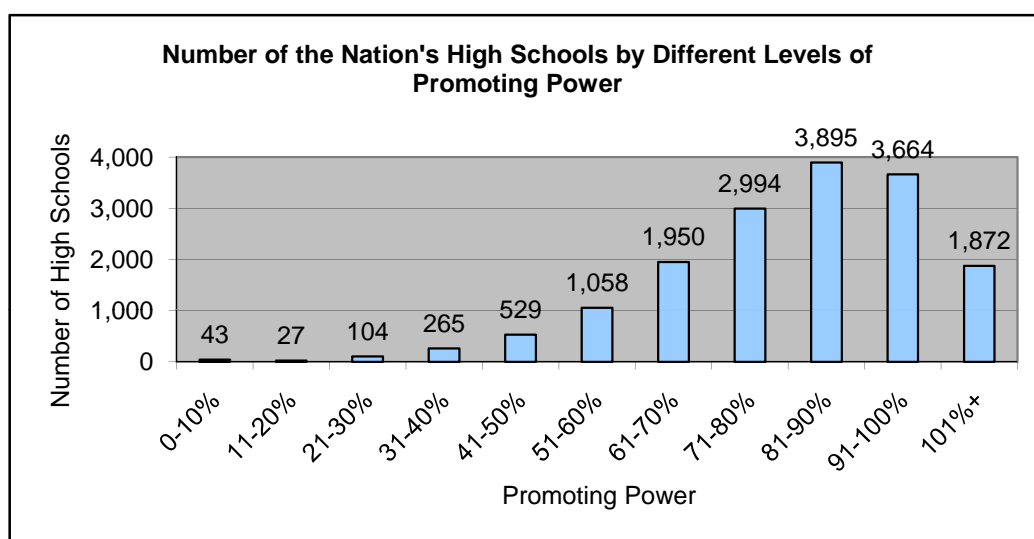


Promoting Power Across the Nation's High Schools

Promoting power compares the number of seniors enrolled in a high school to the number of freshmen enrolled in the high school three years earlier. It provides a measure of how efficiently and effectively high schools promote their students from grade to grade. Promoting power is also a good indicator of high schools that have both high and low graduation rates. It is very likely that high schools which have 60% or fewer seniors than freshmen three years earlier will have unacceptably low graduation rates by state and national standards. The graph below shows the promoting power for all of the Nation's high schools.* The tables that follow show how promoting power varies across the Nation's high schools by free lunch level, minority concentration, location, and school size. For more information on Promoting Power and national and regional trends see *Locating the Dropout Crisis* by Robert Balfanz and Nettie Legters, Johns Hopkins University (<http://www.every1graduates.org>).

*Promoting Power data is based on a three year average for the classes of 2005, 2006, and 2007.



Number and Percent of High Schools with Weak and High Promoting Power Ratios

	Number of schools	Percent of schools	Number of students	Percent of students	Percent of minority students
High schools with Promoting Power of 60% or less	2,026	12%	2,312,442	16%	30%
High schools with Promoting Power of 90% or more	5,946	36%	4,555,118	32%	19%

Note: Includes only high schools with 50 or more students.

Number of High Schools with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Percent of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch

% eligible for free lunch	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
20% or less	140	1,579	2,672
21-39%	240	3,046	1,807
40% or more	1,576	3,662	1,312
Total	1,956	8,287	5,791

Number of High Schools with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Percent Minority Students

% minority students	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
Less than 10%	94	2,990	3,309
10-49%	489	3,353	1,980
50-80%	486	1,210	366
81-89%	210	244	80
90% or more	747	632	211
Total	2,026	8,429	5,946

Number of High Schools with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Location

Location	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
Cities	964	1,256	723
Suburbs	386	1,603	1,491
Towns	198	1,505	794
Rural	478	4,065	2,938
Total	2,026	8,429	5,946

Number of High Schools with Different Levels of Promoting Power by School Size

School enrollment	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
50 to 299	389	1,885	2,088
300 to 799	454	2,993	1,787
800 to 1,199	356	1,190	668
1,200 to 1,999	496	1,547	943
2,000 or more	331	814	460
Total	2,026	8,429	5,946

Note: Includes only high schools with 50 or more students.