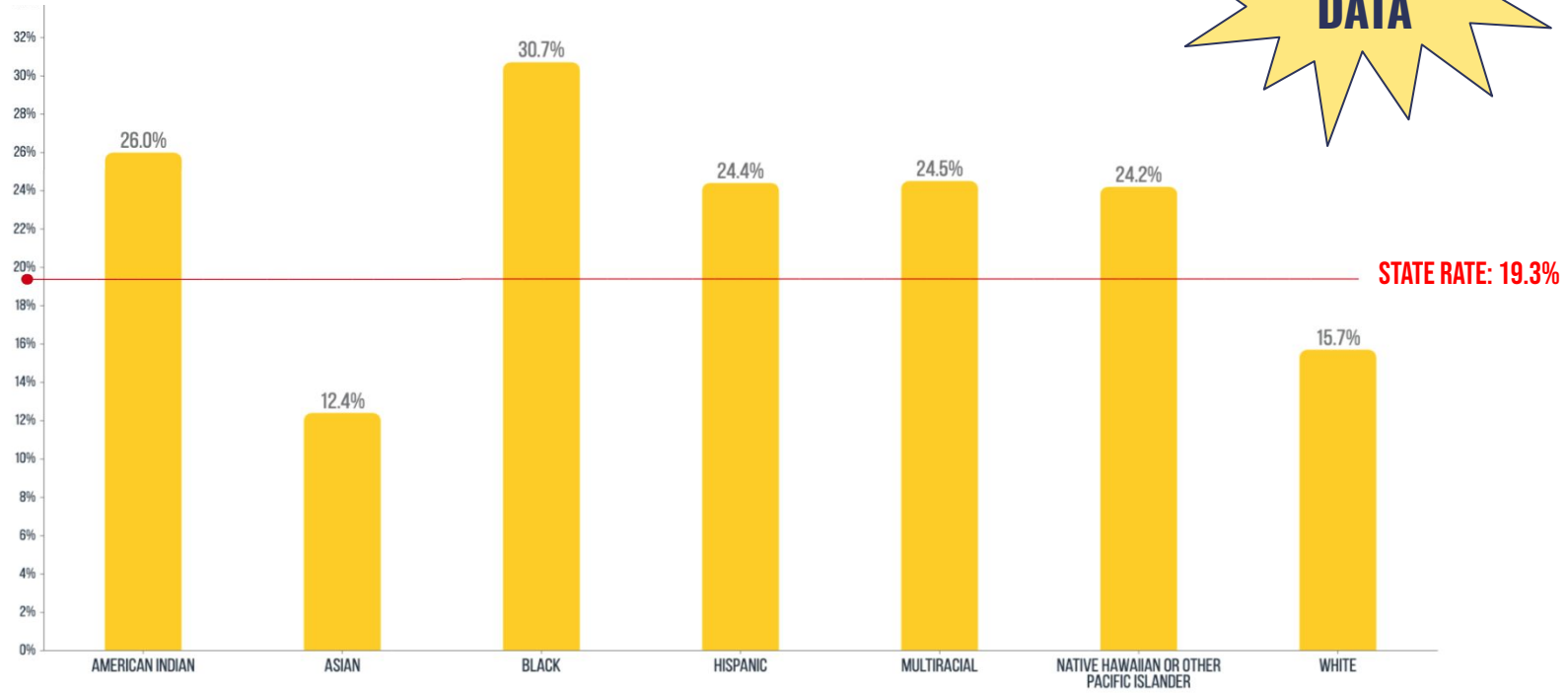
CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: BY GRADE LEVEL (2022-2023)

