**Part B Exiting Data Notes**

**2022-23 Reporting Year**

This document provides information or data notes on the ways in which states collected and reported data differently from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) data formats and instructions. In addition, the data notes provide explanations of substantial changes or other changes that data users may find notable or of interest in the data from the previous year.

**Alabama**

- Students with disabilities who have not earned an Alabama high school diploma and who have not reached age 21 by August 1 may receive services up to age 21. A student who turns age 21 on or after August 1 is entitled to begin and complete the school year.

**American Samoa**

- Although all of these items represent valid combinations for exiting students in American Samoa, due to a small total number of students exiting the school system each year, most valid combinations will not have a student representing it in a given year.

**Arkansas**

- Reached maximum age (RMA) is not applicable for children ages 14-19 and sometimes 20; h owever, a student who is age 20 on December 1 may turn 21 before the next school year and may or may not be eligible to return the next school year depending on their birthday.

# Bureau of Indian Education

- As of the child count date, October 28, 2022, some students were 20 years old on the child count date, which reflects in the Exiting file. They exited by the end of the year with a Reached maximum age (RMA) exit code.

# Idaho

- The Reached maximum age exit coding is valid for the specific students. File specifications state that age should be: “the discrete age of children (students) on the date of the most recent Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) child count prior to exiting special education.” The age of the students as of that child count date was 20 years of age. The students’ actual age at the date of exit was age 21.

# Iowa

- Iowa is a noncategorical state, and does not collect disability category data.

# Kansas

- Kansas reported students reached maximum age (RMA) by age group in accordance with the Exiting file specification. Age (exiting) is the discrete age of children (students) on the date of the most recent Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) child count prior to exiting special education. Kansas confirms the population reported in the age 20 subgroup is accurate when determining student age as of the child count date for fiscal year (FY) 2023 (December 1, 2022). These students exited IDEA services by reaching maximum age as a result of turning age 21 prior to the end of the school year.

# Kentucky

- Student ages on this file are based on the students’ ages on December 1 prior to the students’ exit. Therefore, it is possible for a student to reach maximum age on their 21st birthday but be 20 years old on the exit report.

# Maine

- Students’ 21st birthday would occur before the start of the next school year.

# Maryland

- The max age is 21, but Maryland reports counts for 20-year-olds.

# Michigan

- A student who reaches the age of 26 years after September 1 is a child/student with disabilities (CWD) and entitled to continue a special education (SPED) program or service until the end of that school year. Students who are in the department of corrections are entitled to receive special education programs and services only until the age of 21 and is the only group of students that age out of the special education program in Michigan.

# Minnesota

- There is a discrepancy between the December 1 child count age and the students’ age at the time of exit (typically 9 months later). At the time of exit, students are actually 21 years of age.

# Missouri

- Students can receive services in Missouri up to age 21, which means that age as of the special education count date at exit could be 20 or 21.

# Montana

- While the state's maximum age is 21, state law allows individual districts to also set a maximum age, and most of those are set at 19 on or before September 10 of the current school year, which can then allow an 18 year old to be reported for Exiting if they were 18 on the last child count and turned 19 during the school year.

# Nebraska

- The students that are listed as age 20 with a Reached maximum age (RMA) in the file have a summer birthday so they would not be able to enroll in Nebraska Public Schools next year and so have aged out.

# New Hampshire

- There were students who exited between October 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022 and turned 21 before their exit date.

- The State provided the following response(s) to large Year-to-Year change(s):

New Hampshire (NH) changed a law concerning when a special education student exits due to reaching maximum age (RMA). Prior to School Year (SY) 2022-23, RMA was when a student turned 21. As of SY 2022-23, RMA is when a student turns 22. There is a significant decrease in the number of students exiting due to RMA and Received a certificate (RC) (Received Certificate of Attendance) in SY 2022-23.

# New York

- In New York (NY), a child with disabilities is entitled to a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) until the age of 21. In School Year (SY) 2022-23, FAPE ended if the student turned 21 during the school year. Age was calculated as of Basic Educational Data System (BEDS) day (first Wednesday in October). If a student was 20 on BEDS day and then turned 21 later in the school year, they reached the maximum age.

# North Carolina

- In North Carolina our maximum age for Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) children to receive educational services is 22 and this is what we've entered in the metadata. However, going by the definitions within the file specification, it's possible for us to have children who are reported as age 21, with an exit reason of Reached maximum age (RMA). The file specification states that children should be reported using their age as of the last IDEA child count prior to their exit. However, they can turn 22 after that and thus reach maximum age and exit for that reason.

