

# Indicator 1: Graduation & Indicator 2: Dropout Target Setting

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## **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**

Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education



# Graduation & Dropout Rate Target Setting

## Scenarios for Evidence-Based Target Setting

- Within-State History & Trends
- Compare to Similar States
- Look for the best targets/strategies and what level of change/improvement is best for 6 years out

# Target Setting And Performance Reporting

- State Annual Performance Report (APR) is a Federal Requirement Involving Performance Indicators and Target Setting
- Graduation and Dropout Rates are Student Outcomes that must be Tracked
- Must acknowledge our current level of performance (baseline) and set targets for 6-year periods that are:
  - Measurable
  - Rigorous (better than baseline by the end)
  - Reasonably Achievable

# Role of Targets & Performance Indicators

- Tools to *help align focus and promote shared understandings* of success across levels of the education systems (Local, ISD, State, Federal)
  - Define Success and Progress the same way
  - Use of Dashboard to help Monitor Performance and Gauge Progress
- Targets *work best when paired with:*
  - **Systems Improvement Efforts** to Remove Barriers, increase capacity
  - **Evidence-based practices** to improve results for students
- Are an *Important but not Sufficient* piece of an effective General Supervision System *for Increasing Capacity and Improving Results for Students*

# Strategies for Evidence-Based Target Setting

- Within-State History & Trends
- Compare to Similar States
- Overall District Performance Ranges
- Russian Doll (Mini-Michigan) Districts

# Strategies for Evidence-Based Target Setting - 2

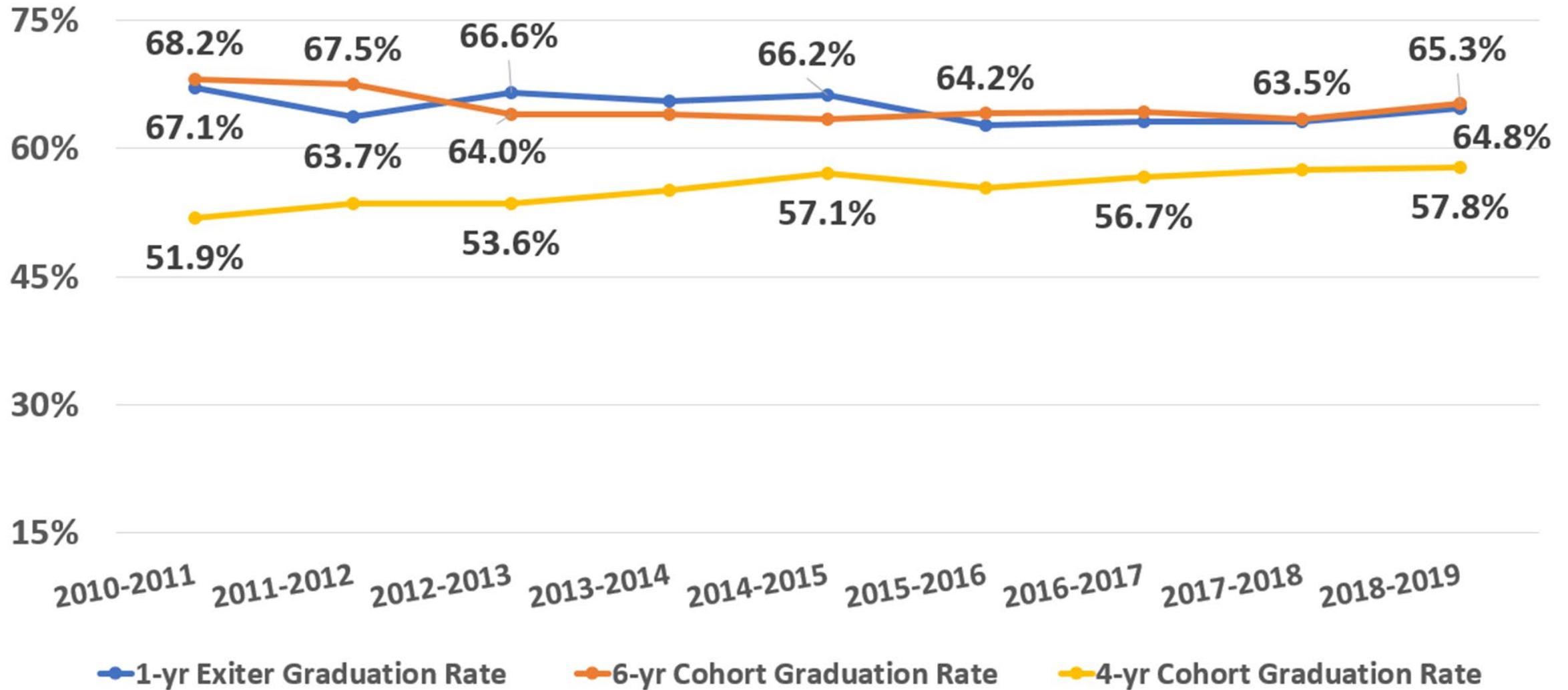
- Within-State History & Trends
- Compare to Similar States
- Overall District Performance Ranges
- Russian Doll (Mini-Michigan) Districts

# Graduation Rates

# Graduation Rate Measures

- 3 Common Measures Used to Monitor and Evaluate
  - 4-yr Cohort Graduation Rate
  - 6-yr Cohort Graduation Rate
  - 1-yr Exiter Graduation Rate

