

Allegany County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

The largest number of students taking the AA-AAAS in Allegany County are in grades 8 and 11, which are two of the three tested grades for science. These students were identified prior to the use of the new Appendix A, and prior to the associated professional development regarding qualification for alternate assessment. ACPS is continuing to annually evaluate a student's qualification for the AA-AAAS using the Appendix A.

Anne Arundel County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

The LEA anticipates exceeding the 1.0 percent threshold for this assessed content. The anticipated participation rate for the spring 2025 administration is 1.31% for ELA and Math. (A) Anne Arundel County Public Schools has experienced an increasing number of students with disabilities overall and increasing numbers of eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities. (B) Students with significant cognitive disabilities participate in specially designed instruction within restrictive settings or disability-based programs which may emphasize participation in the alternate education framework and/or reduced opportunities to access the general education curriculum. (D) AACPS has seen an increase in conditionally certified teachers hired this school year (24-25) whom which need training and professional development on appropriate use and data analysis when deciding for a student to participate in AA-AAAS. Professional development plans and training opportunities are ongoing throughout the school to address this challenge. (E) The location of the LEA around community and healthcare organizations and facilities that provide education day programs draws a significant number of students with significant cognitive disabilities and their families to Anne Arundel County. (F) The location of military installations that are known as “compassionate care” bases offering special education services, such as Fort Meade and the Naval Academy within Anne Arundel County, and other locations that are near Anne Arundel County, such as Andres Air Force Base, draw a significant number of students with significant cognitive disabilities and their families to Anne Arundel County.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

The LEA anticipates exceeding the 1.0 percent threshold for this assessed content. The anticipated participation rate for the spring 2025 administration is 1.31% for ELA and Math. (A) Anne Arundel County Public Schools has experienced an increasing number of students with disabilities overall and increasing numbers of eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities. (B) Students with significant cognitive disabilities participate in specially designed instruction within restrictive settings or disability-based programs which may emphasize participation in the alternate education framework and/or reduced opportunities to access the general education curriculum. (D) AACPS has seen an increase in conditionally certified teachers hired this school year (24-25) whom which need training and professional development on appropriate use and data analysis when deciding for a student to participate in AA-AAAS. Professional development plans and training opportunities are ongoing throughout the school to address this challenge. (E) The location of the LEA around community and healthcare organizations and facilities that provide education day programs draws a significant number of students with significant cognitive disabilities and their families to Anne Arundel County. (F) The location of military

installations that are known as “compassionate care” bases offering special education services, such as Fort Meade and the Naval Academy within Anne Arundel County, and other locations that are near Anne Arundel County, such as Andres Air Force Base, draw a significant number of students with significant cognitive disabilities and their families to Anne Arundel County.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

The LEA anticipates exceeding the 1.0 percent threshold for this assessed content. The anticipated participation rate for the spring 2025 administration is 1.31% for ELA and Math. (A) Anne Arundel County Public Schools has experienced an increasing number of students with disabilities overall and increasing numbers of eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities. (B) Students with significant cognitive disabilities participate in specially designed instruction within restrictive settings or disability-based programs which may emphasize participation in the alternate education framework and/or reduced opportunities to access the general education curriculum. (D) AACPS has seen an increase in conditionally certified teachers hired this school year (24-25) whom which need training and professional development on appropriate use and data analysis when deciding for a student to participate in AA-AAAS. Professional development plans and training opportunities are ongoing throughout the school to address this challenge. (E) The location of the LEA around community and healthcare organizations and facilities that provide education day programs draws a significant number of students with significant cognitive disabilities and their families to Anne Arundel County. (F) The location of military installations that are known as “compassionate care” bases offering special education services, such as Fort Meade and the Naval Academy within Anne Arundel County, and other locations that are near Anne Arundel County, such as Andres Air Force Base, draw a significant number of students with significant cognitive disabilities and their families to Anne Arundel County.