INDIANA DATA



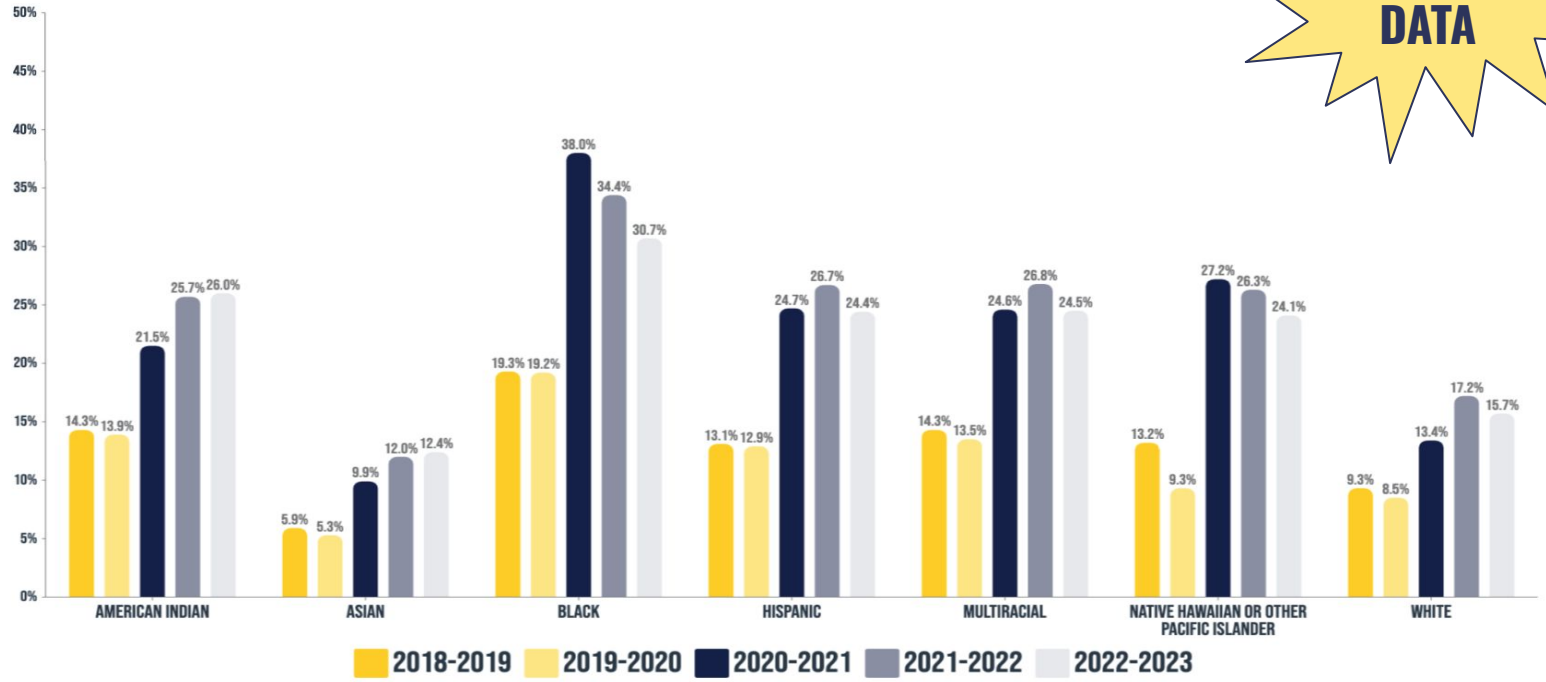
CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: ETHNICITY (2022-2023)

INDIANA DATA



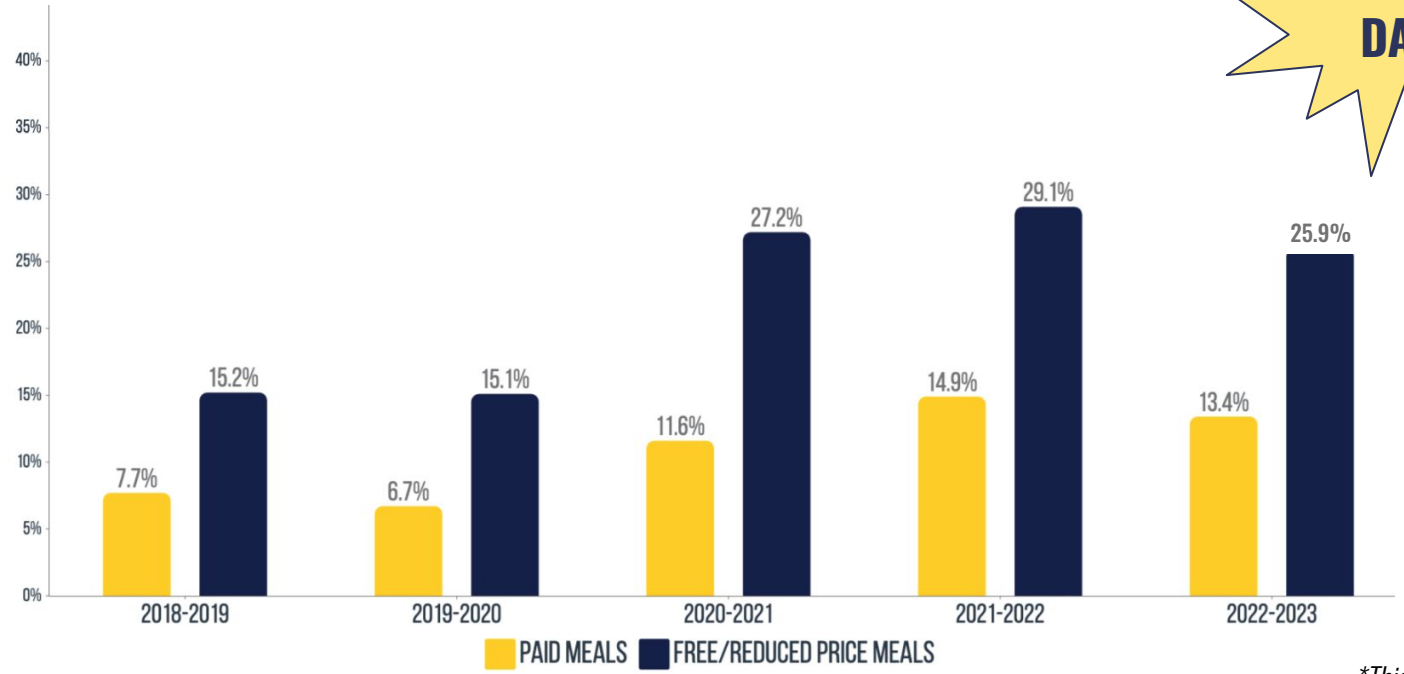
CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: ETHNICITY YEAR-TO-YEAR

