

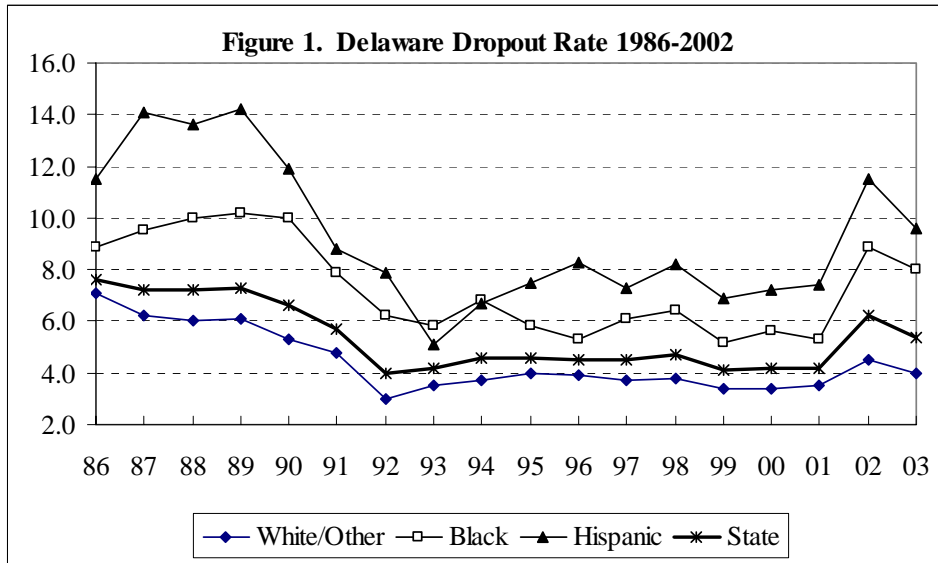
**State of Delaware
Department of Education**

**Delaware Dropouts 2002-2003
Summary Statistics**

February 2004

Executive Summary of Delaware Dropouts, 2002-2003

- During the 2002-2003 school-year, 1,860 of the 34,212 students enrolled in grades 9-12 dropped out of school. The 2002-2003 dropout rate was 5.4%.
- Due to The Department of Education’s continuous improvement in data collection methods, intensive tracking of nearly 100 % of exiting students, beginning in 2001-2002, reflects a more accurate account of student tracking when compared with 2000-2001.
- Of the 1,860 dropouts, 60.1% were males, (0.1 percent increase from 2001-2002) and 39.9% were females, (a 0.1 percent *decrease* from 2001-2002).
- Dropout rates for minorities reflect national trends. African American drop out rate was 8.0% (0.9 percent *decrease* from 2001-2002); Hispanic dropout rate was 9.6% (1.9 % percent *decrease* from the 2001-2002 year); Whites/Others drop out rate was 4.0% (0.6 percent *decrease* from the 2001-2002 year).
- The greatest number of dropouts exited school in 9th or 10th grade (66%), which reflects compulsory school attendance laws requiring students to remain in school through age 16.
- Of the 1860 students who exited school in the 2002-2003 school-year, 684 stated that they were going to enroll in James H. Groves Adult High School. Only 307 actually enrolled. This represents 45% of those who intended to attend.
- Delaware uses guidelines from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) to report high school dropout information.



Drop Out Rate

Dropout Rates in the United States
(Excerpted from NCES Statistical Analysis Report November 1999)

Event, status, and cohort dropout rates each provide a different perspective on the student dropout population. The National Center for Education Statistics presents definitions and data for all three types of dropout rates in order to provide a more comprehensive picture of the dropout problem in the United States. High school graduation and completion rates conclude the profile of high school outcomes for young adults in the United States. **Delaware uses event rates for our reporting.**

- **Event rates** describe the proportion of students who leave school each year without completing a high school program. This annual measure of recent dropout occurrences provides important information about how effective educators are in keeping students enrolled in school. *[NOTE added by WRRRC: some states report these rates for a group of grades (e.g., 9-12, or 7-12) and/or by grade level (e.g., 9th grade drop outs, 10th grade drop outs...)].*

Definition of Dropout: A 2002-2003 *dropout* is an individual who:

Was enrolled at the end of the 2001-2002 school year; or

Was enrolled at any time during the 2002-2003 school year; **and**

Has not graduated from high school or completed a state- or district-approved educational program; and **does not meet any of the following exclusionary conditions:**

- Documentation proving transfer to another public school district, private school, or state-or district-approved education program;
- Temporary absence due to suspension or school-approved illness; or
- Death.

