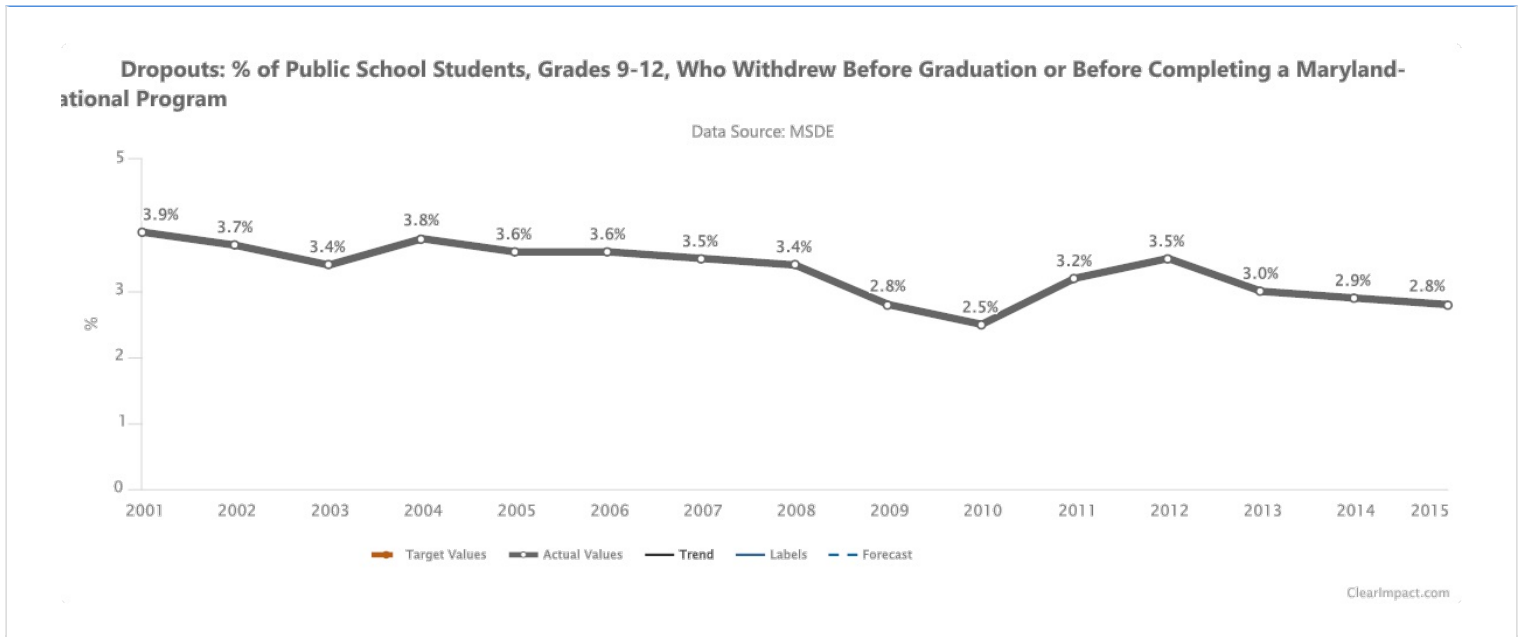# R Youth Will Complete School (Statewide)

I Dropouts: % of Public School Students, Grades 9-12, Who Withdrew Before Graduation or Before Completing a Maryland-Approved Educational Program

Dropouts: % of Public School Students, Grades 9-12, Who Withdrew Before Graduation or Before Completing a Maryland-ational Program

Data Source: MSDE

Target Values — Actual Values — Trend — Labels — Forecast

ClearImpact.com

Story Behind the Curve

In Maryland, Local School Systems collect data on the reasons why students drop out of school; these often include mobility, lack of interest, and disciplinary reasons. From 2014 to 2015, the percentage of public high school students who dropped out of high school decreased from 2.9% to 2.8%. In 2013 at 3.0%, Maryland was roughly on par with the national average in the measurement of teens ages 16 to 19 not in school and not high school graduates.

What Works

In order to address this issue, the Maryland State Department of Education produced the *Dropout Prevention Resource Guide*. This guide, the first of its kind in the United States, highlights evidence-based programs and lists local school systems' dropout prevention programs and initiatives. Recognizing that many dropouts have been suspended before they leave school, the Maryland State Department of Education also engaged in discipline reform in 2013, and the Maryland State Board of Education adopted *The Maryland Guideline for a State Code of Discipline* in July 2014.

Systemically, school-based interventions begin with Student Support Teams. These school-based teams of educational professionals meet monthly to discuss students who are struggling maintaining academics, behavior, and attendance. Student Support teams identify school-based strategies to help students become successful. If students remain unsuccessful, they are referred to Pupil Personnel Workers.

Local School Systems utilize their Pupil Personnel Workers to support students at-risk for dropout. Pupil Personnel Workers provide supports to families and students through case management on student attendance, behavior, and performance. Moreover Pupil Personnel Workers can identify and connect services for a student through State or local agencies.

Local Highlight

As mentioned earlier, the *Dropout Prevention Resource Guide* offers listings of dropout prevention programs and initiatives in Maryland's Local School Systems.

Data Discussion

The percent of public school students, grade 9 - 12, who withdrew from school before graduation or before completing a Maryland-approved educational program during the July to June academic year and are not known to have enrolled in another high school program during the academic year.