

Memorandum

Date: March 9, 2021
To: All Stakeholders
From: Department of Public Instruction
Subject: Statewide Reporting of the 2019-20 Attendance Data in the WISEdash Public Portal

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction completed the statewide data snapshot in December of 2020, which included the Attendance data submitted by LEAs from the 2019-20 school year. Due to the pandemic and statewide closures during that time, reporting [guidance](#) was posted in the spring of 2020 by DPI for the 2019-20 school year.

For the 2019-20 school year, public schools and private schools participating in the Choice program which closed buildings to students were not required to report attendance data to DPI during the period of the health emergency closure. Virtual charter schools which continued to operate normally and without interruption do not have an hours of instruction waiver and were required to record attendance.

Based on this guidance, schools may or may not have submitted attendance data to DPI during the public health emergency. Because we do not collect daily, granular attendance, DPI cannot report data up to the closures nor distinguish between those districts that did or did not submit data.

The data presented in the WISEdash Public Portal for 2019-2020 includes data submitted by all public school LEAs for the entire school year regardless if they submitted updated attendance data after the statewide shutdown. The data represents the best efforts of local education agencies and the DPI to ensure accuracy during the public health emergency.