Codes for Reasons for Withdrawal:

1 Academic	5 Employment	12 Marriage	18 Pregnancy
2 Behavior	8 Curriculum	13 Military	19 Religion
3 Dislike experience	9 Childcare	14 Needed at home	20 Substance Abuse
4 Economic	10 Transportation		

Criteria for being reported as a dropout:

1. Grades included are 9 through 12. This range has been consistently used for reporting purposes since the 1979-1980 school-year. Information is also collected on dropouts from grades 7 and 8, enabling the reporting of supplemental statistics concerning these grades.
2. Summer 2003 dropouts are included (i.e., students who were expected to enroll in grades 7 -12 in the fall of 2003, but did not do so).
3. Special schools and special students are included.
4. **If a student has moved and there is no evidence that he/she has transferred to another school, he/she is counted as a dropout.**
5. Students who transfer to James H. Groves Adult High School, and subsequently drop out during the current school year are counted as dropouts from the home school.
6. Expelled students are counted as dropouts unless they have the option to return to school at the end of the disciplinary period. Those students who have the option to return but do not do so are counted as dropouts.
7. School leavers who are in correctional institutions are **NOT** counted as dropouts.
8. School leavers who have joined the Armed Forces are counted as dropouts.

*Criteria for **not** being included in the dropout figures:*

1. Students receiving a diploma or a “Record of Performance” are **not** reported as dropouts.
2. Transfers to James H. Groves Adult High School or the Groves Alternative Secondary Education Programs, or DAPI, are **not** reported as dropouts.
3. Transfers to another public or private school are **not** reported as dropouts.
4. Students enrolled in alternative education programs are **not** counted as dropouts if the program is administered or approved by the district, considered a grade 7-12 program, and leads to a recognized secondary completion credential.
5. Students who die are **not** reported as dropouts.

Grades 9-12

(N = 1860)

	Annual Dropout Rate (%)	Percent of All Dropouts (%)
TOTAL	5.4	100
SEX		
Male	3.3%	60.1
Female	2.2%	39.9
RACE / ETHNICITY		
American Indian	2.9	0.2
African		
American	8.0	42.2
Asian	4.7	2.3
Hispanic	9.6	8.9
White	4.0	46.4
AGE		
Less than 15	1.2	5.5
Age 15	3.5	16.3
Age 16	6.9	32.2
Greater than 16	10.7	46.0

**Figure 2. Percent of Dropouts by Race/Ethnicity,
2002-2003**

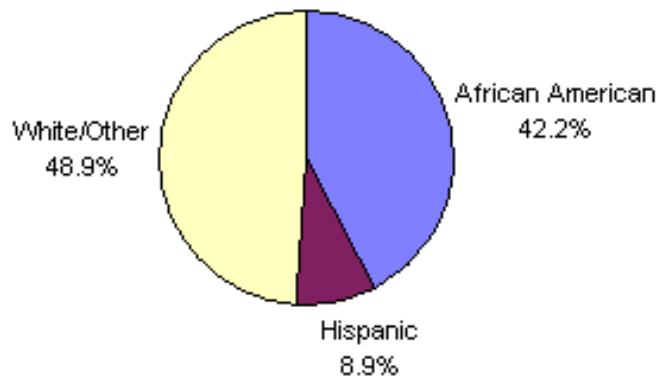


Table 2
Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollments, 2002-2003
Grade by Race

Grade	Number of Enrolled Students				Number of Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
9	3,225	646	6,564	10,435	356	80	324	760
10	2,715	458	5,648	8,821	212	47	208	467
11	2,075	324	5,356	7,755	123	22	206	351
12	1,856	293	5,052	7,201	94	17	171	282
Total	9,871	1,721	22,620	34,212	785	166	909	1860

Table 3
Dropout Rate and Percent of All Dropouts, 2002-2003
Grade by Race

Grade	Annual Dropout Rate				Percent of All Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
Grade 9	11.0%	12.4%	4.9%	7.3%	19.1%	4.3%	17.4%	40.9%
Grade 10	7.8%	10.3%	3.7%	5.3%	11.4%	2.5%	11.2%	25.1%
Grade 11	5.9%	6.8%	3.8%	4.5%	6.6%	1.2%	11.1%	18.9%
Grade 12	5.1%	5.8%	3.4%	3.9%	5.1%	0.9%	9.2%	15.2%
Total	8.0%	9.6%	4.0%	5.4%	42.2%	8.9%	48.9%	100.0%