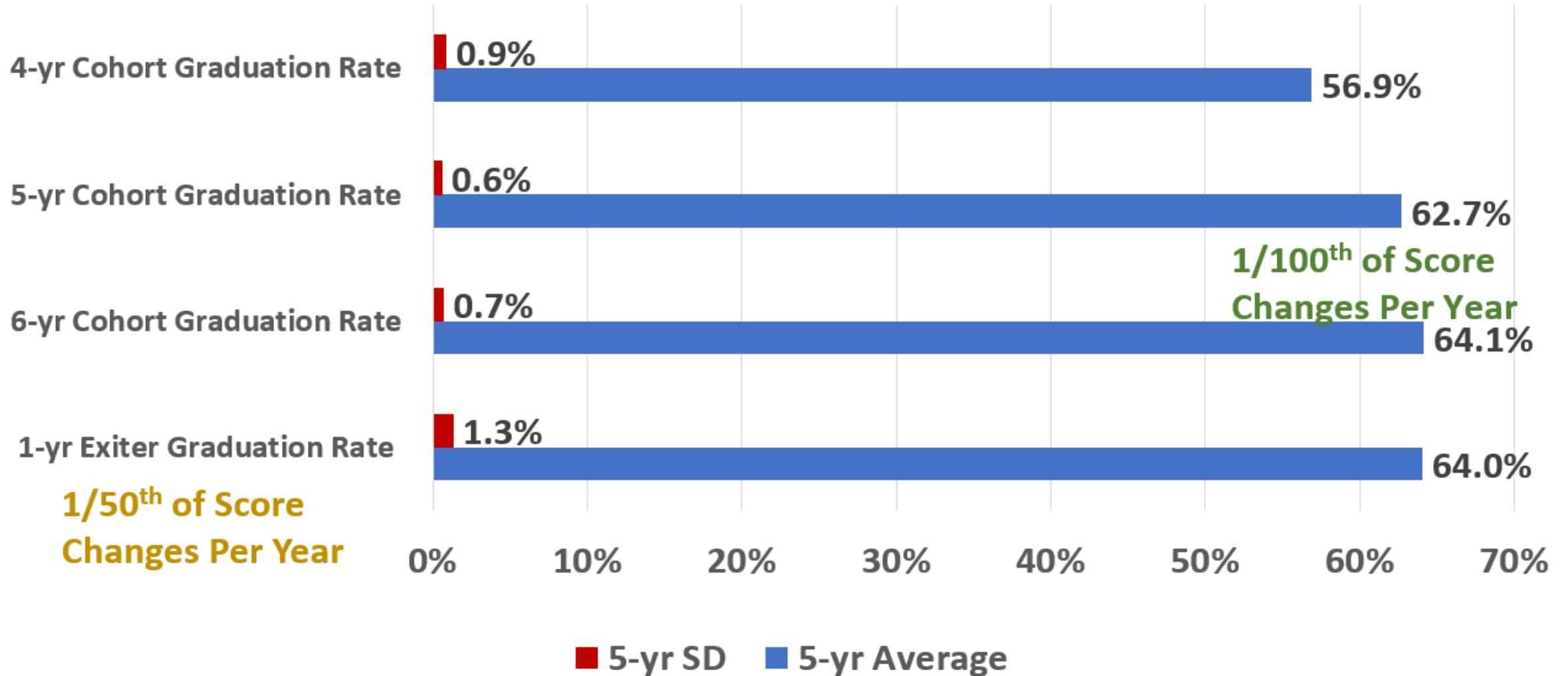
# Michigan Graduation Rates for Students with IEPs (3 Types of Commonly Used Measures)



# Michigan History & Trends

- Look at past Annual Performance For Michigan
  - Special Focus on Last 5 Years
    - Look at the 5-yr Average Exiter Graduation Rate
    - Look at the 5-yr Standard Deviation in Performance

