

Technical Notes

These technical notes provide information that describes calculations in the data visualization. The visualization draws upon publicly available information from the Indiana General Assembly as prepared by the Indiana Legislative Services Agency. The information was obtained from the websites for the Indiana House Republican caucus¹. The information used in this visualization was current as of April 28, 2015.

Overarching Considerations

Per student amounts presented in this visualization are in reference to each funding category amount divided by the number of students enrolled in the school corporation. Throughout this technical note, the term student and ADM are used interchangeably.

Amounts from Mitch Daniels and Choice scholarships were removed from the analysis, since they do not pertain to funding public school corporations.

Amounts for new charter schools in FY2016 and FY2017 were retained in calculating the total funding for public school corporations. These amounts were not used to determine the number of school corporations that would experience gains or losses in FY2017 total funding per student.

The number of students in each category is based on the average daily membership (ADM) projected at school corporations in each category for FY2017. The sections below reference calculations made using the data from the projections used by the conference committee.

The change in amounts were calculated by subtracting FY2015 amounts from FY2017 amounts.

The percentage of students in a school corporation who receive free or reduced price lunch (FRL) was derived from the FY2015 Complexity Index as defined by the 2013/15 funding formula as approved by the Indiana General Assembly. The calculation that was used to derive FRL is specified as:

If Complexity Index ≤ 0.35 then %FRL = Complexity Index x 2
If Complexity Index > 0.35 then %FRL = Complexity Index + 0.35

¹ A copy of the House proposal can be obtained from the following website
http://www.indianahouserepublicans.com/clientuploads/PDF/Sch_Form_2016_2017__CC__7.pdf

The percentage of students in a school corporation who receive SNAP, TANF, or are foster children (%SNAP) was derived from Complexity Index values for FY2015 and FY2016 as specified below:

$$\%SNAP = 3 \times \text{Complexity Index}_{2016} - 2 \times \text{Complexity Index}_{2015}$$

Derivation of % SNAP

The complexity index is planned to be based on the percentage of students in a school corporation receiving SNAP, TANF, or are foster children. During FY2016 and FY2017, school corporations will transition from the old complexity index to the new complexity index. In FY2016 the Complexity Index (CI) was calculated as follows for school corporations that were not in their first year of operation:

Step 1: % SNAP, TANF, or foster children (%SNAP)

Step 2: Step 1 amount minus the prior year complexity index (CI); divide the difference by 3

Step 3: Add the prior year CI to the result of Step 2²

As a formula this may be expressed as:

$$(1) \text{CI}_{2016} = \text{CI}_{2015} + (\%SNAP - \text{CI}_{2015})/3$$

This may be simplified to yield:

$$(2) \%SNAP = 3 \times \text{CI}_{2016} - 2 \text{CI}_{2015}$$

The derived %SNAP will not apply to charter schools in their first year of operation. Nor will it apply to school corporations where more than 25% of the students are ELL and the complexity index is less than the prior year complexity index minus 0.1. In these cases the derived %SNAP will be greater than the actual %SNAP.

² An additional step increases the complexity index for corporations where more than 25% of the students are ELL and the complexity index is less than the prior year index minus 0.1. The effect is that the derived %SNAP may be greater than the actual percentage.