Figure 3. Percent of Dropouts by Gender, 2002-2003

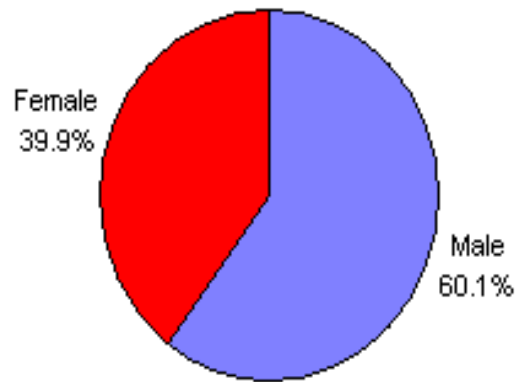


Figure 4. Percent of Dropouts by Age, 2002-2003

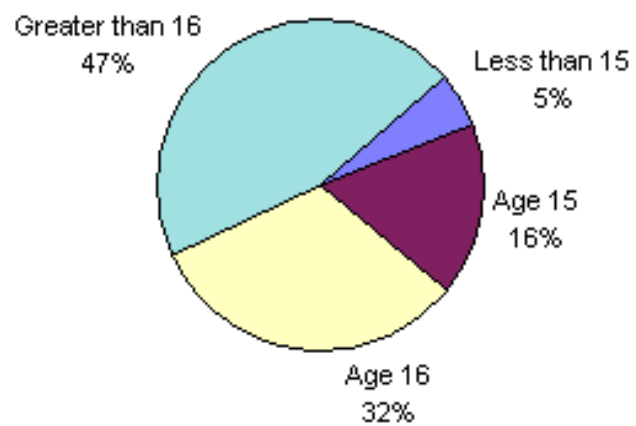


Table 4

**Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollments, 2002-2003
Gender by Race**

Gender	Number of Enrolled Students				Number of Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
Male	4,870	876	11,634	17,380	467	115	535	1117
Female	5,001	845	10,986	16,832	318	51	374	743
Total	9,871	1,721	22,620	34,212	785	166	909	1860

Table 5

**Dropout Rate and Percent of All Dropouts, 2002-2003
Gender by Race**

Gender	Annual Dropout Rate				Percent of All Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
Male	9.6%	13.1%	4.6%	6.4%	25.1%	6.2%	28.8%	60.1%
Female	6.4%	6.0%	3.4%	4.4%	17.1%	2.7%	20.1%	39.9%
Total	8.0%	9.6%	4.0%	5.4%	42.2%	8.9%	48.9%	100.0%

