

Florida's Graduation Rate
Calculation: Implications for the
Standardized National
Calculation

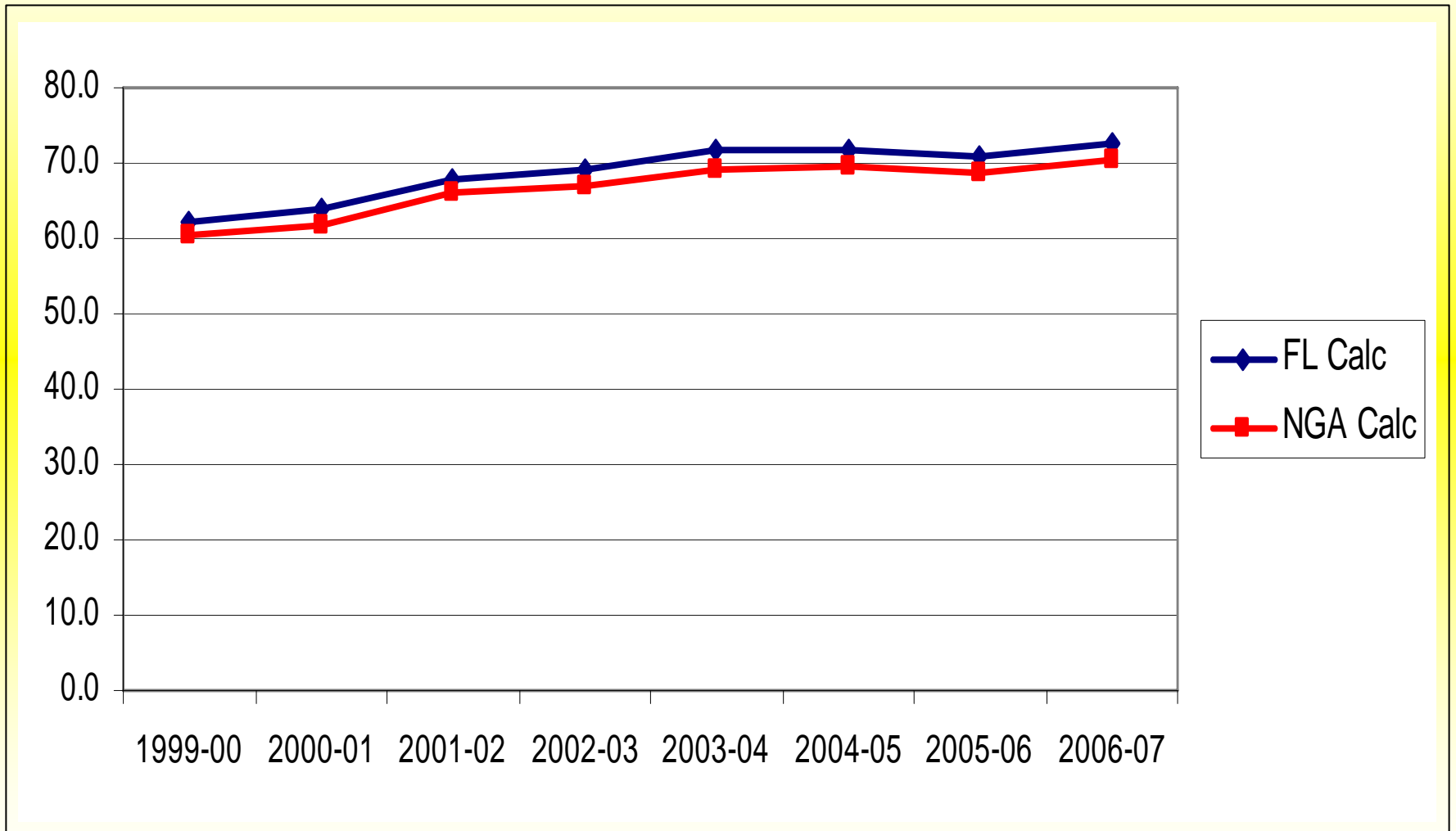
Secretary Spellings: Uniform Graduation Rate Proposal

- Defines HS graduate rate as the number of students who exit in the standard number of years with a **regular** high school diploma divided by the number of students who entered 9th grade four years earlier – adjusted for transfers in and out.
- Calculation must include disaggregations by race, gender, and low income status.
- States must implement by 2011-2012; interim formula may be used for states lacking the capability to account for all elements of the formula.
- GED recipients would be considered “non-graduates”.
- Proposal to permit states to propose an alternate definition of “standard number of years” for limited categories of students under certain conditions.

