

## Course Data Guide January 2021

**Important note:** [2019 Wisconsin Act 185](#) prohibits the release of school and district accountability report cards in the 2020-21 school year. This means the **Office of Educational Accountability (OEA) will not issue school or district report cards for 2019-20** (the report cards that would have been publicly released in November). Though there will be no 2019-20 report cards, OEA is releasing accountability “**preview reports**” directly to schools and districts via SAFE in January/February of 2021. These preview reports will use data from prior years (i.e., 2018-19 assessment results) to demonstrate the report card calculation and data changes. They are for informational purposes only.

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the new course data included in the preview reports and in future report cards.

### Introduction

State statute ([Wis. Stat. 115.385](#)) requires DPI to report course data annually in Accountability Report Cards. Statute requires reporting on the following courses and programs:

#### Postsecondary Preparation (per 2017 Act 59)

- Dual enrollment (#/%)
- Youth apprenticeship (#/%)
- Advanced placement, courses and exams (#)
- Industry-recognized credentials (#)
- Hours of community service provided by pupils

#### Arts Data (per 2019 Act 85)

The percentage of students participating in arts courses, defined as

- Dance
- Music
- Theater
- Visual arts

After consulting with content experts in these areas, OEA is reporting participation data on report cards for these courses and programs using the following categories:

#### Postsecondary Preparation (per 2017 Act 59)

- Advanced Courses
- Dual Enrollment
- Industry-Recognized Credentials
- Work-Based Learning

#### Arts Data (per 2019 Act 85)

The percentage of students participating in arts courses, defined as

- Art & Design
- Dance
- Music
- Theater

These course data will be reported in the preview reports and in report cards moving forward. The data are reported for informational purposes only (not scored), and like graduation and attendance data, course data will lag by one year on report cards. For example, 2020-21 report cards will include 2019-20 course data. This document outlines the process for collecting and reporting these course data.

At this time, course data are reported to DPI by public schools and districts only. Private schools in a Choice Program do not send course data to DPI. The pages with course data will not appear on the report card for choice schools. They will also not appear on report cards for any public schools or districts without grades 9-12. Additionally, community service will not be included in the report cards, as DPI is still working through the process of collecting community service hours.

### Data Sources

All data reported on the Postsecondary Preparation and Arts course pages of the report card are collected via the year-end snapshot of ["Roster" data in WISEdata](#). This includes course enrollments and CTE program participation and completion. Because course and program data are captured by schools and districts throughout the school year, the snapshot does not occur until December of the year following. This is why course data in report cards is always lagged by one year.

Year-End Roster Data Snapshot Dates

Data Year	Snapshot Date
2018-19	2020-01-28
2019-20	2020-12-08

### Course Data Calculations

The following data notes apply for all course data and Postsecondary Preparation and Arts specific calculations:

#### All Course Data Calculations

1. Only students in **grades 9-12** are included.
2. Only course enrollments with an associate outcome of either **'Pass' or 'Fail'** are included. Incomplete, audited, or ungraded course enrollments are excluded.
3. Participant or credential earned counts are at the **student level**, not the number of courses or credentials earned. A student is counted if they took one or more courses or received one or more credentials in a given category. This means, for instance, that a student who took a single advanced course counts the same in the calculation as a student whose entire schedule was made up of advanced courses.
4. Percentages are calculated by **dividing the count of participants by the total number of students in grades 9-12** represented in the Year-End Roster snapshot. Even if a school failed to submit course enrollments for a student, if that student was enrolled in the school, they are included in the denominator of the calculation.

## Postsecondary Preparation Counts & Rates

### Advanced Courses

1. Includes **both Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB)** courses.
2. Relevant courses and their codes can be found by filtering the [course code download file](#) by the 'Course Program' column. Note, however, that courses in the 'IB Primary Years' (elementary school program) and 'IB Middle Years' (middle school program) are not included because the Roster collection is required only for grades 9-12.
3. The calculation **ignores the 'Rigor Level' classification**. All high school AP and IB courses are included, regardless of rigor level indicated. Courses outside of the AP and IB programs are *not* included, even if their rigor level is set to honors or advanced.
4. For advanced courses **OEA reports the number of unique courses represented in the data at a school or district**. This count is based on distinct SCED codes and does not evaluate how many sections or for how many terms a given course is offered.

### Dual Enrollment

1. **Includes programs** in cooperation with UW System, private, technical, and tribal colleges and universities.
2. **Districts determine which courses to associate with Dual Enrollment programs**. The list of courses that can be taken as Dual Enrollment varies widely across districts. There is no authorized list of course codes that DPI can provide.
3. **AP and IB courses are by definition not Dual Enrollment courses**. Even if a district submits a Dual Enrollment program association with an AP or IB course, OEA does not include that course in the Dual Enrollment counts and percentages. In future years, warnings will appear in the WISEdata Portal for districts who submit Dual Enrollment program associations with AP or IB courses.

### Industry Recognized Credentials (IRCs) & Work Based Learning (WBL)

1. Both of these counts/rates are based on **career education programs**. These programs may or may not be associated with a course enrollment submitted for a student by the district.
2. As with Dual Enrollment, **course associations for these programs are specific to each district**. There is no authorized list of course codes that DPI can provide.

### Arts Course Rates

OEA worked with the Teaching and Learning Team at DPI to categorize arts courses required by law: visual art, music, theater, and dance. Assignment to these categories is based on their [NCES SCED](#) course codes.

#### Some notes on the SCED codes:

1. All SCED 'Visual and Performing Arts' course codes all start with '05'.
2. There are six SCED subcategories with associated code ranges as represented in the table below.
3. SCED courses categorized as either Visual Arts or Media Arts courses are included under the heading 'Art & Design' on report cards, fulfilling the statutory reporting requirement of visual art courses.
4. The SCED 'All Other's subcategory is excluded from report card counts and percentages.

### SCED Codes by Category

Report Card Category	SCED Subcategory	Code Ranges
Dance	Dance	05 001 to 05 049
Theater	Theater	05 051 to 05 099
Music	Music	05 101 to 05 149
Art & Design	Visual Arts	05 151 to 05 199
Art & Design	Media Arts	05 250 to 05 299
NA	All Others	05 201 to 05 203 & 05 990 to 05 999

### Resources

The following course data resources are available:

- [Course Roster Data help page](#).
- [Course code download files](#) (by year) created by the Data Warehouse and Decision Support (DWDS) team.
- National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) School Courses for the Exchange of Data (SCED). [SCED Finder: browse by subject codes](#).
- [OEA Course Data in Report Cards Page](#)

For questions about what WISEdata course codes are associated with the above SCED categories and codes, please see the [download file](#) for the appropriate data reporting year. Within the download file:

1. Filter the 'Subject Area' column to 5
2. Reference the 'SCED 5' and 'SCED/former CWCS Course Code' columns to find the associated SCED code and compare it to the values in the table above.

For more detailed help and guidance on appropriately coding courses please reach out to the DPI Customer Services team by submitting a [WISEsupport ticket](#).