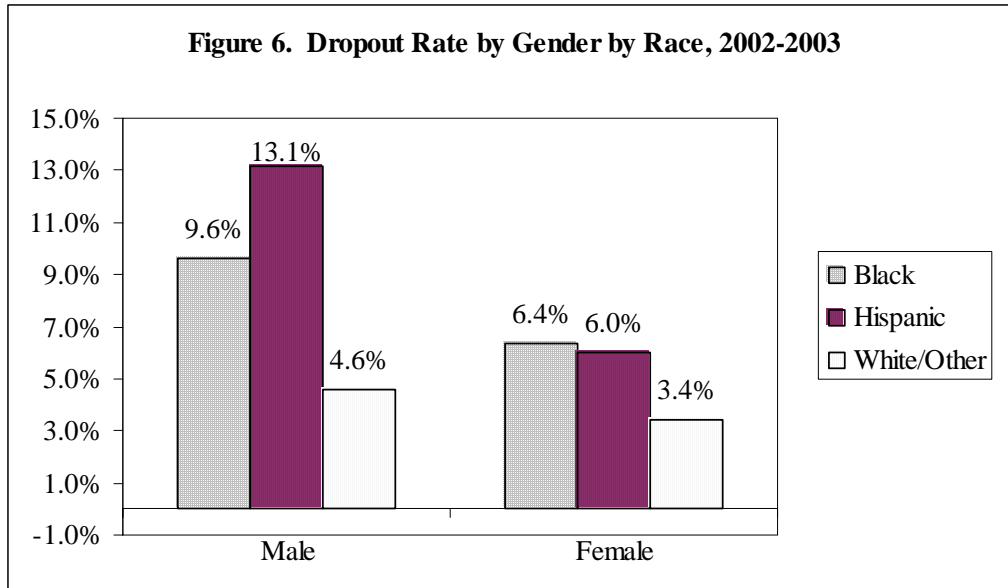


Table 6

**Over-Age, Age-Appropriate, or Under-Age Dropouts, 2002-2003
By Grade Level**

Age	Grade 9		Grade 10		Grade 11		Grade 12		All Grades	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Over-Age	664	87.4%	380	81.4%	236	67.2%	152	53.9%	1,432	77.0%
Age-Appropriate	70	9.2%	81	17.3%	97	27.6%	102	36.2%	350	18.8%
Under Age	26	3.4%	6	1.3%	18	5.1%	28	9.9%	78	4.2%
Total	760	100%	467	100%	351	100%	282	100%	1,860	100%

Table 7
Reasons for Dropping Out 2002-2003
Grades 9-12

Reason	Number	Percent
School-Related Academic, disciplinary, poor attendance	600	32.3%
Economic-Related Acquired employment, needed at home	47	2.5%
Personal Illness, pregnancy, marriage, child care, over compulsory age	356	19.1%
Unknown	857	46.1%
Total	1860	100%

Table 8
Delaware Dropouts, 2002-2003
Grades 7-8

	Grade 7			Grade 8		
	No. of Dropouts	Students Enrolled	Rate per 1000 Pupils	No. of Dropouts	Students Enrolled	Rate per 1000 Pupils
New Castle	4	5,699	0.7	18	5,899	3.1
Kent	1	2,059	0.5	7	2,148	3.3
Sussex	14	1,844	7.6	17	1,922	8.8
State	19	9,602	2.0	42	9,969	4.2

Table 9
Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollments, 2002-2003
County by Race

County	Number of Enrolled Students				Number of Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
New Castle	6272	1228	12487	19,987	554	137	487	1178
Kent	2002	231	5213	7,446	118	8	196	322
Sussex	1597	262	4920	6,779	108	19	217	344
Total	9,871	1,721	22,620	34,212	780	164	900	1844

(16 students were 9th grade no shows and are not counted by county, district, or school. They are included in other totals.)

Table 10
Dropout Rate and Percent of All Dropouts, 2002-2003
County by Race

County	Annual Dropout Rate				Percent of All Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
New Castle	8.8%	11.2%	3.9%	5.9%	30.0%	7.4%	26.4%	63.9%
Kent	5.9%	3.5%	3.8%	4.3%	6.4%	0.4%	10.6%	17.5%
Sussex	6.8%	7.3%	4.4%	5.1%	5.9%	1.0%	11.8%	18.7%
Total	7.9%	9.5%	4.0%	5.4%	42.3%	8.9%	48.8%	100.0%

Table 11
Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollments, 2002-2003
County by Grade

County	Number of Enrolled Students					Number of Dropouts				
	9	10	11	12	All	9	10	11	12	All
New Castle	6110	5150	4491	4236	19,987	506	297	214	168	1185
Kent	2387	1911	1661	1487	7,446	133	88	68	37	326
Sussex	1938	1760	1603	1478	6,779	121	82	69	77	349

Total 10,435 8,821 7,755 7,201 34,212 760 467 351 282 1860

(16 students were 9th grade no shows and are not counted by county, district, or school. They are included in other totals.)

Table 12
Dropout Rate and Percent of All Dropouts, 2002-2003
County by Grade

County	Annual Dropout Rate					Percent of All Dropouts				
	9	10	11	12	All	9	10	11	12	All
New Castle	8.3%	5.8%	4.8%	4.0%	5.9%	27.2%	16.0%	11.5%	9.0%	63.7%
Kent	5.6%	4.6%	4.1%	2.5%	4.4%	7.2%	4.7%	3.7%	2.0%	17.5%
Sussex	6.2%	4.7%	4.3%	5.2%	5.1%	6.5%	4.4%	3.7%	4.1%	18.8%
Total	7.3%	5.3%	4.5%	3.9%	5.4%	40.9%	25.1%	18.9%	15.2%	100%