# Michigan 5-Year Average Graduation Rates for Students with IEPs (4 Common Measures)



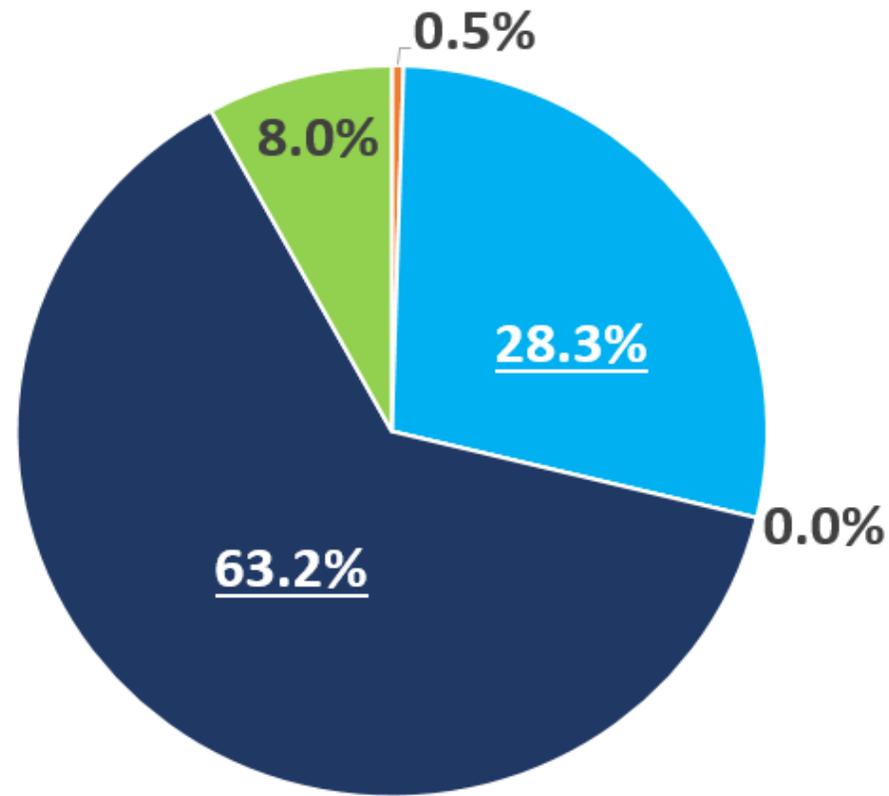
# Exiter Graduation Rate

- We are required to switch to this metric for our next 6-yr target cycle for the state Annual Performance Report (APR)
- What is an Exiter Graduation Rate?
- What Goes into it?

# Table 1: Types of Exiter Counts and How to Use Them

Count	Type	Use
A	(OLD) Died	Included in the Pool of Exiters (i.e., the Denominator)
B	Dropped Out	Included in the Pool of Exiters, The Primary Count (i.e., Numerator) for Dropout Rate
C	Reached Maximum Age & Exited the K-12 System	Included in the Pool of Exiters, The Secondary Count for Dropout Rate
D	Graduated with a High School Diploma	Included in the Pool of Exiters, Used as Numerator for Graduation Rate
E	(NEW) State Defined Alternate Diploma	Included in Pool of Exiters
F	Received a Certificate	Included in the Pool of Exiters
G	Transferred out of Special Education	Not used for Exiter Graduation or Dropout Rates
H	Moved but Known to be Continuing in another District Within State	Not used for Exiter Graduation or Dropout Rates, but student mobility rate positively correlates with dropout rate.