Baltimore City

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

City Schools exceeds the 1% threshold for participation in alternate assessments in Science primarily due to a combination of factors related to the demographics of the student population, the needs of students with significant disabilities, and the availability of appropriate educational services. City Schools, as a urban district, serves a diverse population with a higher proportion of students with significant disabilities that impact their ability to participate in the general state assessments. According to Maryland Early Intervention and Special Education Services Census Data & Related Tables, April 2023, City Schools' total enrollment was 75,995 students, 11,301 (14.9%) students received special education services. In comparison to other Local Education Agencies (LEAs), City Schools has the largest percentage of students with disabilities. Students with intellectual disabilities represent 17.49% of the total, a significantly larger percentage in comparison to other LEA. Baltimore City offers a range of specialized educational programs designed to meet the needs of students with significant cognitive disabilities. Baltimore City is home to numerous nonprofit

organizations, advocacy groups, and community resources that focus on supporting families with children with disabilities which include: support groups, respite care services, and specialized medical and therapeutic services.

Baltimore County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) has exceeded the 1% threshold for students with disabilities taking the alternate assessment due to a steady increase in the number of students with cognitive, communication and functional skill deficits. Enrollment data over time highlights that the largest increases have occurred among students identified with Autism, Multiple Disabilities, and Intellectual Disabilities. In addition, a growing number of new to county students enroll with alternate assessment decisions made outside of Baltimore County Public Schools. This growth has led to a corresponding rise in the number of students eligible for alternate assessments, pushing the percentage above the 1% cap.

The needs of this population often require significant curriculum modifications and explicit interventions to facilitate the development and generalization of skills. Based on multiple sources of data, 1.19% of the tested students in Baltimore County required reduced breadth, depth and levels of complexity, including a focus on introductory or pre-requisite skills to demonstrate mastery of the Essential Elements of the English Language Arts (ELA) Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards.

Further analysis reveals a concerning disproportionality in the identification of African American students for special education under the Intellectual Disability category. For example, 338 African American students were identified for alternative assessments, a figure more than double that of White students (151) and higher than the combined total of Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and multiracial students (179). This disparity underscores the need for targeted professional development for IEP team members to address implicit bias, to ensure adequate analysis of data, and refine practices in developing specially designed instruction. While there is not a direct correlation between participation in the Alternate Assessment and disability coding, students with an intellectual disability are frequently qualified to receive alternate instruction.

To address the increased number of African American students recommended for the alternate assessment, Baltimore County Public Schools has implemented a targeted plan to reduce overidentification and disproportional participation. The Department of Special Education, in collaboration with the Office of Psychological Services, has established a dedicated workgroup. This workgroup focuses on enhancing the capacity of school psychologists to guide a data-driven decision-making process for determining student eligibility for the alternate assessment. By equipping school psychologists with the tools and knowledge needed to evaluate students comprehensively, the district aims to ensure equitable assessment practices, reduce disproportionate representation as well as reduce the rate of participation within Baltimore County Public Schools.

Based on the current alternative assessment participation rate, BCPS has developed an action plan to reduce participation. Comprehensive professional learning to enable data driven decision making procedures has been developed and provided for school-based team members. Resources have been allocated to reduce overidentification and disproportionality. Lastly, BCPS has updated new to county procedures to require 45-day assessment reviews of students identified to

participate in the alternate assessment process to ensure students are on the appropriate.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) has exceeded the 1% threshold for students with disabilities taking the alternative assessment due to a steady increase in the number of students with cognitive, communication and functional skill deficits. Enrollment data over time highlights that the largest increases have occurred among students identified with Autism, Multiple Disabilities, and Intellectual Disabilities. In addition, a growing number of new to county students enroll with alternative assessment decisions made outside of Baltimore County Public Schools. This growth has led to a corresponding rise in the number of students eligible for alternative assessments, pushing the percentage above the 1% cap.

The needs of this population often require significant curriculum modifications and explicit interventions to facilitate the development and generalization of skills. Based on multiple sources of data, 1.19% of the tested students in Baltimore County required reduced breadth, depth and levels of complexity, including a focus on introductory or pre-requisite skills to demonstrate mastery of the Essential Elements of the Mathematics Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards.

Further analysis reveals a concerning disproportionality in the identification of African American students for special education under the Intellectual Disability category. For example, 338 African American students were identified for alternative assessments, a figure more than double that of White students (151) and higher than the combined total of Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and multiracial students (179). This disparity underscores the need for targeted professional development for IEP team members to address implicit bias, to ensure adequate analysis of data, and refine practices in developing specially designed instruction. While there is not a direct correlation between participation in the Alternate Assessment and disability coding, students with an intellectual disability are frequently qualified to receive alternate instruction.