Figure 8. Percent of All Dropouts by County, 2002-2003

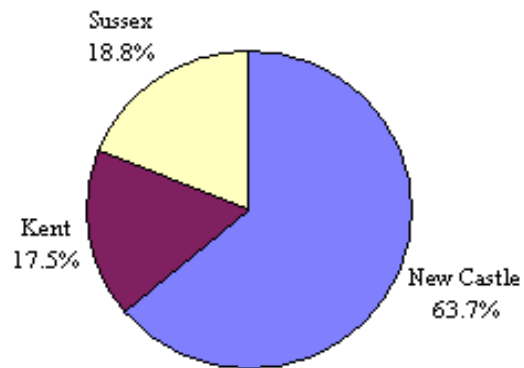


Figure 9. Dropout Rate by County by Grade, 2002-2003

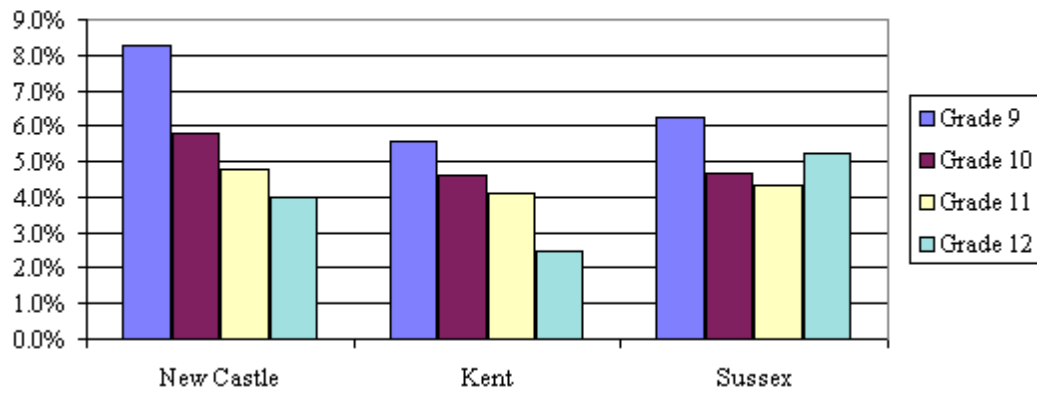


Figure 10. Dropout Rate by District, 2002-2003

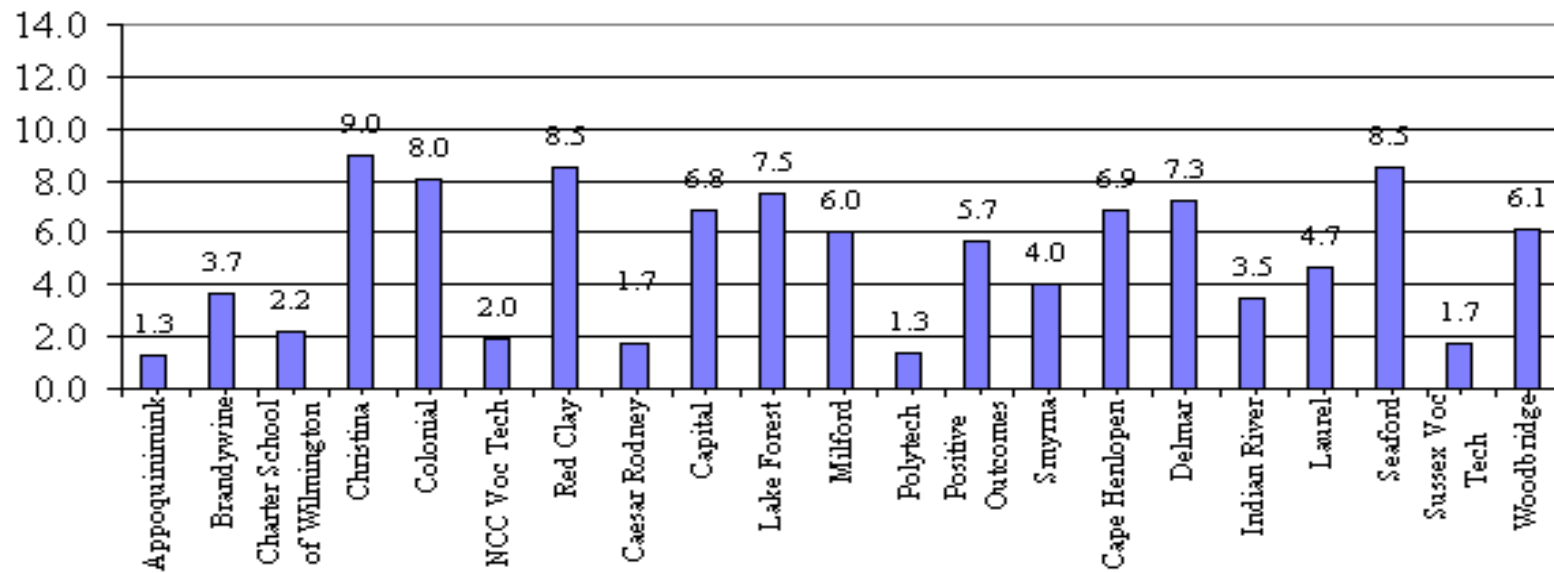


Table 13

**ANNUAL DROPOUT RATES BY DISTRICT, 2000-2001 to 2002-2003
Grades 9-12**

CODE	DISTRICT	2000-2001			2001-2002			2002-2003		
		TOTAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL DROPOUTS	DROPOUT RATE	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL DROPOUTS	DROPOUT RATE	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL DROPOUTS	DROPOUT RATE
New Castle County		19,958	921	4.6	20,109	1,482	7.4	19,987	1,178	5.9
29	Appoquinimink	1,287	22	1.7	1,435	85	5.9	1533	20	1.3
31	Brandywine	3,400	135	4.0	3,363	194	5.8	3309	121	3.7
70	Charter School of Wilmington	798	0	0.0	890	2	0.2	937	21	2.2
33	Christina	4,687	276	5.9	4,719	492	10.4	4919	443	9.0
34	Colonial	2,333	172	7.4	2,330	319	13.7	2304	185	8.0
38	NCC Voc Tech	3,289	25	0.8	3,353	75	2.2	3126	61	2.0
32	Red Clay	4,064	215	5.3	4,019	315	7.8	3859	327	8.5
78	Richard Milburn Academy*	100	76	76.0						
Kent County		7,241	245	3.4	7,388	297	4.0	7,446	322	4.3