# Special Ed. Exiter Population (SY16-17)



■ Died ■ Dropout ■ Reached Maximum Age ■ Graduated H.S. ■ Received a Certificate

# Michigan Focus and Target Growth

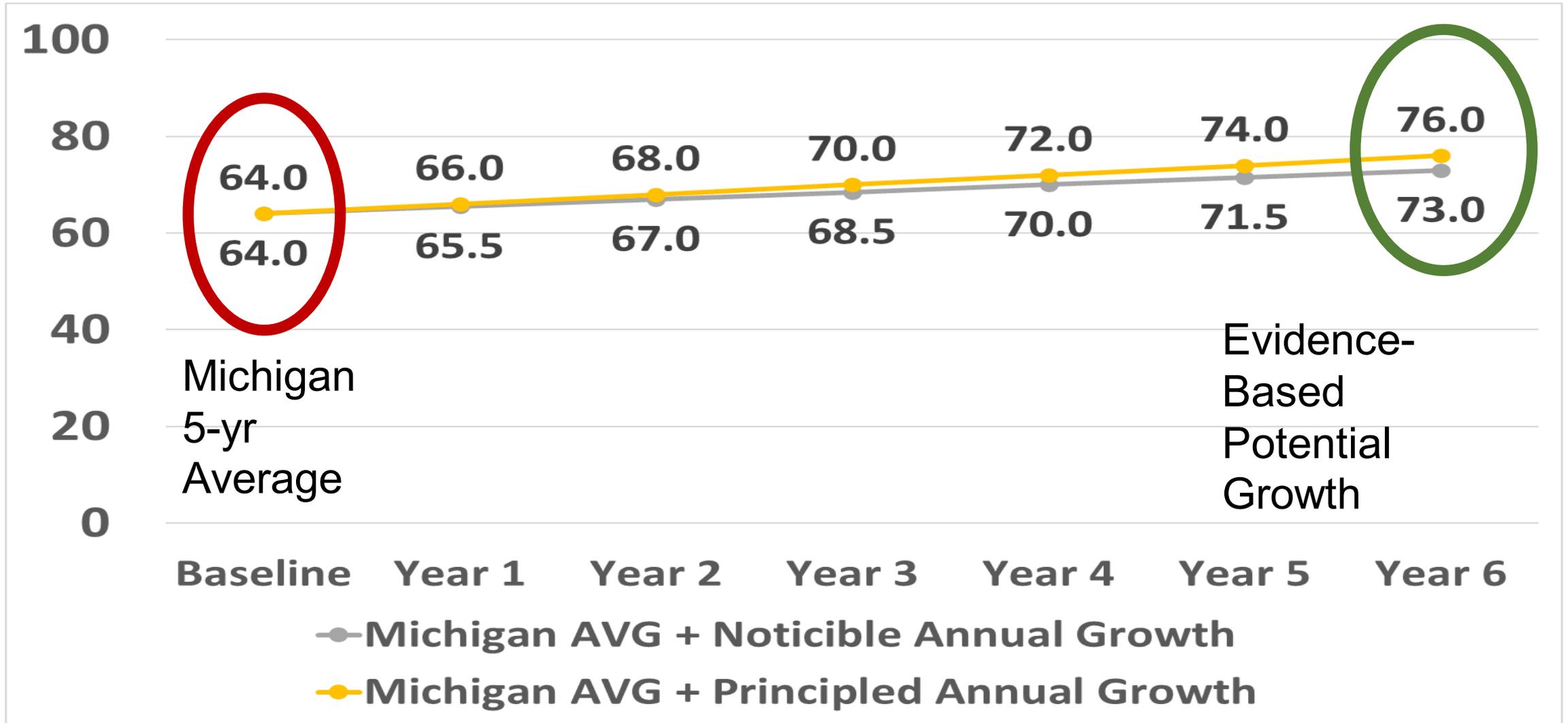
- **Special Focus on Last 5 years**

- 5-yr Average Exiter Graduation Rate = 64.0%
- 5-yr Standard Deviation in Performance = +/- 1.3%  
(Chance Levels of Change)

- **Targets**

- Noticeable Annual Growth Above Chance = + 1.5%
- Principled Annual Growth Above Chance = + 2.0%

# Michigan Average Annual Growth



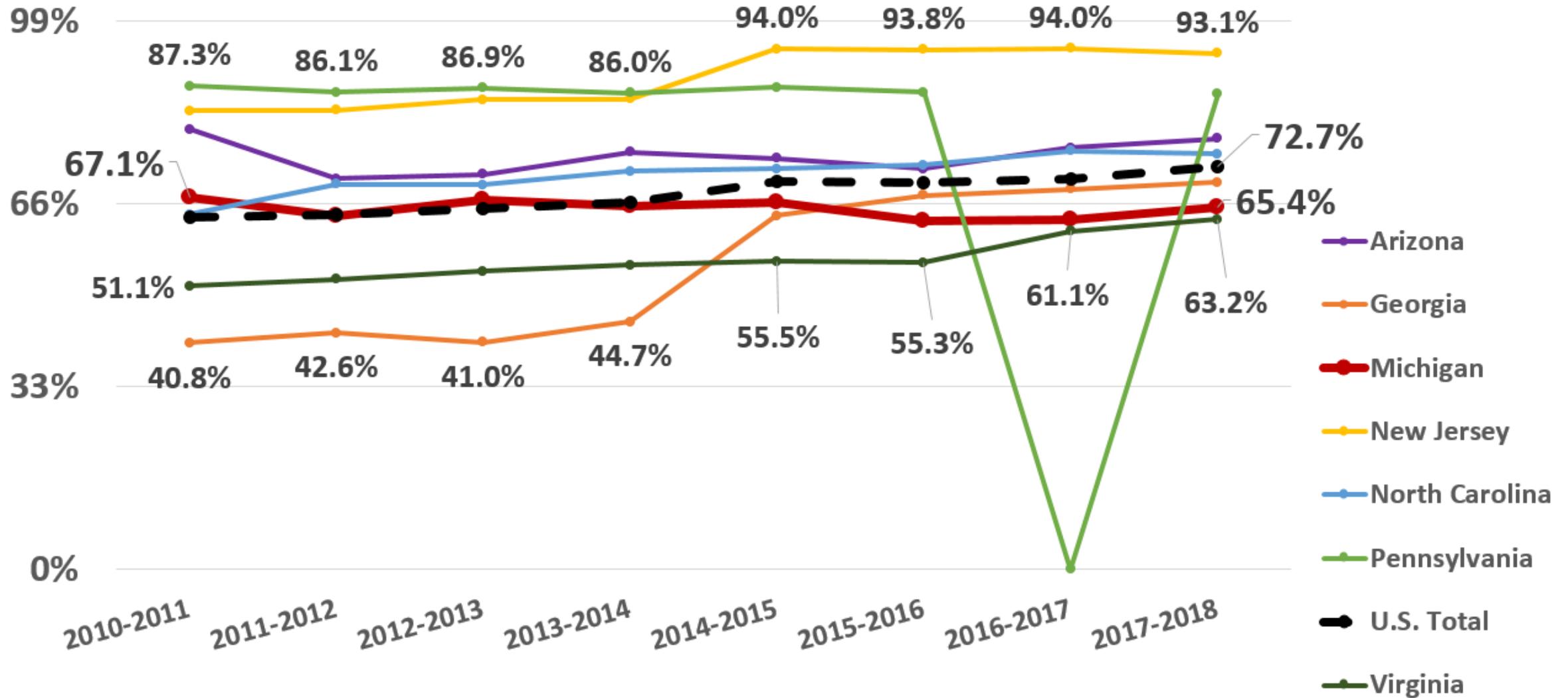
# Consider Similar States

- Identify States most like us in student demographics
- Examine how they perform using Exiters Graduation Rates
- Identify our High Performing Peers and draw insights for setting Michigan's own Targets

# Compare to Similar States

- States That Are Most Like Us In:
  - Overall Student Body Size
  - % of students with IEPs
  - % of Non-White Students
  - % of Economically Disadvantaged Students

# Special Education Exiter Graduation Rate Trends for Michigan Compared to Most Similar States



# Similar State Exiter Rates

- 4 Peer States are above *National Exiter Graduation Rates*
  - Arizona
  - North Carolina
  - New Jersey
  - Pennsylvania
- Their Collective Average *Exiter Graduation Rate* over 5 Years = 81.47%
- Their Intra-State Average Standard Deviation for Change/per year = +/- 1.1%

