

APPENDIX

DATA DEFINITIONS AND METHODOLOGY

In order to provide a full picture of the achievements of the KIPP network, the KIPP Foundation collects a wide range of information from each locally-run KIPP school. Our KIPP Results feature data for our schools that were open in 2014–15 aggregated by each of our KIPP geographic sites. The following categories explain the data presented on www.kipp.org/results.

This chart shows which school year each data set pertains:

KIPP Results Category	School Year
Q1: Demographic data	As of October 2015
Q2: Student Attrition	2014-15
Q3: MAP test results	2014-15
Q3: % of Classes Outperforming Local Districts & States (State Test Scores)	2014-15
Q3: AP/ACT/SAT test results	2014-15
Q4: High school graduation and college enrollment	Cumulative for students through class of 2014
Q4: College graduation data	Cumulative for students through class of 2009
Q5: Teacher & Leader Retention	2014-15
Q6: Financial Sustainability	2015

ENROLLMENT

Results provide enrollment figures as of October 2015, for each school.

FRPL/CEP

This year, 68 schools did not collect FRPL data because those schools are enrolled in the federal Community Eligibility Program (CEP), which qualifies 100% of their students for free lunch through other federal programs such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). FRPL data is not collected and therefore is not available for schools enrolled in CEP. On school pages, these schools are marked as “CEP Eligible” in the place of an FRPL rate. On regional pages, regions in which over half of the schools are enrolled in CEP are marked “CEP Eligible” in place of an FRPL rate. CEP schools are also excluded from the national FRPL rate calculation.

RACE/ETHNICITY

Race/ethnicity percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding. The “Other” percentage includes multi-ethnic students and all races other than Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, White, and Asian.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

We define special needs students as those who have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). In consultation with parents and other school staff, a special needs teacher prepares an IEP document that outlines the learning goals for the students and the ways in which the school will accommodate and support the student’s special needs.

STUDENT ATTRITION

Our Results feature student attrition data from the 2014–15 school year. KIPP defines attrition as the percentage of students who leave a school (for reasons other than completing the highest grade or transferring to another KIPP school) in one annual cycle between October 1 of 2014 and October 1 of 2015, which is the date that most states close their enrollment. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) also uses this date when referencing enrollment for a given year. Network-wide statistics are based on the 162 KIPP schools that were open in October 1, 2014 and still open on October 1, 2015.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT— STATE EXAMS

The state tests profiled in our Results are criterion-referenced exams, which means that the content reflects the academic standards set by each state. Our Results provide school- and regional-level achievement data for each test required by the state, and compares the percentage of KIPP students that pass the test to the state and district passing rates for each test. These tests do not measure growth over time. End-of-course (EOC) tests are subject tests taken by students in multiple grades. EOC performance levels displayed on regional pages are an aggregate of all EOC scores in either Mathematics or English/Language Arts, and may encompass several subject-based EOC tests.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT— NATIONALLY NORM-REFERENCED EXAMS

All KIPP students take Measures of Achievement Progress (MAP), a norm-referenced achievement exam, in reading and mathematics from first grade through eighth grade. The majority of our schools also administer MAP to Kindergarten students. Norm-referenced tests allow us to track the performance and growth of students while enrolled in KIPP as compared to their grade-level peers nationally. They also provide a way to monitor student achievement longitudinally and to see the progress our students are making on the road to grade and college-ready levels.

The average American student who takes a nationally norm-referenced exam in any given grade level will score at the 50th percentile. This student is outperforming 50% of grade-level students nationally. From one year to the next, the average student will make one year of typical growth and not gain any percentile points, meaning that he or she will stay at the 50th percentile from year to year. If a student’s percentile increases on a nationally norm-referenced exam from year to year, it means that the student has made more than one year of typical growth relative to his or her peers.