To address the increased number of African American students recommended for the alternate assessment, Baltimore County Public Schools has implemented a targeted plan to reduce overidentification and disproportional participation. The Department of Special Education, in collaboration with the Office of Psychological Services, has established a dedicated workgroup. This workgroup focuses on enhancing the capacity of school psychologists to guide a data-driven decision-making process for determining student eligibility for the alternate assessment. By equipping school psychologists with the tools and knowledge needed to evaluate students comprehensively, the district aims to ensure equitable assessment practices, reduce disproportionate representation as well as reduce the rate of participation within Baltimore County Public Schools.

Based on the current alternative assessment participation rate, BCPS has developed an action plan to reduce participation. Comprehensive professional learning to enable data driven decision making procedures has been developed and provided for school-based team members. Resources have been allocated to reduce overidentification and disproportionality. Lastly, BCPS has updated new to county procedures to require 45-day assessment reviews of students identified to participate in the alternate assessment process to ensure students are on the appropriate.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

Baltimore County Public Schools (BCPS) has exceeded the 1% threshold for students with disabilities taking the alternative assessment due to a steady increase in the number of students with cognitive, communication and functional skill deficits. Enrollment data over time highlights that the largest increases have occurred among students identified with Autism, Multiple Disabilities, and Intellectual Disabilities. In addition, a growing number of new to county students enroll with alternative assessment decisions made outside of Baltimore County Public Schools. This growth has led to a corresponding rise in the number of students eligible for alternative assessments, pushing the percentage above the 1% cap.

The needs of this population often require significant curriculum modifications and explicit interventions to facilitate the development and generalization of skills. Based on multiple sources of data, 1.26% of the tested students in Baltimore County require reduced breadth, depth and levels of complexity, including a focus on introductory or pre-requisite skills to demonstrate mastery of the Essential Elements of the Science Maryland College and Career Readiness Standards.

Further analysis reveals a concerning disproportionality in the identification of African American students for special education under the Intellectual Disability category. For example, 338 African American students were identified for alternative assessments, a figure more than double that of White students (151) and higher than the combined total of Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and multiracial students (179). This disparity underscores the need for targeted professional development for IEP team members to address implicit bias, to ensure adequate analysis of data, and refine practices in developing specially designed instruction. While there is not a direct correlation between participation in the Alternate Assessment and disability coding, students with an intellectual disability are frequently qualified to receive alternate instruction.

To address the increased number of African American students recommended for the alternate assessment, Baltimore County Public Schools has implemented a targeted plan to reduce overidentification and disproportional participation. The Department of Special Education, in collaboration with the Office of Psychological Services, has established a dedicated workgroup. This workgroup focuses on enhancing the capacity of school psychologists to guide a data-driven decision-making process for determining student eligibility for the alternate assessment. By equipping school psychologists with the tools and knowledge needed to evaluate students comprehensively, the district aims to ensure equitable assessment practices, reduce disproportionate representation as well as reduce the rate of participation within Baltimore County Public Schools.

Based on the current alternative assessment participation rate, BCPS has developed an action plan to reduce participation. Comprehensive professional learning to enable data driven decision making procedures has been developed and provided for school-based team members. Resources have been allocated to reduce overidentification and disproportionality. Lastly, BCPS has updated new to county procedures to require 45-day assessment reviews of students identified to participate in the alternate assessment process to ensure students are on the appropriate.

Calvert County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Caroline County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Carroll County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Cecil County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Charles County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Maryland Department of Labor

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Dorchester County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

The population for science test takers is significantly lower than our ELA and math testing population, resulting in overage.

Frederick County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Garrett County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

Garrett County Public Schools has a very small total student population size that has a significant impact on the participation percentages. Garrett County Public Schools has less than 800 students taking the science assessment and 10 or fewer students taking the alternate assessment. In addition, the majority of our students enrolled in the alternate assessments are in grades 5, 8, and 11, which significantly impacts the science calculation. Garrett County Public Schools does not exceed the 1% calculation in ELA or Math.