10	Caesar Rodney	1,860	13	0.7	1,787	45	2.5	1794	31	1.7
74	Campus Community							119	3	2.5
13	Capital	1,498	69	4.6	1,643	93	5.7	1568	107	6.8
15	Lake Forest	862	63	7.3	872	47	5.4	863	65	7.5
18	Milford	1,031	40	3.9	1,039	60	5.8	1028	62	6.0
39	Polytech	1,062	12	1.1	1,067	12	1.1	1127	15	1.3
71	Positive Outcomes	49	5	10.2	52	4	7.7	53	3	5.7
24	Smyrna	879	43	4.9	928	36	3.9	894	36	4.0
Sussex County		6,846	330	4.8	6,924	340	4.9	6,779	344	5.1
17	Cape Henlopen	1,152	40	3.5	1,185	67	5.7	1197	82	6.9
37	Delmar	522	26	5.0	542	13	2.4	550	40	7.3
36	Indian River	1,926	100	5.2	1,960	113	5.8	1932	68	3.5
16	Laurel	544	16	2.9	522	18	3.4	472	22	4.7
23	Seaford	1,070	94	8.8	1,038	47	4.5	989	84	8.5
40	Sussex Voc Tech	1,158	19	1.6	1,200	18	1.5	1181	20	1.7
35	Woodbridge	474	35	7.4	477	64	13.4	458	28	6.1
STATE		34,045	1,496	4.4	34,421	2,119	6.2	34,212	1,844	5.4

Note: Special Schools and ILC's are included in district dropout summary statistics.

* Richard Milburn Academy was only in operation during the 2000-2001 schoolyear and enrolled at-risk students (16 students were 9th grade no shows and are not counted by county, district, or school. They are included in other totals.)

