

Calculation for HB 451

In the 2015 session, Representative Pope introduced HB 451, which sought to amend the formula for calculating ANB to include students with disabilities age 19, 20, or 21 who were receiving special education services. The OPI was asked to provide a fiscal note for HB 451 and there was a request to clarify that calculation. Information was provided to the House Appropriations Committee regarding that calculation. The information used for the fiscal note estimate was based on both the data regarding the number of students age 19, 20, or 21 that had been served in prior years, and data that provided the number of potential students in the most recent year for which the data was available. The Child Count data for FY 2104 showed:

Number of students with disabilities in grade 12	929
Number of those students who were age 18	438
Number of those students who had significant disabilities	49
Number of students used for fiscal note	38

The child count data indicated that there were 49 students who were age 18 in FY 2014 that had disabilities that made it most likely that they would continue in school at age 19. The disability categories used for this estimate were Autism, Cognitive Delay, Deaf, Emotional Disturbance, Hearing Impairment, Multiple Disabilities, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Visual Impairment. Students with significant disabilities were those students who were receiving special education for more than 60 percent of the school day. Because not every student in this category will need services beyond age 18 and IEP teams would, therefore, not recommend them to continue, the estimate used was adjusted to reflect a number closer to the enrollment figures for FY 2014.

At the time of the April commission meeting, the FY 2016 Child Count data had just been certified. The current data are:

Number of students with disabilities in grade 12	1013
Number of students who were age 18	438
Number of students who will be 19 before 9/10/16	389
Number of students with significant disabilities	50
Number of students currently age 19, 20 or 21	38

As can be seen from the tables, the number of students with significant disabilities is quite similar in both years. In FY 2015 the Child Count showed that there were 424 students who were 18 years of age, and who would be 19 years of age by 9/10/16. Of those 424 students, 38 students remained on the Child Count for FY 2016. This represents 7.31 percent of the students. Applying that same percentage to the number of students who were 18 years of age and will be 19 years of age as of 9/10/16 results in an estimate of 29 students who would likely continue to be enrolled beyond age 18. Trend data show that this number is consistent with the number of 19 year-old students reported the last three fiscal years.

The Child Count Trend data suggest that the number of 19, 20, and 21-year-old students with disabilities is likely to be consistent in the near future. A change to the rules for calculating ANB that included 19, 20 and 21-year-old students would likely produce little change in the counts in the first year of the biennium, with minimal growth projected in the second year. It is expected that the number of students would grow over time, but the data for FY 2016 suggest that it would not grow to more than 50 students in the near term.