



Kristin Wright, Director Special Education Division California Department of Education

Each child is a unique person, with unique needs, and the purpose of the education system of this state is to enable each child to develop all of his or her own potential.

*(California Education Code, §33080,
Purpose of the Educational System)*



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Snapshot: Who are our students with disabilities (SWD) in California?

754,000 SWD ages 0-22 = **10.9%** of student population

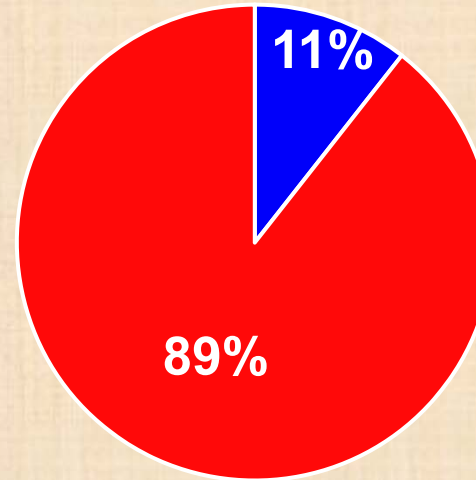
- 68% are boys
- 29% are English Learners (21.4% EL in general population)
- Top 3 primary disability categories
 - Specific Learning Disability (38.87%)
 - Speech and Language (21.21%)
 - Autism (13.86%)



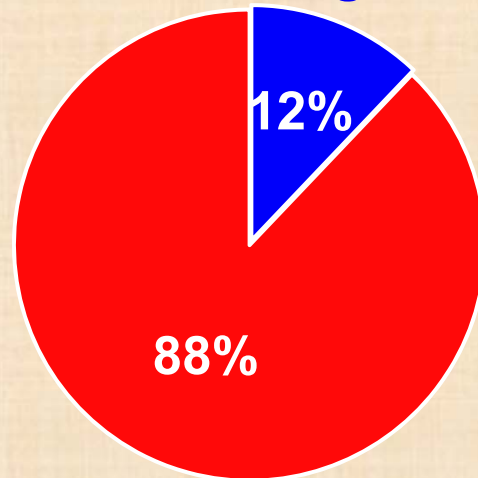
TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Students with Disabilities are also Members of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) Student Groups

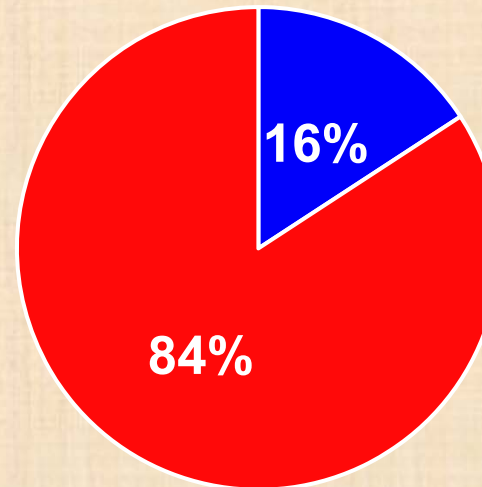
All Students



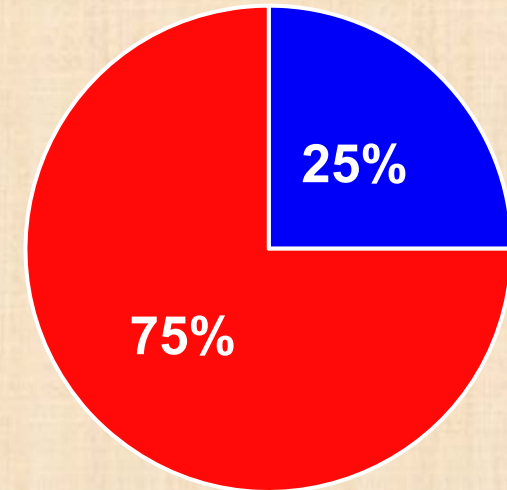
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged



English Learners



Foster Youth



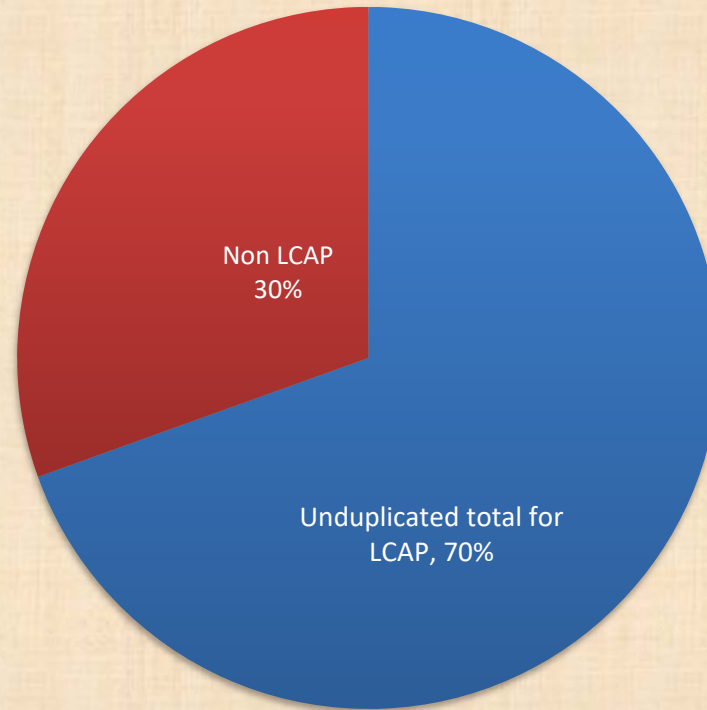
Source CALPADS data 2016—17
Total Student population = 6,228,235

Blue = Students with IEPs
Red = Students without IEPs



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Total Percent of SWDs who are in one or more of the LCFF student groups





TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Change the culture, change the outcomes

- **A public education system committed to equity and access for children and students with disabilities:**
 - Ensures children and families begin their education experience in an **inclusive**, welcoming and supported environment by **preschool**
 - No more segregated preschool settings
 - Elimination of preschool suspension
 - Is in relentless pursuit of **communicative competence** and early **reading literacy** so children can communicate and demonstrate what they know, need and want
 - Supports teachers, related service providers and school administrators in utilizing the principles of **Universal Design for Learning** through a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Framework so all children may access their learning in the most inclusive environment
 - Ensures individualized education programs (IEPs) as early as preschool are backward mapped to **employment** and community inclusion



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

A few suggestions....

- Leverage, honor and develop deeper understanding of the intersectionality between student groups
- Create universally designed education
 - School buildings and structures
 - Lessons
 - Curriculum and Instruction
- Teach citizenry and model community
- Provide more local alternatives to dispute resolution
- Measure 5 & 6 year cohort rate for graduation



TOM TORLAKSON
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

Kristin Wright, Director
California Department of Education
Special Education Division
kwright@cde.ca.gov