Harford County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

Eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities who participate in Specially Designed Instruction within restrictive settings, such as our public-separate day school and regional programs participate in the alternate academic achievement standards, which emphasizes participation in alternate academic assessments.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

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Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

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Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

Eligible students with significant cognitive disabilities who participate in Specially Designed Instruction within restrictive settings, such as our public-separate day school and regional programs participate in the alternate academic achievement standards, which emphasizes participation in alternate academic assessments.

Howard County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

The HCPSS has seen an increase in the number of students in special education including students who meet the criteria for alternate instruction and assessment. While in the last three years the average number of students with IEPs has increased by over 400 students, the rate of growth for the general education population has remained constant. As a result, the percent of students participating in the AA-AAAS exceeds 1% in ELA, Mathematics, and Science.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

The HCPSS has seen an increase in the number of students in special education including students who meet the criteria for alternate instruction and assessment. While in the last three years the average number of students with IEPs has increased by over 400 students, the rate of growth for the general education population has remained constant. As a result, the percent of students participating in the AA-AAAS exceeds 1% in ELA, Mathematics, and Science.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

The HCPSS has seen an increase in the number of students in special education including students who meet the criteria for alternate instruction and assessment. While in the last three years the average number of students with IEPs has increased by over 400 students, the rate of growth for the general education population has remained constant. As a result, the percent of students participating in the AA-AAAS exceeds 1% in ELA, Mathematics, and Science.

JSES Schools

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Kent County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

While less than 10 students have been identified for the alternative assessments, due to the low enrollment of all students, the KCPS is projected to exceed the 1% threshold for identification of students taking the Alternative assessment by 1.06% for ELA, 1.01% for Math and 1.3% for Science.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

While less than 10 students have been identified for the alternative assessments, due to the low enrollment of all students, the KCPS is projected to exceed the 1% threshold for identification of students taking the Alternative assessment by 1.06% for ELA, 1.01% for Math and 1.3% for Science.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

While less than 10 students have been identified for the alternative assessments, due to the low enrollment of all students, the KCPS is projected to exceed the 1% threshold for identification of students taking the Alternative assessment by 1.06% for ELA, 1.01% for Math and 1.3% for Science.

Maryland School for the Blind

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

The Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) serves only students with disabilities who receive specially designed instruction through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). MSB does not serve a general education student population. Many of our students have multiple disabilities and, of that population, a high percentage of our students have significant cognitive disabilities as determined by the IEP team through data collection, analysis and the evaluation process.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

The Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) serves only students with disabilities who receive specially designed instruction through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). MSB does not serve a general education student population. Many of our students have multiple disabilities and, of that population, a high percentage of our students have significant cognitive disabilities as determined by the IEP team through data collection, analysis and the evaluation process.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

The Maryland School for the Blind (MSB) serves only students with disabilities who receive specially designed instruction through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). MSB does not serve a general education student population. Many of our students have multiple disabilities and, of that population, a high percentage of our students have significant cognitive disabilities as determined by the IEP team through data collection, analysis and the evaluation process.

Maryland School for the Deaf

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

MSD currently serves 456 students from Birth through age 21. Of those students, 76 are on an IFSP or extended IFSP through their county. There are 380 students currently served on an IEP.

MSD anticipates exceeding the 1% threshold for this assessed content area due to the number of deaf/hard-of-hearing students identified with coexisting disabilities that include cognitive disabilities (Children Who Are Deaf/Hard of Hearing with Disabilities: Paths to Language and Literacy).

Additional factors include a number of linguistic challenges faced by deaf and hard-of-hearing children; the majority of which (greater than 90%) are born to hearing families unfamiliar with Deaf Culture and American Sign Language (ASL), which is also the language of instruction at MSD. As such, deaf children are at risk for significant educational delays based on "linguistic neglect" (Linguistic Neglect of Deaf Children in the United States). These statistics and coexisting disabilities for MSD students complicate eligibility, identification, and intervention with communication competence.

A review of data for both campuses of MSD reveals that the very small sample size (less than 250 students will be assessed in each area (ELA, math and science) for the year in question) continues to have a profound statistical impact on MSD's results. MSD is a very small school as compared to local county programs. With that in mind, just a few students' qualifying for the alternate standards and assessments has a much larger statistical impact on program trends than would occur in a larger school system.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

MSD currently serves 456 students from Birth through age 21. Of those students, 76 are on an IFSP or extended IFSP through their county. There are 380 students currently served on an IEP.

