

## How Was the Graduation Rate AMO for 2013 Determined?

Using a statistical analysis of the preceding three years, the least significant difference identifiable as a significant improvement was 1.4681%. This number was rounded to 1.5% and compared to last year's graduation rates. Table 1 shows the impact of raising the graduation rate AMO in 0.5% increments using the 2011 Graduation Rate.

Table 1. AMO Retrospective Analysis

<b>AMO</b>	<b>Not Met %</b>	<b>Met %</b>
<b>73.1</b>	40.1	59.9
<b>73.6</b>	43.6	56.4
<b>74.1</b>	46.5	53.5
<b>74.6</b>	48.5	51.5
<b>75.1</b>	50.5	49.5
<b>75.6</b>	52.5	47.5
<b>76.1</b>	55.9	44.1

With the full 1.5% AMO increase projected via the statistical analysis, a nearly even split of met versus not met would occur. To ensure an ambitious but obtainable goal, SCDE decided to use a 1% increase. Although this does not seem like an optimal solution, a further analysis of schools with negative change in graduation rate versus those with positive change shows that there is a roughly 1:2 ratio of schools with decreasing graduation rate to those with increasing graduation rates (Table 2). In addition, only 58% of schools that showed improvement, 43% with no change, and 39% that showed declines met the 74.1% AMO. By this methodology, schools are proportionately rewarded in the ESEA Waiver System by showing growth from year to year.

Table 2. Graduation Rate Change from 2010 to 2011

<b>CHANGE</b>	<b>MEAN</b>	<b>STDEV</b>	<b>MEDIAN</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>PCT ABOVE 74.1% AMO</b>
<b>NEGATIVE</b>	-4.51774	4.864341	-2.45	62	39.1%
<b>NONE</b>				7	42.9%
<b>POSITIVE</b>	4.189604	7.176277	2.25	133	57.9%

Further changes in ESEA AMOs for the upcoming year are presented in Table 3.

Table 3. AMO Changes from 2011-12 to 2012-13

	Elementary		Middle		High	
	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13	2011-12	2012-13
<b>ELA</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>226</b>
<b>Math</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>223</b>
<b>Science</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Graduation Rate</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>73.1%</b>	<b>74.1%</b>