Table 14. GRADE 9-12 ANNUAL DROPOUT RATES BY SCHOOL, 1999-00 THRU 2002-2003

CODE	HIGH SCHOOLS	99-00			00-01			01-02			02-03		
		TOTAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL DROPOUTS	DROPOUT RATE	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL DROPOUTS	DROPOUT RATE	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL DROPOUTS	DROPOUT RATE	TOTAL ENROLLMENT	TOTAL DROPOUTS	DROPOUT RATE
New Castle County		18,535	644	3.5	19,145	754	3.9	19,630	1,380	7.0	19,633	1,086	5.5
18	Middletown HS	1,163	11	0.9	1287	22	1.7	1435	85	5.9	1533	20	1.3
26	Howard Career Ctr	762	4	0.5	808	4	0.5	826	14	1.7	692	9	1.3
66	Paul M. Hodgson	1,039	5	0.5	1000	13	1.3	999	14	1.4	945	2	0.2
80	Delcastle Tech HS	1,587	2	0.1	1422	8	0.6	1440	22	1.5	1489	10	0.7
190	Brandywine HS	1,210	43	3.6	1285	33	2.6	1256	53	4.2	1183	39	3.3
194	Concord HS	1,089	35	3.2	1098	47	4.3	1098	60	5.5	1125	42	3.7
196	Mt Pleasant HS	993	51	5.1	1014	55	5.4	967	79	8.2	953	40	4.2
286	Calloway Arts Sch	220	6	2.7				324	4	1.2	349	9	2.6
290	John Dickinson HS	1,042	26	2.5	1044	54	5.2	1026	45	4.4	1038	115	11.1
292	A. I. duPont HS	1,255	45	3.6	1267	33	2.6	1182	123	10.4	1183	96	8.1
294	Thomas McKean HS	1,301	55	4.2	1300	75	5.8	1357	113	8.3	1217	82	6.7
295	Charter Sch of Wilm				798	0		890	2	0.2	937	21	2.2
390	Christiana HS	1,574	51	3.2	1484	67	4.5	1413	80	5.7	1404	120	8.5
392	Glasgow HS	1,499	111	7.4	1365	79	5.8	1341	172	12.8	1437	129	9.0
394	Newark HS	1,575	54	3.4	1706	97	5.7	1804	205	11.4	1908	178	9.3
490	William Penn HS	2,226	145	6.5	2267	167	7.4	2272	309	13.6	2240	174	7.8
540	Margaret S. Sterck										49	1	2.0
Kent County		6,976	334	4.8	7,094	239	3.4	7,212	274	3.8	7,149	303	4.2
570	Positive Outcomes	41	1	2.4	49	5	10.2	52	4	7.7	53	3	5.7
573	Campus Community										119	2	1.7
626	Caesar Rodney HS	1,723	94	5.5	1785	13	0.7	1714	36	2.1	1719	29	1.7
648	Dover HS	1,419	66	4.7	1497	69	4.6	1592	83	5.2	1518	96	6.3
652	POLYTECH HS	1,076	30	2.8	1040	12	1.2	1067	12	1.1	1127	15	1.3
665	Lake Forest HS	827	51	6.2	862	62	7.2	872	47	5.4	863	65	7.5
678	Milford SR HS	1,021	42	4.1	1031	40	3.9	1039	60	5.8	1028	62	6.0
688	Smyrna HS	910	51	5.6	879	43	4.9	928	36	3.9	894	36	4.0
Sussex County		6,510	273	4.2	6,640	323	4.9	6,766	319	4.7	6,166	313	5.1
726	Cape Henlopen HS	1,054	50	4.7	1096	37	3.4	1137	66	5.8	1161	82	7.1
730	Delmar Sr HS	491	18	3.7	522	26	5.0	542	13	2.4	550	40	7.3
746	Indian River HS	737	22	3.0	737	54	7.3	747	32	4.3	734	32	4.4
748	Sussex Central Sr HS	1,077	50	4.6	1079	45	4.2	1125	62	5.5	1112	34	3.1
756	Laurel Sr HS	531	27	5.1	527	13	2.5	519	18	3.5	460	21	4.6
766	Seaford SR HS	1,048	42	4.0	1047	94	9.0	1019	46	4.5	968	84	8.7
770	Sussex Tech HS	1,157	26	2.2	1158	19	1.6	1200	18	1.5	1181	20	1.7
780	Woodbridge HS	415	38	9.2	474	35	7.4	477	64	13.4	458	28	6.1

Not Special Schools and ILC's are not included in this table. All schools include grades 9 thru 12.