MSD anticipates exceeding the 1% threshold for this assessed content area due to the number of deaf/hard-of-hearing students identified with coexisting disabilities that include cognitive disabilities (Children Who Are Deaf/Hard of Hearing with Disabilities: Paths to Language and Literacy).

Additional factors include a number of linguistic challenges faced by deaf and hard-of-hearing children; the majority of which (greater than 90%) are born to hearing families unfamiliar with Deaf Culture and American Sign Language (ASL), which is also the language of instruction at MSD. As such, deaf children are at risk for significant educational delays based on “linguistic neglect” (Linguistic Neglect of Deaf Children in the United States). These statistics and coexisting disabilities for MSD students complicate eligibility, identification, and intervention with communication competence.

A review of data for both campuses of MSD reveals that the very small sample size (less than 250 students will be assessed in each area (ELA, math and science) for the year in question) continues to have a profound statistical impact on MSD’s results. MSD is a very small school as compared to local county programs. With that in mind, just a few students' qualifying for the alternate standards and assessments has a much larger statistical impact on program trends than would occur in a larger school system.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

MSD currently serves 456 students from Birth through age 21. Of those students, 76 are on an IFSP or extended IFSP through their county. There are 380 students currently served on an IEP.

MSD anticipates exceeding the 1% threshold for this assessed content area due to the number of deaf/hard-of-hearing students identified with coexisting disabilities that include cognitive disabilities (Children Who Are Deaf/Hard of Hearing with Disabilities: Paths to Language and Literacy).

Additional factors include a number of linguistic challenges faced by deaf and hard-of-hearing children; the majority of which (greater than 90%) are born to hearing families unfamiliar with Deaf Culture and American Sign Language (ASL), which is also the language of instruction at MSD. As such, deaf children are at risk for significant educational delays based on “linguistic neglect” (Linguistic Neglect of Deaf Children in the United States). These statistics and coexisting disabilities for MSD students complicate eligibility, identification, and intervention with communication competence.

A review of data for both campuses of MSD reveals that the very small sample size (less than 250 students will be assessed in each area (ELA, math and science) for the year in question) continues to have a profound statistical impact on MSD’s results. MSD is a very small school as compared to local county programs. With that in mind, just a few students' qualifying for the alternate standards and assessments has a much larger statistical impact on program trends than would occur in a larger school system.

Montgomery County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

Montgomery County provides a wide range of health and community services and resources which attracts many families of students with disabilities. As a result, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) receives a significant number of families who move into Montgomery County to access these services. Additionally, given the release of the revised Appendix A: Participation Criteria and Checklist used to determine eligibility for student participation in the alternate assessment and/or alternate achievement standards, MCPS staff members required professional learning on analyzing appropriate data and the effective use of the revised guidelines.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

Montgomery County provides a wide range of health and community services and resources which attracts many families of students with disabilities. As a result, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) receives a significant number of families who move into Montgomery County to access these services. Additionally, given the release of the revised Appendix A: Participation Criteria and Checklist used to determine eligibility for student participation in the alternate assessment and/or alternate achievement standards, MCPS staff members required professional learning on analyzing appropriate data and the effective use of the revised guidelines.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

Not exceeding 1% in Science - no justification needed

Prince George's County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

In SY 2025, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Mathematics Alternate Assessment testing numbers will exceed the 1% cap due to a recent realignment in our general high school math course sequence. Specifically, PGCPS has shifted Algebra 1 instruction from 9th to 10th grade, with current 9th graders now taking Geometry—a course that is not a required state assessment (Algebra 1 is our graduation requirement). This shift results in a smaller cohort of high school students taking Algebra 1 this year. As a result, the testing population in Math is temporarily reduced, leading to an overrepresentation within the tested grades for students eligible to participate in the Mathematics Alternate Assessment. The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) is aware of these adjustments to our testing population for this year.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Queen Anne's County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

The SEED School

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Somerset County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