The norm-referenced test quartile graphs on each school’s page depict the percentage of students in each percentile range (1st–24th, 25th–49th, 50th–74th, 75th–99th) on the norm-referenced test that were administered during the 2014–15 school year. These graphs include all students who tested in the given season. On regional pages, quartile graphs begin with fall scores from Kindergarten and 5th grade, and then show spring scores for all grades. On school pages, quartile graphs begin with the earliest season of data available; in some cases, this is Kindergarten spring. Percentages for norm-referenced tests may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT— NATIONALLY NORM-REFERENCED EXAMS (CONTINUED)

In order to provide a growth measurement, we also report the percentage of students who made one year or more of typical growth between fall and spring of the 2014–15 school year. All MAP data in the Results reflect the 2011 student norms. For schools that did not test all students in the fall, growth from the prior spring was used (spring-to-spring) for non-entry grades. In these cases, new students are not counted, since they only have fall-to-spring growth records.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT— HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMANCE DATA

In addition to state test data, for high schools with senior classes, our Results also include participation and performance data for college entrance exams (ACT or SAT) as well as Advanced Placement (AP) exams for all graduating seniors in the class of 2015. As a measure of college readiness, we report the percentage of KIPP high school seniors who have scored 3 or above on at least one AP exam. This percentage is again based on all graduating seniors in the class of 2015.

ATTAINMENT DATA— HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND COLLEGE MATRICULATION

Our Results feature high school graduation and college matriculation data at the regional and school level. All high school graduation, college matriculation, and college graduation data was tracked and verified by the region or school in the fall of 2015. At the regional level, we report the cumulative high school graduation and college matriculation data for students who completed eighth-grade at a KIPP middle school five or more years ago and/or graduated from a KIPP high school.

On high school pages, we report the percentage of students completing high school in four years, based on the National Governor’s Association (NGA) definition, which divides the number of students graduating with a diploma within four years by the number of first-time entering ninth graders four years prior, after adding students who transfer into the graduating class and subtracting any students who transfer out.

For comparative figures about the percentage of students graduating from high school, percentage of students who start college, and the percentage of students who complete four-year college, we use Tom Mortenson’s (2014) definition of low-income and the U.S. Census for U.S. Average figures.

SCHOOL LEADER RETENTION

School leaders considered as retained include: those who were leading a KIPP school as of September 1st, 2014 and as of the following September 1st, 2015 who either returned to continue running any KIPP school or continued working within the KIPP Network in a different position.

TEACHER RETENTION

The education community lacks a common standard for defining and reporting teacher retention. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) defines all cases in which a teacher stops teaching at a particular school as turnover, regardless of whether a teacher switches schools, moves into a non-teaching position within his or her current school, or leaves the field of education altogether. KIPP adopts this framework, defining “retained within position” as cases where a teacher who is teaching at a school in one school year continues teaching at the same school as of the fall (September 1) of the following year. Any teacher who begins teaching at a school during the academic year (September 1 to April 30), regardless of whether he or she joined at the beginning, middle, or end of the year, is considered part of the denominator that is utilized in calculating “retained within position” rates. At the same time, because KIPP is a rapidly growing network of schools, many KIPP teachers leave to teach at another KIPP school or transition to a non-teaching capacity within the KIPP network. Current KIPP teachers are an important source for future KIPP leaders, which is why we also report “retained within KIPP,” a metric that counts these teachers as staying within the KIPP Team & Family. We only display retention metrics when we have at least two schools per region reporting. Regional teacher counts reflect the 2015–16 school year and represent the number of individuals rather than the full-time equivalency (FTE).

SOURCES

For the KIPP Foundation’s 2014–15 audited financials, visit www.kipp.org/support.

For more information about the MAP 2011 norms, see NWEA 2011 Normative Data Report. Retrieved from: <https://www.nwea.org/content/uploads/2014/07/MAP-Normative-Data-One-Sheet-Dec11.pdf>

Mortenson, Tom. 2014. “Unequal Family Income and Unequal Educational Opportunity 1970 to 2013.” The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education. *Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY 267* (September 2014). Retrieved from: <http://www.postsecondary.org/commondetail.asp?id=1583>.

United States Census Bureau. 2015. Educational Attainment in the United States: 2014 – Detailed Tables. Retrieved from: <http://www.census.gov/hhes/socdemo/education/data/cps/2014/tables.html>.