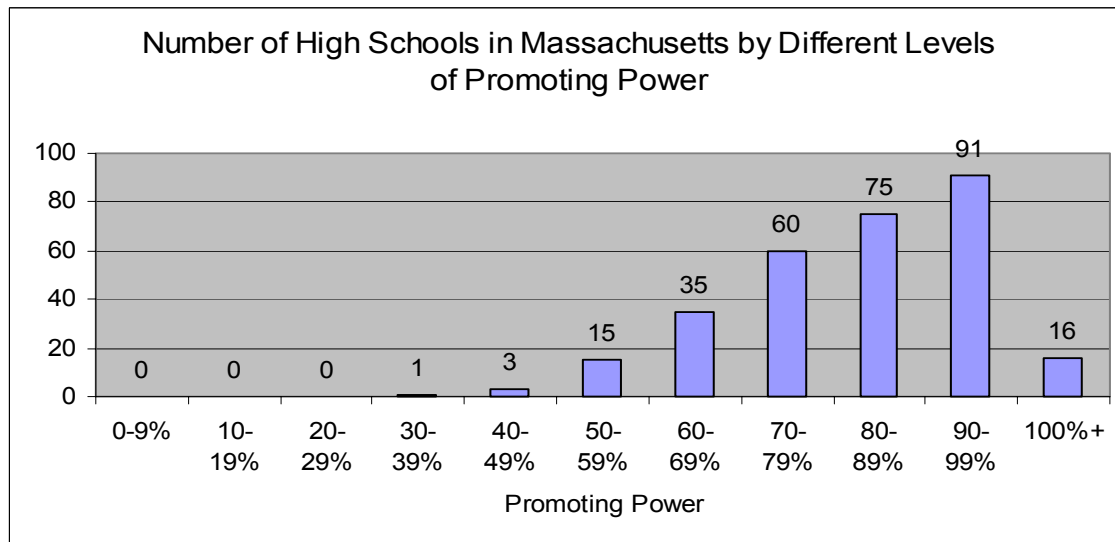


Promoting Power in Massachusetts' High Schools

Promoting power compares the number of seniors enrolled in a high school to the number of 9th graders enrolled in the high school four 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 school's that have both high and low graduation rates. It is very likely that high schools which have 60% or fewer seniors than freshmen four years earlier will have unacceptably low graduation rates by state and national standards. The graph below shows the promoting power for all high schools in the state.* The tables that follow show how promoting power varies across the state'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.csos.jhu.edu/news.htm>).

*Promoting Power data is based on three year average for the classes of 2000, 2001, and 2002.



Number and Percent of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power

	Number of schools	Percent of schools	Number of students	Percent of students	Percent of minority students
HS with promoting power of 90% or more	107	36%	99,572	35%	18%
HS with promoting power of 60% or less	20	7%	19,737	7%	16%

Number of HS 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
Less than 20%	5	111	106
21-39%	6	32	2
40% or more	11	24	1
Total	22	167	109

Number of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Percent Minority Students

% minority students	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
Less than 10%	4	95	75
10-49%	6	48	32
50-80%	4	13	1
90% or more	2	9	1
Total	16	165	109

Number of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power by Location

Location	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
Cities	15	36	6
Suburbs	5	69	75
Towns	1	10	1
Rural	1	52	27
Total	22	167	109

Number of HS with Different Levels of Promoting Power by School Size

School enrollment	Promoting power		
	0-60%	61-89%	90% or more
50 to 299	1	9	4
300 to 799	10	66	46
800 to 1199	3	49	35
1200 to 1999	6	38	23
2000 or more	2	5	1
Total	22	167	109