# Most Similar States Based Target Setting



# Exiter Graduation Rate Targets

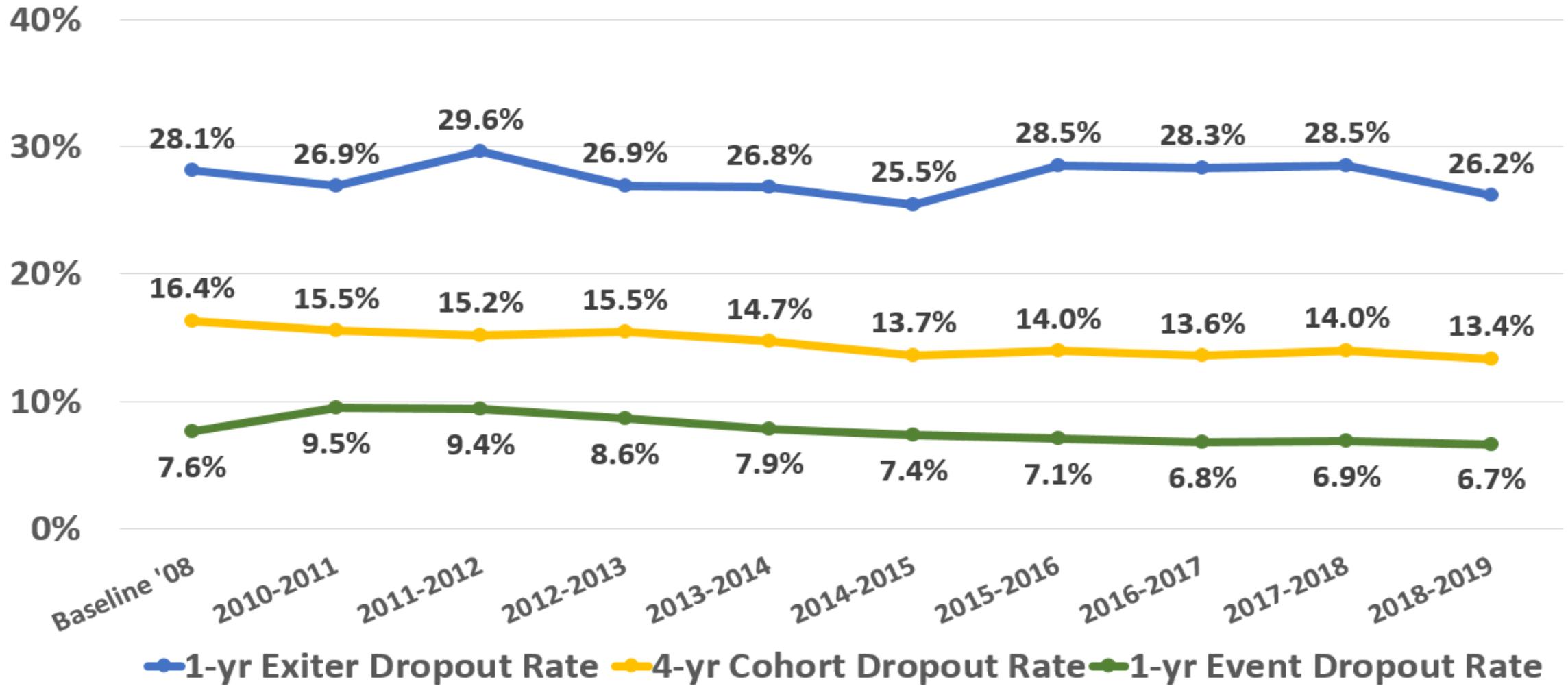
- **Summary: Evidence-based Strategies**
  - Targets Based on Within State History & Trends
    - Suggests that After 6 years, Targets of 73% to 76%
  - Targets Based on High Performing Peer States
    - Suggests that After 6 years, Targets of 72% to 81.5%