The higher turnover rate of special education staff in our district during 2023-2024 school year. This turnover led to inconsistent training for new staff members, particularly in understanding the criteria for identifying students who qualified for the alternative assessment. As new staff were brought on board, the time required to fully train them created variability in decision-making, which resulted in a higher number of students being placed in the alternative assessment than anticipated.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

The higher turnover rate of special education staff in our district during 2023-2024 school year. This turnover led to inconsistent training for new staff members, particularly in understanding the criteria for identifying students who qualified for the alternative assessment. As new staff were brought on board, the time required to fully train them created variability in decision-making, which resulted in a higher number of students being placed in the alternative assessment than anticipated.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

The higher turnover rate of special education staff in our district during 2023-2024 school year. This turnover led to inconsistent training for new staff members, particularly in understanding the criteria for identifying students who qualified for the alternative assessment. As new staff were brought on board, the time required to fully train them created variability in decision-making, which resulted in a higher number of students being placed in the alternative assessment than anticipated.

St. Mary's County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

The proximity of SMCPS to the Patuxent Navy Base results in a disproportionately high number of students with disabilities in our county. Pax River is designated as a Category 5 EFMP (Exceptional Family Member Program) installation due to its proximity to Bethesda/Walter Reed. This means Pax can accommodate any level of disability or special need ranging from Cat 1 – Cat 5. Cat 5 EFMs are those whose needs are highly specialized, complex or severe. Important to note, service members are assigned duty stations based on billet/mission needs first. The ability to bring their EFMs with them is based on the installation EFMP Category designation (for the family, EFMP Category rating is based on the severity of the special need; for the installation, it is based on their ability to provide (or proximity to) services/resources). Data at this time estimated from the Impact Aid forms for SMCPS indicate that we have about 650 Active Military Families and 2,780 Military Connected Students.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

The proximity of SMCPS to the Patuxent Navy Base results in a disproportionately high number of students with disabilities in our county. Pax River is designated as a Category 5 EFMP (Exceptional Family Member Program) installation due to its proximity to Bethesda/Walter Reed. This means Pax can accommodate any level of disability or special need ranging from Cat 1 – Cat 5. Cat 5 EFMs are those whose needs are highly specialized, complex or severe. Important to note, service members are assigned duty stations based on billet/mission needs first. The ability to bring their EFMs with them is based on the installation EFMP Category designation (for the family, EFMP Category rating is based on the severity of the special need; for the installation, it is based on their ability to provide (or proximity to) services/resources). Data at this time estimated from the Impact Aid forms for SMCPS indicate that we have about 650 Active Military Families and 2,780 Military Connected Students.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

The proximity of SMCPS to the Patuxent Navy Base results in a disproportionately high number of students with disabilities in our county. Pax River is designated as a Category 5 EFMP (Exceptional Family Member Program) installation due to its proximity to Bethesda/Walter Reed. This means Pax can accommodate any level of disability or special need ranging from Cat 1 – Cat 5. Cat 5 EFMs are those whose needs are highly specialized, complex or severe. Important to note, service members are assigned duty stations based on billet/mission needs first. The ability to bring their EFMs with them is based on the installation EFMP Category designation (for the family, EFMP Category rating is based on the severity of the special need; for the installation, it is based on their ability to provide (or proximity to) services/resources). Data at this time estimated from the Impact Aid forms for SMCPS indicate that we have about 650 Active Military Families and 2,780 Military Connected Students.

Talbot County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Washington County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

Historically, the number of students who have participated in the alternate assessments in Washington County has remained relatively consistent. WCPS did see an increase in students found eligible for participation in alternate assessments over the last year, and overall student enrollment also increased. While we cannot pinpoint the exact cause of WCPS exceeding the 1% mark for alternate assessment participation, there are various factors that may have an impact.

According to recent health department data, Washington County is among one of the areas most significantly impacted by the opioid crisis in Maryland. Opioid-related deaths have been on a steady incline from 2014 (40 deaths) to present (as high as 114 in 2022). Per a July 2018 article in Baltimore Magazine: "Since the start of the addiction crisis, which now kills more in the U.S. than car accidents and gun violence combined, emergency rescue calls have tripled in Hagerstown. In 2016 (the most recent year available), an average of 113 prescriptions for opioids were written for every 100 Washington County residents—nearly twice the national average. At Meritus Medical Center outside of downtown Hagerstown, nearly three children a week are born addicted to opioids." Lack of prioritization in city planning for substance abuse and medical treatment centers in prior years may have contributed to the disproportionality of families experiencing drug abuse and children born addicted. It is likely that WCPS has seen an increase in students enrolling with significant cognitive disabilities as a result of fetal drug exposure.

