

Understanding the Chronic Absenteeism Reduction Indicator

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The Chronic Absenteeism Reduction indicator includes two measures: the Chronic Absenteeism Rate and the Chronic Absenteeism Reduction Score. The Chronic Absenteeism Reduction Score has two components: (1) Year-to-Year Improvement Goal and (2) 10-Year Target Rate for Current Year. Complete explanations can be found in the AQuESTT Classification Business Rules at aquestt.com/resources.

How is the Chronic Absenteeism Rate Measured?

- The Chronic Absenteeism Rate is the percent of eligible students at a school or district that are categorized as chronically absent.

Who is Chronically Absent?

- Students are chronically absent when they are absent for 10% or more of their days in membership at a school/district.
- Eligibility: A student is not eligible for this indicator until they are enrolled at a school/district for at least 10 days. Prekindergarten students are not considered in this indicator.
- For more student attendance information, visit [Title 92, Chapter 2: Uniform System of Accounting](#).

$$\text{Chronic Absenteeism Rate} = \frac{\text{Chronically Absent Students}}{\text{Eligible Students}}$$

How is the Year-to-Year Improvement Goal Calculated?

- The Year to Year Improvement Goal is based on the difference in year-to-year improvement in chronic absenteeism rate. Note: In the AQuESTT report this is referred to as the 5% Prior Year Reduction Goal.

Calculating the Improvement Goal: Last Year's Score - (Last Year's Score x 0.05)

For the 10-Year Target Rate, how are the Baseline and Annual Target Rates Established?

- Baseline Rate: Calculated by dividing the number of chronically absent students in a school/district during the baseline year by that year's eligible students. Example:

$$\text{Baseline Rate} = \frac{\text{2021-2022 Chronically Absent Students}}{\text{2021-2022 Eligible Students}}$$

- 10-Year Target Rate: The long-term goal is to reduce chronic absenteeism 50% over 10 years.

Annual Target Rate = Baseline - (Baseline × 0.05 × Number of Years Since Baseline)

- For Federal Designations, the only component used from the Chronic Absenteeism Reduction indicator is the 10-Year Target Rate for Current Year. This measure is referred to as the Chronic Absenteeism Reduction Score and is calculated as described above.

How is the Difference From 10-Year Target Rate calculated?

- The difference between the current year's chronic absenteeism rate and the target rate.
 - Positive Difference: The current year's rate is less than the target rate. (met or exceeded target)
 - Negative Difference: The current year's rate is greater than the target rate. (not met target)

Difference From 10-Year Target Rate = Target Rate - Current Year's Chronic Absenteeism Rate

- Examples: Below are two examples of how the **Difference From 10-Year Target Rate** is calculated. This measure shows whether the current year's chronic absenteeism rate (actual rate) is above or below the annual target rate.

	2021-2022 Baseline Rate	20% of Baseline Rate	2025-2026 Target Rate	2025-2026 Actual Rate	Difference From 10-Year Target Rate
Example 1	17.10%	3.42%	13.68%	19.20%	-5.52
Example 2	39.30%	7.86%	31.44%	28.00%	+3.44

What are the reduction percentages for each of the 10 years?

- Below are the yearly reduction percentages and target rates for those same two schools/districts over the course of the long-term goal.

Year	Percent Reduction	Example 1		Example 2	
		5% Reduction	Annual Target Rate	5% Reduction	Annual Target Rate
Baseline Year (21-22)		17.10%		39.30%	
Year 1 (22-23)	5%	0.86%	16.26%	1.97%	37.34%
Year 2 (23-24)	10%	1.71%	15.39%	3.95%	35.37%
Year 3 (24-25)	15%	2.57%	14.53%	5.90%	33.40%
Year 4 (25-26)	20%	3.42%	13.68%	7.86%	31.44%
Year 5 (26-27)	25%	4.28%	12.82%	9.83%	29.47%
Year 6 (27-28)	30%	5.13%	11.97%	11.79%	27.51%
Year 7 (28-29)	35%	5.99%	11.11%	13.76%	25.54%
Year 8 (29-30)	40%	8.84%	10.26%	15.72%	23.58%
Year 9 (30-31)	45%	7.70%	9.40%	17.69%	21.61%
Year 10 (31-32)	50%	8.55%	8.55%	19.65%	19.65%

To view your school/district's reduction percentages and progress toward the 10-Year Goal, see the **Chronic Absenteeism Progress toward Long Term Goals Report in NEP Secure**. For support to access the report review the [2026 Pathways to Accountability Data](#).