Graduation Rate Calculations

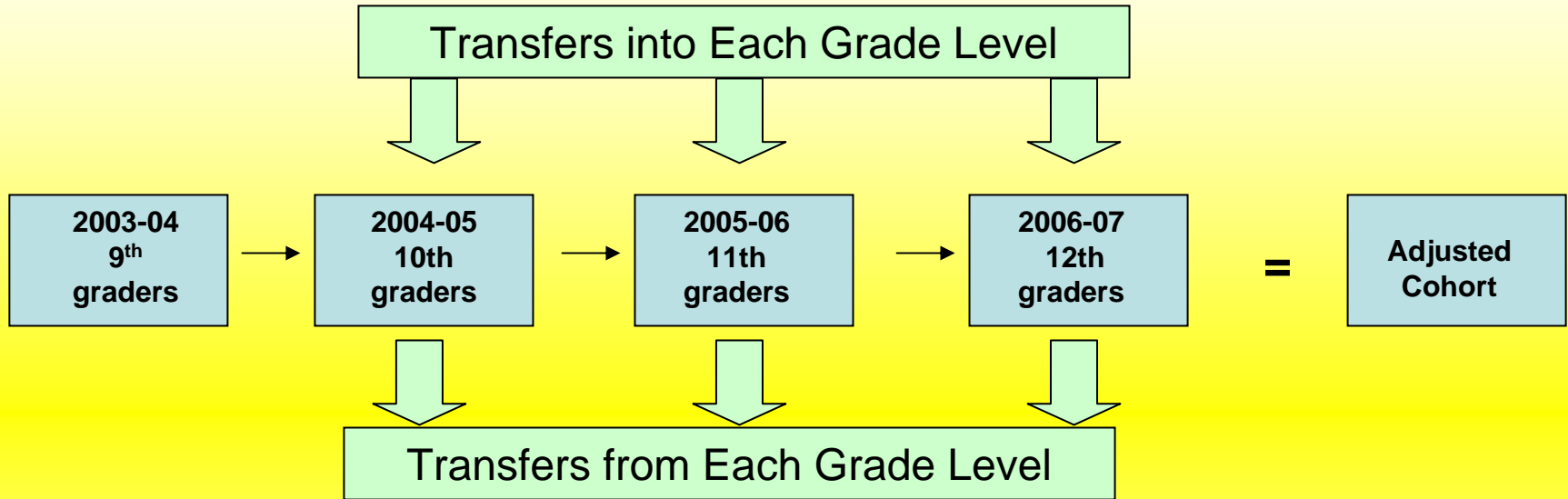
- Florida's regular rate includes all diploma recipients. This includes standard and special diplomas as well as regular and adult GEDs.
- The NCLB graduation rate includes standard diplomas and regular GEDs but excludes the special diplomas and the adult GEDs.
- The USDOE proposed rate (NGA Compact) includes standard and special diplomas but excludes all GEDs, regular and adult.

Florida Rates: Regular High School Graduation Rate and the NGA Compact Graduation Rate



Florida's Adjusted Cohort High School Four Year Graduation Rate

Illustrated for 2006-2007's Graduates



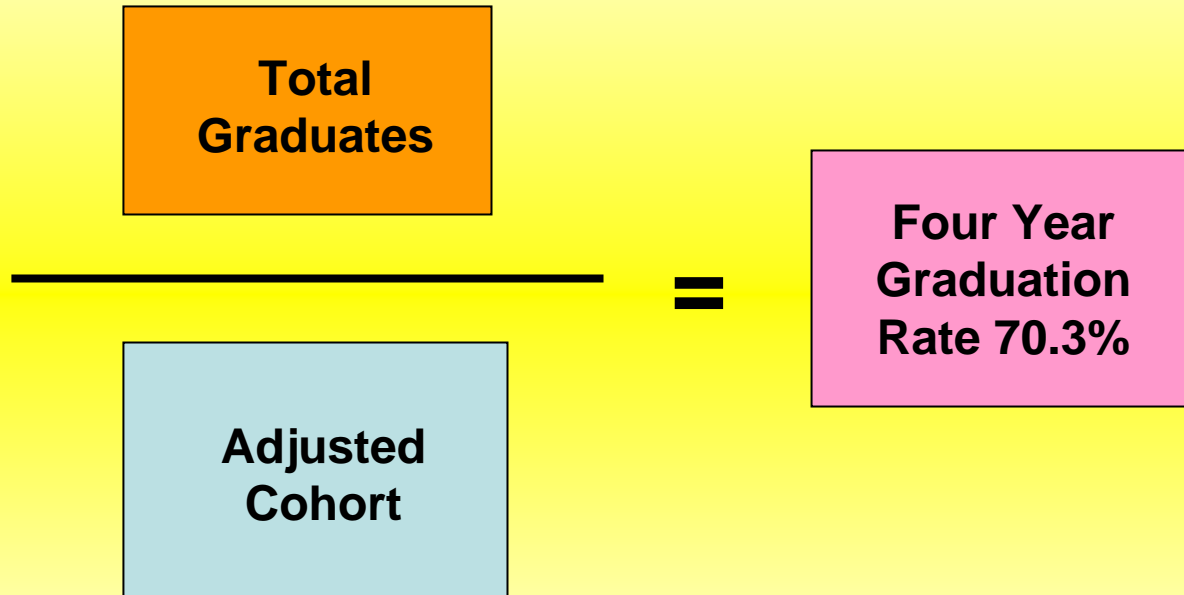
The Denominator

$$\text{Adjusted Cohort} - \text{Students not graduating} - \text{Dropouts during the 4 years} = \text{Total Graduates}$$

The Numerator

Florida's Adjusted Cohort High School Four Year Graduation Rate

Illustrated for 2006-2007's Graduates



Accountability issues

- Transfers Out:
 - Charter School, Home School & Private School
 - Transfers out of state
 - Adult Education
- Transfers In:
 - New Enrollees
- What is the definition of a “graduate”?

Dropout Codes

- Any PK-12 student who was expected to attend a school but did not enter as expected for unknown reasons.
- Any student age 16 or older who leaves school voluntarily with no intention of returning.
- Any PK-12 student withdrawn from school due to court action.
- Any PK-12 student who is withdrawn from school due to nonattendance.
- Any PK-12 student who withdraws from school due to medical reasons.
- Any PK-12 student who is withdrawn from school due to being expelled.
- Any PK-12 student whose whereabouts is unknown.