



# New Mexico Public Education Department

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## News Release

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### Increased Performance Targets Result in More Schools Not Making AYP

*Ten Schools Make AYP Two Years in a Row and No Longer Have NCLB Designations*

**SANTA FE** – New Mexico Public Education Secretary, Dr. Veronica C. García announced the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status and No Child Left Behind (NCLB) designations for New Mexico's schools and districts at a news conference today. Out of the 800 public schools in the state, 46% made AYP and 54% did not make AYP. Last year 372 schools or 47% made AYP and 416 schools or 53% did not make AYP based on a total of 788 schools.

"It is important to know that this year's results are a reflection of the increase in the proficiency targets set by NCLB," said Secretary García. "We recognize and accept the fact that No Child Left Behind is raising the bar and raising expectations every year. There is no doubt that this year it was more difficult for schools to meet AYP than it was last year. But I'm not going to let schools use that as an excuse. Our job is to re-double our focus, help those schools that did not make AYP, and help them to get the job done."

These targets increase every year so that by the 2013-2014 school year, all schools will have 100% of their students proficient in reading and math. Last year a school had to meet a proficiency rate of 36% of all students in all sub groups in reading in a K-6 school to meet AYP. This year that target was raised by 4% to 40% of all students to be proficient to meet AYP. Next year 44% of all students in a K-6 school will need to be proficient in reading and math. It will be a challenge for all schools to continue to meet AYP.

Ten schools who previously had NCLB designations have made AYP for two years in a row and no longer have an NCLB designation. These schools are Eugene Field Elementary in Albuquerque, Anthony Elementary in Gadsden, Nob Hill Elementary and Sierra Vista Primary in Ruidoso, Dixon Elementary in Espanola Central Primary in Bloomfield, Tome Elementary in Los Lunas, Laguna-Acoma Middle School and Milan Elementary in Grants, and Dowa Yalanne Elementary in Zuni.

This is the second year that New Mexico administered the Standards Based Assessment (SBA) test in grades 3 through 9 and in grade 11 to meet AYP and NCLB requirements. Many states began assessing their students over ten years ago with a Standards Based Assessment tool.

"New Mexico will achieve our vision of a world-class educational system by maintaining our focus on Making Schools Work," said Secretary García. "We are laying the foundation for increased academic achievement by raising the bar for what our students learn and achieve and by holding our teachers to a higher level of accountability."

"Parents, Principals and Superintendents need to discuss the results of today's AYP announcement," said Secretary García. "If a child is succeeding at her/his school, a parent should not make a school choice judgment based solely on AYP status and NCLB designation."

- 18 schools out of 800 or 2.2% did not make AYP solely because of attendance or graduation rates
- Only 1 of all 800 schools or <1% did not make AYP solely because 95% of students in one or more sub groups did not take the test, also known as participation rates
- 94 of all 800 schools or 11.7% did not make AYP because of low academic performance of only one sub group of students
- 414 of all 800 schools or 52% did not make AYP because of academic performance in mathematics or reading

For AYP listings and hand-outs from the press conference, go to [www.ped.state.nm.us](http://www.ped.state.nm.us) or call Beverly Friedman, NMPED PIO at 1-505-827-6661 or 1-505-795-0180.

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