# Dropout Rates

# Dropout Rates: Measures & Targets

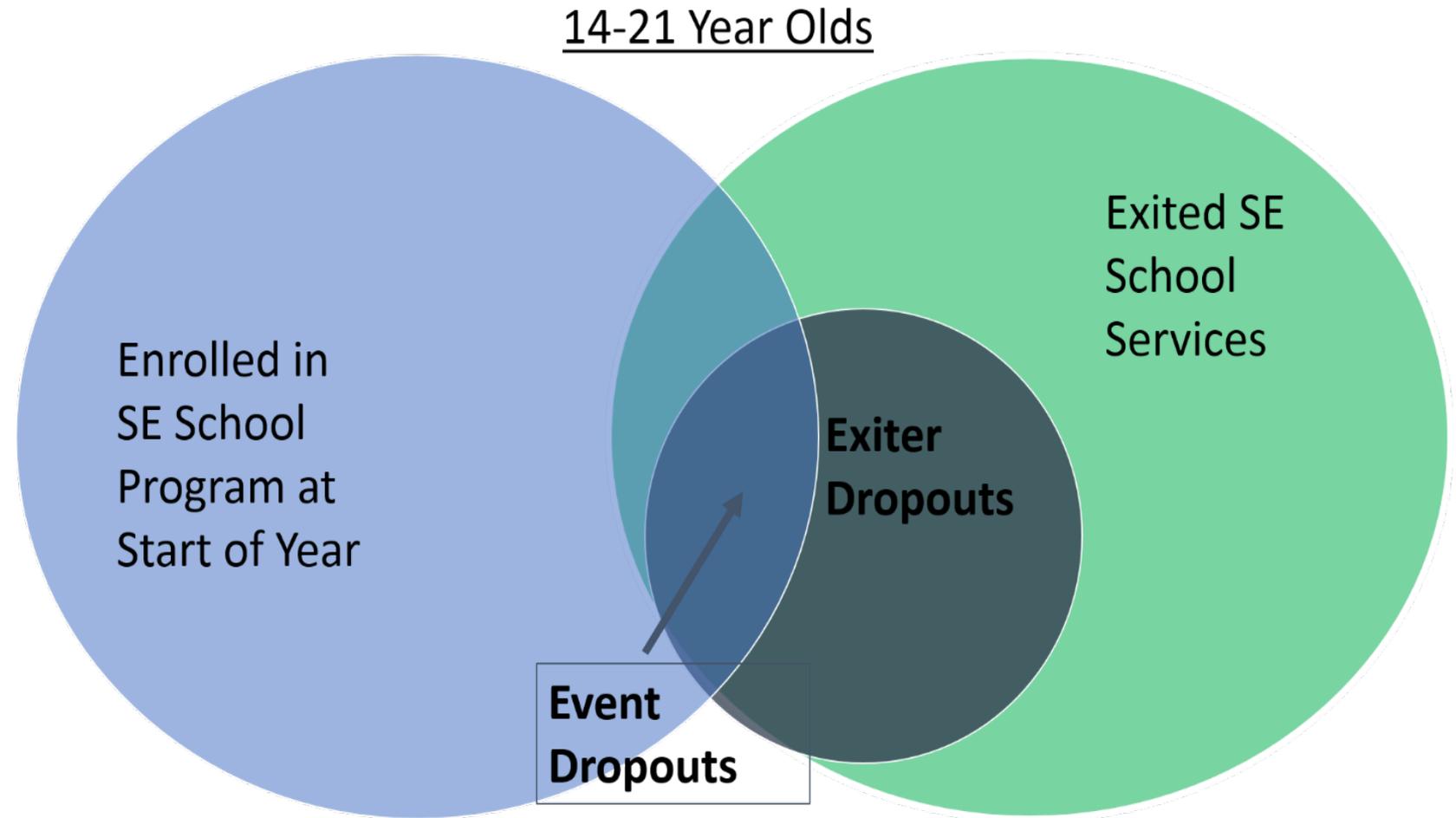
- 3 Common Measures Used to Monitor and Evaluate
  - 1-yr Event Dropout Rate
  - 4-yr Cohort Dropout Rate
  - 1-yr Exiter Dropout Rate
- Will Use the Event Dropout Rate for the Annual Performance Rate (APR) for the next 2 years (at least)
  - Focus on This Measure for Setting Targets

## Michigan Dropout Rates for Students with IEPs (3 Types of Commonly Used Measures)



# Conceptual Venn Diagram: Dropout Measures

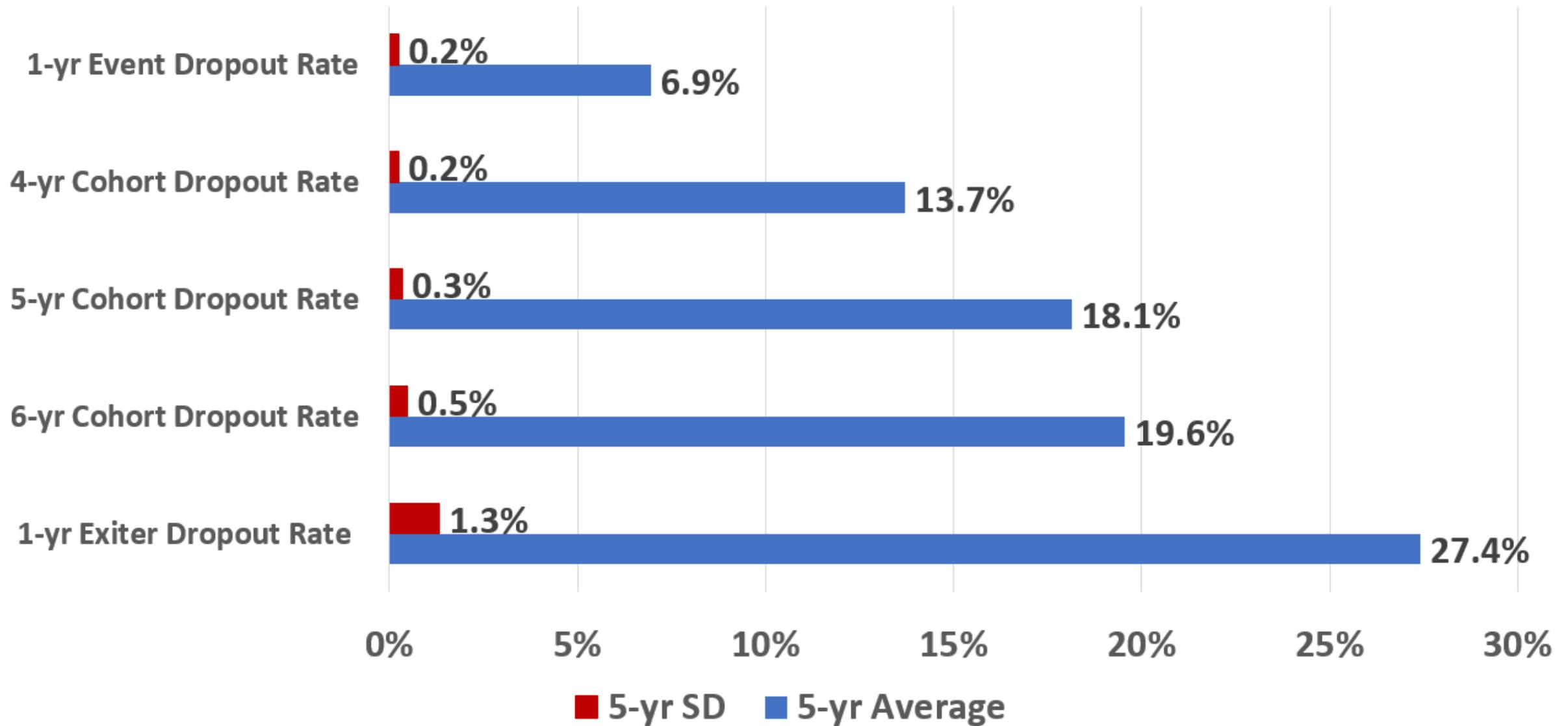
- *Event Rate Uses Enrolled Students as Denominator.*
- *Exiter Rate Uses Students Leaving School as the Denominator.*