INDIANA DATA



CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS

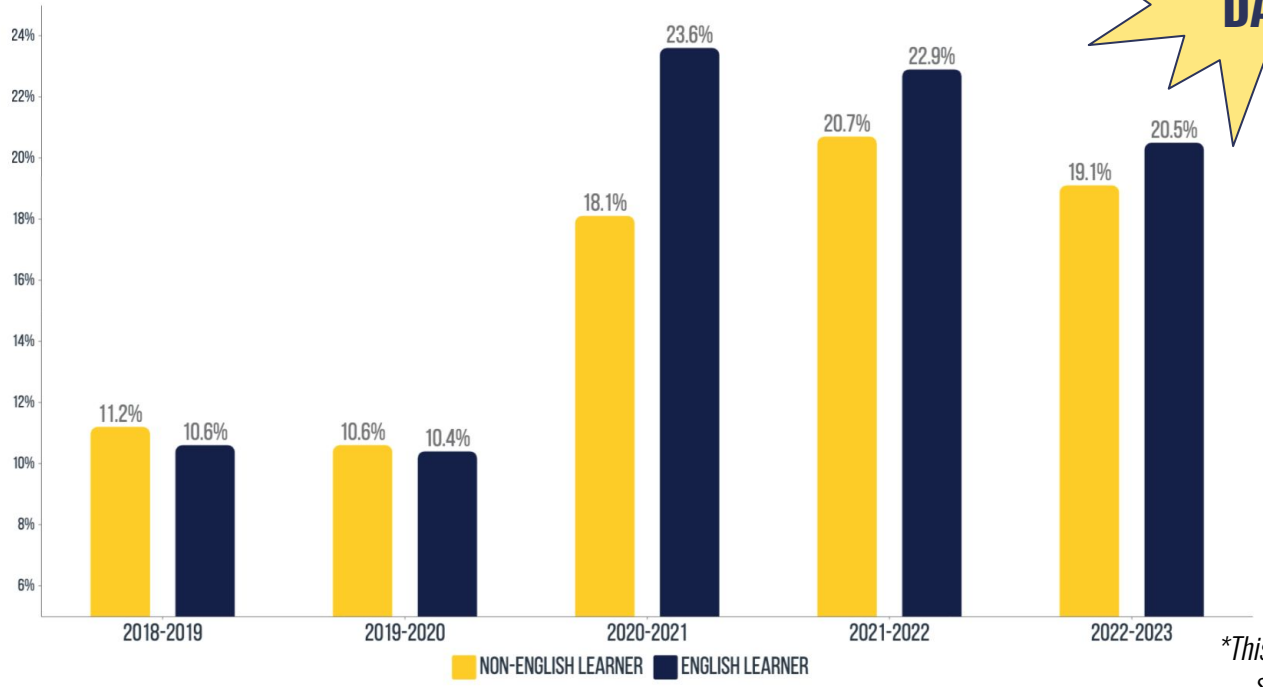
INDIANA DATA



*This calculation does not include students identified in the data with a FRL status of "unknown."

CHRONIC ABSENTEEISM: ENGLISH LEARNER STATUS

INDIANA DATA



*This calculation does not include students identified in the data with an EL status of "unknown."

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- While the state's chronic absenteeism rate *decreased* from the 2021-2022 school year to the 2022-2023 school year, it remains **over 8% higher** than it was before the pandemic (19.3%).