# Oregon

- A student can be age 20 during School Year (SY) 2022-23 and be considered Reached maximum age (RMA) because they will turn age 21 on or before September 1, 2023.

- Oregon collects a third option for sex/gender, any comparison between a category set with sex/gender will not total another category set. The United States Department of Education (ED) has given Oregon the guidance to report these students in all category sets that don't include sex/gender.

# Puerto Rico

- For categories that Puerto Rico (PR) did not report data in the Exiting file, it was because there were no students with the ages and disabilities during School Year (SY) 2022-23 that meet the criteria established in PR for Reached maximum age (RMA). In Puerto Rico, the RMA category can only be used if the student reached 21 years during SY 2022-23.

# Republic of the Marshall Islands

- Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) has a small number of students who exited the education system in School Year (SY) 2022-23. All valid combinations were included in the file; however, due to the small number of students, there were valid combinations with no students. Zero counts are required for all valid combinations.

# South Dakota

- Under South Dakota law, students are eligible for special education services through the end of the fiscal year that they turn 21, June 30. All local education agency (LEA) data must be finalized in the data system by the second Friday in June. Based on each student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and data entry timelines, there may be some students who, based on their birthdate, will reach the maximum age for services at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, but may have an end date prior to June 30. This may occur if the IEP team determined to end services at the conclusion of the regular school calendar before the student turned 21, or because LEA data must be finalized by the second Friday in June. It may also occur for a student who is receiving summer services until June 30 of the fiscal year they turned 21. These students are receiving appropriate services to their maximum age, but due to data entry requirements the data are creating erroneous flags and causing a rule failure check.

# Tennessee

- The age reported reflects the students’ age as of December 1, 2022. Students reported as Reached maximum age (RMA) at age 21 had turned 22 (Tennessee’s maximum age) either by the time of exit or by the beginning of the following school year.

# Virgin Islands

- In the Virgin Islands, students have to be 16 years or older to receive a certificate.

# Washington

- In Washington, students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) who are 20 years of age at the time of this reporting cycle (due to date of birth and most recent child count) may be reported in Exiting in the exit category of Reached maximum age.

# West Virginia

- In West Virginia, students with disabilities are eligible for a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) until they reach 21 years old, or until the end of the School Year (SY) during which they would turn 21. This means a student who turns 21 before July 1 of the following reporting period is no longer eligible for FAPE during the following reporting period, even if they were still 20 years old on the state's child count date (December 1) of the current reporting period. Therefore, these students are appropriately reported as exiting due to reaching maximum age.

- West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) recently transitioned from a legacy student information system to a new system. During this transition, data migration may have caused inconsistencies in how graduation with an alternate diploma is classified. Prior to the system transition, "modified diploma" (i.e., a certificate) was a valid exit status. This status code was retired, as the state no longer offers modified diplomas. However, it's possible that a small number of students who graduated with an alternate diploma remained categorized under the status code for modified diploma. Prior to the system transition, these students may have been incorrectly included in the "Received a certificate" category within the SY 2021-22 data.

- The State provided the following response(s) to large Year-to-Year change(s):

* In SY 2021-22 and prior, the "Moved, known to be continuing" exit status applied to any student transferring from one local education agency (LEA) to another within the state education agency (SEA) catchment area. The new system now reserves the "Moved, known to be continuing" status only for students with disabilities who transfer out of state. Intra-state transfers between LEAs are no longer captured under this category. This change has resulted in a significant decrease in the reported number of "Moved, known to be continuing" students for SY 2022-23 and future years. It's important to note that this does not represent a decline in overall student mobility, but rather a shift in how data are categorized. Users are encouraged to consider this difference when interpreting data trends across academic years.

# Wisconsin

- For the Exiting file, the age for a student reaching the maximum age for services may be reported as age 20 because of the age calculated as of the date of the most recent child count prior to exiting.

- The minimum age at which a student may receive a high school completion certificate other than a regular high school diploma is age 17. For the Exiting file, the age for a student receiving a certificate may be reported as age 16 because of the age calculated as of the most recent child count prior to exiting. Therefore, students aged 14 and 15 would not be eligible to receive a certificate in the Exiting file.

# Wyoming

- Wyoming discovered an issue in the collection of these data which allowed 20-year-old students to be submitted using the Reached maximum age (RMA) exit reason. This problem has been corrected for School Year (SY) 2023-24, but is unable to be corrected for SY 2022-23.