Table 15**Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollments, 2002-2003
County by Special-Ed**

County	Number of Enrolled Students			Number of Dropouts		
	Special-Ed	Regular-Ed	All	Special-Ed	Regular-Ed	All
New Castle	2343	17644	19,987	182	1003	1219
Kent	1082	6364	7,446	65	261	326
Sussex	906	5873	6,779	67	282	349
Total	4,331	29,881	34,212	314	1546	1894

(16 students were 9th grade no shows and are not counted by county, district, or school. They are included in other totals.)

Table 16**Dropout Rate and Percent of All Dropouts, 2002-2003
County by Special-Ed**

County	Annual Dropout rate			Percent of All Dropouts		
	Special-Ed	Regular-Ed	All	Special-Ed	Regular-Ed	All
New Castle	7.8%	5.7%	6.1%	9.6%	53.0%	64.4%
Kent	6.0%	4.1%	4.4%	3.4%	13.8%	17.2%
Sussex	7.4%	4.8%	5.1%	3.5%	14.9%	18.4%
Total	7.3%	5.2%	5.5%	16.6%	81.6%	100.0%

Table 17

**Delaware Dropouts and Student Enrollments, 2002-2003
Race by Special-Ed**

Group	Number of Enrolled Students				Number of Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
Special-ED	1,839	212	2,280	4,331	161	19	134	314
Regular-ED	8,009	1,521	20,378	29,908	624	147	775	1546
Total	9,848	1,733	22,658	34,239	785	166	909	1860

Table 18

**Dropout Rate and Percent of All Dropouts, 2002-2003
Race by Special-Ed**

Group	Annual Dropout Rate				Percent of All Dropouts			
	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All	Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
Special-ED	8.8%	9.0%	5.9%	7.3%	8.7%	1.0%	7.2%	16.9%
Regular-ED	7.8%	9.7%	3.8%	5.2%	33.5%	7.9%	41.7%	83.1%
Total	8.0%	9.6%	4.0%	5.4%	42.2%	8.9%	48.9%	100.0%

Table 19
Delaware Dropout Rates Annual Trend
1979-80 Through 2002-2003

Year	White/Other	Black	Hispanic	State
1979-80	7.0	12.1	14.6	7.9
1980-81	6.9	10.7	13.7	7.8
1981-82	8.1	10.8	22.0	8.1
1982- 83	6.2	9.2	15.5	6.9
1983-84	6.2	9.2	17.2	7.2
1984-85	7.3	8.7	12.3	7.6
1985-86	7.1	8.9	11.5	7.6
1986-87	6.2	9.5	14.1	7.2
1987-88	6.0	10.0	13.6	7.2
1988-89	6.1	10.2	14.2	7.3
1989-90	5.3	10.0	11.9	6.6
1990-91	4.8	7.9	8.8	5.7
1991-92	3	6.2	7.9	4.0
1992-93	3.5	5.8	5.1	4.2
1993-94	3.7	6.8	6.7	4.6
1994-95	4	5.8	7.5	4.6
1995-96	3.9	5.3	8.3	4.5
1996-97	3.7	6.1	7.3	4.5
1997-98	3.8	6.4	8.2	4.7
1998-99	3.4	5.2	6.9	4.1
1999-00	3.4	5.6	7.2	4.2
2000-01	3.5	5.3	7.4	4.2
2001-02	4.5	8.9	11.5	6.2
2002-03	4.0	8.0	9.6	5.4

Table 20
Delaware Special Education Enrollments and Dropouts by Race
1999-2003

SpEd Survey Yr		Black	Hispanic	White/Other	All
2000	Enrolled	1,489	162	1,963	3,614
	Dropouts	105	11	118	234
	Annual Dropout Rate	7.1%	6.8%	6.0%	6.5%
	Percent of All Dropouts	7.4%	0.8%	8.4%	16.6%
2001	Enrolled	1,615	173	2,144	3,932
	Dropouts	76	13	113	202
	Annual Dropout Rate	4.7%	7.5%	5.3%	5.1%
	Percent of All Dropouts	5.4%	0.9%	8.0%	14.2%
2002	Enrolled	1,831	218	2,277	4,326
	Dropouts	128	13	83	224
	Annual Dropout Rate	7.0%	6.0%	3.6%	5.2%
	Percent of All Dropouts	6.0%	0.6%	3.9%	10.6%
2003	Enrolled	1,839	212	2,280	4,331
	Dropouts	161	19	134	314
	Annual Dropout Rate	8.8%	9.0%	5.9%	7.3%
	Percent of All Dropouts	8.7%	1.0%	7.2%	16.9%