

# Measure: High School Level Math in 8th Grade

## What is High School Level Math in 8th Grade?

High School Level Math in 8th Grade is a measure of students who take a high school level math course in 8th grade. For the purposes of this analysis, high school level math includes any math course at or above the level of Algebra I and could include Integrated Math, Algebra II, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus.

## Why is this important?

Having access to advanced math in 8th grade may allow students to earn high school credits earlier, allow students to work toward more advanced levels of math in high school, and create opportunities for more flexibility with course-taking in high school.

High school level math in 8th grade is different from traditional 8th grade math courses because of:

- **Compression:** It often combines more content into a year than a traditional 8th grade math course.
- **Rigor:** It involves more abstract thinking and problem-solving compared to a traditional 8th grade math course.
- **Pathways:** It opens doors to advanced math in high school, such as AP courses, by allowing students to earn high school credits before 9th grade.

## What does the data show?

In the 2024–25 school year, almost one-third of 8th grade students were enrolled in high school math. A review of 8th grade math enrollment from the 2022–23 through 2024–25 school years shows modest growth in high school level math, although access and participation vary by district. OSPI is beginning to look more closely at these outliers to better understand what is happening locally.

### Percent of 8th Grade Students Participating in High School Level Math Statewide

School Year	Percent
2022–23	30.4%
2023–24	31.5%
2024–25	32.6%



## What are the business rules for calculating High School Level Math in 8th Grade?

The High School Level Math in 8th Grade measure is defined as the rate of 8th grade students who take a high school level course and could potentially earn high school credit for successfully completing the course. Such a course is typically Algebra I but may include other high school math courses.

Numerator = Number of 8th grade students participating in a high school level math course at any point during the school year.

Denominator = Number of students enrolled in 8th grade at any point during the year.

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