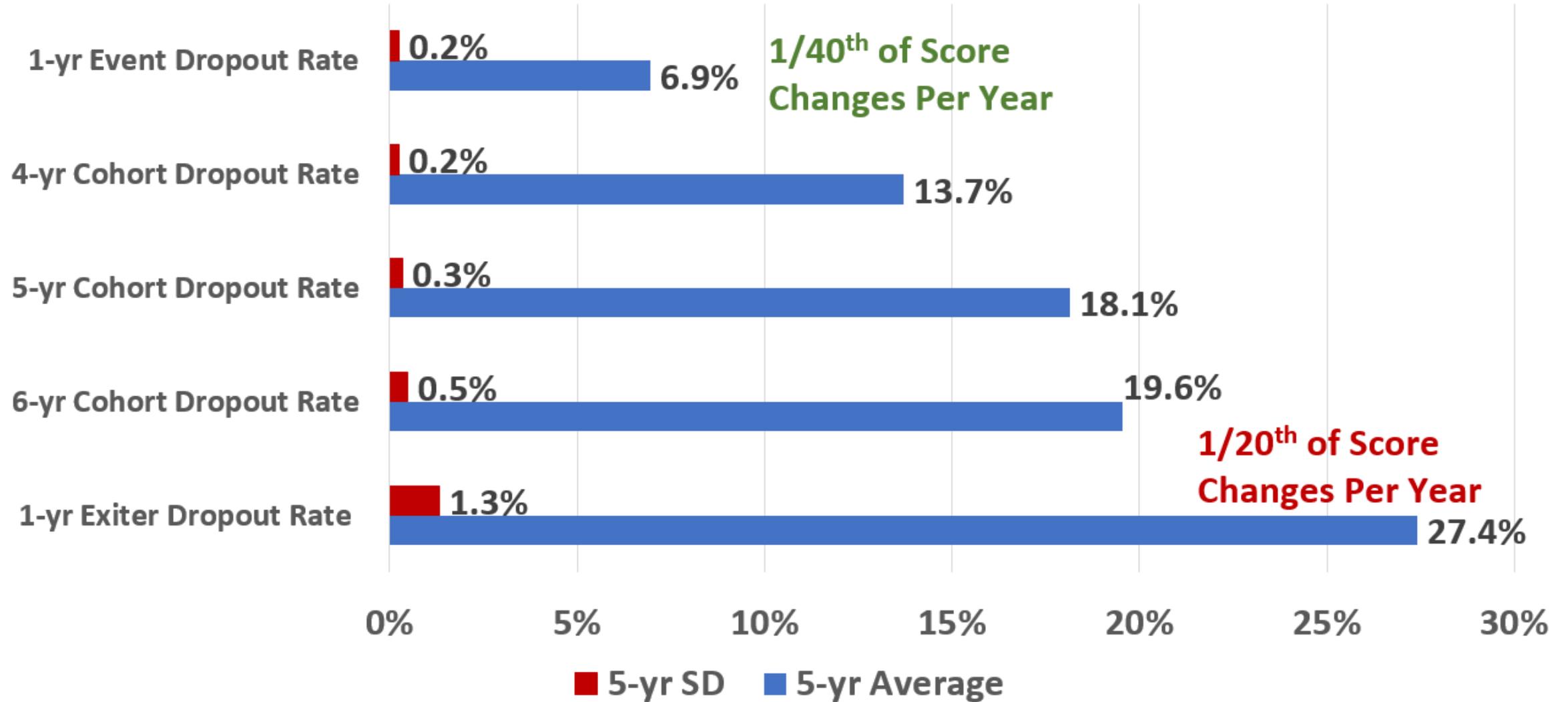
# Annual Performance for Michigan

- Look at past Annual Performance For Michigan
  - Special Focus on Last 5 years
    - Look at the 5-yr Average Event Dropout Rate
    - Look at the 5-yr Standard Deviation in Performance