- *84 schools* have **1 in 2 students** who are chronically absent.

- Rates of chronic absenteeism are *highest* amongst students in **grades nine through 12**, ranging from 21% in grade nine to over 33% in grade 12.

- Student populations who experienced the *greatest academic impacts* in ELA and math following the pandemic also have **greater rates of chronic absenteeism**.
    - Black students (30.7%), Hispanic students (24.4%), English learners (20.5%), and students eligible for free and reduced lunch (25.9%).

Elevating Student Attendance

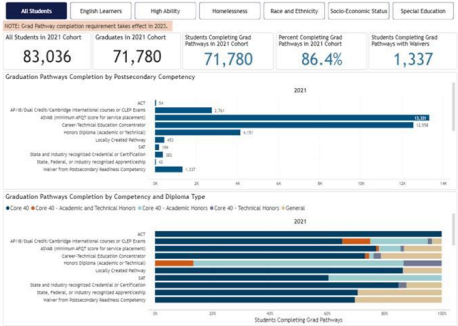
@EducateIN

INDIANA GPS PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

- Re-envisions how we **strategically measure school** and **student performance**...focusing on knowledge and *skills* necessary for lifelong success

- Allows the public to view **student population data**, **longitudinally**...and be able to interact with the data sets for the *first time ever*!

- *Constantly evolving*...designed to **empower continuous improvement** of student learning across the pre-K-12 continuum



HOW WE MEASURE THESE CHARACTERISTICS

Statewide, **only 60% of students** have an attendance rate of 94% or higher. *(2021-2022)*

- Indiana GPS currently elevates **20 headline indicators**
  - Additional **aspirational indicators** are currently being developed
  - For K-8 indicators, students are assigned to the school where they attended the majority of the school year.

- One of these indicators is **attendance.**

- *Indiana-specific research* shows that students who attend school less than 94% of the time **experience negative academic impacts** as a result.

EARLY WARNING DASHBOARD - UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Currently in the RFP process!

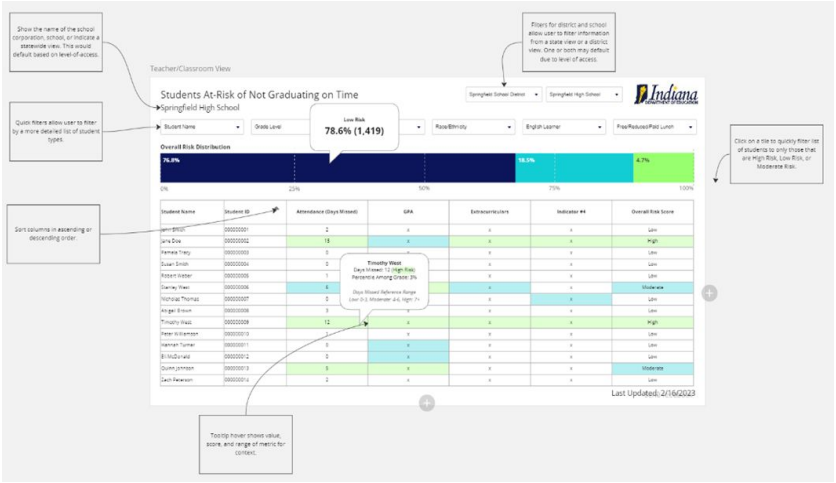
TARGET LAUNCH: 2024-2025 SY

Purpose: To develop an Early Warning Dashboard for Indiana schools to use in directing attention and resources to students most at-risk of not graduating.

Note: At-risk is defined as having less than an 80% chance of graduating on time using historical data.

EARLY WARNING INDICATOR - USES

- Educators will *clearly see* **which students are at risk** and *why*.
- Data will reveal areas of difficulty for students to guide **additional**, **timely instruction** and **support**.
- Exportable indicators and profiles will help educators **increase engagement with parents**.



INDICATORS OF HIGH IMPORTANCE - EXAMPLES

Other indicators may be added as additional analyses are completed.

- **Attendance**
- **Advanced coursework** (AP and/or dual credit classes)
- **Grades**
- **Disciplinary actions**
- **High school credits earned** (before and during high school)
- **Performance on state assessments**

We Each Have a Role to Play

WE EACH HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY

- **Parents, Families, Schools** - It has *never been more important* for parents, educators, and community leaders to *work together* to ensure students are **attending school**, thus providing them the *best possible chance for long-term success*.

- **IDOE/SBOE** - Ensure increased **data transparency;** Work with IASP and IAPSS to better understand **root causes;** Encourage **collaborative solutions** (DCS, Indiana Children's Commission, local prosecutors)

THANK YOU!