The majority of WCPS students found eligible for participation in alternate assessments have a primary disability category of Intellectual Disability, Autism, or Multiple Disabilities (99.4%). Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities typically fall under one of these three disability categories. Washington County Public Schools continues to provide ongoing professional development training, support, and monitoring of student data and eligibility criteria to ensure that only students meeting alternate framework criteria are found eligible.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

Historically, the number of students who have participated in the alternate assessments in Washington County has remained relatively consistent. WCPS did see an increase in students found eligible for participation in alternate assessments over the last year, and overall student enrollment also increased. While we cannot pinpoint the exact cause of WCPS exceeding the 1% mark for alternate assessment participation, there are various factors that may have an impact.

According to recent health department data, Washington County is among one of the areas most significantly impacted by the opioid crisis in Maryland. Opioid-related deaths have been on a steady incline from 2014 (40 deaths) to present (as high as 114 in 2022). Per a July 2018 article in Baltimore Magazine: "Since the start of the addiction crisis, which now kills more in the U.S. than car accidents and gun violence combined, emergency rescue calls have tripled in Hagerstown. In 2016 (the most recent year available), an average of 113 prescriptions for opioids were written for every 100 Washington County residents—nearly twice the national average. At Meritus Medical Center outside of downtown Hagerstown, nearly three children a week are born addicted to opioids." Lack of prioritization in city planning for substance abuse and medical treatment centers in prior years may have contributed to the disproportionality of families experiencing drug abuse and children born addicted. It is likely that WCPS has seen an increase in students enrolling with significant cognitive disabilities as a result of fetal drug exposure.

The majority of WCPS students found eligible for participation in alternate assessments have a primary disability category of Intellectual Disability, Autism, or Multiple Disabilities (99.4%). Students with the most significant cognitive disabilities typically fall under one of these three disability categories. Washington County Public Schools continues to provide ongoing professional development training, support, and monitoring of student data and eligibility criteria to ensure that only students meeting alternate framework criteria are found eligible.

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

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Wicomico County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

NA

Worcester County

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for English Language Arts/Reading for the 2024-25 administration below:

WCPS is not over 1% for ELA

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and high school) for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration?

No

Justification Statement - Based on the information above, provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Mathematics for the 2024-25 administration below:

WCPS is not over 1% for Math

Based on the projected calculations above, does your LEA anticipate participation rates on the AA-AAAS to be more than one percent (1%) of the total student population (from October 1, 2024 student enrollment) in the grades tested (grades 5, 8, and high school) for Science for the 2024-25 administration?

Yes

Justification Statement - Provide written justification in narrative form for exceeding the 1% participation threshold for Science for the 2024-25 administration below:

During the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school years, WCPS has had 8 students transfer into our county who were already determined eligible to participate in Maryland's Alternate Framework for Instruction and Assessment by LEAs other than WCPS. This represents 14% of our total students in the Alternate Framework, with 75% of these transfers coming from tested grades.

WCPS's total enrollment is 7,021 students, with 58 students participating in Maryland's Alternate Framework for Instruction and Assessment. This constitutes 0.83% of WCPS's total student population, which is less than the federal mandated 1% participation rate. MSDE calculates the 1% based on the number of students taking general education assessments compared to those in grades 3 through 8 and 11 participating in alternate assessments.

Currently, there are 3,482 WCPS students participating in general education ELA assessments in grades 3 through 8 and 11, and 3,491 students participating in general education Math assessments in those same grades. This also equals 0.83% for both ELA and Math. Maryland administers the DLM Science Assessment in grades 3, 8, and 11, with only 16 students participating in the science alternate assessment. These students also take the ELA and Math assessments, contributing to WCPS's overall participation rate of less than the federal mandate of 1%. The 16 students participating in the DLM Science assessment make up 55% of our students in the alternate assessment.