# Michigan 5-Year Average Dropout Rates for Students with IEPs (5 Common Measures)



# Michigan 5-Year Average Dropout Rates for Students with IEPs (5 Common Measures)



# Michigan Target Setting History

- **Special Focus on Last 5 Years**

- 5-yr Average Event Dropout Rate Rate = 6.9%
- 5-yr Standard Deviation in Performance = +/- 0.2% (Chance Levels of Change)

- **Notice the last 3 years change is less = +/- 0.1**

- Improvements in Event Dropout Rates are slowing down

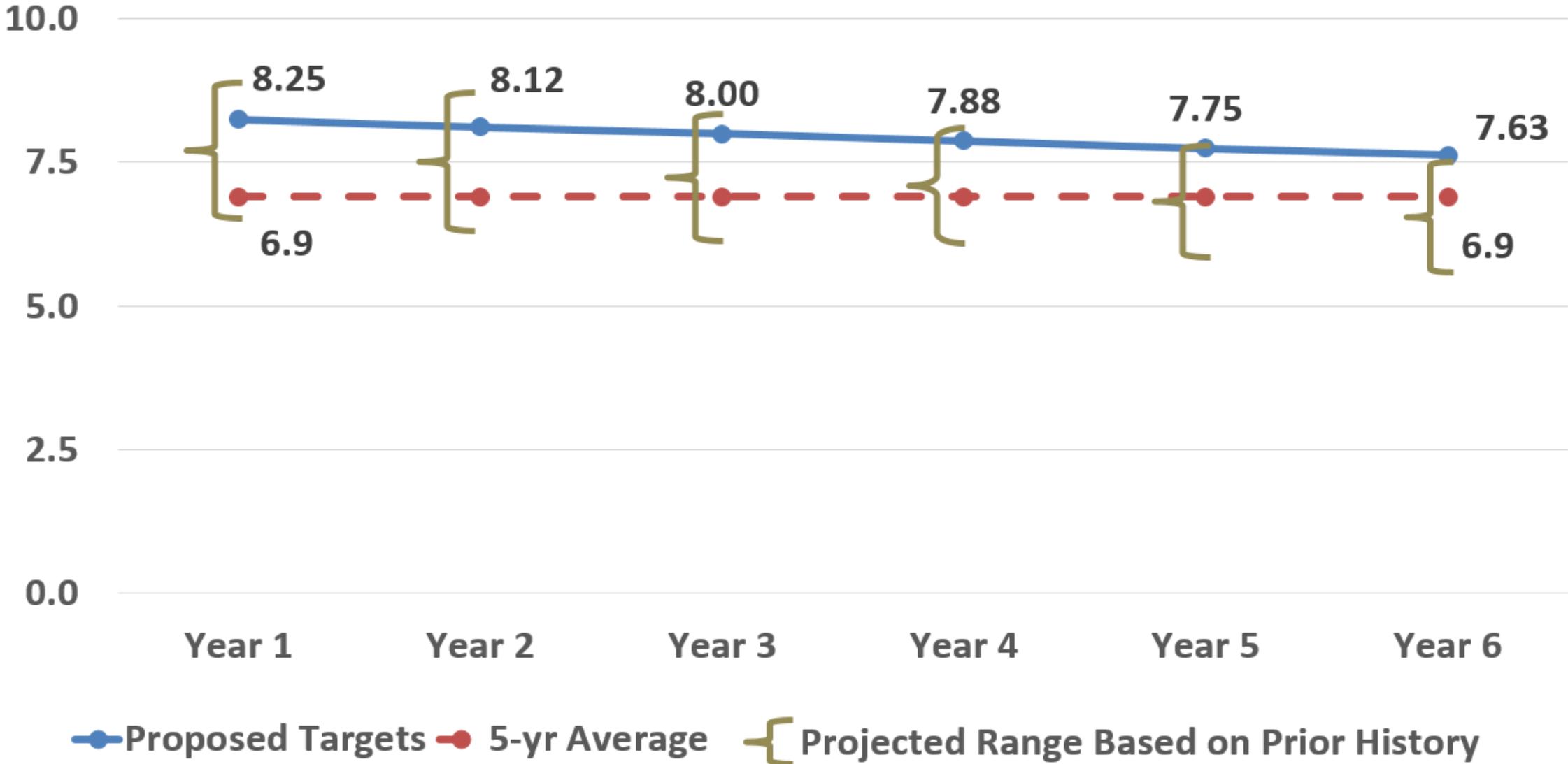
- **Other Considerations: Recession and Pandemic**

- Event Dropout Rate spiked upward (+1.9 points) during the last major recession (2008-2011)

- **Targets**

- Adjust current target (8.25%) downward by 0.12% Annually (Noticeable Improvement)

# Event Dropout Rate Targets & Projection Ranges



# Event Dropout Rate Targets

- **Summary: Evidence-based Strategies**

- Targets Based on Within State History & Trends

- Next Year Event Dropout Rates may range from 8.8% to 6.6%
    - Suggests that After 6 years, Event Dropout Rates may range from 6.1% to 7.6%

- Proposed Target is to decrease by 1.2 pts per yr, from 8.25% to 7.63% in 6 years.